

SLC Newsletter April 2005

The Summit Lapidary Club - Phone (330) 929 – 3798 www.LapidaryClubofOhio.org

Board Members: Pres.- David Rich, V. Pres.-Frank Mack, Treas.- Tom McLaughlin,
Secr.- Laura Thomas, Trustees- Carl Miller & Mari-Takai Marley,
Newsletter - Pat Powers. SLCNewsLetter@AOL.com

Club Meeting: Tuesday, April 5th 7:30PM

Program: Annual Club Auction
(need an item to donate to enter)

President's Message - by David Rich

I just got back from warm and sunny Demming, New Mexico, where I attended another Rockhound Roundup. This year the Big Diggins Field Trip was cancelled due to the fact that they'd had record-breaking rain and their equipment couldn't get into the site to dig a new trench. I took 25 pounds of flint to trade in my suitcase and I got the Federal inspection notice that they'd opened my bags, no doubt discovering that what felt like a bag of rocks, was in fact a bag of rocks! This would be an excellent field trip for the club. It would be a chance to escape the Ohio weather and to participate in a dig that always produces worthwhile agate specimens.

We don't have to go all the way to New Mexico, however, to attend a great show as the Gemboree is coming up on April 23-24. Everyone should be signed up to work by now, please make sure that you put in your volunteer time, it's what makes the club so successful. We are hosting the Midwest Federation Spring Meeting, which is an honor for our club, and will give us national exposure. Continuing thanks go to Warren Salchak, Carl Miller and David Koffroth for their tireless efforts in show preparation.

This April we will be 31 years old as a club, and our monthly meeting will be the Member's Auction. (No, we are not auctioning off members!) All members must bring items to be auctioned off, if they are attending, and the proceeds will go to The SLC. This event was both entertaining and lucrative last year; let's make it an even bigger success on the second try!

Just as a note of interest, I spoke to several vendors that travel the gem show circuit, and they believe the high cost of gas is really going to impact the amount of traveling the average vendor will be able to do in the coming year. Ours is a long-established show with an excellent reputation, so we may not be affected, but if prices continue rising, it may become a problem for us as well. I look forward to seeing all of you at both the auction and the show.

Hello To All - by V. President, Frank Mack

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for all the nice cards everyone sent. Well, here we go again another show and I am glad everyone is signed up to work. Our show is a good time to chat with the vendors and to find out what is happening or new. Also it's a real good time to make new friends that share your ideas and passions.

This April's meeting is our 31st birthday for SLC. Thirty-one years ago club members would have a potluck dinner and an auction to raise money for our club. This was a fun time and a good way to raise money for the club. I would like to encourage club members to bring lapidary items. I know everyone

has cabs, slabs, rough and faceted stones that they could donate. So lets make this the auction to remember and start the reputation of a club that sells jewels once a year.

Spring 2005 GEMBOREE Competition - by 'Ponytail Dave'

Categories for competition are: Cabochon cutting, Metalsmithing to include gold, silver, platinum or whatever and lastly Wire wrap. All entries must be turned in by the Tuesday before the GEMBOREE Show weekend (by/on April 19th). All submissions must be in a ziplock bag with a card; include on it your name, phone number and any description you feel pertinent. Now folks, the reason I started this display box is to show the public what we do. So now is the time to "Toot" your horn and show off what ya can do! Good Luck!

The "RockPuppy" Report (Rockhound In Training) Volume 3, March 2005

This time of year there is a lot of talking buzzing around the clubhouse about M.G.A.G.S. – what exactly is that? For 2005, this will be the 31st Annual Rockhound Weekend full of seminars put on by the Michigan Geology And Gemcraft Society. Many of these seminars are "hand on" workshops, some are demonstrations, and some are "Intro To" education/lecture-type classes. It has been my experience that some people learn by seeing & watching, some learn by doing, others by listening and taking notes. Whichever way You learn, this weekend has something for you!

I'm not sure if the 2005 Schedule of Classes has been finalized, but the Date is set – June 11th and 12th. The 2004 classes offered were: Byzantine Chain Making, Spool Knit Chains, Gem Trees, Enamel Bead Making, Pearl Stringing, Fossils and Fossil Imprints, Rock & Mineral ID, Slate Carving, Wire Wrapping, Micro-Mounting, Beading projects with Seed Beads. Workshops included Silversmithing, Cabochons, and Scrimshaw. Demos included Spheres, Faceting, and Free-Form Casting

Classes are informal – sign up, show up, if that particular class doesn't hit your fancy, check out another one! So, although I may not be sure what is on the 2005 MGAGS class 'menu', I Am sure it will be fun and informative and I highly recommend it as a most worthwhile Roadtrip!!! The RockPuppy ☺

SLC April Calendar		SLC April Calendar		SLC April Calendar		SLC April Calendar	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2 Social Saturday	
3	4	5 SLC Meeting 7:30PM	6	7	8	9 Social Saturday Beaded Iris 9:30AM	
10	11	12 3 Strand Beaded neck/bracelet 6-9PM	13	14	15	16 Silversmithing w/shop 9:00AM-?	
17	18	19 Bead Social 6-9PM	20	21	22 GEMBOREE Setup 8:15AM	23 GEMBOREE 10AM-7PM	
24 GEMBOREE 10AM-6PM	25	26 Ex Board mtg 7:30PM	27	28	29	30 Social Saturday	

Classes: Committees

Classes: Just a reminder - Classes taught by SLC members are free. There may be a cost for supplies.

- April 9th Saturday 9:30AM -? Beaded Iris class taught by Terry Warner call 330-644-5999 for more details.
- April 12th Tuesday 6-9PM 3-Strand Beaded bracelet/necklace taught by Annette Long call 330-867-3744 for more info.
- May 6th Friday 6PM & May 7th Saturday 11AM Casting class with Tom McLaughlin.
- Bead Social: This month's meeting night is Tuesday, April 19th at 6:00PM.

Silversmithing 101 - by Laura Lentz

Three enthusiastic people attended the March 11th Silversmithing 101 class taught by Dave Macseoinin. All-around newbies Glynn Knight and Laura Lentz made rings while silversmithing newbie Bev Poitras made a pendant. After some technical difficulties and just plain mistakes we all had a successful introduction to the craft. Dave did a great job of explaining the basics and I, for one, am brimming with ideas for future projects. Thanks to Dave for taking the time to teach!

Having the skills to make a piece of jewelry has made me look at stone selection and cabbing differently. Choosing which part of the stone design to showcase is easier when I have a final project in mind. Dave called me Marvel many times during our class due to my love of large jewelry. Why bother to make it if you can't see it???

Carl Miller mentioned that there is a silversmith workshop every third Saturday for help/advice for anyone who needs it, or just to come in and gab while you work (this seems to be a Lapidary club theme).

GEMBOREE Info - by Warren Salchak

Hi folks, well, we're getting close to our big event, 'GEMBOREE'. We had a meeting on March 15th; about 30 folks showed up, and I truly thank you for coming down. The sign up or job sheets are out, but we need more help in a lot of different areas. One thing different this year is our show is sponsoring the Mid-West Federation group (MWF). This group is made up of about 50 folks who sponsor and support the art or craft of lapidary. These folks come from all walks of life and help lobby to protect our lands, our rights, and speak out on important issues pertaining to our hobby. The MWF group will conduct their meeting at 8:30AM Saturday April 23rd at Emido & Sons Expo Center, prior to the public opening for the GEMBOREE. We will need some extra hands to make sure donuts, coffee and etc. are back and ready for their meeting. We are to receive \$50.00 for their snack. MWF will be given a free Saturday GEMBOREE pass; if they wish to return Sunday they will pay the \$4.00.

Tom, and I have presale GEMBOREE tickets for \$3.00. You must have a ticket to enter the show or be signing in for your scheduled job with the show! Being a member of either clubs (SLC or AMS) isn't enough to be eligible to participate with each club's trips. You have to work the GEMBOREE show. Business cards will be okay to have in front of your display case. Remember, as club members we aren't to be doing any trading, selling or tailgating (selling out the back of your car).

Working at the GEMBOREE is a fun type event. I make mention of terms like: job, work and rules; just as a guide to show that both clubs have members who will pitch in to support and maintain our strong reputation of being one of the best clubs around. I can't begin to say how much I appreciate each and everyone for your time and the talent you display. If anyone has any questions just call, 330-928-0181, or ask at the club. Thanks Again-Warren.

From The Trip Czarina - by Sue Barnett

The Bancroft Ontario trip has been set to go. Deposits were due March 1st and the remainder will be due May 3rd, or at the May monthly meeting. So, after paying the deposit of \$100.00 you will know what is left to pay. We still have a waiting list of people wanting to go, so these deadlines must be strictly enforced. I am also asking for people who are willing to share their room, to contact me. We want as many people to go on this trip as we can squeeze into the rooms. The cost of the trip is as follows: Couple- \$350, Non-member- Couple \$450, Single- \$175 and Non-member Single- \$225. Mandatory for this trip will be 2 forms of I.D., (birth certificate, driver's license, passport.) This is so you will be able to get back into the United States, I guess Canada is not as picky about who they let in their country as the U.S. We will have to see the 2 forms of I.D. before you get on the bus the day of the trip, so have it ready.

We will be staying at the Martinwood Resort, located in Harcourt, Ontario. The address is Elephant Lake Rd., Harcourt, Ontario KOL IXO. The toll-free telephone number is 877- 552- 0970. Please note there is still space for one single man available for this trip. If you would like to go, please be the first one to give me a deposit of \$100.00, as this last spot will be done on a first come, first served basis. So, remember to bring your black fly repellent!! And I hope every body is looking forward to this trip.

The Sunshine News - by Pat Smeal

Our thoughts and best wishes are extended to Evelyn and John Tryon for Pop Tryon' s recent surgery, to Irene Horvath for her upcoming surgery, and also to Kay Weygandt for her recent surgery. Please keep Garrett Schick and Berrie Butrick, as well as Debbie and Ralph Strickler in your thoughts too.

Remember : "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring -- all of which have the potential to turn a life around." - Leo Buscaglia.

"BOBSERVATIONS" - by Robt. Spore

Well, the Spring Gemboree is a month away, so it's time once again for me to shamelessly shill for the Gem Mine. I was looking at the sign up sheets the other day and there are still plenty of vacant slots left on both Saturday and Sunday. For those new members who've never worked the mine, let me tell you it's wacky, madcap fun! It's like Mardi Gras without the scary papier mâché heads. Usually, it's several minutes of madness book-ended by long periods of torpor, which, if you're fast, you can use to go out into the hall and shop. Or, you can stay in the mine and read, hang over the fence to gossip with passing club members, or balance your checkbook. It's very Zen.

If we don't have enough people to fill up all the available slots for the Gem Mine... awful things may occur. Just what they are, I'm not at liberty to say right now. But certain events might be set in motion that could eventually lead up the Apocalypse! (That's like the end of the world, but set to the music of steel drums. Quite festive, actually.)

Plus, the more people who sign up means more free time for yours truly to go out and spend money and I think (let me check the calendar... YES!) it's a pay week, so I'll be flush with cash burning a hole in my pocket.

As a prelude to the Gemboree, we bag rocks for the Gem Mine the Saturday before the show (That's the Saturday which occurs a week before the show, not the Saturday OF the show, before the show opens... with me on this?). Rock bagging usually takes under an hour and there is always some kind of nutritionally hazardous, sugary treat and this year (if I think about it) I may provide music. I'm thinking something Mariachi flavored, but I may change my mind. So, remember to sign up for the Gem Mine

and earn my undying friendship or at least my friendship while you're there, and show up for the rock bagging because wild, unstructured dancing may break out at any moment.

I'd also like to say that I made a comment in my last article, concerning the questionable quality of the coffee at the club on Saturday mornings. Now some may have been offended and accidentally hurt by what I said and to those people, the people I view as my close friends, I feel that I have to say... get over it. Let me tell you something, I always leave with a little bit of the club's coffee in my travel mug and when I get home, I have a little ritual I perform. There's this small sapling that's been growing up against the foundation of my garage for the last couple of years and I decided it had to go. Now, I could have always pulled or dug it out, but I decided to try an experiment. Every Saturday, when I get home, I pour the dregs of the coffee out of my mug and onto the sapling and after several months of this, the tree is dead. It has ceased to be. It has joined the choir triumphant. It is no longer a tree and has become merely a piece of wood. I'd say it's pushing up daisies, but that would be too ironic even for me.

A Hike Up The Ash Canyon Trail - by Bob Powers

My son Kevin and I, while on vacation this January in Arizona, took the opportunity to hike up the Ash Canyon Trail. The trail is situated in the Huachuca (Wa-CHEW-can) Mountains in the Coronado National Forest, just a few miles north of the Mexican border. Also known as the Lutz trail (after the canyon farming family), it follows a stream down the side of a scenic canyon wooded with mesquite and silverleaf oak at the lower elevations and pines and junipers on the upper slopes. Northward-heading Mexicans frequently pass through here, as the scenery is excellent and the Border Patrol usually stays nearer the roads. The rocks along the stream contain quartz crystals that are said to be among the cleanest and brightest crystals in all of Arizona. Gold, calcite and other minerals are found here. There are placer-deposit gold claims in the wash formed by the stream at the lower elevations of the canyon.

The trail originated as a mining road, and our destination that day was the abandoned gold mining area which maps showed as two miles from the trailhead. (I had no reason to believe this prior to the hike, but am convinced now that 1 Ash Canyon mile is equivalent to 2 miles as we measure them in Ohio). Reaching the parking lot at the base of the trail was an adventure in itself, as the Ash Canyon Road had been washed out in many areas due to an unusually high rainfall. We arrived at the trailhead on foot, having parked half a mile down the road, which was as far as the car could safely be driven.

The trail began with a moderate slope through former farmland now overgrown with mesquite and other brushy trees and wound its way up out of the valley. After a short time we were in the forested area, and could look down the canyon at the Lutz farm. The trail soon settled into its main course, heading upward in a southwesterly direction with the stream some forty feet below us on our right and the canyon to the left and behind us. The sun was well up in the sky at our backs, but not warming us because of the trees. The high canyon walls, steep and jagged at the rim, limited our sight through the trees beyond the stream. Ahead of us we could see the canyon walls more clearly, with multi-colored formations of a complex geology. An interesting area was pastel lavender, the color of the nearby Lavender Pit. This is a well-known copper, gold and silver mine, which was named after mine manager Harrison Lavender rather than the color.

After more than an hour of hiking at a moderately strenuous pace, we rounded a bend and came upon a curious patch of ice in the shade. We had reached the lowest elevation of the snow line. A short distance away was a pile of mine tailings over twenty feet high. Rounding another bend, some abandoned mining equipment came in sight, and then the first of several small mines. We poked around the mine openings while eating our trail snack. The first mine was not nearly deep enough to account for the volume of mine tailings. It was seven or eight feet high and wide and about twenty-five feet deep. We found two other mines, each appearing smaller than the first. The entrance to the third mine was mostly filled in, so we could not determine its size. We looked over and speculated about the old machinery, and spent a minute or two picking through some of the mine tailings. We brought back two ore specimens and a small group of quartz crystals.

The trail becomes overgrown as it continues out of the canyon and ties into the Crest Trail and further away, the Miller Peak Trail, which we had been on the day before. So we shouldered our daypacks and headed back down, for interest following the streambed rather than the trail.

References: 100 Classic Hikes in Arizona, by Scott AS. Warren, published by The Mountaineers, 2000, pg 182-183.

Minerals of Arizona, A Field Guide for Collectors, by Neil R. Bearce, Arizona Desert Ice Press, 2004, pg 171-173.

Geology of the Lavender Pit Mine: "Mineralization is low grade disseminated chalcocite with local spots of other copper and zinc sulfides in a blanket deposit in a brecciated intrusive porphyry plug adjoining altered Paleozoic limestones along the Dividend fault."

<http://www.mindat.org/loc-3304.html>

For a virtual tour of the Lavender Pit mine, go to

<http://virtualguidebooks.com/Arizona/CactusCountry/Bisbee/LavenderPit.html>.

Bead Social An Entertaining Success! - by LaVerne Ayers

Our special thanks to **Sue Paserba** who was our guest instructor for the March Bead Social! She introduced a project she had learned in Quartzsite, AZ, over the winter: Butterfly Name Brooch. Fourteen members participated in making a brooch with a butterfly pin and their name dropping below the pin using alphabet beads. The instruction was very easy to follow and Sue's patience was appreciated! Like **Annette** said, "Sue may give us printed instructions, but she knows we never read them!" Sorry those members who were doing the Gemboree mailing work were unable to join us and it was fun that they came to check on our progress during the class.

Following are some observations from the members present: "**Our Appreciation...**" for **Art** and **Shirley** traveling from Conneaut and bringing us a jig used to make wire jump rings and a magazine with instructions to apply patinas to metal (a future class is scheduled); **Wende** for having her "baby" (her truck) out of the truck-hospital thus giving her mobilization to drive in from Mantua and she was generous to offer her advice in up-grading the presentation of finished jewelry pieces to **Warren** who allowed us to tell him things about jewelry and sales that he didn't solicit but we nosed into his business anyway (and helped him spend his money); **Kay** for her knack of having her name consist of only 3 letters and she finished first and made another brooch for her quilting friend and she didn't even tease us that we were slow; **Grace** for her constant interest in doing new things and making a brooch for her granddaughter and telling us she is soon going to be doing loom weaving (so we will know who may teach a class); **Cheryl** for returning from the "Quartzsite Experience: Buy a permanent vacation home in Quartzsite" and that she has offered to teach a chain-making class and to share some new techniques from her latest AZ beading classes (to be scheduled); **Debbie** for bringing many bracelets to inspire us in color and design; **Gwen** for her creative interest in new designs; **Annette** for bringing samples of jewelry for her coming show and encouraged us to handle everything amid the "oohs and ahhs"; **Laura** for taking time off from her busy Tax Season as she went from group to group all over the room spreading cheer and good humor; **Lynn** and **Marian** for being the most-studious and focused students thus making them the *Teacher's Pets* because they read the directions and followed them better than the rest of us; **Evelyn T.** for bringing in crystals and sharing the new source and found more leaves for **LaVerne** who was unable to keep her alphabet beads right-side up; **Dave M.** for collecting comments and giving positive encouragement; for Lapidary **Pres. Dave** and **V.P. Frank** enjoying all the activity of the members; and a special appreciation to **Sue Paserba** for offering to give us a contact number for the butterfly pin distributor and for helping us have fun and learn a new skill at the same time!

As a special note, during class, **Sue Paserba** also danced! Maybe there is a challenge going on with the instructors to dance? We know who started that challenge! Right, Laura? Our clubhouse was full of laughter and good humor! Again, Sue, thank you for the entertainment and the class!

April' s Bead Social will be on Tuesday, April 19TH between 6-9 p.m. LaVerne' s bead project will be Spring Fling Daisy Bracelet with a kit available or bring a tube or package (10-20) grams of 3-4 colors of size 10 or 11 seed beads, thread, needle, scissors, ruler, clasp and beading tray/cloth. Please come join us for the fun as everyone is welcome and no experience or skill is required. Volunteer instructors are needed in any craft or technique to give us a variety of projects to offer our members so just call LaVerne (330-724-1425) with any offer or other suggestions for this activity. Hope to see you all next month at our Bead Social!

Just A Quick Note From Me... - by Pat Powers

An important reminder for everyone: SAFETY. Everyone should be following the safety rules and regulations when using club equipment. Some important highlights are:
All members must be instructed prior to operating any piece of equipment. Read and follow the posted rules for each machine.

Follow all safety procedures when operating equipment. Wear safety glasses, earplugs and masks if necessary, run ventilation fan etc.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the building. Do not use them before operating equipment.

Oily rags can be a hazard for a fire; dispose of them properly.

Remember, what makes our club great is YOU! We want you to be safe while enjoying your hobby!

Heard from 'the grapevine' (Warren) of a new store in town, HOBBY LOBBY located in Medina off Route 42 north of town at 3800 Stonegate Drive 330-721-1325. This store is a smaller version of a Pat Catans or Michaels store.

Gosh! So much news this month the newsletter needed a page insert in order to accommodate all the articles. We welcome anyone's past exploring and collecting adventures. Happy Spring and see you next month.