



Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs

presents the

62nd May Daze

hosted by the



Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club

to be held at the

Seven Persons Community Hall

May 15, 16, 17 & 18, 2026



Approximate distances:

Medicine Hat to Seven Persons – 24 km

Seven Persons to Grassy Lake – 59 km

Seven Persons to Bow Island – 34 km

Seven Persons to Red Rock Coulee – 27 km

Seven Persons to Etzikom Museum – 66 km

MAY DAZE 2026 Schedule

May 15, 16, 17 & 18 – Seven Person's Community Hall - 426 Drinnan St., Seven Persons

Friday, May 15th

3:00 pm **Registration begins.** Please sign the guest book and pick up your goodie bag (one per family for 1st 100) and each individual will receive a door prize ticket. Those receiving a goodie bag and door prize ticket must be a member of an Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs (AFRC) club or an Associate member. Door prize draws will be immediately after the AFRC Annual General Meeting on Sunday morning; you must be present to win.

Begin sign-up for field trips and bidding on the Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club's (MHR&LC) silent auction items that closes Saturday evening at 8 pm. Items must be paid for and picked up Saturday evening.

Cash or Square payments will be accepted at the canteen and for the Friday evening meal. Cash, cheque, e-transfer and square payments will be accepted for the silent auction & live auction. Square merchant fee will be charged.

Coffee/tea/water available for free all weekend. Canteen available for those wanting to purchase a snack with any profits going to the MHR&LC.

Setup of show cases and bringing in Live Auction items. The set up for the AFRC auction will continue no later than Saturday at 4 pm. **Note:** All those with items for the Live Auction need to have reserved their lots with John Cherwonogrodzky prior. For more information you may contact John at (403) 548-5964). Any AFRC member is welcome to tailgate Saturday evening starting at 6:30 pm with 10% of your sales, on an honor system, going to the AFRC. Donations for the AFRC Auction lots will be received **up till 4 pm on Saturday.** Live auction starts Sunday at 1:30 pm.

RV Parking and set up of tents. There will be no sleeping in the hall until Sunday evening (Speak to Karen-Anne for details 403-952-8991). **Note:** Jolynne and Aaron Block will be the hosts for the campers and will collect the \$20.00 fee per night for those with power sites and \$10.00 per night per unit without power. **CASH ONLY** No reservations; first come, first served. Tenting is free, however due to the sprinkler system, please ask where to set up your tent on the grassed area.

5:30 pm **Meet & Greet** – Sausage on a bun with condiments or two tuna melts on an open face bun, salad, dessert, with choice of pop or bottled water for \$15.00 each

7:00 pm. **Official Welcome by MHR&LC President followed by Speaker** - Sheri Monk from Snakes on a Plain

9:00 pm **Cookhouse visiting under sheltered outdoor cookhouse**

10:00 pm. **Hall locked for the night.** Toilets available in outdoor washrooms near cookhouse.

Saturday, May 16th

7:30 am **Hall doors open.** Coffee, Tea, & Water available for free all day. Please note breakfast is not available in the hall other than items available from the canteen such as muffins, granola bars, fruit, bottled water and juice boxes. Suggested locations to purchase breakfast from are included at end of program.

7:30 – 9:00 am **Registration & receive goodie bag, door prize ticket and continue to sign-up for field trips and sign required waivers.**

NOTE: Bidding on Club's silent auction items till 8:00 pm Saturday (Proceeds go to Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club). Items must be paid for and picked up Saturday evening. If highest bidder is not present, item will go to the next bidder in line. There will be a wide variety of items from various donors in addition to lapidary items including used club equipment such as tumblers, torches, saw blades, casting equipment and a UV light. Please see list of donors at the end of this schedule.

Looking over 200 lots for live auction continues until Auction begins at 1:30 pm on Sunday.

9:00 am – 1:00 pm **Guided or self guided Field trips or visiting sites.** See suggestions at end of program.

Noon – 1:00 pm. **Everyone responsible for their own lunch.** Canteen will sell any leftovers from the Friday evening (Sausage on a bun, tuna melts, salad and dessert; price reduced).

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm **Continue registration & receive goodie bag and door prize ticket.**

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm **Classes, Demonstrations, and Displays.** See list provided at end of this program. (Public Invited)

4:45 pm **May Daze Committee Welcome and Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club 35th Anniversary Presentation.**

5:00 pm **Potluck Supper** – everyone brings an item as well as their own cutlery & plate. (AFRC members and family only; hall closed to the public from 4 pm to 6:30 pm)

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm **Continue bidding on Silent Auction items**
NOTE: Courtesy Desk will be open from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm to pick up and pay for all Silent Auction Items. Items **must** be claimed that evening.

6:00 pm – 6:30 pm **Set up for Tailgating Outside** (If inclement weather, we will set up inside)

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm **Tailgating and Final bidding on Silent Auction Items (Public invited)**

9:00 pm Hall clean-up and prepare for Sunday Breakfast

10:00 pm **Hall locked for the night.** Toilets available in outdoor washrooms by cookhouse.

Sunday, May 17th

- 7:00 am Hall opens for breakfast preparation.
- 8:00 am Free Pancake Breakfast sponsored by AFRC.
- 9:00 – 9:25 am Start signing out paddles for the live auction.
- 9:30 am - noon AFRC Annual General Meeting. Everyone encouraged to attend. Following meeting, door prize numbers will be called. You must be present to win. **Immediately following door prize draws, sign-up for lots for next years auction with sheet provided by John Cherwonogrodzky, Treasurer.**
- 12:00 noon – 1 pm. Potluck lunch from Saturday evening potluck leftovers and clean-up to follow. (AFRC and family members only)
- 12:30 – 1:15 pm Sign out paddles for auction and final preparation for auction and final chance to view items for bid. (Public may attend the live auction and sign out paddles from 1:00 to 1:15 pm)
- 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm **Live Auction with a 10 minute break each hour**
- 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Payments and payouts from auction
Dismantle show cases
Clean-up
Safe travels for those leaving.
- 6:00 pm Supper time. For those staying Sunday night, depending on interest, ordering in for supper.
- 7:30 pm Presentations on the Monday morning field trips sites including Grassy Lake and the Redcliff Coulees. Russel Henderson and Brett Jensen will share their knowledge on the old coal strip-mines near Grassy Lake and what to expect when searching for amber. Gwen Campbell will share the history of the Redcliff coal mines and what one might expect to find when searching the Redcliff coulees for rocks and fossils.

Those staying are welcome to sleep overnight Sunday evening in the hall upstairs for free.

Monday, May 18th

- 7:30 am Hall is open and coffee on. Depending on demand, canteen will be open.
- 9:00 am to noon Group or self-guided Field Trips
- Noon – 2:00 pm Lunch on your own; Good byes and clean-up of hall and grounds.

Please review the remainder of the program to find out about the classes, demonstrations, displays and field trips to look forward to. Also, suggestions for dining and accommodations. If possible, please support the list of donors noted at the end of the program. We are truly grateful for their generous support.

Weekend Field Trips and Classes

Please note the following field trips and classes will be available only for AFRC club members or Associate members. For those who are interested in becoming an AFRC member, but do not have access to a Rock & Lapidary Club in your community, consider Associate Membership. The cost is \$5.00 for a Family and \$4.50 for an individual. Text John Cherwonogrodzky, Treasurer of the AFRC, at (403) 548-5964 to make arrangements to obtain an Associate Membership.

Classes:

Wire Wrap Beginners Class - \$45 – Glenn Woolley – CRLC – Max 6 students

Call or text to register: 403-618-4380

Wire wrap a cabochon of your choice: tear drop, small oval or 20x40

Wire is provided (silver, vintage bronze or bare copper) as well as tools for use during class

Flintknapped Obsidian Knife Workshop - \$20 - Brett Jensen – SARA – Max 12 students

To ensure a spot you may pre-register by e-mailing Brett at dgbrett.jensen@gmail.com

Make an obsidian knife in an afternoon! All materials and tools supplied!

Minimum age of participants: 12 years of age

Time: Saturday afternoon from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

This is a great opportunity to find out if you can pressure knap obsidian slabs and if you like to knap obsidian without a great expenditure of time or money. Participants will receive a 4 to 6 inch obsidian knife blank already slabbed and shaped ready for flintknapping. You will receive instruction on how to pressure flake that knife blank using copper rod pressure flaking tools. The tool kit on loan to you will also include the safety equipment of safety glasses, cut-resistant gloves, leather palm protector and leather thigh protector. Once the knapping is completed you will attach the knife blade to a Buckhorn Cholla Cactus wood handle that has already been slotted, bevelled, sanded and urethane coated. To finish the look of an aboriginal obsidian knife the junction of blade and handle will be wrapped with artificial sinew. The knife is yours to keep! Flintknapped obsidian knives retail for \$50 to \$125.

Setting a Cabochon in either Copper or Brass - \$60 - Adam Lagace – CRLC – Max 6 students

Time: Saturday afternoon from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

To ensure a spot you may pre-register by e-mailing Adam at merkury.metals@gmail.com

\$60 includes materials other than cabochon. Bring your own cabochon or purchase one from Adam.

Resin Frogs or Butterflies – Free for Children – Ingrid Eichelbaum - CRLC – Max 3 children at a time

Minimum Age 3 years old. Note: A parent must accompany and stay with children under 7 years of age. You will be making resin frogs or butterflies and attaching to a rock. Maximum of 3 children at a time so Ingrid should be able to process a group every half hour. Adults are welcome to try once all the children are through.

Silk Thread Knotting and String Pearls and Beads - \$20.00 – Judy Jensen – SARHA – Max 10 students

Time: 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Materials Supplied: Pearls, silk thread, french wire, clasp, super glue

Cost: \$20

Class Description: Judy will instruct in how to correctly knot and string pearls using the double string method by guiding the class participants in fashioning a professional looking pearl necklace which will be theirs to take home. Participants may bring their own pearls, silk thread, and clasp to help reduce costs. However, participants should contact Judy prior to the class to ensure that all materials match and work together properly. Participants may pre-register by phoning or texting Judy at 403 315-3051 or emailing her at hojpojjudy@icloud.com prior to May Daze or by registering at May Daze on Friday evening or Saturday morning.

Demonstrations:

Stained Glass – Glenda Leitch – MHR&LC (Demonstrations at 1:30 pm and 3:00 pm)

Carving – Joanne Spinks – MHR&LC (Demonstrations at 1:00 pm and 2:30 pm)

3D Printers – Jolynne & Aaron Block – MHR&LC (Ongoing demonstration)

Wire Wrapping – Jim Routledge – ERC (Demonstrations at 1:15 pm and 2:45 pm)

Show Case Displays (10 available):

- 1) Joni Parent – Tumbling - MHR&LC
- 2) John Smith Jones – CRLC
- 3) Brett and Judy Jensen – SARHA
- 4) Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club – Sample of rocks & fossils found in the area by club members
- 5) Southern Alberta Rockhounds Association (SARHA)
- 6) AFRC – Auction Valuables
- 7) Red Fox Ammonite, Dee_Buff – Associate Member
- 8) Lacombe Handicraft & Lapidary Guild
- 9) Glenn Woolley & Norma Jean Lockrem - CRLC
- 10) Jonathan Legg - SARHA

Group Field Trips: Available to AFRC members only; waiver forms must be signed when signing up.

- 1) **Gravel Pit** – Saturday morning from 8:50 am to noon; Skill level – Low Impact – Guide Russel Henderson
Starts with a 1/2 hour tour of Laidlaw Sand and Gravel followed by rock hunting
Leave hall at 8:50 am. Approximately a 30 minute drive each way.
- 2) **Murray Lake Ranching Rock Picking** – Saturday morning from 9 am to noon; Skill level – Low Impact – Guide Jolynne Block
Leave hall at 9:00 am. Come out to the farm and pick from a variety of rocks in the Seven Persons area. Approximately a 10 minute drive each way and easy to access.
- 3) **Grassy Lake Amber** - Monday morning from 9 am to noon; Skill level – Low Impact – Guide Brett Jensen
Leave hall at 9:00 am. Approximately a 70 km drive from Seven Persons.
- 4) **Death Valley Trail** – Monday morning from 9 am to noon; Skill level – Moderate Impact – Guide Gwen Campbell
Redcliff Coulees are a prime location for collecting Cretaceous-era fossils and various rocks. Common finds include petrified wood, agatized materials, marine fossils, and dinosaur bones. Leave hall at 9:00 am

Suggested Activities:

- 1) Police Point Park and rock picking along the river with access utilizing steps down to the river
- 2) Etzikom Museum and Historic Windmill Center
- 3) Redrock Coulee
- 4) Saamis TeePee
- 5) Medalta Museum
- 6) Windmill Garden Centre & Butterfly House
- 7) Sunshine Trolley Tour(s)
- 8) Medicine Hat Historic Downtown
- 9) Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede Farmers' Market (Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm)
- 10) Visit one or more of Medicine Hat's local Breweries
- 11) Echo Dale Regional Park
- 12) Elkwater (Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park)
- 13) James Marshall Murals
- 14) Bird watching at Cemetery next to Kin Coulee Park
- 15) Monarch Theatre

Camping/Trailer/RV Parks:

Seven Persons Community Hall – 500 Drinnan Street Seven Persons – First Come First Served

Gas City Campground – 402 11 Ave SW Medicine Hat (19 minute drive from Seven Persons Hall)
1-403-529-8158 (registration for online bookings started Feb 2, 2026)

Echo Dale Campground – 1001 Echo Dale Rd SW Medicine Hat (25 minute drive from Seven Persons Hall)

Bow Island Centennial Park & Campground – 1121 Centre St. Bow Island (22 minute drive from Hall)

Groceries and Shopping:

Safeway – 615 Division Ave. S. Medicine Hat (20 minute drive from Seven Persons Hall)

Real Canadian Superstore – 1792 Trans Canada Way SE Medicine Hat (23 minute drive from Hall)

FreshCo Medicine Hat Mall – 3292 Dunmore Rd SE Medicine Hat (24 minute drive from Seven Persons Hall)

Island Market – 140 5 Ave. W, Bow Island (23 minute drive from Seven Persons Hall)

Back 40 Foods – 115 5 ave. W, Bow Island (22 minute drive from Seven Persons Hall)

Closest Restaurants and Food Outlets:

Medicine Hat:

Homesteader Restaurant & Lounge – 1100 Redcliff Dr. SW

Homestead Market – 1750 Gershaw Dr. SW

A & W – 1300 Redcliff Drive SW

Tinos Drive In – 860 14th St. SW

McDonalds – 850 Redcliff Dr. SW

Subway – 934 Redcliff Dr. SW

Redcliff:

Trukker's Restaurant – 1900 South Highway Dr. SE Redcliff

Bow Island:

Rolling Pin Bakery & Cafe – 125 5 Ave. W.

Peters Family Restaurant – 801 6th St. E.

Tim Hortons – 410 7th Ave. E

Jimmy's Drive Inn - 202 7th Ave. E.

Subway - 7th ave. E and 2nd St. E.

Island Inn Chinese Food – 120 5th Ave. W.

Suggested Hotels:




MAY DAZE 2026

SPONSOR HOTELS

QUOTE CODE **DAZE05-26** FOR DISCOUNT RATES

HOTEL DEALS

CLARION POINTE



1100 Redcliff Dr. SW
403-527-2275
Group rates starting at \$109.00

- Waterslide, pool, kiddies pool and hot tub.
- Full service restaurant with \$10 pizza special!
- Free Hot Breakfast.
- Meeting rooms and catering available.

COMFORT INN & SUITES



2317 TransCanada Way
403-504-1700
Group Rates starting at \$129.00

- Complimentary Breakfast
- Pet Friendly
- Free Wifi and Chromecast
- Pool, hot tub & fitness room.
- Team/Hospitality room, ask about catering options

DAYS INN



24 Strachan Crt SE
403-580-3927
Group Rates starting at \$129.00

- Free Breakfast
- Indoor pool & Waterslide
- Free High-Speed Internet
- Suites including Jacuzzi, Extended Stay, KidsZone.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS



AN IHG® HOTEL
MEDICINE HAT
9 Strachan Bay SE
403-504-5151
hiex-medicinehat@whg.com
Group Rates starting at \$189.00

- Pool, Waterslide & Hot Tub
- Suites that sleep up to 6
- Free HOT Buffet Breakfast
- Team/hospitality rooms available


HOME INN EXPRESS



20 Strachan Crt. SE
403-527-1749
Group Rates starting at \$109.00

- Family Friendly
- Pets stay free
- Free buffet breakfast
- PS3 consoles & games free to borrow

BALANDS BIKING PACKAGE



From Trails to Ales.
The ultimate weekend for the modern cyclist.
RATES STARTING AT \$135 FOR TWO PEOPLE

BREW & BITES PACKAGE



Sample locally made drinks & food and experience Medicine Hat.
Add-on to any hotel stay starting at \$30!

GOLF PACKAGES



Rates starting at
\$199
Stay & Play for two people!

StayInMedicineHat.com

Donors for Silent auction and/or event (Alphabetical Order):

Alana Page

Brent Pocha – Epic Stones

City of Medicine Hat

Clarence Bechtold

Culligan of Medicine Hat, AB

Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre

Glenda Leitch

Gwen Campbell

Jimmy's Drive Thru (Bow Island)

Joanne Spinks – Cypress Hills Spoon Company

Jolynne and Aaron Block

Karen-Anne Cherwonogrodzky - KCDazzles

Louise Maier (In memoriam)

Louise Rieger

Marilyn Brees

Mark Oxamitny

Medicine Hat College

Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede

Monarch Theatre

MTM Granite

Phase II

Ree Sheward

Rod Zaugg

Rolling Pin Bakery

Roots Refillery

Saamis Rotary Club

Shirley Metz (In memory of Slim Metz)

Silver Cove

South Country Co-op

The Monarch Theatre

Tourism Medicine Hat

Town of Bow Island

Trukker's Restaurant (Redcliff)

Will Waldick

Wood Carving by Sister's of the South

Supporters (Alphabetical)

Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs

Clarion Pointe Hotel

Comfort Inn & Suites

Days Inn

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Home Inn Express

Laidlaw Sand & Gravel

Murray Lake Ranching

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO COME AND SUPPORT MAY DAZE 2026