

ROCK-A-GRAM



January, 2010



Volume 41, No. 5, Page 1

General Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2010

7:30 p.m.

4619 69th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

Program:

A grayscale map of the United States with state boundaries. Overlaid on the map is the text 'Rock Hunting Around the Good Old U.S.A.' in a large, bold, black font with a white outline. At the bottom of the map, there is a cartoon illustration of a man with glasses and a white shirt, kneeling and looking at a pile of rocks with a magnifying glass.

**Rock Hunting Around
the Good Old U.S.A.**

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

Board Members

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Rock-A-Gram Newsletter
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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.
General Meetings: 7:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday of each month; September - May, at clubhouse.

President's Message

Members,

Happy New Year, and may you be staying warm these weeks. Hope you did not loose any plants in your yard. Our Ixoras took a beating around the parking lot. All the ones not under the oak tree are brown and leafless. I understand though that they will come back. Pruning these back might be an additional job for the re-scheduled painting day on Saturday the 30th. See you there?

The Holiday dinner was fabulous. That there was not much food left at the end just proves it. I and 24 others now know how SGAMS Name Bingo works and hopes it becomes a favorite again. Let you all in on a secret; with my "name dyslexia", as I call it, I finally have Larson and Larrison separate.

Classes have been continuing this past month with a few skips for holidays and vacations. Silver beginning/intermediate has been strong with all six spots full. Glass is also brimming with a full compliment and even an extra or two. Good going instructors Donna and Julia. Now, cabbing looks like it has frost damage. A few people have been making it on Wednesday but Monday's have been empty. I know the tap water is on the cool side but I bet a pair of latex or heavier gloves would do wonders. Takers anyone? On Saturday mornings the faceting class has been empty also. So what's up? It's no waiting just come to a general meeting, pay your \$65.00 class fee ahead of time (procedure change!) and we can contact Gil together and get you right in. The only requirement is that you know how to make a cabochon first. And guess what, any time the workshop is open it is class time too. For the Saturday morning cabbing sessions we are working on getting a more stable schedule going. Please stay tune.

Still looking at options for the air conditioning replacement. We are also looking at fixing all the duct problems ourselves and checking on what a company would charge. The heat is still working, so no need to worry about freezing during the general meeting. The final boxes of slabs from that large donation last year will be going up for sale at this General Meeting. As before, they will be laid out at 7:00 for your inspection and purchase before hand. Come early for the best stuff.

Have a great new year, *Bill Schmidt*, President

Show News

Well, our gem show on March 4, 5, 6, and 7th will be upon us very quickly. Preparations are on going and now is the time to step up to help. To recap: The hall has been rented. Peter Palmer (Dealer Chair) has been signing up dealers, 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. We went to the Thanksgiving Cox Show and left our fliers. If you are at the Pinellas Geological Show this weekend then you will see more of our fliers and cards.

Other members are working on the preparations needed before opening day. Dave Schwebel will be printing and mailing our 400+ mailing list after Laura Parrish and her assistant compiles the names and addresses. We are looking for members to fill our display cases once again this year. And once again Sue Hazelden is heading up the grab bags. She will need help to fill and label. Mary Able once again will find demonstrators among our members to show what we do. 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 this 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. Lets continue.

Bill Schmidt, President
Show Chair

Work Day Schedule - Let's Try This Again!

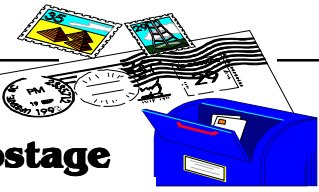
Painting Day Attempt #3?

On the 30th of January we are going to paint the clubhouse. That Saturday we will have good weather, it will not rain in the early morning, the temperature will be above 60 degrees, the weather men will predict a great day and actually be correct, and everybody will have a good time. A trifecta will be impossible all day long. So, please come with your favorite brush, especially if it is good for cutting in. A couple more rollers and pans would help, and a few more putty knives, and wire brushes too. Please mark your stuff so you can find it afterward. Tasks to do will be some crack and hole filling, some spot priming, running a wire brush over the blasted paint edges and painting. If there are enough people we can expand to bush trimming, weeding, cleaning inside, window screens and general straightening.



Coffee and donuts will be there in the morning till they run out. We would like you to bring a bag lunch, so we can get together afterward to chat and admire our work. See you there.

Bill Schmidt, President



Postage Stamps Needed

Please remember to bring those stamps to the meeting. Stamps must be either off the paper or neatly trimmed with 1/4" border around the stamp.

Traffic Report

Things are still the same for 46th Avenue and it doesn't look like anything will change for the next week up to the general meeting. Traffic flow is West bound only starting at 66th Street. Work is continuing on the opposite side of the road and the heavy equipment is getting closer to 66th Street each week.

New Member

Shannon Cobb-Tappan
453 Chicago Avenue
Dunedin, FL 34698
727-734-0427
ShannonCobb-Tappan@Nielsen.com

The Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society
a local non-profit club proudly presents:
40th Annual

Gem & Mineral Show and Sale

March 5, 6, 7, 2010

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.

FEDERATION NEWS

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
June-July, 2009
www.AMFED.org

2009-10 Regional Federation Shows & Conventions

California Federation

June 18-20, 2010

TBA

Rocky Mountain Federation

October 2-3, 2009

Roswell, NM

Eastern Federation

October 17-18, 2009

Bristol, CT

South Central Federation

AFMS

Midwest Federation

TBA

October 10-11, 2009

Temple, TX

Northwest Federation

TBA

AFMS Annual Convention

TBA

Upcoming Shows

Source: Lodestar, January 2010

January 16-17, 2010: Deland

Tomoka Gem and Mineral Society, 39th Annual Jewelry,
Gem, Minerals, and Fossils Show and Sale, Volusia County
Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Building, State Route 44
(1 mile east of I-4, Exit 118. Hours: 16th-10 a.m. - 6 p.m.,
17th 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

January 30-31, 2010: Panama City

19th Annual Show, Bay County Fairgrounds, American
Legion Hall, U.S. 98 and Sherman Ave.
Hours: 305h, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 31st 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

February 13-14-2010: Merritt Island

Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club, "Symphony of
Gemstones" Kiwanis Island Park, 950 Kiwanis Park Rd.

February 21, 2009: Auburndale

Imperial Bone Valley Gem Mineral and Fossil Society,
The Auburndale Beach Club (on lake Ariana),
321 Ramsgate Rd., Auburndale, FL

www.bonevalley.net

Pinellas Geological Society, Inc. THIRTY FOURTH ANNUAL

GEM, MINERAL AND JEWELRY SHOW AND SALE

January 15, 16, 17, 2010

Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday: 12 noon - 5 p.m.

at the

Largo Cultural Center

Parkview Room
105 Central Park Drive
Largo, FL

Presenting beautiful crafted jewelry, gem trees,
mineral eggs and spheres, crystals, mineral specimens,
slabs, artifacts, cut gems, Indian and western jewelry,
antique jewelry, Gem and Mineral Exhibits and
Library.

\$1.50 Donation

SFMS WORKSHOP INFORMATION SHEET

One of the unique facets of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies is the **Workshop Program**, which offers members the opportunity to gather for week-long, hands-on seminars taught by experienced instructors. Whether you are a newcomer to the lapidary arts and want to learn the basics, or you're experienced and wants to learn something new or hone your skills, the Workshop Program has something for you.

2010 WORKSHOP DATES

William Holland	June 13 - 19
Wildacres	August 23 - 29
Wildacres	September 13 - 19
William Holland	October 10 - 16

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts (www.lapidary.com) is located in the mountains of north Georgia near the North Carolina border. Wildacres Retreat (www.wildacres.org) is a privately owned conference center nestled in the North Carolina mountains near Little Switzerland. Please visit their websites for additional information.

Who May Attend

Anyone belonging to an SFMS club will be given priority. Student under 18 are welcome, but must be accompanied by a responsible adult and must have approval from the workshop director and the instructor to attend an adult class. Members of other AFMS regional federations may attend on a space available basis. Anyone not affiliated with AFMS may attend by paying an additional fee of \$50. First-time workshop attendees and those taking a class for the first time will receive priority.

Registration Procedure

Applications from members of SFMS clubs will be accepted as soon as the schedule is posted. Applications from other regional federations and the public at large will be accepted beginning April 1. Your club membership dues must be current and your club's dues to the Federation must also be paid before you will be accepted as an SFMS member. If you have not received written confirmation of your application within 30 days, please contact the registrar or education chair.

Workshop Tuition

NOTE: You are encouraged to pay the full amount at registration time. However, a \$25 non-refundable deposit per person must accompany your registration. If you send a \$25 deposit the remaining balance is due one month before the beginning of class. No reminders will be sent.

- * Cost per person \$330 double occupancy.
- * Single room with private bath \$490.
- * Non members add \$50.00 to all Tuition fees
- * Day Student or camper workshop tuition fee is \$160 per person. No meals are included for day students or campers. They are available from and payable directly to the facility.
- * Campsite fee (Wm Holland only) \$120 per week.

Refund / Cancellation Policy

Refunds are at the discretion of the Education Chair and the Workshop Director; however no refunds will be made once the workshop has started. There is no adjustment for late arrival or early departure. No fee will be charged if a class is cancelled. If a refund is granted a \$25 administrative fee will be retained.

Application Form

The application form is on the next page, along with the course offerings. Please read it carefully. Note that some classes are marked with an asterisk (*), meaning they are Intermediate or Advanced, and therefore may have prerequisites. Please do not sign up for these classes unless you have the required experience. Contact the instructor for more information on these classes.

About Instructors

All instructors for our workshop program are volunteers and are not compensated for their time and effort. **THEY MAY CHARGE A MATERIALS FEE FOR THEIR CLASSES. THIS MATERIALS FEE IS NOT PART OF THE WORKSHOP TUITION.** For additional information about our instructors, please visit www.amfed.org/sfms

Workshop Staff

DIRECTORS

WILDACRES Roy Deere
sfmswadirector@gmail.com
WM HOLLAND Steve Henegar
sfmswhdirector1011@gmail.com

REGISTRARS

WILDACRES Mrs. B. J. Gearhart
631 Lake Overlook Drive
Canton, GA 30114-6887
770-479-0963
waregistrar2010@yahoo.com
WM HOLLAND Lisa Roberts
996 Indian River Boat Dock Rd
Jacksboro, TN 37757
423-562-9555
whregistrar10@yahoo.com

CHECK-IN DAY:

Wildacres is **MONDAY** afternoon.
William Holland is **SUNDAY** afternoon.
Early check-in is NOT permitted at either location.

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were: Bill Schmidt, Sue Hazelden, Donna Remsnyder, Dave Watson, Homer Rankhorn, and Julia Larson. Also attending were: Carmen Lemke, Pat Davis, Martha Rankhorn, and four-legged guest Cleopatra Remsnyder.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted for audit.

Bill was contacted by someone from a new Boy Scout troop who asked that someone talk to them about Rucks' Pit. Sue volunteered.

There were two new members, Jack and Diane Hauser.

Julia discussed the upcoming holiday dinner plans.

Building matters, including the damaged AC unit, the pest control visit and planned paint job for exterior were discussed. Discussion about the unit (repair or replace and upgrade?) was tabled until we obtain additional estimates. Julia and Donna will make contacts to obtain estimates.

Cabbing room will not be open on Saturdays during the month of December.

Signature on membership cards changed to "Authorized Signature," so that any board member can sign the cards once the membership is approved.

Alternate meeting sites discussed – we have about reached capacity for holding the meetings at the clubhouse.

Show business: Need to sell 17 more tables.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Julia Larson, Recording Secretary

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Holiday Party
December 17, 2009

If you missed the annual holiday gathering, you missed a lot of fun. The food was great, there were plenty of door prizes and prizes for the drawing, and the SGAMS Bingo was an opportunity to learn (or relearn) members' names. We had a lot of new members in attendance this year, so the Bingo helped a lot. Plans are being made for our end of year dinner and installation of new officers. Information will be published in the coming months. I'd like to say a special thank you to those who came early and helped with the setup.

Julia Larson, Dinner Chair

Rock-A-Gram

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

Buttons, Bangles and Beads

Sally Adams

Phone (727) 363-4332 Fax (727) 363-0132
415 Corey Avenue • St. Pete Beach, FL 33706
buttonsbanglesandbeads.com



Huntington Street Stained Glass

A Vicki Payne Certified Stained Glass Teaching Center

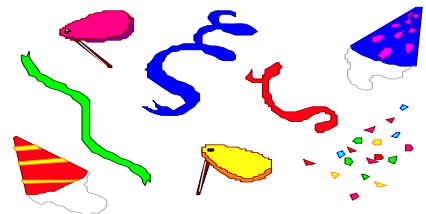
Julia Larson

St. Petersburg FL 727-522-1254

Stained Glass, Fused Glass, Mosaics
juliamlarson@earthlink.net

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

JANUARY 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	5 BOARD MEETING 7:30-9 p.m.	6 Cabbing Classes 6-9 p.m.	7	8	9 Faceting 10-12 a.m.
10	11 Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	12	13 Cabbing Classes 6-9 p.m.	14 HOLIDAY	15	16 Faceting 10-12 a.m.
17	18 Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	19	20 Cabbing Classes 6-9 p.m.	21	22	23 Faceting 10-12 a.m.
24	25 Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	26	27 Cabbing Classes 6-9 p.m.	28	29	30
31						

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