



The Telephone City Crystal



The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

June 2007

Executive

President :
Phyllis Czarnowski
519-752-8276

Vice President:
Gary Bechtel
519-752-8292

Treasurer:
Ernie Edmonds
519-583-1957

Secretary:
Maddie Lavender
905-634-1758

Show Chair – 2007:
Jenny Jones
519-750-0953

Newsletter Editor:
Roger Campbell
519-442-6542

Social:
Deborah Jackson
519-770-4502
Program:

**Field Trips
and CCFMS Rep.:**
Blair Batty
519-426-8409

Librarian:
Russ McCrory
905-389-6525

Workshop:
Brad McClelland
519-751-3141

PROGRAMS

June Meeting: June 15, 2007

Meeting Time: 7:30

**We will meet at Robert Hall Originals,
138 Sugar Maple Road St. George**

**(Bob & Betty Parry's Pewter Studio and
Rock Shop) for a program. Bob has offered
to give us a tour of the Pewter Studio and**

explain how the pewter designs are created from start to finish.

**We will be serving a lunch of roast beef on a bun provided by
Jenny Jones, but please bring a small salad. The Parry's will
provide drinks. Plates and cutlery will be provided.**



***Members please note that we do not have meetings or
workshops in July or August. See you in September.***

Many thanks to Stu Collier for his fossil presentation at our May meeting. It is always appreciated by the club to have one of our fellow members give their time and effort to present a program at a monthly meeting.

Club History (Chapter 2)

In October 1964 the Club joined the Eastern Federation of Lapidary and Mineralogical Societies. The first club crest was made and ready for sale. In 1965 there were 65 members from the areas of Brantford, Simcoe, Guelph, Malton, Toronto, Fergus, Mt. Elgin, St. Catharines, Burlington, Hamilton, Delhi, London and Tillsonburg. At this point there were 14 Clubs in Ontario and Quebec.

The club was now issuing a monthly newsletter, and were mailing out 100 copies. A library was compiled of magazines and other publications dealing with lapidary and mineral collecting. In organizing the first Canadian Micromounter's Workshop, the Club really put itself on the map. This well run event proved to be an unqualified success and was to continue for many years in Brantford.

Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc

1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

WANTED

Victoria Stone from Japan. Please contact member Janice Peshke if anyone has any to sell. Phone: 905 525 3581 or email: peshke@295.ca

SUMMER EVENTS



**44th Annual Mineral Capital Stone Carver's Show & Symposium
August 2nd to August 5th, 2007**

Head to the "Mineral Capital of Canada" August 2nd to August 5th for the Rockhound Gemboree. Canada's largest gem & mineral show brings together over 110 dealers of fine mineral specimens, gemstone jewellery, and lapidary supplies. Highlights of the show include gold panning booth, rock and mineral talks with geologists from Natural Resources Canada, a swapping area, a mineral display and expert mineral identification

services offered by Malcolm Back of the Royal Ontario Museum, and geologist-led mineral collecting field trips.

Also running in conjunction with the Rockhound Gemboree is the Mineral Capital Stone Carver's Show & Symposium. This show reaches out to sculpture exhibitors, suppliers of stone and equipment, plus artists of all levels of experience. There will be booths for artists to display and sell their work, outdoor sites to carve before the public, plus workshops for artists to learn about techniques and style development. There will also be an opportunity to talk to the artists about starting to carve yourself.

Join Rocky the Rockhound, rockhounds from all over North America and beyond, and those that are simply curious, at the Rockhound Gemboree.

Field Trips

Nothing equals the excitement of finding your own mineral treasures. Geologist-led mineral collecting field trips are conducted daily during the Gemboree:

Thursday to Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

plus afternoon trips on

Friday & Saturday - 1:30 p.m.

Registration for the trips is at the North Hastings Senior Elementary School beside the arena. Field trips visit open pits, exploratory trenches and cuts associated with past mining and prospecting activities, and usually last three hours. Participants require their own vehicles.

**Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc
1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3**



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

Royal Ontario Museum

June 3 to December 2, 2007

The Black Star Sapphire of Queensland

A brilliant six-point black star sapphire is coming to Canada! Catch a rare glimpse of the The Black Star of Queensland, which is among the largest-known star sapphires in the world, on display for the first time anywhere in the world since 1969.



This incredible gem was found in the 1930s in the town of Anakie in Queensland, Australia. It weighed an amazing 1156 carats. It was purchased uncut by the Kazanjian Brothers in 1947 and later cut and polished to its present-day 733 carats. It is now surrounded by 35 sparkling diamonds in a white gold setting.

***The Black Star Sapphire of Queensland* explores the beauty and science surrounding sapphires — how they are formed in nature, where and how they are mined, and their significance in various cultures. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime chance to catch this shining star before it's gone.**

Natural History Highlights

The Museum has a few small displays from it's natural history collections. During your visit, don't miss: Burgess Shale

These exquisitely-preserved fossils from British Columbia provide evidence of the world's first animal communities over 505 million years ago. Animal communities that once lived 50 kilometres offshore are now found as fossils in the Rocky Mountains at 2,300 metres elevation. Visitors can examine these impressive fossils in three display cases.



Ontario Summer Trips

Hikes at Warsaw Caves Every Wed in Jul and Aug a guided hike into the caves (bring flashlight, sturdy boots). 2 pm. \$2. Warsaw Caves Conservation Area, 1k N of Warsaw. 1-877-816-7604.

Bruce County Museum, Southampton, ON

Wild & Woolly : Mammals of the Ice Age

Life-size robotics and Fossil Display

On exhibit May 5 - October 9, 2007



Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc
1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

Coming Events 2007

June 16 10-2

Open House: Lafarge Quarry, Dundas, Ont.

Come and enjoy the activities at the quarry; including an actual blast demonstration, soapstone carving for the kids, Tim Elliott's incredible mineral display and lunch.



June 16-17

GEO-VENTURE: Niagara Peninsula Geological Society Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show - Beamsville Fairgrounds, Beamsville Ont.



July 20-22 Fri. 5-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-5

25TH Annual Sudbury Gem and Mineral Show – Northern Ontario's Largest Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Bead & Rock Craft Show and Sale

Carmichael Arena on Bancroft Drive, across from Minnow Lake and 1 km. south of the Kingsway (Hwy 17E) Sudbury, ON

Features: Dealers: displays; demonstrations; door prizes (including an amethyst geode as the grand door prize); video theatre; kid's activities; field trip on Sun. at noon; swapping Sat. 11-4 ; charity BBQ Sat. and Sun.

Admission: Adult \$4, Seniors \$2, Children 6-12 \$1 and 5 and under free.

Contact: Ed and Ruth Debicki (705)522-5140 E-mail: ed.debicki@sympatico.ca

Website: www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/Sudbury/show.htm



July 27-29 Fri. 2-9, Sat./Sun. 10-5

2nd Annual Rock and Mineral Show – Northeastern Ontario's Largest Rock and Mineral Show Les Costello Memorial Arena, Cobalt, On in the "Silver Capital of Canada" and part of the CobaltRocks Festival

Features: this year's theme: Northern Discovery... Past and Present

Contact: Nina (705)646-2212 or e-mail: jlnccc@muskoka.com

Website: www.normc.ca/ and also CobaltRocks Festival at www.cobaltrocks.ca

July 27-29 Fri. 4-9, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5

Toronto Gem and Mineral Summer Show presented by 3416798 Canada Inc. Leaside Gardens 1073 Millwood Road East, East York, Toronto, ON

Features: Precious and semi-precious stones, fine quality jewellery, amber, stone beads, unique worldwide crystal specimens, tools and everything to create your own works of art. Admission: Adults \$8, Seniors \$7, 12-18 \$6, under 12 free with adult

Contact: Ohannes Bedrossian (514)989-9800 or torontogemshow@CANADA.com

Website: www.torontogemshow.com



Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc

1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

July 29 Sat. 10-4

**Bancroft Gem and Mineral Club's Annual Mineral Capital Gem & Mineral Show
Bancroft Legion Hall, Station St., Bancroft, ON
Admission: Adults \$2, children & students (18 and under) free**



Aug 2-5 Thurs 10-7, Fri 10-9, Sat. 10-7, Sun 10-5

44th Annual Rockhound Gemboree – Canada's largest gem and mineral show

Contact: Nancy Chapsick, Events Coordinator, Bancroft & District Events Coordinator at (613) 332-1513 or e-mail chamber@commerce.bancroft.on.ca

Website: http://bancroftdistrict.com/Tourism/rock_hound_gem.php

Aug 17-19

Nova Scotia's 2007 Gem and Mineral Show presented by the Fundy Geological Museum

Lion's Arena, King St. Parrsboro, NS

Features: Fossils, gems, minerals, lapidary and jewellery supplies, talks and demonstrations, children's activities

Contact: 1-866-856-DINO Website: <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/fgm>



Sept 15-16 Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-4

"Wonder's of the Earth" the 39th Scarborough Gem and Mineral Club Show

Mid-Scarborough Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Ave. E., Scarborough

Admission: Adults \$3, children \$1

Contact: Gem and Mineral Club of Scarborough scarbgemclub@lycos.com

Website: www.scarbgemclub.ca



Sept 29-30 Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4

40th Annual Show and Sale of the Ottawa Lapsmith & Mineral Club

Nepean Sportplex (Curling Area) 1701 Woodroffe Ave. Ottawa, ON

Features: 60 Dealers and Exhibitors, Gemstones, Minerals, Fossils, Jewellery, Crystals, Beads, Equipment, Carvings, Mineral & Gem Identification and Children Activities

Contact: Karen Lochhead, Show Chair Tel: 819-827-3071 E-mail: showchair@olmc.ca

Website: <http://www.olmc.ca/>

Oct 13-14 Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-5

Kingston Lapidary and Mineral Club presents Gem Storm 2007.

Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge St. Kingston, ON

Admission: \$3 per person, \$5 per couple, children under 12 free with adult

Contact: Les Moss 613-384-4439, emoss@cogeco.ca

Website: www.spaceclick.ca/klmc



For a complete list of coming events go to the CCFMS website: www.ccfms.ca

Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc

1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY UNVEILS SPECTACULAR NEW MINERAL SPECIMEN. A GLITTERING, HALF-TON STIBNITE SAVED FROM DESTRUCTION BY CHINESE MINERS

One of the Museum's newest and most spectacular mineral specimens, a 1,000-pound stibnite with hundreds of sword-like, metallic blue-gray crystals sprouting from a rocky base, went on display April 4. Stibnite (Sb_2S_3), a compound of the elements antimony and sulfur, occasionally forms nests of delicate, six-sided crystals, but examples this large and intricate are exceedingly rare.

The unique specimen on display at the Museum was spared from destruction by alert miners in the Wuning (Wuling) antimony mine in Jiangxi Province of southeastern China. Stibnite is most commonly pulverized and heated to extract the antimony and make flame retardants and engine bearings. "That it survived the mining process at all is a miracle," said George Harlow, Curator in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences. "This is truly one of nature's treasures."



Stibnite

The Museum's stibnite specimen is the largest on public display in the world. It was likely formed some 130 million years ago when water heated by volcanic activity dissolved antimony and sulfur from surrounding rocks and flowed between layers of limestone, leaving a dense band of stibnite and occasional pockets containing long, elegant crystals. Complete stibnite crystals as long as the ones this specimen exhibits are rare—they are typically found broken because of their extreme fragility and the industrial nature of modern antimony mining.

The stibnite was donated by Marc Weill, founder and CEO of City Light Capital and world-renowned mineral collector. It will be on display in the Museum's newly renovated 77th Street Grand Gallery.

HOW TO BECOME A ROCKHOUND: First, buy a bag of marbles. Then when you find a rock, leave a marble. When you've lost all your marbles, you're a Rockhound.

Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc
1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

Workshop: My Saw Doesn't Cut!

My blade looks like it has diamond on it, but it doesn't cut! My saw only cuts one or two inches into the material and stops cutting! My blade cuts very slow and I have to really push it!

Sound familiar? I hear these complaints every few days. It took me awhile, but now my first question is, "What are you cutting?" and my second question is, "What is the cutting fluid?" Ninety-nine percent of the time, I have saved the person the cost of a new blade and made their saw work. What I have sold them is a one or five gallon pail of the proper cutting fluid, and maybe a sharpening stick if they don't have an old silicon carbide 100 grit wheel laying around.

Nobody likes the smell of diesel or kerosene (which many old-timers use, and we stress **DO NOT USE!**) and the trouble of clean up and disposal of the sludge. But for cutting hard stones like quartz-based stones (agate, jasper, petrified wood, etc.), oil is the only cutting fluid. We or our friends have tried about all the water-based coolants available and we have not found one that does not "glaze over" the saw blade. Basically what happens is that the water does not really lubricate, and at the point of contact between the blade and the material, it gets so hot that there is a micro flow of the metal bonding material over the diamond. Once this happens, the metal starts to ride on the material and the diamonds are no longer exposed. Then the blade stops cutting. It's that simple.

To bring the blade back to life, you need to clean the metal away and expose new diamonds. This is done by running several cuts into the old silicon carbide 100 grit wheel or use a sharpening stick which is about the same thing. Then run your fingernail over the edge of the blade to see if it catches on the newly exposed diamonds. Then use a loupe and look at the edge of the blade to see if there are 2-4 diamonds in each notch (like on a standard lapidary blade); they will be little black dots. If a blade is badly glazed, it may take several cuts on the stone to expose the diamonds.

Now that you have refurbished your blade, change your cutting fluid to the proper oil. We define the proper oil as one that has a high flash point (remember that diesel and kerosene are **FUELS!**) has no carcinogens, has a very low viscosity (almost like water or a 3-in-1 oil), and has a low odor. To conserve your oil, strain the old oil and sludge through two paper bags. It will come out almost as clear as new oil. Dispose of the sludge properly. For soft stones like marble, travertine, turquoise, or even granite, you can use the water inhibitor in it, you should drain the saw every night and wipe it down and spray something like WD-40 on it to prevent rust. I hope I have helped you in some way with this explanation about the proper coolant to use in your saw. (ref Bill Ritter



[Contempo Lapidary](#)

GENIUS IS THE ABILITY TO AVOID WORK BY DOING IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIMEAnon

Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc
1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3



The Telephone City Crystal

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc.

Note from the editor

I recently had the time to spend a number of hours at Robert Hall Originals owned by Bob and Betty Parry. I have always marveled at their amazing selection of pewter designs, large selection of beads and jewelry and of course my favourite, the minerals and fossils for sale. Unfortunately, I had never spent much time in Bob's 'quarry' outside the studio. I was amazed by the diverse amount of rough rock that Bob and Betty have accumulated over the years. For the workshop members and other lapidary enthusiasts I would recommend perusing through the piles of colourful petrified wood, fancy jaspers of every variety, Brazilian agates by the barrel, Thunderbay amethyst specimens galore, rose quartz, geodes, thundereggs pre-cut slabs and every kind of agate imaginable. Bob also informed me that he will be adding more fossils and specimens to his inventory in the near future as he recently purchased a private collection. For those who relax at the spa, there are many sizes of basalt to soothe the joints.

For those not familiar with the Parry's, they have been Club members over the years and have given programs at monthly meetings and my records show that Bob was also club president in past years. Bob is very knowledgeable on all aspects of lapidary and minerals for those starting out in the hobby. And for the ladies, Betty and her friendly daughters are always helpful in choosing an appealing piece of jewelry.

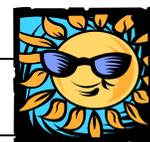
Directions: follow the highway signs from Hwy #24 north of Brantford, take #5 towards St. George, turn right on Industrial Blvd., to Black Walnut and right on Sugar Maple Rd. (the studio is on the left side).

Rockhound Heaven (Author Unknown)

I've heard it said, when a Rockhound dies, that he slowly petrifies.
I'll tell you why this isn't so. I just saw a picture of where he'll go.
The serpentine trees have peridot leaves, and lakes are azurite blue,
That turquoise sky with coral clouds—it's something, I'm telling you.
Those copper trees, when it comes to fall, light up like a Christmas tree.
Their wulfenite leaves of orange and red are as sparkly as they can be.
Amethyst crystals are down in the valley's nigh to shoulder high,
And fire agate cabs as big as your head, all cut and polished, no lie.
There's pretty pictures in all the jasper, Chrysocolla is top gem grade.
Calcite and tourmaline crystals are there, pick them up while you lie in the shade.
The flowers are Montana sapphires, Gold mounts hang like nuts from a tree.
No fences to climb or gates to close tight, the diggings are all free.
The rivers are silver, the campgrounds are gold, your shovel never bends.
And the faces in the campfire's light are those of your dearest friends.
Your back never aches and your feet never hurt, and dust doesn't get in your eyes—
This is the special place where a Rockhound goes when he finally ups and dies.



HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER, GOOD COLLECTING, HAPPY TRAILS AND WE'LL SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER.



Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, Inc
1 Sherwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3T 1N3