

# ROCK-A-GRAM



April, 2010



Volume 41, No. 8, Page 1

## General Meeting

Thursday, April 15, 2010

7:30 p.m.

4619 69th Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

## Program:

### Ruck's Pit:

## "Adventures and Treasures"

Join us for an informative and entertaining presentation about our recent field trip to Ruck's Pit. We will have information about the area, the fossils, the mining, and the geography of the area. While we will have samples of our recent finds, all members are encouraged to bring examples of the the treasures that you have found at Ruck's Pit to share with the group. After this presentation, we're sure that you will want to head to the Pit to see what you can find for yourself!

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If your last name starts with N-Z, please bring goodies to our meeting.

## Board Members

*Bill Schmidt*, President ..... 727-822-8279  
Email: schmidwj@eckerd.edu

*Donna Remsnyder*, Vice President . 727-692-6006  
Email: d.remsnyder@verizon.net

*Sue Hazelden*, Treasurer ..... 727-321-5732  
Email: sujagems1@aol.com

*Julia Larson*, Recording Sec. .... 727-522-1254  
Email: glassgal0947@gmail.com

*Dave Schwebel*, Corr. Sec. .... 727-547-0364  
Email: dschwebel@tampabay.rr.com

*Dave Watson*, 3 yr. Director ..... 727-541-2917  
Email: bwatson1@tampabay.rr.com

*George Comas*, 2 yr. Director ..... 727-526-7176  
Email: gcomas@tampabay.rr.com

*Homer Rankhorn*, 1 yr. Director .... 727-812-4002  
Email: homer@rankhorn.com

*Don Schlough*, Director ..... 727-470-9540  
Email: godguy4@yahoo.com

*Debbie Bremer*, Editor ..... 727-298-0061  
Rock-A-Gram Newsletter  
Email: bremerlapidary@yahoo.com

**SGAMS Clubhouse Address: 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709, [www.sgams.com](http://www.sgams.com)**

**Clubhouse Activities:** Listed on mailer coversheet and announced at membership meetings.  
**SGAMS Board of Director's Meetings:** 7:30 p.m., 1st Tuesday of each month; September - May.  
 All members are invited to attend SGAMS Board of Director's Meetings at our clubhouse.  
 We solicit your attendance, and constructive suggestions for improving our club.  
**General Meetings:** 7:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday of each month; September - May, at clubhouse.

## President's Message

Good Day Members,

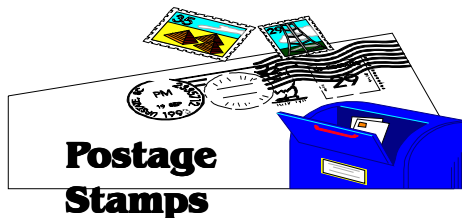
Welcome to the warm weather and another busy month. First up this Saturday is our Tailgate Party. The details are the same as published in the March Rock-A-Gram, so everybody start setting up at the clubhouse 9 a.m. and be ready for business by 10:00 a.m. By the way, since everybody will be busy with this, the workshop will be closed. Classes are going strong: Fused Glass added an extra session, Faceting is rumored to be full, Gem Tree class is also starting, beginning Silver is full, and we would like to figure out how to add more capacity.

As a result of this, and needing more room for the General Meeting, next year there are changes afoot. You already know that we will be having our General Meetings at the J.W. Cate Center next year and the trial run is next month's May Officer Installation and Dinner. During the summer, the Silver Room will move out to the main room in the clubhouse. Some workbench changes and rearrangement will take place. The glass folks will set up a shop, with yet to be determined furniture and equipment, in the "old" silver room.

Board meetings will be moved to the first Thursday of each month, thereby freeing up Tuesday nights to hold an uninterrupted class. This will make Thursdays a good business meeting type of night. We are also going to start the General Meetings at 7:00 p.m., in September to give us more time before we reach the expensive overtime at the center and allow more time after the meeting for trips to show off the clubhouse.

Speaking of trying to fit more in, we need some special volunteers. We are getting backed up with stamps in the clubhouse, and we need a coordinator to head up the stamp program. The coordinator will check over the stamps brought in, weigh them, pack them, and send them to the Southeast Federation (SFMS). Exactly what is needed is on their website. Also, we need someone with an insurance background to take a look at our policies, coverages, and the rules of Federation insurance, to work with the Board on making sure that we have everything proper. If you can help us out on either of these two fronts, please contact myself or another Board member.

Thank You, *Bill Schmidt*, President



We would like to thank Tom and Gertrude McWilliams for their full box of postage stamps donation.

### Postage Stamps Needed

Please remember to bring your stamps to the meeting. Stamps can be either carefully removed from the paper or better yet neatly trimmed with a 1/4" boarder around the stamp. For complete details, please check the Southeast Federation website at [amfed.org/sfms/stamp-program.html](http://amfed.org/sfms/stamp-program.html).

Also, if you can help with preparing the stamps for shipping, see Bill Schmidt.

### **Name Badges**

Now that many of you have name badges, would you **PLEASE!!** wear them to our meetings. It is much nicer to address each other by name than the other alternative. For any of our membership that do not have name badges, they cost \$3.50 each and can be had by contacting:

**Sue Hazelden**, Treasurer  
727-321-5732  
Email: [sujagems1@aol.com](mailto:sujagems1@aol.com)

### **New Members**

*Peter Lavoie  
Patricia Schlough*

## **End of Year Dinner and Installation of Officers for 2010-11**

Our meeting on May 20th will be the last for our club's fiscal year.  
The meeting will be held at:

**J. W. Cate Recreation Center**  
5801 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N.  
7-9 p.m.  
Set-up will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The club will provide a meat. Members are asked to bring a dish to share, enough for 10. This can be an appetizer, salad, side dish, dessert, or bread. Also bring your own plates and silverware.

Installation of officers will be conducted following the meal.

We will have a silent auction of donated items. If you wish to donate a nice item for the silent auction, please advise:

**Julia Larson** ([huntingtonstreet@yahoo.com](mailto:huntingtonstreet@yahoo.com))

or

**Pat Davis** ([outtamygourd@yahoo.com](mailto:outtamygourd@yahoo.com))

## **ANYBODY WANT TO HAVE A TAILGATING PARTY?**

(NO FOOTBALL REQUIRED)

That's right, we've decided that it's time to have some fun and sell some stuff. Bring any lapidary or club related item that you'd like to sell to the clubhouse on Saturday, April 10, 2010. Set up will start at 9:00 a.m., and we'll be ready to sell at 10:00 a.m. Booths will be closing at 2:00 p.m. You can set up one table around the clubhouse and make some money and some new friends. We will have a shuttle to assist with the parking dilemma and be parking the vehicles at the K-Mart parking lot. Hope to see everyone! Let's bring a lunch and make a day of it!



## Final Show News

Well the "book" is one item away from closing out this year's show, and that will be done by the General Meeting. To tidy thing up here, we have the final attendance figure in and it is a grand total of 825 persons. We are well up from 2009 when we had 686 persons come in. Good job everybody. Thanks.

If you were not present for the grand prize drawing at the end of the show, this is how it went: M. D'Andrea won the opal wire wrap pendent made and donated by George Comas, J. Sanders won the stain glass lamp made and donated by Julia Larson, T. Fitzpatrick won the pink topaz donated by Caveny Creations, and M. Snyder won the turquoise necklace made and donated by Sue Hazelden. Sue delivered them to each of the winners and all were happy with their luck and rewards. A special thanks to the donors of those beautiful prizes.

I have gotten a few idea's sent to me for improvements/changes for next year, and I would like to see more comments. Please, if anything pops to mind, jot it down, and send it to me. Especially, if you run across a vendor that has tools and supplies that might like to come.

And to end... at the board meeting this week that the dates of March 4,5, and 6, 2011 were approved for our next Show and the deposit check was filled out. See you in the fall.

Thank You,  
*Bill Schmidt, President*

## Traffic Report

Nothing much has changed on our side of 46th Avenue. It is a little less torn up and I think some of the final road bed is going in, so paving might be close. Two good things to note is that 69th Street has been patched rather nicely. While it will never get fully paved, you can at least travel it and not loose car parts along the way. On the other side of 66th Street one new side of 46th Avenue has been paved and it is very nice.

## Work Day

I would like to thank all the people who showed for the clubhouse work day!

A lot of work was done; the outside walls were all painted, the inside was mopped, scrubbed, dusted, and cleaned, the workshop second bathroom is almost ready to use, the trim was half finished, and the bushes were trimmed. Lunch went well and I noticed that all of the donuts were gone too. The hard core members were finishing up late and the doors were locked at 4:00 p.m.

There is still some things to finish up. So at the general meeting, we need to find a way to finish up everything before the summer break. The Board's thought is to try for another Saturday along the same line as the first work day. Possible dates we discussed would be April 24th or May 1st. Please check your calendars to help out your club. The more people we have, the easier and more fun it will be.

P.S. has anyone seen the house numbers laying around in a protected place?

Thanks,  
*Bill Schmidt, President*

**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**General Meeting**  
February 18, 2010

Called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were: board members Bill Schmidt, Sue Hazelden, George Comas, Don Schlough, Dave Watson, Dave Schwebel, Homer Rankhorn, Donna Remsnyder, and Julia Larson. Also present were: Pat Davis, Peter Palmer, Pat Joseph, Martha Rankhorn, and Cleo Remsnyder.

Treasurer's report read and accepted for audit.

Corresponding Secretary Dave Schwebel – nothing received but a lot of mail sent out regarding the upcoming show.

Show - Peter Palmer – 17 dealers; security; early relief for security; loading trucks.

Bill – building – Laura's donated A/C is 15 years old, so we will go with the Patterson bid.

Nominating Committee – Pat Davis – 2010-11 nominees are:

President – Pat Davis

Vice President – Donna Remsnyder

Treasurer – Sue Hazelden

Corresponding Secretary Dave Schwebel

Recording Secretary – Julia Larson

1-year Director – Bill Schmidt

1-year Director – George Comas

2-year Director – Dave Watson

3-year Director – Donna Mallory

Education – Donna says we need a second silver instructor and more room for students. Options discussed; think about this for long-term planning.

Meetings – Sue Hazelden authorized to negotiate space at J. W. Cate Center for next year's meetings.

Painting – Scheduled for March 20. Donna Remsnyder will supervise.

Training CD – didn't really apply to us. We need to post rules and operating procedures.

Need to announce number of members & visitors to be included in minutes.

Program for March meeting – auction.

George suggested a seasonal tailgate event. Board agreed to hold it April 10. Members need to bring their own tables and will have an 8' x8' space to display and sell.

Need to schedule some field trips throughout the summer.

Adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

*Julia Larson*, Recording Secretary

**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**General Meeting**  
**March 18, 2010**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. New members and guests were introduced. Minutes approved as published in newsletter.

Treasurer's report read. Show income down slightly from last year; however, we had fewer dealers. Attendance was up considerably from 2009.

Slate of officers for upcoming year announced. Nominations from floor will be accepted at next meeting; if there are any, a paper ballot will be necessary. Otherwise, a voice vote will be taken.

Building issues – A/C unit in and working. Painting day this Saturday. Volunteers needed.

Equipment – 10” slab saw is working; 10” trim saw and Vibra-Lap still need work.

Gem tree class starting April 7, 7:30 p.m. Contact Sue Hazelden if interested.

To be considered: Possible meeting time change for next year 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m.

Program – annual auction, Donna Remsnyder was auctioneer.

Submitted by:

*Julia Larson*

Recording Secretary

**2010 - 2011**  
**Slate of Officers**

**President**

Pat Davis

**Vice President**

Donna Remsnyder

**Recording Secretary**

Julia Larson

**Corresponding Secretary**

Dave Schwebel

**Treasurer**

Sue Hazelden

**3 Year Director**

Donna Mallory

**1 Year Director**

George Comas

**2 Year Director**

Dave Watson

**1 Year Director**

Bill Schmidt

## Rock-A-Gram

WE THANK OUR ADVERTISERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE  
ALL OUR MEMBERSHIP TO VISIT AND PATRONIZE THEIR BUSINESSES.

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# April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>13</b> Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>14</b> Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>15</b> GENERAL MEETING 7:30 p.m.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>4</b> BOARD MEETING 7:30 p.m.	<b>5</b> Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>11</b> Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>12</b> Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> ANNUAL DINNER 7:30 p.m.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>

# **ROCK-A-GRAM**

*This is the official newsletter of the SUNCOAST GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.*

*P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733-3254*

This Society is a member of the *SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.*, and its parent society, the *AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.*

The general purpose of this society is to promote popular interest in education and research in the earth sciences and lapidary arts, and to cooperate with other similar organizations.

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, September through April at 7:30 p.m., at our clubhouse 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg. December and May meetings are special meetings and a time and place will be announced in this bulletin. The public is cordially invited to attend the general membership meetings.

**Dues: \$15.00 single or \$20.00 couple/family; due annually each September**

All exchange bulletins should be sent to the Rock-A-Gram editor.

Feel free to copy any material from this bulletin, but please list all byline credits.

## **ROCK-A-GRAM** (Official Bulletin)

**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**

*Debra Bremer, Editor*

1349 Lakeview Road

Clearwater, FL 33756

### **Clubhouse Activities September - May**

#### **Board Meeting:**

(September - May)

First Tuesday: 7:30 p.m.

#### **Clubhouse Open:**

Mondays, 5 - 9 p.m.

Wednesdays, 6 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

#### **Faceting, Silversmithing**

#### **Wire Wrapping Classes**

By appointment