



March 2020

Volume 51, No. 7 Page 1

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Again, the club annual auction was a great success. It's that time of year again and I want thank everyone for graciously giving their time and efforts to support our club show. You all deserve our gratitude for a job well done. With all the changes this year it has been to say the least a challenge. And I want you all to know that we could not have done it without you. We hope to have more information to share with everyone at the club general meeting in March about how the show did.

Pat Davis and the nominating committee are putting together a list of members for next year's board members so please consider helping the club by serving on the board. Voting for the new officers will be at the April meeting and your new officers will be installed at the club dinner in May.

There are recommendations for changes to the club By-laws. Please read Section Article III: Membership section D and Article IV: Dues and Fees section 3 of the By-laws and the recommended changes sections so that you are ready to vote on them in April. The recommended changes are in the February 2020 and March (current) 2020 Rock-A -Gram.

#### PROGRAM FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020, 7 PM

An evening of seriously weird mineralogy! Dr. Jeffrey Ryan, Professor of Geology in the School of Geosciences at USF will talk to us about his seagoing adventures on IODP Expedition 366 to the Mariana forearc, where the Science Team drilled into all sorts of strange and unexpected mineral assemblages erupting on the floor of the Pacific Ocean" **PLEASE NOTE: WITH CONCERN OVER THE CORONAVIRUS, THERE IS A CHANCE THE BOARD WILL CANCEL THE MEETING. PLEASE WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR AN UPDATE.**

**If your last name starts with A through L, please bring a snack to share at the meeting.**

## Board Members and Appointed Positions

*Joe Cooper, President* .... 317-775-5476

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Susan Biel, Vice President* ...

315-380-7037 Email:

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Eric Odegaard, Treasurer* . . . . 727-333-5668

Email:

[sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Gerri Groves, Recording*

Secretary

727-656-0322

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Dan Stefanski, Corresponding Secretary* ..

734-216-6855

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

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

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Dave Watson, Director* .. 727-541-2917

*Richard Buton, Director* .. .. . 570-592-6562

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Sandy Theisz, Director* . . . . . 727-686-1209

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Bill (William) Schmidt, Facilities*.. 727-657-0998

Email: [SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com)

*Donna Sapp, Membership*. . . . . 727-420-0383

Email: [DSapp43@yahoo.com](mailto:DSapp43@yahoo.com)

*Debbie Bremer, Webmaster*..... 727-298-0061

Email: [bremerslapidary@yahoo.com](mailto:bremerslapidary@yahoo.com)

*Bill (William) Schmidt, Show Chair*.. 727-657-0998

Email: [SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com)

*Sandy Theisz, Dealer Chair*. . . . .

727-686-1209

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*JoAnn Knoss, Dinner Committee*.. 727-914-4569

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

### HELP WANTED!

Do you know your way around Facebook?

SGAMS is looking for a computer-savvy member to handle our presence on Facebook. Contact Pat Davis at [shasta73@gmail.com](mailto:shasta73@gmail.com) to discuss.

SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Meeting was called to order by President Joe Cooper at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary report- a motion by Dan Stefanski to approve as published in the Rock A Gram was approved.

Treasurer's report-a motion by Dan Stefanski to accept and file for audit was approved.

Show meeting- last show meeting before the show will be Feb 27, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Equipment-Rick Bunton is in the process of replacing the bad wheels and bearings on the machines in the cab room. There is also new equipment in the silver room for making rings out of coins.

Changes to the by-laws were discussed, they will be voted on by the members at the March meeting.

Tonight's program is presented by Chris Goin-Anderson on the Healing power of Minerals and Crystals.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by Gerri Groves, Recording Secretary

SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FEBRUARY 6, 2020

Meeting was called to order by President Joe Cooper at 7:08 p.m. Board members In attendance were Joe Cooper, Gerri Groves, Rick Bunton, Dave Watson, Eric Odegaard, Pat Davis and Dan Stefanski. Also attending were Julia Larson, and Bill Schmidt.

Secretary report- a motion by Dan Stefanski to approve the minutes as printed were approved.

Treasurer's report-Eric Odegaard presented the treasurer's report. A motion by Dan Stefanski to accept and file for audit was approved. The audit committee presented their report and it was accepted.

Changes to the by-laws need to be voted on by all the members. Will be published in the Feb Rock A Gram and voted on at the March meeting.

Program for this month is The Power of Minerals and Crystals presented by Chris Goin-Anderson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Submitted by Gerri Groves, Recording secretary

## SHOW NEWS

8 March 2020

Well another Show is in the books. I don't have any head counts yet but although attendance on the short Friday was low, Saturday was way up. We did get a few walk-ins from the dinner theater and from Habitat for Humanity, which was nice.

I think we broke the record for the largest set-up and breakdown crew yet! The work went quick and everybody was a trooper for having to move that many tables that far. Loading the trailer the day before made a big difference with the time schedule we had. Non-scientific reports have all of the booths doing well, and the Club booth being a third of normal size still did its fair share.

I can't possibly accurately list all the volunteers especially since it seems like most everybody was there. Of note are the booth shifts personnel during the Show, the Show committee, the Saturday morning grab bag folks run by Kelly, the mornings of silent auction work run by Susan, dealer chair for this and many years Sandy, our grand prize entry/ mailing list guru Geri, overnight security provide by Eric and Greg who loaned us his trailer. So, thank you all, it takes a lot of concerned people to accomplish this and you're the ones who did it.

Now, for the summer we need to again work on a new location that has better parking, better food and slightly more room. If you have any ideas for next year or want to bring attention to something this year, please send me an e-mail to the show address of [SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com).

Thanks all, Bill Schmidt.

PS: Please, during your summer trips remember we need all sorts of small samples for grab bags and gem mining. If you can find room for a small bucket that can provide 150 pieces that will make a show's worth of bags.

## NOTHING FOR ROCKHOUNDS IN FLORIDA? THINK AGAIN!

If you saw the wonderful display case at the show, you may be wondering “where the heck did Sue and Jack Hazelden find those things?” Here are a few collecting sites that may be helpful.

Vero Beaches – Highway A1A, Sebastian Inlet State Park. Bring a good metal detector – but don’t use it in the water! If you are lucky, you may find gold and silver coins, or even emeralds lost in a hurricane in 1715 or other shipwrecks. Or maybe loose change from a beachgoer’s pocket, but still... Watch out for turtle nests.

<http://208.234-21.196/mclarty.htm>

Caspersen Beach – Harbor Drive, south of Venice and the airport; Venice Public Beaches. Sharks’ teeth and other fossils wash up on the beach, especially after a big storm. Bring a metal scooper, homemade screens, etc. And something to keep the sharks’ teeth in. Divers can do even better underwater all along the area beaches.

<http://www.venice-fla.com>

Sanibel and Captiva – State Highway 867 off US Highway 41. Do the “Sanibel Stoop” for shells, especially in early morning at low tide. Do not take live shells! Leave them in the water.

Wild Tours – Fossil Expeditions, Megalodon Expeditions and Everglades Eco-Tours – out of LeHigh Acres, taking place in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Orlando, Sarasota, Naples and Ft Myers. [www.fossilexpedition.com/main](http://www.fossilexpedition.com/main).

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies web site is at: <http://www.amfed.org>

American Lands Access Association: [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Website at: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

National Park Foundation: [www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks](http://www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks)

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society: [www.canaveral-mgs.com](http://www.canaveral-mgs.com)

Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society: [www.cfmgms.org](http://www.cfmgms.org)

Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society: [www.bonevalley.net](http://www.bonevalley.net)

Pinellas Geological Society: [www.pgs.rocks](http://www.pgs.rocks)

Tampa Bay Fossil Club: [www.tampabayfossilclub.com](http://www.tampabayfossilclub.com)

Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club: [www.tampabayrockclub.com](http://www.tampabayrockclub.com)

Withlacoochee Rockhounds of Hernando County: [www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com](http://www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com)

**OUR WEBSITE: [www.sgams2020.com](http://www.sgams2020.com)**

## UPCOMING SHOWS

March 27-29, 2020—50th annual gem, mineral, fossil & jewelry show, Hickory NC

April 25-26, 2020—Mineral fossil & jewelry show, Memphis Archaeology & Geology Society,  
Memphis TN

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



Are you a member of SGAMS,  
and want to promote your busi-  
ness?

Place Your Ad Here.

## Clubhouse Class Schedules

**CABBING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm**

TBD

**Wednesdays, 12 to 4pm**

Larry Murry 727-686-1314

**FACETING/WIREWRAPPING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm**

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

**SILVER SMITHING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm and Saturdays 1 to 5 pm**

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

### Contact Instructors, if interested in following classes:

FUSED GLASS: Julia Larson (727) 410-3781 glassgal0947@gmail.com

GEM TREES: Jerri Heer (419) 344-9999 or jheerx6@aol.com

WAX CASTING: Joe Cooper (317) 775-5476, sgams2020@gmail.com

Cost for classes (except Faceting and Wax Casting) is \$3.00 per hour, or any portion thereof, plus any additional supplies.

\*Please contact instructor to set up start date and schedule. Each class has minimum number of students needed to start a class.

**Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society  
Amendments Requested by SGAMS Bylaws Committee.**

In accordance with Article XII: Amendments. The Bylaws Committee recommends that the following changes be made to the SGMA Bylaws. (Please note that **red strike thru text** are to be removed and yellow highlighted text are our requested changes to the Bylaws.

**Article III: Section I D. Honorary Membership:** Any person who has made outstanding contributions in promoting popular interest in the fields of earth science or lapidary arts shall, upon majority vote of the Board of Directors, be granted an Honorary **Life** Membership in this Society. No more than two (2) Honorary Memberships shall be granted in any one (1) calendar year. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay dues and are not entitled to vote or hold office.

**Article III: Section 4: Suspension** Membership dues are due September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Any member whose dues are not paid by **December 1** September 30 of each year is automatically suspended and forfeits the right to vote and the privilege of holding office. Further suspended members shall not use club facilities and club equipment, participate in any club classes, and can no longer attend club activities.

**Article III Section 5: Reinstatement** A member, suspended for non-payment of dues, **may be reinstated by paying delinquent dues before the next September 1. If delinquent dues are not paid before September 1, the former member shall apply as a new member and meet the requirements then in force.** must reapply as a new member by submitting a new membership application with dues payment and be approved by the club's membership Chairman. Until suspended members are reinstated, they forfeit the right to vote and the privilege of holding office. Further, they shall not use club facilities, club equipment, participate in any club classes, and can no longer attend club activities.

**Article IV Section 3: Delinquent**

Dues shall be considered delinquent if not received by **December 1** September 30<sup>th</sup>, and the membership shall be suspended. Any suspended member must reapply as a new member by submitting a new membership application with dues payment and be approved by the club's membership Chairman. Until suspended members are reinstated, they forfeit the right to vote and the privilege of holding office. Further, they shall not use club facilities, club equipment, participate in any club classes, and can no longer attend club activities. **If dues are not received by the next September 1, membership shall be forfeited.**



# 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

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. 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: \$20.00 single or \$30.00 couple/family; due annually each September**  
**Feel free to copy any material from this bulletin, but please list all byline credits**

<p><b>Webmaster</b>                  (Website)Suncoast Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Inc.  <i>Debbie Bremer</i>                  Email: <a href="mailto:bremerslapidary@yahoo.com">bremerslapidary@yahoo.com</a>                  Phone: (727) 298-0061  <a href="http://www.SGAMS.com">www.SGAMS.com</a></p>		<p><b>Facilities</b>                  (Building Supervisor)—Suncoast Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Inc.  <i>Bill Schmidt</i>                  Email: <a href="mailto:SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com">SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com</a>                  Phone: (727) 657-0998                  P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254</p>	
<p><b>Membership Committee</b>                  (Membership)—Suncoast Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Inc.  <i>Donna Sapp</i>                  Email: <a href="mailto:DSapp43@yahoo.com">DSapp43@yahoo.com</a>                  Phone: (727) 420-0383                  3200 74th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702</p>		<p><b>Dinner Committee</b>                  (Club Dinners)—Suncoast Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Inc.  <i>JoAnn Knoss</i>                  Email: <a href="mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com">sgams2020@gmail.com</a>                  Phone: (727) 914-4569                  P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254</p>	
<p><b>Show Committee</b>                  (Show Chair)—Suncoast Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Inc.  <i>Bill Schmidt</i>                  Email: <a href="mailto:SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com">SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com</a>                  Phone: (727) 657-0998                  P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254</p>		<p><b>Dealer Contact</b>                  (Dealer Chair)—Suncoast Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Inc.  <i>Sandy Theisz</i>                  Email: <a href="mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com">sgams2020@gmail.com</a>                  Phone: (727) 686-1209                  P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254</p>	
<p><b>Clubhouse Activities</b>                  September - May</p> <p><b>Board Meeting:</b>                  (September - May)                  First Thursday: 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>General Meeting:</b>                  (September - May) Third                  Thursday: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Clubhouse Activities</b>                  Year Round</p> <p><b>Cab Room:</b>  <b>Clubhouse Open:</b></p> <p>Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Wednesdays 12:00- 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Clubhouse Activities</b>                  Year Round</p> <p><b>Silver Room:</b>  <b>Clubhouse Open:</b></p> <p>Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Saturdays 1:00– 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Clubhouse Activities</b>                  Year Round</p> <p><b>Faceting:</b>  <b>By Appointment:</b>                  Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.,  <b>Lost Wax Casting:</b>  <b>By Appointment:</b>                  Friday pm and Saturday</p>