



LAPHOUND NEWS

VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

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



Vol. 55 – 4

Website:- www.vlms.ca

May 2012.

President	Patrick Lydon	Show Chairman	Gerri Speedie
V. 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	Barbara Smith		Phone: 250-382-6119
At Large	David Hoskins	Workshop	Brian McMillan
	Brian McMillan	Programs	Vacant
	Brad Woollven	Membership	Kathleen Kane
Editor	Leni Gagnon, 472 Meredith Crescent, Victoria, B.C. Phone: 250-479-6214		
	Email address is editorvlmsnews@shaw.ca		

May Meeting

Monday, May 7, 2012
 Place: Burnside Lawnbowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.
 Time: 6:00 p.m. for people who are bringing things in to auction off.
 7:00 p.m. doors open to view articles. If you are not bringing in articles, please do not come before this time.
 7:15 – 7:30 p.m. meeting
 7:30 p.m. auction.

Program

Club Auction

Executive Meeting

Monday, April 30, 2012
 Place: Les Passmore Centre, (club workshop)
 Time: 7:00 p.m.

President's Message

Patrick Lydon.

"I would like to offer my congratulations to the Membership on another successful Rock and Gem Show. Our 2012 effort is outstanding when one considers the difficulties we had to face in

Mid-March. Our Show Chairperson, Gerrie Speedie became ill and had to withdraw, but her months of planning and preparation was a great help to us all. Mr. Don Meyer took over as Chairman, and he was able to guide us through the inevitable problems that occur during a Show. We had nothing but compliments from the people leaving the Show and the Dealers were positive about their involvement as well. To those Members who helped out at the Show- our sincere thanks! For Don Meyer who has led us through some five Shows in succession, I am recommending the Victoria Cross"! President Patrick Lydon.

Minutes of the General Meeting of – April 2, 2012

Call to order and welcome guests in attendance done by President, Patrick Lydon.

Minutes: As read or as printed in the Laphound News. Motion made by F. McMahon to accept and seconded by Mike Farley. All were in favour. Motion Carried

Treasurers Report: as of March 31, 2012 does not include the final with Rock & Gem show accounts:

Balance forward	\$23 758.07
Credits	15 559.50
Debits	<u>8 004.23</u>
General Ledger	\$31 313.34
Bank Balance	\$31 313.34
Petty Cash	<u>30.00</u>
Total	\$31 343.34

Motion to accept made by H. Hellmoldt and seconded by F. McMahon. All were in favour. Motion Carried.

Correspondence:

Shows: BC Gem Show – April 13-15, Abbotsford; Jonanco – April 21-22, Nanaimo; Ripple Rock Gem & Mineral Club Show – June 9-10, Campbell River; Okanagan Gem Show – Vernon Lapidary & Mineral Club – July 22-22

Emails: 1) John Cook (250-721-5210) – 16 inch diamond blade; 2) Terry and Tara Gudjonson (tntgudjonson@shaw.ca) – material and tools (some silversmith tools and silver); 3) Gem & Mineral Federation of Canada, Ripple Rock Gem & Mineral Club – Cab and Faceting competition event – guidelines received. Entries to be in by May 30th; 4) Elisabeth Eldridge, Policy Analyst, MOF, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – McAbee Fossil Beds, questionnaire re: developing a plan for conservation and management for heritage value.

Sunshine Corner: Nothing to report.

Workshop: Basic Lapidary course : almost finished ·Silversmith course being organized (10 showing interest for course and they will be contacted) if others have not signed up and are wanting to do the course please contact Brian:

April 28th– May 12th: Saturdays 11-1pm & Thursdays & 7-9pm · Brad will look into getting another day for the workshop to conduct a basic lap a.s.a.p., as there seems to have been a lot of inspiration from the show as far as opal goes. ·Brian and Brad are looking for 1 – 2 people to assist teaching the Silversmith courses so can add more courses related to this.

Island Zone: Magdelene and Barb not present to report regarding the club Island Zone Gemboree for June.

Program: ·Eileen Van der Flier-Keller, UVIC professor for Earth and Ocean Science, with hands on – How To: identify rocks with their journeys from the beginning of time to present day. ·Greg Shea also updating plan for Britannia Mines, on the mainland. Trip 20+ all together interested from both clubs (Cowichan and ours). ○ Contact Greg for further information and/or can volunteer assistance for this trip. ○ Meeting with people who signed up was had at the meeting to help finalize the decision on travel time, etc.

Reminder: May is the Club Auction – buy and sell items; and June is the Strawberry Social.

Membership: nothing to report other than if you are new member check in next meeting for your name tag.

Library: · Nothing to report

Field Trip: ·Mt. Tzouhalem, Duncan, for quartz crystals and ammonite - April 15th @ 9:00 am. Meet @ Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre, parking lot in front of Senior's Centre. Dress for muddy hunting conditions! Bring mats to kneel on.

Laphound News: no report.

Gem Show: Don Meyer reporting on behalf of Gerri Irwin. · Thanks to all that helped with the

show ·Special thanks given to Giles Lebrun for over the years in doing electrical systems and help solve many problems ·Attendance around 2300 slightly lower than some years but still a good turnout ·Items left behind: 25ft tape, water bottles – contact show chair, Don Meyer ·Barbara is sends along her thanks for all donated materials to the Spin and Win · Some thefts did take place and recommendations will be had for next year's show around this issue. Anyone trying to get into show in less than an hour before closing time will not be let in. Also, by not allowing people in, it alleviates the volume of people getting out at closing time. ·**Announcement** that on April 17th a wind up get together for the R& G show committee @ 7pm will be had at the club hall ·Don announced his official retirement, and to further this, he will be moving up island in Campbell River to do some rowing with his new boat, hiking, etc. He noted he has a trilogy of short stories to finish... a thank you to all members whom have been supportive and kind to him over the long years.

President's Report: · To the membership: Don once upon a time went off on a boat and sailed in Australia and his ventures will continue once he leaves us. Much gratitude for managing the show for over the last five years, and his keeping cool under all the pressure.

Unfinished Business: ·Silvia Moar will be bringing the suggestion box at next meeting spoken of last month.

Announcements: None

Display Table: Brad has a few looking specimens; Article from TC about the show; a few items to look at under the microscope at. Giles gave thanks to Brian McMillan for rebuilding an electrical panel in the nick of time during the R&G show.

New Business: none.

Member Event: enjoyed by all... new approach continued to cut down length of time so can get on to Program and not have it run late into evening.

Adjournment: Motion by Leni Gagnon and seconded by Pierre Lambert.

Editor's Remarks

Leni Gagnon.

I have spoken with several members about a column called, "Getting To Know You". So far, it seems to have a positive reaction. I have decided to try it out this month and Tom Vaulkhard will be first person. Tom has been a member of VLMS since 1964. Because of the space available the articles will have to be fairly short and focused on the member's tie to the hobby. If you would like to share your story with the members of the club, please let me know.

Field Trips

Gilles Lebrun.

Place: Island View Beach
When: May27, 20123
Meet at: Juan de Fuca Senior's Center
Time: 9:00 a.m.



Membership

Kathleen Kane.

We have received a new shipment of VLMS nametags. If you have joined in the past year and do not yet have a nametag, please make sure to pick it up from Kathleen or Murdo at an upcoming meeting.

Sunshine Corner**Lorena Taylor.**

No reports of illness from members.

Leni and Yvan Gagnon welcomed new granddaughter Bailey Parkes into the family.

Betty Goodwin is doing well and sends a big "Hello" to all her friends.

Library Report**Leni Gagnon.**

I am trying to organize the library to prevent damage to some of the books. The cabinets we use do not lend themselves for the proper storage of certain types of reading materials, mainly the soft covered in duotangs. I will put them in a plastic storage box and if it doesn't fit into the cabinet, then I will take them home with me each time. Hopefully, their shelf life will be extended this way.

MAY BIRTHSTONE

Several different sites on the internet

Emerald and Chrysoprase

Emerald is the birthstone for the month of May. It is the green variety of Beryl. The Emerald is also the Zodiac stone for the Cancer constellation. The Emerald is associated with patience, understanding and foresight.

It is found in many places around the world, but the best deep green transparent crystals come from only a few locations, including Columbia, Russia, India.

The wonderful green color of emerald is unparalleled in the gem kingdom. Emerald's precious green color is caused by small amounts of chromium and enhanced by traces of iron. Unlike other beryls, emeralds usually contain inclusions and other flaws. These flaws are not looked on as negative aspects for emerald like they would be for other gemstones. Indeed, these flaws are considered part of the character of the stone and are used to assure the purchaser of a natural stone.

Emerald is nearly always "oiled" to fill (and thus hide) the minute fractures that otherwise mar a perfect transparency. Modern treatment replaces oils with plastics or other materials that do not evaporate or degrade over time. As long as the treatment does not alter the color, it is considered acceptable.

Chrysoprase or also spelled as chrysoprase, the other birthstone for May is the most valuable member of the Chalcedony family. It is composed of crystals so fine that when using normal magnification, they can not be seen as distinct particles.

The stone's colour is usually apple-green but there is also deep green. If the green colour of emerald is due to the presence of chromium inside, these chrysoprase gemstones are due to the nickel content (about 1 to 3%). The best quality of chrysoprase comes from Queensland, Australia. Other places includes Brazil, Austria, Czechoslovakia, United States and Russia.

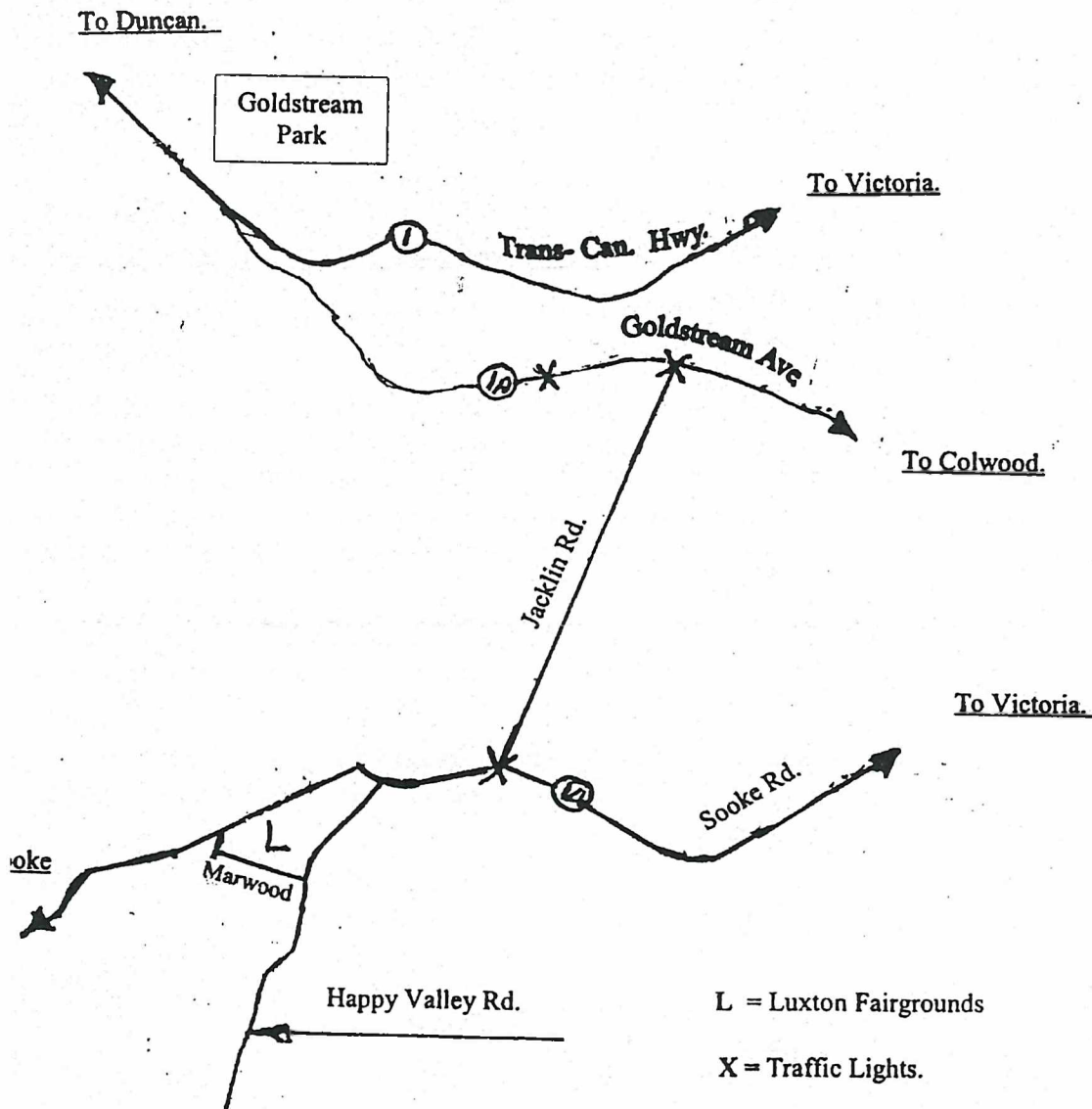
SHOP HINTS

via Quarry Quips

1. When the lapidary saw needs to have the tub cleaned, filter all the oil through about 4 Or 5 big paper grocery bags. The oil will be clean and reusable The oil never wears out. Since oil is quite expensive, this will save you money.
2. Each time you clean the lapidary saw, reverse the blade. This will give longer life to the blade as you wear each side evenly.

SHOWS & EVENTS

- May 5-6 **Courtenay Gem & Mineral Club & Parksville & District Rock & Gem Club**
Royal Canadian Legion, 367 Cliffe Rd., Courtenay, B.C.
- 5-6 **Calgary Rock & Lapidary Club**
West Hillhurst Arena, 1940 6Ave., Calgary, Alberta
- June 1-3 **Gemboree**
Luxton Fairgrounds, 1040 Marwood Ave, Langford, B.C.



The Gemboree is in a few weeks and we need donations for the Saturday auction. Rock related or otherwise. Please contact one of the Zone members, Cameron or Gerri Speedie or Magdalene Magon or myself.

Also needed are helpers for setting up the hall on the Friday afternoon, 1st June.

- June 9-10 **Ripple Rock Gem and Mineral Club**
Timberline Secondary School, 1681 South Dogwood St., Campbell River

CONTEST

Ripple Rock Gem and Mineral Club of Campbell River is challenging members of other clubs to enter the People's Choice Contest at our annual Rock and Mineral Show in June. The winning member will not only have bragging rights (and a ribbon) but also have their club recognized in any rockhounding publication. Please check out our website for more information

www.ripplerockgemandmineralclub.com. Go to the Rock Show 2012 tab and you will find the link to the People's Choice Contest guidelines, contact and entry forms.

July 21-22 **Okanagan Gem Show**
Winfield Memorial Hall, 3270 Berry Rd., Winfield, B.C.

WORD GAME

Starting with the word STARLING, can you form 8 new words, with each new word being 1 letter shorter than the one before it?

DID YOU KNOW?

SULPHUR – comes from the Latin word “Sulphurum”, meaning to burn. Usage of the word dates back to 2000 BC. It replaces the term “Brimstone” or “Burning Stone”. It is used in the making of matches.

MAPPING A LOST RIVER

By Jodi Di Menna

Geology

In a Geologic Ultrasound of Western Canada, scientists have uncovered the remains of a lost river system as vast as the modern-day Amazon that existed as much as 1.8 billion years ago. With its headwaters in what used to be a Himalayan-scale mountain range running through present-day Manitoba, the series of rivers deposited up to 10 million cubic kilometers of sediment in a delta that stretches from Alaska to Central British Columbia and now lies as much as 30 kilometres beneath the Earth's surface.

The discovery is the result of a seismic survey performed in 1999 and 2000 by geoscientists with the Lithoprobe project (CG Jan/Feb. 1996) and even the researchers involved were caught off guard by the results.

Lithoprobe Leader Ron Clowes emphasizes that the survey “is not telling us the story we anticipated.” In fact, unearthing the ancient deposit has forced scientists to rethink their long held theories on the birth of the North American continent.

Geologists previously believed that the West Coast was built up by terranes, thick chunks of tectonic plate plastered onto the continent by the force of the Earth's shifting crust.

Reference: Canadian Geographic, July/August 2003
via Surrey Rockhound Newsletter, Feb. 2004

BOOK REPORT

Crocheted Wire Jewelry by Arline M. Fisch

Paperback Edition 2009

This book tells you what tools you will need and tells you how to crochet. It then goes into various projects you can make using this technique. It covers projects using a chain stitch, single crochet, crocheting with beads, double crochet and pattern projects, hairpin lace, and projects using other crochet methods. It even tells you how to crochet a dress. If you are looking for a different way to work with wire then this is the book for you.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Live Now. Make Now always the most precious time. Now will never come again.

Captain Jean-Luc Picard, USS Enterprise

♪ GETTING TO KNOW YOU ... ♪

Thomas (Tom) Vaulkhard was born on May 28, 1921 in Manitoba. He was raised on a farm in Saskatchewan. He eventually ended up in Victoria, where he began the Victoria Rockhound Shop in 1967 as a family business. The shop's present location was built in 1975 and is still owned by the Vaulkhard family.

Tom enjoyed the outdoors with hiking, rock-hunting and photography. He took up writing articles for outdoor and mineral magazines.

In the early '60s Tom saw a V.L.M.S. display at a community event and decided to join the club. He has been a member ever since and is a Life Member. His specialty is Lapidary with an emphasis on the local rocks and fossils.

Tom's son, Gerry, fondly remembers a family rock-hunting trip his family made to a remote Sooke beach. They found a Flowerstone of a hundred pounds or more. It was much too heavy to carry any distance, so Tom and Gerry built a raft and floated the stone a Kilometer back to the car. Once back at the car they happily drove it home, pleased with their find.

At present, Tom is doing fine and enjoys visiting with friends.

Information provided by Gerry Vaulkhard.

BASIC SILVERSMITH COURSES

There will be two, consecutive BASIC SILVERSMITHING courses offered in the near future. Details as follows :

LOCATION – club workshop

SCHEDULE - all sessions are 2 hours long, Saturday sessions are from 11 am to 1 pm, Thursday sessions from 7 to 9 pm.

- Course #1201 – Sat 28 April
- Thurs 3 May
- Sat 5 May
- Thurs 10 May
- Sat 12 May

- Course #1202 – proposed dates only, to be confirmed by instructors -
- Thurs 24 May
- Sat 26 May
- Thurs 31 May
- Sat 2 Jun
- Thurs 7 Jun

INSTRUCTORS - Brian MacMillan – (250) 385 - 2700
 - David Hoskings

STUDENTS – normal course load is 6 students. There is currently 1 vacancy in #1201. Those interested in this vacancy should contact Brian MacMillan.

- Course #1201 – Bev Girven
- Marylyn Harris
- Cathy Coe
- Sandy Browning
- Vanessa Steffens
- MICHELE WALKER

Course #1202 - has no students at this time. Those interested should contact Brian MacMillan. If you think you are currently on a waiting list,
YOU ARE NOT!! Call Brian MacMillan.

COST – Victoria Lapidary and Mineral Society(VLMS) membership – \$25.00 – membership is mandatory. VLMS membership may be purchased at the first session.

Cost of Instruction – currently - \$20.00 Cost of materials – unknown, will be prorated among students. If cost is a concern, contact Brian MacMillan.

WORKSHOP

DONATION OF SPARE PARTS – we would like to thank member Wally Predolins for his donation of lapidary spare parts including 2 arbours and numerous six inch diamond cutting wheels.

WORKSHOP SUPERVISOR – the current Workshop Supervisors, Brian and Brad, are looking for one or two members who are interested in volunteering as Workshop Supervisors. Those who volunteer can either be plugged in to the current rotation, or just be willing to be called to fill in where there is a need.

Supervisors are not expected to teach lapidary or silversmithing to those who are using the shop. Essentially a supervisor is there to ensure that equipment is not abused, to report any problems, defects or worn or broken equipment and to ensure that things are properly cleaned and secured before locking up. You may assist a member who is having difficulty with a particular skill, as far as your comfort level allows.

The only qualification required to become a Workshop Supervisor is to have taken (successfully) the Basic Lapidary course. Brian or Brad will teach you any other skills you might.

If you are interested, please contact Brian at 250 385-2700 or Brad at 250 727-9175; or talk to us at any meeting or at the shop.

RHODONITE For Sale

Large chunks from 20 – 300 pounds. The miner thinks some sculptors should get their hands on it, or someone with a big saw..... He hasn't placed 'a per pound' price on it, so Dicker. He is in Youbou.

If anyone is interested he will take you up to the mine. He can't get the material out right now. One must be fit to get up there. I gather it is 'on foot'.

If interested contact Janice Boyes – Courtenay Rock and Gem Club

janboyes@telus.net



Answers to STARLING quiz

Starling, starting, staring, string, sting, sing, sin, in, l

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!