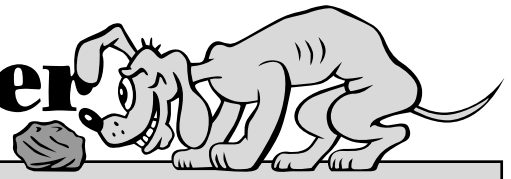
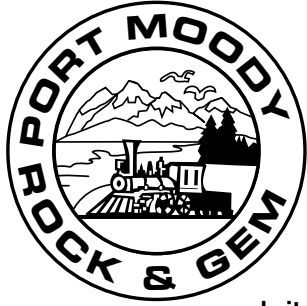


# Port Moody Rock & Gem Newsletter



March 2006

Editor: Rose Kapp (roszay@shaw.ca)



website:

[www.portmoodyrockclub.com](http://www.portmoodyrockclub.com)

**President:** Andrew Danneffel  
**Vice President:** Warren Edwards  
**Past President:** Drew Rekunyk  
**Secretary:** Shirley Edwards  
**Treasurer:** Chandra Collett  
**Membership:** Sonja Stubbings  
**Workshop:** Cecil Smith, Andrew Danneffel, Bill McCracken, Ken Ayres, Geoff Cameron, Warren Edwards  
**Newsletter:** Rose Kapp  
**Society Delegates:** Gary Richards (Sr.)  
Drew/Diane Rekunyk (Int)  
Ken Ayres (Jr)

### Club Mailing Address:

Port Moody Rock & Gem  
c/o Kyle Centre, 125 Kyle St.  
Port Moody, BC V3H 2N6

### General Meetings:

Last Thursday of each month  
(except June, July, Aug, Dec)  
7:30 PM, Arts Centre,  
St. Johns St., Port Moody

### Next Meetings:

March 30, 2006  
April 27, 2006

### interesting websites

[www.lapidary.bc.ca](http://www.lapidary.bc.ca) (BC Society)  
[www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com)  
(Rock & Gem Magazine)  
[mineral.galleries.com](http://mineral.galleries.com)  
[www.palagems.com](http://www.palagems.com)  
[www.gemsociety.com](http://www.gemsociety.com)

No matter how old a  
mother is, she watches  
her middle-aged  
children for signs  
of improvement.  
Florida Scott-Maxwell

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

February 23, 2006

- Introduction of new member: Dorothy Louie
- Library and History – Rose is putting older material into binders and wants to know if the club should sell off some of the real old magazines.
- Workshop – The workshop has been painted which meant the shop was closed for a week.
  - The new bulletin board should be up by tomorrow.
  - The floor may be painted this or next year.
  - The 14" slab saw is out of service, but work is being done on it.
- Silversmithing Report by Ken Ayres: Discussion on whether or not it was feasible to purchase silversmithing kit(s) for the workshop. There was talk about doing a joint venture with other clubs, trading off with courses or abilities.
- There are sign-up sheets for silversmithing, wire wrapping and rock identification.
- Shows & Special Projects
  - The Arts Centre is offering the club the use of the large display for the Arts Festival. Title is to be "Rock Solid" and the display will be from March 30 to April 30. Display material must be delivered by March 27th. Opening reception on March 30 from 6-8 PM which coincides with our March meeting. If one is interested, come early for the reception and stay for the meeting.
- Society - Rendezvous will be held near Kamloops, Summer Camp, on Vancouver Island. Check the internet for details.
- Old Business
  - Rose brought the new business cards and will place them in the workshop.
  - We have reserved 3 show cases for the Society show.
  - There was a number of votes for minor changes to the By-Laws, Constitution, Application Form, Promotional Booklet, and the creation of a Workshop & Regulations document.

*submitted by Rose, acting secretary*

## Sunshine



Those were the days, eh Grandpa?

## ROCK NEWS



**The 2006 BC GEM SHOW  
"A WORLD of CRYSTALS"**  
March 31st, April 1 & 2nd

**Fri: 10am - 8pm, Sat. & Sun: 10am - 6pm**

Ag-Rec Building, Central Fraser Valley Fairgrounds,  
32470 - Haida Drive, Abbotsford, B.C.

Admission: Adults - \$6.00, Students (6 - 17) - \$2.00,  
Under 6 (accompanied by an adult) - Free

*For more info, check Upcoming Events, back page*

## Lemon Quartz ?



*image from Michael Hill  
Jeweller catalogue*

Step aside citrine, there's a new yellow stone in the market. The Michael Hill Jeweller catalogue boasts of a knuckle buster cocktail ring with a huge lemon quartz. *Lemon quartz?* I searched the internet including a number of coloured gemstone sites and found nothing except an article that guesses it might be a glamorous trade name for a pale yellow quartz, citrine or possibly a synthetic. So I phoned the local Michael Hill store and talked to the amiable manager. He informed me that it is a heat-treated quartz. Not a citrine and not a synthetic stone. Definitely beautiful.

In the world of jewellery retailers, there is a constant effort for showing what's new and unusual. Colour enhancing of various methods are constantly used to create near-perfect stones for the general public. There is always the habit of re-naming a stone to give it a certain "cache". Remember the "commercial" names of Smoky Topaz (smoky quartz), Black Alaska Diamond (hematite) or Madeira Topaz (citrine)?

I'm always on the look-out for the new and unusual to inform my readers. But I also want to make sure we are not being hood-winked.

*Rose K.*

**"Rock Solid", display from the Port Moody**

**Port Moody  
Festival of the Arts**



March 31 to April 9, 2006

**Rock & Gem Club at the Port Moody Arts Centre Club. Opens March 30, 6 to 8 pm, meet the artists on opening night, refreshments served, Continues to April 30. Gallery Hours: Mon - Thur 10 am to 8 pm, Fri and Sat 10 am to 5 pm, Sun 12 am to 4 pm.**

## Rock of the Month

# Aquamarine

clear - modern - fresh

The blue of aquamarine is a divine, eternal colour, because it is the colour of the sky. However, aquamarine blue is also the colour of water with its life-giving force. And aquamarine really does seem to have captured the lucid blue of the oceans. No wonder, when you consider that according to the saga it originated in the treasure chest of fabulous mermaids, and has, since ancient times, been regarded as the sailors' lucky stone. Its name is derived from the Latin aqua (water) and mare (sea). It is said that its strengths are developed to their best advantage when it is placed in water which is bathed in sunlight. However, it is surely better still to wear aquamarine, since according to the old traditions this promises a happy marriage and is said to bring the woman who wears it joy and wealth into the bargain.



photo: International Colored Gemstone Association



Aquamarine on Calcite from Skardu, Baltistan, Pakistan, photo by Cliff Veermont [vermont@doim6.monmouth.ar.my.ml](mailto:vermont@doim6.monmouth.ar.my.ml) (winner, 2nd place, Specimen image contest, Bob's Rock Shop)

Aquamarine is almost as popular as the classics: ruby, sapphire and emerald. In fact it is related to the emerald, both belonging to the beryl family yet is almost entirely free of inclusions. Aquamarine has good hardness (7 to 8 on the Mohs scale) and a wonderful shine. That hardness makes it very tough and protects it to a large extent from scratches. Iron is the substance which gives aquamarine its colour, a colour which ranges from an almost indiscernible pale blue to a strong sea-blue. The more intense the colour, the more value is put on it. Some aquamarines have a light, greenish shimmer; that too is a typical feature. However, it is a pure, clear blue that continues to epitomise the aquamarine, because it brings out so well the immaculate transparency and magnificent shine of this gemstone.

### Brazilian Beauties

The various colour nuances of aquamarine have melodious names: the rare, intense blue aquamarines from the Santa Maria de Itabira mine in Brazil are called 'Santa Maria'. Similar nuances come from a few gemstone mines in Africa, particularly Mozambique. To help distinguish them from the Brazilian ones, these aquamarines have been given the name 'Santa Maria Africana'. The 'Espirito Santo' colour of aquamarines from the Brazilian state of that name is of a blue that is not quite so intense. One beautiful aquamarine colour was named after the Brazilian beauty queen of 1954, and has the name 'Martha Rocha'.

Most of the raw crystals for the world market come from the gemstone mines of Brazil. Occasionally, sensationally large aquamarine crystals come to light, such as the crystal of 110.5 Kg found in 1910 in Marambaia/Minas Gerais, or for example the 'Dom Pedro', weighing 26 Kg and cut in Idar-Oberstein in 1992 by the gemstone designer Bernd Munsteiner, the largest aquamarine ever to have been cut. However, aquamarines are also found in other countries, for example Nigeria, Zambia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

### Favourite stone of modern designers

There is hardly any other gemstone in modern jewellery design which is refined in such a variety of ways as aquamarine. Whether it is fashioned as a clear, transparent gem in the classical step cut, or creatively cut in a more modern design, it is always fascinatingly beautiful. Uncut too, or with many inclusions which can be brought into play by the designer in the way in which the stone is cut, it can be refined to produce the most beautiful creations. Designers call it their favourite gemstone. Again and again they take the world by surprise with a new, modern artistic cut, and when they are breaking new ground, aquamarine is a gem that they particularly like to work with. Without doubt, these creative designer cuts have contributed to the great popularity of this gem.

taken from: International Colored Gemstone Association web site: [www.gemstone.org](http://www.gemstone.org)

### Rockhound Dictionary

Diamond: The hardest stone known to man to get back from his old girlfriend.  
 Dust: What kids substitute for mud when it doesn't rain.  
 Faceting: A complex way to ruin a good jewel.  
 Field Trip: 1. An impossible trek to an inaccessible place for non-existent minerals. 2. When you fall down outside.  
 Filing Cabinet: system for losing things alphabetical.  
 Findings: stuff you find

### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**MON.** Lapidary 8:30 AM - 12 noon  
**TUES.** Lapidary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
**WED.** Faceting 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
**THURS.** Lapidary 8:30 AM - 12 noon

For faceting, contact Bill McCracken at 604-469-1726

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ROCK SHOW

HASTINGS CENTRE  
 ROCKHOUDS

March 18 & 19, 2006  
 "Annual Show"

Saturday 12am-6pm  
 Sunday 10am-5:00pm  
 Hastings Community Centre  
 3096 Hastings St.E,  
 Vancouver, B.C.

For more information contact:  
 Diane Bowman  
[yalakomite@hotmail.com](mailto:yalakomite@hotmail.com)

### ROCK SHOW

A WORLD of CRYSTALS

The 2006 BC GEM SHOW

March 31st, April 1 & 2nd

Friday: 10am - 8pm  
 Sat. & Sun.: 10am - 6pm  
 Ag-Rec Building, Central  
 Fraser Valley Fairgrounds,  
 32470 - Haida Dr., Abbotsford  
 Adults - \$6.00, Students (6 -  
 17) - \$2.00, Under 6 (accomp.  
 by an adult) - Free

Displays of gemstones,  
 crystals and minerals,  
 hand-crafted jewellery and  
 silversmithing.  
 Demonstrations of lapidary,  
 sculpting, faceting,  
 silversmithing, flint knapping,  
 wire wrapping, enamelling and  
 gold panning. Over 30 dealers.

### FIELD TRIP

HARRISON FOSSILS  
 APRIL 23, 2006

Leader: Cam Bacon,  
 Abbotsford Club  
 Meeting place: Sasquatch Inn  
 on Hwy #7.

This location has been a popular spot for clam fossils, and belemnite fossils. The clams are fairly easy to pick up, however the belemnites usually require some hammer & chisel work. This trip is 20Km on a logging road. Fill up with gas and bring a lunch.  
 Contact: Cam Bacon,  
 604-854-1711

For more info, check Society web page: [www.lapidary.bc.ca](http://www.lapidary.bc.ca)