



September 2010

The Rockhound's Bark

News

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

Meetings are held the last Saturday of each month, September-November and January-May,

7:30 - 10:00 p.m. in the auditorium (Lower Level) of the N.S. Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax.

Dues are \$20/year, payable

SOCIETY'S MAILING ADDRESS

The Nova Scotia Mineral and Gem Society
c/o NS Museum of Natural History
1747 Summer Street,
Halifax, N.S.,
B3H 3A6

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees were due in January. Please bring application form to a meeting or mail it to Terry along with \$20. We would like to be sure we have your most current information.

The next meeting will be held at the Museum on September 25, 2010. The theme will be show and tell. Bring your finds from the summer.

Elections will be held in November for all executive positions. We need volunteers for the positions of president, treasurer, secretary and newsletter editor. All positions will be vacant as of November so please give some consideration to taking on one of these jobs.

MINUTES OF MAY MEETING

By Arlene Driscoll

Old Business

Black Rock field trip went very well. The weather was fairly cold but some nice stillbite and naturlite was found.

Wire wrap class also went well with 4 people taking part and all completing one piece to take home.

Bill is still looking in to a bank account that will not charge a lot of fees and will then deposit the funds on hand.

The internet site is being kept up to date so it will be left as is for now. Arlene provided a sample of what a new format could look like and asked for feedback.

The books recommended by Gordon will each cost around \$20. Terry made a motion to purchase both books and it was seconded by Joan. The books will be purchased for the library, Rock and Mineral magazine will also be purchased for the library. John will see if there is a show special at the Springfield show.

New Business

The Parrsboro show will be held in August. Bill will do displays for rocks and minerals of Nova Scotia, showing how they are found in nature. Dick McAlister will do the stages of lapidary, There will be ballots on hand to win a sample kit. A hat and crest will be donated to the penny auction. Bill and Kevin will man the booth on Saturday and Bill and Dick will cover Friday and Sunday. Any other volunteers can fill in as needed.

We need subjects for meetings. Some ideas are explaining terms such as Mohs scale, RI & SG. Members are encouraged to be more active. You can't find it if you don't go out! Call Bill and he will go with you. Bring your finds to the next meeting for help with identification.

Surplus equipment from the club was auctioned off to the members. The two old blacklights and the mineral trimmer were sold and the funds will go to the bank account.

PARRSBORO GEM & MINERAL SHOW

By William Blinn



The 45th Parrsboro Gem & Mineral Show was well attended by Rockhounds, tourists and the curious. We passed out about 75 or so brochures and answered numerous questions. The draw was won by a Mr. Baldwin, a tourist I believe.

I would like to thank Bill, Kevin, Deb, Emma and Joan for their time spent at the booth. A special thanks to Richard McAllister for his display and as always very informative answers to some difficult questions.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By William Blinn

October will mark the third anniversary of my Presidency and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped make it, I believe, somewhat of a success. Membership has grown over the past three years thanks to efforts by many members.

The Parrsboro Show has been re-visited, getting our name out there where people can learn of our Society. I would like to offer my special thanks to Bill, Richard, Kevin, Deb, Emma and Arlene for their help in the Parrsboro program.

This fall will see the election for the various offices in the club. Terry has indicated that he wishes to step down as Treasurer and his work in this area will surely be missed. I would like someone else to replace me as President also. Therefore I ask you to all consider taking on one of these positions this fall. If someone takes over the Presidency, I pledge my continued dedication and help to whomever it may be.

With expansion of the membership comes more responsibility to put forward new activities and interesting presentations, which it seems, falls only on the shoulders of the president. I believe it is time that the club considered naming "Committees" for the various responsibilities such as "presentations, Parrsboro show and other areas of interest".

A survey indicated that many members interests vary from minerals to lapidary and fossils, so these areas must be addressed.

So again, I ask you to consider taking a more active role in the club. Volunteer to serve on a committee or the executive, put something back into the group.

In closing , I again thank you for your continued support and look forward to the next three years.

William Blinn

Events

Tips and Tricks

Here are some interesting web sites for info:

<http://www.robsrockshop.com/>

<http://www.rockhounds.com>

<http://www.42explore.com/rocks2.htm>

The Metal Arts Guild has members looking for Nova Scotia rocks for making jewelry. If you have anything you would like to sell, please let me know and I will pass the information along.

**Deadline for the
October Newsletter is
October 15**

**Send submissions to
driscoll@allstream.net**

2009 EXECUTIVE

President:

William Blinn

Vice President:

Fred Walsh

Secretary/Bark Editor:

Arlene Driscoll

Treasurer:

Terry Collett

Librarian:

Herb Malle