

ROCK-A-GRAM



October 2023

Volume 83

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Fall Rock Harvest!

Reminder:

Now is the time to renew memberships!

It is also time to join a committee, if you have not already done so. The bylaws of SGAMS state that each member must be part of a committee. The list of committees can be found on our website, under the tab 'By-Laws'.

You can bring your membership renewal payment to the October meeting. When you pay, you can identify which committee you are a member of, or which committee you would like to join.

Otherwise, you can download the application from the website and mail the completed form and payment to Barbara (address is listed on the form).



Meetings

General meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, September through April, 7:00 pm, at our clubhouse, 4619 69th St. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33709.

The public is cordially invited to attend these membership meetings.



December and May meetings are special, and as such, the time and place of meeting will be announced ahead of time in a bulletin.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, Oct. 19th



This meeting will cover the classes the club offers, and joining committees.

Random Rock Facts!

- The largest unpolished black opal in the Smithsonian Institution, known as the "Roebbling opal", came out of the Rainbow Ridge Mine in 1917, and weighs 2,585 carats.
- Tanzanite is found in only one location in the world: a small mining area in Tanzania measuring 4.3 miles long and 1.2 miles wide.
- Agate bead necklaces date back to the 3rd Millennium BCE in the Indus Valley civilization.
- The Pulpi Geode is said to be the largest geode in the world at 390 cubic feet. It is 26 feet long, 6 feet wide, 5.5 feet long and is lined with selenite crystals up to 6 feet long.



- Tiger's Eye occurs when quartz combines with asbestos.
- The word turquoise dates to the 17th century and is derived from the Old French 'turquois', meaning 'Turkish', because the mineral was first brought to Europe through the Ottoman Empire.
- When the Phoenicians first came to what is now known as Spain, they obtained so much silver that they could not fit it all on their ships, and as a result they used silver to weight their anchors instead of lead.
- Quartz, when compressed or bent, generates a charge or voltage on its surface. This is known as piezoelectricity and is employed in quartz watches for accurate timekeeping in a low-power setting.
- The rarest mineral in the world is Kyawthuite; only one specimen has ever been found. It was discovered in Myanmar,



SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, September 7, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Club President, Pat Davis.

Board members present were Sue Hazelden, Shamus Walker, Don Schlough, Barbara Kirchheimer and Susan Clark.

Reports of Officers

Secretary — No minutes were given from last Board Meeting.

Treasurer — Barbara Kirchheimer presented the treasurer's report it was accepted and filed for audit.

Barbara will look-into setting up a Pay Pal account for small-priced items needed for the club, i.e., small repairs, light bulbs, etc.

Reports of Committee Chairs

Building — Sue Hazelden presented a maintenance report which included:

- Breezeway done.
- Replace some of the wood in the club building.
- Found wet patch in the breezeway will be looked into.
- Light bulb needed for the front corner of the building, Shamus Walker offered to purchase the light and fix.
- The fire extinguishers are outdated in most of the building, Shamus will have them checked and replaced. This is for everyone's safety and insurance purposes.
- Check the batteries on the door locks and replace if needed.

Website — To be updated with new officer information.

New Business — Don Schlough presented a variety of t-shirt designs to produce for the club members and/or to sell at the show. This is to be further discussed at the general meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. Motion by Shamus Walker, seconded by Sue Hazelden.

Submitted by Susan Clark, Recording Secretary

Class Schedules & Info

Clubhouse Class Schedules - By Reservation Only

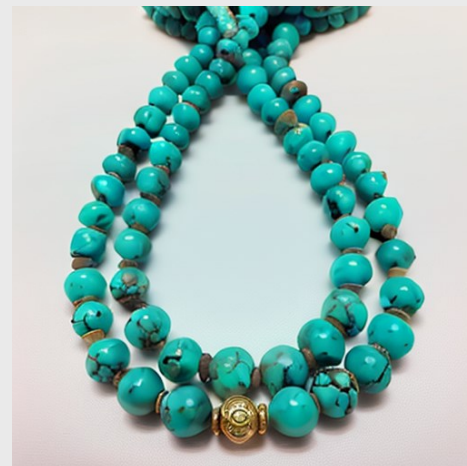
CABBING, Workshop & Instruction: Thursdays 12 to 4pm

Larry Murray (727) 686-1314

Must receive a text request by Tuesday Evening.

Saturday Cab Shop hours are suspended until further notice.

In cabbing, participants will learn the basics of cutting, forming, and polishing a simple cabochon.



FACETING/WIRE WRAPPING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

St. Lucie Rock & Gem Show

Info & Coupons

St. Lucie County Rock and Gem Club is hosting the annual SFMS meeting in conjunction with our annual Rock and Gem Show.

We invite you all to attend our show and hopefully attend the meeting as well.

46th Annual
Jewelry,
Rock & Gem
S ♦ H ♦ O ♦ W
 PRESENTED BY ST. LUCIE COUNTY ROCK & GEM CLUB

Saturday, October 21, 2023
 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Sunday, October 22, 2023
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MIDFLORIDA Event Center
 9221 S.E. Civic Center Place; Port St. Lucie
 Admission: \$5.00

Children with an Adult: Free
 Tickets available at the show entrance

- ◆ Custom-designed, Handcrafted Jewelry ◆
- ◆ Gemstones ◆ Beads ◆ Rocks ◆
- ◆ Minerals ◆ Slabs ◆
- ◆ Gold and Silver Valuations On Site ◆
- ◆ Artisans Village ◆
- ◆ Demonstrations ◆ Raffles ◆
- ◆ Kids Corner ◆

For additional information,
 contact the Show
 Chairperson at
 slclubshow2023@aol.com
 or 772-462-6597



**Present this coupon for
 \$1.00 OFF Admission**

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Closing Notes & Info

This is the official newsletter of the **SUNCOAST GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**, located at 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.

Dues: \$20.00 for a single person or \$30.00 for a couple/family; paid annually and collected each September.

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.

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 is 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.

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"/> B. Serve on a Committee. <input type="checkbox"/> C. Assist VP with monthly membership meeting program. <input type="checkbox"/> D. Work with Field Trip Chairman on club trips. <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.	<input type="checkbox"/> I. Assisting Newsletter Editor (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> J. Assist with Maintenance of the club house. <input type="checkbox"/> K. Working as a club Instructor (cabbing, faceting, wire wrap, silversmith, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> L. Hospitality for Monthly Meetings (set-up coffee and supplies)

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 www.sgams.com

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.



Sponsors



We thank our advertisers for their support and encourage membership to patronize them.

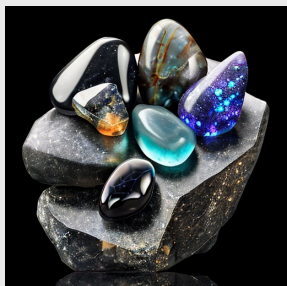
JAY'S TREASURES

460 E. LEMON ST.

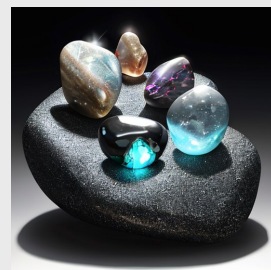
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689

813-359-7025





Links



Our Website: www.sgams.com

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

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

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

Next Show: 2024

We hope you will all come join us!

53RD ANNUAL SHOW

SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

at the **LARGO EVENT CENTER** (formerly Minnreg Hall)
6340 126th Avenue N, Largo FL

MARCH 1, 2, 3, 2024

Friday, Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm • Sunday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Gems, Minerals, Jewelry, Slabs, Cabochons, Fossils, Beads, Door Prizes, Exhibits and More.

ADMISSION

Donations: \$6.00/Adult 3 day pass • Children under 12 FREE

\$1.00 off admission with this card (limit one per person)

Free Parking • Food Service on Site

