

ROCK-A-GRAM



January, 2010



Volume 42, No. 5, Page 1

General Meeting
Thursday, January 20, 2011

Location:

J. W. Cate Recreation Center
5801 22nd Avenue North
St. Petersburg
7-9 p.m.

Program

Collecting "Diamonds" In Herkimer County, N.Y.

By: *Sue Hazelden*

Herkimer "Diamonds" are doubly terminated Quartz crystals, faceted by nature. They are found in a number of locations in Herkimer County, New York. The best location in my opinion is the Herkimer Diamond Development & the Ace of Diamonds, half a mile south of Middleville, just 7 miles north of the town of Herkimer, N.Y. or route 7. Come and hear about Sue's adventures at the Herkimer Diamond Mine.

Auction Planned for February Meeting

Be sure to join us in February for our Annual Auction after our regular meeting.

I'm sure you picked up a couple "extra" rocks or treasures over this past year and are ready to donate them to our auction. Donated items don't have to be lapidary related. Don't forget that this is a fundraiser for the club, so bring an item or two that you know someone will want and let's start bidding!

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

Loop-in-Loop Chain Class

Barbara Watson will be teaching a two-night Loop-in-Loop Chain class on Monday, January 17 and Monday, January 24. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Barbara via email at watknots@gmail.com.

Fine silver wire and tools will be available for purchase. Barbara will email a list to those interested, shortly after Jan. 10. Several types of chains will be fabricated in this class.



Board Members

Pat Davis, President... .. 727-323-2147

Email: outtamygourd@yahoo.com

Donna Remsnyder, Vice President 727-692-6006

Email: DSR75@verizon.net

Sue Hazelden, Treasurer 727-321-5732

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Julia Larson, Recording Sec.. .. 727-522-1254

Email: glassgal0947@gmail.com

Dave Schwebel, Corr. Sec. 727-547-0364

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Donna Mallory, 3 yr. Director 941-776-9055

Email: dmallory66@gmail.com

Dave Watson, 2 yr. Director. 727-541-2917

Email: bwatson1@tampabay.rr.com

George Comas, 1 yr. Director. 727-526-7176

Email: gcomas@tampabay.rr.com

Bill Schmidt, 1 yr. Director 727-822-8279

Email: schmidwj@eckerd.edu

Debbie Bremer, Editor. 727-298-0061

Rock-A-Gram Newsletter

Email: bremerslapidary@yahoo.com

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:** 7:00 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 J. W. Cate Recreation Center, 5801 22nd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL.

President's Message

It's the start of a new year and time to make those resolutions. My term of office is nearly half over and I wanted to remind you of some of the things I hope to accomplish this year.

The specifics of what each committee does and how it is accomplished has never been put in writing, just passed down by word of mouth for years. Our standing rules only allude to these details. I would like to see this institutional knowledge gathered in one place as a reference for all our members who want to be involved. I am asking our officers and committee chairs to write down this information and get it to me before the end of February, so it can be assembled into one document

I want to see the cabbing room update completed. Right now the bathroom can only be used for hand washing. Dealing with the electrical issues in the cabbing room is the other part of this project.

Upgrading our equipment is a constant need, and acquiring one more cabbing machine that has five or six wheels was another objective. I am happy to report that we have achieved that goal with the recent purchase of a used machine. We have also acquired an almost new Graves faceting machine with lots of accessories (dops, etc.).

My long-range hope, which extends beyond my term, is for SGAMS to become a "William Holland South." With your help and commitment, I know we can make it so.

Happy New Year!

Pat Davis, President

We Still Are Collecting Aluminum Cans



Bring in your cans, and give to Sue Hazelden at the General Meeting. If you would like to volunteer to collect these cans for Sue at the general meetings, please let her know. Your help would be greatly appreciated

Please note: Do not put cat food cans with the aluminum cans, unless they are aluminum. Test them with a magnet, if not sure, most of them are not. Also, no aluminum foil or bottle caps.

Sue Hazelden, Treasurer

727-321-5732

Email: sujagems1@aol.com

Help Needed for Making Grab Bags

It is time once again to make the grab bags for our annual show in March. This is something anyone can do, as all you have to do is put rocks and labels in bags. It could also be a learning experience, as you will get to know the names of a lot of minerals.

It usually takes between 2 and 3 hours. The more people we have, the shorter time it takes.

Please come out and help us on **Saturday, January 22nd at 9 a.m.**

Sue Hazelden

KILN FOR SALE

I have 5 kilns and need to let this one go! Gently used Skutt Hot Shot kiln, 13-inch round kiln shelf, accessories, instruction book, \$450.

Contact *Julia Larson*, glassgal0947@gmail.com or 522-1254.

Deepest Sympathy

ROTHERMEL, George W. 89, passed away December. 11, 2010. He lived in Gainesville, but resided most of his life in St. Petersburg. He was a devoted family man. Dad was an avid fisherman who loved boating with his family. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII and fought in the Pacific Theatre. Survived by 2 sons, Harry Dietrich, Bob Rothermel; a daughter, Dianne Fultz; 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Memorial services will be Dec. 18, 2010 at 2 p.m. at Memorial Park Cemetery, 4900 54th Avenue North.

George was a long time member of our club. Our library is named after him. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family from all his friends here at SGAMS.

Obituary was published in St. Petersburg Times on December 17, 2010



The Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society
a local non-profit club proudly presents:
41st Annual

Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show and Sale

March 4, 5, 6, 2011
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
- ◆ and others



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

Directions

- ◆ Minnreg Building
6340 126th Avenue No.
Largo.
- ◆ From Tampa I-275 cross
Howard Franklin Bridge.
At Exit 32, take ramp
(right) onto SR-688
(Ulmerton Rd). Merge
onto SR-688 and keep
left. Head West (under
US-19) to 66th St. Turn
Left (South) onto 66th
St. Go to 126th Ave. N.
Turn LEFT (East) onto
126th. Minnreg Building
is on the right.
- ◆ From North on US 19
take 66th Street exit go to
126th Ave., turn left.

FREE PARKING **ADMISSION** **FREE PARKING**

Donations: \$5.00/adult good for all three days.
Children under 6 FREE, Students with parents or I.D. Card \$4.00
\$1.00 off admission with this ad. Limit one per person.

Clubhouse Class Schedules



- Faceting:** Mondays 6-9 p.m.
Saturdays 10 a.m.-12 noon
- Cabbing:** Mondays & Wednesdays 7-9 p.m.
- Fused Glass:** Tuesdays (First and Third only) 7-9 p.m.
Fifth Tuesday, if there should be one.

Loop-In-Loop Chain Making: Monday, January 17, and 24.
Contact Barbara via email at watknots@gmail.com.

**THERE WILL BE A SIGN UP SHEET AT THE
GENERAL MEETING FOR ALL CLASSES.**

GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS:

Source: Stones and Bones, Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society, Volume 8, Issue 1

January 14-16, 2011: Largo, FL

The Pinellas Geological Society. 35th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive. Free admission. Contact Hugh Sheffield (727) 894-2440.

Hours: Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 12-5 p.m.

January 15-16, 2011: Deland, FL

The Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society. 40th Annual Jewelry, Gem, Minerals & Fossils Show and Sale, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Bldg, State Route 44 (1 mile east of I-4, Exit 118).

Hours: Saturday 10 a.m. -6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Admission:\$4 children under 12 free.

January 29-30, 2011: Panama City, FL

Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Bldg., Rte. 44; adults \$4, children 12 and under free; lapidary, jewelry, demonstrations, supplies, fine jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils, drawings.

Hours: Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. -5 p.m.

February 12-13, 2011: Merritt Island, FL

"Symphony of Gemstones"; Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club; Kiwanis Island, Merritt Island Causeway; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children 12 and under free with adult.

Traffic Report

Well, if you have not been by the Clubhouse lately then you will be happy to know that all of the road work is done!! If you have been scared off by the detours and rough going then your fears will be gone when you see the improvements. The road is nicely wider and smooth. We have side walks now and new lights at 71st street. All the striping is done and the reflectors are on. It looks so different that you have to watch for the Clubhouse so you don't miss it with all the old tell tales being gone. The old motorcycle repair shop has been painted so you can't look for an orange building anymore. However, the dinosaur is still in its place. Come on by.

Bill Schmidt

FEDERATION NEWS

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
December, 2010
www.AMFED.org

2010-11 Regional Federation Shows and Conventions

California Federation May 13-15 Anderson, CA	Rocky Mountain Federation June 24-26 Colorado Springs, CO
Eastern Federation July 7-10 Syracuse, NY	South Central Federation December 11-12 DeRidder, LA
Midwest Federation September 8-11 Toledo, OH	Southeast Federation TBA
Northwest Federation July 29-31 Chehalis, OR	

Show News

Well, our gem show on March 3, 4, 5, and 6th 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. Sue Black (Dealer Chair) has been signing up dealers and we are full. The fliers were updated by Debbie Bremer, printed and are at the Clubhouse for pickup. The business card ads are too. They will be available at the General meeting also. I went to the Thanksgiving Cox show and left our fliers for people to find out about us and our show. Thank You Mr. Frank Cox.

Other members are working on the preparations needed before opening day. The grand prize drawing tickets from last year are being imputed into the computer in order to form this year's mailing list. Dave Watson has been working on the floor plan of the show to get everyone and everything to fit in. We are looking for members to fill our display cases once again this year. We have room for eight cases and so need 8 members to put together a display and show off your skills and area of expertise. And once again Sue Hazelden is heading up the grab bags. She will be needing help to fill and label. 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 & material prep. The show hours are divided into 2-hour time blocks for ease of work, which also allows you time to see the show and have the experience of working different areas. I will have sign up sheets available at the next General meeting, or a phone call or an e-mail from you will work also. Remember if you work the show then your admission to the show is free. At this January meeting I will explain in detail how each area works.

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 fourth year of increasing attendance. Lets continue.

Bill Schmidt

Favorite Purple Stone - CHAROITE By Jim Reed

Charoite is a fairly recent introduction into the world of lapidary but the beauty of this purple colored rock is wonderful to say the least. This rock was identified in 1978 by V. Rogava, but was actually found in 1948. It was first thought to be cummingtonite and hence no further investigation was performed. Charoite is a mixture of up to 30 minerals including feldspars, aegerine-augite, canasite, and tinaksite. This assemblage of minerals can create some of the most beautiful polished materials stone. Charoite is a metamorphic rock that has been affected by heat and pressure and found in complex geologic area near the Chara River in Siberia, Russia. This is the only place where the rock can be obtained. Last time in Denver, we checked with one of the Russian dealers who said they are now going underground to find this material, hence more expensive rough

If you can find a dealer that is selling the material, be careful of the rough. Some of the rough can have white fibrous areas where the stone can easily break. What I have tried that works well is to take the slab and place a backing glued to the stone that can prevent the breaking of the stone. Sometimes I use a thin glass cover slip or a glass slide, or perhaps another stone (such as onyx). In a silver setting, the back is hidden below a bezel so you do not see the backing. Charoite can have a hardness of 5 to 6 on the mohs scale.



Source: Stones and Bones, Volume 8, Issue 1, January 2011

Marbles Gems

7th Annual - Rock Yard Sale

January 15th, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

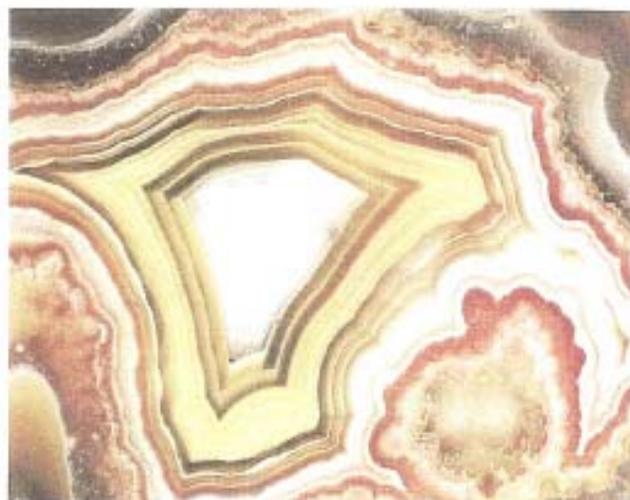
10% discount on purchase of \$50.00 or more.

Come and shop at our home - for our annual *Inventory Reduction Sale*

Open to Rock Club Members, where you will find awesome deals

Wholesale dealers bring your tax ID

- Kyanite \$5.50 lb 5 lb lots
- \$2.00 rock tables
- Sodalite ~~\$3.00~~-\$2.50 lb, 10 lb lots.
- Selenite lamps 10 dollar close out
- Calcite Spheres \$3.50 lb
- Turquoise \$35.00 lb - u pick \$45.00 lb
- 10 lb min. Satin Spar / \$1.50- \$1.00 lb
- 15 lb min. Amethyst Druse / sale \$2.00 lb
- Rose Quartz / \$3.00 lb
- Gem Trees / \$7.50 or 2 for \$10.00
- Top Polish Malachite - specimen grade \$20.00 lb
- Non Drilled-Dichroic Glass Cabochons \$3.00 each
- Pyrite "fools gold" 5 lb min \$2.00 lb - 2" pc
- Chip and assorted beads \$2.00 a strand in 10 strand lots or also we have 100 strand lots for \$1.00 each
- Pearl strands (white) reg. \$5.00 - sale \$2.50 strand
- Cut base agate geodes 44 lb box at \$1.50 lb
- Shark Tooth 1" - 1.5" - already wire wrapped \$2.50 each
- Appofolite flats 25 pieces a flat, \$35.00
- Green and Blue Aventurine \$1.50 lb
- Bookends (we are holding the old price) \$1.50 lb
- Bookends with crystal pockets 44 lb box \$2.00 lb / u-pick \$2.50 lb (reg. price \$4.50)
- Indonesian Polished Petrified Wood reg. \$6.00 lb / sale \$2.00 lb (some 180 lb lots \$1.00 lb)



Directions: From I-75 take exit 205 to west on Clark Rd. to right on Swift Rd. to left on Ashton Rd. 2 blocks to right on Damariscotta Pl. to 2nd house on right - 5240

Ralph and Eileen Marble
 5240 Dallas Place, Sarasota, FL 34231
 R.S.V.P. to Phone (941) 922-2135
 Please Note: Visa/MasterCard (\$20.00 min)

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Board Meeting
December 2, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Board members present were: Pat Davis, Dave Watson, Dave Schwebel, Donna Mallory, Donna Remsnyder, Sue Hazelden, George Comas, and Julia Larson. Also present were: Donna Sapp (membership), Sue Black (show), and Bucky Joseph.

The minutes of the previous month were approved, with the addition of approval of new member, Martha Rankin.

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

Corresponding Secretary: Nothing to report.

Mail: Notice of a faceting contest (posted in clubhouse); Marble's annual sale January 15 (Donna Mallory suggested a coordinated field trip to Sarasota for this). Anyone interested in being a dealer for the March, Imperial Bone Valley Club Show in Lakeland, can contact Jim Reed, 864-644-6665.

Membership: Donna Sapp – new member Robert E. Parker; board approved his application. There was discussion of publishing a list of members' phone numbers. Board decided not to do this.

Show: Sue Black noted we currently have between 57 and 61 dealers, but have seven more tables to fill. We need a dealer with wire, wire tools, books, etc. Pat noted the email from show chair Bill Schmidt with a copy of the flyer attached for members to print or forward. The flyers and business cards have been printed and are at the clubhouse for folks to pick up and distribute. Sue Black also discussed need for changes in demonstration setup, stressing demonstrators should be from our club and there to promote joining our club, rather than merely selling their items. Although selling is allowed, it is not the primary function of the demonstrators. Donna Sapp suggested an announcement when demos will be starting, and having a banner showing where the demos are. Dave Watson will do the cabbing demonstration. He is also revising the floor plan for the show.

Equipment: The 20 inch VibraLap is ready. The new tumbler will be ready next week. Discussion: Rental cost. The electricity in the cabbing room needs work as the fuses are blowing regularly. Donna Sapp suggested a sign for the new saw showing what items can/cannot be cut on it. Dave Watson said, people need to be checked out on how to use the equipment, and the need for a thicker saw blade. Equipment committee will handle this on its list of needs. Safety in the cabbing room: Donna Mallory, George S., and Julia will work on something. Dave Watson also mentioned the Graves faceting machine is set up and working.

Education: Nothing to report.

Historical: Pat mailed some photos to Donna M. Members are reminded to send photos.

Nominating Committee: In progress.

December Program: Holiday dinner.

Unfinished Business: Rocks remaining from Emily's sale will be moved to the clubhouse Dec. 5. Discussion regarding disposal of these tabled until January board meeting. Termite inspection: Pat will be available to let inspector in. Stamps: There are a considerable number of stamps to be sorted and prepared. We still need a volunteer or a committee to do this.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

NOTE: On Dec. 22 the board voted by email to approve the purchase of a used cabbing machine from member Hugh Sheffield.

Submitted by:
Julia Larson
Recording Secretary

**Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society
General Meeting
December 16, 2010**

The December meeting was the annual holiday dinner. Carole Haberkorn and her committee hosted the event, which included a new twist on the small gift exchange.

Minutes submitted by:

Julia Larson

Recording Secretary

2011 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULES

Workshop Staff

Wildacres Director

Julia Larson

204 37th Ave North, #250
St. Petersburg, FL 33704
727-522-1254

Email: wadir2011@yahoo.com

William Holland Directors

Carl and Denise Talbott

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Murphy NC 28906
Phone 828-494-7213

Email dtalbott@bellsouth.net

William Holland Registrar

Lisa Roberts

996 Indian River Boat Dock Road
Jacksboro, TN 37757

423-562-9555

Email whregistrar10@yahoo.com

Wildacres Registrars

David and Leslie Wayment

8802 N US Hwy 1 Suite 10
Sebastian, FL 32958
Phone 772-532-6432

772-539-2409

Email: astainedglass@bellsouth.net

Education Chairman

Kathy Morris

557 Grayce Lane
Hiawassee, GA 30546
706-896-3256

252-571-5050

Email: klmorris45@hotmail.com

SESSION ONE - WILLIAM HOLLAND SUNDAY, June 12-18, 2011

Beading, Seed	Barbara Green
Cabochons	Richard Shackleton
Chainmaking	Dee & Bill Conybear
Enameling	Bob Mattingly
Faceting	Bill Roberts
Lampworking	Ann Royer
Mineral ID	Scott Forward
Opals	Sara Lee Boyce
*Silver Filigree	Stafford/Warrick
Silver I	Don Roberts
*Silver II	Vicki Prillaman
Wire I	Velima Lawson

SESSION TWO - WILDACRES MONDAY, August 22-28, 2011

Cabochons	Pat Davis
Enameling/Cold Conn	Renee Kelley
Faceting	Steve Hillenbrand
Fused Glass	Rich Dillon
Gem ID	Mary Lou Kick
*Metalsmithing - Advanced	Jeff Sheer
*Silver, Filigree	Shannon Stafford & Annette Gibney
*Stone Setting	Don Roberts
Wire, Beginning	Velima Lawson

SESSION THREE - WILDACRES MONDAY, September 12-18, 2011

Cabochons	Anita Westlake
Casting	John Iacullo
Chain, Beginning	Kathy Morris
Lampwork	Linda White
Mineral ID	Scott Forward
Raku Beads	Jim Cullen
Silver Cold Connection	Charlotte Caughman
*Silver, Filigree	Shannon Stafford & Annette Gibney

SESSION FOUR - WILLIAM HOLLAND SUNDAY, October 9-15, 2011

Bead Weaving	Ron Midkiff
Cabochons	Anita Westlake
Chainmaking	Dee & Bill Conybear
Enameling	Lynda Williams
Faceting	Mary Lou Kick
Fused Glass	Addy DePietro
Jade BAF-Relief Carving	Bill Smith
Lampworking	Cindy Reed
Opals	Joe DePietro
*Silver Filigree	Stafford/Warrick
*Southwest Silver	Dan Haga
*Silver II	Vicki Prillaman
Wire I	Judy Peppers

The intermediate and advanced classes listed with an asterisk (*) require some prior experience by the student. Experience in a class provided by your local club, Workshop class, or self study may be enough. Please do not exclude yourself, if you're interested in one of these classes, without contacting the instructor first.

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

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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 7:00 p.m., at J.W. Cate Recreation Center, 5801 22nd Avenue 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 Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Clubhouse Open:

Mondays, 7- 9 p.m.

Wednesdays, 6 - 8 p.m.

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

Faceting, Silversmithing, Fused Glass Classes

By appointment