

# ROCK-A-GRAM



November, 2010



Volume 42, No. 3, Page 1

General Meeting  
Thursday, November 18, 2010

**Location:**

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

Program  
Show and Tell

By: Instructors

*Don't miss out—come and see what the instructors have planned for future classes.*

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**It's November and DUES ARE PAST DUE!** Please give dues to the membership chairperson, or Sue Hazelden, Treasurer at our General Meeting. If you are unable to attend our general meeting, you can mail your application or renewal. Please include a stamped, self addressed envelope, along with your application, so we can mail your new membership card/cards to you.

**DUES ARE DUE!**  
**\$15.00 Individuals—\$20 per family**

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

## 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

Email: sujagems1@aol.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rock-A-Gram Newsletter

Email: bremerlapsidary@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:** 7:00 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

Hi All,

I'd like to start by giving thanks for being part of such a wonderful club. To elaborate on that thought, Sue Hazelden and I had the generous help of many club members, as we undertook the task of taking out, cleaning, and organizing tons of beautiful rocks and coral from Emily Coeyman's fantastic collection. It truly was a labor of love and a never-ending treasure hunt.

The spring painting and cleaning of our club house was happily and diligently performed despite the rain storms that delayed the project numerous times. Our club has grown so much that we are now having our general meetings in the comfort of the J.W. Cate Recreation Center. We have many interesting programs, brought to us by our members.

I would like to thank Jan Rambow's for her help in writing this president's message, while we take a break at Emily's sale.

Happy Thanksgiving!

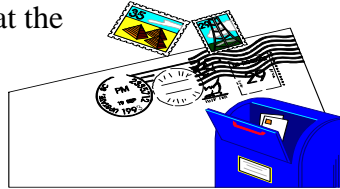
*Pat Davis, President*



## Postage Stamps

Please remember to bring your stamps to the meeting. Stamps can be either carefully removed from the paper or better yet neatly trimmed with a 1/4" boarder around the stamp. For complete details, please check the Southeast Federation website at: [amfed.org/sfms/stamp\\_program.html](http://amfed.org/sfms/stamp_program.html).

We need a volunteer to help collect and prepare these stamps. If you can help, see *Bill Schmidt* at the general meeting.



## 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](mailto:sujagems1@aol.com)

## December Holiday Dinner Update

Carole Haberkorn is organizing our holiday dinner this year, which will be held at the J.W. Cate Recreation Center, on December 16 (our regular meeting night).

### WHAT TO BRING:

- Your place setting and eating utensils.
- A dish to share with 10-12 friends
- A small gift for gift exchange (\$5.00 limit)

This will be a potluck dinner. The club will provide the meat. It's great fun and really helps people get to know each other.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

### New Members:

Darell and Gerrienne Gross  
Judy Wooden  
Sheldon Kirk



### Show News

The time is here again to begin the preparation for our show. While vendors have been contacting us and last years dealers received their contracts around July, the many details start now. First off are the fliers and advertising. The notices have gone to the Federation and the assorted magazines are getting them now. Fliers will be printed and available for the December meeting. So begin to think where you put up flyers last year and where they might go this year. The mail cards lists are being prepped and thank you for the volunteers to do the typing. I also need everybody to be thinking about where in the show you can help out. The list of the areas are set-up, break-down, information table, ticket booth, club table, hospitality, and demonstrators. In coming months, I'll explain each of these in more details and will have sign up sheets available soon.

Thanks, *Bill Schmidt*

## 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.

**Lampwork:** Will start in January.

### Coming Soon:

**Loop-In-Loop Chain Making**

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



## Shop Tips

Hounds Howl, November 2010

**Mineral oil is an excellent cleaner for selenite crystals.** It loosens all those tiny particles left after washing the crystal in water plus, it brightens them also. It preserves borax crystals from hydration changes. It makes varasite a deeper green and improves the appearance of fluorites and calcites.  
*--from Chips August 1999 via Snoopy Gems, March 2007*

**Grinding obsidian cabs:** Approach your grinding wheel with the material at a slight horizontal angle. If brought straight in, it may be a “shattering” experience, as obsidian fractures conchoidally and this is a sure way to do it. **To polish it:** Keep the polishing wheel wet. A dry polishing will result in blisters and scratches. Obsidian is relatively inexpensive, easy to obtain and soft.

*-- from the AFMS Newsletter, March 2010*

## Important & Interesting Web Sites!

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

**Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies** New website at: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms> Check this site out for Wildacres & William Holland information

**Canaveral Mineral & Gem web site**  
<http://www.canaveral-mgs.com/>

### Links in the Hobby

[www.carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/Home.html](http://www.carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/Home.html)

This site provides numerous downloadable field-trip guide books, maps, and charts of the Carolinas. It will prove to keep any avid rock hound busy for years. Great Site!

[www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite\\_files/page0011.htm](http://www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite_files/page0011.htm)

Links of Interest to Rock hounds in NC; It will take you to a list of links for North Carolina gems and minerals.

[www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-science](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology_and_science-science)  
This site highlights a half dozen of the most recent significant fossil finds.

<http://appmodo.com/13971/mole-quest-for-theterracore-gem-app-review-for-the-iphone-and-ipod-touch/>

If you have an iphone or an ipod touch, this rock-hounding may be the game for you.

*--from [www.tarheelclub.org](http://www.tarheelclub.org)  
Hounds Howl, November 2010*

**GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS:**

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., Lodestar, October 2010  
Outcroppings, October, 2010

**November 20-21, 2010: West Palm Beach, FL.**

44th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead, and Fossil Show, Americraft Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd. Over 60 dealers, door prizes, fossil dig. Contact Barbara Ringhiser at [bar5678@aol.com](mailto:bar5678@aol.com).

**Hours:** Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m..

Free parking. Adults \$7, children under 12 free

**November 26-28: Mobile, AL**

Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show. Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds, Cody Road and Zeigler Blvd.

**Hours:** Friday 2-7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**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.

**Jan 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.

**FEDERATION NEWS**

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
November, 2010  
[www.AMFED.org](http://www.AMFED.org)

**2010-11 Regional Federation Shows and Conventions**

<b>California Federation</b> May 13-15 Anderson, CA	<b>Rocky Mountain Federation</b> June 24-26 Colorado Springs, CO
<b>Eastern Federation</b> July 7-10 Syracuse, NY	<b>South Central Federation</b> April 15-17 Alpine, TX
<b>Midwest Federation</b> September 8-11 Toledo, OH	<b>Southeast Federation</b> October 16-18, 2010 Knoxville, TN
<b>Northwest Federation</b> July 29-31 Chehalis, OR	



**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



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

*Directions*

- ◆ Minnweg Building 4340 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. Minnweg Building is on the right.
- ◆ From North on US 19 take 66th Street exit go to 126th Ave., turn left.

**FREE PARKING**

**ADMISSION**  
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.

**FREE PARKING**

## South Dakota Gold

by Erica Nathan, Junior Rockhound

There are three major ways to find gold. The first is an open pit mine. Another method is shaft mines, which are usually dug into hills. The final way to find gold is panning in rivers and streams. The South Dakota gold rush in 1875-1877 had its focal point in Lead, SD.

In Lead, you can find the world's second largest open pit mine. This is the Homestake Mining Company. It was in operation for 126 years before the government in 2002 bought it. Homestake open pit mine was one of the leading producers of gold in the Midwest. During the 126 years, employees discovered that gold dust stuck to their gelled hair. When Homestake realized what was happening, they made employees take a shower before leaving work each day. Homestake also bought out another mine that couldn't support itself. They dug about 2 feet more in that mine and found over 12 million dollars in gold. Today, you can visit Homestake to pan salted bags of gold or take a tour of the facility.

A few towns away from Homestake, you find Big Thunder Gold Mine in Keystone. Big Thunder is a shaft mine. Over 36 years, two German immigrants dug out the mine after their day jobs. In the end, they found 15 troy ounces of gold. The two men had to split this amount with the processing company and each other. Each walked away with only 5 troy ounces of gold for their 36 years of hard work.

Gold panning can be done in streams or rivers. In Hill City, you can pan at Wade's Gold Mill. Wade's has been in operation since 1879. First, you do a salted bag over a bucket so you can learn how to pan. Then you get to pan in a very cold stream. I found a flake of gold from the stream. Wade's had a garage collection of gold rush antiques also.

Whether you have a huge open pit mine, a shaft mine in a hillside, or a stream to pan in, shout, "Eureka!"

*Comment from Bonita L. Harris, SFMS Youth Resources Chair: Erica wrote about the family experience this past summer in South Dakota and looking for gold. She is 12 years old and is affiliated with the Coquina Kids of the Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society, Florida.*

Source: Lodestar, November 2010. Photos from internet.

[http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar\\_newsletter.html](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html)



**Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**General Meeting**  
**October 21, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Twenty-two members and two guests attended. Guests Darell and Gerianne Gross were introduced; they are applying for membership.

Sue Hazelden gave the treasurer's report.

Holiday dinner will be held at Cate Center on regular meeting night, December 16. It will be a potluck; members asked to bring own place settings and a dish to share (10-12 servings). The club will provide the meat. There will be a gift exchange (\$5 limit) and an activity.

Pat talked about the show. Bill has given the dealer list to Sue Black, since he is still in chemo.

Building Committee activities are on hold until cooler weather. Charles Woolheater was thanked for his work at the clubhouse.

Julia Larson reported the fused glass class is full. If everyone shows up, there will be 10 students.

Donna Mallory talked about the wish list idea for club needs; and about a field trip to Rucks' pit before Thanksgiving.

Donna Sapp reminded new members to get their membership cards. Dues for 2010-11 are due now (\$15 for single, \$20 for family). She needs email addresses for the newsletter (preferred delivery method). Sue Hazelden reminded members to see her if they want name tags (\$3.50). Please wear them to the meetings.

Sue also talked about the upcoming sale at Emily Coeyman's place and the need for a lot of volunteers.

Barbara Watson gave the program on the Loop-in-Loop Chain. She spoke on the history of the technique and had a slide presentation that showed Loop-in-Loop work from ancient times through today. In addition, she had a number of examples of her own exquisite work. Barbara offered to do a workshop, if members would like to learn the technique, and there was considerable interest.

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

Submitted by:

*Julia Larson*

Recording Secretary

**Following the meeting, the board met to voted in new members:** Board Meeting followed the general meeting. New members Darell and Gerianne Gross were accepted.



**Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society  
Board Meeting  
October 7, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were: Pat Davis, Donna Remsnyder, Sue Hazelden, Dave Watson, Donna Mallory, and Julia Larson.

September minutes were accepted as published. Treasurer's report was read and accepted for audit.

**Correspondence:** Letter from Pinellas Geological Society regarding their show January 14-15-16, 2011. Also received a thank you letter from staff at the Cate Center.

**Activities: Holiday dinner** – Carole Haberkorn (not present); Pat will see that Carole gets something in Rock -A-Gram for November. There will be a gift exchange (\$5 limit) and an activity. Donna Mallory suggested a wish list for clubhouse, maybe ornament tags for a tree with items needed for the clubhouse, i.e., paper towels, plastic aprons, old towels, fluorescent lights, power strips, etc.).

**Show:** First weekend in March 2011 (5-6-7).

**Building:** Charles Woolheater is back and working on the outside. Interior issues (closet reorganization, duct work, lighting) on hold, but needed.

**Historical:** Email pictures of activities to Donna Mallory.

**Applications:** Board voted in new members **Judy Wooden, Sheldon Kirk.**

**Program for October:** Barbara Watson, Loop-in-Loop Chains Demo, may work into a workshop or a class later. Proposed Programs: **November:** Instructors' Show and Tell. **December:** Dinner. **January:** Sue Hazelden, Herkimer Diamonds. **February:** Auction. **March:** Ranger from Caladesi Island. **April:** Soapstone. **May:** Installation Dinner.

**Unfinished business:** Emily's Sale – Sue and Pat still working on sorting and pricing. Will need a lot of help at the sale, also help moving leftovers back to clubhouse. Also need help with crushing cans and carrying them to recycling center.

**New business:** We are still getting some mail in the mailbox. Instructors are asked to check box and bring in any mail. There is a cardboard box inside to put it in. New member orientation: Once a quarter? Handouts for new members to be put on web site. Donna Sapp (membership) will be involved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

*Julia Larson*

Recording Secretary

**Happy Thanksgiving**

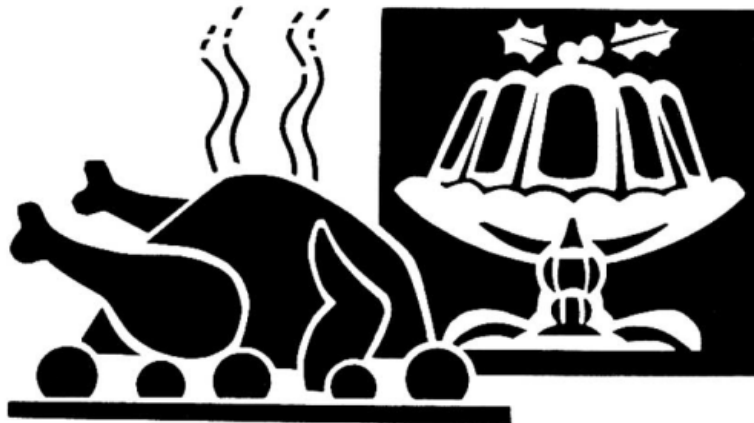
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*Happy Thanksgiving*

# **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