



The 2010 Annual Show Review



Having a good time.

We let everyone in onto the Secret Life of Stones

The room is cleared and all the showcases packed. Another annual show has come and gone. So much planning, then 2 exciting days. Attendance was down this year, but that didn't mean the show wasn't a success. The many rooms were busy the whole time, transactions took place and people went away with a new, positive attitude towards the Secret Life of Stones.

A big hand to all the members and family that volunteered their time in set-up, take-down, kitchen, manning the entrance and different booths and areas. And don't forget the hours and hours of pre-planning and creating the many prizes. Thanks to Lisete

continued on page 3



And we have a winner!



Getting in a good bid in at the Silent Auction.



Rock-schmoosing. Mr Tierany and Andrew Daneffel.



Crystals and minerals and fossils, oh my!



Hot stuff! Glass bead demonstration.

Port Moody Rock & Gem Club Quarterly News
The Planet Earth Post

www.portmoodyrockclub.com

The Planet Earth Post is published 4 times per year by the Port Moody Rock & Gem Club.

President: Lisa Elser

Vice president: Lisete Cerqueira

Secretary: Edit Simon

Treasurer: Marlene Flanagan

Membership: Sonja Stubbings

Workshop: Geoff Cameron, Andrew Danneffel, Shirley Edwards, Bill McCracken, Tom Schlegel, Richard Wile

Newsletter: Rose Kapp

Society Delegates: Gary Richards (Sr.),

Lisa Elser (Int.), Ken Ayres (Jr.)

Workshop Schedule September to June. Please check with the Kyle Centre for other months.

Monday: Lapidary 8:30 am - 12 noon

Tuesday: Lapidary 7:00 pm - 9:45 pm

Thursday: Lapidary 8:30 am - 12 noon

General Meetings are held in the Arts Centre on St. Johns St., Port Moody, at 7 PM.

For Field Trips, Rock Shows and special events in British Columbia, please check the BC Society website: www.lapidary.bc.ca

Planet Earth Post Advertising

The Planet Earth Post is accepting advertising. The quarterly publication of the Port Moody Rock and Gem Club contains articles about club activities, lapidary news and tips, geological and other earth science articles.

Our full colour newsletter is available online through the club website. We have over 250 people on our contact list.

Edition and Distribution Dates:

Winter - early January

Spring - late March (Society Show edition)

Summer - early July

Fall - early October (PMRC Show edition)

Contact Rose Kapp (editor) if you wish to receive a rate card or to place an ad.
ph: 604-941-3023 • email: roszay@shaw.ca

2010-11 Club Membership

Membership fees for the term of September 1, 2010 - August 30, 2011 are due. Single membership is \$25. Family memberships are \$45 (for an immediate family of up to two adults). For family memberships including more than two adults, additional adults will need to pay the \$25 individual rate.

Membership fees can be submitted at our next general meeting, workshop or mailed to the club at: Port Moody Rock & Gem Club, c/o Kyle Centre, 125 Kyle St., Port Moody, BC, V3H 2N6

Editor's Notes

Ah, a new year and a new edition of the Planet Earth Post. This edition has the wrap-up of the annual show with lots of photos courtesy of Tom.

The club hasn't had a meeting since October because of November's storm and December's potluck, so we have quite a bit to cover at January's meeting. Like getting our executive voted in and getting a show chair selected. Step up and help us keep our club strong and invigorated. New blood and ideas are always welcome.

Oh, and let's not forget figuring out a show theme for the 2011 show. We need everyone's brains on this one. Some ideas have been tossed about already but nothing has really stood out.

The workshop has reopened after the holidays and there's quite a bit of activity. I'm starting to slab some of my dad's stuff as well as chunks that have been already mounted. All the petrified limbcasts have been polished - so thanks to all who helped with this task.

Smile Time

**Earthquakes, here on the east coast?
Impossible. They can't happen here -
They've never happened here!**



I was planning to put in an article about glues and adhesives, but ran out of space. This will be an on-going discussion of what you have found what works (and doesn't work) for you, so if you found a wonderful product or a dreadful waste of money, please share.

And if you haven't, don't forget to pay your club membership - see bottom left hand side of this page.

On a sad note, June McCracken, an honorary life member of our club, and wife of our Faceting instructor Bill McCracken, recently passed away.

MCCRACKEN, June Bernice Born in Melville, Sask., on June 9, 1924, educated in Saskatoon and Edmonton; she worked for the CNR in Winnipeg from 1943 to 1946 when she moved to Port Moody, B.C. to marry William McCracken on May 27, 1946. June lived her entire married life, 64 years on Dowding Road. June is survived by her husband William McCracken, children Scott (Keri), Laurel Gregoire (Bill), her Grandchildren Kelly, Tannis and Dana, her great-granddaughter Jayda and many dear friends. No service by request, in lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to Ioco United Church, 1790 Ioco Road, Port Moody, B.C. V3H 3S8. June was loved by all who knew her.

Our hearts go out to Bill.

Rose Kapp, editor ■

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Les & Perry man the entrance.



Plenty for the kids to do at the Rock Smash (above) and Kid's Corner (below)



- 1) The relaxing lounge in the Display Room.
- 2) The Rock Auction is always popular.
- 3) The new Club Boutique where various club and member's items are for sale.
- 4 & 5) Overviews of the main room

for being an excellent show chair.

Now we have to start planning for the next show. We need a theme and fresh ideas to make it a wonderful, enticing event for fellow rockhounds and the general public. Like usual, lots to do to make it another success!

A big thanks to Tom for supplying these great photos.



Inspiration comes easy at S&S Studio with their large selection of beading supplies. They are an importer of premium gemstones, pearls and glass beads with a large selection of 14K gold-filled, 925 silver, 925 argentiun, copper, brass and stainless steel findings, chains and wires. Also available are Softflex, Swarovski, leather cords, tools, books, jewelry displays, packaging and much more. Beading supplies and artisan jewelry are available retail and wholesale. The front of the store has a fine selection of Canadian made artisan jewelry and if inspiration captures you, they have a number of jewelry classes to help you create something beautiful.

Discount for rock club & lapidary members.

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Opal on Mars - Evidence of Water

A Nasa space probe has discovered a new category of minerals spread across large regions of Mars.

The find suggests liquid water remained on Mars' surface a billion years later than scientists had previously thought.

The US Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) spacecraft found evidence of hydrated silica, better known as opal. The discovery adds to the growing body of evidence that water played a crucial role in shaping the Martian landscape and - possibly - in sustaining life. Hydrated, or water-containing, minerals are telltale signs of when and where water was present on ancient Mars.

Researchers made the discovery using the Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer (CRISM) instrument on MRO. The \$720m (£449m; 565m euro) MRO robotic probe reached the Red Planet in 2006; its objectives are to study Mars' geology, climate and atmosphere from orbit, as well as to search for signs of water. Details of the latest findings appear in the November issue of the academic journal *Geology*.

The minerals were recently found at Gusev Crater on Mars by the Spirit rover. This study reveals that they are widespread and occur in relatively young terrains.

"This is an exciting discovery because it extends the time range for liquid water on Mars, and the places where it might have supported life," said Scott Murchie, from Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in

Maryland.

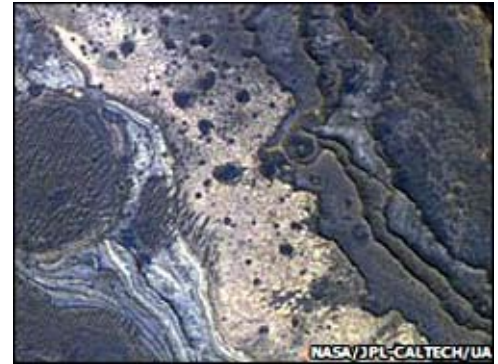
Dr Murchie, who is chief scientist on the CRISM team, added: "The identification of opaline silica tells us that water may have existed as recently as two billion years ago."

CRISM works by "reading" over 500 colours in reflected sunlight to detect particular minerals on the Martian surface - including those that formed in the presence of water. Until now, only two major groups of hydrated minerals, phyllosilicates and hydrated sulfates, had been observed by spacecraft orbiting Mars.

Clay-like phyllosilicates formed more than three-and-a-half billion years ago where igneous rock came into long-term contact with water. During the next several hundred million years, until about three billion years ago, hydrated sulfates formed from the evaporation of salty and sometimes acidic water.

The newly discovered "opaline silicates" are the youngest of the three types of hydrated minerals. They formed where liquid water altered materials created by volcanic activity or meteorite impacts on Mars' surface. One such location is the large Martian canyon system known as Valles Marineris.

"We see numerous outcrops of opal-like minerals, commonly in thin layers extending for very long distances around the rim of Valles Marineris and sometimes within the



MRO revealed rocks containing a mineral similar to opal

canyon system itself," said Ralph Milliken of Nasa's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California.

This suggests the acidic water remained on the Martian surface for an extended period of time. Dr Milliken and his colleagues think that in these areas, low-temperature acidic water was involved in forming the opal.

"What's important is that the longer liquid water existed on Mars, the longer the window during which Mars may have supported life," said Ralph Milliken.

Nasa is due to send a robotic rover, Mars Science Laboratory (MSL), to the planet in 2009 to look for signs of past or present life. The European Space Agency (Esa) also plans to send a rover to investigate Mars' habitability. This mission, called ExoMars, is now scheduled to launch in 2016.

Thanks to Bo for alerting me about this article. - editor



Yosemite Falls with ice mist and sno-cone

Yosemite's Frazil Ice Bizarre ice in California Nature's slushie and sno-cone

It is hard to imagine that Yosemite is only 60 miles from Fresno -- where it never ever snows and rarely gets below 32 F in the dead of winter.

This is an incredible video! It only happens in March and April. Creeks come to a complete stop and start up again someplace else. It's like a lava flow. At first might not think this is weird, but watch the whole video to discover why this is unique. It gives you a new perspective on to our amazing world.

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=9V9p4mFEYXc&vq=medium#t

A tip of the hat to Ken Ayres on forwarding this to me. - editor



<http://lifeinyosemite.com/frazil-ice-in-yosemite-creek-1197>

A Few Tanzania Moments

photos and story by Lisa and Tom

- Editor's note: Check page 7 for more exciting news on Tom and Lisa

We had an amazing trip. The rough should arrive right around when we do. I bought extraordinary Grossular Garnets from a new find that's already finished producing. Paler than Tsavorite, but without the yellowish tones that are typical in Grossular. It was just luck that I was there at the right time.



I should be holding a rough sale with some of the stones in January, and will begin getting cut stones underway over the holidays!

The safari part of the trip was perfect. Tons of birds, animals and gorgeous scenery.



We were fortunate to get an invitation to tour Tanzanite One. The people there gave us access to the shaft, sorting house and plant. We've got a whole new appreciation



for how a company can operate an ethical, safe, and productive mine.

Here's me at Tanzanite One. It's 400 meters down and hot as anything. I have a water bottle shoved down my jumpsuit and am wearing gumboots sized for a much larger person. Other than the "waking in oversized shoes" thing it feels perfectly safe.

The folks at Tanzanite One brought us down a working shaft to show us the HUGE and fairly clean-looking crystal they had just found. It was bigger than my hand.



Here's one of the treasures from their safe. I'd LOVE to own this one!

At the end of the trip, we were able to meet with some people who are very special.

This year was a good one for the business, and we decided to make some donations in Tanzania with the profits. We started with donations to two women's groups.

The first is a group of 13 women who would divide their pooled money each morning, buy foods at the market and sell them

door to door. Each kept her profits at the end of the day and returned the "loan" to the pool. With our donation, they bought used clothing and linen, and are now collectively running that business in the central market. They still have the individual food business, but non-perishables are a safer and more stable product. This is me with the ladies in front of their clothing carts (above).

The second group was larger, and better organized. Like the first group, they all have their own small businesses. They make contributions each month of about 3 dollars each, then can take microloans and pay them back over 10 months. They used the money to help buy a 10x12 meter parcel of land, which they will use to start a communal business. This is me, the ladies and our friend Jamal who organized it.

I am thrilled and humbled by what these groups of women have done.

Right now, I'm working with another gem cutter to found a non-profit that will let us do more good, in a more organized way. We've got the incorporation paperwork underway and hope to have an announcement early in the year.

Thanks to all of you for your business and support in the past years. It's because of you that Custom Cut Gems is thriving.

Happy holidays and a Joyous 2011 to you all,
- Lisa & Tom





**Congratulations!
It's a Co-joined Triplet!**

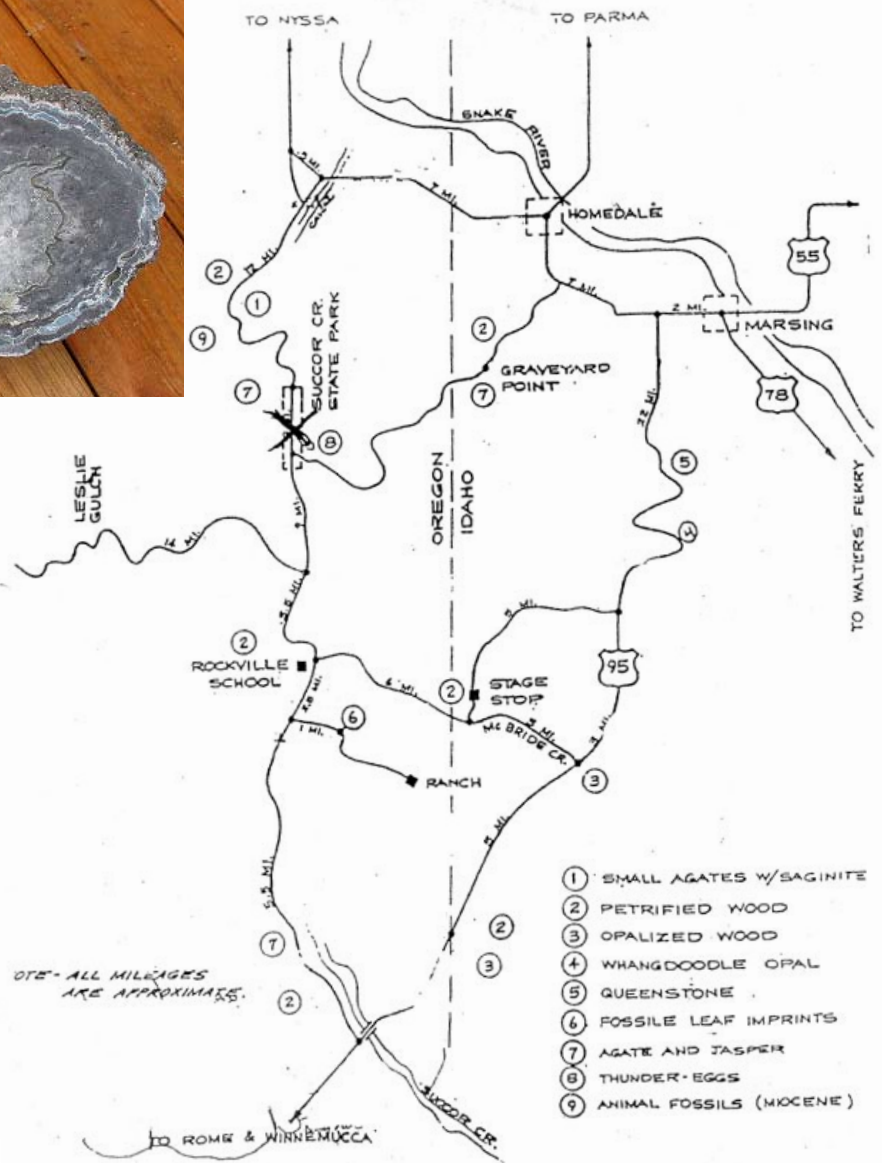
Twelve inches long, six inches high, this triple mystery was too large for the club saw. A fellow member said he would get it cut for me. The result became an early Christmas present of a Succor Creek Thunderegg(s). The cutter received the other half for his efforts.

What I like about this specimen is that the three orbs were obviously "born" at the same time, but each egg is so different from its siblings. Currently gracing my living room, this piece will be on display at future rock shows.

Succor Creek is on the far eastern side of Oregon on the Idaho border. I even found a rockhunting map of this unique area. Some of the most beautiful plume agates and thundereggs are found here.

The triplet thunderegg was found by Peter Baumgartner of Edmonton. Peter is my father, who donated 4 pallets of rock to the Port Moody Rock Club last fall.

Rose Kapp, editor



<http://pebblepup.com/collecting-area-maps/graveyard-point-succor-creek-and-mcbride-creek-oregon-and-idaho/>



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Workshop Antics



Cecil, Emma and Tony work out a problem.



Cecil and Tony have a laugh over coffee.



Lynne shows a young one how it's done. Notice the safety glasses. Doing it right! photos by Rose

Fieldtrip Advice

- Cecil has a bit of advice for when you go out on a field trip: remember to replace your divots! If you dig holes, replace the dirt or stones so no one gets hurt.
- Come prepared with a lunch or snack to keep up your strength. And don't forget plenty of water especially on warm days.

Lisa and Tom Make the News

Giving Back To Miners and Families



Photograph by: Kevin Hill, Coquitlam NOW

Lisa Elser and Tom Schlegel, both members of the Port Moody Rock and Gem Club, have been trying to improve the lives of the miners in Africa who have helped their business. In a recent article in The Now, (<http://www.thenownews.com/business/Gemologist+focuses+helping+miners/4074593/story.html>), they discovered that it's almost impossible for the miners get a fair wage for their labour.

The couple want to put money into things

that would make a lasting economic impact on people's lives. They admired what Nobel Prize winner Muhammad Yunus did with the concept of micro-lending, and have the idea of giving small amounts of money to the miners in a way that would improve their lives.

Lisa has also been featured on CBC 1 North by Northwest Sat. Jan 22, in a 20 minute interview. The podcast will be available soon.

Annual Show Veggie Chili Recipe

Created by Randall Kapp

1/4 cup olive oil
 1 large sweet onion, chopped (3 cups)
 Coarse salt
 1 teaspoon cumin seeds
 1 teaspoon onion seeds
 1 medium carrot, diced (1 cup)
 1 stalk celery, diced (1 cup)
 1 can (540ml) black beans, rinsed
 1/4 cup olive oil
 4 cloves garlic, minced
 1 Tablespoon ground cumin
 1 1/4 cups water
 1 can (796ml) diced tomatoes
 1 Tablespoon paprika
 1 can (540ml) red kidney beans, rinsed
 1 can (540ml) white kidney beans, rinsed
 1 can (540ml) lentils, rinsed
 1 Tablespoon red pepper flakes
 2 Tablespoons honey
 1 Tablespoon salt

1. Heat 1/4 cup olive oil in a large pot on medium high heat. Add chopped onion, a pinch of coarse salt, 1 tsp cumin seeds and 1 tsp onion seed and sauté until transparent.
 2. Add diced carrot and celery and a pinch of coarse salt. Sauté 5 minutes until vegetables are soft.
 3. In a bowl, add can of rinsed black beans, 1/4 cup oil and minced garlic and mash up roughly together. (This is your meat substitute).
 4. Add this bean mixture to your onions in the pot. Add ground cumin and 1/4 cup water. Heat through.
 5. Add canned tomatoes, paprika and the rest of the canned beans. Add 1 cup water. Heat through.
 6. Add red pepper flakes, honey and salt. Taste for seasoning and add more salt if needed. Mash the mixture a little bit for texture.
- Makes 14 cups. The chili tastes even better the next day.

Important Notice for May Long Weekend in Princeton

The motels in Princeton are already fully booked for the May long weekend, with the exception of the Sandman. If you plan to stay in Princeton, it is imperative that you make your reservation ASAP! Email Jim at gm_princeton@sandman.ca or call one of the numbers below:

SANDMAN INN, Hwy 3, Princeton, 250-295-6923, Toll-free: 1-800-726-3626

Central location; kitchenettes; complimentary in-room coffee/tea; Family Restaurant; smoking in designated areas only;

Major CC, Discover, JCB; CP: 24 hrs prior to date of arrival, no charge.

52 Units - \$59-135; Add'l person charge

Thank you for passing on this information to anyone you know who wants to motel the weekend rather than camp.

Georgina Selinger, Exec. Secretary, BCLS

BC Society Field Trips

• **February 20, 2011 - Yale Bar**, or perhaps Wahleach Bar. Meet at Bridal Falls coffee shop at 9:00AM. If there is a raging snowstorm, stay home.

• **March Slesse Creek for Crinoid fossils**. - The exact date TBA. Meeting place is the Tim Horton's in Chilliwack.

• **April 24, Harrison Lake fossils** - Clam and belemnite fossils! Located approx 30Km up the west side of Harrison Lake, so this will take most of the day to go in and back out again, so please pack a lunch or some snacks. Meeting place is the Sasquatch Inn parking lot in Harrison Mills on highway #7, at 10:00AM **DO NOT GO TO THE TOWN OF HARRISON LAKE**

This restaurant is at the turn-off for the Hemlock Valley Ski area. If you are not familiar with this area, please refer to a map. Make sure that you have ample fuel for your vehicle. Tools for this can be nothing but some gloves to pick up samples, or rock hammer, chisel, and larger hammers for those who wish to break up larger pieces. Bring your kids, and the camera, as there are some great views of Harisson lake along the way!

For updated information, please visit the Lapidary Society of BC web site at: <http://www.lapidary.bc.ca>

Any US rockhounds in good standing with their clubs are invited to join our field trips! Also, please see what the Washington State Mineral Council has for trips, just in case something interests you!



BC Gem Show SHADES OF JADE

April 8, 9 & 10, 2011

Ag-Rec Bldg, Central Fraser Valley Fairgrounds,

32470 - Haida Drive, Abbotsford, B.C.

Friday: 10:00am - 8:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

Admission: Adults - \$6.00,

Students (6 - 17) - \$2.00,

Under 6 (accompanied by an adult) - Free

SCHOOLS:

Admittance to the show is free on Friday from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

to all school students accompanied by a teacher and chaperoning adults.

For more info contact Georgina Selinger, 604-852-1307

or Email: bcls10027@hotmail.com

As always, there will be a great variety of displays of gemstones, crystals and minerals from member clubs. Many cases will contain collections of hand-crafted jewellery and silversmithing.

Throughout the show, members will be demonstrating techniques of lapidary, sculpting, faceting, silversmithing, flint knapping, wire wrapping, and enameling. The gold panning is a very popular demonstration.

Among the many features of this, Canada's largest gem show, will be 40+ dealers carrying supplies for the hobby along with specimens of crystals, minerals, cut stones, cutting material and many gift items.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO: <http://www.lapidary.bc.ca/gemshow.html>



BC Club Shows

MAPLE RIDGE LAPIDARY CLUB
February 19 & 20, 2011

Annual Gem Show

10am-5pm both days

St. Andrews United Church,
22165 Dewdney Trunk Rd., Maple Ridge
Featuring Dealers, Displays, Demonstrations, Prize Draws, Food & Beverages
Admission by donation

ALBERNI VALLEY ROCK & GEM CLUB
March 12 & 13, 2011

Gem & Mineral Craft Sale

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

Cherry Creek Hall, Corner of Moore Rd & Cherry Creek Rd., Port Alberni, B.C.

Adults \$2, children under 10 free with adult

For more information contact Dan Mooney at 250-724-2832, drmoo@shaw.ca

VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

March 18 & 19, 2011

Gem & Mineral Show

Fri. 1-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-4pm

Leonardi Da Vinci Ctr, 195 Bay St, Victoria
Admission: Adults \$5, Students & Seniors \$4, Family of 4 \$10, Children under 6 free

For more information contact Don Myer 250-381-3356, E mail: dmyer@shaw.ca or visit: <http://www.islandnet.com/~vlms/>

HASTINGS CENTRE ROCKHOUNDS
March 19th & 20th, 2011

Gem & Mineral Show

Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 5 pm

Hastings Community Centre, 3096 East Hastings, Vancouver

Admission by Donation

For info contact: Linda Foy, 604-299-3903

CALGARY ROCK & LAPIDARY CLUB
May 7 & 8, 2011

Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

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

West Hillhurst Arena, 1940 - 6 Avenue NW, Calgary, Alberta

Admission: Regular \$5, Seniors \$3

Faceter For Sale

This comes from the Surrey Rockhouser.

Raytech Shaw Faceter

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Contact Julius Cotter: 1-604-576-8645