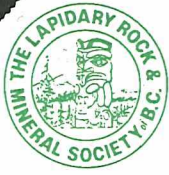




LAPHOUND NEWS



VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

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



Website:- www.vlms.ca

Vol. 54-7

October 2011

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

October Meeting: Monday, October 3. Time: 7:30 pm.
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

Program: Carrie and Sean Maier will be talking about Summer on Texada Island in 2011.

Executive Meeting: Monday – October 24, - 7:00 - Workshop at Les Passmore Silver Threads Center, Hampton Rd.

Show Meeting: Tuesday October 18, 7:00 pm at Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

President's Message **Cameron Speedie.**

It was good to see so many of you after the summer break at the general meeting. We have lots in store for the upcoming year including new courses and workshops, some extended field trips and other surprises. So get ready for an active year and I hope to see you at the meetings or events!

Editor's Remarks **Barbara Smith.**

With a membership in excess of 140 in our club it is difficult to remember all the names. This is why all members should wear their name tags to each meeting. If you have no name tag yet, you should get a stick on one from the membership table.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY.

“Achievement is largely the product of steadily raising one's levels of aspiration and expectation.”
Jack Nicklaus.

VLMS General Meeting Minutes –September 12, 2011

Call to order and welcome by Cameron Speedie, President

Minutes: June 6, 2011 published in Laphound News - Motion to accept by Herb Hellmoldt and seconded by Brad Wollven. **Carried**

Treasurer.s Report: by Greg Shea:

To June 30, 2011		To July 31, 2011	
Balance Forward	\$26,366.47	Balance Forward	\$26,310.48
Credits	\$2.22	Credits	\$400.18
Debits	\$2,900.00	Debits	\$344.19
General Ledger	\$23,468.69	General Ledger	\$26,366.47
Outstanding Cheques	\$100.00	Outstanding Cheques	\$100.00
Bank Balance	\$23,568.69	Bank Balance	\$26,466.47
Petty Cash	\$58.23	Petty Cash	\$58.23
Total	<u>\$23 626.92</u>	Total	<u>\$26 524.70</u>

To August 31, 2011	
Balance Forward	\$23,468.69
Credits	\$2.00
Debits	\$48.45
General Ledger	\$23,422.24
Outstanding Cheques	\$100.00
Bank Balance	\$23,522.24
Petty Cash	\$58.23
Total	<u>\$23,580.47</u>

Motion from Leni Gagnon to accept as read, seconded by Gerri Irwin , **Carried.**

Reminder: writing a cheque please do so as follows - VLMS or Victoria Lapidary & Mineral Society otherwise bank will not accept.

Correspondence: Numerous emails about sales for private items which the club will try its best to post of website as we get many that come in. BCLS Annual report with Financial Statement (please see their website if you want details). Reminder to send any articles to the Rockhounder magazine by September 22nd to editor@lapidary.bc.ca . A Tribute to Win Robertson, BCLS Executive as written by De Morgan, feature writer for the Rockhounder magazine was received which can be viewed there.

Sunshine Corner: Brian MacMillan back home from Hospital but please no visitors. Betty Goodwin recently had her 90th birthday. Barb Smith is in hospital at this time.

Workshop: Has been opened up over the summer off and on and pretty good turn out. Check with Brad or Cameron on workshop details or check out website. Course fees hopefully staying the same but the material charge depends on market costs and will be made known upon beginning of the course for those signed up.

Basic Lapidary: Next one starting up this weekend. Silver-smithing is full at present and is wait-listed but probably won't be another one available until later this year. Cameron looking for help with teaching basic Lapidary, basic enamelling or carving – any lapidary arts. Please contact him with any leads or personal interest in doing this.

Opal Classes: starting up a little later after Beginner's Lapidary begins.

Membership: 2012 Registration beginning now.... see details in the Laphound News. Early Renewal incentive rewards at each club meeting. New procedures with Membership as published in September Laphound News. Reminder to please see Membership before meeting and at break if needing to do so, then they can enjoy and hear meeting as well.

Library: 3 new books received. Request to return books taken out over summer. List of books are now up on the website in Excel format to assist our members to find what they are interested with much more ease. Thanks to Leni Gagnon, Greg Shea and Cameron Speedie for well over 200 itemized in the list that they put in this format.

Field Trip: In June to Loss Creek. Some gold found, July and August minimal turn out. Loss Creek requested once again for next upcoming trip. No sluice boxes allowed. Colwood Corners on 18th September 0900 hours. As always, please contact Giles Lebrun if joining in this outing. President Cameron Speedie stated that the hope is to start arranging longer trips if someone will be interested in heading this up.

Laphound News: Please get information in by the 15th. Two articles that did not make it in most recent newsletter, "Oregon trip for Thunder Eggs for September 16-18th" and an article in Times-Colonist featuring a tribute from Patrick Lydon to Peter Leech have been copied and are on the display table (see TCP dated Sunday, July 17th, 2011 if interested in the article).

VLMS General Meeting Minutes –September 12, 2011(continued)

Gem Show: Will be at the Divinci Centre this year but as a courtesy, Esquimalt Centre will be looked at as a possibility for other years depending on outcome of viewing. Changes in the Divinci Centre with structure and layout this summer might affect how club runs show. Access still the same but there was a consideration for a lift. Looking for a co-chair as Don Meyer will be slowly bowing out so please consider assisting with this. Volunteers please come to next meeting 7pm, Tuesday, September 20th at club. The show is a primary source of funding for our club such as assisting with workshop rent, keeping membership fees down etc.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Request made from a member for emails, etc. received as correspondence to be posted on website... Cameron will do best to achieve this.

Island Zone: Gerri and Cameron attended. More young people coming in for new ideas as older members tiring as many years put in. Trying to get more imaginative, along with how to support each other, like sharing resources, etc. A more detailed report was given in the September Laphound News and also posted on website.

Programs: Magdalene showing a slide show of some of her Crystal collection. President made it known that we are looking to get help with organizing upcoming events for Programs.

Presidents Report: Great summer picnic and good weather for it. Looking forward to a busy and fun fall. Looking at more interesting courses to teach.

Announcements: Certificates handed out from last class before summer. Looking at pens, cups, hats or shirts with club logo and Carrie Maier will get samples for club. Worry stones for Hospice would be a good thing for our club to do and bring them for patients as suggested by our President. Samples were made available to see at meeting, small and fit in between digits to rub. If you can make some to donate, much appreciated.

Display Table: Sean with large flower stone found on Trans-Canada trail bike ride recently after stopping up near a creek for lunch. The usual keen eye! He also brought some specimens from recent Summer Camp on Texada Island. McAbee Bed fossils and Candy Mine specimens shown by Brad Wollven. Mike Hill showing wire wrapping samples to show what it looks like for upcoming classes. Giles Leburn with various mineral specimens.

Member Event: Enjoyed by all.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Mike Hill and seconded by Gerri Irwin.



Sunshine Corner.

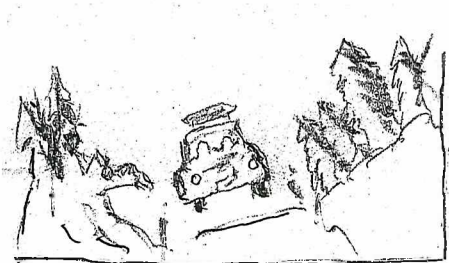
Lorena Taylor.

We have received a report that Phil Watson, a long time and well known member of the Cowichan Valley Club is now in very poor health and there is a request that he have no visitors.

Membership Report

Kathleen Kane.

Membership renewal for the year 2012 is progressing well. The sooner it is done the better prepared we will be with the submission of our annual report to BCLS.



Field Trip.

Gilles Lebrun.

Sunday 23rd October to Sombrio Beach. We will meet at 9 a.m. at Colwood Corners. Please let me know if you intend to participate, phone: 250-382-6119.

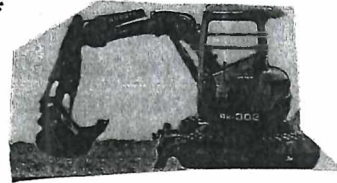


Library Report.

We now have our library catalogue online, it in an embedded Excel format so folks can search, save to their own computers, and sort in what ever order strikes their fancy. The listing is under the member's area so they will have to enter the club user name and password to access it. You can get to the page from the Member's page by clicking the last menu item on the left side or here is a direct link: <http://vlms.ca/members/Library/VLMS>
<http://vlms.ca/members/Library/VLMS%20Library.htm>> Library.htm

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

- October 2nd Jonanco Center Craft demonstrations, 2745 White Rapids Road, Nanaimo
- 15 – 16 Surrey Gem Show, 6302 152nd St. Surrey.
- 19 – 30 Port Moody Show, Kyle Center, 125 Kyle St. Port Moody.



Madras Trip.

Leni Gagnon

This summer Yvan and I decided to check out the Madras Pow Wow in Oregon. The countryside was beautiful and the people friendly. However, the show itself was different from what we expected. There were so many Agates, Jaspers, etc. Although very interesting, not what we were looking for. We made a side trip to Prineville to visit Elkins Gem Shop. We had a great time talking to the owner and checking out what she had to sell. Again mostly what was in Madras. We did manage to buy a few specimens.

We toured the surrounding Central Oregon area (quite the lesson in Geology). We landed up in Sisters, where we heard that another mineral show was happening that weekend. We were hoping that we would finally come across what we were there for, a Mammoth Tooth and a Mastadon tooth. That evening as I stood waiting in the restaurant for Yvan to pay the bill, I struck up a conversation with another woman who was also waiting for her friend. I asked her if she knew of a mineral shop in the area. She said that she had one but had closed up to start one through eBay. She graciously invited us out to her home to have a look to see if anything would catch our fancy. The next morning we drove up to her home in the woods. She invited us to see her workshop and the minerals she had for sale. Her collection was not large but it was beautiful and some unique. I bought several very nice specimens, a blue Barite in a geode, a piece of lava foam, a limb cast still covered in volcanic ash, a couple of interesting pieces of purple rock (which she had mined but didn't know what they were) and a Yesterday's Camel tooth. We visited for a while with her family and left there extremely happy. We will be sure to visit her web site www.holeystones.com from time to time.

The Sisters show was very interesting but much like the Madras Show. We decided to go on to Hillsboro, Oregon to visit the Rice Museum. The Rice Museum Came as a wonderful surprise! I had noticed the name on the map before without too much interest. Hey, how many ways can you display rice, right? It certainly is a well kept secret. The clerk in the gift shop told me that she had driven past it every day for 40 years and never realized that it was a museum until she went there for a job interview.

The founders of the Rice Museum were Helen and Richard Rice. They started collecting in 1938. They built their house in 1952 and turned it into a private museum and in 1977 the family made it into a public museum. The house and the outbuildings are on a beautiful piece of land in the countryside. Nothing to show that it is, in fact, a museum except for a small sign at the front of the driveway.

Madras Trip. (continued)

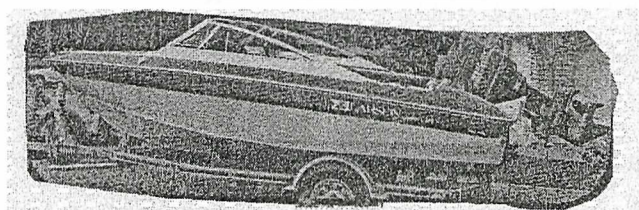
The Rice Museum is the home of "Alma Rose", a large Rhodochrosite from Colorado. Each room of the house is filled with excellent specimens. There are displays of petrified wood, meteorites, fossils, fluorescent minerals, gems and other minerals. One point of interest to the children is THE ROCK PILE. Donations from rockhounds and mineral collectors, as well as visitors who bring a donation for the pile make this an everchanging place for kids to find their own free treasure.

It was while I was in the Gift Shop (formerly the garage) that we found that my copy of "Fleischer's Glossary of Mineral Species 2008" was missing. I almost felt like I was going to have a panic attack. Then I remembered Yvan using it in Sisters. I would email them when I got home. Whew, that made me feel better. This museum is relatively close to us (just outside of Portland, Oregon). It certainly is a place worthwhile to visit. So remember, if you decide to visit this wonderful Museum, be sure to bring a rock to add to the "Rock Pile."

Now we're on the trail of the missing book. I emailed Lynda in Sisters that evening. She didn't find it. She offered to go to Sisters Mineral Show that day to see if it had been left at one of the dealers there. No luck! Panic time again - where was it left? We couldn't think of where else it could have been left. Resigned to the fact I had lost it and was going to have to buy another copy in Tucson next January, we headed back to Victoria.

When we got home, we checked our messages. Lo and Behold, we got a message from Elke in Prineville to let us know that we had left the book there. Elke said that she would mail it to us. I phoned her to make sure that she had the address. She then told me that she had given the book to a customer who was from Vancouver Island to return it to us. She gave us a phone number where we could reach him. I phoned every day for week and got no answer. Are they still on holidays or do I start panicing again? Finally, after a week I connected with his wife. They had just returned to Campbell River the night before.

Holey Smokes! No matter, just relieved that I was going to get my book back I made arrangements for us to drive there the next day to pick up the book. On Sunday we drove to Campbell River and had a good visit and a few laughs with Gordon (the Vice-President) and his wife of the Ripple Rock Club. Now all I have to do is figure out how to attach to book to one of us or an alarm of some sort, so that the book won't be left behind on some other journey. The next time we may not be so lucky.

**I'm Selling My Boat – A Cautionary Tale.****Mary Sue Bucher - Mineralog**

My old boss, Otto, used to have a saying: "A man who owns a boat only loves it twice, once when he buys it and once when he sells it." No, I don't own a boat, but I am moving out of my current digs and today I cleaned out the garage. My-oh-my, I didn't know I was such a hoarder.

I love arts and crafts – don't we all? I've taken drawing classes, stained glass, glass bead making, ceramics, jewelry making, sewing, horticulture and probably some things I don't remember. With these hobbies came supplies and tools. After I'd finished, I stored them in the large San Francisco duplex I lived in. Now I live in a third floor apartment in Berkeley and am forced to store most of my stuff downstairs in a large rat-infested storage room under the house.

When I moved into this place five years ago, I cleaned, and dumped and packed. Now, I am moving again and I Have decided to repack and high-grade everything. Like I said, I didn't realize I was such a hoarder. Now, I am coming to the end of the culling and dumping and if you can stand more advice from this opinionated know-it-all, here goes.

I'm Selling My Boat – A Cautionary Tale.(continued)

If you decide to start a new hobby, resist the urge to go crazy buying supplies. I'm a knitter and we knitters call our boxes of yarn, "The stash". I've heard of personal stashes that could double as yarn stores.

People who sew have been known to buy hundreds of yards of beautiful fabric intending to use it someday; yea. I was one of those. Artists buy paper, pencils, paint – you name it. An art store is like a big candy store and yes, I've grown fat on art goodies. I just got rid of my extra garden tools. I had four trowels, four shovels, three cultivators, six pruners and many bags of fertilizer. The rats got the fertilizer, ate the grass seed and made a mess of the storage room. I had spare picture frames, boxes of drawings, (the mold from the yearly flooding under the house ruined those) dried up paints, lots and lots of art board and wood scraps,(Cant throw these away, can ya?) I had a big box of candle making supplies (rats ate the wax) home made soap that was never finished (rats ate the soap) and lots of canning supplies. I had way too many dishes and kitchen gadgets which I kept in the breakfast room which I turned into a storage pantry. I had a big box of stained glass, (I saved every splinter), and I won't go into the rocks and beading supplies. The message here is to try and control yourself. (Futile, isn't it) Through this ordeal, I had four massive pick-ups from the Salvation Army, weekly drop-offs at a local thrift store and two big "free boxes" in my drive way that I kept filling and filling. The other day I stood on my front steps and saw a young woman brandishing a sauce splatter screen , yelling, "Look what I got, I'm so excited,"

One lady asked me if I had a regular time each day that I put things out. She wanted to be there. People have started making requests, "Do you have more bowls? How about plates?"

Well, from now on, I swear I'm going to concentrate on beading and jewelry making. Beads are small and some of them are tiny. I have thousands and thousands of beads and they all fit into one big shelving unit. Jewelry is a great hobby for people with little space. So ask yourself, what is the most valuable thing you own and the answer is SPACE, whether it.s paid for with rent or a mortgage.

In closing, I'd like to thank my neighbours for hauling the stuff off and the many rats that live down in my garage and basement for helping to make the difficult decision about what to keep and what to throw away. Thanks, guys, I don't think I could have done it without you.

Cans

Anyone interested in 1 gallon Coffee Cans please contact Lorena at 250-384-0755.

HAPPY



THANKSGIVING