

SLC Newsletter

December 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, December 6th 7:30PM
Program: MWF program library on South Dakota
Host: Everyone! Please bring Xmas cookies to share.

President's Message - by David Rich

Well here we go into another year. The 'good old Christmas cookie' December meeting. It has been a good year for the club. Our members have had some ups and downs throughout the year and the club has been there for them. At least we make a try to and that trying is what a good club needs to have. Thank you to everyone for helping out when needed. Even if it was just one or two things; your help is appreciated.

This year has been really lots of fun for me. I have gotten to know more about our club members. I enjoy seeing each and everyone of you at the show, down at the club or in the field.

Oh by the way... Our Christmas tree was finished and delivered. My hat goes off to Dave Koffroth. Dave did a fantastic job in the final hours. We truly had a fresh tree to deliver. I was very proud to be the one to set up the tree at the Knight Center. Thank you to all who worked on this project.

To end this year 2005 and welcome the New Year 2006, SLC is having a contest to name our newsletter. We have a very nice newsletter and it needs to have a real name. The winning name will get a prize. And I promise you the prize will be a good one. Now! Did I get everyone's attention!

All entries will be reviewed by the board and narrowed down to 4- 5 names. We will then vote at the January meeting. Now, there are some names already taken to name other club's newsletters like The Shield, Rock Talk, Rock Chatter, The Pick and Shovel, Rock Lore, The Loup Scoop, Chert Chatter, The Chip and Lick, The Crystal Gazer, Strata Data, The Dop Stick, Mastodon Tracks, Rock Dust, The Terminus Lobe and The Rock Tablet. Whew! What a list...this should get everyone's creative thoughts going. (Uh! Oh! I hope BOBSERVATIONS does not suffer insomnia over this) Entry slips and contest rules will be posted on the bulletin board.

Signing off from Top Rock as my buddy Warren would say "Well folks, Happy Holidays!"

GEMBOREE News - by Warren Salchak

We are still adding, subtracting, tossing all those numbers around. It might be tough to have just a Gem Report meeting, so it might just over lap into our regular SLC meeting. With winter and Christmas it's hard to bring folks together for an extra meeting. You will hear the final cost of the show and any excess funds will be distributed to both clubs. Any questions call me at 330-928-0181 or e-mail me at lapidary1@neo.rr.com. Again THANKS so much for everyone's help, and participation.

We're Having An Xmas Party...Please Come! - by Rosemary McLaughlin

The SLC & AMS annual Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 10th at the Cuginis Banquet Center. The cost is \$21 per person. Each club, SLC and AMS, has agreed to pick up \$7 of the cost. If you belong to both clubs; \$21- \$7 SLC - \$7 AMS = \$7 you pay. The money and reservations are due the first week of December. The Social Hour is 6-7PM. Dinner is at 7PM at the Cuginis Banquet Center 740 Monroe Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, phone 330-923-6400.

Committees

There were no listed classes for December at the time of print for this issue. The only scheduled activity planned for December is the Christmas Party. See you there.

Feedback Time...Beginning Wire Wrap Class with John Tryon Oct. 29th - by Laura Thomas

All who attended had a good time - we made lovely wire wrapped gold bracelets - John is an excellent and very patient instructor!! We had Wende, Mrs. Prez Marianne Rich, Gwen, new member MaryAnn and New member Valerie just watching and Laura. Lots of members cruised by with advice and admiring comments! I hope I got the names correct--you have my permission to admonish me at the next meeting!!!

MWF...AFMS...All These Acronyms??? - by David Rich

MWF? Have you seen the newsletters on the table at the club? What does MWF mean? Well for one thing if you are a member of SLC you are a member of the MWF and entitled to all the benefits of a MWF member.

When you are a member of MWF you are also a member of the AFMS. Wow what does all this mean to you a member of SLC? Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies is our regional member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The MWF is comprised of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. There are 6,171 adults and 648 juniors with 121 clubs in the MWF. These clubs do what SLC does. They go on field trips and have shows. They have newsletters like ours. In Ohio alone we have 20 clubs most have newsletters like the Chip and Lick, The Fossilphile, The Chiseler, The Rocky Reader, The Fractured Agate, The Pebble Pusher and The Rock Dust. There will be a new directory printing and it will be put into our library. The point is we are not alone. We have a wonderful association that can supply you with just about any information you want. All you have to do is contact any of these clubs and ask about their field trips and you better be ready to go. What I found out is other clubs go on some interesting field trips too! They are eager to share and to invite fellow MWF members to pack up and head on out.

MWF is active in keeping bills out of congress that will close collecting sites. In the future I will be talking more about the benefits of being a part 790 clubs and 56,585 adults that share the same interests.

Some Facts About Silver - submitted by Bob Powers

"Pure silver has a brilliant white color and is the whitest of all metals. None surpasses it in luster, and in hardness it ranges between pure gold and pure copper. An alloy of 925 parts fine silver and 75 parts copper is called 925-1000 fine or what is commonly known as sterling silver.

The word "sterling" is the quality mark of the best in silver. The word is Middle English, probably Anglo-Saxon. The origin of the term dates back to the 12th century when five free towns banded together in the eastern part of Germany calling themselves the Hanseatic League. They were free to make their own laws and issue their own

currency. When trading with the British merchants, they paid for the British products with silver coins. These coins attracted the attention of the Britishers for their consistency of metal and the dependability of weights, and were, therefore, referred to as the coins of the Esterlings. In due time, after the British adopted the characteristics of these coins, the metal and the coin became known as sterling. Down to the present day this term has stood for the test of fineness and quality.”

From Jewelry Making and Design by Augustus Rose and Antonio Cirino, Dover Publications, 1967.

The Sunshine News - by Pat Smeal

Thanks for keeping me posted!

- Debbie Strickler has been having some health problems, keep her in your thoughts.
- Robert Flick had cataract surgery.
- Herb Butrick had cataract surgery.
- Russ Greene is on the mend from his bout with shingles.
- Carl Miller is doing real well since his knee surgery.
- Condolences to the Kish Family. Joyce' s mother passed away very recently.
- Suzy Elderkin will have knee surgery on 12/21 - we' ll be thinking of ya!

Tidbit - “Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” (William Arthur Ward)

Merry Christmas everyone! Remember to be good to yourself, too.

BOBSERVATIONS” - by Robt. Spore

So, who’s all jazzed up about the upcoming Christmas party? I know I am. It’s one of the few times of the year that I actually get dressed up. I enjoy surprising club members with my unexpected sartorial splendor. Of course, it probably wouldn’t take much to surprise you all. I mean, normally, on any given Tuesday or Saturday, the only thing missing from my usual ensemble is the “*WILL WORK FOR FOOD*” sign.

I hear that there won’t be entertainment this year, but instead, the party will feature background music that people may dance to if they wish. I don’t dance myself, but I sincerely hope many of you do. For I plan to mock you.

Mocking those who dance has been a favorite pastime of all two-left-footed persons going back to very early history. The Egyptian friezes that you see which show people standing sideways with one foot in front of the other were all created by non-dancers as their way to make their more graceful contemporaries look like right nitwits.

Likewise, the introduction of huge, planet-sized skirts covering acres of petticoats in the 18th Century was devised to cause dancers to trip, in the hopes that the resulting chain reaction of plummeting partners would bruise enough egos (and patellas) to halt ballroom dancing forever. Instead, choreography was born.

Most dance forms practiced today were actually dreamed up by my clumsy cohorts. The Charleston, Fox Trot, Twist, Frug and Crabapple Two-step had only one purpose, to make those who dance look like ungainly twits.

The entire “Disco” generation was a dastardly plan concocted by the clumsy wallflowers of the world to shame their gazelle-like friends into hanging up their dancing shoes. Clog dancing was another attempt, which only had mixed results. The plans have had a disastrous history of backfiring and instead of stopping all dancing worldwide; we have inadvertently loosed upon an unsuspecting populace such horrors as Polka and (shudder) Square dancing.

So, instead of mucking about and coming up with a new “dance craze” for the Christmas party that combines all the grace and subtlety of expression as a game of Twister done by a pack of Bonobo apes... I elect to sit quietly by, point and snicker. Any who wish to join me, will find me at the bar, pointing and snickering.

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

Yeahhh!!! The newsletter will finally have a name. SLC Newsletter is really kind of drab, don't you think? This contest sounds like fun, it even has a prize! Oops! Just look at myself...I am kind of acting like today's kids, who need to have a prize dangling in front of them in order to enter a contest. Heck! I am not all that bad... the prize has not yet been announced.

Sorry about lately how the newsletter has not been e-mailed. Well... it turns out we have kids who use our computer...who down load music and stuff ... which then allows those nasty viruses to appear. Viruses!!! Get a life! Better yet...Get a Job!...my message to those people who send viruses!!!

Right now, as I am typing my article, we can access the Internet. No viruses attacking us now, and hopefully, when Bob attaches the newsletter to the e-mail list we will still be able to access the Internet and finally put out an e-mail issue.

Winter message reminder: When a snow ban is in effect for Cuyahoga Falls on a meeting night, the meeting will be cancelled and automatically rescheduled for the following Tuesday. Call the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department if you are unsure of the weather conditions.

Merry Christmas! Bye and see you next month!