



June 2023

Volume 81 No. 1

Letter from the President:

Out rockhounding in Idaho! See you all in September!



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SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

BOARD MEETING

May 4, 2023

Present were Karen Kulas, Shamus Walker, Kelly Nolen, Pat Davis, Breta McGuire, Pat Church (via phone), Julia Larson. Also present were incoming board members Sue Hazelden, Barbara Kirchheimer and Don Schlough.

Show: The Largo Event Center has been reserved for the March 2024 show. The deposit check needs to be signed and sent.

Club calendar: Karen suggested adding a show committee meeting every second Thursday at 7 pm at the clubhouse. Also, add the building committee meeting every second Tuesday at 7 pm, also at the clubhouse. The activities committee has no scheduled meetings as yet. Karen suggested putting the silent auction, gem mining and other committees involved in the show scheduled at the same time as the show committee meetings. We also need to schedule yard and interior cleanings with the building and activities committees.

Facetron head: Repair still has not been completed. Karen suggested we ask for it to be returned, completed or not.

Lab fee: There was a discussion on raising the lab fees. The decision was made not to do this at this time, since the club has raised enough from the previous two years to cover any needed expenses. Shamus moved to table the discussion until such time as the equipment committee requests additional purchases.

Google Work Space: Access is free for non-profit entities. It allows any club member on the internet to make, add or alter documents. There would need to be training on documents, spreadsheets, etc., which Karen volunteered to do. It can be set up to forward emails received by the club to members' private email accounts without publishing the private account addresses. Karen suggested board members explore this to see if it's something the club needs or can use.

Budget review: Adjustments were made to next year's budget to increase the amount for show advertising. This was approved with one dissenting vote. The show committee can decide how the money is spent. There was also an increase for repair and maintenance. Tree removal was never done. The building committee can request funds as needed. Karen suggested adding funds to procure paid speakers for club programs. Shamus suggested letting the program committee research this.

Wi-fi access for clubhouse: Karen suggested investigating T Mobile, which has access for \$50/month.

Committee reports: The building committee will look into the A/C system. JoAnn Knoss was to have a meeting of the activities committee but she was ill and this has been postponed. The annual club dinner will be Thursday May 18 at the Pinellas Grill 2023-24; officers and board members will be installed.

Mail box: Barbara lives closest & volunteered to check it.

Insurance: We never received a notice in March and the insurance has lapsed as of April 21. Pat Church will get information to Barbara so she can follow up on this.

Banking: There was discussion regarding putting our savings into a CD or money market account. Pat Davis will check with a financial advisor about this.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm. - Submitted by Julia Larson, Recording Secretary

SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
GENERAL MEETING May 18,2023

The May meeting was the Annual Installation Dinner to announce and celebrate the newly elected officers and board members of SGAMS for 2023-24. They are:

President – Pat Davis

Vice President – Karen Kulas

Treasurer – Barbara Kirchheimer

Corresponding Secretary – Kelly Nolen

Recording Secretary – Susan Clark

3-year Director - Sue Hazelden

2-year Director – Debbie Hamilton

1-year director – Shamus Walker

1 year Director – Don Schlough

The dinner was well attended and held at the Pinellas Grill in Pinellas Park as a kick-off for the summer break, kudos to Joanna Knoss, Dinner Chairperson, Sandra Lorenzo, Sandy Daum, and Barbara Kirchheimer for arranging the dinner, raffle and table giveaways.

The dinner/meeting was adjourned at (8:30) pm.

Signed: Susan Clark for Julia Larson, Recording Secretary

Welcome New Members

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Matthew Calero | |
|----------------|--|

Note from the Historical Committee:

Hello SGAMS Members, We have organized committees to help with certain tasks in our organization. I am helping with the Historical Committee. We want to preserve the memories and history of SGAMS for our future Rock hounds and Pebble Pups. We would like you to submit your photos and stories to help us do this. We are making both hard copy and digital scrapbooks. This is a work in progress so please submit your photos to me or to the other members of the Historical Committee. We want to thank you in advance for your help to make an awesome archival record of SGAMShank you,
Kelly Nolen and the SGAMS Historical Committee
Kelly Nolen oescharmer@aol.com

SGAMS Membership Benefits

Our club offers shop time to its members at a cost of \$3.00 per hour or any part of the hour. Classes are open-shop with a monitor to provide assistance as needed. In cabbing, participants will learn the basics of cutting, forming, and polishing a simple cabochon. Faceting is the art of cutting and polishing angled faces on a gemstone; this class is at a cost of \$65.00 and the student will cut and polish one round brilliant stone.

Wire wrapping basic class allows you to set precious and semi-precious gemstones into simple metal frameworks made out of copper, silver, gold, and other materials.

Silversmithing class is to help with foundational silversmithing skills and finishing suitable for the novice or those with limited experience.

Wax casting is a \$50.00 class which includes one 3 inch flask, in two sessions, which involve investing spruced trees in preparation for the burnout process and then melting and pouring into the remaining cavity to produce the cast pieces. Finishing of the cast pieces is minimal and participants are encouraged to attend the silversmithing lab if they would like help in this last stage.

Clubhouse Class Schedules - By Reservation Only

CABBING, Workshop & Instruction: Thursdays 12 to 4pm

Larry Murray (727) 686-1314

Must receive a text request by Tuesday Evening.

Saturday Cab Shop hours are suspended until further notice.

FACETING/WIRE WRAPPING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm

Dave Watson 727-541-2917 or sgams2020@gmail.com

SILVERSMITHING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm and Saturdays 1 to 5 pm

Joe Cooper 317-775-5476 or sgams2020@gmail.com

WAX CASTING: By Reservation, announced by Email Blast to All Members

Joe Cooper 317-775-5476 or sgams2020@gmail.com

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
Application for Membership

Name: _____
Last Name First Name Spouse's Name

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: (____) _____ **Email:** _____

Type of Membership: _____ Adult Single (\$20) _____ Family (\$30)

Family means spouse and/or at least one child under 18 living in your home.

WHAT TIME AND TALENTS CAN YOU DONATE TO THE CLUB? (for example: retired; lapidary skills; plumbing; grant-writer, machinist, etc.) :

Reason for Joining the Club (Shared, Interest, Education, Field Trips, etc.) _____

What other Gem clubs are you (or have you been) a member? _____

Service to the club: In order for your membership application to be considered for approval, you must select at least 1 (one) area below where you have an interest and feel you can be of assistance.

| Indicate all areas where you have an interest and can assist YOUR club) | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Serve as a Committee Chairman | <input type="checkbox"/> I. Assisting Newsletter Editor (as needed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Serve on a Committee. | <input type="checkbox"/> J. Assist with Maintenance of the club house. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Assist VP with monthly membership meeting program. | <input type="checkbox"/> K. Working as a club Instructor (cabbing, faceting, wire wrap, silversmith, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D. Work with the Field Trip Chairman on club trips. | <input type="checkbox"/> L. Hospitality for Monthly Meetings (set-up coffee and supplies) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E. Assist at annual show: Ticket Booth | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F. Assist at annual show: Information Booth | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G. Assist at annual show: Club Booth | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> H. Serve as club officer or board member/ Historian. | |

Use of the club facilities is a privilege of membership in SGAMS. Please be prepared to present your membership card when you come in to use the shop or take a class.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SGAMS and mail to:
 Barbara Kirchheimer, 6190 62nd Ave N #2, Pinellas Park, FL 33781

revised 11/11/22

Dues Paid? _____ Date: _____

 Membership Chairman

 Treasurer

 Date Accepted to Club

Privacy Policy: SGAMS will never sell, trade nor share your personal information received here in any manner and will always protect it and your privacy. Occasionally you will be emailed well vetted offers, publications, or bulletins of interest and in relation to our club, this hobby and similar activities. No officer or member of this club will ever email or text you for money or gift cards, etc., and any such correspondence you receive you should not open, or answer, but report as spam and contact SGAMS with your concerns.

HANDLING DONATIONS:

Donors are encouraged to bring their donations to the clubhouse during board meetings (first Thursday of each month, September through May), or to membership meetings (third Thursday of the month, September through May). Please do not leave unidentified items at the clubhouse at other times.

Julia Larson has volunteered to be the point person for donations and will be available following each of these meetings to accept and record donor and donation information. During the summer hiatus (June 1 through August 31) or at any time, donors can contact Julia at: jmlsgams22@gmail.com, or 727-410-3781. If calling, please leave your name and number in order to return the call.

Links

Our Website: www.sgams.com

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063572437643>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/564631203904814>

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| American Federation of Mineralogical Societies | www.amfed.org |
| American Lands Access Association | www.amlands.org |
| Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies | www.southeastfed.org |
| National Parks Foundation | www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks |
| Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society | www.canaveral-mgs.com |
| Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society | www.cfmgs.org |
| Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society | www.bonevalley.net |
| Tampa Bay Fossil Club | www.tampabayfossilclub.com |
| Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club | www.tampabayrockclub.org |
| Withlacoochee Rockhounds of Hernando County | www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com |
| Geology, Rocks, Minerals, Volcano, etc information | www.geology.com |

ROCK-A-GRAM

This is the official newsletter of the SUNCOAST GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. , 4619 69th St. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33709.

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. The public is cordially invited to attend these membership meetings.

December and May meetings are special meetings and a time and place will be announced in this bulletin.

Dues: \$20.00 single or \$30.00 couple/family; paid annually & collected each September.

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and encourage membership to patronize them.**



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