

Summit Gem Newsletter February 2008

Summit Lapidary Club, 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221
Phone (330)- 929- 3798 www.LapidaryClubofOhio.org

Board Members: Pres. - Dave Macseoinin, V.Pres. - Wayne Jessup,
Treasurer - Tom McLaughlin, Secretary - Laura Thomas, Trustees - Carl Miller, Mari-Taka
Manley, Bob Spore and David Rich, Newsletter Editor- Pat Powers 440-237-6170
SLCnewsletter@AOL.com or 18270 Buccaneer, North Royalton, Ohio 44133

Mission Statement

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



Meeting: February 5th at 7:30PM
Program: "A Journey Through Lapidary" with
Jim Perkins
Hosts: Everyone! Please Bring in a Valentine
Treat To Share.



Membership: 130 members
Dues: Joining fee \$25 then \$4 per month

President's Message – by Dave Macseoinin

Boy, did we have a good auction of Chris York's things! Everyone was ready to bid and was quite happy with their goods. Thank you everyone for your cooperation.

I do have some classes planned for spring so check the board for times.

The silver workers are planning their workshop and some others have requested a casting workshop. Now, this is a class that needs to have an experienced member, so it will be up to you to find someone to facilitate that workshop.

We have so many new members coming in with so many questions. It was so refreshing to see seasoned members just take to these new people. This is what makes this a good club. (But, then again, what rockhound isn't friendly?) So if you see new member looking confused, just ask them if you can help. And you new members are always welcome to ask any of us seasoned members something when you stuck on something.

Our sign up sheet is posted for "hosts" for the meetings. For our new members, this hosting is just to set up the coffee pot and the hot water pot for the meeting and something to nosh on. Nothing big, just a plate of cookies will suffice.

January 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes - Respectfully submitted by Laura Thomas

President, David Mac called the meeting to order at 7:30pm
No speaker tonight, we're having a Silent Auction of Items from Chris York, Lifetime member, she donated all of her equipment and supplies to the Club.

Welcome to New Members: Karen & John Kerr, Paulette & David Moore, Visitors Norman Rankin,. Gabrielle McKeevey, Paula Smead

Thank you Hosts (sorry, did not get those names- !!! THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU)

Treasurer Report, Tom McLaughlin: gave state of the bank.

Secretary Report, No board meeting minutes from December.

Board Reports: February Speaker will be Jim Perkins, local Faceter.

Library, Mari – requesting funds \$150

Sunshine, Mari is new Sunshine Person for 2008.

Newsletter, Pat Powers: Bob Powers requests send articles to SLCnewsletter@aol.com.
 Education David Mac: Intermediate Faceting –Emerald Cut Jan 13, Beginning Silver Feb 16. There have been requests for a Silver Workshop.
 Gemboree Warren, no report.
 Junior Rockhounds, Emily Whims: Jewelry making class Jan 20, Natural History Museum Feb 18.
 New Business: Need a chairperson for 2008 Christmas Tree Project. Festival of Trees, John S Knight Center-benefits Children’s Hospital. Was suggested that we make a smaller scale tree, under a dome, with faceted stones.
 Trips – put it out for ideas, members called out: Bancroft, Canada, Spruce Pines, NC for Aquamarines, Gem Mtn MT, Sapphines, MGAGS, Midwest Faceters Guild Seminar will be in Chicago in August. Lots of ideas, got to get cracking – need to plan 6 months in advance.

Tom McLaughlin suggested drilling stones ad a fundraising idea for Gemboree.
 Reminder, as a club member in good standing, we get to work (4) hours at Each Gemboree - our Main Fundraiser and it really is fun! Please look for the sign-up sheets to come out soon for the April Show.

Mari is collecting Jewelry for the Victim Assistance Fundraiser in March, please put in a zip bag with your name, brief description of item and suggested minimum bid.
 Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM

February		February			February	
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 SLC Meeting 7:30PM	6	7	8	9 10AM Weave Bracelet
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 10AM Beginning Silver
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Board Meeting 7:30PM	27	28	29	

Sign up sheets for SLC Classes are posted at the club. Class instruction by SLC members is free. There may be a fee for supplies.

Gemboree Report - by Warren Salchak

Coming up at the end of April on the 26th and the 27th will be our Spring Gemboree show. I will have sign-up work assignment sheets out on the 4th of March during the monthly meeting. Please, also think about doing an individual display case for this spring’s Gemboree show.
 Thank you - Warren

Natural Gemstones vs. Lab Created Gemstones - by Wayne Jessup

It seems odd that when comparing the price of a, flawless, lab created gemstone to a natural gemstone, with inclusions, that we would knowingly pay the outrageous price for the natural one. As a result of our culture, and the jewelry industries marketing effort’s that is precisely what consumers will do.

Let us, as consumer’s that are “In The Know”, take a look at the differences in Natural, Lab Created and Simulated Gemstones:

Natural Gemstones: Natural gemstones are just that, real and natural, as they were created in nature. Natural gemstones may be treated by various methods to alter their color or appearance. Some treatments are permanent and some are not. For an example, Tanzanite in its natural state is brownish in color, but when heat-treated, it becomes the beautiful blue-purple gemstone that we admire.

Lab Created Gemstones: Lab created gemstones are made of the same mineral composition as their natural counterpart. They are created, under very stringent conditions, in laboratories with equipment that simulates the high pressures and heat that nature used to create the Natural gemstones far beneath the surface of the earth. Lab created gemstones are identical to their Natural counterparts in color, hardness, composition, luster, and looks. The only exception to their appearance is that they will most always be flawless.

Simulated Gemstones: Simulated gemstones are created in a laboratory environment, but they differ from natural and lab created gemstones in many significant ways. They are only made to look like a natural gemstone. Simulated gemstones in most cases do not have the same mineral composition, color, hardness, luster or looks of a natural gemstone or lab created gemstone.

Side-Note about Laboratory Created Gemstones: Sapphires and Rubies, which are in the Corundum family, are easily created in the laboratory and while it is possible to create them in the laboratory, Emeralds and Aquamarines, from the Beryl family of Gemstones, are not as easy to create.

MWF and AFMS News - by David Rich

Hey guess what? You are a member of the Midwest Federation. Also, you are a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Society. You can access both federation websites from our club website Lapidaryclubofohio.org. The AFMS would like us to participate in a survey regarding AFMS programs offered. Please participate and fill out the enclosed survey. I will have a box at the club to collect the surveys and then forward them to the federation. Thanks- David Rich.

FYI - by Maxine and Pete Sauricki

Most of the older club members know that Pete and I worked many years for Marge and Jay Gehring owners of Village Originals formerly located in Westlake. Village Originals is one of the largest importers of Brazilian Agate in the U.S.A. Consequently we had contact with many Brazilians who came to sale products at Quartzsite Pow-Wow and International Show in Tucson also known as "The Big One" by many of our Gemboree dealers.

The Indians of Brazil use talc to make common cooking utensil such as bowls, pots and etc. Professional talc carvers from Anapolis-Goles, Brazil shared their knowledge on their nationwide tour.

How To Cut and Polish Talc

1. CUT the talc into size desired with a hand saw. The only electric equipment used was a lathe for hollowing out the bowls and pots. If talc to be used is correct size a lathe is not used.
2. CARVE the talc into approximate shape with a knife.
3. SAND with 220 or 400 grit sandpaper.
4. SMOOTH with quadruple zero (0000) steel wool, the finest available.
5. Heat in strong sunlight or warm oven until slightly warm to touch.
6. Rub with clear paste wax while the talc is still hot, and you've got yourself a finished carving.

Pure talc is more desirable but impurities give finished piece a nice pattern or unique markings. This method can be used for cabs, statues and etc. The finished product may surprise you, as you can't tell how it will turn out until the paste wax is on. I can't remember if this method was ever taught at MGAGS. Look over the dealers at next big rock show you visit and see if any dealers have some good talc for sale.

Send Out A Birthday Card - by Sue Barnett

I have a special needs brother who is celebrating one of the big "0" birthdays this year and I would like to card shower him and need your help. For those of you who have never met my brother, he is a friendly, gentle soul, who is mentally challenged and loves to meet new people. His birthday is Feb. 8th and his address is:

Mike Pettijohn
633 S. Vine St.

Van Wert, Ohio 45891 Thanks for your help and pass it on! Sue Barnett

Sunshine News - by Mari Takai Manley

- Carl Miller was hospitalized for a bad case of gout. He also has a worry about his son's transplanted kidney failure. Carl and his son could use our prayers.
- Bob Flick had surgery to put a stint in his leg artery this past week. He just told us about it at the club with his usual calm smiling manner.
- Richard Lee is recovering from his open heart bypass surgery very nicely. According to his surgeon, his recovery is right on schedule. His loving wife, Cathy, makes sure that he follows doctor's orders.
- Bob Frank received a bit of good news. His cancer has not spread to his bones. He is to go through a stronger treatment - radiation therapy. He is a strong good fighter. We wish him a good result!
- Greg Dojlidko and Elmer Schafrik are both responding to chemo therapies well. We wish them complete recoveries.
- Chris York sent us thank-you cards for our thank-you gifts and her life-time membership status.

BOBSERVATIONS" - by Robt. Spore

"Dopping for Dopes"

I should probably cab more. I rarely do it and just in the past week, I helped two new people dop their stones. And, always surprising, they actually looked at me as if I knew what I was doing. (This is how you can tell they're new, by the way)

So, since I was on a roll, I dopped several stones for myself, tossed them in my kit and put my kit in the trunk of my car. On a day where it was a few degrees below zero. Then I ran a bunch of errands. Then I went home.

As I looked at all of my newly undopped stones, I said, "Oh, I knew that was going to happen". Uh huh. I often rely on hindsight for justification. It's a gift.

So, after dinner I redopped the one I had planned on working on immediately and went downstairs to my grinder to begin shaping the stone. Approximately 10 seconds into the grind, it fell off the dop. Well, I hadn't really wanted to work in the basement anyhow, as it's kind of cold and scary down there, so I went upstairs to my workroom and dopped up a piece of citrine I had planned on faceting.

I set the head to 90° to square the stone, started the machine, set the stone down, where it promptly came off the dop, spun around the lap a few times and rocketed off into the far corner of the room, where it... disappeared. I have no idea where it went. Possibly it's in a different dimension. One that's populated by all the millions of unmatched socks I've lost through the decades.

It was at this time I decided the most intelligent thing I could possibly do was to stop all lapidary work for the evening and drink beer. Which is exactly what I did. I just love a happy ending, don't you?

Hey, if you're ever noodling around the internet, looking for something fun to waste time on, go here: <http://www.lileks.com/index.html> This guy is a columnist in Minneapolis and he's a total hoot.

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

- Club members please remember to clean up after any class or activity at the club house.
- Victim Assistance Project runs thru February, please give donated items to Mari.
- Please note- if a Snow ban is in effect on a meeting night, the meeting is cancelled and automatically rescheduled for the following Tuesday evening. Please call the Cuyahoga Falls Police at 330-928-2181 to find out the weather conditions.

Bye and see you next month!

AFMS ROCK SURVEY

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) is evaluating the awards programs it sponsors in an effort to trim budgetary costs. Please respond to the following and remit your response to Bob and Kathy Miller at 1106 Clayton Drive, South Bend, IN, 46614 or to KanBrock@aol.com (Use "Rock Survey" as Subject of e-mail.)

1. Club Publications (Bulletin Editors' Contest)

Have you participated in the past? Yes No
 Plan to participate in the future? Yes No
 If you have not participated in this program, why not?

Should this program be eliminated? Yes No
 Should this program remain the same? Yes No

2. Program Competition

Have you participated in the past? Yes No
 Plan to participate in the future? Yes No
 If you have not participated in this program, why not?

Should this program be eliminated? Yes No
 Should this program remain the same? Yes No

3. Uniform Rules and Competitive Exhibiting

Have you participated in the past? Yes No
 Plan to participate in the future? Yes No
 If you have not participated in this program, why not?

Should this program be eliminated? Yes No
 Should this program remain the same? Yes No

4. AFMS Rockhound of the Year

Have you participated in the past? Yes No
 Plan to participate in the future? Yes No
 If you have not participated in this program, why not?

Should this program be eliminated? Yes No
 Should this program remain the same? Yes No

5. Education – All American Awards

Have you participated in the past? Yes No
 Plan to participate in the future? Yes No
 If you have not participated in this program, why not?

Should this program be eliminated? Yes No
 Should this program remain the same? Yes No

Additional Comments: