

Summit Gem Newsletter April 2006

The Summit Lapidary Club – Phone (330)-929-3798

www.LapidaryClubofOhio.org

Board Members: Pres. - David Rich, V.Pres. - Frank Mack

Treasurer- Tom McLaughlin, Secretary- Laura Thomas, Trustees- Carl Miller, Mari-Takai

Manley, Bob Spore and Dave Macseoinin, Newsletter Editor- Pat Powers

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Mission Statement

To afford the opportunity to share interest in lapidary knowledge and working techniques

Club Meeting: April 4th Meeting at 7PM

Program: Annual Auction 7:30PM

Host: Mari Takai- Manley

President's Message - by David Rich

Hi Rockhounds Spring is here. That means finally you don't have to pour warm water over your favorite rock pile to get at the one you want. Isn't it great? April is our anniversary month and its time for the club auction. We do this because the hard working club members before us raised money this way. The auction turns out to be a well attended and a fun event. Each club member must donate to the club an item to auction off. Hopefully it will be lapidary related but as in the past we will auction off any thing you bring. Last year there where some really nice lapidary items brought in. Club members may bring a guest with money.

The GEMBOREE is around the corner. Summit Lapidary Club members are required to work a min of 4 hours at the GEMBOREE to be a member in "good standing". Once you're a member in good standing you are invited to participate in the club sponsored activities. It is not the other way around. If you don't want to go on "the trip" you can skip working at the GEMBOREE. Our share of the GEMBOREE pays for the clubhouse and every thing the club house has to offer. Our library books, the heating, the electric, lawn service and repairs to the club equipment. So its not just the trips that you have to work the GEMBOREE for, it's for the club. Say hi to Warren and he will get you signed up and on the way to a fun filled week end.

The name of the news letter is the Summit Gem. I started the contest. I thought it would be fun. Wrong! I thought we did not have a name for our newsletter. Wrong again. After I started the contest and got it in full swing I found out how wrong I was. I was given 2 binders full of Summit Gems. These binders I suppose where put together by Grace White then the news letter editor. I nominated the Summit Gem in Grace's memory. Well Grace you won! From all accounts Grace was well liked and a respected club member and I am glad the name stays the same.

Hope to see you all at the April meeting. The auction will be a lot of fun...Do I have a dollar? Give me dollar and half! Do I have two dollars? Two dollars going once.....

SLC Meeting Minutes from March 7th - submitted by Wende Taylor

Meeting minutes for 3/7/06

Called to order by Laura Thomas @ 7:30PM

New member: Patty Housely

Host: Wende Taylor

Dave Rich and Frank Regan not in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: Get your dues in.

Sunshine: Carl Miller will have surgery on the other knee in March. Nothing else to report.

Library: New book, Moods in Wire. Overdue fines now in effect as of March 1. \$.05 per each day overdue.

Newsletter: No report.

Education: Dave Mac - many good classes. Please check the board.

Machine Maintenance: No Report.

Safety: Please clean up after yourself.

New business:

- GEMBOREE sign up sheets are out. Presale tickets are available.
- Balance of money for Chicago trip due April 17, 2006
- April is SLC's 32nd anniversary. Annual auction set for April meeting. Bring auction donation to meeting for admission on 4/7.
- Stark County Gem Show is scheduled for March 25 & 26.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48PM

Sold To The Lucky Person - by Frank Mack

April will be our 32nd anniversary club auction. Club members should bring lapidary related items to 'get in the door'. Last year club members gave nice original work to the auction. Some of these items of jewelry were first learned in a free classes taught for free at SLC. This is a fine way to give back to your club and to show off your work.

This year, I am asking you to identify your item for auction. If it is a toaster you made at the toaster work shop it needs not to be identified. If you would like your name to go with the toaster write it down please. Volunteers are needed to help set up and help run the auction.

The auction will start at 7:30PM sharp. Please do not park in the speakers place by the club door we need to keep the side door clear. So please do not attempt to park on top of the side door or across the side walk.

April 2006		Summit Gem		Summit Gem		
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Social Saturday
2	3	4 Club Meeting 7:00PM	5	6	7	8 Tri-Bead Iris 10:00AM
9	10	11 Vertical Net 6:30PM	12	13	14	15 Social Saturday
16 Happy Easter	17	18	19	20	21 GEMBOREE Setup 8:00AM	22 GEMBOREE Show 10AM-7PM
23 GEMBOREE 10AM-6PM teardown follows	24	25 Board Meeting 7:30PM	26	27	28	29 Social Saturday
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Classes

Classes: Just a reminder – Classes taught by SLC members are free. There maybe a cost for supplies.

April 8th Saturday 10AM Tri-Bead Iris with Terry Warner; item for silent auction
April 11th Tuesday 6:30PM-9PM Vertical Net Necklace with Mari see bulletin board for supplies
May 13th Saturday 10AM-4PM Mine Safety Training \$12

GEMBOREE News - by Warren Salchak

Well, here we are again for another Gem Show. As usual I am getting all wound up looking forward to seeing all the dealers, attendees, and not to mention all of you folks that weekend also.

We have Jane's Fiber & Beads coming to this show, as well as another new dealer that sells amber color stones. Her name is Ursula Z. Tomasik.

We have been in contact with the building's owner to try and have him paint the area behind the magazine tables.

Job sign up sheets are out at the club; with many job positions that need to be filled. I know we have some new members that might be a little leery about what can I do? The biggest step is to BE THERE. You won't be left alone; someone will be there to assist you.

We will start set-up on Friday, April 21st at 8:00AM. It takes about 4 hours. We will have a light lunch at 11:30AM. The dealers will then start to arrange their booths. This will goes on until about 8PM.

On Saturday we open the side door at about 8:00AM and make 'the last minute touch up'. Club members, who are working opening show hours, should be there by 9:45AM, the show starts at 10:00AM. On Sunday we do the same and the show closes at 6:00PM. Although we close to the public at 6PM; it still takes about a strong 2 ½ to 3 hours to clean up, pack up and clear the building.

Last month I held a special GEMBOREE meeting on March 14th. Several things were discussed:

- One area in need of help is the silent auction. The ladies need help to bring the rocks out of the room where they do the pricing and help is needed on the auction table and cashing out at the end.
- The Gem mine station has many time slots open.
- If by chance, you come to work the GEMBOREE without an assignment; I'm sure we will be able to place you. However, it is best to sign up for a job in advance; sign-up sheets are at the club.

I have presale show tickets, as well as Tom. Pre-sale tickets are \$3; \$4 at the door for non-working members and the public. There are GEMBOREE show fliers at the club. Please pass them out to friends and businesses.

One more reminder...**Club members are not allowed to sell anything at the show!**

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me @330-928-0181 or e-mail me at lapidary1@neo.rr.com Thanks for all your help.

Mine Safety Class - by Terry Warner

Be safe while enjoying our hobby of collecting mineral specimens. SLC and AMS are hosting a mine safety training class for MSHA Training. The class is presented by Joel Vicary, an instructor with Macomb Community College. The class is being held May 13, 2006 from 10AM to 4PM at the Summit Lapidary club; cost is \$12.

Earn your certificate of completion for the U.S. Department of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration's Mine Safety Training Program for Hazard Recognition and First Aid. This certificate opens many mines not available to rock hounds. For more information or to register call me at 330-644-5999 or E-mail me at terry_warner@goodyear.com.

Feedback Time - by Patty Housely and Wende Taylor,

Here are a few words regarding our cabbing session on 3/11 with Dave Mac....

Patty Housely and I met Dave Mac Saturday morning for a lesson in cabbing. I hadn't cut a cab for months and it was a good refresher and a great time for me. Other responsibilities keep me from coming into the club on weekends and to be able to spend the day with terrific people always makes my time there a joy. But I digress.

Dave is a marvelous teacher. Once again he made learning safety, technique and design a lot of fun. I admire his teaching technique; he's always there for you but not hovering over your shoulder. Once the information has been given, he allows you to "find your own way" with the technique you're learning. Thanks Dave!

Hey, Cabbie! - by David Stitt

A nondescript lump of dull gray and purple rock. It doesn't look like much, and I'm sure that I can add more of the same.

This is the night that I cut and polish my first cabochon. I've looked at, and even used, cabochons for quite awhile. I've made cabs from fused glass, and bought finished cabs at shops from Ohio to Arizona.

This one is different. I have to pick it out, cut it, shape it, and finally polish it. I figure this is something that will end up at the back of my dresser drawer; behind my socks and underwear.

The finished stones I've seen all share the same characteristic; they are perfectly shaped. Oh, sometimes the color may be off, or there may be some odd flaw which makes the overall stone less than perfect—but always, they are perfectly shaped. The polish is always smooth and shiny; nearly flawless.

I can't imagine myself making such a stone. How can I shape and polish a piece of rock? Freehand? Me?

Still, I begin the process, believing I'm doomed to failure.

Early in my training, another newbie walks into the room where I'm grinding away at my lump of rock. She pulls out her first cab, a beautiful green stone. No scratches or flat spots; a real beauty. No way can I do that.

Slowly my stone takes shape. The rough edges gradually disappear. From deep inside this dull, rough slab emerges the beginning of a stone that...well, maybe there's something there after all.

Memo to self: next time saw off more of that extra crap around the tracing.

After two hours of grinding, more grinding, and polishing, I am absolutely amazed! My stone isn't perfect, but it's not bad. It has a soft luster, and a pretty purple mixed with some gray highlights. Only a hint of a flat spot, but no cuts, cracks or gouges. I have found the hidden beauty stored deep inside a rough, forbidding exterior. Maybe there's a Life Lesson lurking in there somewhere.

Now I can't wait 'til I can do the next one. Maybe a big one—or how about some delicate pieces for earrings, or....Whoops, sorry; gotta' run. My cab's waiting.

AFMS or MWF News - by Laura Thomas

AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind – fences, signs buildings.
I will leave all gates as found.
I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
I will discard no burning material – matches, cigarettes, etc.
I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
I will support the Rockhound Project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generation for public educational and scientific purposes.
I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.
(From AFMS Newsletter)

The Sunshine News - by Pat Smeal

Spring and sunshine have arrived in Ohio -- we are wishing lots of folks sunshine: Carl Miller and Annette Long for their end of March surgeries and Mabel Harris in recovery from her broken arm. Keep Bob Franks, Debbie Strickler and Pop Tryon in your thoughts also.

Tidbit: Keep your face to the sunshine and the shadows will be behind you -- that's what the sunflowers do!

"BOBSERVATIONS" - by Bob Spore

So are we about done with winter yet?

I was coming home from work last Monday, and the temp was 31 degrees outside, but as I drove down my street, I saw two guys standing around in shorts and T-shirts. And these weren't teenagers either! I mean, you can expect that, if there's a foot of snow on the ground and the wind chill is about 5 degrees, you can still see some teenage guy walking through the neighborhood, wearing a sweatshirt, reversed baseball cap, shorts and sneakers. The nitwit. But these were guys in their 30's or 40's.

I thought, "Either a tropical depression has moved up over Goodyear Heights, or I am surrounded by idiots." Guess which idea I decided to go with?

This month is the spring show. I hope everybody's been resting up. I know I have. People think I'm lazy, but I'm just conserving my strength. You never know when you'll need it.

Before I forget, we will be bagging rocks for the Gem Mine the Saturday before the show. This year, it will be April 15th. Just think, you can celebrate getting your taxes done by coming in and bagging rocks. Can you think of anything more fun? Well, yeah... me too, but we can't do that there. We'll try to get started around 9:30AM.

Have you people been checking out the new and improved website? It now has forums, where you can go and discuss things, ask questions and post information you think other people might be interested in. I hope that it will become a meeting place for all of us who go online and be a fun tool. Also, we can get visitors from other parts of the country and world stopping by. It could be a great way to meet other people around the world who share our love of the craft. By the way, if you go there and see a topic posted by "Boo Radley", it's not just some crazed psycho, it's me. Somewhat worse than a crazed psycho.

Our website also has a series of chat rooms where you can hold real-time conversations. We might have guest lecturers in there in the future to answer questions. Maybe Tom could go on and tell us all where he's going on vacation... THIS WEEK.

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

Spring is just around the corner. Many lapidary clubs are having their Spring vendor shows. We happened this last weekend to visit the Stark County Gem & Mineral Club and picked up a few treasures. One in particular was a piece of Charoite.

Charoite is an unusual mineral found to date in only one location; along the Chary River at Aldan in Russia. Although this rock mainly consists of Charoite it is actually a rock composed of several minerals. It contains small amounts of microcline feldspar, aegirine-augite, and tinaksite. It is the mineral, Charoite, which gives this gem its unmistakable purple color which often in the same piece, ranges from the very light to medium dark purple and from the translucent to opaque. As a gemstone, Charoite is reasonably tough with hardness between 5 and 6 and no cleavage. – From <http://www.gemsociety.org/info/gems/charoite>

I plan on this piece of Charoite being fashioned into a pendant and if there is enough a pair of matching earrings. Nice find!

One final note, a request from Laura Thomas...HELP WANTED: Temporary Secretary to take notes for May and June 2006 regular meetings and May Executive Board meeting. Specific dates are: May 2, May 30, and June 6. Requirements: scribble down the notes, type up and submit to Newsletter Editor, make copies to pass out at meeting. (Laura's surgery is scheduled May 2nd and she will be house bound for 2 months.)

Bye and see you next month!