



The LAPIDARIAN

Maple Ridge Lapidary Club Newsletter

Sept 2012, Vol.1, Issue 1

HELP WANTED

The following Club positions are currently vacant:

Recording Secretary

Wagon Master

Sunshine Report Coordinator

Christmas Party Coordinator

Programs Coordinator

Children's Programs Assistant



If you are able to assist in any of these positions, or if you have questions, please contact any of the Executive: Carol K, Carol B, John, Gunter or Maureen.

Assistance is also needed for the MRLC 2013 Annual Gem Show:

Admissions/Front Door

Kitchen (See Gunter)

Signs

Gold Panning Demo

Set up/Clean up (General)

Spin 'N Win

Kids Corner (See Marilyn or Carol B)

Raffle Tickets

Demonstrators (see Carol K)

Club Showcases (see Walt P)

Please speak to the person listed, or to John or Carol K.

GENERAL MEETING – OCTOBER 4TH AT 7:00 PM

Agenda Items include...

1. Improvements to Club Facilities: roof repair, storage container
2. Rock and Gem Show 2013: planning update, raffle prize photos
3. Equipment training schedule and record keeping
4. Executive and committee vacancies
5. BC Gem Show Club Contribution: tumbled stone production and grab bags
6. Volunteer Recognition
7. Christmas Party Dec. 01 at Meadow Highland Park, Pitt Meadows
5. Key Holder Notice

Speaker: Harley Waterson, 'Tidbits from the Lake Superior Agate Conference'

If you have items from the Lake Superior area, please bring them along as well.

Snacks provided by John B.

Christmas Party
December 1st
Meadow Highland Park
Pitt Meadows

CLUB HOURS

The Club will not be open on Wednesday or Friday afternoons until further notice. Merv and Walter B are no longer able to open and supervise the Club between noon and 6pm. Open work time continues on Saturday mornings between 9 am – Noon.

Club members volunteer their time and take on the responsibility of opening and closing the workshop for our posted hours. Occasionally circumstances beyond our control lead to closures or a somewhat erratic schedule such as happened the past several weeks and it is not possible to keep to a regular schedule.

Changes are posted to the website calendar when possible and the Executive is looking at other options for notifying members of changes. However, it is not possible to plan and predict all circumstances so we may still encounter periods when the Club cannot be open as scheduled. The Executive regrets any inconvenience this may have cause members.

Club Hours:

Tuesday: 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm
Wednesday: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Friday: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to Noon (Members Only)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Surrey Rockhound Club Show: October 20 & 21, 2012, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Sullivan Hall, 6306 152 St, Surrey

MRLC 2013 Annual Gem Show Meeting: October 23, 2012, 7 pm at the Club

Port Moody Rock & Gem Club Show: *Rocktoberfest 2, Minerals and Crystals and Gems, oh my!*, October 27 & 28, 2012, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Kyle Centre, 125 Kyle Street, Port Moody

MRLC Halloween Party: Saturday, October 27, 2012, 3 pm – 5 pm, at the Club

****Please email the Club and tell us the number and age of the children who are attending.**



This 'n That

Club Badges: If you would like to purchase a Club name badge, please add your name to the list on the Library door or email the Club. The name badges are a great way to help new Club members get to know you and they identify who you are and your home club when visiting other shows or participating in the BC Gem Show.

More Gem Show News...

Do you have a special item that you can donate to the MRLC 2013 Annual Gem Show Auction? If you do, please see Merv, John or Carol.

Also, if you have items that you would like to donate for our door prize draws. We have door prize draws every hour during the Show and we are looking for items that are made by Club members and reasonably valued. If you have items to donate or have any questions, please see a member of the Gem Show Chair (John) or member of the Executive.

The MRLC 2013 Gem Show will feature 4 People's Choice Awards. The categories are:

1. Finished soapstone carving (under 5 lbs)
2. Ring (any material)
3. Pendant/Necklace (any material)
4. Jewelry Challenge (create a finished piece from materials provided plus one element you choose)

Items must be a new piece, finished after October 1, 2012. Limit is 1 entry per person per category. A \$25 prize will be given for each category, to be awarded at the end of the Show.

The Gem Show Committee is in the process of applying for our gaming license and we have received generous donations from several Club members of items that will be the raffle ticket prizes. Tickets are expected to be available by the November 1st General Meeting and we will have about 4 months to sell tickets before the Show. Don't forget to pick up your books of tickets!

WEBSITE

Have you checked out our Club website Gallery page? We display photos of work by Club members and are always looking for new photos. It's a great way to showcase your talent and to share your work with everyone.

If you would like to have your photo on the Gallery page, or if you already do and would like to change your photo, please email your photo to the Club. We will post the photo along with your name (first name only if desired) and any other information you would like to share about the piece – materials and method used, etc.

Looking forward to seeing your work on the page!



A sneak peek at one of
our 2013 Raffle Prizes:
Bear by Kevin Healy

PROJECT

Here's a project from Beading Daily (September 17, 2012)

I Love Fast and Fabulous Wire Jewelry!



A couple of months ago, *Jewelry Making Daily's* Tammy Jones wrote about a very cool stick pearl bracelet she made using wire and a metal cuff bracelet. When I saw her tutorial for her wire jewelry making project, I was inspired to finally use one of the awesome vintage brass collars I snagged from The Beadin' Path back in February at the Tucson Gem and Mineral shows!

There are so many things I love about this wire jewelry project. It was fast -- I finished it on my lunch break, in just under half an hour. It was easy -- just a little cutting and twisting of wire was all that I had to do to secure my vinyl flowers to the brass collar. And when I wore it that afternoon, I got so many comments and compliments! Even if you're a wire jewelry beginner, you can create one of these bold collars in your favorite colors using just a few materials and tools.

Materials:

- Brass or copper collar (Beadin' Path)
- Upcycled vinyl flower mix, 12 pieces (Beadin' Path)
- 12" copper wire, 26 gauge
- 4mm round Swarovski crystal bead in color to match or contrast with vinyl flowers, 3 pieces

Tools:

- Wire cutters
- Needle nose pliers or chain nose pliers
- Hole punch pliers (1.25mm hole)
- Permanent marker

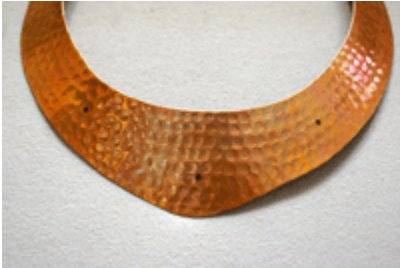
Step-by-step Instructions:



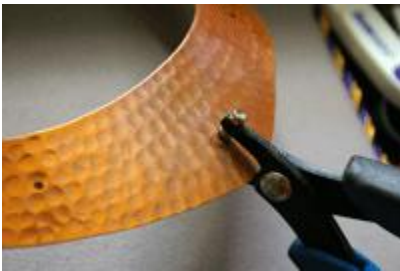
Play with the vinyl flowers until you have an arrangement or grouping that is pleasing to you. I chose to make three groups of three flowers for my collar.



Using the hole punch pliers, punch holes in the center of each flower. Use a pair of embroidery scissors or your wire cutters to nip away any excess material that might be blocking the holes of your vinyl flowers.



Use the permanent marker and a ruler to mark the places on your brass collar where you want to place your bundles of vinyl flowers.



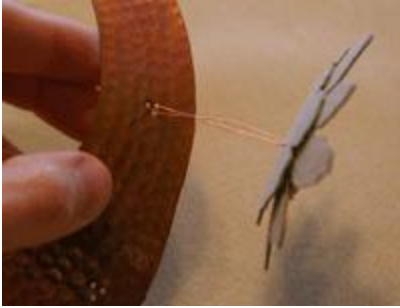
Using the hole punch pliers, make three holes in a triangle formation around each mark on the collar.



Cut a 5" piece of wire, and string one crystal bead. Push the bead to the center of the wire, then bend the wire around the crystal bead.



Insert both ends of the wire through the hole in each vinyl flower. Push everything together snugly.



Insert each end of wire into one of the holes you punched in your brass collar. You should still have one hole open for attaching the bundle of vinyl flowers.



On the back of the collar, twist the wires together tightly for about 3/4". Snip the excess wire.



Bend the twisted wire up through the empty third hole in the brass collar. Use your needle nose pliers if necessary to grasp and pull the twisted wire through to the front of the collar.



Bend the twisted wire against the front of the collar, under the vinyl flowers. It will remain hidden under here, and you can add a drop of glue if you'd like for extra security.



Add your remaining vinyl flower bundles in the same manner.

I still have one of those vintage brass collars left, and now I'm trying to figure out what to do with it. Because this project covered up most of the lovely hammered texture of the collar, I'm trying to think up a way that I can leave more of it exposed. Maybe I can use my wire jewelry skills to add small clusters of glass beads? Maybe I can punch holes along the bottom and add some wire fringe with more crystal beads? I've got a lot of thinking to do for this one!

Don't you just love it when you can turn your basic wire jewelry skills into something fabulous like this? Whenever I have a little success with my wire jewelry projects, I'm always inspired to go on to make something bigger and better! So when I'm feeling adventurous with my wire jewelry projects, I'll turn to the pages of *Step By Step Wire Jewelry* magazine for new ideas and inspiration. It just goes to show that a little bit of experience making wire jewelry can go a long way!

[Subscribe to Step By Step Wire Jewelry](#) and get a full year of wire jewelry tips, techniques, and projects that will have you get you working with wire in ways you never dreamed possible!

If you make this free wire jewelry project, take a picture and post it in our [Reader Photo Gallery!](#)

Bead Happy,



Maple Ridge Lapidary Club

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