

# ROCK-A-GRAM



March, 2010



Volume 41, No. 7, Page 1

## General Meeting

Thursday, March 18, 2010

7:30 p.m.

4619 69th Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

### Program:

## IT'S AUCTION TIME!

Be sure to join us for our Annual Auction at the Clubhouse on Thursday, March 18, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. after our regular meeting. I'm sure you picked up a couple "extra" rocks or treasures at our show and are ready to donate them to the club. 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!

### Grab Bags

We had a good turn out for the filling of the grab bags for our show. I would like to thank the following for their great help. Hugh & Leona Sheffield, Jan Kolacy, Donna Mallory, Patricia Goff-Erdman, Brenda Harrelson, Tom Petsch, Carmen Lemke & Lou Codol. Thanks to you all we got the job done quickly.

*Sue Hazelden*

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

## Board Members

*Bill Schmidt*, President ..... 727-822-8279  
Email: schmidwj@eckerd.edu

*Donna Remsnyder*, Vice President . 727-692-6006  
Email: d.remsnyder@verizon.net

*Sue Hazelden*, Treasurer ..... 727-321-5732  
Email: sujagems1@aol.com

*Julia Larson*, Recording Sec. .... 727-522-1254  
Email: glassgal0947@gmail.com

*Dave Schwebel*, Corr. Sec. .... 727-547-0364  
Email: dschwebel@tampabay.rr.com

*Dave Watson*, 3 yr. Director ..... 727-541-2917  
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*George Comas*, 2 yr. Director ..... 727-526-7176  
Email: gcomas@tampabay.rr.com

*Homer Rankhorn*, 1 yr. Director .... 727-812-4002  
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*Don Schlough*, Director ..... 727-470-9540  
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*Debbie Bremer*, Editor ..... 727-298-0061  
Rock-A-Gram Newsletter  
Email: bremerlapidary@yahoo.com

**SGAMS Clubhouse Address: 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709, [www.sgams.com](http://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,

As you know our show was last weekend and by all accounts it was a success. The dealers were in agreement that they all came out on top. A lot of old friends were met and events caught up on. There was a lot of interest shown in our club and we had about ten people put in applications for membership. If you missed it, I'm sorry. Everyone had a good time. We are starting to look towards next years show, so if you have any comments or ideas, please write them down and send them to me.

The air conditioner is being fixed now and will be ready for the general meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. We might need it if everyone shows up; old, new, and interested members. On that note we are reserving the JW Cate recreation center for next year's meetings. You'll get a chance to preview it as our year ending banquet will be held there in May.

The Clubhouse Day for painting and maintenance is coming up on the twentieth of this month. The details will be the same as all of the other attempts. While I will not be there, it will be in the capable hands of Donna R. Remember, just in case the rain date is the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Hope to see everyone on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Take care,  
*Bill Schmidt*, President

## 2010 - 2011 Slate of Officers

**President**  
Pat Davis

**Vice President**  
Donna Remsnyder

**Recording Secretary**  
Julia Larson

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Dave Schwebel

**Treasurer**  
Sue Hazelden

<b>3 Year Director</b> Donna Mallory	<b>1 Year Director</b> Dave Watson
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<b>2 Year Director</b> George Comas	<b>1 Year Director</b> Bill Schmidt
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## New Members

Luanne Hammerly  
2576 Northfield  
Clearwater, FL 33761  
727 459-1722  
[lobeads@hotmail.com](mailto:lobeads@hotmail.com)

Jay S. Brown  
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James Bingham  
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Carol Shelton  
6118 Schooner Way  
Tampa, FL 33615  
813 855-8263  
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### NEW MEMBERSHIPS AT SHOW

Walter Staats  
2419 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd. #817  
Clearwater, FL 33765  
727 415-7867  
[www.staats@yahoo.com](http://www.staats@yahoo.com)

Linda White  
1957 Mass. Ave. N.E.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33703  
727 525-1023  
[lw@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:lw@tampabay.rr.com)

Edwin & Debbie Rucks  
28490 N/E 55<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Okeechobee, FL 34972  
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Douglas Eldridge  
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6395 – 51<sup>ST</sup> Ave N  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709  
7272 546-2052  
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Suzanne and Fred Donzero  
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Tina Russell  
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[tipluvser@yahoo.com](mailto:tipluvser@yahoo.com)

### RENEWAL OF LATE DUES

Shiela and John Hager  
55 Royal Palm Circle  
Largo, FL 33778  
727 587-6515

Michael Straub and  
Hurling Lu  
3665 E. Bay Cr. STE 204-13  
Largo, FL 33771  
407 902-8662  
[mstraub57@hotmail.com](mailto:mstraub57@hotmail.com)

Tom, Trina and Marina Fehervari  
5145 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Terrace N  
St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
727 954-5837

## ANYBODY WANT TO HAVE A TAILGATING PARTY?

(NO FOOTBALL REQUIRED)

That's right, we've decided that it's time to have some fun and sell some stuff. Bring any lapidary or club related item that you'd like to sell to the clubhouse on Saturday, April 10, 2010. Set up will start at 9:00 a.m., and we'll be ready to sell at 10:00 a.m. Booths will be closing at 2:00 p.m. You can set up one table around the clubhouse and make some money and some new friends. We will have a shuttle to assist with the parking dilemma and be parking the vehicles at the K-Mart parking lot. Hope to see everyone! Let's bring a lunch and make a day of it!

### Field Trip - Ft. Drum Pit

April 1 - 4, 2010

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**WHAT:** Fossil, calcite, and combination fossil/calcite collecting trip

**ITEMS COLLECTED:** There are well-fossilized and calcified marine shells. The sand and shell matrix rock is in the Nashua Formation (Pleistocene) and is composed of well-calcified shells. Any cavities within these fossils may contain calcite crystals. Honey colored calcite crystals up to 1" in length can be found within large fossilized clamshells. Small calcite crystals within shells are very common. Fossilized bone and teeth, although rare, can also be found at this location. Limit: (1) 5 gal bucket and 1 metric per person.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Bring your rock hammers, chisels, and other tools. You must wear long pants and gloves. Packing a cooler is a good idea also.

**CAMPING AVAILABLE:**

Camping will be available for \$25.00 per site per night. The water may be portable, but to be sure, bring some water for cooking and drinking.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Ft. Drum is on Hwy 441 approximately 15 miles south of the intersection of Hwy 60 and 441 (Yeehaw Junction). Go south of Ft. Drum General Store about 0.5 mile and turn east on 304th St. Go about 2.75 miles to the quarry entrance (north side of the road). Look for the Fort Drum Crystal Mine at the entrance.

More information call: Eddie at 813-634-4579

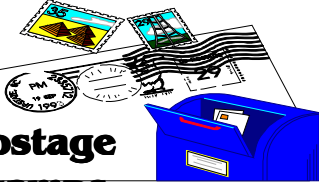


## FACETING MACHINE FOR SALE

Graves Mark 4 with accessories and extra discs. Nearly new - Used a few times on glass (never on stones).

**\$1200.00**

Contact: Linda Poole  
941-923-2157 or  
Julia Larson 727-522-1254



**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.

### Upcoming Shows:

**March 20 & 21: Tampa  
Tampa Bay Fossil Club**  
Florida State Fairgrounds,  
I4 Exit 7 Web site: [http://  
www.tampabayfossilclub.com](http://www.tampabayfossilclub.com)

**March 28-29: Orlando  
Central Florida Mineral  
& Gem Society**  
Central Florida Fair Grounds,  
4630 W. Colonial Dr.  
Web site: [http://  
www.thumblicker.com](http://www.thumblicker.com)

**October 10 -11:Orlando  
Florida Fossil Hunters**  
Central Florida Fair Grounds,  
4630 W. Colonial Dr.  
Website: [Http://  
www.Floridafossilhunters.com](Http://www.Floridafossilhunters.com)

## Show News

I wanted to thank everybody for a great great show this year. I would like to name each and every one who volunteered their time, vehicles, cooking, talents, early mornings and late nights but it was too many for me to keep track. You all saw each other there so please would every one stand up and give a round of applause for the others that came. Thank You.

Our attendance was great this year. While 2009 was a big down turn we have recovered and are just below the level of 2008.

The Ticket Booth went smoothly, and while I was in there got acquainted with a recent new member that turned out to be a fellow alumnus. Small world.

At the Club Booth there seemed more technical questions asked this year than in past. Things along the lines of how to do tumbling, regrinding a chipped coral head, what were the bags of yellow plastic pellets and the like. The Club tables were super busy at times and at others just had time to catch your breath. These are the people who we want to meet and have join. Interested in finding out who, what, why, when and how. Not just HSN patrons but people who want to get their hands dirty by doing. That's the main fun isn't it?

The Information Booth went through almost all of the grab bags and the new mineral books were down by a half. Remember all of those Lapidary Journals and such? Well after we kept about two boxes to fill out our library we sold about half of what was left. And the introductory pamphlet "Who We Are"? We must have given out a hundred. William Holland catalogs were popular too.

And who could forget the Hospitality Room. It was always stuffed with home baked goodies, chilies, chicken curry, lasagna, fried chicken and sausage/peppers/onions to name a few.

There was a new demonstrator this year showing her style of wire wrapping. The great thing is that she is a new member, just joining us in the Fall. Fearless I'd say.

Once again if you can think of anything that needs improvement, could be added or needs to be dropped please send me a note. You'll saw a lot of things that I did not and we need to continue to improve the show.

Thank You,  
*Bill Schmidt*

**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.****General Meeting**

February 18, 2010

Called to order at 7:30 pm. Guests introduced. Minutes approved as published. Treasurer's report.

Sue Hazelden: Need t-shirts and/or name badge if working at show. Those who work get in free. All other members must pay to enter.

Bill Schmidt: Building issues: Laura Parrish: Will donate her old A/C unit as soon as her upgrade is installed. Raccoon damage. Paint date rescheduled for March 20, rain date March 27.

Pat Joseph: Will donate 3'x3' concrete slab for unit if someone will pick it up.

Show: March 5-6-7. Set-up is Thursday March 4, beginning at clubhouse at 10 a.m. to load truck. 17 vendors to date (full). New this year - Mini-Miners pamphlets for sale. Items for 24 hourly drawings (most donated by vendors).

Membership: 2 applications received in mail. Rosters are available - see Carmen for email or hard copy.

March meeting: Annual auction, club fund raiser. Need good items (not garage sale stuff).

Raffle and program: Donna Remsnyder, Pat Davis, Jan Rambow: Trip to Quartzite

Meeting adjourned 9 p.m.

Following the general meeting, the board met to consider applications from **Walter Staats, James Sechler, Brenda Gregory, Yolanda Carter, James & Carlee Bingham** and their children **Hunter & Alex**. All accepted.

Submitted by:  
Julia Larson  
Recording Secretary

**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.****Board Meeting**

February 2, 2010

Called to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members present: Bill Schmidt, Sue Hazelden, Donna Remsnyder, Dave Schwebel, Dave Watson, George Comas, Homer Rankhorn, Julia Larson. Also present: Debbie Bremer, Pat Davis, Martha Rankhorn

Sue Hazelden: Treasurer's report; new faceting student; need for operating procedures for instructors (Pat will handle this); aluminum prices.

Dave Schwebel (Corresponding Secretary): email from potential vendor (referred to show chair).

Bill Schmidt: Show issues - security, sign-up sheets, need web site updated, raffle, demonstrators, Mini-Miners pamphlets. Building issues - raccoon hole, paint day (rescheduled again for March 18; rain date March 27), newsletter deadline, calendar layout for newsletter, classes and times, equipment.

Program for February: Donna, Pat and Jan - Quartzite trip.

Meeting location - Sue will check on Cate Center.

A/C unit: Go with Patterson bid if unit is available (it is); we will do duct replacement ourselves.

New members: **Anita & Dennis Crouch; Carole Haberkorn; Tom Petsch & Loretta Sandt; Helen Sparks; Donna Stapleton**. All accepted.

Donation: **Jay S. Brown**, crate of rocks, 15" Vibra-lap, horizontal grinder.

Nominating committee: Publish names in March newsletter, vote in April, install at May dinner.

Adjourned 9:30 p.m.

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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## March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday						
<b>14</b>	Cabbing <b>15</b> 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>16</b>	Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>17</b>	Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>18</b>	GENERAL MEETING 7:30 p.m.					
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.	<b>21</b>	Cabbing 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m. Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
<b>28</b>												

## April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.			
<b>4</b>	Cabbing <b>5</b> 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m. Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>6</b>	BOARD MEETING 7:30 p.m.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	Faceting 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Cabbing 9 a.m.-12 p.m.		
<b>11</b>	Cabbing <b>12</b> 5-9 p.m. Silversmithing 6-8 p.m.	<b>13</b>	Fused Glass 7-9 p.m.	<b>14</b>	Cabbing 6-9 p.m.	<b>15</b>	GENERAL MEETING 7:30 p.m.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	Faceting 10-12 a.m. <b>Painting Club House</b>

# **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