



The Cutting Edge

Monthly Newsletter of the Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club

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Workshop Address:

P.O Box 59028 Alta Vista
Ottawa, ON K1G 5T7
Phone: 613-850-5486

Website:

<https://olmc.ca>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/OttawaLapsmithMineralClub>

Show Chair's Message

Dear OLMC members,

As you know, the Gem Show is our main way of collecting funds to rent a workshop place. Unfortunately, given that we could not hold a show in the last two years, the Club's funds have been running lower to the point that we had to close the workshop.

Now, we are setting up another show to rebuild our funds in order to sustain a new workshop. To be able to run a great Gem Show, we need many volunteers!

Throughout Saturday and Sunday, we have eight 2-hour timeslots: four slots on Saturday from 10h am to 6h pm, and another four slots on Sunday from 10h am to 5h pm. Given these times, and depending on the task, the number of volunteers varies. Each task has a leader.

Please volunteer for one 2-hour block or more on the different task required in the table below. Contact by e-mail the Team Leader to offer your time based on the task you would like to fill. The list of stations and contacts is on **page 3** of this newsletter.

If you are available without a task preference, provide this information to the Show Chair, who will coordinate with the team leaders and assign your help where it is the most required.

All volunteers get free access to the premises on the day of their volunteering 2-hour block.

We need your help to keep the Gem Show alive, to ultimately keep the Club alive!

Stéphane Jetté
OLMC Show Chair

OLMC President Kerry Day was still without power as of 2022-06-01, so he has been unable to respond to e-mails. Contact him by phone at **613-850-5486** to arrange auction pick-up or anything else.

Silversmith Courses ~~ for Beginners ~~

Janet Borzecki is hosting silversmith training for OLMC members over Zoom. If you want to attend, send an e-mail to news@olmc.ca, which will be forwarded to her.

Donations and Sales

The club has a **GoFundMe** page, if anyone wants to donate to on-going storage costs and for the future workshop rent. We very much appreciate donations.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-the-ottawa-lapsmith-and-mineral-club>

A Brief Trip Through Time: The Last Billion Years in Ottawa

Sunday June 5, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

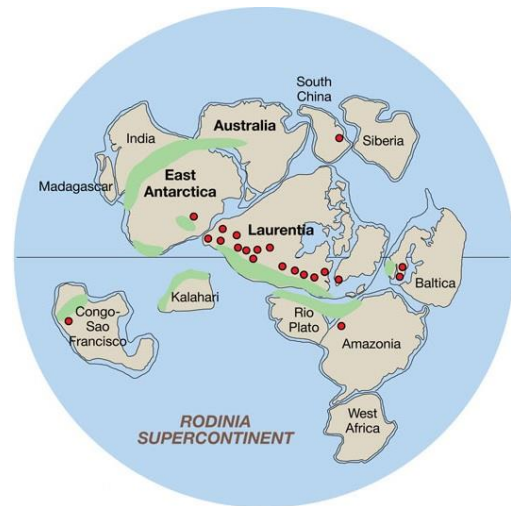
The Ottawa Field Naturalists will be hosting a geology related field trip Sunday, June 05. I assume that you have to be a member of their club to participate.

Leaders: Jan Aylsworth & Jean Dougherty

Meet at 9:30 am at Lincoln Fields behind Pizza where carpools will be arranged. We will then convoy to the first stop of the tour at W. Erskine Johnstone Elementary School, 50 Varley Drive in Kanata. Alternatively, people may drive directly to the school, where we will meet the leaders for a 10 am start. After we look at the outcrop behind the school, we will convoy to the second stop, then the third stop. Dress for the weather. Bring lunch and water. This is a rain or shine walk.

Description: Few Canadian cities have as wide a variety of geology and as extensive a geological history as does Ottawa. At various times, our mountains have been as high as the Himalayas, our seas have been as warm as Australia's and as cold as the Arctic Ocean, earliest fossils have been preserved, major earth movements have ripped our rocks along great faults, and huge rivers have flowed over us. Moving from west to east across Ottawa, we will travel forward in time to explore the diverse geology at three stops in the greater Ottawa area: Erskine Johnson school, Kanata Centrum, Hogs Back Rapids.

Participants may find helpful this excerpt from Ottawa Gatineau Geoheritage's field trip 'One Billion Years of Geology': <https://www.ottawagatineaugeoheritage.ca/field-trips>



Graphic by John Goodge,
<http://antarcticsun.usap.gov/>

Planet Ice: Mysteries of the Ice Ages

Canadian Museum of Nature, May 20 – September 5

Explore the power of ice and cold in shaping the world we live in today. Meet a Neanderthal adult and child (through scientifically accurate, life-like models) and learn about their adaptations to survive in the cold. Reflect upon how the loss of ice could affect species, infrastructure and ecosystems. <https://nature.ca/en/plan-your-visit/what-see-do/whats>

54th Annual OLMC Gem Show Sept. 17-18, 2022

We are currently seeking new vendors for our 2022 show!!

New vendors are invited depending on the products they sell and the show's balance of product variety. We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you offer goods and services in:

- Minerals / Rock specimens / Mineral-related products
- Jewelry / Metal work / Jewellery findings
- Beads / Bead work / Bead findings
- Lapidary supplies & equipment
- Faceted & polished gems
- Lapidary materials / Lapidary work
- Fossils
- Stone carving / sculpture
- One-on-a-kind handcrafted products (by seller/artist) related to lapidary and minerals

Table rental: Our sale table is 6 ft x 30 inches, and rental fee is \$175 (+HST) per table. Backup table is \$30 and for storage only. Space availability is on a first come first serve basis.

If you wish to participate our show this year, please email us along with the following info:

- The products you sell (please provide pictures or an URL where we can review your products i.e. website, facebook page etc.)
- The number of sales tables and back-up tables you prefer
- Your contact / business info (i.e. name, phone number, address, email etc.)

Contact: Vema Ho, Dealer Chair, dealerchair@olmc.ca Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club

Call for Volunteers!

Team Leader Position	Name	E-Mail	Volunteers Needed
Show Chair	Stéphane Jetté	showchair@olmc.ca	N/A
Dealer Chair	Vema Ho	dealerchair@olmc.ca	N/A
Main setup/teardown	Calvin Jones	calvinljones01@gmail.com	Many on Friday morning, and Sunday evening
Admissions	Rita Hudec	rita.h@rogers.com	4
Children's Crafts	Darcy Paquet	sylsaza@gmail.com	1
Club Creations	Vicki Jasperse	vicki_jasperse@rogers.com	2
Demonstrations	TBD	showchair@olmc.ca	TBD
Door Prizes	Jean-guy Bradette	jbradette7752@rogers.com	1
Membership & OLMC Information	Nathalie Bourget	nat.bourget@videotron.ca	1
Ushers	David Carty	dcarty@trytel.com	3

OLMC Silversmith Challenge



Joy McDonnell, Pendant
of silver, opal and glass

Angele Aubin, Silver earrings



Mary Lorenzo
Silver pendant featuring
granulation, a hammered texture
around the outside of the
backplate and a domed cutout.
The soldering was really fun!

Judy Courteau
Necklace of copper and glass



Csilla Ekes
I wanted to make a spoon... I have been
wanting to make a spoon for ages
Because the challenge called for
a piece of jewellery, I added a
bail to it so it could be worn
on a chain. Melted sterling
silver scrap and beach glass
with fine silver bezel. It
has a rustic feel with
the hammered and
the satin finish.





Movable Pendant by Pat Moore

A few failed ideas (mainly because I was rushing and didn't really have a thought-out idea at first). I decided to make the project for me to be something that has a moving part... I thought I'd make this little girl, and give her a moving pendulum - a glass bead in the shape of a heart. What was my failed attempt? I had a beautiful antique amber colour glass lampshade - had it for years until a few months ago when Phoebe's big tail swept it over and it broke into pieces. I kept the pieces to see if I could make some jewellery out of it.



Joy McDonnell, Silver pendant



Angele Aubin, Silver earrings



Janet Borzecki

The Ocean Calls Me.

Beach glass and sterling silver pendant created from a sand cast starfish (new technique), green beach glass from Spain (glass element), with a hidden message on the back (stamped).

Vicki Jasperse, "Cannon"

The aspects of the challenge used:

1. Graffiti - the cabochon is made from years of built up graffiti paint scraped off wall murals to create a material similar to Fordite.
2. Stamping - a stone texture stamp was used to create the design for the etched copper frame.
3. Doming - the frame was domed on a wooden bed post cap.
4. New technique: I used tiny brass screws to connect the frame to the pendant backing.

I've named it 'Cannon', which the Inter-webs tell me is a slang term for aerosol paint cans.

Materials used: copper and brass sheet; labradorite, jasper, onyx, lab ruby, jade and carnelian cabochons, graphite cabochon, brass screws.



Sushila Raju
Dome cluster pendant



Mary Lorenzo
Copper and Silver pendants: Rivets (new to me!), granulation and a bit of hammering. The blue patina also adds a bit of texture.





Vera Rehill

The necklace includes a glass cab mounted in a domed setting, hammered textured on the round elements, leaves scribed using diamond burs relieving the brass under the silver, 3D element on the left is part of the tray edge representing graffiti and all put together with brass nails used as rivets. The necklace hangs on clock chain. The pendant was oxidized with liver of sulphur. Some oxidation and silver was removed by sanding and polishing wheels that added to the aged look.



Largest Blue Diamond Sells for \$57 Million

The 15.10-carat diamond known as "The De Beers Cullinan Blue" sold for \$57.5 million on April 27, in an auction at Sotheby's in Hong Kong.

It had been expected to sell for about \$48 million, but an eight-minute bidding war ensued between four potential buyers.

According to a press release from Sotheby's, the diamond came from the Cullinan mine in 2021. It has since attained all of the highest rankings on which colored diamonds are assessed, including being categorized the jewel as "fancy vivid blue" – the top color grading of its class.

This gem barely missed another number one - top auction price. The 14.62-carat "Oppenheimer Blue" sold in 2016 for \$57,541,779, just under \$70,000 more.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2022/04/28/worlds-largest-blue-diamond-sells/9567999002/>

The Return of the Ring

After a long trip, an ancient Mycenaean ring has finally been returned to Greece

The gold signet ring from Rhodes is decorated with two facing sphinxes. It was discovered in 1927 by Italian archaeologists in a Mycenaean grave near the ancient city of Ialysos on Rhodes. It was stolen during World War II (with hundreds of other pieces of jewelry and coins that are still missing), went to the United States, and was bought by a Hungarian biophysicist before he bequeathed it to the Nobel Foundation, and it ended up in a Swedish museum.

Swedish officials willingly returned the item, and they provided full assistance with documenting the artifact and its provenance. Greek experts confirmed the identification, and the piece was handed over in Stockholm by Vidar Helgesen, executive director of the Nobel Foundation.

Greek Culture Minister Lina Mendoni thanked the Nobel Foundation and Swedish authorities for the repatriation, saying it "shows their respect for modern Greece and our constant efforts to fight the illegal trafficking of cultural goods."

<https://apnews.com/article/politics-travel-greece-museums-5e81f76d35ee07822f1de383f86448c2>

Perplexing fish-like fossil finally classified

130 years after its discovery, scientists classified a fish-like fossil vertebrate with unusual features as one of the earliest ancestors of four-limbed animals.

The fossil has been named *Palaeospondylus gunni*, and a member of *Sarcopterygii*. It was a small animal with a cartilaginous eel-like body that lived approximately 390 million years ago.

Researchers at the University of Tokyo in conjunction with Australian National University and the Evolutionary Morphology Laboratory RIKEN worked on the study.

Earlier specimens were badly damaged or incorrectly preserved, which made classification a challenge.

https://physics.anu.edu.au/news_events/?NewsID=268

Contact:

President

Kerry Day
pres@olmc.ca

Vice-President

Matthew Poirier
vicepres@olmc.ca

Secretary

Bob Boisvert
sec@olmc.ca

Treasurer

Rita Hudec
treasurer@olmc.ca

Workshop Chair

Jean-Guy Bradette
workshop@olmc.ca

Membership Chair

Nathalie Bourget
memberchair@olmc.ca

Show Chair

Stéphane Jetté
showchair@olmc.ca

Newsletter Editor

Eric Clara
news@olmc.ca

Auction Team

auctions@olmc.ca

Smithsonite

Smithsonite is the mineral form of zinc carbonate (ZnCO_3). This variably coloured trigonal mineral is usually found a mass of botryoidal growths.

It was named in 1832 by François Sulpice Beudant in honor of English chemist and mineralogist James Smithson (c.1765–1829), who first identified the mineral in 1802. It has a Mohs hardness of 4.5 and a specific gravity of 4.4 to 4.5.

Smithsonite is also known as zinc spar. It looks similar to and has been confused with hemimorphite. The name calamine also has been used for both minerals.

Smithsonite occurs as a secondary mineral in the weathering or oxidation zone of zinc-bearing ore deposits. It commonly occurs in association with hemimorphite, willemite, hydrozincite, cerussite, malachite, azurite, aurichalcite and anglesite.



Photo of smithsonite, courtesy of Wikimedia

OLMC Meeting Schedule

June 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 New Clay Conference June 3-5	4 West End Studio Tour Red Trillium Studio Tour June 4-5
5	6	7 Silversmith video call 19:00	8	9	10	11 New Art Festival June 11-12
12	13	14	15	16	17 Signatures Handmade Market June 17-19	18
19 	20	21 Silversmith video call 19:00	22	23 	24 Canadian Stone Carving Festival June 24-26	25
26 Meat And Grease Ottawa	27	28	29	30		

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**Ottawa Lapsmith & Mineral Club
presents...**

***Ottawa Gem, Mineral &
Jewellery Show and Sale***

Sat. Sept. 17 10:00 to 6:00

Sun. Sept. 18 10:00 to 5:00

Nepean Sportsplex Curling Rink

1701 Woodroffe Avenue, Nepean

\$8 Entrance Fee

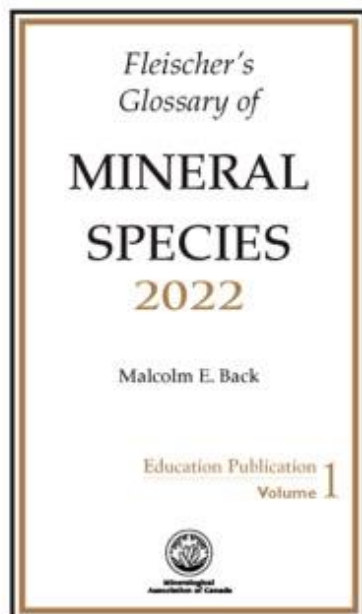
Free Entrance for Children Under 12

**Free Parking
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Demonstrations
Mineral ID**



<https://olmc.ca>

Mineralogical Association of Canada



Education Publication Volume 1

Fleischer's Glossary of MINERAL SPECIES 2022

By Malcolm E. Back, Departmental Associate, Royal Ontario Museum.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Earlier versions of this volume have been published by The Mineralogical Record Inc. since 1971 when the first Glossary was introduced by Mike Fleischer, 52 years ago.

Malcolm was invited by Joe Mandarino as a co-author for the 2004, 9th Edition, and the 2008, 10th Edition, which was to be their last collaboration on the Glossary; he passed away September 18, 2007 as they were finishing the manuscript.

The number of new minerals being described each year continues to amaze. In 2017 there were 118 descriptions, 2018-168, 2019-136, 2020-104, and up to October 31, 2021-65 descriptions. This will be an alphabetical list, as of October 31, 2021, of the names, symmetry, and chemical compositions of mineral species. Synonyms and discarded names will not be included. Diacritical marks will be included. This 2022 edition will supersede the 2018 edition. All mineral species listed are approved by the International Mineralogical Association.

ISSN 2564-498X — ISBN 978-0-921294-64-1, EP 01, 448 pages, 2022
CDN \$45 (in Canada) US \$45 (outside Canada) - (Member Price CDN \$36/US \$36)

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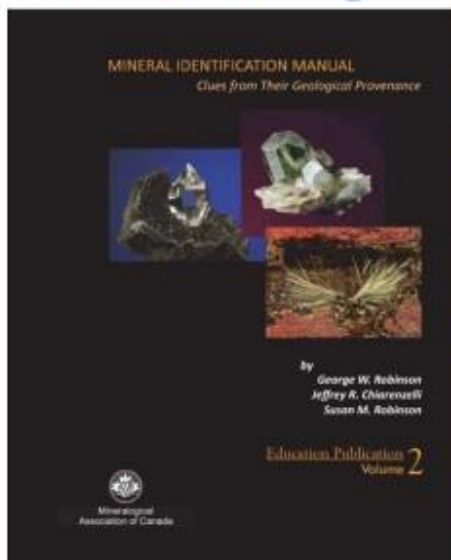
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Mineralogical Association of Canada



Education Publication Volume 2

MINERAL IDENTIFICATION MANUAL

Clues from Their Geological Provenance

By George W. Robinson, Jeffrey R. Chiarenzelli and Susan Robinson

This book is arranged in 15 chapters, each one of which contains an explanation of their geological formation. This assumes the person who collected the mineral sample knows the geological environment in which it was found, e. g., a limestone quarry versus a massive sulfide deposit or a pegmatite, etc. Once the appropriate table for that specimen has been determined, the physical properties of the mineral, beginning with its luster (metallic or non-metallic), is noted, followed by its hardness, density, cleavage, or other discernible physical properties. This is usually sufficient information to identify most common mineral species, since each step eliminates a considerable number of possibilities. As a confirmation, the photographs provide reassurance that the un-known mineral physically resembles the one chosen through the table. The volume includes more than 475 color photos, 3 colour diagrams, along with tables of the minerals' physical properties used for identification in the field and lab.

This book is intended for anyone who is charged with identifying minerals, without having to use sophisticated equipment to do so. This includes geologists in the field, mineral collectors as well as students and professors in the lab. Many similar determinative tables have been used in the past for this purpose, but never arranged by geological environments and modes of genesis.

ISSN 2564-498X — ISBN 978-0-921294-65-8, EP 02, 208 pages, 2022

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