



The Cutting Edge

Monthly Newsletter of the Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club

In this month's Newsletter:

President's Message	p. 1
Club News	p. 2
Gem Show Photos	p. 3
Dimensioning Rings	p. 7
Calendar	p. 9
Membership form	p. 10

Workshop Address:
PO Box 36042 Wellington,
Ottawa, ON, K1Y 4V3
Phone: 613-850-5486

Website:
<https://olmc.ca/>

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

After Show: Comments from the Executive Committee and Show Committee

There is a wonderful team organizing the show every year. The tables, chairs, electrical outlets, maps, passes, and professional security are all ready in advance. This friendly team of volunteers sets up all day Friday, and they assist vendors where they can. Plus, they clean up the venue on Sunday night.

Dealer Chair Vema Ho commented on the variety of vendors. "Our waiting list has been building up since the 2022 show," she said. "We lost a lot of older dealers since COVID lockdown, but that also opened up spaces for the new ones to come in. They are selected based on their priority on the list, and the products that they sell." There is a preference for stone carvers, club members or mineral collectors who offer a lot of roughs, and other unique products. Show Chair Stephane Jette noted that several prospective vendors sought him out to get a spot next year.

Club Secretary Bob Boisvert was a new vendor in this year's show. He said the experience gave a different, but very positive perspective. "My tables were all about fluorescent minerals, lamps and things. I believe it was well received; even got some nice compliments. I more than met my personal objectives. I am considering strongly to repeat the experience next year."

Workshop Chair Jean-Guy Bradette stated, "[Club Creations] gives a great representation of what members of our club can do." He added that the academic partners are always an appreciated addition and are well laid out.

There were 2287 visitors over the weekend. One person commented that many seemed to be new to the show and very interested in the variety of goods for sale. There were 32 membership renewals and 29 new member sign-ups.

Show Chair Stephane Jette is planning to invite all volunteers to a post-mortem meeting.

In Memorium: Franz Ohler

Long-time club member Franz Ohler passed away in April. He visited the workshop often on Saturdays. Franz was always friendly, and he showed great enthusiasm for showing his collection of stones, for making cabochons and for sharing his rockhounding experiences. It was a pleasure to meet him and have a conversation with him.

<https://ottawacitizen.remembering.ca/obituary/franz-ohler-1087473920>

Rocktober Field Trips

The OLMC does not have sponsored field trips. Anyone who wants to tag along at their own risk and expense is free to do so. There may be additional trips if the weather holds. Contact pres@olmc.ca for more info.

October 15: Highway 50 road cuts for massive, fluorescent Scapolite. This would be a late afternoon/evening field trip for the Scapolite fluoresces yellow under LW UV.

October 21: Titanite Hill west of Bancroft.

End of On-Line Silversmith Meetings

The Silversmith group has decided to end their bi-weekly on-line meetings for the time being. The first recorded meeting was held on December 15, 2020, after many months of isolation due to pandemic protocols. Now there is an archive of nearly three years of meetings. The group shared news, projects, and ideas, and challenged each other with special contests. They are still active on Facebook. Active silversmiths are always welcome to join the group.



SilviaFindings has been a manufacturer of sterling silver and gold settings since 2004. We have a large variety of settings in various designs, shapes, and sizes for earrings, pendants, rings, and bracelets.

After you buy a gemstone, you may want to have your stone set to create a unique piece of jewellery. We have the expertise to provide suggestions on which setting is the right setting for your stone.

We also offer affordable custom-made jewellery services for stones that have unique shapes and dimensions, with no minimum purchase requirement and for a guaranteed unbeatable low price!

SilviaFindings Team

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SilviaFindings fabrique des montures en argent sterling et en or depuis 2004. Nous disposons d'une grande variété de montures de différents modèles, formes et tailles pour boucles d'oreilles, pendentifs, bagues et bracelets.

Après avoir acheté une pierre précieuse, vous voudrez peut-être faire sertir votre pierre pour créer un bijou unique. Nous avons l'expertise nécessaire pour vous suggérer la monture qui convient le mieux à votre pierre.

Nous offrons également des services abordables de bijouterie sur mesure pour les pierres qui ont une forme et des dimensions uniques, sans obligation d'achat minimum et pour un prix bas garanti imbattable!

L'équipe SilviaFindings



228-13986 Cambie Road,
Richmond, BC V6V 2K3



778-982-6639
info@silviafindings.com
www.diyjewellery.com
www.custommadejewellery.ca



Kingston Gem and Mineral Show

Oct 13 – 15

Event Centre, St. Lawrence College
100 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston

Adults \$5, under 12 free, Contact 613-384-4439

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

Photos from an Amazing Weekend Gem Show

Photos & Commentary from our 55th Gem Show



All photos were taken by Show Chair Stephane Jette.

Clockwise from top left:

1. Treasure hunters scan the tables. People fish for the perfect bubble of polished stones.
2. Club member Joy McDonell at her table.
3. Alpine Gems greet a new customer.
4. Busy shoppers search Kulu Trading's wares.





Counter-clockwise from top left:

1. Club Secretary and first-time vendor Bob Boisvert showcases fluorescent minerals.
2. Show partner GeoscienceINFO.com helped 500+ children with rock painting or doing a pendant necklace while linking rock crafts with Ontario geology
3. The club display tables include photos of the workshop, a light-up map of mineral locations, and a display from the Museum of Nature.
4. Inna Lykova identifies minerals for curious visitors.





Clockwise from top left:

1. Vendor Dan Perry displays his wares.
2. The Canadian Micro Mount Association shows visitors the fascinating world of tiny crystals.
3. OLMC members sell their crafts at Club Creations
4. A shopper explores Lunari Home's tables
5. A small crowd forms at AquaRose Art Studio.





Clockwise from top left:

1. Pierres et Monde listening to customers
2. Pargem Designs displaying a beautiful selection of stones
3. Show partners busy with science: Carleton University Earth Sciences, Gem Identification, CMMA
4. Table of crystals at Osian Imports
5. Arrays of stone beads at Rainbow Minerals
6. Nikmak takes an order

Dimensioning Rings

2022-05-17 Silversmiths,
presented by Csilla Ekes



Determine the Customer's Ring Size

When taking on a commission to make a ring, the first question is what size. If the customer doesn't know, then the artist may provide some help. The least expensive measuring tool is a plastic ribbon ruler, and it can be sent in an envelope. There are sets of plastic or metal sizers. These are collections of rings of every size, which allows someone to measure the circumference of every finger. It also comes closer to how a ring will feel.

Not all tools are created equal, especially when using measuring products from multiple suppliers. Plus, there are a variety of sizing systems -- US, British, French, Swiss, German, Japanese. Conversion between them can be difficult. Sometimes a ring sizer will say "size 6", but put that ring on a mandrel tool, and the mandrel may say a different size. Always cross reference your ring sizer to the mandrel you will use.

A Ring That Fits Like a Glove

When taking someone's finger size or ring size, it must slide on easily, and at the same time be a bit difficult to take off. A quarter size difference will be a matter of comfort. Too big, the ring will feel loose. Too small, it will feel a little tight. Either way, it is still wearable. But a half size difference means the ring is more likely to slip off or it will be uncomfortably tight.



Still, even a perfectly good ring can slip off in a watery environment. People's finger sizes change throughout the day. After a night's sleep, and in mid-afternoon, hands tend to be swollen. After drinking water (retaining water), or after exercise, fingers tend to swell up. Recommend fingers sizing in the afternoon when the fingers are bigger. One hand is always larger than the other, usually by half a size.

When possible, get the customer to try on the ring half way through the manufacturing process. If it fits, and then at the end of the process it does not fit, at least you honestly tried to get a good fit. If it doesn't fit at the half way point, then you can adjust the ring.

The Impact of Function and Style

When measuring fingers, keep in mind the type of ring that will be worn. A wide ring must fit comfortably over a larger area. A thin ring can be a little tighter. A wider ring (5-6 mm wide) needs to be a quarter size larger. A large stack of rings on a finger acts like one wide band. Some of those rings may need to be larger in order to fit comfortably.

The shape of the ring is important, too. A ring with a flared shape like rolling rings tend to be more comfortable because only the middle part touches the finger. A ring with a rounded inside will fit like a thinner ring.

Changing Fit Over Time

Large or arthritic knuckles get worse with age. The ring must be larger to get over the knuckle, and then it will spin on the finger. Many people do not like that. One method is to fill in part of the bottom of the ring -- two small balls on the inside, or adding a spacer in the bottom of the ring (with or without springs), or adding an inner clamp that has springs. There are rings that come with a hinged top that can be opened and closed. Some cast rings come with square corners on the outside bottom to prevent the ring from spinning. Or make adjustable rings, without a closed ring.

Mandrels for Every Purpose

Ring-making tools are designed to make round rings, yet the best fit ring shape for the finger is actually a rounded trapezoid. A few suppliers sell this kind of trapezoidal mandrel.

A grooved mandrel is handy when making a ring with a stone that sticks out of the bezel on the bottom. Another type of grooved mandrel has a v-shaped groove for faceted stones.

Square mandrels used to be used a lot for men's rings. Square rings are not easily sizable.

There is a mandrel which is mostly round, but has a flat area on one side. It is supposed to make rings with large tops.

When rings are made on mandrels, they can end up cone shaped, where one side is slightly wider than the other side.

Below is a partial list of ring dimensions from "Convert Your Ring Size to MM : Ring Size Guide". Jewlove. Retrieved 2016-11-2, via Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ring_size

Inside Diameter		Inside Circumference		Sizes				
in	mm	in	mm	North America	UK, Ireland, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand	East Asia	India	Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Switzerland
0.458	11.63	1.44	36.5	0				
0.466	11.84	1.46	37.2	1/4				
0.474	12.04	1.49	37.8	1/2	A			
0.482	12.24	1.51	38.5	3/4	A+1/2			
0.49	12.45	1.54	39.1	1	B	1		
0.498	12.65	1.56	39.7	1+1/4	B+1/2			
0.506	12.85	1.59	40.4	1+1/2	C			0.4
0.514	13.06	1.61	41	1+3/4	C+1/2		1	1
0.522	13.26	1.64	41.7	2	D	2	2	1.7
0.53	13.46	1.67	42.3	2+1/4	D+1/2			2.3
0.538	13.67	1.69	42.9	2+1/2	E	3	3	2.9
0.546	13.87	1.72	43.6	2+3/4	E+1/2		4	3.6
0.554	14.07	1.74	44.2	3	F	4		4.2
0.562	14.27	1.77	44.8	3+1/4	F+1/2	5	5	4.8
0.57	14.48	1.79	45.5	3+1/2	G			5.5
0.578	14.68	1.82	46.1	3+3/4	G+1/2	6	6	6.1
0.586	14.88	1.84	46.8	4	H	7		6.8
0.594	15.09	1.87	47.4	4+1/4	H+1/2		7	7.4

Contact:

President
Kerry Day
pres@olmc.ca

Vice-President
Matthew Poirier
vicepres@olmc.ca

Secretary
Bob Boisvert
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



Pargem Designs


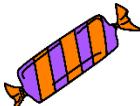
Your source for **hand-crafted wire-wrapped gemstone jewelry** made with 925 Sterling Silver & 14kt Gold Filled Wire, and of quality

Over 100 different hand-cut natural gemstone cabochons to choose from!

38 years of lapidary experience

Visit my Etsy web page
etsy.com/ca/shop/PargemDesigns

Contact me directly at:
pargem.designs@gmail.com

Workshop Schedule						
October 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Bancroft Field Trip	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 	10	11	12	13 Kingston Show	14 Kingston Show
15 Kingston Show	16	17	18	19	20	21 Hwy 50 Field Trip
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 				



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).

Silversmith online meeting 2/month

Mineral Interest Group online monthly meeting

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

Please mail your membership form and fees to:
Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club
PO 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: _____