



# The LAPIDARIAN

Maple Ridge Lapidary Club Newsletter

Mar 2013, Vol.2, Issue 3

## 2013 RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

	PRIZE DESCRIPTION	WINNER
1st Prize:	Stone Bear by Kevin Healy (Value \$4500)	Tony Foster
2nd Prize:	Stone Sturgeon by Ken Rimmer (Value \$1500)	Elaine Martineau
3rd Prize:	Stone Eagle by Dale Sharp (Value \$200)	Dale Winters
4th Prize:	Lampwork Bead & Sterling Silver Necklace & Earrings by Carol Kostachuk (Value \$175)	Ande Vanderweken
5th Prize:	Shell & Mother of Pearl Necklace & Earrings by Anne Bone (Value \$125)	Gail Meyers
6th Prize:	Gemstone Bead & Agate Necklace by Walt Pinder (Value \$125)	Les Reyda
7th Prize:	Obsidian Arrowhead by Harley Slade (Value \$55)	Chantal Savard
8th Prize:	Big Cat Hand Painted Stone by Marilyn Goodwin (Value \$45)	Manmohan Singh

## 2013 People's Choice Award Winners

Here are the winners of the 2013 Rock & Gem Show First Annual People's Choice Awards:

Necklace/Pendant	<b>Debbie Armstrong</b> with 39 votes
Rings	<b>Sandra York</b> with 19 votes
9 + 1 Challenge	<b>Carol Barnett</b> with 15 votes
Carving	<b>Carol McKissock</b> with 32 votes



## REMINDERS

- If you ordered a 2013 BC Lapidary Society Calendar through the Club and have not yet picked it up, please see one of the Executive to obtain your calendar
- The MRLC will **closed** during the BC Gem Show – April 12, 13, 14, 2013
- Volunteers needed for set up of MRLC showcases at the BC Gem Show. If you can help, meet at the Club at 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 11, 2013
- We have small slabs, some suitable for cabochons, available at the Club – see one of the Executive or one of the Show Foreman to view and purchase

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### MRLC CLEANUP:

We will be holding a **cleanup day** on *Saturday, April 20, 2013* starting at 9:00 am. This is to clean and prepare the clubhouse for the Art Studio Tour that we will be participating in on *May 4 & 5, 2013*.

The Art Studio Tour is a self-guided tour of local art studios that offers a unique opportunity for the public to visit artists in their studios, gain insight into their creative process, work environment and provides the chance to purchase works of art directly from the artist. This is the 15th year and the Tour has proven hugely popular in past years.

Art highlighted includes paintings in all media, pottery, sculpture, ceramics, ceramic sculptures, jewellery, paper arts, functional art, assemblage art, and more. A Red Diamond sign at each location will direct the public to the various venues. For more details check out the Art Studio website at: [http://www.artstudiotour.ca/group.php?c\\_no=41#PG\\_News](http://www.artstudiotour.ca/group.php?c_no=41#PG_News)

### FIELD TRIP:

- For Nickel Silicate, near Yale BC, March 31, 2013 (Sunday) 9:00 am, meet at the Rancher's Restaurant at Bridal Falls (53560 Bridal Falls Road, Rosedale, BC. Bring a rock hammer, digging tools and gloves. You can get there by car. The Wagonmaster is Bob Morgan, 604-599-6938
- For Fossils, West Harrison Lake, April 27, 2013 (Saturday) 9:00 am, meet at the Sasquatch Inn, 46001 Lougheed Hwy, Harrison Mills, BC. Bring a rock hammer, bucket, digging tools and gloves. You can get there by car but may need 4-wheel drive depending on rainfall. The Wagonmaster is Gordon Pinder, (604) 556-6489.
- ALWAYS CALL THE TRIP LEADER THE DAY BEFORE TO ENSURE THE TRIP IS GOING AND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO OTHER CHANGES

### LOST & FOUND – UPDATE!

No one has claimed the following items that were found at the Club and they will be disposed of by April 15<sup>th</sup> – last chance to claim them if they are yours:

- 1 cell phone charger, possibly for a Blackberry
- 1 charger – possibly for a phone as well

- 1 pair of ladies sunglasses with neck cord
- 1 pair of clip on sunglasses
- 1 pair of prescription eyeglasses, gunmetal color frames
- 1 black clamshell type eyeglass case

## **THANK YOU**

A belated Thank You! to Kevin Healey and Gord Pinder for their generous donation of \$400 to the Club in January 2013 after the sale of a large piece of BC jade they had acquired.

## **TWEET!**

Maple Ridge Lapidary Club is now on Twitter! Follow us at @MRLClub.

## **PROJECT**

Some earth friendly ideas from Jewelry Making Daily (March 15, 2013)

### **Save the Pieces: Recycled, Upcycled Found-Object Jewelry**

Whenever something was dropped or broken at my maternal grandmother's house, she'd call out, "Save the pieces!" I never knew what she did with the pieces, but her prudence stuck with me. I love creating recycled, upcycled jewelry with the "pieces," using found objects and ornate little pieces of history crafted decades or even hundreds of years ago to make my own unique jewelry today.

Whether you have a soft spot for gentler times, are dedicated to saving the planet, or just appreciate beautiful things, making jewelry from found objects is fun and rewarding. My most recent passion is for the pierced, intricately engraved brass cocks (or balance cocks) from the interiors of late-1700s pocket watches, a perfect blend of beauty and history. I wear one on a necklace and have several smaller ones linked together as a bracelet. These little conversation starters are so detailed and impossibly pretty, I can hardly stop looking at them when I have one on.



Those wild and crazy Victorians were famous for making everything magnificent; every surface was enameled, bejeweled, gilded, pierced, or engraved. It's gratifying to discover a remarkably beautiful object they worked their magic on and give it new life in personal, one-of-a-kind jewelry. Mixed with the right contemporary supplies, even Victorian beauties can become fashionable modern styles.



## My Favorite Pretty Little Things

Crafters are notorious for collecting broken bits and found objects to use in later projects or taking something apart to upcycle it into something else. Steampunk artists have discovered the adventure of dismantling old pocket watches to give their curious contents new life in recycled jewelry. Most everyone has seen antique button bracelets and old silverware upcycled into jewelry.

You can take apart just about any kind of jewelry and--if you're handy with jump rings or wire, have super adhesives, or know how to solder--reassemble a variety of the parts into something fresh and truly one of a kind. Beaders have been unstringing and restringing existing jewelry

just as long as they've been stringing--or recycling large broken bead halves into cabochons. Single earrings, cufflinks, and shoe clips are given a second chance and a new purpose in upcycled jewelry.

Pierced bonbon scoops can make striking pendants, and miniature salt spoons wrap around a finger just right, becoming adorable little rings. Vintage compacts, chandelier crystals, bits of broken china, keys, and hotel souvenirs are all good fodder for jewelry inspiration. I like to pair a skeleton key with a small escutcheon plate (the decorative plate around a keyhole) for unique toggle clasps or lariat necklace ends, and elaborate pocket watch hands make pretty and uncommon dangle earrings.

Foreign coins can be recycled into exotic jewelry with an air of mystery and wanderlust--just think of all the hands those coins have passed through, all the purchases big or small they've been part of! Old computers, keyboards, typewriters, phones, and other electronics

conceal potential pieces for found object jewelry with a contemporary edge. The possibilities are truly endless.



## Treasure Hunting Tips

Thrift stores, antique stores, architectural salvage shops, flea markets, and estate sales are treasure troves of found objects for jewelry makers. Online, an eBay search for "antique mother-of-pearl" will return hundreds of pretty possibilities, like Chinese gaming counters and thread winders easily upcycled into distinctive pendants or focal beads. I'm giving away my secrets, but other great searches include "vintage engraved metal" or "antique pierced metal" (replace "metal" with brass, silver, or copper and you can get even more results). Whether you hunt online or in stores, remember these tips when you're considering a potential prize for making found-object jewelry:

- Look for holes to pass cord or jump rings through, or determine if you can drill your own. If not, is it a good candidate for wire wrapping or being glued onto jewelry findings? How about enameling on it or embedding in resin? If it's drawn to a magnet, it \*probably\* has enough iron for you to torch enamel it.
- Think about the nitty-gritty details--especially the "gritty." If it's tarnished or rusted, can it be cleaned or finished so the jewelry won't rub off on clothes and skin? Is it waterproof?
- Is it too fragile to wear as jewelry? If so, can it be reinforced? Consider delicate items for necklaces or earrings rather than rings or bracelets, which are more prone to hard knocks. If you love it but it's too delicate, can it be preserved in resin?
- Be respectful of a found object's history. If an item is sacred to or symbolic of a particular religion, race, or tragic event, it might be offensive to remake into casual jewelry.
- If you make jewelry for resale, do the math. Using a dozen \$10 trinkets on a charm bracelet makes a fairly expensive bracelet, but using one as a pendant can make for a reasonably priced necklace. Don't forget the cost of additional supplies, gemstones, and findings necessary to complete the piece, plus your time!

Some of my favorite jewelry artists have been designing with found objects for decades, turning old metal bits into upcycled jewelry--plus adding a dash of sparkle here and there. One of them, Candie Cooper, shares her tips and techniques for making found-object jewelry in [Remixed Media: Transforming Metal Found Objects for Your Jewelry](#). Join the fun! [Download the Remixed Media video workshop](#) for 30% off (through March 17, 2013) and learn to recycle just about anything into found-object jewelry.



P.S. When you start dismantling all your found objects, [be careful with your tools](#). Don't repeat my own heartbreaking mistake!

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