

ROCK-A-GRAM



December, 2007



Volume 39, No.4, Page 1



General Meeting

Thursday, December 20, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Azalea Adult Center

1600 72nd Street North

St. Petersburg



Annual Christmas Party!

Our next meeting is our Christmas party. By that time we hope to have the club house renovations completed! **WOW! How about making a special effort to come out and celebrate with each other and help our club go forward into the new year with a new lease on life!**

It has taken 6 LONG years for this day to come, with Board members hanging in there by the skin of their teeth. **SO** won't you **please** make that **extra special effort** to come join in the celebration.

Bring your favorite dish to share (enough for 10 people), your silverware, and plates, for each member in your party. Please bring a \$5 gift (per person) for a new gift exchange game we will be playing. This should be a nice evening out. So don't miss out.

Come out this year and join us for our annual Christmas Party. It will be great to see you all.

Sue Hazelden

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Debra Bremer, Editor 727-298-0061
ROCK-A-GRAM

SGAMS Clubhouse Address: 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709, Phone: (727) 541-1291, 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.

Dear Club Members,

We on the board hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. The news this year end is very good, very good indeed. Thwarted though we have been in the past at revamping the clubhouse and getting it up to legal operation, I believe we are nearly at the end of the experience. All of the hard work is done, or will be completed within the next two weeks. Our General Contractor and I spoke this afternoon and he reported on the level of completion. The sidewalk and handicapped parking areas are poured; the apron that goes from our property and the county Right of Way (69th Street) also is poured. Knocking out and refinishing of the interior walls for handicap access is finished, as is the plumbing and new door to the bathroom. The hand railings on the ramp to the front door are installed. We're waiting for the two new entry doors to the clubhouse: the new entry way to the cabbng room, and the new (wider) front door. Once Lowe's has them for Fred Cook to pick up, he will install them, and we are all but finished. The final piece to the puzzle that Mr. Cook will do is the turf block parking area in the back, northwest corner of the property. He expects that to be completed by next Friday, the day after our Christmas Party.

But members, once all the major construction is completed, it becomes our turn to finish the job on the clubhouse. We still have to purchase and plant (Ixora) bushes along the parking areas. The club is responsible for painting and cleanup of the inside, and even with their tarps, there will be some dust to remove. There is old linoleum in the bathroom to scrape up and replace. New wood placed in spots that were once walls needs to be sanded, finished, and protected with urethane. The various work rooms need to be set up: silver smithing; beading; faceting; and the cabbng room. The old shed in the back needs to be removed and replaced with as large a metal shed we can find and afford.

What I am saying members, is – to use a baseball adage – it is time for you to step up to the plate and perform. We need volunteers, money donors, workers, workers and more workers. I have asked Debbie to include a calendar of December and January, in order to allow you to plan your weekends or weekdays, in order to get the final things completed. Many of you joined the club because of the clubhouse, now we need your time, effort and expertise to finish our end of the remodeling bargain. If you can work on a particular weekend, let Bill Schmidt or myself know. I will make myself available to work at the clubhouse each and every weekend in January to get these things done. Bill's days off are Monday and Tuesday. If you can be there to help him, get in contact with him, make the arrangements, and do some work. We will pass around a sign up sheet at the Christmas party for everyone to volunteer. Please, consider your club and its needs, in your coming week's activities.

Dave Cordes, President

The Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society
a local non-profit club proudly presents:
38th Annual

Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show and Sale

March 7, 8, 9, 2008
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



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MUCH MORE....**

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onto SR-686. Bear LEFT
(West) onto SR-688
(Ulmerton Rd) turn
LEFT (South-East)
onto US-19 N. Turn
RIGHT (West) onto
126th Ave N.
- ◆ From North on US 19
take 66th Street exit go to
126th Ave., turn left.

ADMISSION
Adults - \$5.00 good for all three days, children under 6 FREE
Students with parents or I.D. Card \$4.00

Show News

Well, our gem show over March 6, 7, 8, and 9th seems a way's away but as always it will be upon us very quickly. Preparations have been going on for quite awhile. To name a few: The hall has been rented for months. Sue Black (Dealer Chair) has 12 vendors signed up, a few in negotiations and more spots still available. The fliers are printed and the dealers have been mailed their copies. The business card ads are back and we have more small fliers. Sue Hazelden and I went to the Cox Show, at the St. Pete Coliseum, over Thanksgiving and Mr. Cox agreed to put ones out during his shows. We talked to the dealers there and handed out information about joining our show. If you know of a business that might like to be a dealer with us, please get the information so we can follow up. We would especially like a dealer with equipment and tools to show.

We are checking on the availability of a flint napper to demonstrate his technique and wares. A "booth" for junior types to have a go at "prospecting" for rocks, gems and minerals in sand is being arranged. If you have other ideals that are new and will spice up our show lets hear it.

During the show we need dedicated people to assist and handle the duties in areas like the Ticket Booth, Club Tables, Information Table, set up and breakdown, Hospitality Suite, grab bags, and specimen and material prep. We divide the show times into 2-hour shifts for ease of work, allow you time to see the show and have the experience of trying out different areas. At the December meeting look for where we need help before and during the show to make 2008 even better than last year.

The last thing to mention and yet one of the most important is one that all of us must participate in: Getting The Word Out!!! We must have the people traffic coming in to visit and purchase from our dealers. I will expand on this and more at meetings and upcoming newsletters.

Bill Schmidt
Show Chair

Gem Shows

Chats and Chips, December 2007

January 11-13: Largo

Pinellas Geological society 32nd Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale - Largo Cultural Center
105 Central Park Drive
Hours: 11th & 12th: 10 a.m – 6 p.m.
13th, 12 noon – 5 p.m.

January 12: Sarasota

Marbles Gems, 4th Annual Rock Yard Sale
5240 Dallas Place, Sarasota

January 26-27: Venice

Gulf Coast Mineral, Fossil, and Gem Club Show
Venice Community Center, 326 South Nokomis Avenue

February 9-11: Merritt Island

Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club Show
Kiwanis Island Park, 950 Kiwanis Park Road

February 15-17: Dade City

Florida Native American Indian Society
Withlacoochie River Park

Gem Show - continued

4th Annual Central Florida Knap-In and Primitive Arts Show

February 15-17, 2008

Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Public Welcome
Free Admission**

AUCTION: Saturday 3 p.m.

*Flintknapping , Stone Aged Tools , Fire Making,
Pottery Making , Cordage Making , Atlatl
Throwing*

Contact: Betty Walters for directions & maps to:

Withlacoochie River Park

Dade City, FL

(727) 856-7506

email: jd666769@aol.com



CABOCHONS FOR SALE

MALACHITE

3-16X12 MM. OVAL _____ \$4.00 EA
1-25X18 MM. OVAL _____ \$7.00
5- 5X20MM.(APPROXIMATELY)— \$2.00 EA
LONG OVAL (NOT CALIBRATED)

GREENAGATE

1-6MM. ROUND _____ \$ 1.50

1-HOWLITE

6MM. ROUND _____ \$.50

LAPIS LAZULI

I-PAIR 14X10MM.OVAL _____ \$10.00 BOTH
GEM GRADE
1- PAIR 6X6 MM. SQUARE _____ \$6.00 BOTH

CARNELIAN

5- 30X22MM.OVAL _____ \$6.00 EA.
5- 25X18MM. OVAL _____ \$5.00 EA.
5- 16X12 MM. OVAL _____ \$2.50 EA.
3- 8X6 MM. OVAL _____ \$2.00 EA.
6- 7X5 MM. OVAL _____ \$1.50 EA.

BLOOD STONE

2- 25X18 MM. OVAL _____ \$4.00 EA.
1- 18X13 MM. OVAL _____ \$2.25
2- 14X10 MM. OVAL _____ \$1.50 EA.

ROSE QUARTZ

2- 25x18 MM. OVAL _____ \$3.50 EA.
4- 16X12 MM.OVAL _____ 4/\$6.00
1- 6 MM. ROUND _____ \$1.00

SNOWFLAKE OBSIDIAN

1 PAIR 6MM ROUND _____ \$1.00 PR.
3- 30X22 OVAL _____ \$3.00 EA.
6- 18X13 OVAL _____ \$1.25 EA.

NEPHRITE JADE

1- 18X13 OVAL _____ \$7.00
1- PAIR 14X10 OVAL _____ \$7.40 PR.

RED FLOWERAGATE

1- 30X22 MM. OVAL _____ \$3.00

BLACK ONYX

3- 30X22 MM. OVAL _____ \$4.00EA.
2- 25X18 MM. OVAL _____ \$3.50EA.
4- 18X13MM. OVAL _____ 4/ \$7.00
16-16X12 MM. OVAL _____ 4/ \$5.50
3- 8X6 MM. OVAL _____ \$1.00 EA.
3- 20 MM. SQUARE _____ \$4:00 EA.
2-16 MM. SQUARE _____ \$3.00 EA.

CONTACT:

Anita Hahn, Phone: 941-625-1346
Email, anitajangems@aol.com

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Minutes of General Meeting

November 15, 2007

Vice President Bill Schmidt opened the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Present were 14 members and 1 guest.

Sue Hazeldon gave the treasurer's report and bringing us up to date on the cost of the club house renovations.

Upcoming new officers were discussed but no one volunteered for offices. Peter Palmer volunteered to help Bill with the show.

For the upcoming show in March, we need volunteers to help set up, people to man the club booth, the information table, the ticket window and the hospitality room.

Bill gave an update on the remodeling progress of our club house. At that point the electrical and plumbing were done, the dry wall was up and fixtures were installed. The members will do any painting and what ever else we can do to save money for the club.

We have one new member, George Comas. His address is 3509 52nd Ave N, St Petersburg, FL 33714, I don't have an e-mail address for him at this time.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Evie Loster

Acting Recording Secretary

NEW MEMBER

George Comas
3509 52nd Avenue North
St Petersburg, FL 33714

Congratulations

Hugh Sheffield is the editor of the "Outcroppings" for the Pinellas Geological Society. Hugh was awarded 3rd place by the Southeast Federation for a poem he published and 5th place for his bulletin. Leona Sheffield and Cheryl Pohley received recognition for their contributions to the bulletin. These awards are given at the Federation annual meeting. Bulletins and articles are submitted in January for the competition. Congratulations Hugh and Leona.

Happy Holidays!



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. discard any stamps that are torn or defaced in any manner. To remove stamps, wet envelope with a little dish soap and warm water, stamp will fall off. Place stamp upside down on paper towel to dry. Thank you.

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
Minutes of Board Meeting
December 4, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Dave Cordes at 7:30 p.m.. Present were: Dave Cordes, Bill Schmidt, Sue Hazelden, Sue Black, Evie Loster, and Julia Larson. Minutes of the November board meeting were accepted as published; the treasurer's report was also accepted.

Old business: Contractor Fred Cook brought the board up to date on the construction schedule. The construction should be completed shortly, except for inspections and the installation of the turf blocks for parking.

New business: Discussion of how to pay for the turf blocks and installation. Discussion of cutting the land line phone service if we can obtain an old cell phone to use in case we should need to call 911.

Show: Discussion of getting members to buy single tables if regular vendors do not use all of them. Discussion of obtaining a vendor who sells tools and supplies for wire wrapping.

Election of 2008 officers: Nominating committee appointed. Need to fill three positions: Vice President, Recording Secretary, and 3-Year Director. Voting will be in February.

Holiday party: Scheduled for Dec. 20 at Azalea. Gift exchange game will be the entertainment.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Submitted by
Julia Larson, Recording Secretary

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Supplemental Board Meeting
December 11, 2007

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a life member's offer to loan the club sufficient funds to complete the remaining construction (turf blocks for the parking area) and for new wheels for the clubhouse equipment. Present were Dave Cordes, Bill Schmidt, Sue Hazelden, Sue Black, Homer Rankin, Evie Loster and Julia Larson.

Each board member expressed his/her thoughts and ideas on the proposal. Certain stipulations were needed to ensure the security of the member's investment and to complete repayment with interest within 60 months (5 years).

A motion was made and seconded, and the vote to accept the offer was unanimous. The donor will have a legal contract drawn for the board's approval and signature. Neither the board nor the members will be individually liable for repayment of the loan. A lien will be filed against the property to ensure the donor and/or heir(s) will be fully protected.

Additional discussion involved show security and a demonstrator, donation of stuffed toys left from the yard sale, and current status of construction.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.
Submitted by Julia Larson
Recording Secretary



Rock-A-Gram

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January 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Bill Off	1	2	3	4	5	6 Work Weekend
7 Bill Off	8	9	10	11	12	13 Work Weekend
14 Bill Off	15	16	17	18	19	20 Work Weekend
21 Bill Off	22	23	24	25	26	27 Work Weekend
28 Bill Off	29	30	31			

Contact: Bill Schmidt: 727-822-8279, or Dave Cordes: 727-443-4706 for work schedules.

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 the Azalea Adult Center; 1600 72nd Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida. 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

Board Meeting:
(September - May)
First Tuesday: 7:30 p.m.

Cabbing Classes:
TBA

Clubhouse Maintenance:
TBA

Faceting, Silversmithing,

Wire Wrapping Classes:
By appointment