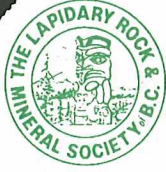




LAPHOUND NEWS



VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

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



VOLUME 58-7 October 2015

Website: www.vlms.ca

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Refreshments Workshop	Barb MacKenzie Brian McMillan Karen Rowe
Editor	Jennifer Good 778- 350- 4568 editorvlmsnews@gmail.ca

NEXT MEETING:

When: Monday, October 5, 2015
Place: Burnside Lawnbowling Clubhouse
274 Hampton Rd.
Time: 7:30 pm (doors open at 7 pm)

PROGRAM: "Death Valley – as low as you can go in North America!" – How it formed – some history – what it looks like now and some mysterious features – presented by Cameron Speedie.

EXECUTIVE MEETING:

When: Last Monday of every month (no meeting July, August & December)
Place: Club Workshop, 286 Hampton
Time: 7:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP:

When: October 18, 2015
Where: Island View Beach
Time: 9 am till...whenever
Meeting place: Island View Beach
Please call Gilles Lebrun if you plan to attend

For further details see page 3



Workshop

When: Thursday evenings

Where: 286 Hampton Rd.

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

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 Karen.

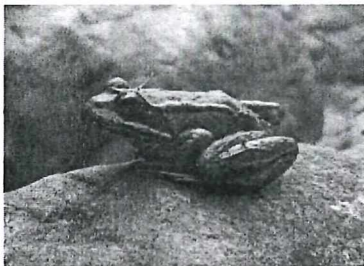
You must have taken the lapidary course before you can use the machines. If you are interested in taking a course, contact Brian or Karen at vlmsworkshop@gmail.com

Upcoming Classes

Karen is hoping to get some classes started this fall. Intro to Lapidary, Beginner silver-smithing, and perhaps a beginner wire wrapping class. Please call Karen if you are interested.

Instructors Needed

VLMS members have shown interest in advanced lapidary/casting/advanced silver-smithing classes and more but we need someone able to teach it. If you have the skills and can spare a couple hours for a few Saturdays to teach a class, please contact Karen.



Froggy Friend: Sooke Potholes

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is upon us and it looks like it is going to be a wet one. I would like to extend the invitation for those of you that have not been to the workshop yet to drop by and check it out. Even if you have a shop at home it is nice to socialize while enjoying the hobby. We hope to get a few specialty classes going as well this year so watch for that coming up.

Cheers,
Cameron

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The aside photo is of a cute little friend I met up at the Sooke Potholes. When I first moved out to Victoria I was doing research on local gold panning spots and I saw a clip of (my now fellow VLMS member) Perry Lydon talking about gold panning in the area. In the clip he claimed he and his friends had never been skunked (left empty-handed).

Well, it turned out I was either not as lucky or more likely not as skilled as Perry and friends; but, I did have a sweet day at the Potholes swimming, sunning and exploring.

While it is worth my while to get out into nature and hike and hang out with the creatures and trees, it sure would be satisfying to find some treasure ☺

Can't wait to have a go with some experienced gold panners this September 27 at Loss Creek ☺
Hope to see you there!

-Jen Good

Regarding the Laphound News: If anyone would like to write an article for the paper I would really appreciate it!

FIELD TRIPS

October Field Trip

October 18, 2015

Island View Beach

Meet at 9 am at Island View Beach

Please bring plenty of food and water, and buckets or sacks for collecting rocks.

Please call Gilles ahead of time to let him know you are coming.

Library Report

S Burnside/ C Paton

If you're looking for VLMS Crests, Pins or Stickers they are available at the Library. Crests are \$3.00 each Pins are \$6.00 each and Stickers are \$2.00 each. If there is any other VLMS items that you feel we should have such as T-Shirts, Hats, Jackets, Mugs ect. please let me know so we can talk it over with Council in.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist with Library Inventory. If you can spare time Monday mornings 10-12 am please call Sylvan- Thank you!

Please contact me at 250-360-0418 or email me at burnsidesylvan@yahoo.ca
Keep on Rocking Sylvan

MEMBERSHIP COMITTEE

Margaret Braithwaite

We welcome ten new members to the club this past month! I hope all you new members enjoy all VLMS has to offer.

Rockhounder magazine's spring issue is out and we will have some available for \$7.25 at the meeting. We also have many undelivered membership cards both from our club and BCLS. Please pick yours up at the meeting if you have not already done so.

Rock and Gem Show 2016

Alanna and Gerry are already looking for volunteers for the VLMS Rock and Gem Show! First planning meeting will be held October 20, 2015 at 7 pm at the Burnside Lawnbowling Clubhouse.

It takes many volunteers to help it run as beautifully as it does, come on out!



Spooky Bat Kitten

OCTOBER BIRTHSTONE OPAL & TOURMALINE

October is another month that has two birthstones. The traditional one has always been the opal and the newer one, since 1952, is the tourmaline. Both are beautiful and very colourful.

The opal comes from the Latin word "Opalus" meaning "precious stone". Tourmaline is thought to come from the Sinhales (Sri Lankan) word "Tura Milli" meaning "stone with mixed colours".

OPAL

Most opal is about 65 million years old and is formed where ancient volcanic hot springs existed.

Opals contain up to 10% of water and must be protected from heat or harsh chemicals, which will cause damage to the gem.

Precious opal is opal that is used to make gems. The silica particles are packed in regular rows and layers. Moving the stone causes light to diffract, or split, as it grazes the opal surface. This

light diffusion shows iridescent flashes of green, blue, aqua and sometimes yellowish or red colours, which are referred to as fire.

The chief area from which opals come is Australia (98%). Many fine opals also come from Mexico. Other locations are Brazil, USA, Central America, Japan and Ethiopia.

Opal is symbolic of faithfulness and confidence. Opal is also the accepted gem for the 13th wedding anniversary.

TOURMALINE

Tourmaline occurs as lustrous elongated crystals commonly having a rounded triangular cross section and narrow grooves running parallel to their long direction.

Tourmalines are formed in granites and granite pegmatites. They are found chiefly in Brazil, East Africa, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Eastern USA.

Tourmalines are often referred to as "Gemstones of the Rainbows".

Tourmaline has an unusual property. When it is warmed or rubbed it attracts bits of paper and lint. This comes from charged static electricity. Ben Franklin used tourmaline in his experiments with electricity.

Tourmalines are symbolic of balance, endurance and safety.

Sources: Geminews September 2010; Wikipedia

-Thanks to Leni Gagnon from LN Oct 2012



Gemboree 2015

GEMBOREE 2015

Although the 2015 Gemboree was not the usual weekend affair but a one day only outing, it was well attended and very enjoyable. It was held at the Cedar Grove RV Park and Campground in Qualicum. It is a privately owned spot that is beautiful and quiet even though it is just off the highway.

The Cowichan Club was not able to host the Gemboree this year so the Zone Committee decided to host one. Due to time constraints and the time of year, it was decided that it would be for one day only on September 19th; therefore, there would no time for the field trips that are a regular part of a Gemboree.

There was some concern if members would show up as rain was expected for the day. As it turned out, it rained overnight on Friday but was overcast during the day with a mild temperature.

Yvan and I had signed up to help out and we decided to take a leisurely drive up on Friday. We were going to find a motel for the night and maybe go to a movie so that on Saturday we wouldn't have to rush up island really early. We arrived in Qualicum late in the afternoon and drove out to the campground to check it out. As it turned out 2 couples were already there in their motor homes. They invited us to stay for supper and we sat around the woodstove and spend an enjoyable few hours swapping stories of past adventures. On the way into the campground, we had noticed some cabins and we were able to rent one for

the night. It was rustic, clean and very comfy.

On Saturday morning members started to arrive with their contributions for the auction. 36 people showed up to participate in forming new friendships and renewing ones. Some serious visiting with a lot of laughter and fun was going on. Most of the people were from the Cowichan and Ripple Rock Clubs. Yvan and I were the only members from VLMS.

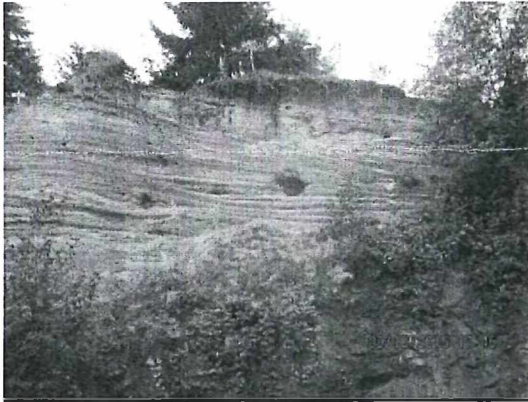
After a lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers and salads had been consumed, people gathered around for the auction. There was a lot of laughter as friends bid against each other. In some cases, it was spouses bidding against each other. The bidding was on the low side making for some very good bargains.

We were able to do a little bit of exploring of the campground while we were there. The Little Qualicum River was right there. We were able to see some pretty big fish being caught and released. A few salmon were starting the swim up river. Right across the river a very interesting sight caught our attention. It was a hill that had an amazing sand formation on its face. The owners of the property told us that until last December it had looked like an ordinary grassy hill. However, in December, the area was flooded and the face of the hill collapsed leaving a sandy striated formation with several visible holes. The holes are the nests for the local kingfishers raising their little families.

This sight certainly was an unexpected bonus for us, adding to an already enjoyable day.

We are looking forward to next year's Gemboree that is already being planned. Hope to see you all there.

Leni Gagnon



Gemboree 2015

Both days - all day
Village Green Centre
4900 27 Street, Vernon BC

PORT MOODY ROCK & GEM CLUB

October 24 & 25, 2015
Annual Rock & Gem Show
Kyle Centre
125 Kyle Street, Port Moody, BC
Contact: Andrew Danneffel
For more information visit: Port Moody Rock & Gem Club

DELTA ROCKHOUND GEM & MINERAL CLUB

November 7 & 8, 2015
Annual Rock & Gem Show
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 5:00pm
South Delta Recreation Centre
1720 - 56 Street, Delta (Tsawwassen),

SHOWS AND EVENTS

SURREY ROCKHOUND CLUB

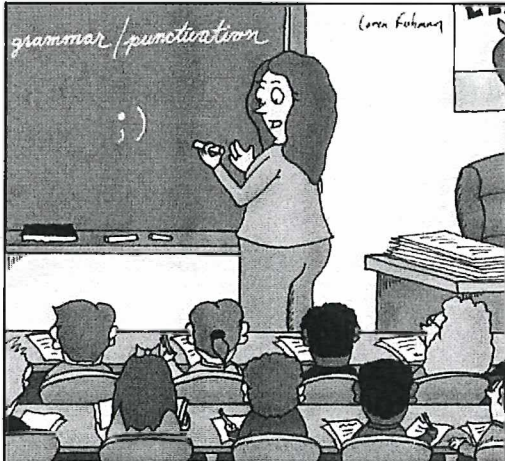
October 17 & 18, 2015
Annual Rock & Gem Show
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Sullivan Hall
6306 152 Street, Surrey, BC
Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers

VERNON LAPIDARY & MINERAL CLUB

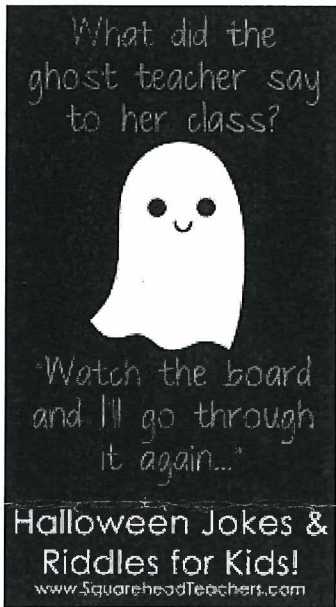
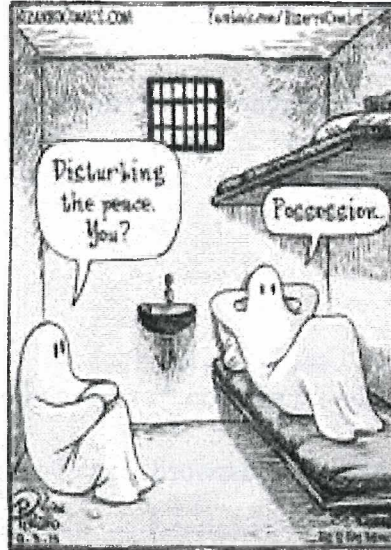
Mall Show
October 23 & 24, 2015



JOKE CORNER



"Yes, a winky face is correct... But in ancient times, the semicolon was actually used to separate archaic written devices known as "complete sentences.""



VLMS Meeting September 14, 2015

- 1) Call to Order: 7:36pm.
- 2) Recognize and Welcome Guests and New Members (have them stand and applauded)
- 3) Minutes of Last Meeting. NO errors or omissions.
- 4) Treasurer's Report: Balance for August 2015:

Forward (from Aug/15):	\$21 393.23
Credits	0.91
Debits	0.00
Petty Cash	<u>35.00</u>
Total:	\$21 429.14

Motioned to pass: Leni, seconded: Patrick. All passed

- 5) Correspondence: Thank you from Irene Phillips' family

High Priority: Member password: agate2opal

- 6) Reports: none
 - a) Sunshine Corner: Everyone Healthy!
 - b) Workshop:
 - c) Courses: Basic Lapidary course coming, silversmithing etc. Workshop hopes to get out more courses out than last year. Stay tuned for more workshop courses.
 - d) Membership: Lots of new members, membership due date is December 31st.
 - e) Library: Stickers FREE, pins \$6 and sew on crests \$3.
 - f) Field Trips: Gilles Sept 27th Lost Creek gold panning. Meet at Senior Centre (Colwood Bus Loop), 9am. 90 min to get to Lost Creek. Amazing trip and well worth the travel. Patrick arranged a trip to Port Angeles Gem Show. We were well received there.
 - g) Programs: Crater Lake.
 - h) Laphound: Jen will gladly add your name to the list to receive the Lap Hound News.
 - i) Island Zone: One day Gemboree at Qualicum Cedar Grove campground. Lunch is provided and an auction to raise money for the Zone.
 - j) Rock and Gem Show: 3rd Tuesday in the month, October 20th, 2015.
 - k) President Report:
 - l) New Business:
 - Rock Hounder magazine where is the subscription renewal? Ask Margaret for renewal and/or contact the Rock Hounder magazine.
 - New grinder wheels: Mike Hill motioned, Vanessa seconded the motioned.
 - Herb recommended that the wheels be recovered. Herb is going to pass the info onto Vanessa and Karen (through Johnson Bros.) Motion carried.
 - Raising Auction fees first: Carrie M, seconded Yvan. Questions, "Why do we have to raise commission fees if we have so money?" A: We have budget pressures. Motioned didn't carry. Not enough votes.
 - Cost for the workshop is going up. The club is looking to raise the costs of workshop to raise money for increasing costs.
 - Silver Threads is asking for an increase in rent. Motion "Are we in favour of paying the rent of \$3600 to \$4800 for the 2015/2016 year?" Much discussion ensued and motion passed.
 - m) Announcements:

Greg: RBC Museum Gold Rush Display. This Friday at Vic theatre is about the Indian Canyon Wars and the US Gold Miners 7pm - 9pm. \$10

Friends of the BC Museum this Sunday for the Caribou Gold Rush. 2-3:30 pm \$5
Barb won't be here next meeting. Need someone to make coffee and cookies for next meeting.
Allana password for website: opal2agate

n)

7) Display Tables: Gilles Flower Stone from Chemainus River, Bob stuff for sale, Seam M. displays from Summer Camp specimens.

8) Coffee Break:

9) Member's Event:

10) Program: Crater Lake

