

ROCK-A-GRAM



December 2017



Volume 49, No. 4, Page 1

Happy Holidays

Thursday, December 21, 2017
6:00 p.m.



Restaurant Location:

5430 East Bay Drive
Largo, FL



Program: Christmas Party

By the Dinner Committee

We'll meet at the Chili's at the intersection of East Bay and U.S.Hwy 19 North
To celebrate the season, have dinner, and a gift exchange.
Gift Exchange is Optional. If you'd like to participate bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift related to Lapidary.

See you next Thursday!

DUES ARE DUE! \$20.00 Individuals - \$30 per family

If you won something at a previous meeting, bring something to share!
If your last name starts with M - to - Z, please bring goodies to our meeting to share. Thank You!

Board Members and Appointed Positions

<i>Eric Odegaard, President</i>	727-333-5668
Email: <i>erics.odegaard@gmail.com</i>	
<i>Joe Cooper, Vice President</i>	317-775-5476
Email: <i>je.cooper@outlook.com</i>	
<i>Jerri Heer, Treasurer</i>	419-344-9999
Email: <i>jheerx6@aol.com</i>	
<i>Gerri Groves, Recording Secretary</i>	727-656-0322
Email: <i>gerrigroves@yahoo.com</i>	
<i>Dan Stefanski, Corresponding Secretary</i>	734-216-6855
Email: <i>danski@ameritech.net</i>	

<i>Dave Watson, Director</i>	727-541-2917
Email: <i>bwatson1@tampabay.rr.com</i>	
<i>Shamus Walker, Director</i>	315-263-9452
Email: <i>65swalker@gmail.com</i>	
<i>Rhonda Kuntz, Director</i>	727-800-6835
Email: <i>rhonda.kuntz@yahoo.com</i>	
<i>Pat Davis, Past President</i>	727-323-2147
Email: <i>73shasta@gmail.com</i>	
<i>Lori Heinemann, Editor Newsletter</i>	727-647-8787
Email: <i>SGAMS-Rock-A-Gram@mail.com</i>	
<i>Bill (William) Schmidt, Show Chair</i>	727-657-0998
Email: <i>SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com</i>	

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

Clubhouse Activities: Listed on page 8 and announced at membership meetings. **SGAMS Board of Director's Meetings:** 7:00 p.m., 1st Thursday 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:** 7:00 p.m., 3rd Thursday of each month; September - May, at our clubhouse.

President's Message

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone!

I am so excited. Tomorrow we are supposed to get down into the 40s and I personally can't wait. We don't get to see those type of temperatures here in Florida very often. Perfect weather for Christmas time.

I would like to remind everyone about our holiday party coming up on the 21st. And if you have not already signed up to go, and would like to attend, please contact Ann Morrison.

For any of our members that are traveling for the holidays, I wish you safe travels and look forward to seeing each and everyone of you when you return.

I would also like to bring up our show. It is fast approaching. We still have many spots that need to be filled. If you would like to volunteer to work one of the five areas that we need help with, please contact Bill or stop by the clubhouse and sign up to work a specific time. Thank you in advance for your help.

Eric Odegaard,
President



For the Love of Rocks– Part II

In a previous article in this newsletter, I mentioned my “refusing” to buy a rock, and carrying very large stones with me from Central NY to Florida.

Well, I have actually purchased quite a few slabs from the Club so that I had material to work with - and there is a great selection of some gorgeous stone to work from. I think our annual show is also a perfect opportunity to pick up slabs for cabbing.

This summer my ten-year-old Grandson, who has had the Rockhound Gene passed on to him, came to visit from Seattle, WA, and he brought with him beach pebbles from Puget Sound. He brought them knowing that I was going to teach him how to cab. We had lots of fun revealing the potential of these pebbles.

With this source in mind, I gathered similar rocks from the shore of Lake Ontario when I went to visit Syracuse later in the summer, and then on my trip this Fall to California and Seattle, guess what I made a beeline for? I even stuffed a USPS “if it fits it ships” small box with stones from the California beaches and mailed them home before I left the West Coast. The one beach in Northern California I was able to get right down on to, had a sign stating that it was “One of The Most Deadly Beaches in California” because of the Tsunami risk! It sure put a dash in my step to get out and gather my pebbles!

Some very plain rocks turned into lovely cabs, some plain rocks stayed, well, plain rocks! Some rocks that looked like they had great potential didn't hold up or even lost some of their “superficial beauty” in the grinding process. From what I have researched online, they are mostly granites, variations of Rain Forest Jasper, and other jaspers, serpentine, a bit of agate, and of course, lots of The Great Unknowns. What really intrigues me is that there are rocks from both Lake Ontario and Puget Sound with flashes of what appears to be silver? (or, hmmm, maybe just mica?) but, to me it feels like I discovered some amazing treasure! You never know what beauty may lie in a humble stone!

Submitted by Susan Biel

Show News:

Just a quick note,

The dealer tables are almost filled and the volunteer sign ups are also going well. However, the Gem Mining needs the most help. If you can talk up a good spiel to potential “customers” consider helping out and sign up. The clipboard of sign up sheets for all areas is in the main room of the Clubhouse. Look over the time slots and see what is open. Don't forget filers of all sizes are right there next to it. Take as many as you want to hand out to the clubs, groups and other associations that you belong to. We need people in the door and in front of our vendors to give the show a chance at succeeding this year. For Grab Bags we low on samples of tiger eye, feldspar, flint, limonite, sapphire, druzy quartz, chalcedony, basalt/lava, and sulfur. If you have small samples or larger ones we could break up would you bring them for us to use?

Remember the Show dates are March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th 2018. Other dates to remember are January 20 for Grab Bags and Silent Auction set up.

The holiday this month will not change our normal schedule for the committee meeting. If you can come by we'll meet on the Thursday the 28th at 7:00.

If you haven't marked your calendar yet.... the Show is on March 2nd, 3rd, 4th with set up on Thursday the first.

Thank You,
Bill Schmidt
(727) 657-0998



Upcoming Shows:

January 12, 13, and 14, 2018
Pinellas Geological Society, Inc.
Largo Cultural Center, Largo, FL
www.PGS.Rocks

January 20 and 21, 2018
Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society
Jewelry, Gem, Minerals, & Fossil Show & Sale
Volusia County Fairgrounds
Deland, FL
www.tomokagms.org

January 20 and 21, 2018
Panama City Gem & Mineral Society
Central Panhandle Fairgrounds
Panama City, FL

February 3 and 4, 2018
Symphony of Gemstones Show and Sale
Kiwanis Island Recreation Center
Merritt Island, FL
www.centralbrevardgems.org

February 17 and 18, 2018
Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society
Vero Beach, FL

February 24, 2018
Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Lakeland, FL
www.bonevalley.net

March 2, 3, and 4 2018
Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society—48th Annual Show
Minnreg Building, Largo, FL
www.sgams.com

April 6, 7, and 8 2018
Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society
Rock, Mineral, Gem, and Jewelry Show
Florida National Guard Armory
Orlando, FL
www.cfmgs.org

FEDERATION NEWS

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
www.AMFED.org,
AFMS Newsletter, August, 2016

2016-17 Regional Federation Shows and Conventions

California Federation
CA, HI, NV
Ventura, CA

Rocky Mountain Federation
TBA

Eastern Federation
October 21-23, 2016
Rochester, NY

South Central Federation
AR, LA, TX
TBA

Midwest Federation
May 6-7, 2017
Brainerd, MN

Southeast Federation

Northwest Federation
May 19-21, 2017
Hamilton, MT

November 18-20, 2016
Marietta GA

Some links to help you keep track of upcoming shows:

<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates>
<http://www.jewelrysthows.com/event/>

Other Web Sites:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies web site is at: <http://www.amfed.org>

American Lands Access Association: www.amlands.org

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Website at: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

Check this site out for Wildacres & William Holland information.

National Park Foundation:
www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society: www.canaveral-mgs.com, Canaveral Moonstone Newsletter

Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society: www.cfmgs.com, Central Florida Newsletter

Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club: www.tampabayrockclub.com, Coral Geode Newsletter

Winnipeg Rock and Mineral Club: www.wrmc.ca
Rock Vein Newsletter

Withlacoochee Rockhounds of Hernando County: www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com, Withlacoochee Rockhound Newsletter

Our Web Site:

<http://www.sgams.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SuncoastGemandMineral/>

A Few Words from our Vice-President

To all members if equipment at the club is tagged out of service. The tag means that the equipment is being worked on and has been downed because it unsafe to use or otherwise in need of repair. Please do not remove the out of service tag. It is possible that you could hurt yourself or others. Only the person working on the machine can place the machine back in service. We are working as fast as possible to repair broken machines. Sorry for the inconvenience. Thanks for your understanding.

Joe Cooper,
Vice-President

**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
November 02, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Joe Cooper, at 7:15 p.m. Board members in attendance were Joe Cooper, Pat Davis, Dave Watson, Gerri Groves, and Shamus Walker. Also in attendance was Bill Schmidt.

Secretary's report, motion by Pat Davis to accept as printed, Motion approved.

Treasurer's report. Motion was made to accept and file for audit. Motion approved.

Equipment that has a sign on it broken or needs repair, no one is allowed to remove the sign and use the machine anyway. The person running the show has the right to ask anyone who does not abide by this will be asked to leave the shop for that night.

Sale of equipment the equipment committee are the only people authorized to approve the sale of any equipment that we have.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by Gerri Groves,
Recording Secretary



Dues were Due, as of September 2017!

To ensure you continue your Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society relationship, please bring in or mail in your Annual Membership Dues. The 2017—2018 SGAMS Dues are as follows:

\$20.00 for Individuals, or \$30.00 for Couples / Families.

(A nominal annual membership to enjoy all the club has to offer!)

Donna Sapp (Membership) will be happy to assist you in renewing your membership at the November SGAMS General Membership Meeting!. Or, Mail your check to: Donna Sapp, 3200 74th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702

If you don't renew your Membership...

You'll miss out on all the fun, and our communications and your delivery of the Rock-A-Gram Newsletter will end.

Club Fees

Our Club fees are \$3.00 per shop hour, or any portion of an hour. If you are working in the clubhouse for more than an hour, then it is considered 2 hours, and the cost is \$6.00; if you are working in the clubhouse for more than two hours, then consider it 3 hours of shop time, and the cost is \$9.00, etc. These are nominal fees, and all proceeds go to the club.

\$3.00 per Hour, for any portion of each hour of Shop Time, effective 11/01/17

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. General Meeting November 1, 2017

Meeting was called to order by President Eric Odegaard at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary report-Motion by Darell Groves to approve the minutes as published in the Rock-a-Gram. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's report-Jerri Heer presented the treasurer's report. A motion by Dave Watson, to accept and file for audit. Motion approved.

Show meeting will be Nov 30, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Signup sheet for the show are in the clubhouse please sign up for times and dates. We need to file in all the time slots for each day and for each of the areas.

Christmas Party will be at Chili's on U.S. 19 and East Bay on December 21, 2017 signup sheet is in the clubhouse. Ann needs to know by Nov 22nd to let them know about how many will be attending.

Tonight's program is about Faceting. Dave Watson will present.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by
Gerri Groves
Recording Secretary



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



Clubhouse Class Schedules

CABBING: Tuesdays, 6 - 9 p.m.

Lori Heinemann (727) xxx-xxxx or sgams-rock-a-gram@mail.com

Darell Groves (727) 656-0323 or darell.groves@gmail.com

Wednesdays, 12-4 p.m.

Jerri Heer (419) 344-9999 or jheerx6@aol.com

FACETING/WIREWRAPPING: Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m.

Dave Watson (727) 541-2917 or bwatson1@tampabay.rr.com

Contact Instructors, if interested in following classes:

ENAMELING: *Pat Davis* (727) 323-2147, wayouttamygourd@gmail.com

FUSED GLASS: *Julia Larson* (727) 410-3781, glassgal0947@gmail.com

SILVER SMITHING: *Joe Cooper* (317) 775-5476, je.cooper@outlook.com
Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. (by appointment)

GEM TREES: *Jerri Heer* (419) 344-9999, jheerx6@aol.com

Anyone interested in taking a Beginning Gem Tree class, please contact Jerri Heer: (419) 344-9999 or jheerx6@aol.com. Cost is \$10 material fee, plus \$3.00 per hour club class fee for a 3 hour class. Class date and time to be determined based on response and mutual availability of participants. A subsequent advanced class may be offered at a later date, if there is sufficient interest.

WAX CASTING: *Joe Cooper* (317) 775-5476, je.cooper@outlook.com
(by appointment)

Cost for classes (except faceting) is \$3.00 per hour, or any portion there of, plus any additional supplies.

*Please contact instructor to set up start date and schedule. Each class has minimum number of students needed to start a class.



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.

General Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, September through April at 7:00 p.m., at our clubhouse, **4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL**. 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 member-ship meetings.

Dues: \$20.00 single or \$30.00 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.**
Lori Heinemann, Editor
P.O. Box 1892, Dunedin, FL 34697
www.SGAMS.com
<https://www.facebook.com/SuncoastGemandMineral/>

Facilities

(Building Supervisor)—**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**
Bill Schmidt
Email: SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com
Phone: (727) 657-0998
P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254

Membership Committee

(Membership)—**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**
Donna Sapp
Email: DSapp43@yahoo.com
Phone: (727) 420-0383
3200 74th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702



Show Committee

(Show Chair)—**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**
Bill Schmidt
Email: SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com
Phone: (727) 657-0998
P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254

Dealer Contact

(Dealer Chair)—**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**
Sandy Schwebel
Email: sandyschwebel@gmail.com
Phone: (727) 686-1209
P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254

Clubhouse Activities September - May

Board Meeting:
(September - May)
First Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

General Meeting:
(September - May)
Third Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Clubhouse Activities Year Round

Cab Room:
Clubhouse Open:

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

And

Wednesdays 12:00- 4:00 p.m.

Clubhouse Activities Year Round

Silver Room:
Clubhouse Open:

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

And

Saturdays 1:00- 4:00 p.m.

Clubhouse Activities Year Round

Faceting:
By Appointment:
Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Lost Wax Casting:

By Appointment:
Friday pm and Saturday