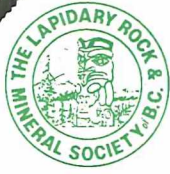




# LAPHOUND NEWS



**VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 5114, Station B  
Victoria, B.C. V8R 6N3



Website:- [www.vlms.ca](http://www.vlms.ca)

Vol. 54-3

April 2011

President	- Cameron Speedie	Show Chairman	- Gerri Speedie
Vice President	- Mike Hill	Librarian	- Leni Gagnon
Past President	- Magdalene Magon	Sunshine Corner	- Lorena Taylor Phone 250-384-0755
Secretary	- Carrie Maier	Field Trips	- Gilles Lebrun Phone 250-382-6119
Treasurer	- Greg Shea	Workshop	- Brad Woolven
Members at Large	- Barbara Smith - Manfred Agath - Brian McMillan - Brad Woollven	Programs	- Vacant
Editor	- Barbara Smith 887 Falaise Crescent, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 1A2 Phone 250-479-7881.	Membership	- Kathleen Kane

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**March Meeting:** Monday, April 4. Time: 7:30 pm.  
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

**Program:** April - Meet and Greet New Members and Rock Bingo!  
May - Club Auction

**Executive Meeting:** 7:00 April 25th - Workshop - Les Passmore Centre.

**Show Meeting:** Follow-up meeting to be announced.

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**President's Message**

**Cameron Speedie.**

The longer days are here and hopefully less inclement weather as well! We have a lot on the go with club, the Rock and Gem Show, Field Trips, Classes, Workshops in Special Interest Areas, and of course the Auction. I invite you to come out to these events and meet with your fellow rockhounds. We will be doing some more activities coming up latter this spring so be sure to check the Laphound News for these. We are hoping for a few extended field trips and perhaps a few social events!

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**Editor's Remarks**

**Barbara Smith.**

I believe we had a successful show this year although spin & win was quieter than usual. Thank you to all who helped and donated articles, we could not get along without you. Thank you to Leni for her contributions to this month's newsletter.

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**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

"Nothing in life just happens. You have to have the stamina to meet the obstacles and overcome them."

Golda Meir.

**Minutes of VLMS General Meeting March 7, 2011**

Call to order and welcome by President Cameron Speedie. Visitors were Yvette Craig, Ann McGregor, Cherie Lavoie and John Cross.

**Minutes:** February 7 meeting published in Laphound News. The entry under the Programs section is to be stricken from the minutes and considered as errors as requested by C. Speedie and will be changed to read as follows:

*Programs: Kick off for Rock & Gem Show this meeting. Reminder that club auction will be in May this year. Brad Woollven report on CanWest Hobby Show, setup by Mike and Mark. Great attendance by members and the public. Thanks to the following for Public relations – Brad Woollven, Cameron and Gerrie Speedie, Don Meyer, Mike Hill, Mark Bell, Brian McMillan, Wally Priedolins, Barbara Smith, Leslie Zemenek, Gilles Lebrun, John Konkin, John Burns, Allan Campbell, Carrie Gayfer, Andy Liu, Gordon and Lorena Taylor. The following members provided display materials – Mike Hill, Mark Bell, Jane Haines, Gilles LeBrun, John Konkin, Don Meyer, Brad Woollven, Pam Dwyer, Gerri Speedie. The following provided active skill demonstrations – Leslie Zemenek, Cameron and Gerri Speedie, Brad Woollven, Mike Hill, Mark Bell, Don Meyer, Brian McMillan. Extra and supernumery supervision ably provided by John Konkin and Gordon Taylor.*

The following was read to the membership from the VLMS President in relation to the entries stricken:

“I would like to apologize for some comments published in the Meeting Minutes, they should have been edited out. It is my responsibility to review the Meeting Minutes and I should have vetted the draft Minutes more effectively.

I would also like to reinforce that the VLMS is an inclusive club, we do not make distinction on gender, cultural background, religion, level of education or other aspects – we are drawn together by a common interest in rocks and minerals and should celebrate our diversity.

Anyone that is not capable of tolerance or accepting that others may have a point of view different than their own should consider some personal growth and realize that those archaic attitudes are not welcome at the VLMS.”

Motion by Frank Mahon to accept and seconded by Herb Hellmoldt.

**Carried.**

**Treasurer Report:**

Monthly Report: by Greg Shea as follows to February 28, 2011

Balance Fwd –	\$20,023.31
Credits –	\$1,526.63
Debits –	\$206.67
General Ledger --	\$21,343.27
Outstanding cheques	\$100.00
Bank Balance	\$21,443.27
Petty cash	\$58.23
Total Cash	\$21,501.50

Motion from Herb Hellmoldt to accept as read, seconded by Mike Farley.

**Carried.**

**Correspondence:**

Emails received –(1) Burnaby Laphounds Sale Items contact (604)435-1376; (2) Jade for sale, pieces ranging from 200-4000lbs, most are in 300-400lb range all from Cassiar (mined in early 80’s). The individual is also wondering if one of the members might be able to look at it a give a rough estimate to the value and quality of the various pieces (location Victoria). Contact: tobaccotom@hotmail.com or (250)886-5250. (3) Salt Spring Island, store, has over 8lbs of A & B grade aquamarine pieces, 5lbs raw emeralds, 1.75 lbs raw unpolished amber, 4.25 lbs of kyanite pieces, 1 lb. Of polished rutilated quartz pieces, 7.5 lbs of prehnite rocks (beautifully crystallized), 2 pieces of sugilite stones (6oz) and 2 lg. Pieces of lepidolite (8 lbs.) stone. All originally purchased from a qualified gemologist from California who travels around the globe to purchase his stock. Contact Jane Dalton @ kashmirconnection@gmail.com

**Sunshine Corner:** Patrick Lydon’s wife passed away; Gordon Taylor is not very well. Brian Brown and John Burns are also not well. Please call Lorena if there is anyone else as her email/computer is down at present.

**Workshop:** Brian tried using the Shop chop saw at home to take a big slab off and it is working well. Shop open Saturday 11-3pm; Thursday 7-9pm for whatever members want to work on (basic lapidary course has to be completed first); also check website for overall availability. Silver-smithing sometime in April and is very popular. Those interested in classes should sign up on a sheet was made available at meeting.

Minutes of VLMS General Meeting March 7, 2011 (continued)

**Basic Lapidary:** In middle of class at this time and well attended. The new shop is working well as people can get through projects much quicker with new efficient equipment. Certificates handed out.

**Opal Classes:** none at this time (not enough people for this)

**Membership:** Name tags are available for pick up... please check in with membership. List is being compiled to send off to the BC Lapidary Society and indicates growth in the club membership. Extra membership list print offs are available at meeting but also can go to website to obtain this.

**Library:** Book on crochet wiring; catalogue equipment 2007. A thank you to Molly from Greg for assisting with cataloguing all articles, books, magazines, etc., so that this can be placed into the website giving more access to all.

**Field Trip:** None this month because of the Rock & Gem Show.

**Laphound News:** Get information in to the Editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Note that an archive set of the Laphound News is now being placed on the website.

**Gem Show:** Anything for spin and win: beads, etc. Advertising is in place; Prizes are in place. Need a clean-up and set-up crew; chilli and buns for those who help set-up on Thursday 8-6 pm. Set up continues on Friday am. and take down starts on Sunday 4 pm- 7 pm. On Monday the 21st at 8:00 am take items to Storage. Parking spots Number 1 & 6 for loading area on Thursday. Don Meyer announced that a lot of 3' table not there any more and the club will need to rent some which will hit our budget. New caterer lined up and comparable to down town prices. Parking for those in the show: please park in the new area where the rock was blasted on the gravel – double park behind each other. Don't park in the lot by the grass Park area or the city will ticket you. Street parking is the best bet and Save On Foods on Sunday.

**Unfinished Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Island Zone:** next meeting during the Rock & Gem show.

**Programs:** Brazil trip slide show. Upcoming: Meet and Greet that will come to next meeting and a new fun event (with prizes); May will be club auction and this will allow new members to join that come from signing up at the Rock & Gem show.

**Presidents Report:** Happy to see more new members that include younger members and like to see what members want out of the club. If there is something you want to know why things are done the way they are being done, please approach the executive.

**Announcements:** none

**Display Table:** Giles showed agate and quartz crystals from Loss Creek. Sale table: members can bring items to sale (5 at a time).

**Member Event:** enjoyed by all.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Lorena Taylor.

Carried.

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Sunshine Corner.

Lorena Taylor.

Brian Brown passed away just before the Show, condolences to his family.

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Library Report.

Leni Gagnon.

Crocheted wire Jewellery by Arline M. Fisch, in memory of Julia Konkin.  
Catalogue of Tools & Equipment 2011 by Rio Grande. Donated by Robert Belz.  
Rock and Gem Magazine for February.

Field Trips.

Gilles Lebrun.

To be announced.

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In Memorium

Mike Farley.

Brian Brown

Brian was born in Rossland B.C. in February 1953 and died in Victoria, B.C. on March 14, 2011, after a second bout of cancer. Brian joined our club in 1989, where he took the course in learning to do lapidary work and went on to jewelry making. He was an active and willing worker, a quiet member, but he had no hesitation in taking part in meetings.

Brian had many interests in life including fishing, fly-tying, camping, square dancing, card games and traveling to many places. In February of this year, accompanied by his brother Bruce, he took a trip to Hawaii.

Brian was a caring and giving person, very supportive and proud of his family, forebears. He will be sadly missed by his fellow members of the lapidary club and by his brother and his family.

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**S H O W S & E V E N T S**

- May 7 - 8 Courtenay Gem Show, Courtenay Legion Hall, Courtenay.
- June 8 - 10 Vancouver Island Zone Gemboree hosted by Ripple Rock Gem and Mineral Club at the home of Charlie and Lena Hallstrom, 3906 South Island Highway, Campbell River, B.C.
- June 30 - July 4 All Rockhounds Pow-Wow Club of America, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Madras Oregon.
- July 16 - 17 Vernon Lapidary Club - Winfield Memorial Hall, 3270 Berry Rd. Winfield, B.C

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California State Mining And Mineral Museum

Leni Gagnon

The California State Mining and Mineral Museum is located near the small town of Mariposa, California off highway 49. The building is fashioned after a turn-of-the-century ore processing mill. It does not look very large from the outside but it is deceptively larger on the inside. However, it is not size that counts but the quality of the exhibits.

The museum is divided into 3 galleries. The west gallery is devoted to mining and mineral development, and features a working model of a five-stamp processing mill and a replica of a 19th century assay office. The central gallery reflects the history and development of the collection. It includes displays of some of the more dramatic specimens. The east gallery is dedicated to minerals and mineral uses. It is also in this gallery where temporary exhibits are displayed.

**California State Mining And Mineral Museum (continued)**

Also in the east gallery is the Dana Systematic Mineralogy Collection, quality specimens of many of the minerals in the Dana mineral identification system. The system was developed in 1837 by James Dwight Dana and is based on the chemical composition of minerals.

Another one of the exhibits is gold specimens discovered in California. The most impressive is The Fricot Nugget. This crystallized gold nugget came from the Grit claim at Spanish Dry Diggings in El Dorado County, California in August 1865. It weighs 201.40 troy ounces and is one of the finest and largest specimens of native gold in existence. Jules Fricot bought the nugget for \$3,500 and exhibited it at the Paris Exposition in 1878. In 1882 the State Mineralogist thought that the specimen had gone permanently to a foreign museum when the State museum was given a photograph of the specimen. However, in 1943 it was discovered that the Fricot Nugget was in a safety deposit box in Angels Camp, Calaveras County, California. The owner, Marie E. Burton was persuaded to donate the nugget to the Division of Mines and Geology in memory of her father, Jules Fricot.

The California State Mining and Mineral Museum is well worth a stop over for anyone interested in learning more about mining and minerals in general.

Source: California State Mining and Mineral Museum booklet

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**V.L.M.S. Lapidary Courses.**

If you are interested in any Lapidary or Lapidary related courses check the VLMS website or phone Cameron Speedie at 250-385-0597.

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**Membership.**

**Kathleen Kane.**

***Welcome***  
**New Members**

Lee Ann Boillat,  
2969 Adye Rd.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9B 2G6  
Phone:- 250-391-0646

Gary Fryer,  
7-1250 Newport Ave.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8S 5E7  
Phone:- 250-598-5444

Jano & Shirley Courdin,  
952 Lyall St.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9A 5E8  
Phone:- 250-590-4829

Chris Crozier  
5061 Lakeridge Pl.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8Y 2R1  
Phone:- 250-213-6906

Patsy Douglass  
426 Luxton Ave.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8V 1C9  
Phone:- 250-380-7112

Cherie Lavoie  
527 Crossandra Cresc.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8Z 6G4  
Phone:- 250-381-6075

Marni Stewart,  
325 Davida Ave.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9A 2C6  
Phone:- 250-360-1477

Gurgit Chohan &  
Beata Kovacs  
1086 Darrien Place,  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9C 3W3  
Phone:- 250-216-1855

Gilbert Richir &  
Deborah Ariss  
Address not available  
Phone:- 250-735-4525

Membership. (continued)

Colin Duffy,  
10-1182 Colville Rd.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9A 4P7  
Phone:- 250-590-3845

Roy Duguay,  
509-647 Michigan St.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8V 1S9  
Phone:- 250-590-4249

Barry Maughan,  
5846 East Sooke Rd.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9Z 1B3  
Phone:- 250-642-3177

Anna Clyburn  
Address not available  
Phone:- 250-658-4509

Glen Robbins,  
117 Fraser Lane,  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9A 7N3  
Phone:- 250-382-1994

Terry Russell,  
1030 Thistlewood Dr.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8X 4T7  
Phone:- 250-658-4968

Laura & Marg. Shepherd,  
Address not available,  
Phone:- 250-642-5846

Frances Shew,  
1030 Thistlewood Dr.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8X 4T7

Jackie Schadt  
Contact information to come.



**Returning Member.**

Ashleigh Steinbach,  
Address not available,  
Phone:- 250-999-4501  
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**Happy Easter**

