

ALBERTA ROCKHOUND NEWS

Publication of the Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs



Volume 49 No. 1



April, 2017



President's Report

By Ron Biel

Hello everyone, and welcome to another edition of the Alberta Rockbound News (ARN). As the new president of the Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs (AFRC) I would like to thank Lavern Novlan for filling in as president for the last year.

Spring is here and of course we look forward to the annual gathering of rock hounds at May Daze. I am not sure where the word Daze came from but all AFRC club members are invited to attend the three days of rock "stuff" hosted this year in Diamond City by the Southern Alberta Rockhounds Association (Lethbridge), May 19th to 21st. Details of this weekend are included in this issue of the ARN. A lot of planning and work has gone into this event so come on out and enjoy a great weekend. As with any planning, we can't predict the weather!

The last directors meeting of the AFRC was held on April 9, 2017. Minutes of this meeting are included in this newsletter. Please note that the directors changed the yearly education/ workshop grant that is available to each club from \$100 to \$250. I think this grant was set in place more than 15 years ago and has rarely been used. Costs have increased over the years so this may provide a bit more incentive for a club to plan and host an educational workshop. Some clubs would like to bring in experts from further away and this extra money should help defer the cost, and attract qualified people from outside the club. Of course we all have qualified teachers within each club who can also lead workshops. To get the grant, all AFRC clubs need to be invited to the workshop. For more details, ask your club directors. It would be great to see clubs using the grant. Does your club have someone who would like to use extra money for education?

The AFRC has 6 clubs and now all members in these clubs receive the ARN free. The ARN is sent by the editor to each club secretary by email and they forward it to the members or print copies for those who don't have email. There are now a lot more club members reading the ARN so if you have any interesting articles about rocks, etc, that you want to share with your fellow rock hounds, please send it to the editor.

See you at May Daze!



ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS

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MEMBER CLUBS AND SECRETARIES

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Calgary CRLC: Shelley Gibbins 2406-26A Street SW Calgary, AB T3E 2C5

Edmonton Tumblewood: Fiona Jakielaszek 9511-97 Street Morinville, AB T8R 1H4 780 439-3713

Fiona.Jakielaszek@hc-sc.gc.ca

Lacombe Lapidary Club: Ron Biel RR.4 Lacombe, AB T4L 2N4 (403) 782-4769 ronbiel@platinum.ca

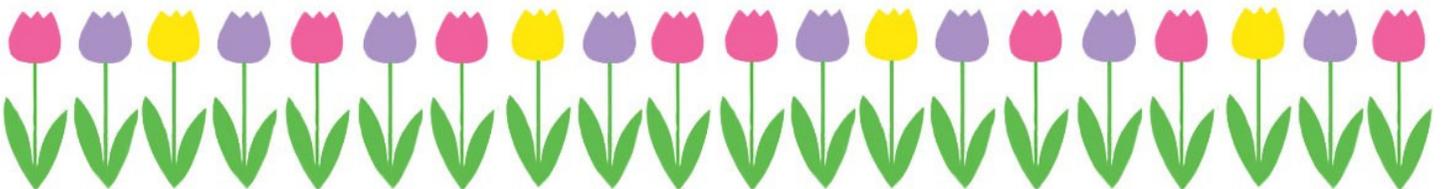
Medicine Hat Rock & Gem: Kiwanis Centre, 826-11 St. S.E. Medicine Hat, AB (403) 527-0068

Southern Alberta Rockhounds: Kendra Grams 2106-12 Ave. N. Lethbridge, AB T1H 1S1

OBJECTIVES OF THE ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS

1. To promote and encourage the study, cutting, polishing and engraving of gemstones and rocks and other geological materials and lapidary work as a hobby other than for the purpose of trade, industry or business.
2. To encourage the exploration of Alberta for lapidary materials, and to promote and create a greater interest in Alberta finished and unfinished rocks and minerals.
3. To encourage and promote the close association with, and exchange of information between rock hobbyists and lapidary groups to stimulate interest in and disseminate knowledge about mineralogy and earth sciences.
4. The Alberta Federation sponsors a website which its members may use to promote the activities and events of their club.
5. The operations of the Alberta Federation are to be mainly carried out in the Province of Alberta, under the Canadian Rockhound Code of Ethics.

THE ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS is a member of THE GEM AND MINERAL FEDERATION OF CANADA. Each club pays their members dues to the AFRC Treasurer by February 1st and each paid up member is entitled to 3rd Party Liability Insurance which covers events such as field trips, rock and gem shows, and other organized events.



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This is your magazine. We need articles & suggestions. Send submissions anytime. If possible, send your article about two weeks before publication date to get them into the current month's publication. Otherwise the article will be included in the next publication.

Lacombe Lapidary Club Report

G.H. DAWE SCHOOL PRESENTATION, February 24th., 2017. The Lacombe Lapidary Club presented a one hour presentation of "ROCKS", to 19 students at the G. H DAWE school in Red Deer on February 24, 2017.

The presentation started with pictures of "LARGE ROCKS", (A mountain), " MEDIUM SIZED ROCKS", (large boulders), and "SMALL ROCKS", (a jar of pebbles).

Dave Biro then proceeded to show the students a variety of rocks and mineral specimens, explaining what the "ROCK" was and pointed out its unique characteristics, while his assistants, Bev Caulkins, and Trish Duckett passed examples of the minerals around to the children to examine more closely.

Harvey Prins then showed the students a variety of objects, including a large piece of MAMMOTH IVORY tusk, and genuine INDIAN ARROW HEADS and SPEAR POINTS.

Throughout the session, the students were encouraged to ask questions and many responded enthusiastically. The session concluded with showing a series of pictures, on a large screen, of a variety of uses that "ROCKS" could be used for.

There were pictures of a variety of mineral specimens and of many carvings of animals, birds, butterflies, and fish, all carved from colourful rock and mineral specimens. There was also a picture of a "ROCK" from "OUT OF THIS WORLD", A MOON ROCK, brought back from the moon by the Apollo 15 astronauts. The students were then invited to choose a rock they could take home, from a variety of tumbled stones.

The event was a very entertaining way to introduce the students to "ROCKS".

Thank you to presenter Harvey, Bev, Trish, and Dave

Lacombe Lapidary Club

by Bev Caulkins

Hi all. It has been a busy year for our club. During the summer, some of our club members had an information table at a local community event called "Eggs & Lamb". This event was well attended and our representation peaked some interest in our club. This was evident back in September when we started up. Our club acquired 9 new members. We also had a table at Lacombe's annual Active Living Fair.

We kicked off our season with a class on making a copper cuff bracelet. Using



2 layers of copper (one thin the other, normal) we cut our designs out. We then used different techniques to show off our designs: Patina (using ammonia & salt fumes), liver of sulfur, and some used a thin layer of leather between the 2 layers. The results were spectacular. (See photos). The class was instructed by Doug Schatz. He wrote up an instructional tutorial for this piece.

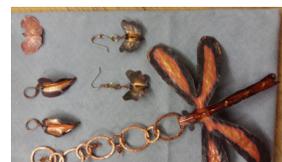


Our next class was on copper fold forming. Our instructor was Ron Biel. Some made earrings, some made pendants and others made lanterns for their garden. The techniques were demonstrated to the class ; how to fold metal, hammering styles, type of hammer used, forging, annealing, then more hammering, and repeat

process, then opening up your piece. (See photos). Both classes were lots of fun, lots of noise, and everyone came out with a great piece.



Dave Biro was contacted in Feb. by a school in Red Deer to do a "Rock Informative" demo. We had various samples. Someone even brought a sample of coal, some brought samples of dinosaur bones and the kids really enjoyed it. See page 3 for this article.



Well we start our final class next month on making a simple ring. This class will be taught by Dave Biro. To all, have a great summer and keep "rockin out"

Doug Schatz, of the Lacombe Lapidary Club demonstrating Faceting. Two beautiful faceted stones.



AFRC EVENT KNOWN AS MAY DAZE

Every May long weekend the AFRC holds its annual meeting and much more which has become to be known as May Daze. There is sharing of technical hobby information, an opportunity to participate in field trips, acquire machines and rocks through an auction or tailgating and meet other like minded people from clubs across the province. Both members of clubs and general public (nonmembers) are welcome to participate in the event.

On Friday people begin arriving with their trailers, motor homes and tents. Others rent rooms at nearby motels/hotels. Friday is mostly to get accommodations settled, set up the hall and prepare rocks and other items for the auction. A barbecue of hamburgers and condiments will be made available at nominal cost per person. After the BBQ meal the people meet in the hall for socializing and listen to the local band play and sing favorite "old time" songs or some kind of presentation!

Saturday is filled with a variety of activities. A few activities such as fieldtrips are preplanned. Others are volunteers who demonstrate their skills and pass along tips to beginners. Some ad hoc workshops may be pleasant surprises. Display cases provide information about materials and members' activities. Some choose to enjoy coffee and visit for part of the time. A potluck is served about 5:00 pm. The Rock Auction is the main attraction on Saturday evening. The auction items are rocks and anything related to the hobby. Some of the auction items are donated. Other items are consigned with 15% of the selling price going to the AFRC and the consignee receiving 85%. If you plan to bring some items to auction off, you must email the Treasurer (pg 3 of this newsletter) and tell him how many lots you will bring. Limit of 10 lots per consignee. The auction takes place on Saturday after the potluck supper.

Sunday begins with a complementary pancake breakfast. The annual general AFRC meeting begins at 10:00 am. and lasts for an hour or more. Although everyone may contribute to the discussion at the meeting, only paid up club members are allowed to vote on the motions. The remains of the potluck makes up the Sunday noon buffet. The food seems to taste even better on the second day. After lunch tailgating takes place either inside the hall at the tables, or outside selling out of the back of the truck or the trunk of the car. The AFRC asks that all tailgaters donate 10% of their sales to the club using the honour system. The last item on Sunday's agenda is clean up and leaving the hall in its original condition.

If you plan to stay for the pot luck meal on Saturday night, bring an item of food for everyone to share. Stoves, refrigeration, etc is available. The food you bring will be shared both on Saturday night and also on Sunday noon. **Remember to bring your own cutlery, plates, cups, drinks, etc.**

All members of the Alberta lapidary clubs are invited and encourage to come and participate in this great event which is specifically geared to them. You may also bring your non member friends so that they can get to see how much fun it is to belong to a lapidary club!! **SEE PAGE 9 FOR MAY DAZE 2017 DETAILS.**

2017 Winter Classes at the Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club
Submitted by Karen-Anne Cherwonogrodzky

The Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club is off to a good start with classes completed in the first two months of 2017. Thus far we have had three classes and have been especially creative with copper and brass wire creating bracelets and wire pendants. Creating chains out of wire comes next. We also held our popular class of inlay with mammoth tusk ivory. Thank you to Adam Jetter and Slim Metz for offering these classes. As pictures speak a thousand words, enjoy.



ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS Directors Meeting, April 9, 2017

The Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs Directors meeting was held at the Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club, #13 3650-19 Street NE Calgary, AB, April 9, 2017, commencing at 10:40am.

1. **CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA:** President Ron Biel called the meeting to order and asked if there were any additions to the agenda. It was noted that item 9.9 be added for discussion of May Daze directors lists and directors pins. John Cherwonogrodsky moved to adopt the agenda with requested change. Seconded by Karen-Anne Cherwonogrodsky.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Clubs present were the Calgary Faceters Guild, Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club, Lacombe Handicraft & Lapidary Guild, Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club, Southern AB Rockhounds Association. There was no representation from the Edmonton Tumblewood Lapidary Club.

3. **MEMORIUM OR MOMENT OF SILENCE:** None were observed as not aware of anyone passing.

4. **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** Ron Biel welcomed everyone to the meeting and hoped that everyone was enjoying the mild spring we were having so far. He wished Ed Zeschuk a speedy recover.

5. **THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2016 MEETING:** emailed to all AFRC Directors and a few hard copies were passed out at the meeting. They were reviewed by all. Dave Biro moved the minutes be adopted. Karen-Anne Cherwonogrodsky seconded the motion. Carried.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** None.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE:** The only correspondence received was for the annual filing for the Annual Return and Registration for our Non-Profit Society status. John Cherwonogrodsky will attend to this.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Treasurer's Report- John Cherwonogrodzky. A summary of finances was given to each attendee with hard copies of the full report for each of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Membership cards were available to those clubs that had remitted their list and dues.

8.2 It was confirmed that the Southern Alberta Rockhounds Association has possession of the travelling library and will bring it to the meeting at May Daze for any Club that wishes to have it for reference. It was further confirmed that they do not currently have the Momento. It is still with Francois / Calgary Club. Mike O'Toole did attempt to find it but was unsuccessful. It is safely tucked away but not sure where.

8.3 GMFC. Not much new to report as the annual meeting has not been held yet. Check out the new website at GMFC.rocks for new information. National Show will be held September 22-24, 2017 in Prince Albert SK. There should be an annual general meeting then.

9. NEW BUSINESS.

9.1 May Daze 2017. Kendra from SARA indicated that the planning is mostly complete and that there is an agenda/information package ready. There will be some last minute adjustments as the last minute details are attended to.

SARA may need to get some showcases from the Medicine Hat Club as their cases in storage seem to be inaccessible due to health issues of a senior club member.

It was requested that if auction volunteers are need to let SARA know so they can put out a call for these as well.

For auction items donated it was requested by the AFRC that you NOT number any of your donations. Label with descriptions, certainly, but no numbers please.

9.2 CRLC has confirmed they will take the 2018 May Daze. Planning is in process.

9.3 May Daze 2019 is now assigned to the Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club.

9.4 Directors & Officers Insurance. Some information about this has been received and distributed. John would still like to pursue further as there is still a lot of information to sort through.

Expanding from the discussion of this topic, it was noted that some Clubs are having concerns about children and liability coverage. It was agreed that, if willing clubs will share their policy wording and carrier information to try to assist those clubs that may currently have an exclusion on their policy for younger children (under 12).

9.5 John Cherwonogrodsky has distributed a one page handout about AFRC dues, memberships, directors and annual meeting. He will resend via email as there are two minor corrections to be made re: the “stamp and seal” wordings.

9.6 Mike O’Toole has sent out via email the “Policies for Consignment and Donation for the AFRC Auction”. John may contact some people for assistance with the auction. Please help out in whatever way that you can. A motion was made by Doug Schatz that there be a set amount of lots reserved for the host club right after the AFRC auctioned items. The purpose of this being, the host club’s items then are not being left for the very end when bidders are running low on money. This motion was seconded by Kendra Grams. Carried.

9.7 A further discussion was had regarding the per diem / grant that clubs can access for educational classes. (this item was discussed in section 11.2 in the November 2016 minutes)

After much discussion a motion was made by Kendra Grams that this grant amount be increased from \$100.00 per club, per year with an annual limit of \$600.00 to new limits of \$250.00 per club, per year to a new annual limit of \$1500.00 and that this be retro-active to January 1, 2017 of this year. It was seconded by Brett Jensen & Carried.

9.8 Membership Cards were dealt with under point 8.1. There was nothing further to note at this time.

9.9 It was noted that all clubs should have their updated listing of delegates / directors submitted for the annual meeting at May Daze. New name tags / directors pins will be made from this.

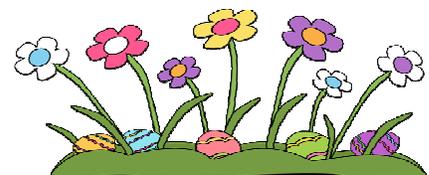
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Calgary Show is set for the usual weekend in beginning of May. (May 5-7)

They have provided some promotional materials for us to take back to our clubs.

There was a reminder noted for all clubs. Remember to send out notification to the AFRC and other Clubs for events, classes and lectures that may be of interest to others. Please.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:30pm



THE GMFC 2017 GEM & MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW WILL BE HELD IN PRINCE ALBERT, SASK. MORE INFO WILL BE FORTHCOMING. VENDORS WHO WANT TO PARTICIPATE FILL IN THIS FORM AND SEND IT TO DON FABRICK.

GMFC 2017 Gem Mineral and Fossil Show

Gem & Mineral Federation of Canada (GMFC) Annual Convention

Prince Albert Exhibition Center Prince Albert Sask.

Sat., Sept. 23, 2017 10:00AM to 6:00 PM Sun., Sept. 24, 2017 10:00AM to 5:00PM

Vendor Registration Form and Guidelines

Company/VendorName: _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

_____ Cellular _____

_____ E:mail _____

Reservation of _____ feet of frontage space. Frontage rates are \$14.00 per foot and includes side and back tables.

A minimum 50% is required by April 20, 2017 With balance due Sept 23, 2017.

A full refund will be given if cancellation is before May 1st 2017. Please make cheques payable to GMFC (Gem Mineral Federation of Canada)

Mail to RR 5 Site 26 Comp 21 Prince Albert Sask. S6V 5R3

Contract Conditions and Guidelines

1. No subletting of the contracted area.
2. Space will be allotted on 'first come, first serve' basis.
3. Vendor name is to be prominently displayed. Display may not obstruct other Vendors.
4. All prices must be clearly marked and material to be lapidary related.
5. No person is allowed to solicit, promote or sell without a signed and valid Dealer Contract.
6. Vendors responsible for table skirting – table skirting is available for rent at Exhibition Center.
7. Multiple 110 power outlets are available for booths.
8. Security is 24 hour building alarm.
9. Setup time is scheduled from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM – Friday, September 22, 2017. Dealer displays must be in place by 8:00 PM – Friday, September 22, 2017.
10. Vendors must not dismantle displays until the end of the show – Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 5:00 PM.
11. All electrical equipment must be disconnected during show off hours.
12. Cash machine is on site at the Exhibition Center.
13. A canteen will be in operation during the show.
14. Full service campsite rentals are available on site of Exhibition Center.

Date _____ Owner/Legal Rep _____

Signature _____

Further information: Don Fabrick 306-764-0991 rdrunr@sasktel.netp

54th Annual May Daze

May 19 – 21, 2017

Diamond City Community Hall

3rd Street – Underwood Avenue

Diamond City, Alberta

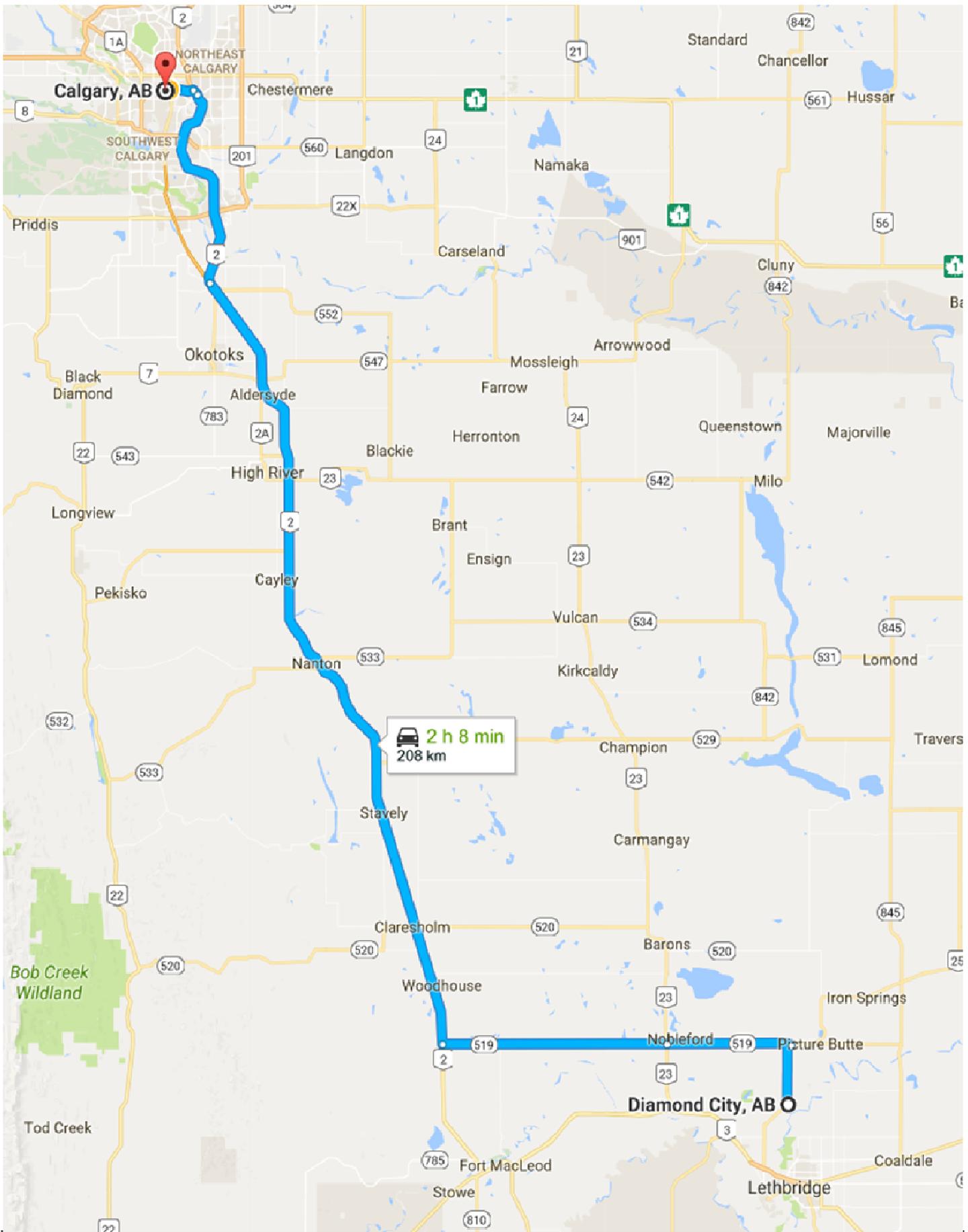
Hosted by Southern Alberta Rockhounds Association (SARHA)

Friday, May 19, 2017

Time	Activity
3:00 pm	Hall opens for set up – volunteers welcome for this activity. Contact Kendra Grams or Leola Grams to help with set up.
6:00 pm	Sign AFRC Guest Book upon arrival
	Meet and Greet Barbecue Menu: Burgers with fixings, salads, beverages, etc. \$6.00/person
	Fundraising activities/Events – Door prizes; Sale of 50/50 tickets, silent or raffle tickets for prizes.
	Entertainment by Alice Tinordy – Accordion player – two hours
7:30 pm	Further hall set up if necessary
	Visiting
	Sign up for field trips / demonstrations
	Free coffee
8:00 pm	Presentation by Belinda Crowson of the Galt Museum
	Background music while visiting
9:00 pm	Entertainment at the Casino in Lethbridge
10:00 pm	Hall locked for the night

Saturday, May 20, 2017

Time	Activity
7:30 am	Hall opens for the day
8:00 am	Sign up for field trips / demonstrations
9:00 am	<p>Castle River Tour – leave for Crowsnest Pass – Led by Brett Jensen</p> <p>All day tour – car convoy to site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green dragon Quail egg Black garnets Blairmorite Calcite crystals Fossils - Scallop shells Ammonite
	<p>Garret's Coulee – Led by Henry Komadowski</p> <p>Half day tour – convoy to site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Badlands area 4-wheel drive required Only if weather is good Fossil site Alternate tour in the event of bad weather?
	<p>The Brewing Company – Led by Cherie Souther</p> <p>\$10.00 / person</p>
	<p>Helen Schuler Nature Centre – Led by TBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opens at 10:00 am Admission by donation Self guided tours Can look for rocks at the river bottom if river is low
1:00 pm	Please supply own lunch
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<p>Demonstrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wire Wrapping – Barb Black Soap Stone Carving – Burt Huipen Knife Making – Randy Kiemele
5:00 pm	Potluck Supper – please bring own dishes and cutlery
	Draw 50/50 tickets; door and raffle prizes
6:30 pm	AFRC May Daze auction – donations and consignments
10:30 pm	Clean up for night
11:00 pm	Hall locked for the night



DISCOVER THE WONDERS OF THE EARTH

CRLC Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show



CALGARY ROCK & LAPIDARY CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

May 5-7, 2017. 49 Unique dealers. One of the Largest Shows in Western Canada!

Dealers, Demos, Prizes, Silent Auction, and MORE

Demonstrations: lapidary, faceting, beading, silver clay, rock painting

For sale: Minerals, Crystals, Rough Rock, Jewellery, Tools/Equipment

This 57th annual show is a major fundraiser for The Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club and is Calgary's only gem show operated by a non-profit. This year's theme is Crystals.

<p>Hours May 5-7, 2017 Friday: 1pm – 9pm (NEW Late!) Saturday: 10am – 6pm Sunday: 10am – 5pm</p>	<p>Location VIVO For Healthy Generations 11950 Country Village Link NE Calgary, Alberta</p>	<p>Admission (cash only) Adults: \$7 (3 days \$10) Seniors/Students: \$5 (3 days \$7) Children (12 & under*): Free</p>
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We have 49 dealers selling material from all around the world, including specialty rocks, gems, minerals, crystals, jewelry findings and supplies, and beads. Check out our new vendors!



EDMONTON TUMBLEWOOD LAPIDARY CLUB HAS NEW SHOP

After having flooding in the lapidary work shop in St. Albert and a temporary shop in a garage, the Edmonton Tumblewood Lapidary Club finally has a permanent shop in cooperation with Bedrock Supply. The newly renovated shop had its Grand Opening on Sunday, March 19, 2017. The ETLC club members and public were invited for the Ribbon Cutting of the opening of the shop. The turn out to the event was good and the group was impressed with the bright new shop and the equipment.

Club members can now look forward to a new place to carry on their lapidary activities.



ETLC members anticipating the ribbon cutting!!!

**Cake for everyone!
Note the Yellow & Green club colours.**



President Pauline has her scissors ready.

ETLC SHOP EQUIPMENT AND LAYOUT

