



# LAPHOUND NEWS



**VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY**

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



Vol. 55 – 5

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

June 2012.

<b>President</b>	Patrick Lydon	<b>Show Chairman</b>	Gerri Speedie
<b>V. President</b>	Mike Hill	<b>Librarian</b>	Leni Gagnon
<b>Past President</b>	Cameron Speedie	<b>Sunshine Corner</b>	Lorena Taylor
<b>Secretary</b>	Carrie Maier		Phone: 250-384-0755
<b>Treasurer</b>	Greg Shea	<b>Field Trips</b>	Gilles Lebrun
<b>Members</b>	Barbara Smith		Phone: 250-382-6119
<b>At Large</b>	David Hoskins	<b>Workshop</b>	Brian McMillan
	Brian McMillan	<b>Programs</b>	Vacant
	Brad Woollven	<b>Membership</b>	Kathleen Kane
<b>Editor</b>	Leni Gagnon, 472 Meredith Crescent, Victoria, B.C. Phone: 250-479-6214		
	Email address is <a href="mailto:editorvlmsnews@shaw.ca">editorvlmsnews@shaw.ca</a>		

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## June Meeting

Monday, June 4, 2012  
Place: Burnside Lawnbowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.  
Time: 7:30 p.m.

## Program

Strawberry Social

## Executive Meeting

Monday, June 28, 2012  
Place: Les Passmore Centre, (club workshop)  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

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## President's Message

**Patrick Lydon.**

The old adage, "Whatever goes up, must come down", does not appear to apply to inflation! Our Society must face the fact that previous budgets and estimates have to be reevaluated from time to time. Our Workshop is facing such difficulties at present, and Brian McMillan and Brad Woollven have advised the Executive Committee that realistic expense estimates for the Workshop should be as follows - \$500 for Annual Operating Costs/ \$1,000 for Annual Capital Improvements.

The Executive Committee deeply appreciates the hard work and dedication of Brad and Brian and I recommend that the Society approve the above motion at the next Society Meeting. I will not be able to attend in person but sincerely hope that you all enjoy your strawberry and Ice cream treat and that you have an enjoyable Summer before we meet again in September. Patrick Lydon, President.

## Minutes of the General Meeting of – May 7, 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 M. Farley to accept

and seconded by L. Gagnon. All were in favour. Motion Carried

**Treasurers Report:** As of April 30, 2012

Balance forward	\$ 31,313.34
Credits	124.25
Debits	<u>4,982.73</u>
General Ledger	\$26,454.86

Bank Balance	\$26,454.86
Petty Cash	<u>30.00</u>
Total	\$26,484.86

Motion to accept made by M. Farley and seconded by P. Dyer. All were in favour. Motion Carried.

**Correspondence:** None

**Sunshine Corner:** Nothing to report.

**Workshop:** Silversmith course will complete May 12th. Basic Lapidary and Opal course: looking to get another evening for the workshop for these. Please note that the cost of running courses will be going up.

**Island Zone:** Report from C. Speedie regarding the club Island Zone June Gemboree

- o Registration from 4 p.m. Friday 1st June with some entertainment in the evening.
- o Saturday 2nd June Field trips probably leaving at 9 a.m. Demonstrations in hall and brochures of interest. In afternoon there will be an auction (provided we can find some

one

to do this job) Pot luck supper and more entertainment in evening.

- o Sunday 3rd June Pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. then disperse by 10 a.m.
- o Camping available @ Luxton Fair Grounds (see VLMS website for details and up-to-date information.

**Program:** Greg Shea had a successful outing to Britannia Mines, on the mainland. Trip 20+ all together from both clubs (Cowichan and ours).

**Club Auction** was held at this meeting and celebration with cake for Sean Maier's 16th Birthday!

**Membership:** Nothing to report.

**Library:** Nothing to report.

**Field Trip:** No field trip planned as Gilles away in Quebec.

**Laphound News:** No report.

**Gem Show:** No report.

**President's Report:** Patrick announcing that he will be away for next meeting and that Vice President, Mike Hill, will be doling out the strawberries and ice cream for our annual last month social.

**Unfinished Business:** Suggestion box still to come.

**Announcements:** None

**Display Table:** None as Auction held.

**New Business:** None.

**Member Event:** Auction held.

**Adjournment:** Motion by L. Gagnon and seconded by P. Deyer.

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**Editor's Remarks**

**Leni Gagnon.**

This is the last issue for the summer and the next Laphound News will be sent out in time for the September meeting. So everyone go and have a great summer and have wonderful adventures that you can share with us in the Fall.

Some people are truly dedicated to the club positions that they take on. We have people like that in our club and we could always use more of them. In Calgary, Trudy Martin has been the editor of their newsletter, The Calgary Lapidary Journal, for 38 years. She is retiring in June. We would like to wish her all the best. In the short time that I've been in contact with her, she has helped me a lot. A truly dedicated person the club will miss.

Thank you so much to Barbara Smith for her contributions to the Laphound News this month.

**Field Trips**

**Gilles Lebrun.**

Place: Lost Creek  
 When: June 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Meet at: Juan de Fuca Senior's Center  
 Time: 9:00 a.m.

### Membership

**Kathleen Kane.**

Nothing to report for this month.

### Sunshine Corner

**Lorena Taylor.**

Nothing to report at this time. You know what they say "No news is good news". Have a good summer everyone and do it safely, please.

### Library Report

**Leni Gagnon.**

Have a good summer everyone and a keep an eye out for those books which would enhance our library.

The library will not be open this coming meeting as Yvan and I will be on our way to The Big Apple by then. We are leaving as soon as this issue of the Laphound News is out (May25). We are looking forward to visiting Herkimer, New York and Franklin, New Jersey to get some nice specimens. Of course, they won't be the only places of interest to visit; Yvan is looking to visit as many air/space museums as we come across. Hopefully, we'll have some tales to share with you.

### JUNE BIRTHSTONE

#### **ALEXANDRITE    MOONSTONE    PEARL**

People born in June can choose from one of three stones. Moonstone and Pearl are the traditional choice for the European people and Alexandrite for the North American people. Alexandrite is a relatively new addition to the birthstones list. Some people think that it was the give men a better selection as both Moonstone and Pearl are considered to be more for the ladies. Others think that it offers a faceted stone; Moonstone is usually cut as a cabachon.

**Alexandrite** is a form of **Chrysoberyl**. It was discovered in 1830 in the Ural Mountains of Russia. This area has long since been closed and now Alexandrite comes from Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and Brazil. The dramatic color change of the Russian shows very little from these locations.

Alexandrite is a fascinating gem that changes color. It is green in daylight to red in incandescent light. It is the presence of Chromium that gives the stone its color.

**Moonstone** is a variety of **Feldspar**. The stone is famous for its pearly blue opalescence and bronzy iridescent shimmer. Moonstones can come in a variety of colors and ranges from transparent to translucent. The best Moonstones have a blue sheen, perfect clarity and a colorless body color.

**Pearls** are the product of **clams and oysters** (mollusks) living in tropical and subtropical seas, as well as fresh water lakes and rivers. Irritants, such as small pieces of food can become lodged in the inner tissue of the clam or oyster. The mollusk reacts by depositing layers nacre (mother-of-pearl).

In natural Pearls the foreign object enters naturally. In cultured Pearls, a very small piece of nacre is implanted in a three-year old oyster using a surgical procedure.

Pearls are soluble in weak acid. Since human perspiration is slightly acidic, pearls should be cleaned after each use to prevent corrosion.

Reference: Various sites on the internet

### AN INVITATION:

Fellow Rock and Gem Enthusiasts: □□

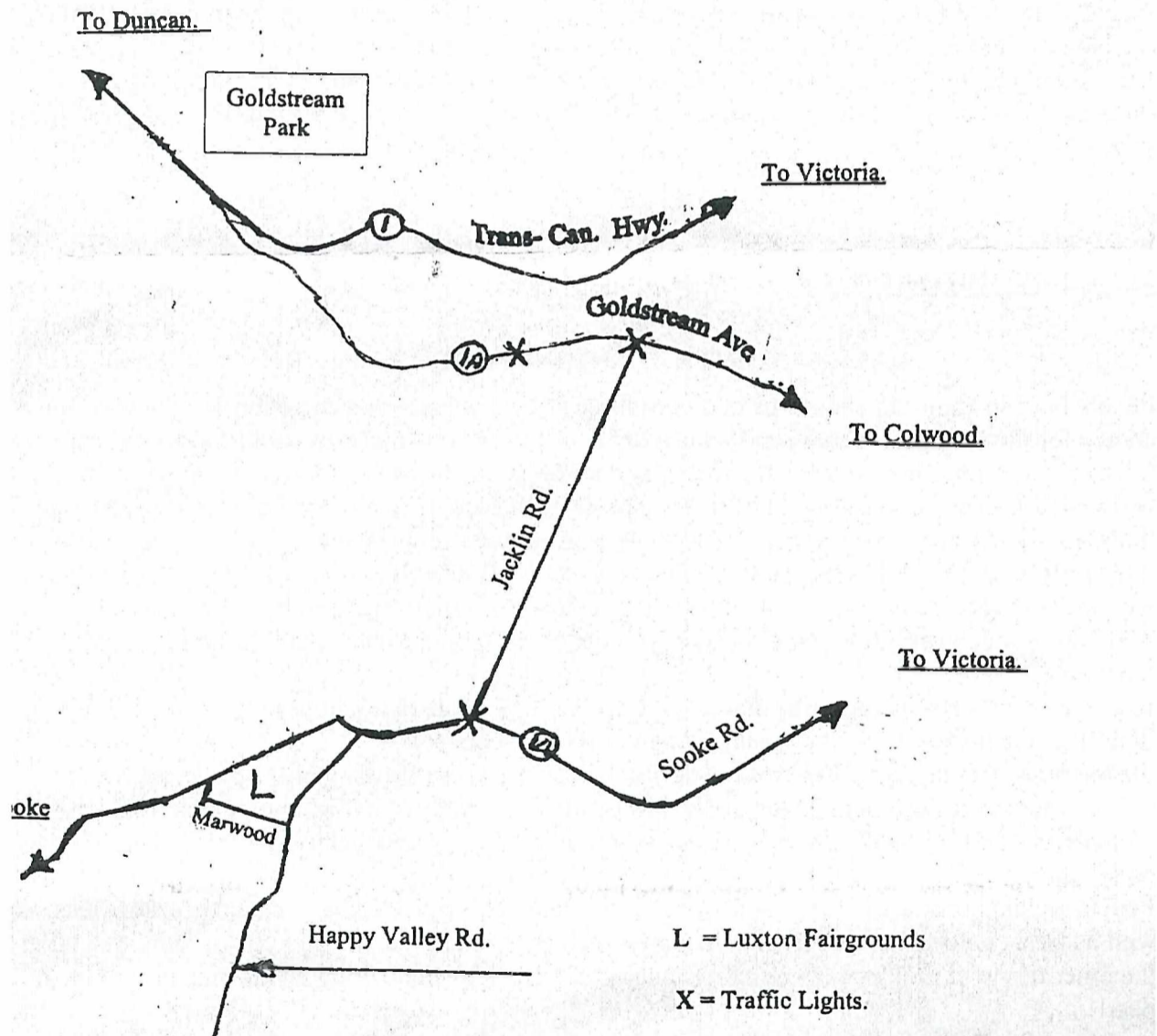
As President of the Parksville Rock & Gem Club, I extend an invitation □ to all Vancouver Island Rock enthusiasts to join us at our annual Club □ Picnic and Auction June 16, 2012 at the home of Jim Dixon, 261 Kenmuir □ Road, Qualicum Bay, 11:00am to 3:00. Many of you may have joined us in □ the past when it was held at the home of Marion Barclay - please join us □ at our new location! It's a pot luck picnic - bring your lawn chair and □ table service too. Always great bargains at the auction! □□ Hope to see you there!

□□ Doug Shewan □

President, Parksville Rock & Gem Club

### SHOWS & EVENTS

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, 1<sup>st</sup> June.

June 9-10 **Ripple Rock Gem and Mineral Club**

Timberline Secondary School, 1681 South Dogwood St., Campbell River

23-24 **Kootenay Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show**  
Castlegar & District Community Complex, 2101 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Castlegar, BC

22-25 **Interior Zone Campout**  
Princeton Rock & Fossil Club  
Granite Creek/Coalmount, Princeton, B.C

June 27-July 1st **All Rocks Pow-Wow Club of America**  
Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Madras, Oregon

July 14 **Shuswap Rock Club**  
Toad Hall, Sorrento, B.C.

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

### ISLAND ZONE

### GEMBORE

**Barbara Smith.**

This year's Gemboree promises to be another exiting one. It will be held closer to home this time, the Luxton Fairgrounds in Langford. It will take place from June 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The schedule for events will be:

Friday, June 1	Registration from 4:00 Some entertainment in evening
Saturday, June 2	Field trips will leave early (probably 9:00 a.m.) Demonstrations & Info desk in hall p.m., Auction after lunch in evening, Potluck dinner & Entertainment
Sunday, June 3	8:00 – 9:00 Pancake breakfast 10:00 Dispersion

<b>Costs</b>	Registration	\$10.00 one day	\$15.00 for weekend
	Camping	\$15.00 one day	
	RV	\$15.00	

**Please note that that this is a dry camp (no hookups for water or electricity).**

**WE are looking for someone to act as auctioneer for the Gemboree. If you or someone you know could do this and are willing to help out, please call Barbara Smith.**

For more information call Barbara Smith at 250-479-7881 or email [zero2@shaw.ca](mailto:zero2@shaw.ca)

### DID YOU KNOW ?

1. The Kentrosaurus, a dinosaur of the stegosaur family lived in Africa about 156-160 Million years ago (in the late Jurrasic Period). It was thought that this dinosaur had two brains. Imagine the excitement this discovery must have caused!

It had one small brain, the size of a walnut in its head, and a larger one in its rear (pelvic) area. Upon further study and a few years later the scientists decided that the rear brain was not a brain after all but a nerve controlling relay system. It controlled the hind legs and tail.

Reference: Dinosaur: A Visual History  
DK Publishing 2011

2. Pumice is the polishing agent in toothpaste.

3. The synonyms for Chrysophrase, a variety of Chalcedony, are Australian Jade, and Jadine

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## SHOP HINTS

1. Here is a simple method of removing tarnish from the surface of silver objects, and you can do it right on your stove. Put the sterling in an aluminum pan such as a flat cake pan, (one you don't require for baking anymore). Add water to cover the piece, squeeze some lemon juice into the water and heat gently. The tarnish will transfer from the sterling to the aluminum, using the mild acetic acid from the lemon as a vehicle, (some recipes suggest a weak vinegar solution). No amount of silver is lost in this method.

Via: Fraser Valley Rock Talk 01/99 &  
Surrey Rockhounder

2. If you are doing some silver work and want a soft finish, use a bit of your favourite toothpaste.

If it is a fluoride toothpaste, it can also be used for cleaning crystals.

Via: Rock Chips and Rocky Trails

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

People of Genius are admired; People of Wealth are envied; people of Power are feared; but only the People of Character are trusted.

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR "OLOGIES"?

Match the subject with the correct study.....

- |                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Anthropology | a. study of rocks              |
| 2. Mineralogy   | b. Study of maps               |
| 3. Etiology     | c. study of clouds             |
| 4. Paleobiology | d. study of humans             |
| 5. Nephrology   | e study of earthquakes         |
| 6. Speleology   | f. study of weather            |
| 7. Petrology    | g. study of caves              |
| 8. Seismology   | h. study of the Earth          |
| 9. Meteorology  | i. study of causes and reasons |
| 10. Vulcanology | j. study of ancient animals    |
| 11. Geology     | k. study of minerals           |
| 12. Cartology   | l. study of volcanoes          |

Taken from the internet

**What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? Answer – A Thesaurus**



### **Barbara and Murdo Smith**

We were both born in Scotland, Murdo in the Isle of Lewis and myself in Glasgow. Murdo replied to an ad for engineers in Victoria Machinery Depot and they answered they wanted him as soon as possible. He left in about six weeks and I followed with two small children two months later, September 1962.

I have always enjoyed crafts and have painted pictures, worked in clay, leather, embroidery, flowers in various materials, beading and wire jewelry. Murdo makes rugs and gardens.

We became interested in Lapidary when we visited a beach near Sooke where there was a drum tumbler working and we learned that you could get polished rocks quite easily. That is how we started. Later I met Irene Phillips who told me of the Craft and Mineral Show. Then we were

really hooked. Murdo taught cabbing while I did silver, opals, faceting and wire work. We also went on a lot of field trips and have a large collection of rough and finished materials.

Answers to the "OLOGY" quiz

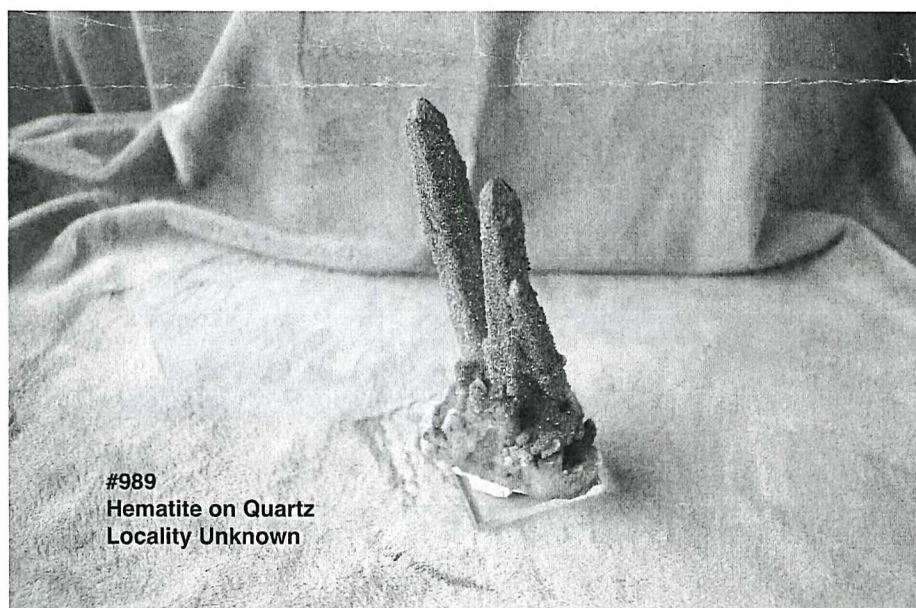
1-d; 2-K; 3-I; 4-J; 5-C; 6-g; 7-a; 8-e; 9-f; 10-l; 11-h; 12-b

### "WE ARE THE CUSTODIANS"

By Bob Jones

You may be collecting just for fun and satisfaction, but keep in mind that you are preserving the treasures of the Earth that might never see the light of day otherwise. You actually are the ultimate conservator of many of Earth's natural treasures. Treasures that are among Nature's most beautiful and completely irreplaceable creations. Each specimen is unique. Each can never be duplicated. Each must be preserved. Your contribution to society, while perhaps not appreciated, is great because you contribute the preservation of natural things while often educating the public at large. Your contribution is very often misunderstood, particularly by extreme environmentalists, and most certainly does not receive the acknowledgement it deserves. Whatever you ultimately choose to do with your collection- donate it or sell it-just remember that you are only the temporary custodian of those gems and minerals, for they really do belong to all humankind!

via Moroks, Monrovia Rockhounds Newslette  
via: Stone Chat Summer 2012



#989  
Hematite on Quartz  
Locality Unknown

from the collection of Leni Gagnon

### MUSEUM LOOKING FOR HELP

**From:** Baldwin-Corriveau, Katharine RBCM:EX [mailto:KBaldwin-Corriveau@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca] **Sent:** May 17, 2012 10:18 AM **To:** 'vlms@vlms.ca' **Subject:** meteorites & volcanic rocks

Good morning,

This summer at the Royal BC Museum we are hosting a series of 6 week-long summer camps with a focus on dinosaurs, fossils and paleontology. As part of the campers' learning experience,

I want to conduct a short (1-hr ish) workshop on meteorites and volcanoes as they relate to the K/T extinction event. As an activity, I was going to get the children to create their own volcanoes and make them explode with the traditional baking soda/vinegar mix. However, as a premise to this craft, I am looking for someone to come in and talk with the campers about volcanic rocks and meteorites, hopefully with some rock specimens to show and pass around the group. Is there anyone at the Victoria Lapidary & Mineral Society who is knowledgeable on this subject and who might be interested in volunteering for approximately one hour during one or more weeks throughout the summer?

Camp weeks are as follows:

July 16-20, July 23-27, July 30-August 3, August 13-17, August 20-24, August 27-31.

My no means do we need someone for all the camps; even just one would be great! If you have any questions/concerns and I'll be happy to answer them for you. Moreover, if there is someone else you think I should contact instead, please let me know.

Thank you very much for your time, and I look forward to hearing back from you.

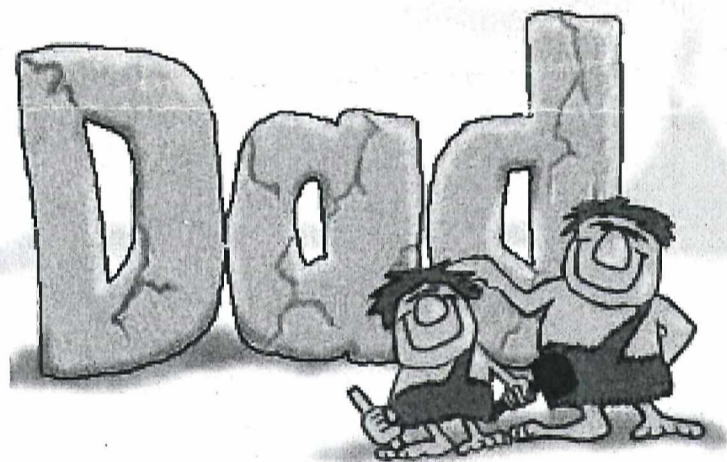
Best Regards,

Katherine

LUNCH @ QUADRA & FIFTH  
HILLSIDE

WEST WIND - BLANKS  
5 ST CAFE.

LEE VALLEY TURNING BLANKS



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!!