

Summit Gem Newsletter September 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: September 5th at 7:30 PM

Host: Bob and Pat Powers

**Program: Black Hills, South Dakota
given by Professor LaVerne Friberg**

President's Message - by David Rich

Welcome back 'Rockhounds'. I hope everyone enjoyed the summer break as much as I did. I seem to get all fired up again for the fall activities. My garden was flooded twice. Then drought conditions started in August followed by a plague of locusts. I have alerted the Tallmadge fire department because I fully expect a brush fire to finish me off.

Professor LaVerne (Vern) Friberg is going to kick the fall meeting off with a lecture on the Black Hills of South Dakota. Professor Friberg leads Akron University "field camps" for the geology department students. I am eager to hear him speak.

Fast approaching is the fall GEMBOREE. All SLC members must work at the show in order to be in "good standing". Members in good standing may use the clubs many outstanding features, like the library, the saws or make use of the FREE classes. The GEMBOREE pays the bills and the club expenses. I have asked for a complete list of working members from the show roster. For years there have been very dedicated club members who have given themselves to make this show the greatest fund raiser any club could ever have. So new members lets see what you got. Please get involved with your club.

The web site is off and running. Have you registered? Club members (good standing type) have an opportunity to get in on the "On-Line Gemboree" at low discount prices.

SLC Meeting Minutes June 8, 2006 - submitted by Evelyn Tryon

Meeting called to order by President, David Rich. Secretary & treasurer absent. Therefore, no minutes or financial report presented.

Board Report: The board met and discussed loss of books and new rules. The rules will be posted on the library and in the newsletter. Delinquent books will cost five cents per day they are late up to replacement costs. Since some books are now out of print, the cost could be considerable. Also, if you have items past due at the library you are not a member in good standing.

Library: Mari reported a new "reference book" on Agates. Reference books may not be borrowed and taken from the library.

Newsletter: Thanks to Pat for a wonderful job on our 'Summit Gem'. She reminded us to get articles to her ASAP so she can prepare them to publish.

Classes: Dave Macseoinin teaching a Beginning Silver Class on 6/17/06. Need to bring your own cab and silver.

GEMBOREE: Warren thanked all members and reminded us that our show is "Great" because we all work together to make it so. Financial report given out reveals it is one of our best. Flyers are ready to give out.

NEW members: Greg Dojlisko and Barbra Finnemore.

Web site: David reported it has been updated for the GEMBOREE and we may purchase and build our own web page for it. \$20 per 6 months.

Machine maintenance: Most in good shape. Reminder to sign in when we are working here.

Reports on trips: MGAGS weekend of 6/9-11 and Chicago trip in July has 46 members going. Send e-mail for menu to Jane per newsletters.

Midwest Federation: David Rich attended the meeting in Michigan in May. There was lots of discussion about what the clubs do and growth.

David and Warren are looking into renting a building for our "club artists" to do a show. Sign up if interested. More to come later. There will be more research, discussions and meetings. Eric DeMan asked those interested in going on digging trips to Sober, Flint Ridge and Coschocton to contact him.

Evelyn Tryon ordering "Grits" for tumbling/grinding.. If you need some let her know. Order should be here next week.

Dr. Art and Carolyn Dumke celebrating their 50th Anniversary. A card was signed by members and given them. Refreshments included a cake. No program....Meeting dismissed.

September 2006 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5 SLC meeting 7:30PM	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Soapstone Carving 9:30AM
24	25	26 GEMBOREE meeting 7:30PM	27	28	29	30

September Classes

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

September 23rd 9:30AM Saturday - Soapstone carving with Bob Powers. See club sign up sheet for tools and supplies.

GEMBOREE NEWS – by Warren Salchak

I know it seems early, but I'm thinking about the up-coming GEMBOREE SHOW. The sign up sheets will be out at our September 5th meeting, so if you want to sign up early to fit your schedule and pick a special job you enjoy doing come to the meeting.

All the GEMBOREE jobs are staffed with at least one other person and someone is always around to help. Remember, the GEMBOREE, is our only way to raise funds to assist in paying for different trips and events. Ah yes! Trips! YOU MUST WORK THE SHOW TO BE ELLIGIBLE TO ATTEND CLUB SPONSORED TRIPS.

This past June, the club went to Michigan to attend the MGAGS classes of lapidary arts. I went and had a great time, enjoying the classes and fellowship of other club members. We had very nice rooms, good food as usual, played some cards in the evening, and there was even swimming available for everyone.

At MGAGS there were classes on Wire wrap, Cabbing, Faceting, Silvercasting, Beading, and etc. We even had an auction on Saturday afternoon. Some very well made nice looking articles were placed for bid. A gentlemen who retired from banking, was the auctioneer, he did a fine job and kept things moving until all items were sold.

There was some kind of inside joke between Martin Smeal and Tom Mc. Martin actually served Tom breakfast. I think this had to do with the Gold Panning trip they went on earlier in the year.

I must have looked hot to Pete Sauricki, because he kept cooling me off with his water glass. We even had our familiar favorite bus driver, Glen Armstrong, who upon returning home had back surgery. I'm glad to say he is doing fine.

My reason for this lengthy article is to try and share just some of the fun times and exciting things that happen with our club. I recently received a flier about a beading class being offered for \$55, earring class for \$50, and wire wrap class for \$55. The only charge for classes that our taught by members is for the cost of material; what a deal!

See you at the meeting

MGAGS Trip June 2006 – Maxine (Mickey) Sauricki

We were honored, Greg, the club's favorite bus driver, delayed his back surgery a week to bus our group. Warren Salchak received the hand clapping ovation reserved for the last person to board the bus. Did I hear that right? Is he now being referred to as Eric #2??? After Eric took the group picture the bus departed on time.

We had a brief stop at the Toledo rest area which enabled us to have breakfast, get a 'Joe to Go' or just stretch our legs. Our next stop - Cabellos- no man could ever be that close and not stop. Now - Come on ladies! Fess Up! We are always on the lookout for something new and different. Our bus driver forewarned us we would be dining later.

Our next stop - a small tourist town (I forgot the name) founded by people of German descent. We had dinner at Zehnders which had a large dining area. The service was fast for such a large

group. I hear the walleye was excellent. Also housed in the same building was a fast food area, cheese department, various household items and a 'BAKERY' which had a large array of every kind of luscious loaded baked goodies ever devised by man. The ladies hustled their buns through this department ...thankfully, calories could not be inhaled. After dinner we all dispersed in different directions to survey points of interest and were advised the bus would leave at 5PM.

We arrived at the Comfort Inn and were pleased with the accommodations, which included a very good continental breakfast. Our luggage was hurriedly deposited in our rooms when a 'Hobby Lobby' store was spotted across the street. The evening was rounded off playing Phase 10. I hear Russ did an excellent job keeping score - really quite a job for a large group.

Saturday - We were up early on the bus and off to the Carrollton School. Tom checked us in and we received our two day passes. Since classes began at 9AM we had enough time to greet old friends, order lunch, make reservations for dinner, review auction items and purchase tickets for grab bags. Nine o'clock arrives and everyone takes off for the class they have chosen.

You may say, "Been There, Done That". But, I heard several remarks which contradicted that statement, especially in cabochon and silversmithing classes. Also heard members of our group share knowledge in sphere making. 2 o'clock - auction time...the library filled rapidly. The auction was fast paced, lively bidders, and items covered a wide range of interests. Back to classes for another two hours. I decided to wander down to Ed Edington in 19B to see what his Micromounting Introduction Class was about. Rosemary and Tom McLaughlin followed. Alas! A new love in the lapidary field opened. The McLaughlin's became owners of a microscopic arsenopyrite crystal. I was hooked when I viewed a microscopic fossil. WOW!

Time for dinner at Fire Mountain, back to the motel to rest for Sunday.

Sunday – same routine. We had club members in every class offered. The dedicated group of instructors were very generous with handouts. After viewing the McLaughlin's micromount other members of our group attended the micromount class held on Sunday. Also well attended were Marge Collin's classes on Silver Design and Dropcasting Freeform Silver. Instructor, Pete Kuzaras shared this book information with me:

- Half Priced Books Co. online www.addall.com/used for out of date books and such
- In November – A Micromount Symposium at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (a possible field trip for SLC)

For those who attended MGAGS this year...let us schedule a night to discuss what we did and saw this year at MGAGS and be the program for an upcoming SLC meeting.

Chicago Trip Review – by Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

Though our aim was to see the treasures of King Tut, we saw everything from golden castles to gangsters and gun molls on the club's trip to Chicago in July.

We started out promptly (missed you on this trip Erik!), on a Friday morning, and our first stop was the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art. I had never heard of this 'gem' of a small museum before, and was delighted to find over 200 pieces of jade and other hard stone carvings on display. There were some masterpieces, including a cinnabar screen laden with gemstones, that was a birthday gift to the Chinese emperor, Ch'ien Lung in 1791. My particular favorite was Castle Lizzadro, an 18 karat sculpture with diamond windows, done in memory of a member of the Lizzadro family. It had a dreamy, magical quality, and I just couldn't stop looking at it. I would have liked to buy a poster to hang at home, but they didn't have any, so I had to settle for the jade necklace that David bought for me instead!

We had a fun and delicious meal at Tommy Gun's Garage, a dinner theater. Who knew that Andrew Long was such a talented actor, until he was drafted to perform in the show?

Saturday morning dawned clear and beautiful and we headed to the shores of Lake Michigan, where the Field Museum of Natural History is located, for our timed viewing of the KingTut Exhibit. All that I can tell you is that if you didn't go on this trip, try and get there before it leaves in January, or consider a trip to Philadelphia, its last stop in the United States. Seeing these objects, only inches away, is a moving experience, and with current conditions in the Middle East, few of us will be traveling to Cairo to visit them in their permanent home.

Saturday also took us to the Chicago River, and to do something I'd never done in many visits to the city—an architectural tour by boat. It was sunny and warm, and if you weren't particularly interested in architecture, you could have a beer or take a little snooze—several club members were seen doing one or both!

We split up for dinner on Chicago's Miracle Mile, and some of us went to the Cheesecake Factory and others embarked on a short walk to get genuine deep-dish Chicago Pizza at Pizzeria Uno. The bus parked near two famous chocolate stores, Hershey's and Ghirardelli's and your club president was spotted consuming a large hot fudge sundae and not offering to share very much.

On our final morning we visited the Navy Pier, basically a shopping mall on the lake. Again the weather was perfect, and many of us got beautiful skyline photos of the city.

Thanks to Joyce Kish for being our fearless leader, and to the Mineral Society for organizing this outing. Everyone found something to enjoy in this trip.

Where are we going next?

The Gold Rush Of 2007 - Tom McLaughlin

On May 18-19-20-21, the following people set out to find GOLD - Art and Shirley Andrews, Jim Davis, Bob Franks, Ivan Louis, Martin Smeal, Larry Paserba, and myself. Jim, Bob, Ivan, Martin, Larry, and Tom met at the Dover rest stop, and caravanned to Cleveland, Georgia. Art and Shirley were already there when we arrived; they had gone down the day before, and spent the time exploring.

We had a leisure breakfast the next day, because the mine did not open until 9AM. At 8:50AM we were at the gates of the Grub and Gem Mine. This was a nice river about 30 or 40 feet wide and at most places only about 18 inches deep. We were soon set up in the river and mining.

Martin Smeal and Bob Franks were running high bankers, Larry Paserba was running a dredge, Jim Davis and I were running sluices. Art was on the bank running a self contained sluice and Shirley was at a picnic table beading. At about noon, Larry broke out a stove and hot dogs, we had a feast.

Later on that day, Larry was having trouble with his dredge, so we quit for the day. Back at the hotel we worked on the problem with the dredge. We were unable to fix it; Larry took it back and got a new pump. On day one we got very little gold. ☹

To finish off this day we went to a working museum gold mine at the Grissom Mine. This was very interesting. This mine had a working Rock Crusher to get the gold. From there we went to the Gold Museum in Dahlonega, Georgia. This was the first gold strike in the US; here prospectors were getting so much gold that they set up a mint. That night when we got together for dinner; we decided to mine for half a day at the Grub and Gem and then move on to another mine.

That night at dinner we decided to have breakfast at the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia. This is a story in itself, you do not order—they just keep on bringing some of everything until you holler Stop! After breakfast, we drove to the Heather Grove mine in Marion, North Carolina. This was a ad perfect spot. Because we were now experience miners, we were soon set up and mining. We had considerably better luck at this mine. ☺

The sad but true fact was we were out of time—The next day we drove home. But the bottom line is we had a great time—By the time you read this we will hopefully be on our next trip.

Class of the Month – Inlay with Bob Flick - by Bob Powers

Toward the end of June, Bob Flick began a series of classes on Silver Inlay. Four attentive students, Mari Takai Manley, Michelle Crew, Pat and Bob Powers, participated. Bob Flick started with a lesson on the “pick” method of silver soldering, and then lead us step-by-step through selecting the jewelry design, sizing and preparing the silver plate, adding the bezel wire, soldering all the joints, coordinating and arranging the colors of the inlaid stone, then cutting, shaping and fitting the stones in place and finally grinding and polishing the surface.

Some lessons learned – follow directions carefully (Pat), chose patterns with straight lines (Michelle), use sterling silver bezel, not fine silver (myself).

The fantastic results of all this hard work will be on display at the upcoming SLC GEMBOREE! And a great big thanks to Bob Flick!

The Sunshine News - by Pat Smeal

Thanks to all for keeping me informed ... please take the time from YOUR day now to send a card or maybe phone someone that might be going through a difficult time in their life ... spread a little sunshine.

- Carl Miller's son received a long-awaited liver transplant, finished rehab and might already be enjoying the comforts of home - a miracle indeed!
- Pop Tryon was "heard" to be tooling around the Portage County Fair via a wheelchair - fantastic news!
- Russ Greene is in rehab following his hip surgery and heart attack - speedy recovery Russ. We all hope to see you at the club house soon!
- Joel MacDonald is going thru some trying times right now - you're in our thoughts and prayers Joel.
- Marvel Schafrick - - hope you are feeling better!
- Kevin (son of Bob & Pat Powers) has completed his training and leaves for a duty in Iraq very early in September. Thank you Kevin for protecting our country and all of us -- we will pray for your safe return.
- Bob Franks is going through yet another (his 8th ?) series of chemo for that persistent non-Hodgkin's lymphoma -- we're all rooting for your Bob and sending LOTS of special healing thoughts and prayers to both you and Helen.

“BOBSERVATIONS” - by Robt. Spore

I'm about to tell you all a bit of a secret...

”I'm not too good with tools or machinery.”

I know this comes as a great shock to you all and there's a distinct possibility that this information crushes you and your lives no longer make any sense, but it's true.

A demanding household repair job for me is changing a light bulb or maybe replacing the batteries in the smoke detectors. Every time my lawnmower successfully starts, I feel that my life is blessed. As a matter of fact, if it weren't for friends who come over and help me with projects (And by that, I mean they let me hold tools for them while they do the work), Rose and I would probably be living in a large appliance box, under a highway overpass somewhere.

And what brings it all home to me is when I come down to the club and watch some of you guys effortlessly do things with or to machinery that to me is nothing less than a David Copperfield trick. (I'm talking about the magician, not the Dickensian character)

Like watching Martin take apart Bob Powers's faceting head (Sure, Martin, it looked like I was helping, but if you noticed, my actions were just a bit behind yours so I could get an idea of just where the heck you were going with the process and I wouldn't look like a complete idiot. Instead, you probably just thought I was a little slow. That, I can live with).

I couldn't even watch Frank install the lockbox inside the downstairs closet because I knew I'd end up making absolutely ridiculous comments like, “Oh, that will never go... huh. It slid right in.” or, “Why don't you just use some duct tape? Stop looking at me like that!”

And as for the repair of any of the saws downstairs... please. If I attempted to help out with any of those, it wouldn't be long before I'd be coming to the club with a peg leg, a hook for a hand and at least one, if not two, eye patches. New club members would ask, “Wow! Is he a pirate?” and one of you would be forced to say, “No... just incompetent.”

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

Hi everybody! The newsletter is back.. it is up and running. A big **THANK YOU** goes out to all of our regular columnists. Here is some news...the Summit Gem came in 8th place for the MWF contest for small bulletins this year. Eighth place?... that stinks! I think we are better than eighth, don't you??? Oh well! We will just have to keep on trying.

Bye and see you next month!