

LAPHOUND NEWS

VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 5114, Station B

Victoria, B.C. V8R 6N3



Volume 57 - 3

Website: - www.vlms.ca

April 2014

BOARD

President	Mike Hill
Vice President	David Hosking
Past President	Patrick Lydon
Secretary	Vanessa Steffens
Treasurer	Greg Shea
Members	Brian McMillan
At	Yvan Gagnon
Large	Rose Marie Spicher Leni Gagnon

COMMITTEES

Programs	Vacant
Librarian	Sylvan Burnside Christine Patton
Show Chair	Gerri Irwin Yvan Gagnon
Membership	Jessica Hedberg Murdo Smith
Field Trips	Gilles Lebrun 250-382-6119
Sunshine Corner	Lorena Taylor 250-384-0775
Refreshments	Molly Beddington Barbara MacKenzie
Workshop	Brian McMillan Vanessa Steffens
Editor	Leni Gagnon 250-479-6214 editorvlmsnews@shaw.ca

NEXT MEETING:

When: Monday, April 7, 2014

Place: Burnside Lawnbowling
Clubhouse
274 Hampton Rd.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM: Christine Paton presents
the Tucson Show

EXECUTIVE MEETING:

When: Last Monday of every month
(**no** meeting July, August & December)

Place: Club Workshop, 286 Hampton

Time: 7:00 p.m.

GEM SHOW 2014 MEETING:

When: Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Where: 472 Meredith Crescent
(Leni & Yvan's Home)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP:

When: Sunday, April 13, 2014

Where: Exploring Bear Mountain

Time: 9:00 a.m. meet at Juan De Fuca
Seniors building.

If you are going, phone Gilles

WORKSHOP:

When: Thursday evenings

Where: 286 Hampton Rd.

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

WOKSHOP CONTINUED

When: Saturdays

Time: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

NOTE: When classes are being run, the Saturday hours will be from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Check with Brian or Vanessa.

You must have taken the lapidary course before you can use the machines. If you are interested in taking a course, contact Brian or Vanessa.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Mike Hill

The Rock and Gem Show was a big success once again. Thanks to all the volunteers and donors for your efforts. We couldn't have done it without you.

We had a new caterer this year, whose efforts were well received by everyone. We had a new dealer, one of our own members, Stonehaven Gems. I, myself, was finally able to get a dealer's table; I've waited several years for this to happen. These changes were able to happen because one of our long time dealers had to cancel this year.

The success of the VLMS shows is one of the reasons why our dealers stay with the show year after year, making it difficult for new dealers to get a spot. They may have to wait years before they are able to get in.

The workshop has finally gotten a decent saw to cut the rocks into slabs for their lapidary work. You may have

seen it at the show where it was put on display. We will get great use out of it.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Leni Gagnon

First of all. A great big thanks to Rose Marie, Sylvan, Margaret and Vanessa for helping me out with Spin & Win and the Rock Sale table. We had some good laughs and I couldn't have done it without your cheerful support. Barbara and Gerri your help in making some of the jewelry and organizing the prizes is much appreciated.

The Laphound News is the newsletter of the Victoria Lapidary & Mineral Society and is written primarily for the benefit of its members. Members are encouraged to submit any articles they write or find that would be of interest to the other members. Remember that if you submit an article from another source, you must also submit the source from where you got the article. Be careful of copyrighted material.

Other clubs of the Vancouver Island Zone are encouraged to let me know of any of your activities to which VLMS members are invited to attend. Letting me know as early as possible will ensure that it gets into the Laphound News. Your members are also welcome to submit any articles they have written.

SUNSHINE CORNER

Lorena Taylor

Get well wishes to all the members who are ill and/or recuperating.

LIBRARY REPORT**Sylvan Burnside/Christine Paton**

We had 6 books returned at last meeting. I started a "Book Picks" program. Each month I will pick some books and have them on the library table. We are trying to encourage members to borrow books from our library. One of our members offered to give a laptop to our library, which will be helpful for a book list. In June I would like to do library book inventory again, I did one last June, which was good. Anyone wanting to volunteer this June to help me would be appreciated.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT**Jessica Hedberg/Murdo Smith**

According to our club's constitution bylaws, our membership year runs from January 1 to December 31. Therefore, all membership dues must be received NO LATER than the February meeting, so that the persons in charge of membership can submit their report to the BCLS to meet their deadline for entrance into the directory. If members are not in good standing (not paid up) by that time, their names WILL be removed from the both VLMS and BCLS lists until paid, at which point they will be added supplementally to be covered for insurance liability, but will not be in the directory for that calendar year, but will be updated on the VLMS membership list. We have a number of members that have indicated they would like to remain on the membership list, but have not remitted payment, therefore the

consequence is that their names cannot be added to the BCLS directory list because in the event they do not follow through with payment, the club takes a financial loss.

It is the member's responsibility to make sure that their contact information is correct and up to date.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Yesterday is experience. Tomorrow is hope. Today is getting from one to the other as best as we can.

Wisdom is to the mind what health is to the body.

SHOWS AND EVENTS**MARCH**

29-30

**MT. BAKER ROCK
& GEM CLUB**2214 Electric Ave.
Bellingham, Wash.**APRIL**

11-13

BC GEM SHOW32470 Haida Dr.
Abbotsford, BC

26-27

**WEST SEATTLE
ROCK CLUB**4736 40th Ave. SW
Seattle, Wash.**MAY**

3-4

**COURTENAY &
PARKSVILLE GEM
& MINERAL CLUBS**367 Cliffe Ave.
Courtenay, BC

FUTURE FIELDTRIP

Is anyone interested in going to the Abbotsford Gem Show in April? We could form a convoy and/or share rides. If you are interested please let Mike Hill know.

AND THE WINNER IS...

The winner of the Grand Prize at the Rock & Gem show 2014 is **Sam Hill**. He won a beautiful amethyst cathedral and a stunning amethyst pendant. He was the envy of many people who were hoping to win it.



Sam Hill receiving the grand prize from Gerri Irwin.

The winners of the showcases are:
 1st – Parksville Club
 2nd – VLMS Memorial Case
 3rd – Cowichan Club/ David Hosking

TYPES OF MOUNTAINS

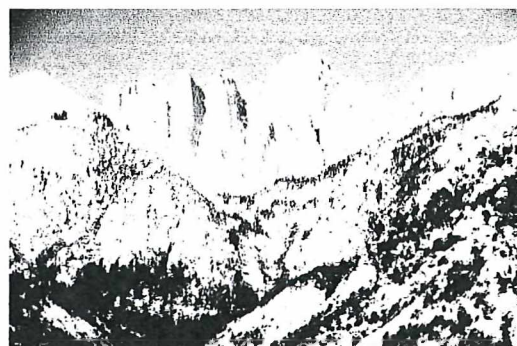
Mountains are made in several ways.

- Dome Mountains - These mountains are the result of a great amount of melted rock pushing its way up under the earth. Over thousands of years the dome mountains form in the place where the earth is pushed up.



El Capitan in Yosemite Park in California is an excellent example of a dome mountain.

- Fault Block Mountains - These mountains form when faults or cracks in the earth's crust force some materials or blocks of rock up and others down.



The Sierra Nevada Mountains are examples of Fault Block Mts.

- Fold Mountains - These are formed as layers of the earth react to

forces pushing in on either side, much as a piece of paper folds when pushed together.



The Alps were formed by folding

- Volcanic Mountains - These are formed from the vast amounts of lava that have hardened after spurting out of a volcano.



Mt. Baker is a volcanic mountain that will erupt again some time.

- Residual Mountains - These are mountains that have worn down to plateaus from erosion.

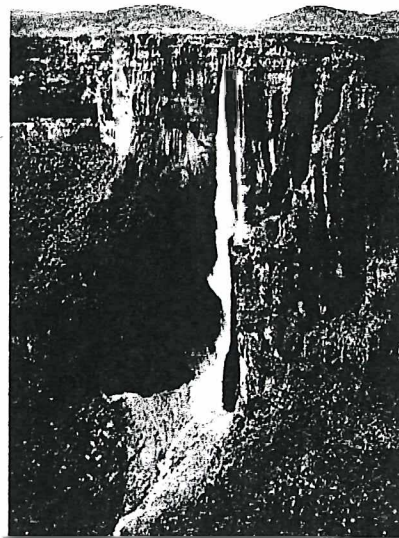


The Appalachian Mountains are a residual mountain range.

Source: Wikipedia, Cliff Notes,
National Geographic
Pictures: Internet Images

DID YOU KNOW?

The tallest waterfalls in the world are Angel Falls in Venezuela. At 979 m (3,212 Ft.) they are 19 times taller than the Niagara Falls, or 3 times taller than the Empire State Building. Although the Angel Falls are much taller than the Niagara Falls, the latter is much wider. They both pour about the same amount of water over their edges – about 2.8 billion litres (748 million gallons) per second.



Angel Falls in Venezuela

Source: Java Talk
Pictures: Internet

SHOP HINTS

Don Ashbury

Is it a cubic zircon or diamond? If the stone is loose, turn it upside down on its table and

slide it over a thin black line on a piece of paper. When looking straight down through a cubic zircon, you will see a circle in the center of the stone. A diamond won't do this.

Is it citrine or topaz? Clean the stone, then using a toothpick, put a drop of water on the table of the stone. The water will form a high bubble on real topaz. On quartz, the water flattens out.

SOURCE: *The Breccia* 2/02,
Backbender Gazette August 2005

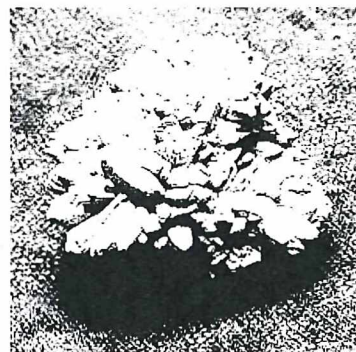
IKAITE

Some years ago I acquired a strange looking mineral called *glendonite*. It reminded me of that early Russian space capsule, "Sputnik". I couldn't find much information about it except that it had calcite in it.



Glendonite

In the past year I obtained a couple of specimens of *Calcite after Ikaite* and some more glendonite. The *calcite after ikaite* and the new specimen of glendonite looked very similar except for the colour. I started to research it and found that all my glendonite specimens were pseudomorphs of ikaite.



Calcite after Ikaite

The scientists working on the samples of ikaite have to keep it refrigerated when they are not working on the sample. The chemical formula for ikaite is $\text{CaCO}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$; it is considered to be a rare mineral because of the difficulty in preserving it. Ikaite forms in glacial marine deposits but once it is out of the water it decays quickly and reverts to a *calcium carbonate*.

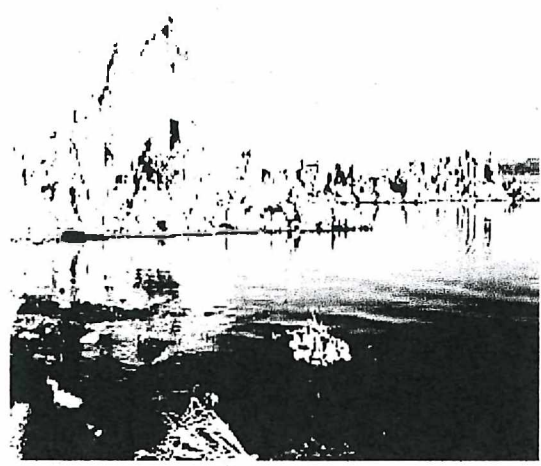
Scientists working with ikaite have discovered how to get a climate signal out of this mineral. Using this time signal, by studying the ocean floor in the northern parts of England and correlating it to their findings in Antarctica, they have discovered that northern climate events such as the ice ages has influenced the climate of Antarctica.

Ikaite was originally found in Ika in South West Greenland in 1963. Since then it has been found primarily in the polar areas. In recent years, *ikaite pseudomorphs* have also been discovered in tropical areas because even in the tropics the deeper waters can be very cold. Some have been found in the Saanich Inlet.

Ikaite has several pseudomorphs besides glendonite. *jarrowite* is found

in the United Kingdom, *fundylite* from the Bay of Fundy, *shennigo* from Japan, *thinolite* from Nevada and California. *Pseudogayalite*, *myrelik* and *kornerscorn* and a couple of other obscure samples are also pseudomorphs of ikaite. All of these pseudomorphs look more or less like Calcite after ikaite except for some glendonites .

It is thought that ikaite forms in 2 different modes. One is that free growing ikaite can form huge crystals and sprouts from an attachment site and grows into a water-filled space in columns. An example of this is found in Mono Lake California.



The columns of ikaite tufa of Mono Lake, California.

The second mode is that smaller crystals grow in organic rich muds. No matter in which form ikaites and its pseudomorphs grew, they are very unusual looking minerals.

Source: Wikipedia, Science Minds, Syracuse University Newsletter.
Pictures: Internet Images

WORD SEARCH

Submitted by Vanessa Steffens

A good rockhounder's motto should be, "BE PREPARED".

How prepared are you when you go on a field trip?

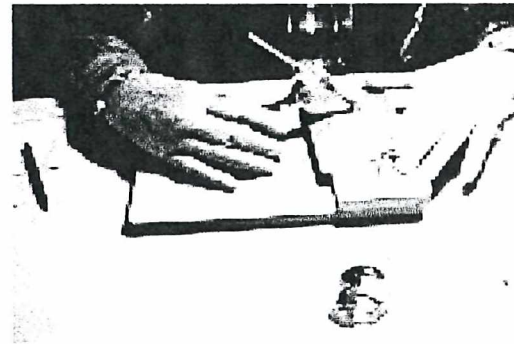
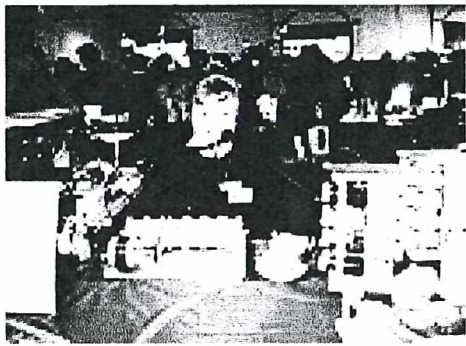
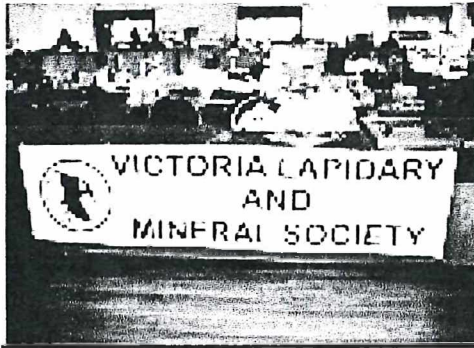
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backpack; boots; bucket; chisel, clothing; firstaid kit; flashlight; food; gad; gloves; GPS device; handcart; hat; mallet; map; notebook; pick; pocketknife; probe; repellent; rockhammer; shoulder bag; shovel; soap; sunscreen; tent; towels; trowel; waders; water

Source: Rock-A-Teer 09/2009
Via Umpqua Gem 10/2009

HAPPY EASTER!!!

ROCK & GEM SHOW 2014



PLEASE, PLEASE LET THE MAGIC WORK!

Little 3 year old Mylo is concentrating on getting the magic Spin & Win board to stop on the yellow space. He really wants that Hot Wheels car.

IT WORKED!