

B.C. Vol. 18 Fall 2012 Rockhounder

Published Quarterly By the British Columbia Lapidary Society

105-3240 Mt. Lehman Road,
PO Box 10072, Abbotsford, BC V4X 2M9
Email: bcls10072@hotmail.com
Tel: (604) 852-1307 www.lapidary.bc.ca

Editor:

Katrinia Walter

editor@lapidary.bc.ca
(604) 853-1515
2785 Silvertree Court
Abbotsford, BC V2S 5N6

Printing:

Abbotsford Printing Inc.

(604) 850-2777
6-34346 Manufacturers Way
Abbotsford, BC V2S 7M1

Design & Layout:

Sara Mortimer

sara.mortimer89@gmail.com

Cover Photo:

Okanagan Opal Bracelet

Back Cover:

2013 Calendar Photos

Contents

President's Message	2
Letter from the Editor	4
Meet the Executives: Robert Brown	5
Meet the Executives: Robert Giesbrecht	6
Mineral Myths & Meanings: Part 1	6
Metal Clay	7
Kicked off Blackdome Mountain	8
The Blackdome Mine	10
Wanted: Editor	11
Barkerville: 150 Years of Genuine History	12
Fossil Management in British Columbia	16
McAbee Fossil Site	18
Interior Zone Campout	20
Summer Camp 2012	22
Club Contacts	26
Club Shows & Sales 2012/2013	28
Surrey Rockhound Tailgate Sale	30
An Indoor Rockhound?	32
Talk Shop: Opal	34
Rockounder Puzzler	37
Calendar Order Form	39
Around the Clubs	42
Summer Camp 2012 Report	44
Okanagan Opal	(see inside back cover)

**Share your trips and
knowledge by sending an
article to the Rockhounder**

Submit articles for the next issue by
October 30th, 2012 to:

Katrinia Walter
2785 Silvertree Court
Abbotsford, BC V2S 5N6
E mail: editor@lapidary.bc.ca

President's Message

Fall is here again and I hope you all had a great Summer pursuing our hobby. Sadly, I was not able to attend Summer Camp in Creston this year, but I would like to thank all the people who put in a lot of time and effort to make Summer Camp happen. I hope it was a very enjoyable time for everyone who managed to go.

You may have heard by now that Katrinia Walter, our Rockhounder editor, has decided to relinquish that position, so we are looking for a new editor. Katrinia will stay on to publish the Winter edition. That means we need someone to volunteer to start with the Spring edition. If you are interested in taking on this challenging job or assisting a new editor, please let one of the executive, or Katrinia or Georgina Selinger (our executive secretary) know. Details are posted on the website. Luckily we still have our student who knows the ropes and Katrinia has promised to show the new editor how things are done, and to leave them with a procedures manual. As always, if we are to continue publishing the Rockhounder, we need input from our members. Please keep articles and pictures coming.

In July, the BC government announced the McAbee Fossil beds a heritage site. We were fortunate to have one or two of our members represent the Society at the announcement. One of those members reported that many people attended the announcement ceremony. He also said that there is a commitment to provide space and cataloging the collection and to emphasize public education, and that at last there was some sincere recognition of David Langevin and John Leahy for their contributions. The government appears to realize that it was mostly Dave and John's vision and work that helped McAbee be recognized as the important site that it is.

As Rockhounds, we hope that the designation of the McAbee site will not completely lock out all responsible collecting in the area. We will continue to present our position whenever we can.

I would suspect that there are not many Rockhounds who have not come into contact with Frank and Betty Tierney over the years. So, it was

with a very heavy heart that we heard the news of Betty's death on July 1st. She was a wonderful person and a great advocate for the hobby and a support to Frank. Betty will be sadly missed and our deepest sympathy goes to Frank and the family.

Fall is a time for renewed activities in the clubs and workshops as well as club shows. I hope you will all participate with energy and enthusiasm and enjoy the many aspects of our hobby.

Liz O'Hea

THE GEODE MAN

17315 29th Avenue
Surrey, BC V3S 0E8

Specializing in

**-Faceted Montana Sapphires
-Cut Geodes
-Brazilian Agate
-Thundereggs
-Rough & Polished Slabs
-Petrified Wood**

Ivan & Wendy Leversage

604-535-9005

Please phone for an appointment

thegeodeman@shaw.ca

Letter from the Editor

I've managed to pull together with the assistance of Sara Mortimer, our graphic design student, the Fall edition. Sara has also completed the layout for the 2013 BC Gem Show Poster. She is doing a fantastic job.

The 2013 calendar is coming together but it is missing many club shows and as such we have no choice but to hold off on printing until early October. All clubs please send me your show dates for the 2013 year. The winning photos of the 2013 Amateur Photography Contest have been chosen by the BCLS Executive.

The winners are:

De Morgan for the submission of:

- Bladed Calcite Crystal Cluster, Kamloops (front cover)
- Agate with Plume lit, Princeton (January)
- Ginko Biloba Leaf Fossil, McAbee Kamloops (June)
- Rhodonite Hill 60 (December)

Beba Adams for the submission of:

- Jasper Buttle Lake, Campbell River (March)
- Gordonite, Campbell River (May)
- Prehnite Campbell River (September)
- Dallasite, Campbell River (November)

Trevor Christie for the submission of:

- Agate Fraser River Herling Island (April)

Randall & Simone De Fehr for the submission of:

- Crystal Cluster, Jones Lake Power Station (October)

Gerry Rehwald for the submission of:

- Amethyst, Kootenays (February)
- Beryl, Kootenays (July)
- Kyanite, Kootenays (August)

Prizes will be awarded once the calendar has been printed. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all those who entered.

The 2013 Calendar is now for sale. The back cover of this edition displays the photo for each month of the 2013 Calendar. The cost is \$10.00 per calendar. Please place your orders by October 22nd, 2012.

Keep your articles coming. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Katrinia Walter
Editor
editor@lapidary.bc.ca

Meet the Executives

Robert Brown, 3rd Vice-President



What are your duties as a BCLS Executive?	3rd Vice President
How many hours per week do you spend on BCLS matters?	This position is very new to me but I am willing to do what is required.
How long is your term as a BCLS member?	2 years
Is your position a paid or volunteer position?	Volunteer
What Club do you belong to?	Fraser Valley Rock & Gem Club.
How long have you been a club member?	Seven years, and I have served as a president for three years.
Are you employed full time or part time or are you retired?	Retired.
What are your interests (associated with Rockhounding, Lapidary, Silversmithing, etc.)?	I enjoy a variety of everything we do. I instruct silversmithing, enjoy lapidary, rockhounding, and meeting people with like interests.
What do you like best about your position as a BCLS Executive?	I enjoy being a part of keeping our hobby alive because I wish to share the experience with others.
What do you like least about your position as a BCLS Executive?	I am too new to comment.
Is there anything else you would like to share with the readers?	I think the importance of what we do is to meet all the friends we have not met, to enjoy those we know, help where we can and first and foremost to have fun doing it.

Meet the Executives

Robert Giesbrecht, 2nd Vice President

My interests are faceting, jewelry making and mineral collecting. I have been a club member since 1996 and I belong to the BC Faceters Guild. My position as 2nd Vice President is volunteer and for a period of 2 years.

Mineral Myths and Meanings

Part One: A – G (continued on pg. 40)

As reported by www.prettyrock.com

Agate

Is thought to guard against the biting of scorpions or serpents, soothe the mind, drive away contagion, promote eloquence, and secure the favour of princes, discern the truth, accept circumstances, powerful emotional healer. Career: Counselling.

Alexandrite

Associated with Czar Alexander II for whom it was named. It is said to have been discovered on his birthday, but there is no documentation of this. Thought to enhance the rebirth of inner and outer self, promotes awareness. Career: Politics

Amber (Taurus)

Early physicians are known to have prescribed amber for headaches, heart problems, arthritis and many other ailments. It is thought to be calming for hyperactivity and stressed nerves, finds humour and joy. Ancient Egyptians placed a piece of amber with their dead to ensure the body would remain whole. Asian cultures call amber the “Tiger’s soul”. Amber helps to bring about humour and joy as well as ward against impotency and infertility. (Is it more powerful with or without bugs?) Career: Acting.

Amethyst

Sincerity - February birthstone

Aquarius

It encourages inner peace, fights addictive behaviour, transforms energy. It is also considered a love charm, improves sleep, and protection against theft. The name from ‘amethystos’ comes from a Greek word meaning non-drunkenness and ancient Romans also favoured this stone. Also believed to sharpen the wit, turn away evil thoughts, and give

knowledge of the future in dreams. In traditional Chinese medicine, ground amethyst is prescribed for stomach pains and bad dreams. Career: Musician.

Ametrine

Helps dispel negativity, with decision making, meditation, and stress relief. A legend says that ametrine was first introduced to Europe by a conquistador’s gifts to the Spanish Queen Isabela, after he received the Anahi mine in Bolivia as a dowry. Career: Law.

Andalusite

Believed to stimulate past memories, helps with centering of self. It is often referred to as the seeing stone as it works to see the various sides of a person’s character, or the various sides of a problem. Career: Law Enforcement.

Apache Tear (obsidian)

This stone grants forgiveness, understanding in distress, meditation stone, increases psychic powers, and good for business success. The legend of the name Apache Tears dates back to the 1870’s when a group of Apache Warriors, in battle on a mountain and outnumbered, decided they would rather ride their horses off the cliffs to their deaths than face defeat against the US Cavalry. The tears wept by the family members of the Apache warriors turned to stone upon hitting the ground. The mountain in which the battle took place is now called Apache Leap Mountain. Career: Merchant.

Apatite

Associated with weight control, acceptance, balance, healing, and helping us to see the truth about ourselves. Its name comes from the Greek word for “deceit” because it is often mistaken for beryl, topaz and tourmaline. Career: Psychologist.

Metal Clay: Impressions in Metal Clay

by Sandra Elizabeth York



A selection of imprinting materials

One of the most wonderful ways to work with metal clay is to imprint it. On a flat sheet of fresh clay you can imprint with just about anything, provided it is lubricated properly. The effect you achieve is similar to that of running a sheet of metal through your rolling mill with a texture plate. The difference is that you do not need to purchase an expensive rolling mill.

If you don’t mind using a manufactured image, you can purchase plastic texture plates. There are texture plates available for Polymer clays (clean them thoroughly before using them on Metal Clay if you have used them for any other clay) which work very well. Some stamps, if not too detailed, leave a nice image.

Most buttons leave you with a wonderful imprint. If you look around, you can usually find something around your home that would leave an imprint in your clay. I have used old jewelry that belonged to my grandmother, old lace, and even melted wax.

You can create your very own custom molds very easily. Some of my best texture plates have been created from nature and a two part modeling compound. You simply scoop out equal parts of the modeling compound and mix them. As soon as they are mixed, press them onto your item, let it sit for 5 to 10 minutes, peel it off and you have your new, custom mold ready for use. The compound even has a natural release so your Metal Clay will not stick to it, allowing you to easily separate your clay from the mold. I have imprinted everything from lettuce and onions, to rocks, cedar branches and old keys.

So use your imagination. Take a closer look at what you have around your home & yard. Create some impression and start creating.

Sandra Elizabeth York is a Certified Metal Clay Instructor and you will find her behind the Rusty’s Gems booth at most of the Lower Mainland Rock & Gem Shows. You are welcome to contact her at info@elizabeadan.com

Kicked off Blackdome Mountain

by Randy Lord, Burnaby Resident



Mention the name Blackdome Mountain to most rockhounds in western Canada and they may get starry eyed then almost religious. As the fabled original location of BC's only thunderegg beds and a mothballed gold mine; it has become famous in these parts. Here is the story of a recent (June 2012) visit.

My interest in Blackdome Mountain was sparked over 10 years ago at the annual Cordilleran Round-Up Exploration Convention held in Vancouver, BC. My prospecting partner and I had been invited to display Whitesail precious matrix opal and we had many nice specimens and maps set up. An old timer came along and looking closely at our table, stated he had seen very similar material on Blackdome Mountain. It was a busy day and I neglected to get more information but the seed had been planted.

Blackdome Mountain is an extinct volcano on the southwest edge of the vast Cariboo plateau. Rising to 7,000 feet on the west side of the Fraser River it is a prominent, well-named feature. Many years earlier I had explored Red Mountain and China Head Mountain in the Camelsfoot range and had noticed this prominent black pimple rising above the flat plateau to the north.

Since the 60's people have visited this remote area seeking agate, jasper, thundereggs and precious metals. Blackdome Mine operated from 1986 to 1991 and produced over 6,300 kilos of gold and 19,000 kilos of silver from an epithermal deposit located near the top. Mineralized quartz veins carried native gold, electrum, native silver and silver sulphosalts as well as the usual sulphide minerals. Other claims covering perlite beds (for kitty litter production) and siliceous sinter from another claim (the Bubble Hot spring deposit) attested to a wealth of minerals.

With such possibilities, it was an easy decision to load up the van with my dog, motorcycle, camping gear and head north. Exploring by oneself is never wise, so I picked up my brother then drove to the town of Clinton for fuel and a chat with some local rockhounds. We met several people, including one fellow who had run a bulldozer on the Blackdome Mine Road - out came the maps and sites were plotted. I asked about a good campsite and that was marked as well.

Driving 17km north of Clinton on Highway 97, we then drove west on Meadow Lake Road. We followed a wide, well graded gravel road approximately 100km past many lakes, ponds, and beautiful meadows. Meadow Lake Road had no large trucks and only minor local traffic. After driving through a small native village, Canoe Creek, the road winds down through sage and grasslands to the Fraser River. Please note that there are no road signs driving through Canoe Creek Indian Reservation but follow the main travel road downhill and you will be fine.

The spectacular sage grasslands along the benches above the Fraser River were lush and green in June. This is very uncharacteristic as it is a dry belt with rattlesnakes and cacti. We crossed a one-lane bridge, the road forks with the Gang Ranch (once the largest cattle ranch in BC) to the right and Empire Valley to the left. This area is called the Churn Creek Protected Zone and no hunting or disturbance of the grasslands is allowed in order to protect a population of California Bighorn Sheep. Most areas outside of the Churn Creek Protected Zone are open for free range cattle. Driving south, approximately 20km, Blackdome Mine Road announces itself with a big "No Trespassing" sign with a security gate at 30km - ignore this.

Historically, resource roads are open to the public unless industrial trucks or machinery are in active use. Most active logging or mining operations post a radio frequency so traffic can pass safely. No such frequency was noted so we started driving up a well-kept road. We left the grasslands and entered mature forest where recent blow-down had been cut and the road cleared. Several large campsites were noted and after 3 hours of driving from Clinton, we stopped at a beautiful, grassy campsite near Grinder Creek, 11 km up Blackdome Mine Road.

While unloading gear and setting up camp, a mature black bear wandered in and was promptly chased away by my camp dog. A while later, camp dog found fresh deer bones; we had set up camp in the bear's grocery store! A hanging bar nearby and many other hunting camps spoke of an abundance of game here. In BC, natives are permitted to hunt year round without a license or tags. The area was beautiful, with lots of firewood, fresh water, and few bugs. Next morning, with clear skies, I fuelled up a Honda dirt bike, loaded the saddle bags and pack and headed up the road.

Prospecting with a dirt bike means stopping often and examining many outcrops and float. Many types of volcanic rock were noted including basalt, andesite, rhyolite, tuff as well as perlite, green and white common opal and obsidian. The occasional cloud hindered spotting any flash of precious fire but by early afternoon I had covered about 10km of road; I decided to inspect a perlite claim lower down the mountain.

The perlite had been excavated and blasted over an area of about 100m by 200m. Numerous silicified boulders had been discarded by the operators and many proved to be an opal/agate mixture. The colours of the common opal ranged from tan, cream, yellow, orange, mauve, and white while the agate was mostly clear or banded. From the hammer erosion it was obviously a popular spot. Other perlite beds were noted and a beautiful, chocolate brown sow (female black bear) with two small chocolate brown cubs scampered off the road on my way back to camp.

A lost duckling came through camp that evening. Camp dog spotted it and gave chase but later, the duckling came back and went downstream, hopefully to his or her clan. Ravens complained about our presence every morning, no doubt we had camped in their market too. In my spare



time, I tried panning Grinder Creek but with very high water all I found was black sand (magnetite) and an as yet unidentified small black crystal.

The next day I rode the dirt bike up the mine road again, past snow banks to the security gate, then parked the bike and hiked about 2km to a gated portal. With snow covering both sides of the road, I hiked past the portal and noted the sky darkening. Soon it started to snow. I hid in the trees, had lunch, and when I got back to the bike, brushed the snow off. As I started to ride, it began to hail furiously.

In the mountains of BC, it can snow any month - my rain jacket, helmet and gloves helped, but when the road turned white I realized I had better bail out. For the next three hours it was ride, then hide as the hailstorm stopped and started. Most of the road surface was clay, so it became greasy very fast. Gumbo sticks to tires and boots, so riding the grass on the shoulder of the road was necessary. I did not make it to the thunderegg beds but during a break in the weather got back to camp at 4:00pm for a change of clothes.

My brother said it had been raining since noon, but we had a good fire going and the rain had stopped. Around 5pm the skies opened up again and it rained most of the night. In the morning we watched for patches of blue sky that never came. Just then, the first vehicle we had seen, a 4x4 diesel pickup, came flying up Blackdome Mine road past our camp. We all waved but the driver could not stop as he was digging trenches in the gumbo with all four wheels spinning.

We quickly broke camp and started driving slowly down the road. Brakes were seldom used and steering was more like snow skiing. The accelerator was useful to keep the back end following the direction of the front wheels and we hoped not to meet any oncoming vehicles. It was slippery and dangerous but if we had not left then, it would have been over a week until the road dried out. Rainstorms continued all that day and the next week.

Kicked Off Blackdome Mountain (continued)

Since then I have washed 100kg of hard gumbo from my wheel wells and slabbed some of the opal/agate pieces. They show good colour and patterns. No precious opal was found during this short visit but changes are coming soon to Blackdome Mountain. Large areas of timber have been surveyed, flagged, and are ready for harvest. The cut blocks are huge and this means many logging trucks and much traffic for a while. As well, a new road has been surveyed from the dormant Blackdome Mine Mill site to a gold deposit 3.5 km south. Sona Resources intends to mine ore at the Elizabeth property then truck and process it at the mill. In the near future this quiet volcano will once again be active.

The Blackdome Gold Mine

Source: www.sonaresources.com

The Blackdome Gold Mine is a permitted mine and milling facility located in southwestern British Columbia, approximately 230 kilometres north of Vancouver and 100 kilometres south of Williams Lake. The 34,794-hectare property is situated west of the Fraser River, near the summit of Blackdome Mountain, in the Camelsfoot Mountain Range at between 1,760 and 2,050 metres in elevation. Access to the mine is from either the town of Clinton or the city of Williams Lake, via the village of Dog Creek and then west across the Churn Creek Bridge.

Sona Resources (then Claimstaker Resources) since acquiring the mine in 1995 has carried out geotechnical surveys, exploration drilling and small-scale mining. The Blackdome Gold Mine is 100 percent owned by Sona with no underlying royalties and consists of 45 mineral claims, 10 Crown-granted mineral claims and two mining leases. The property has a modern, well-maintained flotation and gravity mill with a current design capacity of 200 tonnes per day. All of the project's mining permits are in good standing.

The Blackdome Gold Mine has a resource estimate of 144,500 tonnes Indicated grading 11.29 g/tAu containing 52,600 oz gold/

Maple Ridge Lapidary Club Rock and Gem show moves to a new location

Date set for **February 23rd & 24th, 2013**

To be held at Maple Ridge Alliance Church, 20399 Dewdney Trunk Road Maple Ridge

The new facility features double the floor space along with better parking.

Plans for the expanded show are to include -
Special displays - More vendors -
How to demonstrations - On site classes -
Kids craft corner - Two day rock & mineral auction - Plus the Maple Ridge Club 2013 Lapidary Art Raffle.

Watch for the Next edition of the Rockhounder for further event details.

Vendor Enquiries please contact:

John at 604 466-2843

or email m.ridge_lapiclub@yahoo.ca

232,300 oz silver and 90,600t Inferred grading 8.79 g/tAu containing 25,900 oz gold/ 54400 oz silver.

History of Blackdome Gold Mine:

Placer mining on the Fraser River at locations such as Big Bar, French Bar, Crows Bar and High Bar led to a placer gold discovery on Poison Mountain in the early 1930s. The source of the placer gold was a large, low-grade copper-gold porphyry system. Considerable sluicing for gold was done on Fairless Creek, which drains the west slope of Blackdome Mountain.

In the 1950s surface work and two audits were completed by Empire Gold Mines. In 1977 Barrier Reef Resources completed soil and rock sampling, trenching, drilling and underground development.

After an extended period of exploration starting in 1978, Blackdome Mining Ltd. brought the outlined gold deposit into production in 1986. The total reserves were 205,657 tonnes grading 21.7g/Au/t (0.71 oz Au/t) and 116.9g/Ag/t (3.75 oz Ag/t). The initial 140 tonne per day production rate increased to 200 tonnes per day, but the mine was shut down in January 1991. During its five-year life, a total of seven million grams of gold (225,000 ounces) and 17 million grams of silver (547,000 ounces) were recovered from 338,000 tonnes (373,000 tons) of ore.

WANTED

Editor

The British Columbia Lapidary Society (BCLS) Executive is seeking a new Editor for the BC Rockhounder Magazine and Calendar publications.

The duties of the Editor are:

1. Liaison with student for design and layout of the Rockhounder Magazine and BC Gem Show Poster.
2. Acquire articles from the Membership of the Clubs of the Society.
3. Write articles.
4. Research articles.
5. Obtain articles from other sources, acquire approval from the author and/or copyright owner and keep it documented.
6. Create puzzler with answers.
7. Proofread and correct articles as may be required.
8. Acquire and review quality photos.
9. Acquire and liaison with advertisers for the Rockhounder Magazine and Calendar.
10. Invoice and collect monies from advertisers.
11. Negotiate printing rates for the magazine and calendar.
12. Work with printers and provide final proof approval.
13. Pick up and deliver final print of the BC Rockhounder to the BCLS Executive Secretary.
14. Acquire orders for the BCLS calendars and submit order sheets and calendar proof to all clubs.
15. Acquire 13 BC Rock photos for the calendar, update the club directory at the start of the calendar, acquire advertisers, club dates and insert into the calendar.
16. Format the calendar, submit to the printers and provide final proof approval.
17. Distribute calendars (includes packaging) to clubs for further distribution to its members.

The ideal candidate should be available to spend at least 2 hours per day to work on each edition. The candidate should be available to make telephone calls or emails during the day to obtain approvals associated with copyrights/articles. The candidate should have a good working knowledge of Outlook (email), Word, Excel, Calendar creation software, Adobe Photo Shop, Publisher or other Graphic Software. The candidate should have basic math skills for invoicing and be well organized.

Position is volunteer. Commencement date **January 3, 2013** to publish the Spring 2013 edition and/or be available to shadow the Winter 2012 edition.

Interested candidates please submit your qualifications/resume to Georgina Selinger, the Executive Secretary of the BCLS at bcls10072@hotmail.com.

Barkerville

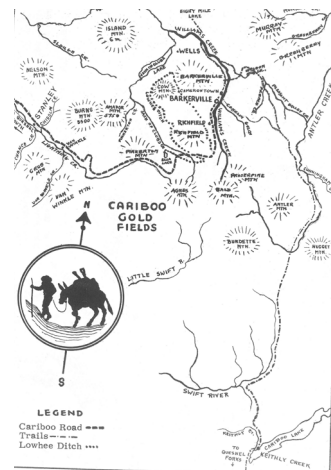
150 Years of Genuine History

Courtesy of Barkerville British Columbia's Gold Rush Town
W.G. Quackenbush, Curator, Barkerville Historic Town
www.barkerville.ca

Photos by BC Provincial Archives, Vancouver City Archives

The Cariboo region of British Columbia - which Barkerville is a part of - has a history that was profoundly shaped by gold. Today, the town of Barkerville stands a testament to this golden history, but there were also many other gold mining 'boom towns' that sprung up around the same time. In the hills and forests of the region one can find remnants of the towns of Stanley, Camerontown, Antler City, Richfield, Keithly Creek, and more. Why, then, is Barkerville still standing, while these other towns have disappeared into history? To answer this question, it is necessary to look into Barkerville's past.

In the mid-1800s, gold finds in the Western United States caused many young men from around the world to seek their riches in a number of American goldfields. Early gold rushes brought miners to California, but by the mid-1850s, the goldfields there were largely 'played out.' In 1858, stories began to surface of 'easy gold' on Fraser's River north of the border. Thousands of men, many without even knowing what they were looking for or where they were going, headed north to seek their fortunes in the British territory that is now British Columbia. It was welcome news for the many miners who had arrived in California only to find there was little left for them there. There are stories of entire towns in California emptying in a single day as news of the 'New North-West' gold rush reached the American goldfields.



Lost Map of Cariboo Gold Fields

Eventually, prospectors made their way to the hills that surround Barkerville. One of the first finds was by William "Dutch Bill" Dietz, for whom William's Creek (which flows through Barkerville) is named. A small town began to spring up around the area, optimistically named Richfield.

One of the miners who was trying their luck in Richfield was a working class Brit named Billy Barker. He had worked in California without much success, and followed the crowds north to the Fraser River. He eventually moved to mining in the area near Richfield, trying his hand at a few spots around William's Creek. In time, Barker decided to mine further down the creek, in the area below Richfield. Many people questioned Barker's decision, saying he would find no gold there. But Barker was proven right on August 17, 1862, when he and his crew 'struck the lead,' pulling large amounts of gold out of their mine shaft in the first day alone.



Barkerville Miners

Almost overnight, a town began to spring up to service the miners flocking to the area. The town was named Barkerville, after the region's first and most successful miner. Originally, the town served mostly as a supply and entertainment centre for miners, who were dispersed throughout the area, largely living in tents and cabins. The population peaked during these early mining years, reaching about 4600 people in the time between 1864 and 1866. 1866 also marked the completion of the Cariboo Wagon Road, extending from Yale to Barkerville. The wagon road was remarkable feat of engineering that greatly shortened the time and effort required to travel to and from Barkerville, which was previously reached mainly by pack trails.

On September 16, 1868, a fire engulfed much of Barkerville, reducing much of the town to cinders. Amazingly, no one was killed in the inferno. While the fire was indeed devastating, the rebuilding process gave Barkerville the opportunity to reorganize the town. Within weeks, new structures were cropping up in a planned fashion. Barkerville's main street was widened, buildings were arranged in a more organized manner, and a town-wide boardwalk was built to help residents get around during spring floods. In many ways, the shape of the town as you see today owes its existence to the destructive fire.



Town of Barkerville

By the time of the fire and reconstruction, however, the original 'boom' period of growth in Barkerville was already waning. Much of the 'easy

gold' was gone. But with Barkerville's more organized structure and the existence of the Cariboo Wagon Road, the town became a place that was better suited for families. By 1880, a schoolhouse had been built to accommodate the growing population of young people in Barkerville and Richfield.

During this time, mining activity was in steady decline, as was the population. Mining in these 'middle years' was confined mostly to the Chinese community, which made up around 50% of the population by 1885. This pattern continued until about 1895, when hydraulic mining became a widely used technique. Hydraulic mining uses elaborate ditch systems to collect water from the mountains, which is then used to 'blast away the hillside,' washing large quantities of gravel through gold-collection devices. These human-made ditch lines, largely constructed by Chinese labourers, are still visible in the hills surrounding Barkerville. The popularization of hydraulic mining created another spike in the population of the town, and many of the buildings you see today were built during this period.

After another period of decline, Barkerville experienced yet another minor boom in the 1930s, when a mine developer named Fred Wells began successfully hard-rock mining in the nearby town (that he named Wells). The area stayed booming again until the Second World War, when the nation's productive capacities were focused elsewhere.

In the early 1950s, with mining activity again on decline in the area, concern about the future of Barkerville began to surface. In 1958 (British Columbia's centennial year), an organized campaign supported by the Wells Historical Society, concerned local residents, and local politicians resulted in Barkerville's designation as a heritage site. Today, Barkerville is run by the Barkerville Heritage Trust, and greatly assisted by the Friends of Barkerville.

How Much Do You Know About Hell's Gate?

Courtesy of Hell's Gate Airtram Inc.

www.hellsgateairtram.com

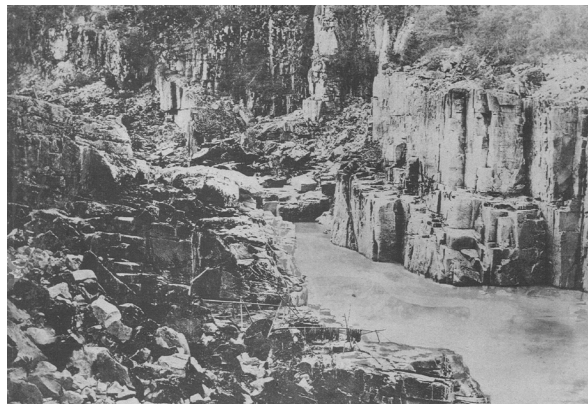
Historical Photo by: BC Provincial Archives, Vancouver City Archives

Photos by: Katrinia Walter

1808

The first written history of Hell's Gate is found in the explorer Simon Fraser's journal. There he describes this narrow passage as an "awesome gorge".

If you can for a moment, put yourself in Fraser's scared boots and unsteady craft, you can well imagine the awesome picture Hell's Gate presented. The towering rock walls of the Fraser River plunge toward each other forcing the waters through a passage only 110 feet wide (35 m).



Hell's Gate Then

1885

CP Rail ceremoniously pounded home the famous last spike completing their 10 year project.

1913

The Canadian National Railway hewed its way through the Rockies and the treacherous Fraser Canyon. While blasting for the passage of the railway, a rock slide was triggered which partially blocked the Fraser River at Hell's Gate. A dramatic drop in the salmon run resulted. Thirty years of work by dedicated scientists and several years construction were required to repair man's damage. Today Hell's Gate fishways, built by a joint Canadian – United States Commission and completed in 1966, stand as monument to man's dedication and ingenuity.

1944

Fishways are constructed.



Hell's Gate Fishways

1969

The planning began to build Hell's Gate Airtram. There were 12 principal owners. One of the owners who was also the General Manager was Andrew Mulligan. The name of their company was Canyon Aerial Tramways doing business as Hell's Gate Airtram.



Hell's Gate Tram

1970

General construction of the site began from concrete work to the stringing of the cables. The upper and lower terminal buildings are both anchored by bolts that go back 20 feet into the bedrock. This airtram is Swiss built by Habegger Engineering Works of Thun, Switzerland and one of their mechanics came over to help set up the system. Fiber rope was shot across the canyon with a crossbow from the lower terminal to the upper cliff edge (half way) and then from the cliff to the upper terminal. Once the rope was in place, a small cable was attached and winched to the upper terminal, and then the 44mm wide steel track rope. It took many hours to get this 1000' track rope in place as it was not allowed to touch any other metal or the ground. There are 40 tonne counterweights at each end of the cable to anchor it in place. The airtrams travel on this track rope and is operated with a 140 hp engine to drive the motor which moves the trams with a haul cable. There are two trams and they both move at the same time as they are both connected to the same cable.



Hell's Gate Walkway

July 20, 1971

This was the first day of public transportation. At this time, there was not too much at the lower terminal for people to do. Of course the International Fishways were there, but no interpretive areas or souvenir stands. There was however, a small "Tiki-dog" shack as they called it where you could get a hotdog and a drink. One of the employees of the Department of Fisheries

lived in a small house at the lower terminal. This land was purchased from fisheries and the house is now part of the prep kitchen in the Salmon House Restaurant. With only half a year to operate, the company still had an amazing 131,000 passengers. The most passengers in one year occurred in 1980 with 185,000 passengers. The total cost of the construction of the buildings and the installation of the tram was \$1.5 million in 1971.

Late 1970's

Reconstructing of the company took place and Canyon Aerial Tramways was amalgamated with TRV Minerals and continued to operate as Canyon Aerial Tramways until 1990.

March 1991

Hell's Gate Airtram Inc. acquired the assets of Canyon Aerial Tramways and is a locally owned and operated company doing business as Hell's Gate Airtram.

1996

Rosebank Rosie survives a swim through Hell's Gate!

Winter of 2006 / 07

After years of speculation, it was unofficially confirmed that the Hell's Gate attraction was and has been habited by spirits stemming back from as far as 200 years ago. Research and findings continue to present day with various "mediums", research groups, and historians involved with the investigation. All findings have concluded that the friendly ghosts mean no harm to anyone but are there to help you feel welcomed!



Hell's Gate Now

Fossil Management in British Columbia

McAbee Fossil Beds Heritage Site

Courtesy of British Columbia Government,
Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations
www.for.gov.bc.ca/land_tenures/fossil_management/mcabee/index.html

The site is closed temporarily to assess the heritage values and put interpretive components in place. The site should re-open in 2013.

Background

The area usually referred to as the McAbee site is located east of Cache Creek, B.C., and west of Kamloops, just north of and visible from Highway 1/97. The site is part of an old lake bed which was deposited about 50 million years ago. The fossil site is the most diverse known in British Columbia for plants and insects of the Eocene Epoch. The McAbee beds are known worldwide for their incredible abundance, diversity and quality of fossils.

Active mineral claims in the area have raised concerns from paleontologists that scientifically important fossils, and potentially valuable scientific information may be lost as a result of mining activities.



Eohiodon rosei - common fish species at McAbee
(courtesy Mark Wilson)

In 2007, in response to those concerns, the Province hired an independent expert to assess the significance of the McAbee fossil beds. Dr. Mark Wilson, a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Alberta, is a recognized expert in the study of similar fossil deposits.

In carrying out the assessment, Dr. Wilson reviewed the literature on the site, obtained factual information on the fossils from experts, conducted a field inspection, and provided an independent professional opinion on the scientific significance of the site in relation to other comparable sites in B.C.

Dr. Wilson concluded that the McAbee site is one of the two or three most significant sites in B.C. with Eocene fossils, and the most diverse known in Canada for fossils of this era. Dr. Wilson outlines the site's key advantages as high species diversity, fossil abundance, site accessibility, excellent preservation and recognizable fossils.

To help ensure that significant fossils can be made available for research and to the people of B.C., the Province reached a voluntary agreement in 2008 with tenures holders and other stakeholders that outlined a strategy for the preservation of significant fossils at the site.

A provincially-funded geological and paleontological survey of the McAbee fossil beds was completed in December 2009.

The survey report presents new scientific information on the importance of the site, its geology and the accessibility, quality, diversity and abundance of fossils. Based on the additional findings, government determined that the site warranted heritage designation. Given the significance of the McAbee fossil resource and the fact that the voluntary agreement did not adequately protect the site, the commercial extraction practices should not continue.

Heritage Site Designation Process

On February 25, 2012, Minister Thomson announced the start of the formal process to designate the McAbee fossil beds as provincial heritage site. This process was completed on July 19. The designation will protect the fossil resource and manage it to its fullest scientific and educational potential.

A Conservation Management Plan is under development, with input from stakeholders, which will provide guidance to decision-makers when addressing issues and considering uses at the site.

Heritage designation ensures the fossil resource will be managed to provide research, education and recreational opportunities. The designation prevents damage to the fossil beds by restricting certain activities and authorizing others through permits. The heritage site includes the known extent of the

fossil beds and also captures key ecological and landform features and deposits of the Eocene volcanic complex of interior BC. The total area for protection covers 548 ha.

A summary of the value statements and character-defining elements developed during a stakeholders' workshop was produced and is available for review.



The McAbee fossil beds received official heritage designation on July 19, 2012.

Public access is an important component of McAbee's future. The Conservation Management Plan when completed will provide information on how to access the site, which parts of the site are accessible to the public and guidelines with respect to practices at the site.

Short-Term Plan

The site will remain closed this summer while site safety and archaeological assessments are arranged, and more detailed mapping of the fossil beds takes place. No permits will be issued for fossil collection or extraction until such time as site safety and archaeological requirements have been addressed.

It is envisaged that controlled fossil collecting

in certain areas could begin in 2013 after safety concerns have been addressed, scientifically exceptional locations have been identified and an interpretation plan is in place.

Land use permits are still in place over most of the designated area, with varying interests and authorized uses. Permissions must be obtained from the tenure holders before accessing the land.

Results of the slope stability assessment, archaeological assessment and detailed fossil mapping will be used to zone the site (zone examples would include research areas, area for amateurs with oversight from qualified person, area for general access and education). Permit issuance will be administered by the Land Tenures Branch of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Business models for managing the site will be investigated with potential partners.

Long-Term Plan

The conservation management plan for McAbee will be finalized and adopted and day-to-day permitting responsibility will be handled by the regional office of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

The goal of the heritage site is to conserve the heritage values of McAbee, including providing information on how to interpret common fossils and significant fossils, conveying site-safety and site-conduct messaging, and educating the public about the many values at the site.

Research work and potential research digs with an educational component will also be investigated.

Contact Information

Elisabeth Deom Eldridge
Senior Policy Advisor
Land Tenures Branch
Email: Elisabeth.Eldridge@gov.bc.ca

McAbee Fossil Site Receives Heritage Designation

NEWS RELEASE

July 19, 2012

Courtesy of British Columbia Government,
Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations

CACHE CREEK – The future of the McAbee fossil site is secure, now that the world-renowned fossil beds have been formally designated as a Heritage Site, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson announced today.

The McAbee beds are known both for the incredible number of quality fossils present, as well as their diversity. The fossil beds represent a paleontological gold mine of exceptionally preserved fossils from the Eocene epoch (56 to 34 million years ago). Many fossils being discovered there are entirely new to science.

Now appearing as a stark and wind-worn cliff face, McAbee was once the shore of an ancient lake. This lakeshore provided an ideal environment for creating a fossil record that includes a wide variety of plant life, as well as insects, fish, crayfish and even a bird and feathers. The Heritage Site designation confers enduring protection for the site, which will be managed to provide research, educational and recreational opportunities.

A Conservation Management Plan is already under development, with input from stakeholders, which will provide guidance when considering future uses at the site. This plan will include opportunities for members of the public to continue to visit and enjoy McAbee. The plan is expected to be completed by spring 2013.

Quotes:

Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

“Today’s announcement ensures that the amazing fossil record at McAbee will be preserved in perpetuity, and that this incredible window into prehistoric life will be protected for the enjoyment of all. I congratulate all of the staff and stakeholders who worked so hard and for so many years to make today a reality.”

Dr. Richard Hebda, curator of botany and earth history, Royal B.C. Museum

“McAbee’s rich and varied fossil record continues to change and enrich our understanding of life in the Eocene epoch. With today’s announcement, British Columbia has taken a lead role in safeguarding this globally exceptional natural heritage resource.”

Tom Cockburn, president, British Columbia Paleontological Alliance

“The British Columbia Paleontological Alliance endorses today’s action to designate the McAbee fossil beds as a provincial heritage site. We look forward to the forthcoming Conservation Management Plan and details on how the scientific, educational and natural heritage values of these sites will be preserved in perpetuity.”

Quick Facts:

About the McAbee site

- The fossil beds are 13 kilometres east of Cache Creek.
- The heritage site includes the known extent of the beds at two separate locations – known as Perry Ranch and McAbee-Battle Creek respectively, and will collectively capture key ecological features.
- In March, the B.C. government issued a Temporary Protection Order to protect the site while its designation as a heritage site was being completed.

About fossil protection in B.C.

- Fossils in B.C. are protected through the Fossil Management Framework, which outlines the policy, procedures and guidelines for fossil collection, use and reporting.
- The framework sets out how existing legislative tools can be used to protect fossil sites, including the option for Heritage Site designation.

Fraser Valley Bead Show

October 12th to 14th, 2012

Cascade Casino/Coast Hotel

20393 Fraser Hwy

Langley BC

Admission \$7.00

Children under 12 – Free

www.fraservalleybeadshow.ca

Learn More:

To learn more about the McAbee site visit:
www.for.gov.bc.ca/land_tenures/fossil_management/mcabee/index.html

Contact:

Brennan Clarke
Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations
250 356-5261

Connect with the Province of B.C.
at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect



Komarevich Originals Ltd. – Fraser Valley
Bead Show March 2012

Photo by: Katrinia Walter

Interior Zone Campout

by Terry Malanchuk
Club President, Princeton Rock and Fossil Club

Princeton Rock and Fossil Club celebrates the success of their first three-day Interior Zone Campout event.

June 22nd through 24th, we entertained a large group of Rockhounds from across the province with a number of excursions, which show cased just a few of this area's minerals, fossils and other treasures.

A special note of thanks goes to Bob and Diane Stern, owners of the Mozey-On-Inn, in Coalmont, who arranged the excursion to an active Gold Mine on Roany Creek. A special thank you to the owners of the mine for shutting down their operations for the day in order for our exploration.

We could not have pulled off this event without the generosity of Michelle Cole, proprietor of the Coalmont Hotel. Not only did she provide the use of the field behind her Hotel for the campout and displays, she also provided the power, access to her kitchen, shelter from the rain, and so much more. The Hotel is celebrating its 100th Anniversary, so several of our guests took the opportunity to stay in its historic rooms.

Excursions to various gold, fossil, amber, agate and thunder egg sites, were only one element of the campout event.

Thanks to the generous contributions from 18 Princeton and area businesses, as well as many individuals, we were able to host a silent auction featuring numerous items of significant value.

The Princeton Rock and Fossil Club has grown to fifty members.

We are now looking forward to moving into our new workshop, this fall.



Photo by: Terry Malanchuk

Even the strong winds and hail did not dampen the enjoyment, for this event, for these die hard Rockhounds.



Photo by: Tamara Rose Ziola

A Rockhounder makes a find.



Photo by: Terry Malanchuk

Rockhounds explore a gold mine, on Roany Creek, south of Coalmont.

Classified

Prices quoted are in Canadian funds

Engraving Equipment For Sale - New Price

Perfect for small business or additional income for existing business.

New Hermes GTX floor model engravograph for jewellery, giftware, equipment, steel, aluminium, plastics, just about everything.

Both diamond tip engravers and motorized rotary engraving for plastics and metals. Fifteen sets of lettering fonts, a wide assortment of clamps and accessories. Everything in excellent condition.

New Price: \$4,500.00

Contact: Eileen Phillips 250-334-7253 (Courtenay BC) or email: Eileen

Mineralogical Record Magazines For Sale

Pre-Owned

Complete Volumes

1981: Volume 12 – 6 issues	\$59.00
1982: Volume 13 – 6 issues	\$65.00
1983: Volume 14 – 6 issues	\$51.00
1984: Volume 15 – 6 issues	\$40.00
1985: Volume 16 – 6 issues	\$40.00

Incomplete Volumes Sold Individually

1977: Volume 8 – Jan/Feb	\$15.00
1977: Volume 8 – Mar/Apr	\$17.00
1977: Volume 8 – Jul/Aug	\$17.00
1977: Volume 8 – Sep/Oct	\$5.00
1980: Volume 11 – Jan/Feb	\$6.00
1986: Volume 17 – May/Jun	\$12.00
1986: Volume 17 – Jul/Aug	\$12.00
1986: Volume 17 – Sep/Oct	\$12.00
1986: Volume 17 – Nov/Dec	\$12.00

Size of each issue is 8.5" x 11". **All volumes/issues are in good condition.**

Purchaser will pay the postage.

Contact: Sharon Hamelin 604-581-8326 (Richmond BC) or email: Sharon

B.C. Jade Cabochons (1st quality)

Oval Shape

6 x 4 mm	\$2.00 each
7 x 5 mm	\$2.00 each
8 x 6 mm	\$2.00 each
10 x 8 mm	\$4.75 each
12 x 10 mm	\$4.75 each
14 x 10 mm	\$4.75 each
14 x 12 mm	\$5.25 each
16 x 12 mm	\$5.25 each
18 x 13 mm	\$6.00 each
20 x 15 mm	\$6.00 each
25 x 18 mm	\$12.00 each
30 x 22 mm	\$12.00 each
10 x 8 mm	\$6.00 each

with faceted top flat bottom

Rectangle Shape

14 x 10 mm	\$4.75 each
16 x 12 mm	\$6.00 each
16 x 14 mm	\$7.00 each

Round Shape

25 mm	\$12.00 each
-------	--------------

Limited supply of lapidary equipment and supplies.

Add \$7.00 per order for postage. Order over \$40.00 postage is paid.

To place your order contact:
D & G Lee
3563 – 232nd Street
Langley, BC V2Z 2H5
Ph: 604-534-2748

Golden Tiger's Eye Cabochons

Oval Shape

6 x 4 mm	\$0.50 each
8 x 6 mm	\$0.50 each
10 x 8 mm	\$1.00 each
12 x 10 mm	\$1.75 each
16 x 12 mm	\$2.50 each
18 x 13 mm	\$3.00 each
25 x 18 mm	\$4.50 each

Fully Drilled Beads

6 mm	\$0.95 each
------	-------------

Cherry Tiger's Eye

12 x 10 mm	\$2.00 each
------------	-------------

Summer Camp 2012

Creston, B.C.

by De Morgan, feature writer

In a whirlwind week called Summer Camp, we saw the Kootenays of British Columbia in a new light.

We arrived at the Mountain Park Resort campsite on Sunday around noon, and were told our site might not be ready for us. We haul a 30 foot travel trailer, so we have to be very careful where we take it. The campsite has a single lane, down-hill entry with a blind corner. It caused a few problems, at times through the week.

John, the owner and wrangler, is an expert at backing in trailers, which is necessary as there are no pull through spots. He guided us expertly, and, when our trailer was in, he made sure the water and power worked for us, but there is no sewer at the campsite because of the proximity to the river down a 70 foot embankment. The washrooms with showers were nearby and kept very clean.

We greeted friends and it was great to see around a hundred enthusiastic rockhounds there, ready to search the Kootenays for gold, gems and minerals. We registered @ \$20 per family for the week of fun-filled activities and collected our folder of events and maps for the week, which had been prepared by the very thoroughly well organized Creston Valley Club. We had our choice of lemonade or ice tea, and enjoyed chatting with rockhound friends we see only once or twice a year.

On the Monday of the B.C. long weekend, we travelled a logging road off highway 3 to a pegmatite dike. Gerry Rehwald and his son, Chris, showed us the material, and led us to the location. Since it was a holiday, there was no logging. It would have been very dangerous to lead a group up a logging road with active logging in progress, as the hairpin turns make it impossible for an SUV and logging truck to pass without hitting each other.

We stopped at the turn around spot and got out. There were a few mosquitoes around, but not as many as we have had at many summer camps. As I reached for my long-sleeved shirt, I saw Jerome Albo throw a big boulder of muscovite into his truck. First find! I found a nicely formed, smaller piece of it myself, similar to this one found by Gord Pinder, see photo.



Muscovite Specimen

However, the real prizes were the blue-green hexagonal beryl specimens forming in the white quartz, feldspar and muscovite. There was smoky quartz, schorl (black tourmaline) and possibly topaz in the same grayish and brownish tones. We sifted through the material at the roadside, and I heard that some pieces of beryl were found. Gord Pinder stopped by the house yesterday to show us his specimen, partially terminated and surrounded with quartz.



Beryl in Quartz

After a full day of digging, we made our way back to the campsite, where Chris Rehwald, Eric Kutzner and Doug Murray, our BLCS Summer Camp coordinator, were cooking up gourmet hot dogs and corn on the cob for us. We had only to take a paper plate and lineup. There was service with a smile, as Doug and the Creston Club spoiled and pampered us. We didn't dare tell the cooks that we toast our own wieners at most summer camps! It was very generous of them to do this for us. Dessert was s'mores, toasted with giant marshmallows and squashed with chocolate between two biscuits, m-m-m.



Hot Dogs & Corn hosted by the Creston Valley Prospectors & Lapidary Club

In the evening, we were invited to the Creston Valley Clubhouse, where we had an opportunity to see their neat and well maintained workshop. Gerry Rehwald showed entertaining videos of the Kootenay area presented from the series "Gold Trails and Ghost Towns" by well known historian Bill Barlee. Gerry continued to show these each evening of the summer camp.

On Tuesday we made the 90 kilometer trip north to Riondel, on the shores of Kootenay Lake. There we were permitted to explore the Bluebell Mine within a limited area. We looked through the tailings to find quartz crystals, galena, sphalerite, chalcopryite (copper ore), and pyrrhotite (pronounced, peer-o-tite), a gangue or waste material for the mine, but a mineral sample to us. There were specimens everywhere, and it was easy to get nice samples. Although it was hot, everyone had a really good day at this site. Here is a galena specimen I found after being inspired by Jean Dyke's description of the galena vein. Galena is the most important lead ore mineral. It crystallizes in the cubic system, and the specimens are remarkably beautiful.



Alan Brooks shows leader Gerry Rehwald his galena find



Galena Sample from the Blue Bell Mine

In the evening we celebrated Alan Brooke's 66th birthday. His wife, Fran, invited us to a potluck party at their campsite. The rockhound group arrived bearing food, and there was plenty to go around, as is usual at rockhound potlucks. We sang happy birthday to Alan, cut the cake, watched Alan delight in the cards, and had a pleasant evening there.

On Wednesday, we went across the Selmo-Creston highway's 5823 foot high Kootenay Pass Summit in the Selkirk Mountain Range, on our way to the Jersey Mine just east of Selmo. The highway is tough on car motors, and this trip, we waited for an hour while emergency vehicles tended to a delivery van that had overheated and caught on fire, on this, one of the highest passes in Canada that is open year round.

We arrived at the Jersey Mine in the heat of the day, but we could stand near the mine opening, and experience a very cool breeze. Here is a picture of the opening with Diane Bowman standing in front of it.



Diane Bowman in front of the Jersey Mine opening

Summer Camp 2012 (continued)

At this mine, we found some attractive drill core. Ken McLeod and Jean Dyke found good samples of bornite, the peacock coloured ore, and there were good samples of the fairly rare, gray-silver molybdenite. I bashed rock until I had a very small sample isolated, but surface collecting was where I found my best sample, pictured here. While molybdenite has a hardness of only 1 -1.5 on the moh's scale, it is used as a catalyst to produce high strength steel alloys.



Molybdenite sample from the Jersey Mine

In the evening we celebrated with the infamous hobo stew, produced from a can of anything, thrown into a large steel pot which was made by Charlie Halstrom for the rockhound summer camps. Doug Murray added the left over corn and weiners from Monday night. Everyone ate from their own can, which had been washed, and had the lid bent to form a handle. It sounds as if it would be dreadful tasting, but actually, it tastes very good, with varying flavors from year to year. We had buns with the stew and ice cream for dessert. It made a great evening meal. Huge thanks to Doug, Fran, Alan and Verne Brooks, for opening all the cans, washing and bending them, and making the stew.

On Thursday the field trip was to Moyie, which is to the east, in the direction of Cranbrook. Here was a beautiful lake and the abandoned St Eugene lead zinc mine. When we arrived, Brian Grant told us about the history of the mine, and gave us ideas of how to approach the site.

The mine site went straight up a mountainside of tailings, with leveled areas where the filled in adits were located. I found a nice piece of slate here, but took no other samples.

Gord Pinder had offered to take us to a fossil site near Cranbrook, leaving at 11:15 a.m. One rockhound thoughtlessly stayed at the top of the mine site hunting for minerals, while ten of us waited for him at the car park below for a full hour. We finally left at 12:15 for the fossil site.

The site, just east of Cranbrook, had shale containing an extinct genus of trilobites fossil marine arthropods called olenellus. These lived 522 to 510 mya and averaged five cm in length. All of the finds had only the heads, except for one very happy hunter, Debbie Cleveland, who found a complete olenellus, both cast and mold.



Complete Olenellus Trilobite found by Debbie Cleveland



Olenellus Trilobite Fossil

Friday was a day to return to any site we wished, or just to have time around the town.

In the evening, we were invited to a wine and cheese. Doug Murray gave out thank you cards to the active Creston Valley Prospectors & Lapidary

Club organizers, Gerry and Chris Rehwald, Eric Kutzner, Mike Stutter, and Brian Grant, as well as John, the camp owner and wrangler, and James, camp caretaker. The camp owners and employees did a great job of accommodating our large group with our many evening activities.

Saturday was spent washing packing up our many finds. Thanks to Pam, and the camp store employees for the many boxes they supplied for us to safely tuck away our finds!

We also had a tour of the famous Columbia Brewing Company, which was interesting and very impressive. They employ 100 people throughout the year, and as many as 160 in the summer, with student help. They provided good samples at the end of the tour, along with an entertaining video.

Doug Murray and the Creston Valley Prospectors & Lapidary Club team did a great job of organizing this camp, and I thank you all very much for opening my eyes to the sights and prospects of Creston Valley. I'd come back to this hidden Shangra-La in a heartbeat!

Field Trips

Check www.lapidary.bc.ca for current listings of field trips.

ALWAYS CALL THE TRIP LEADER THE DAY BEFORE TO ENSURE THE TRIP IS GOING, AND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO OTHER CHANGES

For all of the above trips, all club members are welcome, including our rockhound friends from the US. For updated information, please visit www.lapidary.bc.ca.

Remember to bring a lunch and water on all field trips. Ensure your vehicle has a full tank of gas.

As always, any US rockhounds in good standing with their clubs are invited to join our field trips.

Washington State Mineral Council offers some great trips, just across the border: www.mineralcouncil.org (select field trips).

SCRIBE Meeting

Planning to attend the next **SCRIBE** meeting?

It will be **January 19, 2013** in Quartzsite, Arizona. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. (MST) 8 a.m. (PST) at the Community Center in Quartzsite. The community center is just north of Main Street on Moon Mountain Road.

1120 Rock Club
 Club Contact: David Barclay
 (250) 766-4353
 davebarckay@telus.net

Abbotsford Rock & Gem Club
 Club Contact: Georgina Selinger
 (604) 852-1307
 abbyrockngem@hotmail.com

Alberni Valley Rock & Gem Club
 Club Contact: Dot or Dave West
 (250) 723-0281
 compudok@telus.net

BC Faceters Guild
 Club Contact: Rob Giesbrecht
 (604) 820-8557
 robgies@hotmail.com

Burnaby Laphounds Club
 Club Contact: Nancy Dickson
 (604) 444-4464
 nancyandallan@telus.net

Courtenay Gem & Mineral Club
 Club Contact: Jack/Janice Boyes
 (250) 337-8461
 janboyes@telus.net

Cowichan Valley Rockhounds
 Club Contact: Jennifer Proctor
 (250) 732-6876
 jeproctor@shaw.ca

Creative Jewellers Guild of BC
 Club Contact: Eric Kemp
 (604) 278-5141
 kempie43@hotmail.com

Creston Valley Prospectors
 and Lapidary Club
 Club Contact: Eric Kutzner
 (250) 428-5061
 ekutzner@telus.net

Delta Rockhound Gem & Mineral Club
 Club Contact: Mary Cool
 (604) 943-5518
 coolgirl@ccnet.com

Fraser Valley Rock & Gem Club
 Club Contact: Karen Archibald
 (604) 532-8734 or cell (778) 848-3242
 karchiba@telus.net

Golden Rock and Fossil Club
 Club Contact: Stan Walker
 (250) 344-2108
 goldenrockandfossilclub@gmail.com

Hastings Center Rockhounds
 Club Contact: Michael Edwards
 (604) 987-1471
 anwards@shaw.ca

High Country Rockhound Club
 Club Contact: Jan Kohar
 (250) 523-9532
 gkohar@telus.net

Interlakes Rockhounds
 Club Contact: Gary Babcock
 (250) 395-2772
 greem@shaw.ca

Kokanee Rock Club
 Club Contact: Bob Lerch
 (250) 226-7556
 orgmec@shawbiz.ca

Lakes District Rock and Gem Club
 Club Contact: Helen Brown
 (250) 692-7458
 rkbrown49@hotmail.com

Maple Ridge Lapidary Club
 Club Contact: Carol Kostachuk
 (604) 463-9225
 m.ridge_lapiclub@yahoo.com

Parksville & District Rock & Gem Club
 Club Contact: Marion Barclay
 (250) 248-6177
 marybar@telus.net

Penticton Geology & Lapidary Club
 Club Contact: Gloria Bordass
 (250) 493-1027

Port Moody Rock &
 Gem Club
 Club Contact: Lisa Elser
 (778) 996-5620
 info@portmoodyrockclub.com

Powell River Lapidary Club
 Club Contact: Cindy Newport
 (604) 487-0444
 c-newport@shaw.ca

Princeton Rock and Fossil Club
 Club Contact: Terry Malanchuk
 (250) 295-1619
 tmalan@telus.net

Raft River Rockhounds
 Club Contact: Fay McCracken
 (250) 674-2700
 mysticmountain@mercuryspeed.com

Richmond Gem &
 Mineral Club
 Club Contact: Darlene Howe
 (604) 274-4893
 darhowe@telus.net

Ripple Rock Gem &
 Mineral Club
 Club Contact: Gord Burkholder
 (250) 923-1740
 info@ripplerockgemandmineralclub.com

Selkirk Rock & Mineral Club
 Club Contact: Maureen Krohman
 (250) 367-9605
 mkrohman@shaw.ca

Shuswap Rock Club
 Club Contact: Susan McLellan
 (250) 675-5027
 shuswaprockclub@gmail.com

Spruce City Rock and
 Gem Club
 Club Contact: Russ Davis
 (250) 564-8556
 rsdavis@shaw.ca

Surrey Rockhound Club
 Club Contact: Adam Stebbing
 (604) 837-9051
 rckhound@telus.com

Thompson Valley Rock Club
 Club Contact: Helen Lowndes
 (250) 314-1943
 helow@telus.net
 http://tvrc.ca/

Vernon Lapidary & Mineral Club
 Club Contact: Pat O'Brien
 (250) 545-1274
 patandphylicia1@shaw.ca

Victoria Lapidary &
 Mineral Society
 Club Contact: Cameron Speedie
 (250) 385-0597
 cspeedie@telus.net

For More Information
 about the BC Lapidary Society or
 a club near you, visit us online
www.lapidary.bc.ca

Classified <small>Prices quoted are in Canadian funds</small>	Lapidary Materials For Sale		Chrysoprase	\$0.40/gram
	Foredom, motor, shaft, key chuck	\$150.00	Lapis	\$0.40/gram
	Silver polishing machine 6"	\$120.00	Turquoise	\$0.40 - \$0.90/gram
	Silver polishing machine 3"	\$50.00	Rhodochrosite - slabs & pieces	\$0.30 - \$1.00/gram
	Dremel tools	\$15.00	Malachite	\$15.00/pound
	Dremel drill press	\$8.00	Ocean picture rock	\$1.00/pound
	Centrifugal and vaccum casting equipment	Call for price	Obsidian	\$0.15/pound
	Tools and material for plating	Call for price	Agate modules	\$0.50/pound
	Power supplier - voltage controls	Call for price		
	Electro formers	Call for price		
	Chrysocolla	Call for price		
			Contact: John Doyle 250-763-8015 (Kelowna BC)	

RICHMOND GEM & MINERAL CLUB

52nd Annual Gem Show

September 15 & 16, 2012

Richmond Cultural Centre
7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond, BC

**Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers,
Spin and Win, Door Prizes, Book Sales**
Admission by Donation

Contact: Livia Waterson, 604-590-3289, or
email: rgmc@hotmail.ca

FRASER VALLEY ROCK & GEM CLUB

September 22 & 23, 2012

Annual Rock & Gem Show
Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm
Old Age Pensioners Hall
3015 273 Street, Aldergrove, BC

Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers
Admission by donation

Contact: Rozalia Brown, 604-794-7296,
or email

SURREY ROCKHOUND CLUB

October 20 & 21, 2012

10:00am - 5:00pm

Sullivan Hall
6306 152 Street, Surrey, BC
Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers, Door Prizes,
Kids Stuff, Jewelry,

Used Lapidary Equipment for sale & much more
For more information call 604-599-6938, or E
mail: outrockhounding@yahoo.ca

PORT MOODY ROCK & GEM CLUB

October 27 & 28, 2012

Rocktoberfest 2, Minerals and Crystals and
Gems, oh my!

Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm
Kyle Centre
125 Kyle Street, Port Moody, BC

Sales/Marketplace, Displays,
Demonstrations, Prize Draws, Lapidary
Workshop Tour, Kids' Creative Workshop,
Rock Smash, Silent Auction, Spin 'n Win,
Grap Bags, Food & Beverages

Admission by donation

Contact: Rose Kapp, 604-941-3023, or E mail:
roszay@shaw.ca

DELTA ROCKHOUND GEM & MINERAL CLUB

November 3 & 4, 2012 10am - 5 pm

South Delta Recreation Centre
1720 - 56th St.

**Door prizes; rock auctions for children and
adults; grab bags; demonstrations; dealers;
mineral, rock and gem displays; dealers**

Contact: Mary Cool, 604-943-5518, or E mail:
coolgirl@ccnet.com

RICHMOND GEM & MINERAL CLUB

December 1 & 2, 2012

52nd Annual Gem Show
Richmond Cultural Centre
7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond, BC

**Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers,
Spin and Win, Door Prizes, Book Sales**
Admission by Donation

Contact: George Howe, 604-274-4893, or E
mail: geohowe@telus.net

2013

MAPLE RIDGE LAPIDARY CLUB

February 23 & 24, 2013

New Location (more parking):
Maple Ridge Alliance Church
20399 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge, BC
**Rocks, Minerals, Beads, Hand Crafted
Jewellery, Crystals, Used Lapidary
Equipment, Kids Kraft Corner, Auction,
Demonstrations, On-Site
Classes, Raffle**

For more information call 604-466-2843, or E
mail: m.ridge_lapiclub@yahoo.ca

HASTINGS CENTRE ROCKHOUNDS

March 16 & 17, 2013

Hastings Community Centre
3096 E. Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC
Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers
For more information call 604-298-0239, or E
mail: constans0239@shaw.ca

RAFT RIVER ROCKHOUNDS CANADA DAY SHOW

July 1, 2013

Blue Loon Grill / Clearwater Country Inn
Grounds
449 E Yellowhead Hwy 5, Clearwater, BC
Contact: Fay McCracken, 250-674-2700, or E
mail: mysticmountain@mercuryspeed.com

FRASER VALLEY ROCK & GEM CLUB

September 21 & 22, 2013

Annual Rock & Gem Show

Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm
Old Age Pensioners Hall
3015 273 Street, Aldergrove, BC
Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers
Admission by donation
Contact: Rozalia Brown, 604-794-7296, or
opal@shaw.ca

PORT MOODY ROCK & GEM CLUB

October 26 & 27, 2013

Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm

Kyle Centre
125 Kyle Street, Port Moody, BC
**Sales/Marketplace, Displays, Demonstrations,
Prize Draws, Lapidary Workshop Tour, Kids'
Creative Workshop, Rock Smash, Silent
Auction, Spin 'n Win, Grap Bags, Food &
Beverages**

Admission by donation

Contact: Rose Kapp, 604-941-3023, or E mail:
roszay@shaw.ca

SURREY ROCKHOUND CLUB

October 26 & 27, 2013

Sullivan Hall
6306 152 Street, Surrey, BC
**Demonstrations, Displays, Dealers,
Door Prizes, Book Sales, Used Lapidary
Equipment for sale**

For more information call 604-599-6938, or E
mail: outrockhounding@yahoo.ca

DELTA ROCKHOUND GEM & MINERAL CLUB

November 2 & 3, 2013

Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm

South Delta Recreation Centre
1720 - 56th Street, Tsawwassen, BC
**Door prizes; rock auctions for children and
adults; grab bags; demonstrations; dealers;
mineral, rock and gem displays; dealers**

Contact: Mary Cool, 604-943-5518, or
coolgirl@ccnet.com

Surrey Rockhound Club Tailgate Sale

by Katrinia Walter

Any club out there planning to host a rockhound tailgate sale can learn a thing or two from the Surrey Rockhound Club.

July 15th was an overcast day but that didn't stop the sellers or the Surrey Rockhound Club from directing the sellers into their pre-assigned parking slots, putting up signs, having the coffee on and being down right friendly.



settling on the items that caught their attention.

None of the sellers undercut each other, some even bought from the other.

There were beautiful table top lazy susans made out of various rocks for sale.



The rain held off most of the day and almost all sellers had a handy pop up canopy. Bob & De Morgan were determine the sun was staying for the day but at one point they had to huddle under umbrellas.



The rockhound community is fantastic. It is one of few hobbies where each person is willing to share their craft, ideas, locations and knowledge.

Keep passing your ideas and knowledge onto others especially the younger generation as they are the future of rockhounding. Teaching and sharing our hobby to our communities through tailgate sales are a perfect way to draw interest in our clubs, rockhounding and the importance of protecting and respecting nature, forests, rivers, mountains and all sources in discovering the rough.

Thank you Surrey Rockhounds for a positive tailgate experience.



The organizers planned well and had a diverse selection of rough, finished and unique items associated with rockhounding and lapidary for the beginner, novice and expert shoppers.

The shoppers travelled the parking from dealer to dealer discovering what each had to offer and then

Beadazzled

LAPIDARY SUPPLIES, PROSPECTING & GOLD MINING EQUIPMENT

AUTHORIZED DEALER:

- Garrett Metal Detectors**
- Keene Mining Equipment**
- Desert Fox Mining Equipment**
- Estwing Prospector Hammers**
- Lortone Lapidary Equipment**
- Diamond Pacific**
- Graves Lapidary Equipment**
- Inland**
- Covington Equipment**
- Cab King**
- Gems and Crystals**

We buy and sell used lapidary equipment and collections

Box 574
1217 Canyon Street
Creston, BC Canada, V0B 1G0
250 428 4020
Toll Free: 1 877 428 4020
www.beadazzledbeads.ca

Classified

Prices quoted are in Canadian funds



For Sale - Shelves

Four cedar shelves
 Color is matt black
 Dimensions: Length 35 1/2", Height 26 1/2"

The shelving can be turned one way with the shelves 5 1/2" wide and turned the other way the shelves become 2 1/2".

\$25 ea or 4 for \$80.

Contact: Jennifer Moore at (604) 328-9766 or email jennmaco2@telus.net

An Indoor Rockhound?

by Bill Aaroe, Abbotsford Rock & Gem Club

At first glance it might seem as if stamp collecting and rockhounding are too different to have any crossover interests. Stamp collecting dismissed as an esoteric study of little bits of paper, while rockhounding is an outdoor activity which occasionally requires a bit of brawn. Yet there are overlaps which I would invite rockhounds to consider during those bleak winter months when it is, if not impossible, at least less comfortable being an outdoor rockhound.

Rocks, minerals, fossils and related topics on stamps can be studied in several ways. A topical collection (a collection formed following a theme or topic) of stamps showing mineral or fossil specimens can easily be assembled as there are many 100's of stamps world wide showing specimens. For example Canadian stamps from September 1992 features four mineral samples including native copper and a July 1990 issue of fossils including that of a Trilobite. While I find these issues beautiful I will admit my favorite rock on stamp issue is a 15 stamp set issued by Kenya in December 1977 that highlights the bounty from that country; mineral specimens only for the lower values and natural gem stones paired with a faceted gem on the higher values.

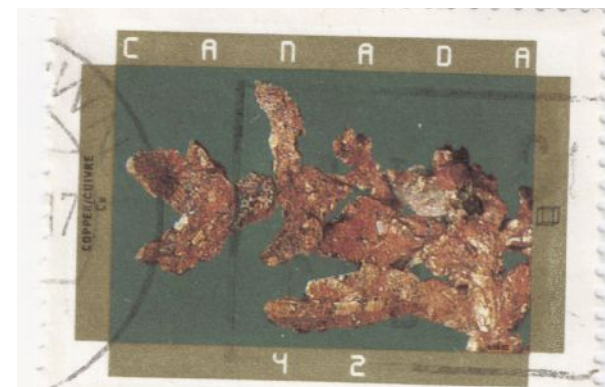
This is only scratching the surface in the sense that our geologic heritage is illustrated in many other ways such as the mining issue from 1957 or the illustration of a geological fault illustrated on an August 1972 issue. Many other topics tie into our hobby such as dinosaurs pictured on an October 1993 issue; or jewelry, such as the Navajo necklace pictured on August 2004 USA release; or the many stamps illustrating stone used in buildings. My favorite is the Vimy Ridge Memorial issue of October 1968; the memorial was constructed of an almost pure white limestone quarried from an ancient Roman quarry in what is now Croatia. The largest piece of stone used weighed 36 tons. Of course no stone construction would be complete without an Egyptian pyramid as pictured on an issue from 1888. The bulk of the pyramids were constructed with a low grade limestone from Giza with pink granite from the Aswan area covering inner surfaces and the outer surface was capped with a fine white limestone from hills near Maasara.

All of this is just the starting point if one is really willing to dig into mineral philately (the correct word for stamp collecting) as a collection could be formed of postmarks from towns famous for a mineral or fossil

local (i.e.; Herkimer, NY or Drumheller, AB); or for their mines (Sudbury, ON or Thetford Mines, QC). Mining ghost towns would provide a much more challenging search (Anyox, BC); or having a mineral as their name (Asbestos, QC); or perhaps some less specific connection (Rockglen, SK). Additionally commemorative slogan and pictorial postmarks exist, used only for a short period of time, such as one I recently found commemorating the 100th anniversary of the US Geological Survey in 1979. A little bit of research would provide many interesting stories.

Some stamp collectors prefer covers (a complete envelope) which in the 1800's and early 1900's often had pictorial advertising on them and many can be found promoting mines or mining equipment. Similarly post cards showing mines or mining locals are another possible way to search – there is an abundant amount of material available. A final and perhaps still less obvious theme would be the correspondents themselves; a letter to or from Harry Oakes the prospector who discovered the Kirkland Lake gold deposit or Chuck Fipke who discovered Canada's first diamond deposit would be neat; although a period letter to or from any of the thousands who travelled to the Yukon during the gold rush would be, to my mind, a treasure.

If the winter blues get you down at some point or if you wish to simply expand your learning; stamps and related postal history may make an enjoyable tie into your rock collection and as my wife often reminds me my little bits of paper take up a lot less room than my rocks! The possibilities are only limited by your imagination.



Talk Shop: Opal

by Opal Resources Canada Inc.
www.opalscanada.com

Common Opal

Does not display a “play of color”. Incident light passing through this material emanates from the amorphous mass as random oriented white light. This is Opal the mineral (common opal) which has little value except when it occurs in a clear (transparent) form which is often used for cutting “faceted” gemstones (particularly Mexican opal). Opal Resources Canada Inc. is developing a product line to use this type of opal found in our deposit. This material is often referred to as ‘jelly opal or fire opal’ but when it shows a play of color it is referred to as ‘crystal opal’ and is then classified as Precious Opal.

Precious Opal

Occasionally, opal formation conditions are such that the “micro-spheres” of silica precipitate in uniform sizes and orderly orientation. When this happens the white incident light which enters the opal is diffracted by the orderly spheres into the colors of the rainbow as it emanates from the amorphous opal mass. The play of color is therefore an optical rather than a chemical property. This play of color is the sole distinguishing feature between common opal and precious opal.

Natural Solid Opal

A natural solid opal is essentially a cut or rough opal with no backing or overlay. These are cut from the larger more competent pieces of precious opal. Smaller pieces and chips of opal are used in inlay jewellery. A cut solid opal is referred to as a Cabochon.

Natural Boulder Opal

A natural boulder opal is cut from the more competent pieces of opal bearing rock utilizing the natural rock as part of the body of the stone. It is an opal with the natural rock backing.

Doublets

There are two kinds:

Solid Opal doublets are composite gemstones created by backing crystal opal (transparent to translucent precious opal) with black serpentine or other dark colored rock.

Boulder Opal doublets are composite gemstones created by adhering quartz caps onto layers of opal which are still attached to the natural host rock. Boulder opal doublets are created using similar techniques to those used to make Ammolite gemstones.



SARA MORTIMER

.....

Illustration & Design

sara.mortimer89@gmail.com
604 512 7265
sara-mortimer.tumblr.com

Stone Haven Gems



Christine Paton
604 537 9170
christine@stonehavengems.com
www.stonehavengems.com

DESUTELS ROCK DEN

Silver & Metal Settings
Lapidary Supplies
Minerals
Jewelry
Slabs



By Appointment
604-467-5445
Maple Ridge

Black Mountain Artisans

Rock Shop

Lapidary Equipment and Supplies, Rough Rock, Slabs, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Stone Beads, Salt Lamps, Silver Stock, Jewellery, Soapstone, Alabaster, Cabachons, Faceted Gemstones, Amber, Petrified Wood and more.

Please call for hours of operation
Owner Carey Serhan
Formerly Tony's Rock Shop
Email us at blackmountainartisans@gmail.com

1829 Lynrick Rd
Kelowna BC
V1P 1G1
Cell Number: 250 215 1515

StonesInWire

made by Ursula
custom wire wrapping

email: udemuth@hotmail.com
website: www.StonesInWire.etsy.com



Artisan Jewelry
Semi-Precious Stones
Beads & Findings
Tools & Supplies
Jewelry Classes

T: 604-469-3327
info@ssstudio.org
classes@ssstudio.org
www.ssstudio.org

7-3130 St. Johns Street,
Port Moody, B.C.V3H 2C7,
Canada



BIT BY BIT
DRILLS FOR LESS

5424 MONKEY TREE LN.
SECHelt, BC V0N 3A2

BITLADY@MSN.COM
BITLADY.COM
604 885 5854

TERRI CRAIG

PARK PLACE

RV Park

LOOKING FOR A GREAT PLACE
TO SPEND THE WINTER? WE
HAVE GOT THE ANSWER!

Now under new ownership: Philip de Ridder
For rates and other information visit:
<http://www.parkplacervpark.net/index.html>

Easy to find at the quiet end of town
88 Spaces each with Sewer, Water
and Electricity
Clubhouse with Big Screen TV
Wi-Fi available through out the park
North of I-10 at Exit 19
1-520-873-8513 or 928-927-6699
Best RV Park in Quartzsite Arizona

Rockhounder Puzzler

There is a hidden message in the word search.
Find the words and the message will be revealed.

F E C B C Y R N E A E H R P M
O E M I A O I T M L M E H R N
S B P L C A I E L E O L O E C
S A C K T N T I T E D L D C L
I C S N O H V A T C K S O I U
L M U D Y R G A B A C G N O S
S O R S E A G E E L A A I U T
M O T K R L R M A C L T T S E
G L R S I Y A R E I B E E U R
S A D A L L A S I T E E T M S
B T T J A S P E R E A B I M C
C L A E L A T S Y R C L N E O
A A P M D L O G U T I F A R A
U P M I P R E H N I T E Y L L
P O Z P T S R G D E X D K S B

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| AGATE | CLUSTERS | JASPER | PRECIOUS |
| AMETHYST | COAL | KYANITE | PREHNITE |
| BARKERVILLE | CRYSTAL | MCABEE | RHODONITE |
| BERYL | DALLASITE | METAL | ROCKS |
| BLACKDOME | FOSSILS | MOUNTAIN | STAMPS |
| CALCITE | GOLD | OPAL | SUMMER |
| CAMP | GORDONITE | PIT | TAILGATE |
| CLAY | HELLSGATE | PMC | |

BC Rockhounder

Advertising by dealers enables us to provide this publication at a reasonable price.
Please support them! Tell them you saw their ad in the BC Rockhounder.

Name: _____ Date: _____/2012

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

A Gift Subscription? _____

Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ year(s) subscription. (\$14.00 + \$10.00 postage CDN/year)
(For US mailing postage is \$16.00 CDN/year)

Mail to:
The British Columbia Rockhounder
105-3240 Mt. Lehman Rd
P.O. Box 10072
Abbotsford, BC V4X 2M9

Please make cheque/money order payable to:
British Columbia Lapidary Society

2012 Order Form

Rendezvous 2013

May 17 – 20, 2013

Hosted By Thompson Valley Rock
Club

Tentative Location: Ashcroft, BC

Updates will be provided as they become available in
future BC Rockhounds and on the BCLS website:
www.lapidary.bc.ca

World Jade Symposium

The World Jade symposium has
been postponed until 2013 due to
lack of funding/sponsorship.

Brian Matheson is seeking sponsors whether
it be corporations or individuals. Brian is a
member of the Hastings Centre Rockhounds.

Your support is greatly needed to help keep
this event running from year to year.
If you can sponsor or know someone that might
be interested please contact Brian via email:
pagodastone@gmail.com or phone: 604-537-8843.

www.jadesymposium.com



Calendar Order Form

The _____ Club
Print Club Name Above

Mailing address, (if different from directory address):

Name:

Street:

City Province Postal Code

would like _____ calendars @ \$10.00 each = _____ total

Please make your cheque payable to the:

BC Lapidary Society

and mail it to:

BC Lapidary Society
2785 Silvertree Court
Abbotsford BC V2S 5N6

Submission deadline: October 22, 2012

B.C. Gem Show

Volunteers Needed

B.C. Gem Show Committee Volunteers Needed

The following positions require a volunteer that is willing to take charge, organize, set up and take down at each B.C. Gem Show for their area of responsibility, arrange for volunteers to assist them and arrange for any materials they need. As part of the B.C. Gem Show Committee you are expected to attend the B.C. Gem Show Committee Meetings held the 3rd Wednesday of every month except July and August at Sullivan Hall in Surrey, B.C.

Signs – posting & arranging for Two-Way Signs to be put up 1 month prior to the BC Gem Show. Post smaller signs within City of Abbotsford limits on the Thursday night before the BC Gem Show weekend. Make new signs as may be required. Liason with individuals and companies willing to post signs on their property. Take down all signs, except Two-Way Signs, on Sunday evening after the BC Gem Show closes.

Education/Specimen Cards – volunteer required commencing for the 2013 B.C. Gem Show. This person should be available to attend meetings as soon as possible to assist in the transition.

If you are interested in joining the B.C. Gem Show Committee as a volunteer please contact Cam Bacon via email at showchaircam@yahoo.com or telephone: (604) 854-1711.

Mineral Myths and Meanings (Continued from pg. 6)

As reported by www.prettyrock.com

Apophyllite

Loving atonement to body and spirit, stimulates intuition, raises energy levels, guides and teaches, balancing and gentle, spiritual growth, for heart spleen and brain. Career: Coach.

Aquamarine

Courage - March Birthstone - Pisces

Banishes fears, calms nerves, imparts strength and control. It is thought to bring joy and happiness, harmony in married life. According to legend it has its origin in the treasure chest of the mermaids, and has for ages been reputed to be a lucky stone for sailors. Ancient Greeks thought it sacred to the god Poseidon. It is a great stone to take on vacations and cruises. The name is from the Latin for sea water. It was once thought to magically cure people who were poisoned. Career: Anything Marine related.

Aragonite

Calms & centers, grounding, allows for insight, aids self discipline if directed, useful during stressful times.

Aventurine

Strengthens independence, legs and joints, helps in career change, excellent for attracting abundance & wealth, stone of chance or luck Aventurine is often referred to as the Gambler's Stone. It brings the wearer good luck Aventurine derives from the Italian word 'a ventura' meaning "by chance". The name dates back to the 1700's when an Italian glass-maker accidentally discovered this stone. He accidentally dropped copper filings into some molten glass. Aventurine is thought to be the only gemstone that was created by man before the natural stone was discovered. Career: Stocks or Banking.

Azurite

Guidance to psychic self, cuts through illusion, enhances communication. The name "Azurite" comes from the Persian lazward, meaning "blue." During the Middle Ages and Renaissance, azurite was an important pigment in European painting. It was known as Madonna blue. Career: Science.

Calcite

Aids memory, good for arts and sciences, balances mental and emotional thoughts. The word calcite comes from the Latin word calx, and the Greek word chalik, meaning "lime." Career: Computers.

Celestite

Clears speech, personal expression, highly spiritual. Celestite (also known as Celestine), from the Latin "caelestis" meaning "celestial" or "heavenly. Thought

to be good for mental activities. It contains innate wisdom and can connect to the angelic realms and tell stories of the past. Astral travel. assists dream recall and cleanses. Career: Religion.

Chalcedony

Expression of emotional needs, honesty, alleviates regret. Considered a sacred stone by the Native American Indians, chalcedony nurtures and promotes brotherhood and good will. The name Chalcedony is widely believed to be a direct reference to an ancient Greek settlement in Asia minor. This settlement was known as Chalkedon, in modern English it is spelled Chalcedon, forming of the name Chalcedony. Career: Advisor.

Chrysoprase

Prevents depression, increases grace and equilibrium. It strengthens the workings of insight and the higher consciousness. The word chrysoprase comes from the Greek chrysos meaning 'gold' and prason, meaning 'leek'. Career: Dance/Sports.

Citrine (Gemini)

Cleans auras, detoxifies the body, aids tissue regeneration. Citrine is known as the lucky "Merchants Stone". Citrine can help with digestion. It is beneficial to the endocrine and digestive system. The name is from the French word "citron" meaning lemon. Citrine helps to manifest your goals and keeps the wearer cheerful. In ancient times, Citrine was carried as protection against snake venom and evil / impure thoughts. Career: Sales.

Copper

Soothes arthritis, releases restrictions, stimulates initiative and optimism. Copper has been used with blood and metabolism disorders. Copper acts as a conductor when worn on the body.

Danburite

Stimulates intellect, enhances psychic ability and self-assuredness. Danburite facilitates deep change and the ability to leave the past behind. Spiritual and emotional healing, brings a positive outlook on life. Danburite was first discovered in 1839 by Charles Upham Shephard and is named after Danbury, Connecticut, United States, the location of the discovery. Career: Carpentry/Building.

Diamond (Aries)

Purity - April Birthstone

Brings forth purity, harmony, and love, also brings abundance. The Greeks believed that diamonds could protect against poisons, and in Medieval times, those who could afford to wear a diamond

believed they were safe against the plague. The name comes from the Greek term 'adamas' which means "invincible" or "unconquerable." Some cultures believed that that placing it in the mouth would bring on a loss of teeth. Career: Engineer.

Diopside

Brings necessary tears, heals trauma, aids regression, crying stone. Diopside comes from the ancient Greek "di", which means "two", and "opsis", meaning "vision." Ancient civilizations believed that star stones housed living spirits that were looking at you through those stars. Diopside increases creative visualization and helps to manifest desired goals. Career: Counsellor.

Dioptase

Attracts love, abundance, prosperity and health. Dioptase supports the emotional heart, strengthens the physical heart and awakens the spiritual heart. The name comes from the Greek, dia, "through" and optima, "vision" alluding to the two cleavage directions visible in unbroken crystals. Career: Nurse.

Emerald

Hope - May Birthstone - Taurus

Secures love, attracts wealth, profitable dreaming. Long ago, emeralds were thought to possess healing powers, especially for poor eyesight. During the renaissance, emeralds were exchanged among the aristocracy as symbols of friendship. It was said emeralds would stay intact only if the friendship lasted. The emerald is the sacred stone of the goddess Venus. It was thought to preserve love. The origin of the word "emerald" is said to be a Sanskrit word meaning "green" or the name emerald comes from the Greek 'smaragdus' via the Old French 'esmeralde', and really just means 'green gemstone'. The Vedas, the holy scriptures of the Indians, say of the precious green gems and their healing properties: 'Emeralds promise good luck ...'; and 'The emerald enhances the well-being ...'. Career: Business.

Epidote

The name epidote is derived from the Greek word "epidosis", meaning increase.

Fluorite

Aids comprehension, strengthens teeth and bones, stabilizing and calming. It is thought to increase your concentration, and heighten your intuition. Fluorite is also said to absorb and neutralize negative vibrations. Fluorite may be used as an aid in meditation to support psychic awareness and meditative insight. Fluorite, a mineral that melts easily, derives its name from the Latin word "fluere" meaning "to flow" or "to flux" and refers to its use as a flux in the steel and

aluminum smelting process. (The word florescence comes from fluorite, it was the first mineral to be studied for this characteristic.) Career: Dental.

Garnet

Constancy - January birthstone - Aquarius - Capricorn

Increases health, fidelity, imagination, and balances energy flow. Garnet is said to be the stone of romantic love and passion, enhancing sensuality, sexuality, and intimacy. The name Garnet comes from the Latin for pomegranate, which has bright red, garnet like seeds. Garnets were thought to cure depression, protect against bad dreams, and relieve diseases of the liver and hemorrhage. According to legend, Noah used a finely cut, glowing garnet to illuminate the ark. The Garnet is known as the stone for a successful business. Stone of purity and truth as well as a symbol of love and compassion. Garnets have also been used by many explorers and traveler as it is believed to protect the wearer when journeying far from home. Set in shields, armour, and buckles by crusaders for it is believed that it gives protection from wounds stops bleeding. Many native tribes from North, Central, and South America wore Garnets to ward off evil influences and spirits. Career: Health/Public Safety related.

Gold

Purifying, healing, balancing, attracts honours, masculine energy. Gold symbolizes wealth used wisely, but it is also the symbol of good health. Gold is intimately linked with Divinity and those gods associated with the Sun. It symbolizes wealth and success. Thought to have healing properties, especially for sore eyes and sty's, which should be rubbed with a wedding ring (the only gold object most families were likely to possess). Gold earnings were also thought to strengthen the eyes, and, among sailors and fishermen, to prevent one from drowning Gypsum - relieves stagnation, offers level-headedness. It is considered to be a "Lucky Stone". Aids in coping when life is too busy. Often used for center of medicine wheel. Used by Native American Indians in rain ceremonies. An Earth Keeper stone. Stimulates progression. Career: Office Work

Lakes District Rock and Gem Club Report*Respectfully submitted by Leanne Miranda*

The Lakes District Rock and Gem Club participated in 'Minerals North' a mining trade show held every year in northern BC in May. The show brings together mining suppliers and mining specialists and the rock club was asked to put up a display table highlighting local rocks and minerals. The display was a great success with many people stopping by and talking with members about what is found in the area. Big thanks to Helen Brown for organizing the table and with assistance by RK Brown. Thank you to Ernie Olinyk and Helene Brunette for manning the table during the 2 day event. The event also brought new memberships to the club with several families joining.

The Club had several field trips scheduled over the summer, some to old favorite sites to introduce new members to what is found here and some other exploration trips to find new material. Our new members have also brought forward sites that the club was not aware of. We are looking forward to Fall field trips as our warm summer has brought water levels in nearby lakes and rivers down so that rockhounding along shores and river banks should be quite good.

We are sad to announce the passing away of Lori Boychuck, our club treasurer, in January. She was a strong supporter of the club and will be greatly missed by our members.

Princeton Rock and Fossil Club*Respectfully submitted by Dave Anderson**Photos by Dave Anderson and Grace Hale*

Princeton Rock and Fossil Club celebrate the success of their first, three day campout event.

From June 22 through June 24 the club entertained a group of rock hounders from the Okanagan-Similkameen, Thompson Okanagan, and Lower Mainland. A number of excursions show cased just a few of this areas mineral and fossil treasures. [insert photo of Princeton Fossil Finds with caption Princeton Fossils and other rough]

Excursions to various gold, fossil, amber, agate and thunder egg sites, was only one element of the campout event. Thanks to the generous contributions of many Princeton and area businesses, as well as many individuals, we were able to host a silent auction featuring numerous items of significant value.

*Princeton Gold Mine Trip*

The Princeton Rock and Fossil Club is growing and offers many more opportunities for exploration into the mineral and fossil sites within the Similkameen.

*Princeton Fossil*

We could not have pulled off this event without the generosity of Michelle Cole, proprietor of the Coalmont Hotel. Not only did she provide the use of the field, behind her Hotel, for the campout and displays, but she provided the power, access to her kitchen, shelter from the rain, and so much more.

A special note of thanks goes to Bob and Diane Stern, owners of the Mozey-On-Inn, in Coalmont, who arranged the excursion to an active Gold Mine on Roany Creek. A special thank you to the owners of the Mine, who shut down their operations for the day so that we were able explore their site.

The week following our campout we entered the Princeton Racing Days Parade.

*Princeton Race Days Parade Entry***Surrey Rockhound Club***Respectfully submitted by De Morgan*

Our July tail gate sale was successful, as most of the stalls were filled with dealers from Whistler to Abbotsford. The public stopped in to see what all the tents were about, and browsed at our treasures. Many members of other clubs came by, and we always feel grateful for the support from other rockhounds, both dealers and shoppers. Thanks to Rita Brooks for organizing this event.

A few of us made it to summer camp in Creston at the beginning of August, which was excellent this year. Besides Bob and I, Surrey Club members were Gloria and Dick Dyble, Franz Hofer and Franz Derungs, there for the fun filled week of rock hounding and evening social events. I was especially pleased to have Gloria there, as she is still in a battle with cancer. It was great to see her feeling well enough to join us. Many thanks to Doug Murray, Gerry and Chris Rehwald for all the organizing and planning.

August 22nd, Surrey Club held a new event, which we hope to do annually. We had our usual BBQ, with all members bringing a salad or dessert... (the food is always great!) and we combined it with an auction. The weather cooperated with a pleasant evening, and our BBQist, Leonard Cheveldave, had his grill loaded with juicy big dogs, slathered with yummy BBQ sauce. In a break out move, Gord Venn, local Scout leader and club member, had an axe and was chopping wood in the parking lot. Next thing: four club members toasting weiners over the fire!

*L to R: Kavinder Puri, Henry Doerksen, Leonard Cheveldave, Gord Venn and Oliver Boonstra*

After eating, we began our auction. We had good rocks and lots of laughs as Bob Morgan and I let the treasures go to the highest bidders. Other clubs were invited for the dinner and auction, and with our guests, in all, about 50 people attended this successful evening.

We are starting up our workshop again in September, gearing up for our fall show, which is once again organized by our own Alice Clarke.

A new family, the Knopps, are working hard to make a family case to enter in the show, which will be held at Sullivan Hall, 6306 - 152nd Street in Surrey, October 20th and 21st. We have a few new members who have joined our club over the summer, besides the Knopp Family, and we are happy to welcome Susan DaSilva and Aurelie Jourdiere to our club.

That's the news from Surrey Club to August 28, 2012.

Summer Camp 2012 Report

by Gerry Rehwald,
Creston Valley Prospectors & Lapidary Club

BCLS Summer Camp 2012 was hosted by the Creston Valley Prospectors and Lapidary Club from August 5 to 11. It was our first experience with Summer Camp and it turned out to be a great fun filled six days. The attendance was close to 90 people and included a number of our members. We enjoyed meeting all the enthusiastic rockhounds from all over B. C. at the various functions in the evenings and sharing their enthusiasm collecting mineral specimens on the field trips.

The first field trip was organized to a pegmatite site close to Creston where specimens of mica, smoky quartz and beryl crystals were collected. On the same day and again later in the week gold panning expeditions on the Goat River were also organized. The second day of field trips took us to the abandoned Bluebell Mine at Riondel BC, where many great specimens of galena, sphalerite, pyrrhotite and other interesting minerals were found.

The third field trip was to a currently inactive mine, the Jersey/Emerald mine near Salmo B C. The ore bodies were mined for lead, zinc, molybdenum and tungsten. Here we were able to collect specimens of galena, sphalerite, molybdenite, scheelite (tungsten ore), fluorite as well as other accessory minerals from a location outside the mine entrance where several tons of ore were dumped when the mine suspended operations in the 1970s. It was a hot, 34 degree Celsius day at an elevation of 4,400 feet on a mountainside, but we enjoyed lunch just outside the mine portal in the shade which was air conditioned by a flow of nice cool air from the portal. The final field trip was to the abandoned St. Eugene Mine at Moyie B C, which was a lead zinc producer about 100 years ago and yielded many good mineral specimens as well.

Evening functions included a meet and greet at the registration, a hot dog and corn roast on Monday, surprise birthday celebration on Tuesday evening, the traditional Hobo Stew dinner prepared under the incomparable supervision of the master chef, Doug Murray, on Wednesday. Thursday evening was awards night with awards going for the Goof of the Week, a rock smashing contest for our younger participants and of course the Ugly Rock contest. The Ugly Rock Contest winner was a newly discovered "mineral" named Viagarite. This mineral displays "a rare penichodal habit, a variable hardness of 1 to

10, discovered by female rockhounds who carefully conducted a hands on analysis of the specimen". The photo explains the reasons for its name. A special award for Chief cook and Expediter was given to Doug Murray for his invaluable help in making the Summer Camp a success. A wine and cheese party on Friday evening wrapped up the week's activities.

On behalf of the Creston Valley Prospectors and Lapidary Club and our organizing committee, thanks for the opportunity to meet and have fun with a great bunch of people.



Corn Roast at the campsite



Doug Murray organizing a field trip



Doug Murray, Hobo Stew chef



Marshmallow toasting time



Eric Kutzner at the wine and cheese bar



Ugly Rock winner, Viagarite



Getting the corn and hot dogs



Jersey Emerald Mine

BEADSMART

*Worldwide Beads & Jewellery Findings
Austrian & Czech Crystal, Japanese Seed Beads
Aquamarine, Pearl, Gem Stones, and Silver*

Unit #116 Parkside Plaza
4800 No. 3 Road
Richmond, B.C.
Canada V6X 3A6

Tel: 604-273-1775
E-mail: info@beadsmart.ca
<http://www.beadsmart.ca>

Rockhouser Puzzler Answer:

Hidden Message: BC Minerals are Beautiful

18th Annual Stone Sculptors Symposium

Or everything you wanted to know about stone sculpture but were afraid to ask...

September 9 – 15 2012
Cowichan Lake Education Centre

Presented by the West Coast Sculpture Association
 info@westcoastsculpture.org
 www.westcoastsculpture.org

Six Day Tuition (includes t-shirt)
 (From dinner on Monday to lunch on Sunday)
 Membership fee \$20.00 + Tuition \$600.00 = \$620.00 CDN/USD
 SAVE \$50 and apply before August 1, 2012
 *After August 1, 2012
 Membership \$20.00 + Tuition \$650.00 = \$ 670.00 CDN/USD


Spousal/Guest Rate (limited conjugal rooms)
 Membership fee \$20.00 once + \$110.00 a day
 Non-registered persons will be charged per meal: Breakfast \$10 Lunch \$10 Dinner \$20
 *No discounts for those bringing their own tent or camper!
 Includes:
 **Lodging and all meals from dinner Sunday to Lunch Saturday.
 ** Complete immersion, daily instruction and mentoring in all phases of stone sculpting using hand and power tools for all levels.
 ** A wide selection of hand and power tools, safety supplies and stone will be available for purchase. Air compressor, electricity and water are provided.
 **Seven days of non-stop fun and creativity
 ***Our 2nd Sculpture Show!!!
 Please bring something to show.
 **Fundraising Auction!!!


Please bring something to offer.
 **Annual General Meeting of the West Coast Sculpture Association
 Thursday September 15th, 2012
 Bring your own: Air and water hoses, electrical cords, rain and sun shelter protection, ground tarp for stone chips, tools and equipment, enthusiasm and creativity.
 Ongoing field demonstrations and evening workshops.
 A detailed list and information package given upon registration

If you have any questions please contact info@westcoastsculpture.org or 250-246-9943.




Canadian Institute of Gemmology
J. Wolf(gang) Kuehn
 B.A., M.A., Dipl. acc., FGA., FGG.
 Director of Education and CEO
 P.O. Box 57010
 Vancouver, BC V5K 5G6
 Tel./Fax (604) 530-8569
 E-mail: wolf@cigem.ca
 www.cigem.ca
Gemlab Research & Technology


Lapis Gems Lapidary LTD
 Precious, Semi-precious Stones
Ammolite
 89 Yorkville Ave., Unit #103, Toronto ON M5R 1B8 CANADA
 Tel: 416-975-0583
 Fax: 416-975-0335
 E-mail: Lapisgems@Rogers.com
 Http://www.lapisgemslapidary.net


SCRIBE
 Trudy Martin 403.287.1570
 martintm@shaw.ca
 110 Lissington Drive SW
 Calgary, Alberta T3E 5E3
SPECIAL CONGRESS REPRESENTING INVOLVED BULLETIN EDITORS

Happy Prospector
 "Rock & Gem Shop"
MORE than Rocks & Gems!
 Featuring Stealthstone Designs ~ Home & Garden Decor
 ~ Beads & Supplies ~ Chainsaw Carvings
 ~ Jewelry & Local Native Artwork
 ~ Geodes, Jade & Crystals
 ~ Gold Panning Supplies
Jody Courtoreille
 Phone: 604-796-3118
 www.happyprospector.ca
 3005 Hot Springs Road, Agassiz, BC ~ V0M 1A1

CANAMIA JEWELRY
 Custom Gem Stones Jewelry
MICHAEL HILL
 Jeweler, Artesano, Maker
 Mike@westcoastwire.com
 250-813-1241
 Inner Harbour
 Victoria, B.C.
 www.canamiamike.com

LAIRD EXPLORATION LTD.
 Mineral Properties
 Exploration Management
James Laird President
604-921-4031
 JamesW.Laird@telus.net
 P.O. Box 672 Lions Bay, BC V0M 2E0

RIVER GEMS
 Rare Fossils
 Jewellery
 Rocks
 Box 2160, 613 12 St., Invermere, BC V0A 1K0
 250-342-0177
 www.rivergems.com

Cilor Minerals
 "Have Saw-Will Travel"
 I buy collections
Lapidary Material, Minerals & Crystals
Bob Morgan
Tel: 604-599-6938

Classified
 Prices quoted are in Canadian funds
For Sale - Kiln
 Centrifugal Casting, Polisher, Display Case, Bench
Contact: Bonita Ruttkay at (604) 275 4825 for price.
 To view photos of equipment visit www.lapidary.bc.ca/classified.html

your **B.C.**
Rockhounder

Send in your interesting stories about club events, up and coming shows or sales, photos, even amusing anecdotes and interesting facts!

**Make the most
of *your* BC
Rockhounder**

Submission Guidelines:

Text: Microsoft Word Document

Article Photos: 300dpi (min) 4" x 6"

Cover Photos: 300dpi (min) 8.5"x 11"

Please contact Katrinia Walter for details.
editor@lapidary.bc.ca

**Advertise
Here**

**Starting at
\$30 per year!**

Business Card	\$30
Eighth-page	\$40
Quarter-page	\$60
Half-page ad	\$120
Full-page ad	\$240
Full-page inside back cover	\$360
Full-page inside front cover	\$400

Advertising fees prorated for partial year.

All ads are black and white, no taxes.

For further information contact:

Katrinia Walter, (604) 614-5702

email: editor@lapidary.bc.ca

Club Members may place a
free *classified* ad in the

**BC
Rockhounder**

C&D GEMCRAFT

Custom Made Gemstone Jewelry & Repairs

David Barclay
Accredited Gemologist (C.I.G.)

Phone/Fax: (250) 766-4353
Email: davebarclay@telus.net

Box 42015, R.P.O.
North Winfield, BC V4V 1Z8