

ROCK-A-GRAM



January, 2009



Volume 40, No. 5, Page 1

General Meeting

Thursday, January 15, 2009

7:30 p.m.

LOCATION...Our Clubhouse

4619 69th Street North

St. Petersburg

Program:

**“Introduction to and the Art
of Faceting Gem Stones”**

By: Gill Wegad



GRAB BAGS

It is once again time to make up the grab bags for the March Show. I plan to work on them January 17th (Sat.) at 9 a.m. I am asking for volunteers to help make them up. This is a very easy job, putting rocks into plastic bags with a label in it, then putting 12 little bags into paper sacks. This is a good way to learn about rocks as you work, and for new members to meet each other. Many hands make light work. Please call me at 321-5732 if you can help, or let me know at the Christmas party.

Thank you, *Sue Hazelden*

If your last name starts with A-M, please bring goodies to our meeting.

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Bill Schmidt, President 727-822-8279
 Email: schmidwj@eckerd.edu
 3939 Porpoise Drive SE
 St. Petersburg, FL 33705

Peter Palmer, Vice President 727-743-1793
 1144 -23rd Avenue North
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Sue Hazelden, Treasurer 727-321-5732
 Email: sujagems1@aol.com
 4823 14th Ave. N.
 St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Julia Larson, Recording Sec. ... 727-522-1254
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 5297 Huntington St. NE
 St. Petersburg, FL 33703

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 3698 18th Avenue North
 St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Pat Davis, 3 yr. Director 727-323-2147
 Email: pdavis8034@tampabay.rr.com
 4642 23rd Ave. N.
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Homer Rankhorn, 2 yr. Director 727-812-4002
 Email: homer@rankhorn.com
 15666 49th Street North #1119
 Clearwater, FL 33762

Evie Loster, 1 yr. Director 727-821-7230
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 2150 23rd Avenue North
 St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Sue Black, Past President 727-345-8994
 8136 22nd Avenue North
 St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Debra Bremer, Editor 727-298-0061
 Email: bremerlapslary@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.

Welcome to the New Year,

Gee! January already? I can't believe it and there is still stuffing in the refrigerator and more pumpkin pie fixins on the shelf. Something seems missing when there is no cold weather. All those TV commercials and songs were promising snow! O'well, with what is coming up there is no time to be flirting away on what didn't happen. But, it is nice to have the windows open and low power bills.

So for what's going on: I'm glad to see that the first class of gem trees is going. See Sue Hazelden if you want to sneak in. Elections for your Board members are coming soon and Pat Davis is heading up the Nominating Committee. If you are interested, please see her. In the past month Evie Loster a Board member and Membership chair has settled down in Kentucky and tendered her resignation from the Board. The Board asked and David Watson has accepted the appointment to fulfill her vacancy for the remainder of the term. For the role of Membership Chair, Carmen Lemke is taking over and will have anyone's membership card if you still need to pick it up. Also a By-Laws Committee has been formed and Donna Remsnyder has agreed to chair it. The full membership includes Pat D., David W., Dave S., Sue H., Walt U. and Julia L. These brave folks are undertaking a job that has not been done in quite awhile. Checkout the by-laws on our website and see just how large and rather dated they are. Wish them luck and please add in your thoughts. There is word that Ruck's Pit is going to have a large weekend dig coming in April and when we will find out the details they will be passed along. And let's not forget..... Your annual gem show is coming in March. See inside for more details.

Bill Schmidt, President



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. Thank you.

NEW MEMBERS

Philip (Bucky) Joseph
141-78th Ave., N
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Don Schlough
(was our President
before he moved away.)
2041 Australia Way W #37
Clearwater, FL 33763

Aluminum Cans Wanted!

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



Sue Hazelden

Federation Websites:

Future Rockhounds of America
www.amfed.org

Lodestar Newsletter
www.amfed.org/sfms
lodestar_newsletter.html

EFMLS News
www.amfed.org/efmls/newsletters.htm



Amethyst Cove Rock Shop

Pat Joesph brings word of the Amethyst Cove Rock Shop in Seminole. It is run out of a house and is open on a call ahead schedule. She has tons of everything. Up to a small group can come at once.

Amethystcove.com and
elfie@amethystcove.com



Name Tags Contest!

We have been trying to get everyone to wear nametags to meetings. We have many new members and it helps them to identify everyone, much better than struggling to remember someone's name.

The club makes and sells name tags with our logo on for \$3.50. But in order to get everyone into the habit of wearing them, we announced at the Christmas meeting that we would have a name tag contest at the January meeting. Everyone decorate their tag, or if you do not have one, make and decorate their own. There will be a prize for the best one.

We prefer that members have club tags when they work at our annual show, to help dealers identify club workers in case they are needing help.

Pat Davis
Sue Hazelden

ITEMS FOR SALE!

Lots of Finished Cabs - Various prices

White Opal - by the jar - various prices

6" Trim Saw with extra blades- \$150

Two wheel Paige Polishing machine with extra polishes and extra wheels - \$175

Call: Debbie Bremer, 727-298-0061

I recently purchased an estate of all kinds of rough, cabs, slabs, and beautiful specimens. If you are looking for something specific give me a call, I just might have it.

The Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society

a local non-profit club proudly presents:
39th Annual

Gem & Mineral Show and Sale

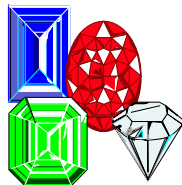
March 6, 7, 8, 2009

Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CONTINUOUS WORKING DEMONSTRATIONS

- Bead Stringing
- Wirecraft
- Channel Work
- Gem Cutting



**DIAMONDS
EMERALDS
RUBIES
14K GOLD JEWELRY
DOOR PRIZES
EXHIBITS
AND
MUCH MORE....**

ADMISSION

Adults - \$5.00 good for all three days, children under 6 FREE
Students with parents or I.D. Card \$4.00

DIRECTIONS

- Minnreg Building
6340 126th Avenue No.
Largo
- From Tampa I-275 cross
Howard Franklin Bridge.
At exit 31B, take Ramp
(right) onto SR-688
(Ulmerton Rd) Merge
onto SR-686. Bear LEFT
(West) onto SR-688
(Ulmerton Rd) turn
LEFT (South-East)
onto US-19 N. Turn
RIGHT (West) onto
126th Ave N.
- From North on US 19
take 66th Street exit go to
126th Ave., turn left.

Gem and Mineral Shows

Source: Canaveral Moonstone December 2008 Vol. XXXXIII No. 11

January 16, 17, 18: Largo

Pinellas Geological Society

33rd Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale

Largo Cultural Center, Parkside Room

Hours: 15th & 17th: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

18th: noon-5 p.m.

January 17-18: Deland

Tomoka Gem and Mineral Society

Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Bldg.

State Route 44, Deland, 1 mile east of I-4, Exit 118

Website: <http://www.tomokagms.org>

January 24 -25, 2008, Venice

Gulf Coast Mineral, Fossil and Gem Club

Venice Community Center

326 South Nokomis Ave

Hours: Saturday - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

February 13-15-2008, Merritt Island

Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club; Kiwanis Island Park,

“Symphony of Gemstones”, 950 Kiwanis Park Rd.

FEDERATION NEWS

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

December, 2008 - January, 2009

www.AMFED.org

2009-10 Regional Federation Shows & Conventions

California Federation

April 17-19, 2008

San Jose, CA

Rocky Mountain Federation

TBA

Eastern Federation

October 17-18, 2009

Bristol, CT

South Central Federation

AFMS

October 10-11, 2009

Temple, TX

Midwest Federation

May 16-17, 2009

Parma, OH

AFMS Annual Convention

TBA

Northwest Federation

July 30-Aug 2, 2009

Billings, MT

Clubhouse News

The silver room is much closer to completion with four projects on-going and six completed so far (thanks Donna Remsnyder. and Pat Davis.) Take a look inside and see more of the set up. Were looking for some stools to use at the work benches. We need stools around 24" high, 6 to 8 of them. If you have any that you would like to donate to us please contact a Board member and we would like to try one out. We tried an 18" chair, too short, and a 30" stool, too large, 24 sounds about right.

The capping room has two new expanding drums on the Highland Park. They are great and the belts are a lot easier to use now. The story board for cab making is all finished and will be on display during the meeting.

William Schmidt, President

Show News

Well, our gem show over March 5, 6, 7, and 8th will be upon us very quickly. Preparations are going on and now is the time to step up to help. Already under way are: The hall has been rented. Sue Black & Peter Palmer (Dealer Chairs) have been signing up dealers, quite a few more are in negotiations and spots are still available. The fliers were updated by Debbie Bremer, printed and are at the clubhouse for pickup. The business card ads are too. Other forms and fliers are being reviewed by Julia Larson. Peter and I went to the Thanksgiving Cox Show, at the St. Pete Coliseum, and Mr. Cox agreed to put our fliers out during HIS show. Thanks. We talked to the dealers there, handed out information about joining, met old friends and left more fliers. If you know of a business that might like to be a dealer with us, please get the information so we can follow up. We would especially like a dealer with equipment and tools. We also went to the January Cox show and more fliers were left.

Already even more members are working on the preparations needed before hand. Dave Schwebel has taken over our 400+ mailing list from Wilda. She has retired from managing it after so many successful years. Thank You Wilda. Pat Davis is looking for members to fill our display cases once again this year. Assisting her will be Dave S. and once again Sue Hazelden is heading up the grab bags. She needs help on Saturday the 17th to fill and label. As soon as I make a call I hope Mary Able will for the umpteenth year fill our demonstrator slots. So..... Where will you fit in?

During the show we need dedicated people to assist and handle the duties in areas like the Ticket Booth, Club Tables, Information Table, set up and breakdown, Hospitality Suite, grab bags, and specimen and material prep. The show is divided into times of 2-hour shifts for ease of work, which also allows you time to see the show and have the experience of working different areas. At the January meeting I will explain how the show works so we can make 2009 better then ever.

The last thing to mention and yet one of the most important is one that all of us must participate in: Getting The Word Out!!! We must have the people traffic coming in to visit and purchase from our dealers. Last year was a great year and the third year of increasing attendance. Let's continue.

Bill Schmidt

Show Chair

Holiday Party Update

At the December meeting we had 15 minutes worth of business and then our annual Holiday Party. The food that everybody brought was great and not very much needed to go home (a very good sign). I want to thank Julia Larson for cooking the turkey. Laura Parrish, Sue Hazelden, and Pat Davis, did the decorating and lots of folks helped with setting up and cleaning. The new arrangement worked out well giving us more room than last year and even some seats were left over. The place looked great. I had a lot of fun and I think so did everyone. The gift exchange was as fun as ever with all sorts of varied items. Clocks were popular. This year it was the can of biscotti putting on the most mileage by the end of the evening. If you missed it I'm sorry, but we do have the end of the year banquet with installation of the new officers coming up. See you there!

Bill Schmidt
President



Deepest Sympathy

Emily Coeyman
1921 - 2008

COEYMAN, Emily Rogers 87, died Sunday, Dec. 14, under the care of hospice. Born in Mississippi, she lived most of her life in St. Petersburg. She is predeceased by her son, Louis Brook Roger Coeyman and is survived by her daughter, Louise (Sue) Thomas; her brother John F. Rogers and her daughter-in-law, Nancy Coeyman. Emily's passion was St. Petersburg and Pinellas County government. For over 45 years, her weeks were devoted to attending as many City Council, Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, School Board, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, Pinellas Sports Authority, and any other governmental meetings as could be scheduled. Until illness prevented her from attending, Emily was active in and was a member of numerous clubs and associations. A Celebration of Life was held at Anderson-McQueen Funeral Home, Tyrone Chapel, 7820 38th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations to the Hospice of the Florida Suncoast. Full obituary & online Guestbook at www.andersonmcqueen.com

SFMS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2009 workshop schedule will be published in the January 2009 edition of Lodestar. The price remains \$310 for an entire week of no cooking, no cleaning, no dishwashing, lots of friends both new and old, and the opportunity to take a great class.

Last year we ran out of bedrooms and had to turn folks away at the last minute. Please send your registration early so you will not be disappointed. I have been informed that Danny Griffin will assume the position of SFMS Education Chair effective January 1, 2009. Danny was the director for the Wildacres workshops last year, and will be an excellent Education Chair. Please give him your support and good wishes as he tackles this challenging job.

Julia Larson
SFMS Education Chair

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Minutes of Board Meeting

January 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30. Present were **Bill Schmidt, Pat Davis, Sue Hazelden, Walt Upman, Julia Larson**, and new board member **Dave Watson**, who has been appointed to take over the director position vacated by Evie Loster. Also present was member **Dave Schwebel**.

Sue gave the treasurer's report, which was accepted by the board and filed for audit. There was discussion about the amount remaining in the money market account.

The board recognized **Ken Odom**, who recently donated a large quantity of rocks, for sale at the show, for the grab bags, and for sale to club members who want to work on cabochons. The donation is greatly appreciated. Ken wants to become a member.

The subject of donations in general was addressed by Bill, who wants to keep a detailed list of this. Tax statements will be given to all donors. Donations of any sort are considered tax-deductible. Pat agreed to maintain the list.

Sue reminded folks to decorate their name tags in any manner they wish, hoping this will remind members to wear their tags to meetings and to the show. She has a small gift for the member who has the best tag.

New members were voted in: former member and past president **Don Schlough**; and **Philip (Bucky) Joseph**, husband of member **Pat Joseph**. **Carmen Lemke** has agreed to take the position of membership chair. Bill will send the latest list to her.

The silver room needs a 6-8 foot power strip, preferably with 8 outlets. **Donna Remsnyder**, who will be teaching silver classes, also mentioned that we need an acetylene tank. Pat will discuss this with her Monday evening. She will stand in for Bill as shop manager that evening. We also need stools for the room. If anyone has unwanted bar stools or similar type stools, we will gladly take them. Otherwise, look for bargains at yard sales. We need 6 stools, but want to limit expense to \$10 per stool.

We are still collecting aluminum cans or other metals that can be recycled - old wires, frames, etc. Bring to the clubhouse or contact a board member.

Pat Davis reported on nominations for 2009-10. Note that there are some new names on the list for the first time in a long time. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the February meeting. Current nominees are:

President - *Bill Schmidt*
Vice President - *Donna Remsnyder*
Treasurer - *Sue Hazelden*
Recording Secretary - *Julia Larson*
Corresponding Secretary - *Walt Upman*

3 Year Director - *Dave Watson*
2 Year Director - *George Comas*
1 Year Director - *Homer Rankhorn*
Past President - *Sue Black*

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Minutes of Board Meeting

January 6, 2009 continued

Pat mentioned that we may need to revise our by-laws. The board agreed, and appointed Donna Remsnyder to chair this committee. Other committee members are Pat Davis, Dave Watson, Dave Schwebel, Walt Upman, Sue Hazelden and Julia Larson. The committee will meet Saturday, Jan 10 for about 30 minutes. They will try to get revisions done in time to publish in the February Rock-A-Gram.

Other business discussed included the club letterhead (**Debbie Bremer**); termite inspection; a trip to the Amethyst Cove shop (contact Pat Joseph, if interested); and an article for the newsletter on the holiday party (**Laura Parrish**).

Show:

The Cox show had our flyers at their show. If there are any other shows soon, try to get our flyers to them. Lost in Time will need the business card size ads. Distribute all advertising starting in mid-February. Try the Fossil Park and other branch libraries, and the Science Center. Pat will not be able to attend the show this year, so Dave Schwebel agreed to supervise the display cases in her stead. We also need to schedule a pricing session for the show and for the donations, as we expect additional donations in coming months.

Emily Coeyman, who passed away last month, had a large collection, some of which her daughter will be donating at some point.

There is a correction to the December board minutes. The board voted to authorize money for a turkey for the holiday party. Julia volunteered to cook it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by:

Julia Larson

Recording Secretary

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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ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS: \$25.00/year for full space - \$12.50/year for half space

Clubhouse Class and Meeting Schedules

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Years Day	2	3 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
4	5 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	6 Board Meeting 7:30 - 9 p.m.	7	8	9	10 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
11	12 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	13	14	15 General Meeting 7:30 p.m.	16	17 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
18	19 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	20	21	22	23	24 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.
25	26 Clubhouse Open 5-9 p.m.	27	28	29	20	31 Clubhouse Open 10 a.m -1 p.m.

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.

Cabbing Classes:

Mondays, 5 - 9 p.m.

Clubhouse Maintenance:

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

Faceting, Silversmithing:

Wire Wrapping Classes:

By appointment