

Summit Gem Newsletter October 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: October 3rd at 7:30 PM

Host: Cathy and Richard Lee

President's Message - by David Rich

Hello everyone! I hope this wonderful newsletter finds everyone in good spirits. This month is a busy one for me.... My garden is about over and that means yard work.... I have a big Boy Scout project for the Firelands District. I am carving an Indian head from a tree. (Oh! By the way, do we have any Eagle Scout club members?).... MaryAnn and I are traveling to Virginia for a long weekend (with no rock collecting).... Then to cap it off the GEMBOREE.

The Fall MWF meeting is at the same time as our GEMBOREE; I will not be at the Fall MWF meeting. I know you hear me chat and talk about how you must work at the show. Well, you do have to work at the show. We are very fortunate to have this fundraiser which supports 2 very active clubs. I belong to other clubs and IF they raise \$1200 in a year they put on the party hats.

SLC is very lucky to have an excellent and hard working chairman for the show, Warren. He has done a wonderful job for both clubs. Thanks again to all who work so hard. I hope at the fall show some of the newer club members get involved.

I heard a rumor about SLC members car pooling to the Pittsburgh rock show. If this is true get a list up on the bulletin board maybe it will work out.

At the December meeting the SLC by-laws require a vote for officers for 2007. Please see anyone on the board if you would like to run. The board has appointed positions that you might like to volunteer for. Let us know and we will find a job that has just been waiting to be filled.

Has any one been to the web site? There is a guy who wants to trade Texas rocks for flint.

SLC Meeting Minutes September 5, 2006 - submitted by Laura Thomas

- Dr. LaVerne "Vern" Friberg spoke and had a slide program on the Black Hills, South Dakota – a Geology Overview
- Meeting called to order at 8:50 pm by President David Rich.
- June minutes typed by Evelyn Tryon passed out.
- Treasurer Tom McLaughlin gave state of the bank account. Board Report Notes passed out
- Sunshine: Jim Davis is having surgery, cards going around.
- Library, Mari: Lots of new books for the library. Tut Book, The Master Jeweler, 2006 MidWest Federation Directory, Making Glass Beads, The Lizzadro Collection. Library rules posted.
- Newsletter Pat: Roster included in September Newsletter, See Tom McLaughlin for address corrections, Newsletter looking great! A big hand for Pat Powers.
- Website – send pictures to Bob Spore, he can add to website, current newsletters are now on there.
- Education Dave Mac. Soapstone Carving class with Bob Powers Sept 23rd, 6 slots available. Looking for Gemtree instructors, see David.
- Gemboree Warren: Sign up sheets are out/flyers are available. (22) positions each day that need covered by a member along with Friday setup and Sunday evening tear down. Can always use floaters.

- Warren also has a great info packet he put together of great info he has collected over the years.
- Machine Maintenance Frank R – no complaints yet, gonna start changing the oil the next two Saturdays.
- Trips-Sue Barnett – no bus trips until next spring.
- Eric – Sober sand + gravel in early summer, found a new road cut for Nellie. Labor Day weekend is big “knappers” event call Eric if interested in road-trip.
- Other : East Ohio lapidary club is having a show Oct. 7+8
Need to start now for next year’s tress
Russ Greene home, heading in the right direction
Thank you Hosts Bob + Pat Powers
Meeting adjourned 9:16 pm

No classes listed at time of newsletter print

Important dates:

Gem Mine rock bagging Saturday, October 21st 9:30AM

GEMBOREE set-up Friday, October 27th 8:15AM

GEMBOREE Hours Saturday, October 28th 10AM-7PM

Sunday, October 29th 10AM-6PM tear- down follows

GEMBOREE NEWS - by Warren Salchak

Well, the time is here again for another fun filled weekend, of seeing old friends and a chance to buy more stones. In case you missed the September and GEMBOREE meetings the sign-up sheets are out and more positions still need to be filled. You will not be working alone, so please don't let that inhibit you on the different jobs available.

The GEMBOREE is a club activity. All members are expected to work it! Yes, even if you don't plan on going on any of the trips. The GEMBOREE helps defray the cost of having the club in existence for all to learn and meet new friends interested in the same hobby.

We will have presale tickets (\$3 for adults) at both meetings of clubs in October, if interested see Tom or myself. Plan on attending the meetings in October to find out when we will be doing our postcard mailing and if we need to have a day to bag rocks.

We have fliers available to hand out and a special announcement in color 8 1/2 X 11 to post at your work, church, or places you shop. Please ask if it's okay to post. (DON'T POST AT THE POST OFFICE). In the past I've received phone calls on this subject and I really don't want my picture posted on there walls as WANTED.

I spoke with Carl; we have a full show of dealers. One new dealer will be selling pearls, from \$5-\$ 500. On a sad note I just heard Bill Cook of VIRGIN VALLEY has passed away; he has done our show for many years. Our Condolence's to his family.

We gained some new members from our last show, so please be ready to help them and make them feel comfortable.

The show weekend will start on Friday October 27th with set up at 8:15AM. Usually we have a break for coffee and donuts at 9:15. Set up is completed by 11:30AM followed by a light lunch of salad & pizza. Dealers will then start doing there set up which will run until about 8:00PM.

At this same time those of you who volunteered to put in a display case can start that job. Try and fill your case up on Friday, so we don't have to scramble around Saturday morning to complete the job. Please don't open your case during the daily show hours. Again, we CAN NOT PERMIT ANY SELLING DURING the show, or tailgating, (selling from trunk of car)! This is a show for our dealers. Please RESPECT these rules and your fellow club members.

Saturday, the show starts at 10:00AM; try and be there a little earlier. We close at 7:00PM. Same on Sunday, start at 10:00AM but close at 6:00PM. At closing you may then unload your display case. Tear

down of tables and chairs, and putting display case's away also is going on. This process takes until about 8:00PM. We ask our dealers to please try and be out by 9:00PM

On Saturday and Sunday until about 4:00PM there will be some snacks in the lunch room. Feel free to bring in something to share or just help yourselves to what is available.

Again, THANK YOU, one and all. Hope to see you at the show. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me. Thanks, Warren Salchak Home phone 330-928-0181, Cell phone 330-256-8989 or lapidary1@neo.rr.com

I'm Gonna Clean This Specimen - by Mel Albright as published in AFMS Safety March 1999 - submitted by Evelyn Tryon

Like many rockhounds, I have some mineral samples. Like many rockhounds, the samples need cleaning up. Ugly stuff is on the surfaces of the pretty stuff. Like many rockhounds, my first thought is "I'll soak it on some acid." Like many rockhounds, I maybe headed for trouble.

First, the perennial warning – AAA - Always Add Acid. If you are going to dilute acid with water, always add the acid to the water. Why? The heat of solution of acid in water is high. If you add water to acid, it turns to steam and blows acid into the air. Very bad if your hand is still over the acid. Even worse, if your head is also.

Now – about cleaning up. The list of possible acid contains some that you and I should NEVER get near. Hydrofluoric acid (HF) cleans fluorite. BUT, it is so dangerous that we should never consider using it. To quote from the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for HF, "Vapors may be irritating to skin, eyes, nose and throat. Inhalation of vapors may cause irritation of burns of the respiratory system, pulmonary edema, or lung inflammation. Liquid and vapor cause severe burns that may not be immediately painful or visible. Substance is readily absorbed through the skin, penetrating the skin to attack underlying tissues and bone. Ingestion may cause severe burns to the mouth, throat, and stomach. HF may have adverse effects on kidney function, and may be fatal." The MSDS goes on for some time. What the above does not say is all those bad things occur with very low exposures. Convinced? It is NOT something for amateurs to be around. It is something professionals treat with much protective equipment, safety hoods, training, and care and only when required.

Hydrochloric acid (muriatic acid), (swimming pool acid), (HCl) can be used for cleaning. Because it is so common, many people consider it as not too dangerous. WRONG! The HCl MSDS says: "Inhalation of vapors may cause pulmonary edema, circulatory system collapse, damage to upper respiratory system, collapse. Touching it is even worse. With eye goggles and rubber gloves, you can use this material. But you must be very careful with it.

Nitric acid (HNO₃) is sometimes considered for cleaning since many nitrates are soluble in water. Trouble is that nitric acid is a strong oxidizer. That means that it reacts strongly with all organic material – like people. It is also extremely corrosive. Contact with skin or eyes may cause permanent damage. The vapors can be dangerous, too. Most important – it is so reactive that it may well boil when you pour it onto your specimen to be cleaned. Use goggles and rubber gloves if you do try to use this stuff.

Sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄) is also available for use. Vapors can cause severe irritation of the respiratory system. Liquid can cause severe irritation to the skin and eyes. Ingestion may be fatal.

Now a couple of more benign materials. Acetic acid (vinegar) can be used to clean specimens. It is dangerous when in strong solution – corrosive, and can cause serious burns. In the form we can get it from the grocery, it is safe for use but still corrosive.

Oxalic acid is often used to remove iron stains from quartz. Again we often underestimate its danger because it is common. Contact with the skin or eyes may cause severe irritation or burns. Ingestion may be fatal.

In summary – DO NOT USE ANY ACID unless you are trained to do so. If you do, use protective gloves, eye protection, have good ventilation, and remember AAA and that use may generate heat and cause rapid and immediate boiling.

The Sunshine News - by Pat Smeal

- Russ Greene was recently in the hospital for a few days to treat an infection, but he's home again and feeling better. He's getting around pretty good from hip surgery too.....ahhhh ...at last!
- Laverne Ayers is recuperating from hip surgery ...we wish you a speedie recovery!
- Louis Sabo's recent hernia repair didn't keep him down for long ... saw him at the club house just days after!
- Bill Cook of Virgin Valley Sales (a Gemboree dealer for many years) has recently passed away -- we offer condolences to his family.
- Bob Franks and Pop Tryon (and families) -- know that we keep you in our thoughts and prayers.
- Wedding bells will ring soon (before our Gemboree) for Laura Lentz and Andy Miller -- CONGRATULATIONS and Best Wishes for many, many happy years together!

TIDBIT: " People in life who are the happiest don't have the best of everything -- they make the Best of everything they have."

"BOBSERVATIONS" - by Robt. Spore

The Fine Art of Annoying People – Part One

Now, most of you who know me, realize that I can be quite annoying when I want to be and some of you would even say that I can even be annoying when I don't want to be. Annoying, that is. Well, this is not something that comes naturally to me, because in reality, I am a shy, self-effacing person upon whose tongue, butter wouldn't melt. No, my ability to annoy others is something that I've worked hard to perfect and at this time, I would like to teach you a few things, so that you too can enjoy life as an annoying person. Perhaps, with practice, you might even become more annoying than I am... but the smart money says, "No".

One of the places I enjoy annoying people is the grocery store. I've found that it's very easy to annoy whole groups of people in a wide demographic just by taking your purchases from the store, to your car. I accomplish this by first making sure that all of my food items are placed at the front of the cart (Some of you less robust people might not have to worry about this. Some of you more robust people might have to consider purchasing bulk items, or several watermelons.).

Then, upon leaving the store, grab firmly onto the cart's handles, place your left (or right as the case may be) foot onto the edge of the lower back shelf and push off with your other foot, riding the cart out to your car. (NOTE: It is very important that the parking lot slopes away from the store. If the parking lot is sloped toward the store, or flat, you will not glide effortlessly in the direction of your car, but will either just sit there, or slowly drift backwards, annoying only yourself.)

Now, you may ask me, "But, Bob... how is this annoying?" to which I will reply, "Stop interrupting me and I'll tell you. This annoys young children, because they will see you and immediately pester their parents, wanting to try the same sophomoric trick. This in turn will annoy their parents because they will have to explain that "normal" people don't treat shopping carts as toys and someone can get their eye poked out.

Older ladies will become annoyed because they worry that you'll hit their car and also because you may give their idiotic husbands ideas. This will, in turn, annoy older men because they will immediately want to try it themselves, but in glancing over at their wives, will know that they better not try it-and-if-they-ever-catch-you-even-thinking-about-it-you-old-fool-there-will-be-heck-to-pay-don't-see-if-I'm-right!

You see? With one simple action, you have succeeded in annoying an entire parking lot full of people. Everybody wins! (By that, of course, I mean that I win, but really, that's all that matters.)

Oh, and when you try this, add a bit of élan to the act. While I'm riding my cart, I always extend my right leg straight out behind me, in order to become more streamlined... and because it looks cool. *"I am poetry in motion."* Next month: Dealing With People Who Use Their Cell Phones in Public.

Just A Quick Note From Me - by Pat Powers

Bob Spore is still in need of someone who is driving out to Quartzite this winter, to look into to purchasing specialty rocks for the Gem Mine. The mine needs colored calcite (any color), rose quartz, peacock ore, iron pyrite and desert roses. Get in touch with Bob Spore for more details and pricing. Bye and see you next month

