

March 2022

Volume 69, No. 1 Page 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Hello SGAMS Members,

I hope you and yours are well and are looking forward to Spring.

Our presentation for the Pebble Pups on February 27 was amazing and fun for everyone who attended. Many thanks to Susan Biel and everyone who helped to make it a success.

SGAMS (and I) would also like to send out a big thank you to Stacy De Terlizzi and the rest of the parents for their generous donation which will help fund future presentations for our young Rock Hounds.

Our much-anticipated Show was this past weekend, March 4-6, and I hope everybody enjoyed it as much as I did. SGAMS and I would like to send out a huge thank you to our awesome vendors, great volunteers and to all who attended. We couldn't put on such a fantastic Show without all of you.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our March General Meeting.

Please stay safe and be well.

And, keep collecting those pretty rocks!

Sincerely,

Kelly Nolen

Officers, Directors and Appointed Positions for 2021-22

Kelly Nolen, President
 Email: oescharmer@aol.com
 Phone: (440) 953-8711 (summer)
 (727) 584-2775 (winter)
 No texts on either

TBD, Vice President
 Email: Phone:

Patricia Church, Treasurer
 Email: SGAMS2020@gmail.com

Julia Larson, Recording Secretary
 Email: SGAMS2020@gmail.com

Susan Biel, Corresponding Secretary
 Email: peecheene8@gmail.com
 Phone: (315) 380-7037

Chandra McBride, 3 Year Director
 Email: celitehealth@outlook.com
 Phone: (813) 601-6007

Breta McGuire, 2 Year Director
 Email: SGAMS2020@gmail.com

Sherry Staley, 1 Year Director
 Email: slstaley1956@gmail.com
 Phone: (727) 480-6730

Pat Davis, 1 Year Director
 Email: SGAMS2020@gmail.com

OTHER APPOINTED POSITIONS:

William (Bill) Schmidt,
 Building, and Annual Show Chair
 Email: SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com

Donna Sapp, Membership Chair
 Email: DSapp43@yahoo.com
 Phone: (727) 420-0383

Debra Bremer, Webmaster
 Email: bremerslapidary@yahoo.com
 Phone: (727) 534-0590

JoAnn Knoss, Annual & Holiday
 Dinner Chair
 Email: SGAMS2020@gmail.com
 Phone: (727) 238-8345

Susan Biel, Bulletin & Publication
 Chair
 Rock-A-Gram Newsletter
 Email: peecheene8@gmail.com
 Phone: (315) 380-7037

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ADD
 THESE EMAIL ADDRESSES TO
 YOUR CONTACTS SO THAT THEY
 DO NOT GO TO SPAM!**

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SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC,

GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 17, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Nolen. New members and guests were introduced.

Committee reports were given: Susan Biel noted there was a special Valentine's Day issue of the newsletter. She reminded members of the need for help at the various stations at the show. The lists were passed around.

The nominating committee announced the slate of officers for next year. They are

President – Susan Biel (who will continue to edit the newsletter)

Vice President – Karen Kulas

Recording Secretary – Julia Larson

Corresponding Secretary – Pat Davis

Treasurer – Pat Church

3-year Director – Debbie Hamilton

2-year Director –

1-year Director –

1-year Director – Kelly Nolen

JoAnn Knoss reminded members about the end of year dinner scheduled as usual for the May meeting.

Bill Schmidt announced a work day to assemble items for the club tables and silent auction.

The normally scheduled February auction has been postponed to the April meeting. We are in need of an auctioneer. Kelly Nolen presented a program on garnets and fluorites. She brought a number of specimens from her collection.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 8 pm.

Submitted by Julia Larson, Recording Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH 17TH GENERAL MEETING: Talk by USF Professor Jeffrey Ryan on an expedition to the the Marianas Trench and some “seriously weird minerals” found there!!

APRIL—In the planning stages, reviving the Annual Yard Sale and New Member Picnic, tentatively planned for Saturday, April 9th. Keep your eye on your email for further information.

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society
Board Meeting March 2022



Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society
Board Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Nolen at 7:10 p.m. Those attending were: Susan Biel, Pat Church, Breta McGuire, Pat Davis, Bill Schmidt and Member Sue Hazelden.

The first order of business was overnight security for the show. After a few fruitless calls, Pat Davis was able to get a price of \$200 per night for the three nights from the Largo Event Center’s own security service. It was approved by unanimous vote.

It was noted that there had to be someone at the Event Center each morning at 8:00 a.m. to relieve the security personnel – Sue Hazelden agreed to cover on Friday morning, Breta McGuire for Saturday and Pat Davis for Sunday.

The next order of business was to ascertain what positions at the Show needed coverage; what supplies should be brought to the show. Bill Schmidt gave some direction as to what materials were where at the clubhouse. Suitable items for the Grand Prize were discussed.

Pat Church gave the Treasurer’s report

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Biel for Julia Larson



The Onion @TheOnion · 1d
Rock Looked Way Cooler Wet bit.ly/357jEFp

94 2,405 26.4K

SLATE OF OFFICERS NOMINATED FOR 2022-23

To Be Voted On at April 21, 2022 Meeting:

◆ PRESIDENT	SUSAN BIEL
◆ VICE PRESIDENT	KAREN KULAS
◆ RECORDING SECRETARY	JULIA LARSON (INCUMBENT)
◆ CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	PAT DAVIS
◆ TREASURER	PATRICIA CHURCH (INCUMBENT)
◆ 3 YEAR DIRECTOR	DEBBIE HAMILTON
◆ 2 YEAR DIRECTOR	SHAMUS WALKER
◆ 1 YEAR DIRECTOR	BRETA MCGUIRE
◆ 1 YEAR DIRECTOR	KELLY NOLEN

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

ANNUAL SHOW COMMITTEE CHAIR:	BILL SCHMIDT
SHOW VENDOR CHAIR:	BRETA MCGUIRE
ANNUAL HOLIDAY AND DINNER COMMITTEE:	JOANN KNOSS
BUILDING/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:	BILL SCHMIDT
EDUCATION COMMITTEE:	TBD
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:	DONNA SAPP
PROGRAM COMMITTEE:	KAREN KULAS
BULLETIN & PUBLICATION COMMITTEE:	SUSAN BIEL
	DEBRA BREMER (WEBMASTER)

WE ARE SEEKING:

As mentioned many times, our organization is run by VOLUNTEERS—and we are always in need of help with so many things that we have going on and that keep us going!

We are seeking individuals for the EDUCATION COMMITTEE and the FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE.

Stacy De Terlizzi and Friends, gave our club a generous donation (see article page 6) that is our “seed money” for future presentations and to get the youth in our community informed and more involved in our society. We need someone with charisma and ingenuity to engage younger members.

For the FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE—do you know just where to go for gem mining? How about sharing that special knowledge and help to coordinate Field Trips for members???

Please consider these critical roles that will keep SGAMS vibrant, viable and relevant in the coming years!

The 51st Annual Show, at the Largo Event Center, March 4-6th.

It was great to get back to familiar territory and to be post-pandemic for this year's show.



21 Vendors were as happy as we were returning to our "home" venue, The Largo Event Center (formerly the Minnreg Hall).



Fun was had by all, whether it was with a little competition going at the Silent Auction, scoring some great rocks at the Club Booth, mining at the flume or our new offering, Rock Painting with member Dave Levy, which was enjoyed by kids young and old! Shown here is new member, Kyi, who "saw" the Morton Salt girl as his inspiration. Our "greeters", Donna Sapp at the Ticket Booth and Larry Murray and Barbara Kirchheimer at the Information Booth

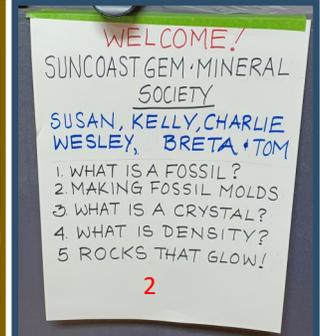


These stunning displays assembled by Sue Hazelden received many ooo's and aaah's and inquiries if the items were for sale! Her display of Herkimer Diamonds that she and her late husband mined over a period of 16 years have a sparkle that speaks of the passion it took to pursue this very physical quest for the gems! Her Gem tree on the right is be-jeweled in "Herkimers" and the stunning array of cabochons were the work of her late husband. Sue also aided in assembling the display on Rock Tumbling supplied by member, Bill Schmidt, which was both educational and attractive.



FOSSILS AND FIVE YEAR OLDS

We received an email from Stacy De Terlizzi of Seminole asking us if we would be interested in hosting a presentation about fossils and minerals to her five year old son and his friends. Here are some charming photos of the gathering, on February 27th at the clubhouse, taken by Breta McGuire. It was a fun, energy-filled afternoon.



1 New member Tom McNaughton donated "Knightia" fossils for each child to take home;

2 Our Program; 3 Studying the fossils;

4-8. Each child made their own "fossil mold" with clay and Plaster of Paris;

9 & 10 Learning about Density

11 –13 Kelly enchanted the group with fluorescing rocks

14 | Spy! 15 Each child received a grab bag of specimens

16 Kelly prepares the plaster as Charlie stands by to help

17 & 18 Extra help was provided by the Wood Family children, Charlie, Wesley, Miriam and Jocelyn.



The expressions in these photos are priceless and "say it all"!





SMILE with

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ARE YOU AN AMAZON PRIME MEMBER? DO YOU SHOP OFTEN USING AMAZON.COM?

SGAMS is an approved non-profit organization for Amazon Smile!

That means that when you place an order on Amazon the club gets a small percentage of your purchase price. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice....SGAMS!

Start your shopping at **smile.amazon.com**. Simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You can even start shopping in the regular Amazon website, then sign into smile. Amazon.com and it will pick up right where you were!

FAQS: *Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?*

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select SGAMS to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile [smile.amazon.com], you need to select:

SUNCOAST GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY in the drop down menu.

— as your chosen non profit to receive donations from your eligible purchases, before you begin shopping.

Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Can I receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from my purchases on AmazonSmile?

Sorry, donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

SGAMS OFFERINGS FOR MEMBERS —

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 wish help in this last stage.

SEE PAGE 12 FOR CLASS SCHEDULING AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE INSTRUCTORS.

PROGRAMS FOR GENERAL MEETINGS:

FOR MARCH 17TH :

"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"

FOR APRIL 21ST:

CLUB AUCTION!!! Some special items will be offered by the Club, but please bring contributions—which don't necessarily have to be Rock, Gem or Jewelry related.

Bring CASH or Check. (We are working on having Square for credit card purchases, so please check the APRIL ROCK A GRAM to see if it will be available)

Sue Hazelden will be our Auctioneer.

*Just a side note for General Meetings in General: Please, everyone— put your best manners to use, especially when we have a Guest Speaker: **SILENCE** your cell phones and **PLEASE**, do not indulge in "side chatter" but instead give your full attention to the speaker -as you would wish if you were the person speaking.*

*This applies to the entire meeting, because important things are being discussed and we **ALL** want to hear what is being said. Many thanks!*



SHHHH!

FOLLOW THESE LINKS TO UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION:

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

American Lands Access Association: www.amlands.org

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies  www.southeastfed.org

National Park 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: <http://www.tampabayrockclub.org/>

Withlacoochee Rockhounds of Hernando County: www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com

An amazing resource is the website: <https://geology.com> — a wealth of information on geology, rocks, minerals, volcanoes, etc. ; maps, and geology products for sale. . .

Our Web Site: <http://www.sgams.com>

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



Clubhouse Class Schedules - By Reservation Only

CABBING: Thursdays 12 to 4pm Larry Murray (727) 686-1314 Must receive TEXT request by Tuesday Evening

Saturday Cab Shop hours are suspended until further notice.

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

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

Joe Cooper 317-775-5476 or sgams2020@gmail.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. 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. *[the club no longer has a Post Office box, and now receives mail at this location, EXCEPT for dues, which should be mailed to Donna Sapp, Membership Committee Chair) If you have an article or information that you would like to contribute to the Rock-A-Gram, please email it to peechekeene8@gmail.com with **"FOR THE ROCK-A-GRAM"** in the subject line, by the first Thursday of the month, between September and May. Thank you! ~ Susan Biel, Editor