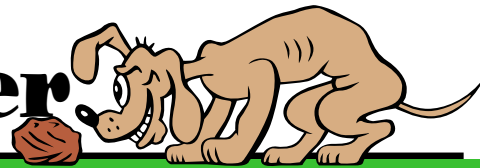


# Port Moody Rock & Gem Newsletter



April/May 2008

Editor: Rose Kapp (roszay@shaw.ca)

## Rock News

### Who's buying Burma's gems?

By Danna Harman | Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor from the March 11, 2008 edition



Tainted jade? A Burmese worker washes jade prior to an auction. The precious stone now accounts for 10 percent of export earnings. *Khin Maung/Win/AFP/Getty Images*

China, India, Singapore, and Thailand are scooping up Burma's stones. US first lady Laura Bush's efforts at a global boycott of Burma's gems seem to have done little to reduce China's appetite for Burmese jade to make trinkets and souvenirs to sell at the Summer Olympics.

Mrs. Bush – and human rights campaigners – would not be pleased. The first lady has taken on the military regime in Burma (Myanmar), urging jewelers not to buy gems from a country where the undemocratic rulers and their cronies amass fortunes selling off the country's stones, as well as many of the county's other natural resources – such as minerals, timber, gold, oil, and gas – but keep Burma's citizens in abject poverty.

"Consumers throughout the world should consider the implications of their purchase of Burmese gems," she said in a statement from the White House. "Every Burmese stone bought, cut, polished, and sold sustains an illegitimate, repressive regime."

And, while gems are clearly a part of the problem, stresses, they are only the very tip of the iceberg. The role of gems is not huge ... compared with oil and gas, and opium smuggling. Overall, China, Thailand, and India reportedly spend about \$2 billion a year here on electricity, natural gas, oil and timber.

### RENDEZVOUS '08' POT LUCK DINNER

When: Friday May 16 2008  
Time: 6:30 P.M.

Where: Art Holding Memorial Arena  
Please bring: Food to share with others,  
Your own Plate, Cutlery & Coffee Mug  
Coffee and Tea will be provided

For more information contact:  
Fran Brooks 250-546-0177

Or Email Fran at: [fbrooks@sunwave.net](mailto:fbrooks@sunwave.net)  
*Come and enjoy.*

### Marg Flanagan Reports on Rendezvous



"Rendezvous" is held somewhere in BC during the May long weekend each year. The event features fieldtrips, rock auctions, raffles, a catered dinner and pancake breakfast. Participants are also invited to display their collections and

demonstrate their skills. This year Rendezvous will be taking place in Chase from May 16th through May 19th. The "host club" (Shuswap Rock Club this year) helps organize a meeting place for the event, usually in a hall. This year the meeting place is the Art Holding Memorial Arena on 320 Shepard Road in Chase. Visit the hall on Friday to learn about the fieldtrips taking place on Saturday and Sunday. Fieldtrip participants place a coloured ribbon on the antenna of their car and line up behind the designated leader. Remember to purchase tickets for the catered dinner on Sunday night. Sunday night also features the Annual General Meeting of the BC Lapidary Society. Delegates from member clubs attend this meeting and vote on behalf of their respective club's members. Delegates also collect information and return to their respective club with a report.

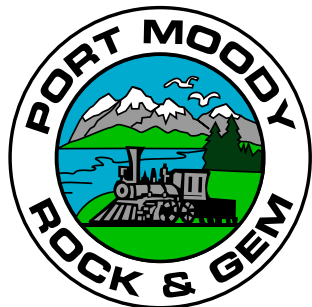
Les and I have attended many years as have fellow club members Neil Schnee and Ken Ayres. Rendezvous is certainly worthwhile – several hundred fellow rockhounds from all over the province join in the fun. If you plan on attending you should check out the local campsites and accommodations soon. Also remember to bring your society membership card. For more information, see <http://lapidary.bc.ca/rendez.html>.

### Sunshine



Experts through the ages.

[www.nearingzero.net](http://www.nearingzero.net)



website:

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

**President:** Andrew Danneffel

**Vice President:** Warren Edwards

**Past President:** Drew Rekunyk

**Secretary:** Chris Laurin

**Treasurer:** Marlene Flanagan

**Membership:** Sonja Stubbings

**Workshop:** Andrew Danneffel,

Bill McCracken, Geoff Cameron,

Shirley & Warren Edwards

Richard Wile, Tom Schlegel

**Newsletter:** Rose Kapp

**Society Delegates:**

Gary Richards (Sr.)

Drew/Diane Rekunyk (Int.)

Lisa Elser (Jr.)

**Next General Meetings:**

Wed., April 23, 7:00

Wed., May 28, 7:30

Arts Centre,

St. Johns St., Port Moody

**BC Society Website:**

[www.lapidary.bc.ca](http://www.lapidary.bc.ca)

"I am ready to meet my  
Maker. Whether my  
Maker is prepared for the  
ordeal of meeting me is  
another matter."

Winston Churchill

## Club Events and Photos

March and April was a very busy yet productive time for our club. The kaleidoscope and larimar cases were back at the big Abbotsford show for one last viewing. Thanks to Rose, Geoff, Lisa and Tanya for assisting with the setup and take down of the display cases. The kaleidoscope display did generate much attention.

On Sunday our club's workshop was opened to the public as part of Art 4 U Day, one of many events that make up the Port Moody Festival of the Arts. Upwards of 80 people visited the workshop, asked questions, and tried their hand at some cabochon cutting. Most participating were young families; kids put on an apron and a pair of glasses and worked with their parents on polishing a stone. It was a very busy but positive afternoon as everyone left with a small treasure and exposure to the world of lapidary arts. I suspect our club will gain a few new members as a result of this event.

Thanks to Emma, Christine and Tanya for helping answer questions and supervising our visitors. An additional thank you to Emma and Tom for preparing dop sticks and material for the event.

We are pleased to formally announce, "Rock my World, The Personal Stories behind the Stones" as the theme of our 2008 rock & gem show which will be taking place in October. Our promotional material has been finalized and will be distributed at shows and events starting with the BCLS show in Abbotsford in April.

- The promotional poster:  
<http://www.portmoodyrockclub.com/rockmyworld.pdf>
- The quarter page handouts:  
<http://www.portmoodyrockclub.com/quarterpage.pdf>
- While the club will make handouts available we welcome club members to print out and issue the handouts to friends and family.

The main showcases this year will not only display our members' favourite stones, but also their stories. We ask all members to go through their collection and choose a stone related item for the case. Along with the stone we ask you to provide a brief summary as to why the stone you chose is your favourite and any interesting facts or stories behind the item. We are also considering including photos of members holding their item of choice; a time and place of a photo shoot will be announced later in the year.

Thanks to everyone who contributed ideas for the theme and of course to our resident designer Rose Kapp for her fine work.

*Andrew*

Port Moody Rock & Gem's 2008 Annual Show presents

# Rock<sub>my</sub>World

The Personal Stories behind the Stones



Featuring the tales of rockhunting and the hobby



**Silver Casting with Walt Pinder**



**Port Moody Arts Connect with Diane in the sunshine**



**Port Moody Art4 U Day**

## Meeting Highlights

February 28, 2008

• G.M.F.C. fees going up by \$0.90 per family to cover rise in insurance costs. • GMFC scholarship applications have arrived. There will be at least 3 available this year and they are open to the child or grandchild of a G.M.F.C. member. For details on requirements and for forms, contact the secretary.

**Workshop:** All machines in the workshop are currently in working order. • Workshop session attendance has been off a bit in February. • A policy is needed for borrowing shop equipment, books and magazines, and hand faceting kits. • We would like to establish a comprehensive shop plan over the next few months, but we need input from the membership. What we need from you is your ideas on shop improvements, activities you would like to see in the shop, or training you require – please talk to Tom or Andrew or email your suggestions to Tom at ctschlegel@shaw.ca

Some things to think about:

1. Suggestions on equipment upgrades or repairs to existing equipment that would improve your use of the shop. Already suggested are additional 600, 1200, and 3000 grit wheels.
2. Suggestions or information on new equipment that you would like to see added to the shop that would allow you to do something new. Already suggested have been: a) new concave grinding wheels to do concave –edged cabs; b) diamond flex-shaft burs to do carved cabs.

3. Suggestions on new activities that you would like to see undertaken in the shop. Already suggested have been a) silversmithing (Warren is actively investigating this), b) carving, c) jewelry making, d) gemstone setting, and e) machine faceting.

4. Suggestions on training or demonstration of techniques that you would like to have offered. Already suggest has been a) basic silversmithing (Warren is actively investigating this.)

**Faceting:** Kyle Centre will be closing earlier, so the Wednesday evening faceting workshop will end at 8:30pm.

**Special Workshops:** The special silver-casting



workshop by Walt Pinder at the Maple Ridge club was very successful. Twelve people attended and Walt patiently took us through the process of casting silver.

- A wirewrapping workshop will be coming up.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

*Chris Laurin, Secretary*

Please Note: Full meeting minutes are available in the club workshop binder and online (members only)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CALGARY ROCK & LAPIDARY CLUB

May 3 & 4, 2008

#### 48th Rock & Gem Show

Sat. 9 am-6 pm, Sun. 10am-5pm

West Hillhurst Arena

1940 6th Ave. NW, Calgary AB,

For more information contact

Wayne: 403-278-5154

Email: waylynn@telusplanet.net

Visit the club web page:

[www.crlc.ca/crlcshow.htm](http://www.crlc.ca/crlcshow.htm)

### COURTENAY GEM & MINERAL CLUB May 3 & 4, 2008

#### Annual Rock & Gem Show

Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm

Royal Cdn. Legion, Courtenay

Branch #17, 367 Cliffe Avenue

Courtenay. Upstairs Hall from

the parking lot

Displays, Dealers, Demonstrators,

Food & Beverages, Kids Craft table,

Hourly door prizes & silent auction

Admission: \$2.00, kids under 12

free accompanied by an adult

For more information contact Jan

Boyes, 250-337-8461,

Email: janboyes@telus.net

### RENDEZVOUS "08"

will be held at the Art Holding Memorial

Arena, 320 Shepard Road,

Chase, BC, May 16 - 19, 2008.

Hosted by the Shuswap Rock Club

*Planned activities:*

**Late Fri:** Registration, setting up

of display cases **Sat:** Field trips,

Rock Auction at 7:00PM **Sun:** Field

trips, Bucket Raffle at 4:00PM.

6 pm - Catered Dinner. Annual

General Meeting will be held after

the dinner

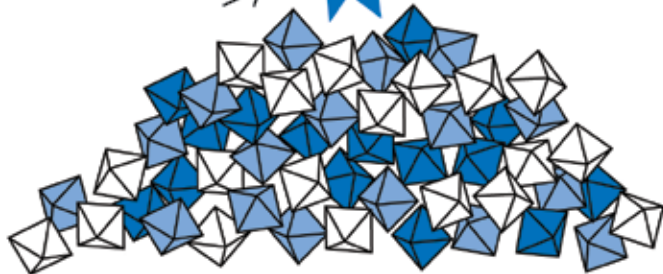
**Mon AM:** Pancake breakfast

For more information, check the

society web site:

[www.lapidary.bc.ca/gemshow](http://www.lapidary.bc.ca/gemshow)

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### S&S Studio

7-3130 St. Johns St., Port Moody

Phone: 604-469-3327

Greetings from S & S Studio! We

are pleased to advise that Mother's

Day Sale will be held from Sat.,

April 12th to Mon., May 12th.

All semi-precious stones, pearls,

shells and hematines as well as

artisan jewelry crafted in sterling

silver or 14 K-gold filled will be on

sale at 20% off the retail price.

*Suat, Cheryl & Maggie*

### Goody Schedule

After every general meeting there is a round of treats and coffee. Here's a reminder who's next on the list of supplying goodies.

April • Chris Laurin

May • Sonja

### Workshop Schedule

**MON** Lapidary 8:30 AM - 12 noon

**TUES** Lapidary 7:00 PM - 9:45 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

