



The Cutting Edge

Monthly Newsletter of the Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club

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Mailing Address:

PO Box 36042 Wellington,
Ottawa, ON, K1Y 4V3

Phone: 613-850-5486

Website:

<https://olmc.ca/>

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/olmcnews/>

President's Message

The hunt for a new workshop continues. Anything even remotely close to downtown Ottawa is hard to find and expensive when you do find it. We may have to bite the bullet and rent a remote location like Merivale south.

We had our first field trip in early May to the Long Lake Zinc mine. Thanks go out to Gord Brown for organizing it. Despite the time of the year the bugs weren't all that bad. We had ~15 people show up and everyone seemed happy. I stay out of the woods in May and June so my next field trip won't be until July. If anyone wants to lead a trip somewhere please contact me.

Auctions are on hold for now.

Kerry Day

OLMC President

See you in September! There will be no newsletter in July or August.

All members are invited to submit articles, proposals, and thoughts that could be included in the newsletters. Also, feel free to send your Classified ads by e-mail to: news@olmc.ca

Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show and Sale



Call for Volunteers!

Please consider helping out the club and volunteering for some aspect of the gem show in September. Having enough or, even better, a surplus of volunteers allows the show committee set up tables for the show, to hold various crafting demonstrations on lapidary and silversmithing, to support the vendors and academic partners at their booths, and to provide a safe and welcoming environment for shoppers and hobbyists alike.

Just two hours of your time is all we ask, though more would be super. Contact Stephane Jette at showchair@olmc.ca to enrol.



The OLMC Gem, Mineral & Jewellery show is fast approaching, and club members have an excellent opportunity to sell their hand-made lapidary crafts and jewellery in a risk-free environment.

Contact Vicki Jasperse (vicki_jasperse@rogers.com) or Stephane Jette (showchair@olmc.ca) for info.

Gem Show Supplement

Find out more about what goes on at the OLMC gem, mineral & jewellery show & sale in this photo essay of past shows.

<http://www.olmc.ca/news/gemshow-supp.pdf>

Information for Volunteers

Upon arriving at the show venue ...

- Volunteers get free entrance to the show for that day.
- If you have any questions or have any trouble, talk to the team leader for the area, or the Show Chair who is probably walking around.
- Please be courteous and ethical.
 - Do not harass a vendor. Do not tell people to avoid a vendor.
 - Do not abuse your position as a volunteer to sell your personal crafts.
 - Please be helpful to others and answer their questions if you can.



When your time is over, feel free to wander around the show and/or volunteer for more time or another area.

Gem Show Partners

Academic organizations or other volunteer organizations related to geology, mineralogy, lapidary and jewellery-making are welcome partners at the show. It is our pleasure to make a certain amount of space available for free for these groups.

Partners can use this space to make educational presentations, demonstrations, or to provide a service related to geology and mineralogy.

Such organizations that would like to have a space at the show should contact Stephane Jette at showchair@olmc.ca

Vendor Waiting List

All spaces for 2024 are booked, but we are always looking for new vendors. Get on the waiting list by sending your information to dealerchair@olmc.ca.

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

56^{th/e}

Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewellery Show & Sale

Salon annuel des pierres, minéraux et bijoux

SEPT 21-22, 2024



Sept. 21, 10:00-18:00

Sept. 22, 10:00-17:00

Tickets: \$8

Children aged 12 and under, free
Parking is free at the Sportsplex
Door prizes

Billets: \$8

Les enfants de 12 ans et moins, gratuit
Parking gratuit
Prix de présence



NEPEAN SPORTSPLEX
CURLING RINK
1701 WOODROFFE AVENUE
OTTAWA



Instagram:
[@olmcnews](https://www.instagram.com/olmcnews)



Website:
www.olmc.ca



FaceBook:
<https://www.facebook.com/OttawaLapsmithMineralClub>



Upcoming Gem & Mineral Shows

Sudbury Gem & Mineral Show

July 19-21, 2024

Carmichael Arena, 1298 Bancroft Drive,
Sudbury, Ontario

Features: displays, demonstrations, door prizes, silent auctions, kid's activities, mineral and gemstone identification, video theatre, prospectors and metal detecting displays. Field trip Sunday at noon.

The Gem Expo: July

July 26-28, 2024

Hyatt Regency Toronto on King, 370 King
Street West King & Spidina, Toronto, Ontario

Free talks each day, Make n Take presentations

Each show features many local jewellery designers and artisans, almost 40 vendors from all over the globe. There will be a Silent Auction to help support a local charity

Annual Rockhound Gemboree

August 1-4, 2024

Bancroft Community Club & North Hastings
Community Centre, Bancroft

Minerals, crystals, gems, fossils. Shop for one-of-a-kind jewellery and art pieces or find that perfect addition to your own collection!

Activities such as key note speakers, demonstrations and workshops

Asbestos Mineralogical Fair

August 17-18, 2024

Connie Dion Arena (ACD), 375 Boulevard St
Luc, Val-des-Sources, Quebec

many exhibitors selling jewellery, fossils, minerals, stained glass, and tools. Activities for children and adults: On-site: restaurant and bar.

Aegirine



By Ivar Leidus, Version dated 23 January 2021;
File:Aegirine - Mt Malosa, Zomba, Malawi.jpg., [CC BY-SA 4.0](#)

Aegirine ($\text{NaFeSi}_2\text{O}_6$) is a member of the clinopyroxene group of inosilicate minerals - sodium, calcium, chromium, and titanium in atomic chains of tetrahedral pyramids of silicate (SiO_4). It is at the end of the sodium side of the aegirine-augite series, where the iron ion has +3 valence. Sometimes the sodium gets replaced by calcium, and then the iron can be replaced by magnesium or aluminum for a balanced atomic charge.

This mineral was discovered in 1784, in Norway, and was initially described as “crystallized hornstone or brownish angular and grooved schorl in quartz”. In 1834, the variety that became known as aegirine was discovered. The two varieties were thought to be different species (amphibole and pyroxene) until 1871, when it was proved that they were both pyroxenes.

It forms as dark green monoclinic prismatic crystals with Mohs hardness of 5 to 6, and a specific gravity between 3.2 and 3.4. A fibrous variety is named acmite.

Aegirine occurs in igneous rocks rich in sodium and/or potassium, nepheline syenites, carbonate-rich rock pushed up from the Earth's mantle and pegmatites, and in metamorphosed schists, gneisses, and iron formations.

POP-UP SALE



8 JUNE 2024

11AM - 3PM

Jean-Guy Bradette of **La Boîte Secrète** and master craftsman of **JGBStonesCo** will be appearing at **Rainbow Minerals** with over 1000 hand cut and polished cabochons (featuring a tray of precious and much sought after Australian Opals).

Come check it out!!

2255 Gladwin Crescent Ottawa ON

Ottawa-Gatineau GeoHeritage Summer Fun!

There are many unique geologic features and landforms around the Ottawa-Gatineau region: billion-year-old Precambrian rocks, 450-million-year-old fossils, and the historical sites where local stone is prominent.

See the list of sites at the GeoHeritage web site and plan your tour.

<https://www.ottawagatineaugeoheritage.ca/>

Faceting a garden rock



Australian gem cutter Cliff Doornkamp of Vintage Gems made a 15-minute tuition video for beginners to learn basic faceting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBK7N4GVgnY>

OLMC Silversmiths Spring Challenge



Make a Bead

Make a bead out of metal, and to show it off as a focal point in a piece of jewellery. The bead can be any shape you wish. It doesn't need to be soldered and it doesn't have to be round, get creative! If you have not made a bead before, you may want to get some inspiration on-line or from books you may have.



Top Left: Angèle Aubin
Copper coil tube straightened, cut and textured, with copper sheet closing the ends

Top Right: Donovan Alp
unfinished pendant with beads

Left: Mary Laurenzio
small experiments of textures on silver beads
two simple charm bracelet beads, silver domes with heart-like shapes cut out and soldered together, bead with soldered wire



Top: Judy Courteau

Attempts to use copper pipe and hammered texture work using a wooden dowel for support



Left: Joy McDonell

Argentium with cupcake wrapper texture and fused argenteum and gold balls
Silver bead with keum-boo gold leaf

Bottom Right: Audrey Schreyer

Cast cat on a pearl climbing towards viking knit balls of wool

Bottom Left: Pam Ellis

Copper and silver coiled around small tubes or wires, inspired from ancient Egypt
Danish Love Knot bead





Top Left: Sushila Raju

aluminum ball made from a beer can top, flattened with a clothing iron, cut into three 20 x 4 cm strips, folded and embossed for the corrugated effect, and finally threaded together

Top Right: Janet Borzecki

Domed silver disk with garnet and domed silver wire cage riveted together

Brass hollow form with texture made from thick watercolour paper and a rolling mill, and a half-drilled pearl

Brass domes soldered together at the two points where they touch

Centre: Angèle Aubin

Based on lessons learned from the "Three Things" challenge, copper and silver domes soldered together

Left: Judy Courteau

Stamped copper discs domed and then soldered together

Contact:

President
Kerry Day
pres@olmc.ca

Vice-President
Matthew Poirier
vicepres@olmc.ca

Secretary
Bill Hendrick
sec@olmc.ca

Treasurer
Catherine Garrett
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

Star of Bombay

The Star of Bombay is one of the largest star sapphires ever found. Like another famous big sapphire named the Star of India, it actually came from Sri Lanka.




It is a cabochon-cut star sapphire weighing 182 carats (36.4 grams). The striking violet-blue colour comes from titanium and iron providing blue, and vanadium providing a violet hue.

One of the stone's claims to fame is being linked to an advertising campaign for a brand of gin called Bombay Sapphire.

The sapphire is linked to Hollywood celebrity. The gem was purchased in the 1930s by the New York City office of jeweller Trabert & Hoeffler Inc. (They're [still around!](#)). It was set in a platinum ring, and advertised as a one-of-a-kind 60-carat stone. The story was that silent film actor Douglas Fairbanks bought it as a gift for Mary Pickford. When she died in 1979, the stone was removed from the ring and donated to the [Smithsonian Museum](#).



Photo By Stickpen - This file was derived from: Starofbombay.jpg; [Wikimedia Public Domain](#)

June 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 	17	18	19	20	21 	22
23/30	24 	25	26	27	28	29



OLMC Membership Application

New Membership Membership Renewal

Individual **\$20**

Family (2+ persons in the same residence) **\$30**

Benefits:

Monthly Newsletter

Newsletter advertisement: \$25 per year for members or \$55 for businesses
(Ten quarter pages per year over ten newsletters).

OLMC online auctions

OLMC field trips

*More information can be found at <http://www.olmc.ca>
You can also go on our Facebook page: [OttawaLapsmithandMineralClub](https://www.facebook.com/OttawaLapsmithandMineralClub)*

Names(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Please specify your e-mail address to receive OLMC's newsletter:

Do you require a receipt?

Yes

Payments are payable by **cash, cheque** to Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club, or
E Transfer at treasurer@olmc.ca with the application form

Please mail your membership form and fees to:

Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club
P. O. Box 36042 Wellington, Ottawa, On K1Y

4V3

Please note that all membership information is used only for administrative purposes.

Administration use only

Card provided: Yes No

Supervisor signed: Yes No

Date: _____