

ROCK-A-GRAM



April, 2009



Volume 40, No. 8, Page 1

General Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2009

7:30 p.m.

LOCATION...Our Clubhouse

4619 69th Street North
St. Petersburg

Program:

"Jewelry Making Shop Hints"

Video

By: Paul Casteel



THANK YOU: From the rest of the membership, we would like to thank those who came out on Saturday the 28th March to do clean up work. We got a lot accomplished, and the grounds and inside the clubhouse are looking great. Members: Dave Watson, Peter Palmer, Don Schlough, Julia and Walt Larson, Donna Remsnyder, George Comas, Laura Parish, Phil "Bucky" and Pat Joseph, Pat Davis, and Sue Hazelden. Great job!

We enjoyed a terrific barbecue lunch afterwards, of chicken, and two kinds of salads, and a good time getting to know each other. Maybe the next cleanup day we have, more of you will show up, and do your part. Maybe get to know the rest of us.

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

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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 Clearwater, FL 33762

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 St. Petersburg, FL 33713

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 8136 22nd Avenue North
 St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Debra Bremer, Editor 727-298-0061
 Email: bremerlapidary@yahoo.com

ROCK-A-GRAM

SGAMS Clubhouse Address: 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709, 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.

Presidents Message

Welcome to April,

It's going to be a busy month and it is also the next to the last one for the year. First up the Cabbng Room is now open on Wednesday night. Pat Davis is staffing it from 6 to 9 p.m. This seems to be the best day as the middle of the week is generally less scheduled by folks. These first two weeks have been lightly attended so come on in there is lots of room.

As listed in last month's newsletter, Ruck's Pit is advertising an open weekend. If it is like other times there will be vendor tables set up, food available, bathrooms and lots of people. If you have never been on a dig before this is a physically easy dig, it is close by and low cost. But, it is coming up fast. Lots of members have been there so ask around and learn about what you will find and how to dig them out. If you are going (or just thinking about it) and you want to offer/get a ride or to get a caravan going, please call a board member and we will get you in touch with others who have called. Generally one leaves about 5 a.m. for the three hour trip to get there right at opening. After all as a learned member once told me "No matter what, the more dirt you move the more you are going to find".

We will be having the election for Board of Directors this meeting. Members will vote on the full slate of candidates all at once. So come and have your voice heard. The Board will be sworn in next month and take over at the ending banquet and general meeting. This meeting we will be getting back to having the raffle. So if you won an item in the last raffle you need to bring a rock/mineral/gem/jewelry item to be raffled off this time.

See you on the 16th, *Bill Schmidt*, President

2010 Board Nominations

Bill Schmidt, President
Donna Remsnyder, Vice President
Sue Hazelden, Treasurer
Julia Larson, Recording Sec.
Walt Upman, Corr. Sec.
Dave Watson, 3 yr. Director
George Comas, 2 yr. Director
Homer Rankhorn, 1 yr. Director
Don Schlough, Director

Education Committee

Pat Davis, Chairperson

Laura Parrish has agreed to serve as Librarian and is in the process of computerizing our card catalogue. Donations of books or periodicals should be directed to her.

Dave Schwebel has accepted the appointment to be the club's Historian. Any newsworthy information/photos about members or club events should be forwarded to him for inclusion in the scrapbook.

Anyone interested in helping with these projects should contact Laura or Dave.

Extended shop hours— The cabbing shop is now open on Wednesday nights from 6 to 9 p.m.



GEM TREE CLASS

I can start another Gem Tree making class, beginning Wednesday, April 22nd. If anyone is interested, please call me at 321-5732.

Sue Hazelden

FEDERATION NEWS

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 April, 2009
www.AMFED.org

2009-10 Regional Federation Shows & Conventions

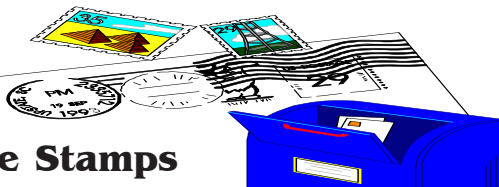
California Federation April 17-19, 2009 San Jose, CA	Rocky Mountain Federation October 2-3, 2009 Roswell, NM
Eastern Federation October 17-18, 2009 Bristol, CT	South Central Federation AFMS October 10-11, 2009 Temple, TX
Midwest Federation May 16-17, 2009 Berea, OH	AFMS Annual Convention August 5-10, 2010 Riverside, CA
Northwest Federation July 30-Aug 2, 2009 Billings, MT	

Federation Websites:

- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**
www.amfed.org
- Lodestar Newsletter**
www.amfed.org/sfms
lodestar_newsletter.html
- Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies**
www.amfed.org/sfms

Postage Stamps Needed

Please remember to bring those stamps to the meeting and give to **Walt Upman**. Stamps must be either off the paper or neatly trimmed with 1/4" border around the stamp. discard any stamps that are torn or defaced in any manner. To remove stamps, wet envelope with a little dish soap and warm water, stamp will fall off. Place stamp upside down on paper towel to dry.



New Members

Gerry & Kathi Barrett

960 Livingston Loop
The Villages, FL 32162
352 750-6517

Michael & Amanda Straub

3665 E. Bay Dr. STE 204-13
Largo, FL 33771
407 902-8662

Terry & Kelly Wright & children

Cameron, Connor

email twright9@tampabay.rr.com)
297 1st St. W
Tierra Verda, FL 33715
727 867-1178

Jennifer Schiess

3977 43rd Terr. N
St. Petersburg, FL 33714
727 527-2964

Jennifer Olton

4905 19th St. N
St. Petersburg, FL 33714
727 521-3348

Coni & Richard Smyth & children

Lisa, Travis, Samantha

193 175 Terrace Dr. East
Redington Shores, FL 33708
727 319-4403

Homer & Martha Rankhorn

15666 49th St. N. #1119
Clearwater, FL 33762
727-812-4002

Donna & Paul Mallory, & children

Jesse, Zachary

5610 Blue Roan Terrace
Parish, FL 34219
941-776-9055

Lynn Tillquist

1476 Byram Dr.
Clearwater, FL 33755
727-447-0902

Jamie (Christina) & Fred Schojan

& Jamie

7220 36th Ave. N
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
727-482-5883

Jan Rambow

6901 14th Ave. N
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
727-343-6363

John DePaola & daughter Nina

1937 Palm Dr.
Clearwater, FL 33763
727-738-2833

Aluminum Cans Wanted!

Please bring your aluminum cans to the next meeting.
I will take them to recycle. Bring everything you have.

Sue Hazelden



Other Resources

Bob's Rock Shop - www.rockhounds.com

Gene McDivett's Miner and Cutter of Koroit boulder Opal and Other curious stones - www.koroit.com

FDJ Tools - www.fdjtools.com

Crisson Gold Mine, Dahlonega, GA
www.crissongoldmine.com

Field Trip - Ft. Drum Pit

April 16-19, 2009

8-5 p.m.

WHAT: Fossil, calcite, and combination fossil/calcite collecting trip

ITEMS COLLECTED: There are well-fossilized and calcified marine shells. The sand and shell matrix rock is in the Nashua Formation (Pleistocene) and is composed of well-calcified shells. Any cavities within these fossils may contain calcite crystals. Honey colored calcite crystals up to 1" in length can be found within large fossilized clamshells. Small calcite crystals within shells are very common. Fossilized bone and teeth, although rare, can also be found at this location. Limit: (1) 5 gal bucket and 1 metric per person.

WHAT TO BRING: Bring your rock hammers, chisels, and other tools. You must wear long pants and gloves. Packing a cooler is a good idea also.

CAMPING AVAILABLE:

Camping will be available for \$25.00 per site per night. The water may be portable, but to be sure, bring some water for cooking and drinking.

DIRECTIONS:

Ft. Drum is on Hwy 441 approximately 15 miles south of the intersection of Hwy 60 and 441 (Yeewhaw Junction). Go south of Ft. Drum General Store about 0.5 mile and turn east on 304th St. Go about 2.75 miles to the quarry entrance (north side of the road). Look for the Fort Drum Crystal Mine at the entrance.

More information call: Eddie at 813-634-4579



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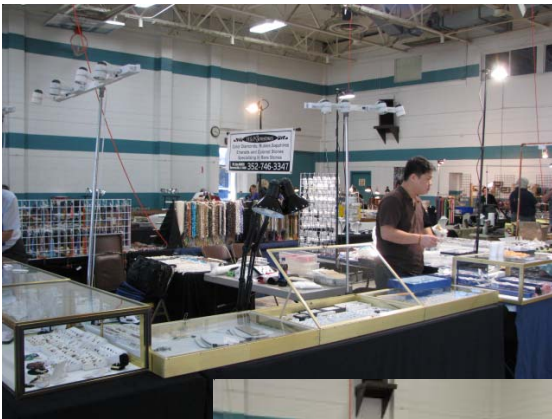
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Looking forward to seeing you next year.

Our Annual Show



GREAT SHOW!



Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
Minutes of General Meeting
March 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The following new people introduced themselves to the club: **Donna Mallory, Lynn Talquist, Petra Semple, Jennifer Schleiss, John DiPaula** and his daughter **Nina, Fred Schojin** and his daughter **Jamie, Kathy Tierney**, and **Jennifer Olten**.

Sue Hazelden gave the treasurer's report, including the information that the show netted somewhat less compared to last year. She thanked members who used their trucks to transport things from the clubhouse and back again, thereby saving club funds.

Bill Schmidt noted that attendance was down 15% from the 2008 show, but more people used coupons.

Pat Davis reported on the nominating committee's activities, including nominees for 2009-10. Voting will be done at the April meeting and the new slate of officers installed at the May dinner.

Bill mentioned classes, including **Gil Wegad's faceting class**, which meets on Saturdays; and **Donna Remsnyder's silver class**, which meets on Mondays. **Sue** will be starting a new **gem tree class** in April.

The clubhouse will now be open for a third session, Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m. **Pat Davis** will be the shop manager for these sessions.

There will be a work day at the club on Saturday, March 28. **Donna** is providing chicken for a BBQ lunch following the clean-up. Work will be done on the yard and inside the clubhouse. A show of hands was requested, and around 13 people indicated they would (maybe) be there.

The raffle was postponed until the April meeting so the program could get started.

Brian Evenson of Lost in Time demonstrated the art of flint knapping and produced a beautiful arrowhead, which he donated to the club. The demonstration was accompanied by Brian's colorful and entertaining discussion, which included such topics as how the early Indians produced various styles of arrowheads; places he has obtained flint and found ancient arrowheads; how to tell the difference between a truly old arrowhead and a modern copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Following the meeting, board members met to vote in the following new members: Jan **Rambow, Jennifer Olten**, Fred and Jamie Schojan, **Lynn Tallquist**, and **Paul and Donna Mallory**.

Submitted by:

Julia Larson

Recording Secretary

Rock-A-Gram

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Clubhouse Class and Meeting Schedules

APRIL



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Clubhouse Open 6-9 p.m.	2	3	4 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
5	6 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	7 Board Meeting 7:30 - 9 p.m.	8 Clubhouse Open 6-9 p.m.	9	10	11 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
12	13 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	14	15 Clubhouse Open 6-9 p.m.	16 General Meeting 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
19	20 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	21	22 Clubhouse Open 6-9 p.m.	23	24	25 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
26	27 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	28	29 Clubhouse Open 6-9 p.m.	30		

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

Board Meeting:

(September - May)

First Tuesday: 7:30 p.m.

Clubhouse Open:

Mondays, 5 - 9 p.m.

Wednesdays, 6 - 9 p.m.

Clubhouse Maintenance:

Saturday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Faceting, Silversmithing

Wire Wrapping Classes

By appointment