

Summit Gem Newsletter September 2011

Summit Lapidary Club, 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

Phone (330)- 929-3798 www.LapidaryClubofOhio.org

Board Members: Pres. – David Rich, V.Pres. – John Kerr,

Treasurer – Tom McLaughlin, Secretary – Merry Anne McLeod-Wolfe, Trustees – Frank Mack, Bob Powers, John Tryon, 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



Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, September 6th

At 7:00PM



**Program: Everyone, Bring in Your Summer's Trip
Rock Treasures**

Membership: 130 members

Dues: Joining fee \$25 then \$4 per month

President's Message – by David Rich

Welcome back Rockhounds! Well, here we go into our fall session. I hope everyone is well and ready for some cooler fall weather. The summer was quite hot and almost to hot to hunt for rocks, I said almost. On some of the hottest days I re-looked at boxes of rocks that are in my basement to stay cool.

I heard the MGAGS trip was a success and our club's picnic was well attended. A big thank you goes out to Laura and her bus crew for taking the lead and getting MGAGS together in a short time. Also a big sigh of relief that Tom and the grill crew at the picnic did not start the first Cuyahoga National Park fire. Good job on that and another thank you to the picnic crew.

The Akron Mineral club is going to the Toledo show which happens to be the Midwest Federation Convention. Summit Lapidary will have a display case in this show for competition. Pat and Bob Powers have been working very hard on our faceting case. The executive board gave the okay way back in February so Pat and Bob could re-do our case and get it ready for this show. I can not wait to see the case. This display case will bring notice at the convention our club members' skill in faceting. Thank you Pat and Bob for your dedication to our club.

C-Ya on down the trail

Top Rock

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June 7th Meeting Minutes – Respectfully Submitted by Merry Anne McLeod-Wolfe

Speaker The topic was Ukrainian Egg decorating. Our guest speaker did a wonderful job of explaining how to do the wax and dye process for this craft.

Guests Dan and Debbie Mishak, Jen Woodworth, Eve and Andrew Beard, and Jason Fogarty.

New Member Brandy Moore

Treasurer's report Approved by club.

Sunshine report Mari had three cards to mail out.

Picnic Info to be sent out in newsletter. Date....July 16th. Need a supply person for picnic. Jason Fogarty and Merry Anne M-Wolfe are on the cleanup crew. Bring a white elephant for prizes.

Classes Three new classes by Drake are posted on wall.

Name badges Check to Summit Lap to order.

Polo shirts September to order.

Supply Officer Mike Gable volunteered. Hooray, Mike!

Maintenance Person Contacting Bill James for the work.

Adopt a spot Frank says it is planted.

New Member Dinner To be held in the fall.

MWF Bus trip in Sept.

Gemboree Two more contracts in. Bedazzled out of business due to poor health.

Competition Dave awarded as follows. Everyone received a gift certificate to Pretty Things. Thanks, John and Evelyn.

Beginners...Bob Flick 1st Place, Mari 2nd place, Merry Anne 3rd place.

Advanced...Jim Watson 1st place, Noreen Miller 2nd place and 3rd place.

September Meeting Program – by John Kerr

We do not have a speaker lined up for September’s meeting however, I thought we could open the floor to club members to share any interesting rock hounding trip experiences from the summer. Kind of like a ...Show and Tell.

September Calendar of Classes and Events

September		September			September	
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6 SLC Meeting 7 PM	7	8	9 MWF Convention	10 MWF Convention
11 MWF Convention	12	13 Chainmaille 6- 9 PM	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Psalm Bracelet 6 PM	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 SLC Board Meeting	28	29	30	

Classes have limited seating; refer to sign up sheets at the club for more information and to reserved your place.

Gemboree News – by Ted Maringer, Show Chairman

The Summit Lapidary Club and the Akron Mineral Society do not financially support itself by annual membership dues alone. The Spring & Fall Gemboree held yearly, generates the majority of the clubs’ income. The Summit Lapidary Club and the Akron Mineral Society sponsor the shows.

Work for these shows is an ongoing process. For example, stones are being tumbled for the Gem Mine continuously, all year. Vendors are being recruited and various advertisement and documentation is being created and published to promote the shows.

Planning is what makes for a successful show, so all-volunteer assignments must be completed months in advance. As per the Summit Lapidary Club by-laws, each able body member should sign up for at least 4 hours of work at each show. It is not helpful to just show up at the Gemboree and ask, "What can I do?" Assignments should be scheduled months in advance of the show. If on the day of the show you should have an emergency and you're unable to fulfill your obligation please contact Show Chairman as-soon-as possible.

Sincerely,

Ted Maringer, Gemboree Show Chairman

MGAGS BUS TRIP JUNE 2011 – Trip Report by Laura Thomas

Bus rolled out of town Friday afternoon, allowed people to sneak out of work early and come along. We stopped at the famous Tony Packo's in Toledo – remember Klinger on M*A*S*H* !! was big fun and good food too. Found the hotel and crashed!

Saturday headed to Carrollton middle school for the 37th annual Rockhound Seminar sponsored by Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society. Everybody split up and headed to the different classes offered – our favorite bus driver Glen Armstrong was kind enough to drop folks at different spots for dinner. After we returned to hotel, almost everybody headed down to lobby and worked on different projects. Joyce taught Glen how to wire wrap the cabs he made that day, Laura taught the wrapped loop bracelet to several people, Carole worked on the seed bead pattern she learned – big fun had by all! Great time to get together and talk about the new stuff we learned that day.

Sunday, back to classes all day and after the raffle we headed home – stopped at Tony's diner – omg! Our eyes bugged out in there! Sandwiches with ONE POUND of bacon – Glen got a taco salad that was looked like a huge sombrero on a plate. Every eyeball in the place was following the waitress when she brought out an enormous ice cream creation to a table of four – were even taking photos!

Anyhoo, we all had a great time, learned some new tricks. Classes cannot be beat – the instructors are knowledgeable, helpful, very generous with their time and talents. This seminar is a MUST for all Rockhounds.

□ "A Diamond worthy of reflection" by Garcia Cano, The Plain Dealer August 27,2011

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- The biggest precious stone ever seized by the U.S. Marshals Service is attracting attention here from fine-jewelry collectors across the world. The 43.51-carat yellow diamond, being kept in a vault in Cleveland until its auction, is available for public viewing -- but only for bidders who can put up a \$180,000 refundable deposit.

In a media-only showing of the diamond Friday, Lisa Black of the Marshals Service said her office has received calls from potential bidders from Saudi Arabia, China, Israel, Russia and all over the United States. "We expect a high demand for the diamond because of its cut, color and clarity," Black said. "It would make for a very nice pendant, but it's too big for the finger."

The unmounted, modified rectangular diamond measures 25.65 millimeters long (a tiny bit longer than an inch), 18.06 mm wide and 10.78 mm in depth. It's available for appointment-only inspections from Monday through Friday next week. As of Thursday, two bidders had deposited the money for the right to inspect it, said Black, who is the service's Northern Ohio district asset forfeiture coordinator.

The "Golden Eye Diamond" once belonged to Alliance millionaire Paul Monea, who was convicted of money laundering and conspiracy in 2007 in U.S. District Court in Akron. The businessman tried to sell the gem to an undercover agent pretending to be a broker for a South American drug cartel.

An investigation into car dealerships in Stark County by the Internal Revenue Service, the FBI and other authorities resulted in Monea's arrest. Law enforcement agencies suspected the dealerships were laundering money for drug cartels. Monea is serving time in a federal prison with a scheduled release date in 2018.

The diamond's 25-facet brilliant cut crown is internally flawless and its color has been graded "fancy intense yellow" by the Gemological Institute of America. Black said a professional gemologist analyzed and appraised the diamond, but the federal agency will not reveal the appraisal value. "We want serious bidders to do their own research," she said.

A natural diamond grading report done by the gemological institute is available for interested bidders to help them determine the value of the gem. "The comparators also revealed that the 43-carat diamond was a pure yellow hue with no green or orange modifying color," the report states.

For comparison's sake, the auction house Christie's will offer a 32.77-carat, pear-shaped yellow diamond as the star lot of an Oct. 18 sale of Magnificent Jewels. The house estimated its value between \$6 million and \$8 million.

The color of "The Golden Eye Diamond" is not as rich as the diamond Christie's will auction, according to color classifications used by gem experts. Yellow diamonds obtain their color from nitrogen replacing carbon atoms in the diamond's structure, according to a press release from the auction house.

The online auction at www.Bid4Assets.com will begin at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, and will close at 3 p.m. Sept. 8. Bidding starts at \$900,000 and will go up by \$110,000 increments.

Regardless of the state of the economy, the gem has to be auctioned now because of forfeiture policies. Proceeds from the sale will be divided among victims of the case and participating federal, state and local agencies. A sum will be allocated to the Department of Justice Forfeiture Fund. The handling website will receive a percentage of the final sale price.

To reach this Plain Dealer reporter: rgarcia1@plaind.com, 216-999-6126

Bench Tip Items – by Brad Smith

SOLDERING PRONGS

I often use prongs to hold an irregular cab or other object on rings and pendants. But they're a little tricky to solder. You have to find some way to hold them all upright while soldering, and what looks like a strong joint sometimes turns out to be a fake. There's nothing worse than having a prong break off when you're setting the stone *#~*!

I solved both problems with one little trick. Locate and centerpunch the location for each prong. Then drill holes just a little smaller than your prong wire. Sand a small taper on the ends of your prong wires and insert them in the holes. The wires support themselves, soldering is easy, and the joint is stronger because of the increased soldering area.

TWISTING WIRE

Twisting wires together can be done with an old hand drill but goes much faster with a power tool. My preference is to use a screw gun, although a Dremel or Foredom should do well. Just make a little hook out of coat hanger wire (or use a screw-in cup hook) and chuck it up in your screw gun. Fasten the ends of the wires in a vice and slip the other ends on your hook. Keep a little tension on the wires as you twist. Note that a power drill is too fast a tool for this unless you have one with a variable speed control.

SMOOTHING EARWIRES

Any time you make your own earwires, the hardest part for me is to sand and polish the end that's inserted into the ear. Any sharp edge there is no fun. I've tried using sanding sticks, cup burs, and silicone polishing wheels. I've tried buffing on a Zam wheel, and I've tried spinning the wire in the Foredom to polish the tip. While all of these techniques do the job, none are very easy or fast.

Then it occurred to me - I could melt the wire smooth. One quick touch in the flame of the propane/oxygen Little Torch does the trick - not enough to form a bead on the wire but just enough to round off the tip.

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at: groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or facebook.com/BenchTips

Sunshine News – by Mari Takai-Manley

- Grace Babak had brain cancer and surgery in early summer. We received the report that she is recovering well. We hope she gets better soon.
- Greg Dojlidko is continuing his chemotherapy along with homeopathic treatment. He has been fighting various forms of cancer for over 10 years. We hope he can keep up a strong fighting spirit!
- Skeeter Kish is continuing to experience pain in his arms, which was diagnosed as shingles. He is learning to live with it and still manages to keep his happy disposition. We hope that his pain fades completely away soon.
- Sue Paserba is continuing chemotherapy for her breast cancer. She visited the clubhouse last Saturday and she seems to be in a good spirit. She has a strong fighting attitude towards her illness. We wish her continued strength.
- Elmer Schafrik is suffering from brain cancer. He went through chemotherapy and radiation treatment. He seems to be recovering from the treatments. We wish him all good things!
- Priscilla Fry has moved to a nursing home. Her son says she is adjusting as well as can be expected.

Bobversations – by Robt. Spore

Another summer is almost over. The season's changing and the nights are becoming a bit cooler. Before too long, we'll be up to our knees in snow again. Everybody bummed out now? Yeah, let's talk about something else, shall we?

Have I mentioned how little good flint we have left at the club for tumbling? Almost everything left is grey and brown and beige and most of it's junk. I don't know if anyone's planning on making any more trips to Flint Ridge this fall, but we are in serious need of probably 4-5 buckets before the spring show. We're okay for the fall show, but we're in dire straits for spring. (And now I'm bummed out.) So any help would be greatly appreciated.

Everybody have a nice summer? Any radical changes in your lives? Did anybody get a scarier haircut than me? I sincerely doubt it. For the last month, my hair has been shorter than it's been since I was maybe 10 years old, when my father would pay for my haircut and my barber was a retired Navy man named Clarence with a tattoo of an anchor on his forearm who would never let you see your haircut, until it was done. He'd whip the chair around so you were facing the mirror and say, "How's that?" What if you hated it? What could you say? "Do it over?" I don't think so. Not to Clarence.

But this time, I saw what was happening, as it was happening, but there was nothing I could do about it. But it wasn't her fault. I'd screwed up the directions I was giving her and left out a crucial instruction. All I could think at the time was, "It'll grow back. Some day. Hopefully"

Until that time, I've been thinking of wearing hats. I've always admired hats, but I could never wear them due to my fear and hatred of hat hair. But now when hat hair is the least of my worries, I can't decide on the type of hat to wear. I've always admired fedoras. That classic 1940's look with the brim turned down in front, made famous by the likes of Bogart and Indiana Jones. But I'm not sure if I could pull that look off. I'm almost afraid that at this stage in my life, I'd look more normal wearing some kind of cap advertising a feed store. Or something that says DeKalb Seed. But wearing something like that brings its own level of responsibility. When you wear a hat with some kind of agrarian logo, people expect you to be able to work on machinery and know how to use tools. The right way, I mean. Not like a, "Well, if it's heavy, you can use it as a hammer" kind of mentality.

I may have to rethink this whole hat idea. A lot of heavy responsibility comes with choosing the correct hat.

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

- A note of appreciation goes out to:

Laura Thomas, she did a wonderful job arranging the MGAGS Trip ... trip planning involves a lot of time, effort and research.

Rosemary & Tom McLaughlin, they did a great job with our club's picnic. The food and company was great!

Kaye Weygandt, for offering her lovely cabin and grounds for our Summer Picnic. She has been doing this for years.

David Moore, he has been busy these last months repairing the slab saws. Please practice safety and good work habits this should prevent future repairs.

- Reminder to anyone being the last person to leave the clubhouse...check that the AC/ Heating is set to the specified standards...For the summer season the AC should be turned off when leaving...for the heating season the heat should be turned down to 65.

Bye and see you next month!

MWF Calendar of Events for September

9-11: TOLEDO, OH, 40th Annual Show, Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club, Stranahan Theater Complex, 4645 Heatherdowns, Fri 2:00-8:00, Sat 10:00-6:00, Sun 11:00-5:00, Contact Suzanne Shimatzki, 107 Florentine Dr, Holland, OH 43528, (419) 861-0147, editorArockyreader.com, www.rockyreader.com **MWF Convention**

10-11: FAIRFIELD, IA The Sac & Fox Lapidary Club Annual Gem Mineral & Fossil Show. See attached [*flyer*](#) for more information.

16-18: HOLLAND, MI, Annual Show, Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, Holland Civic Center, 150 W 8th St, Fri 9:00-8:00, Sat 9:00-7:00, Sun 11:00-5:00, Contact Patti Valentine, 3880 M-40, Holland, MI 49423, (616) 836-1945, valentineoak@hotmail.com

16-18: LINCOLN, MO, 52nd Annual Show & Swap, Mozarkite Society of Lincoln, Inc., Lincoln City Park, Shelter House, Fri, Sun 8:00-5:00, Contact Robin Kimber, 209 S Ohio, Sedalia, MO 65301, (660) 829-1100

17-18: HOWELL, MI, Annual Show, Livingston Gem & Mineral Society, Hartland Consolidated School, 9525 Highland Rd, Sat 10:00-6:00, Sun 10:00-4:00, Contact Marv Martin, PO Box 143, Webberville, MI 48892, (517) 521-3135

17-18: CEDAR RAPIDS, IA Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society 2011 Auction will be held in the Morton Building at the Amana RV Park, Amana, IA. About 1400 lots will be auctioned. The purpose of the auction is to help collectors or families of collectors dispose of their collections. Knowledgeable club members act as auctioneers. Since the auctioneers are also collectors, they bid openly on material that interests them. Auctions typically attract around 100 bidders and are limited to 800 lots for a 1-day auction and 1200 lots for a 2-day auction. Viewing is from 5:00-7:30 Fri. night, at 7:30 Sat. morning and 8:30 Sun. morning. The 1st day runs from 9:00 a.m. to about 7:30 p.m. with hot food available during the day and a dinner offered from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. The 2nd day runs from 10:00 a.m. to about 4:30 p.m., again with hot food available. Cash or good check are accepted for payment. If you can't stay for those special lots you want, you can leave a maximum bid, and a club member will bid for you up to your maximum.

24-25: COLUMBUS, NE, Annual Show, Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Knights of Columbus Hall,
Contact Ben Vrana, 3576 Linden Dr, Columbus, NE 68209, (402) 563-3265, bvrana@cablene.com or
Mlempke68601@yahoo.com