NOTICE BOARD

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, May 24, 2016
6:45 pm start
PROGRAM
Light and Colour Effects
SHOW & TELL
Stones and minerals showing light and colour effects
REFRESHMENT TABLE
If your last name starts with the following letter, then it is your turn to bring a finger food or other type of snack for the refreshment table:
A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K
If possible, please bring your own cup to drink from.

“55 Shades of Turquoise”
A lot of hard work by dedicated volunteers made this year’s annual show successful. It also helped that the Richmond News Friday’s edition had a front page article about our upcoming show. In addition, Lisa hung a club banner outside the Atrium that could be seen from anywhere in the Courtyard.

Lisa will provide us with her report at this month’s General Meeting.

“Doors Open”
June 4 & 5
An opportunity to showcase our club to people who live in Richmond. We will need volunteers to demonstrate several of our activities and talk about our club.

Lapidary Studio
“Renovations to start”
Members have done much of the work required to “Refresh” the Lapidary Studio. Now we wait for the renovations to be completed so we can then complete the necessary work to get us up and going.

For the Lapidary Studio to be usable the lapidary arbors need to be completed, the storage cabinets need to be labeled and tidied up to hold the materials and equipment required for the various activities we do, and we will also need to set-up the soldering stations in both the silversmithing room and lapidary studio.

It is our expectation that all the work will be completed no later than June 30.

Summer Camp
August 2 to 6, 2016
The British Columbia Lapidary Society has decided to return to its roots.

Summer Camp 2016 will be an exploratory event. The purpose of Summer Camp was and is to discover new sites for rockhounding.

Come and join the organizers of Summer Camp at the Lazy Daze Resort located at 714 Ritchie Road
Quesnel BC; www.lazydazeresort.com.
Nearby is Ten Mile Lake Provincial Park.

Organizers:
Robert Brown: 604-794-7296 / opal@shaw.ca
Philip Crewe: 604-526-3045 / paukenmeister@gmail.com

Next Executive Meeting
Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:00 PM
### Executive Positions 2015-2016
- **President**
  Anthony Young
- **Vice-President**
  Adam Kelliher
- **Secretary**
  Jan McRobb
- **Treasurer**
  George Howe
- **Program Chairperson**
  Livia Waterson
- **Show Chairperson**
  Lisa Kew
- **Workshop Chairperson**
  Lui Porc
- **Ways & Means Chairperson**
  Linda Boyce
- **Field Trip Chairperson**
  Harley Waterson
- **Publicity Chairperson**
  Natalie Helmstetter
- **Librarian**
  Kay Eichacker
- **Pebble Press Editor**
  Eugenia Kurganska
- **Social Convenor**
  Bellamy Ho
- **Membership Chairperson**
  Darlene Howe
- **Senior Delegate**
  Sharon Hamelin
- **Past President**
  Bob Gregory

### Non-Executive Positions
- **Contact at Large**
  Darlene Howe
- **Intermediate Delegate**
  Darlene Howe
- **Junior Delegate**
  Arn Hamelin
- **Workshop Assistants**
  George Howe
  Tom Braund
- **Membership Assistant**
  Dorreh Jahanshahi
- **Ways & Means Assistant**
  Joan Turrell

### BC Lapidary Society’s Gem Show Committee
#### Awards Volunteers with Prizes
BC Gem Show Committee awards prizes to volunteers who helped at the Rock, Gem & Mineral Show on April 8, 9, and 10th.

Our club members who volunteered and won prizes are:

- Harley Waterson
- Lisa Kew
- Rene Perillat
- Linda Boyce
- Deb Marshall
- Joan Turrell
- Jerry Hall
- George Howe
- Darlene Howe
- Arn Hamelin
- Sharon Hamelin
- Daniel Suzuki
- Monica Suzuki
- Krista Suzuki
- Michael Suzuki

### BCLS Calendar Photo Contest
Found a great rock? Want to share it with others? Like winning prizes? Then enter the BCLS 2017 Calendar Photo Contest. The contest entry deadline is June 30th, 2016.

Contact Denise Cullen, BCLS Calendar Coordinator at denisecullen@telus.net or 604-944-4842 for further information, or [http://www.bclapidary.com/2017%20Calendar%20Contest.pdf](http://www.bclapidary.com/2017%20Calendar%20Contest.pdf)
Wagonmaster field trip report, May 2016

The following list of field trips are for the spring and summer season of 2016. All club members are invited to attend. Due to insurance reasons, we ask that all field trip attendees be paid-up club members.

Most of the trips are going rain, or shine. Trips are typically 2-3 hours of collecting, and you are welcome to continue hunting. For food, it would be good to bring some snacks such as granola bars, or some hot beverages on cold days. For clothing layer up and bring some rain wear just in case it starts to rain. Hiking boots with ankle support are recommended, do not wear street shoes, runners, and other soft shoes without ankle support or tread for walking on slippery rocks. Don’t forget insect repellent, and sunscreen.

Not covered here are the May Rendezvous, and Summer Camp events, which are covered on the BC Society Web Site at: http://www.bclapidary.com/Rendez.html and http://www.bclapidary.com/camp.html

Upcoming Trips

May 29, 9:00AM Sunday: Slesse Creek Crinoid Fossils. This location is near Chilliwack, and is for collecting of Crinoid fossils in host rock. There is a creek which contains the boulders, so please bring some high rubber boots for walking the creek for samples. Bring something to carry your finds, and perhaps cracking hammer. The road in is paved with some gravel, any car is suitable. The meeting place is the “on the way store” at 46484 Chilliwack lake road http://on-the-way-store.foodpages.ca/?showmap=1

Leader for this trip is Bob Morgan outrockhounding@yahoo.ca

June 5, 9:00AM Sunday: Harrison Lake for Clam and Belemnite fossils. This location is 20+ KM’s up the west side of Harrison Lake with fossil clams, and occasionally Belemnites. This is a scenic trip, and clam fossils are plentiful. Bring a hammer and chisels if you have them to break open larger rocks.

This is some distance of gravel roads, but easily passable by any car with some clearance. Since this is some distance in to the location, it is highly recommended that you have a lunch, and fuel up prior to heading up the logging roads. The meeting spot is the Sasquatch Inn parking lot on highway 7 at Harrison Mills. The Inn is at the turnoff for the Hemlock Valley ski area.

Be there prior to 9:00AM to meet the trip leader, Trevor Christie. Contact info is: bcrockhunter@yahoo.ca 604-794-3668

June 26, Sunday: Sacum Creek. This trip is for collecting agates near Boston Bar. Collecting can be float, or for the eager rockhounds, agates can be broken out of the host basalts. Bring a snack, hammer, and chisels if you are willing to break up some basalt. The roads are decent logging roads, so again any car with reasonable clearance should be fine. Meet the group at 9:00AM at the Boston Bar FasGas station (formerly the Husky) on the main highway.

Trip leader, Trevor Christie. Contact info is: bcrockhunter@yahoo.ca 604-794-3668
May’s birthstone, the emerald, is a type of beryl colored green by chromium. Perfect emeralds are among the rarest of gemstones.

The emerald belongs to the beryl family of minerals that include aquamarine (one of March’s birthstones), heliodor, and morganite. Beryl, or beryllium aluminum silicate in chemical jargon, is a six-sided symmetrical crystal. Beryl contains beryllium, aluminum, silicon, and oxygen.

Emeralds vary in color from light to deep green. It’s commonly thought that an emerald’s color derives from the presence of chromium and/or vanadium replacing some of the aluminum in the mineral’s structure. The stone can, however, lose its color when heated strongly.

Several famous historical artifacts were made of emeralds. Among them is the Crown of the Andes, said to be made from emeralds worn by Atahualpa, the last Inca (king) of Peru. The crown is set with about 450 emeralds, collectively weighing 10 ounces (1523 carats).

Emeralds are most frequently found inside a form of shale—a fine-grained sedimentary rock. Emerald-bearing shale has undergone recrystallization caused by changes in the physical environment such as pressure and temperature. Colombia produces the largest and highest quality emeralds. They were also discovered, and subsequently mined, in the Ural Mountains of Russia around 1830. In the United States, emeralds can be found in North Carolina. Around the world, they also occur in Zambia, Brazil, Pakistan, Norway, Austria, India, Madagascar, and Australia.

Synthetic manufacture of emeralds was achieved by German chemists shortly before World War II. But growing synthetic stones of fine quality began in the United States in 1946. There are also excellent imitation emeralds on the market made of colored cut glass.

The emerald’s name is indirectly derived from the Greek word “smaragdos,” a term applied to several kinds of green stones. The history of emeralds can be traced back to antiquity. They were worn by royalty in Babylon and Egypt. Tools dating back to 1300 B.C., during the reign of Rameses II, have been found in emerald mines in Egypt. Queen Cleopatra’s emeralds were believed to originate from mines in Southern Egypt, near the Red Sea.

When the conquistadors first arrived in South America from Spain, they saw indigenous rulers wearing emeralds. They took large quantities of emeralds from the Peruvians during the invasion, but the source of the emeralds was not discovered. Then in 1537, the Spaniards found Chivor in Colombia, now the location of an important emerald mine. They also took over the Muzo mine following the defeat of the Muzo Indians. Mining operations at Muzo have continued almost uninterrupted since the Spanish invasion. It is perhaps the most famous emerald mine in Colombia and is said to produce the world’s best emeralds.

There are many myths associated with the emerald. The stone was once believed to prevent epilepsy, stop bleeding, cure dysentery and fever, and protect the wearer from panic. Its magnificent green color was said to rest and relieve the eye. To the ancient Romans, emeralds were dedicated to the goddess Venus because the green emerald symbolized the reproductive forces of nature. Early Christians saw it as a symbol of the resurrection of Christ. In the Middle Ages, emeralds were believed to hold the power to foretell the future.
Bench Tip: Use a Split Mandrel for Finishing Round Bezels (source http://www.gia.edu/)

A bench jeweler typically uses a split mandrel to sand and finish the inside of a ring. Various grits of abrasive papers can be cut to size and inserted into the slit of the mandrel, where they are held by friction during the rotary filing process. With minor modification, you can use the split mandrel as a holding device to finish round bezels and other small jewelry components quickly and consistently.

To illustrate this, we will make a bezel for a gemstone measuring 4.5 millimeters round. The bezel will be hand-fabricated from 4 x 1 mm sterling silver flat wire. To determine the length of flat wire required to fabricate the bezel, multiply the gem’s diameter (4.5 mm) by pi (3.14) to find its circumference, which equals 14.13 mm. The bezel is cut from the flat wire, formed, soldered, then rounded and trued. The truing step, typically accomplished with a ball- or setting-style bur, is critical to rounding the inside of the bezel.

You will need to make a minor modification to the split mandrel to fit and hold the bezel for this use. Calipers, dividers and an equaling file will be required. The outside diameter of the split mandrel measures 5.5 mm and the inside diameter of the hand-fabricated bezel measures 3.5 mm, so the split mandrel must be filed down.

With the mandrel secured in the hand piece, brace it and start spinning the flexible shaft at a moderate speed. Place the equaling file flat against the mandrel shaft about 3.0 mm from the top of the tool and apply adequate pressure to begin filing down the mandrel shaft. Continue filing until the shaft diameter is reduced to 3.8 mm.

Next, squeeze the upper shaft of the split mandrel and place the bezel on it so it extends about 0.5 to 1.0 mm above the top of the tool. This makes it possible to sand the top of the bezel, too. The bezel will be held firmly in place by the tension of the split mandrel throughout the remaining steps in the finishing process.

The flexible shaft can be spun at moderate speed, and a variety of abrasives can be placed against it to smooth and polish. This technique also gives you greater hand-eye control to apply the surface finish on small areas.

A modified mandrel gives you a dual-purpose tool for sanding or cleaning up bezels and other small parts. The next installment of the GIA Insider will present a stone-setting application using a different modification of the split mandrel.
Minutes of the April 26, 2016 General Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:59 pm by Anthony Young
Welcome to new members

Minutes:
Chair moved to accept minutes as posted in Pebble Press. Seconded by: Livia Waterson. Motion passed.

Correspondence:
None

Vice-President’s Report:
None

Treasurer’s Report:
As of March 19, 2016:
- Revenue: $7,378.49
- Expenses: $7,074.23
- Balance: $304.26

Program Report:
- Video on small agates.
- Show and Tell: Mineral Specimens / Micromounts
- Next month: Light and Colour Effects

Show Chairperson’s Report:
- Need volunteers for the show. Sign up sheets on table.
- Thanks to the people who helped with the prizes, etc., and those who helped with the publicity and the organization.
- Have one more case. Adam will set this up.

Workshop:
- Contractors were seen in the room.
- City has approved the compromises that our club made. Lapidary arbors will now use a water drip system, there will be a key switch to operate the power to our equipment, and the saws will be placed into a cabinet with a locking door
- We will have a new Library Cabinet, therefore new members can enjoy a refreshment while looking through the club’s resource material.
- We hope to have some more open workshops for our members to partake in.
- Eric is looking forward to the reopening and expresses that people have done a fantastic job.

Ways & Means:
Linda B: Pretty good table tonight.

Field Trip Report:
- Harley: Next field trip event is Rendezvous in Hope on the 3rd weekend in May.
- See BCLS’s website for other scheduled field trips

Publicity Report:
Natalie: Website is online for show. Probably get a feature in the Richmond News this Friday. Vancouver papers, including Georgia Strait will hopefully go in print version. Reporter here on Wednesday morning at 9:15 am, would like members to attend.

Librarian Report:
No report

Pebble Press:
- Eugenia; Pebble Press is out
- If you are not getting an email copy of the Pebble Press contact Darlene Howe at darhowe@shaw.ca

Social Convenor:
Bellamy: Lots of good stuff on table.

Membership:
Remember to sign in.

Senior Delegate Report:
- Sharon: The April show was a success. Dealers were pleased. Our club had 16 volunteer prizes.
- Meeting in Victoria: The cost of Directories will increase from $3.50 to $5.00. 2017 Calendar pictures contest deadline is June 30th. Would like donations so that winners will get a prize.

Art Council Report
No Report.

President’s Report:
No Report.

Old Business:
None

New Business:
- Richmond Nature Park presentation is on Sunday, November 13. Will need volunteers.
- Doors Open, June 4 & 5, an opportunity to showcase our club. Volunteers will be needed.
- Maritime Festival should be in August.

Show & Tell:
A digital microscope and a binocular Microscope were set up for members to look at various mineral specimens.

Next Executive Meeting:
Tuesday, May 17

Next General Meeting:
Tuesday, May 24

Meeting Adjourned at 7:38 PM.