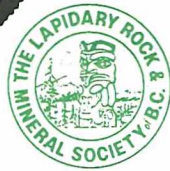




# LAPHOUND NEWS



**VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY**

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



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

Vol. 55-1

February 2012

President	- Patrick Lydon	Show Chairman	- Gerri Speedie
Vice President	- Mike Hill	Librarian	- Leni Gagnon
Past President	- Cameron Speedie	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
	- David Hosking	Workshop	- Brian McMillan
	- Brian McMillan	Programs	- Vacant
	- Brad Woollven	Membership	- Kathleen Kane
Editor	- Barbara Smith 887 Falaise Crescent, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 1A2 Phone 250-479-7881.		

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**February Meeting:** Monday, February 6. Time: 7:30 pm.  
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

**Program:** To be advised.

**Executive Meeting:** Date to be announced.

**Show Meeting:** Tuesday February 21. Time: 7:00 pm  
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

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**President's Message** Patrick Lydon.

Some 14 Years ago I went to the library at the Monterey Center to drop off some books and I noticed a gathering of people in the adjacent hall. Being curious I listened to the guest speaker who gave a great talk on earthquakes and how they may affect Victoria. After the talk I waited to see the business meeting and I was amazed at how fast and efficiently the meeting was conducted with no interruptions from the floor and unanimous votes of approval on recommendations from the executive. How different from the stormy department meetings in the hospital.

I learned that the meeting involved the Lapidary & Mineral Society. I was so impressed that I joined that night. As I resume a year of Presidency, I appeal to the membership to try to conduct our meetings in a quick and timely manner and to try to avoid frivolous comments and remarks till the business meeting is over. The most enjoyable aspects of the meeting are the social activities and the speaker event so please allow the business section to be conducted as quickly and smoothly as possible.

We look forward to an exciting year of events and none more important than our annual Rock & Gem Show. This year entitled 'Beauty from the Beach'. I appeal to all members to come forward and help with this event and since Victoria is a naval city, we may hoist our colours and say "The VLMS expects every member to do their duty."

A Happy New Year to you all.

GEOLOGIST -

2 HR X 5 TIMES  
PAM OPAL  
ANY DAY BUT THURSDAY  
922 642 7235

Editor's Remarks

Barbara Smith.

I will be collecting any small donated items suitable for Spin & Win. Bring them to the next meeting or phone me and I will arrange to pick them up. Cabachons would be appreciated too.

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**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

FEB 28 TUES  
NEWCOM R.B.C. MUSEUM  
12-1300



"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you have to put up with the rain."

Dolly Parton.

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Minutes of VLMS General Meeting January 2, 2012

**Call to order and welcome by Cameron Speedie, President. Visitor: Mary Campbell, New members: 0**

**Minutes:** No errors or omissions from November 2011 General Meeting Minutes as printed in the Laphound News. Motion made by Herb Hellmoldt to accept. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Monthly Reports:	To November 30th, 2011	
	Balance Forward	\$24,372.76
	Credits	\$723.92
	Debits	\$2283.17
	General Ledger	\$22,813.51
	Outstanding Cheques	\$100.00
	Bank Balance	\$22,913.51
	Petty Cash	\$47.66
	Total	\$22,961.17

Motion to accept made by Sandy Burns and seconded by Giles Lebrun .

Carried

	To December 31, 2011	
	Balance Forward	\$22,813.51
	Credits	\$52.93
	Debits	\$302.42
	General Ledger	\$22,564.02
	Outstanding Cheques	\$100.00
	Bank Balance	\$22,664.02
	Petty Cash	\$30.00
	Total	\$22,694.02

Motion to accept made by Giles Lebrun and seconded by Leni Gagnon.

Carried

A summarized annual Financial Report for the year 2011 was also given at the meeting, This showed an increase of \$3,707.27 over the year, mainly due to membership going up and increased participation in workshop courses. Members of the VLMS are entitled to examine the books at any time. Thanks to Don Meyer and David Hosking for auditing the books. Motion from Herb Hellmoldt to accept this report as read, seconded by Giles Lebrun. Carried

**Correspondence:** none

**Sunshine Corner:** Cards have been sent out to those unwell or recovering. Gordon Taylor had his 80th birthday yesterday, January 1st with friends/family around. David Dyer is in hospital.

**Workshop:** Brian states full house with use of all equipment. It has been without difficulties due to ease of sharing. Cleaning up work area has also been taken on by those using shop. Brad and Brian will get together to organize classes so another day can be added to open up with more workshop time. Cameron also added that with continued growth in courses there will be a need to look at increasing more days or time slots.

**Basic Lapidary/Opal:** Brian, Brad (Opal and Basic Lapidary) and Cheri Wilhelm (Silver-smithing) will be taking over teaching as Cameron is leaving Victoria. Cameron stated that more interest from others outside of membership but emphasized that all people taking courses have to join the club or be an existing member before using the workshop or doing courses. Brian mentioned that he is running a course at Monterey and during this time he encourages them to come to our club, become members so they can get more workshop time.

MARCH  
16-17-18

**Minutes of VLMS General Meeting January 2, 2012 (continued)**

**Membership:** Rockhounder magazines ordered by members for pickup at meetings are not being picked up. Approval wanted for a one time to use funds to mail these out. It was noted to membership that they are sent to club as *bulk* mail rather than as individual dispatches as it is more cost effective. A notice to be put in the Laphound News that if people do not pick up the magazine within three months of issue date, we make them available to other club members. Motion made by Sandi Burns and seconded by Leni Gagnon that a mail out for this one time be granted. **Carried.**

**Library:** Nothing new to report but while Leni is away next month, Silvia Moar will be present to help out with Library services.

**Field Trip:** Anyone who wants to collect some rocks from Giles basement, give him a call. No field trips planned for February but can call Giles if something is of interest.

**Laphound News:** Nothing to report.

**Gem Show:** March 16, 17, 18th for show and the theme *Beauty from the Beach*.

Volunteer sign up commenced at meeting. Gerri will also put out calls to the members so they can have a chance to add their time in what is left. Students in high school are also required to do so many hours for community volunteer work and a local school will be called upon to see what they can do to help. Roles discussed as to what to expect in each area for duties, etc and Gerri will review these duties again next month so that others not at this meeting will have this knowledge too. Leni is taking care of the showcases for display. Gerri stated that it is unsure as to how many we will be able to fit into the building since renovations space allotment has decreased. Giles, Don and Gerri looking at the Esquimalt Centre to review space and inquire about electrical, setting up assistance, etc. on Jan 12th. At the next show committee meeting on Jan 17, we will have more details to discuss and go over at that time.

**Presidents Report:** Keep doing what you are doing to help out with the club as your contributions are greatly appreciated and support Patrick as he steps back into the role as President elect for the next year.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Can West Mall has an upcoming Hobby show which helps to promote our club show each year. It is unknown at present what the dates are this year but will get out to members once privy to this information. Volunteers are encouraged to be a part of this.

**Island Zone:** Displeasure letter sent to BCLS for late fee increase notification for membership with the Society.

**Programs:** Annual Election this month.

**Announcements:** Barb Smith reported free rocks to give away by a member. Call her for contact number.

Lorena Taylor has clean, large coffee tins for putting rock collections in so contact her if you want some.

**Display Table:** Rock from field trip; fossils from California, Alberta and some freebies by Giles. Brian Mcmillan continues to have tumbling grit for sale and for a decent price. Barb had items for others to purchase like rose quartz, and others but many went quickly.

**Member Event:** Enjoyed by all.

**Adjournment:** Of this meeting and onto the Annual General Meeting for 2012

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**Annual General Meeting - January 2, 2012**

M. Magon, Past President, conducted the election of the Executive for the year 2012. After reading out the names of the various nominees, she called for nominations from the floor. The following were declared elected for the 2012 Executive.

**Elected Positions**

President:	Patrick Lydon
Vice President:	Mike Hill
Treasurer:	Greg Shea
Secretary:	Carrie Maier
Members at Large	2 yrs: Brad Woollven Brian MacMillan
	1 yr. Barbara Smith (continuing) David Hosking ( to complete term for Manfred Agath)

**Appointed Committee Positions**

- Membership: Kathleen Kane – assisted by Murdo Smith.
- Programs: still to be determined.
- Island Zone: Cameron Speedie, Gerri Irwin & Magdalene Magon
- Sunshine Corner: Lorena Taylor
- Social Convenor: Molly Beddington
- Showcase Coordinator: Brad Woollven
- Field Trips: Giles Lebrun
- Workshop: Brian McMillan & Brad Woollven
- Editor: Leni Gagnon – starting in March.
- Library: Leni Gagnon assisted by Silvia Moar
- Member’s Event: Lorena Taylor
- Show Chairperson: Gerri Irwin
- Show Co-chair: Don Meyer

Motion made by Sandy Burns to accept and Herb Hellmoldt seconded.

**Carried**

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**Sunshine Corner.**

**Lorena Taylor.**

David Dyer has been in and out of hospital recently, we wish him well. Gordon Taylor is getting around a bit and is awaiting his second operation.

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**Membership.**

**Kathleen Kane.**

If you intend to renew your membership for the year 2012, please do so at the next meeting as we are completing our report to British Columbia Lapidary Society (BCLS), which is due by the end of February. If your membership is not renewed by February 6, 2012 we will not be able to place your name on the BCLS report and you will not be insured for club activities.

We have on hand a number of Rockhounder Magazines that were ordered by members and to be picked up at a meeting. Starting with the year 2012, Rockhounder Magazines and B.C. Directories ordered by members for pickup at a meeting must be picked up within three months of their issue date, otherwise they will become VLMS property and subject to be resold. This can be avoided by paying to have these items mailed to you if you are having difficulty attending meetings. The cost per year to have them mailed to you would be \$22.00 instead of \$14.00 to pick up at a meeting.

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**Field Trips.**

**Gilles Lebrun.**

We will have a field trip to French Beach on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February. If you intend to participate please phone me at : 250-382-6119. We cannot meet at the usual place because of construction but will find a place close by.

**Beryl – Aquamarine**

Ref. Internet

This is one of the most popular gemstones. It is the birthstone for March and was first used. (that is known) about 300 B.C. by the Greeks. Amulets of Aquamarine were supposed to keep the wearer protected during sea voyages. Sometimes these amulets were carved with Poseidon on them. It is also supposed to preserve innocence and purity. It's beautiful blue-green colour is reminiscent of the ocean. It's name means seawater in Latin.

The largest clear crystal was found in Minas Gerais, Brazil. It weighed 243 lbs and was cut into many stones. Larger crystals have been found but they were not good for cutting. Brazil is a large producer of this stone and Kenya also has some excellent deposits of Aquamarine. Apart from blue or green stones, aquamarine can be found in yellow, red or white depending on the impurities in the stone.

**Emerald or Green Beryl.**

This crystal was first used by the Egyptians. The beryl is coloured by trace amounts of chromium and sometimes vanadium. Most emeralds have a lot of inclusions and are brittle. They were mined in antiquity by the Egyptians, also mined in Austria and Pakistan. Occasionally found in Columbian mines is a rare form called a trapiche emerald. It has an unusual structure of carbon in raylike spikes which form a star pattern. Columbian emeralds are most prized because of their clarity and fire. Other areas with emeralds are Zambia, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Pakistan, Russia, Afghanistan and U.S.A.

Synthetic emeralds have been on the market now for almost fifty years. They are grown on colourless beryl seed.

**Golden Beryl and Heliodor.**

The Golden Beryl comes in shades of yellow to golden yellow. This stone has few flaws. Heliodore comes in greenish yellow shades. Likely the largest cut Golden Beryl was a 2,054 carat stone which is now in the Hall of Gems in Washington D.C.

**Goshenite.**

This is colourless Beryl. It was discovered originally in Goshen Massachusetts. Sometimes goshenite is irradiated to colour it. It is found in most beryl areas and has been used for eyeglass lenses. It's gem value is lower than other beryls

**Morganite.**

This is a rare pale pink to rose coloured stone. Orange/yellow stones may be found and colour banding is common. It was first discovered on an island off Madagascar. One of the largest specimens found was 9" long and 12" across and weighed 50 lbs.(In matrix) called 'The Rose of Maine', where it was found.

**Red Beryl.**

Dark red in colour it is sometimes called red emerald. This gem has sometimes been confused with Pezzottaite, also called red beryl which comes from Madagascar and Afghanistan. When they are both faceted the difference can be seen in the refractive index. Most red beryl comes from Utah or New Mexico. Top quality red beryl can cost as much as \$10,000 per carat for a faceted stone.

Beryl deposits are often in granite pegmatites but can be found in mica schists or limestone and are often associated with tin or tungsten. The largest known crystal in the world, (as of 12 years ago) was of beryl, found in Madagascar and was 18 meters long and 3 1/2 meters in diameter.

HEARRIE SILVER CIRCULAR  
386 5422

# SHOWS & EVENTS

- February 9-12 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Convention Center, Tucson.
- March 10-11 Port Alberni Rock & Gem Show, Cherry Creek Community Center
- 16-18 Victoria Lapidary & Mineral Society Rock & Gem Show,  
Leonardo Da Vinci Center, Bay Street, Victoria

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### A Rockhound's New Year's Resolution.

### via Tulip City Conglomerate and Quarry Quips.

- 1 For every new specimen I bring home, I'll weed out five.
- 2 To Hold more tightly to the wheel and keep on going past that rock shop.
- 3 To eliminate at least two Rock & Gem Shows from my travels this year.
- 4 Not to go to every sale I see advertised.
- 5 Not to call everything I cannot identify as Jasper.
- 6 To minimize my large collection, to maximize my choice specimens.
- 7 To weed out (High grade) my many magazines about rocks.
- 8 To complete two unfinished projects before starting on ten more.
- 9 Take an item for show and tell.
- 10 NOT TO LET MY WIFE SEE THIS LIST!

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### For Sale

80 Mesh Grit \$3 per lb.  
 220 Mesh Grit \$5 per lb.  
 500 Mesh Grit \$6 per lb.  
 Phone Brian at 250-385-2700

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DYER BLEW/SYL VIA  
836 HAMPSHIRE Rd  
250 598 5303



# HAPPY



# VALENTINE

1565 BROOK  
CHERI  
WILHELM  
250-598-6985