



# The Rockhound

Official Publication of the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

[www.gemandmineralsociety.org](http://www.gemandmineralsociety.org)

July/August/September 2020 Volume 54 Issue 1

## President's Message

Greetings all!

I hope everyone has been staying as healthy as possible! It seems like the past six months have gone so slowly, yet it also seems like it hasn't been nearly that long since life was "normal." It looks like things are finally evening out, but we were so optimistic several months ago, and then things got so much worse. I'm not going to make any promises about when we can meet together in person again, but hopefully we can provide some other resources that will help until we see each other again!

There's so much news to pass along - I want to put a few things all in one place. Some of these have been covered in emails, some are updates, and some are new...but here's some points of interest:

This year's Gem and Mineral Show has been canceled. This was unfortunate, but the short of it was we were unable to reach an agreement with the Fairgrounds on a cancellation policy that would allow us a full refund of our deposits (we normally start making deposits to secure the space months in advance), or allow us to apply deposits to next year's regularly scheduled show. Ultimately it was a financial decision - we could not afford to lose the deposit money. The show for 2021 is already on the schedule, and our space at the Fairgrounds reserved!

There are those who would continue to take advantage of others - even (especially) during a pandemic. Please continue to be suspicious of any emails or other contacts, asking you to buy something or send money somewhere, on behalf of the club - especially if the cause seems unrelated (sending gift cards to hospice or veterans, for example). Any expenditures outside of our regular budget items must be discussed by and approved by the Board. Some of these emails have used my name and purported to be from me, and used a sense of urgency to try to get people to comply ("I'm out of town," "It's an emergency," "Reply to this email, as I don't have access to my regular one," etc.). If you receive something like this, it is fraudulent - I don't have authority to make purchases like that without the approval of the Board, and I wouldn't reach out in this manner.

Field Trips - While the Club is not arranging any

official field trips right now, if you would like to get a small group together to do something - in accordance with applicable health guidelines - let us know how we can help. If nothing else, we can get the word out!

**BREAKING NEWS!** - While club meetings have been suspended, the Board has been meeting via conference calls and Zoom to handle necessary business. Last week, we voted to reduce membership renewals by 50% for 2021. We don't feel that you've gotten your money's worth this year, and we'd like to make it up to you. If you renew for 2021, take half off your regular rate. This applies to renewals only - you must have been a paid member in 2020. That being said, if you are in a good place financially and are able to make up the difference with a donation, we'd appreciate the support!

If you haven't already, check out the Virginia Mineral Project at <https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaMineralProject/>. They offer several online presentations each month, and can also link you to other resources. They also share a YouTube channel with the Friends of Mineralogy - Virginia Chapter, where you can watch videos of past presentations and other things of interest. If you have a favorite resource that has been helping you get your "fix," let us know so we can share it with other members!

**Nominating Committee** - It's that time of year again! We are working on getting our nominating committee together, to organize our slate of officers for 2021. If you are interested in participating on the committee, or serving as an officer for 2021, please contact Arlene Lazzaro.

**Coming Soon:** We are continuing to look at ways we can provide value to our members during this extended time when we can't have in-person events. While we didn't have much interest in electronic meetings early on, that may have changed over the last several months. We are looking into both on-line and call-in options, for casual meetings and chats. We are also looking into an online auction site that hosts auctions for non-profits, so that we can still host our auction that was canceled from April. So stay tuned!

Take Care of Yourselves, and Stay Safe Out There!

— Laura Simmons, President

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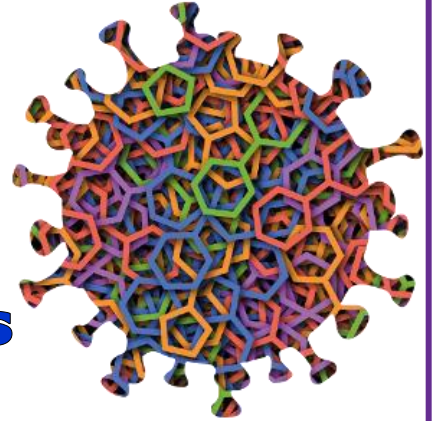
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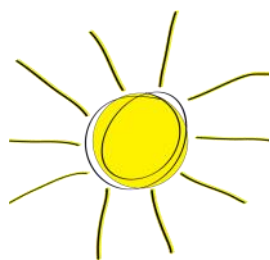


## **Covid Updates**

**BECAUSE OF COVID-19:**

- ◆ **OUR ANNUAL SHOW IS CANCELLED**
- ◆ **NO MONTHLY MEETINGS OR EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED**
- ◆ **THE SHOP IS CLOSED**

*WE LOOK FORWARD TO BEING ABLE TO RESUME OUR REGULAR CLUB ACTIVITIES WHEN IT'S SAFE AGAIN!*



## **SUNSHINE NEWS**

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO JENNIE WRIGHT ON THREE RECENT LOSSES: HER BELOVED HUSBAND, HER FAVORITE UNCLE, AND HER FOUR-LEGGED CANINE FRIEND.**



# July Birthstone: Ruby

High quality rubies tend to be more rare and expensive than diamonds of equivalent size. Ruby is corundum (aluminum oxide) with an impurity of chromium. Ruby is red corundum and any other color of corundum, even pink, is known as sapphire. Ruby has been known since ancient times but prior to 1800 other red stones were thought to be ruby including red spinel, tourmaline and garnet. Even some famous rubies from the past have been determined to not be genuine rubies. For much more information on rubies see previous newsletters from 2016-2019. If you can't locate your copy they are on the club website under the Club Archives page.

For this July we looked at synthetic rubies, not the cheap stained glass or dyed quartz and that sort of thing, but at laboratory produced rubies that are created under the same conditions that form rubies deep in the earth. For a true Rockhound this probably sounds like blasphemy but for some of us, we would never be able to own a quality stone of any size. A quality 1.75 carat flawless synthetic ruby costs \$695 at Fire and Brilliance ([fireandbrilliance.com](http://fireandbrilliance.com)) while the equivalent natural counterpart would sell for \$4000 – \$10,000. These synthetic rubies are exactly the same mineral as natural and are priced reasonably. The drawback is that they are not natural.

There are four basic methods that are used to prepare synthetic crystals:

**Verneuil Method.** By 1902 French Chemist Auguste Verneuil had a commercial operation using the flame fusion method to prepare single crystals of various items including ruby. This method uses a hydrogen/oxygen flame to melt the raw materials at 2000 Centigrade (3630 deg F) and slowly withdrawing material which solidifies as a single crystal.

**Czochralski Process.** Jan Czochralski invented this method in 1915. It is similar to the Verneuil method in that material is slowly withdrawn from a molten reservoir of the pure crystal material yielding a pure single crystal. The main use today for this process is to produce large rods of single crystal silicon to be sliced into wafers for the chip industry.

**Hydrothermal Process.** This method was commercialized in 1957 by Bell Labs. This process mimics nature which is where the name comes from. At high temperature 300 Centigrade and high pressure the powdered mineral dissolves in water. The oven also has a lower temperature section and as material flows into the cooler area it crystalizes.

**Flux Method.** In 1958 chemist Carroll Chatham came up with this method initially trying to make diamonds but first made other stones like rubies. The powdered mineral of interest is mixed with other salts that act as a flux. The mixture is heated to melt. And then slowly cooled from 1200 centigrade to room temperature over a long period of time.

The website below for

Chatham has an interesting story about the formation of the company and makes an interesting read. Also below [fireandbrilliance.com](http://fireandbrilliance.com) is a jewelry site that has loose synthetic rubies and you can see prices for various cuts and sizes.

## References:

<https://www.americangemsociety.org/page/julybirthstone>

<https://www.chatham.com/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verneuil\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verneuil_method)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Czochralski\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Czochralski_method)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrothermal\\_synthesis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrothermal_synthesis)

[http://www.roditi.com/SingleCrystal/Quartz/Hydrothermal\\_Growth.html](http://www.roditi.com/SingleCrystal/Quartz/Hydrothermal_Growth.html)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flux\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flux_method)

<http://www.icmr.ucsb.edu/programs/documents/Sefat1.pdf>

<https://www.fireandbrilliance.com>

Photo by: Rob Lavinsky, [iRocks.com](http://iRocks.com) – CC-BY-SA-3.0 / CC BY-SA (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>)

-Article compiled by Richard Tracey

## August Birthstone: PERIDOT

The month of August features three different birthstones: peridot, Sardonix and spinel. For more information on the three birthstones see the previous newsletters from 2018 and 2019.

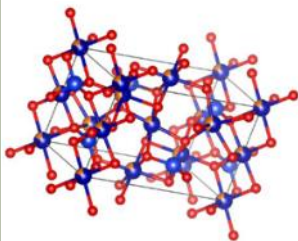
Also there is more information on just peridot in the 2016 and 2017 newsletters. If you can't locate your copy, they are on the club website under the Club Archives page. For 2020 I thought we would feature just peridot and try to feature the other two in the following 2 years.



Peridot has been known since ancient times and back then was often thought to be emerald. Today we know the difference. Emerald is much more rare and expensive than peridot which is accessible to more people. The hardness of emerald is 7.5-8 on the Mohs scale whereas peridot is 6.5-7.



Peridot is often referred to as olivine which is not a true mineral. Olivine is a mixture of magnesium and iron silicate and is the major component of the earth's mantle. There are 2 true minerals that make up olivine, forsterite (  $MgSiO_4$  ) and fayalite (  $FeSiO_4$  ). Peridot is the crystalline form of olivine with about 80% forsterite and 20% fayalite. The structure to the left is of forsterite (fayalite would look the same).



### References:

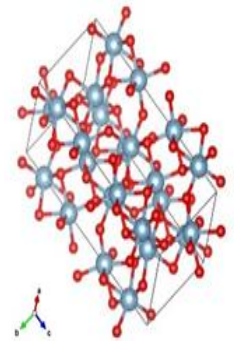
*The Manual of Mineral Science, 23rd Edition, Cornelis Klein and Barbara Dutrow, Wiley, 2007*

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olivine>

-Article compiled by Richard Tracey

## September Birthstone: SAPPHIRE

Last year we looked at the history, causes for color and uses for Sapphire both as a gemstone and in industrial uses. It is worth pointing out that sapphire and ruby are both the mineral corundum. Red corundum is ruby and sapphire is any other color corundum including pink. We usually think of sapphire as blue while in fact the color can be purple, yellow, pink, colorless and more. The red in ruby is caused by the impurity chromium and the blue in sapphire is caused by iron and titanium impurities. The drawing to the right shows the atoms in the crystal structure (  $Al_2O_3$ , Aluminum is blue/silver and oxygen is red). To make a blue sapphire about 0.01% each of iron and titanium would replace the aluminum.



The cost of a sapphire can range from \$50 to \$10,000/carats depending on the usual 4 C's. Sapphire (corundum) is the hardest gemstone next to diamond so they are very durable. Buying a quality sapphire is not a simple task. The wikipediareference below lists a seven step process to purchase a stone which might be useful.



The attached photo is of the Logan sapphire which is a 423-carat Sapphire in the Smithsonian. It is surrounded by 16 carats of diamonds. This sapphire was mined in Sri Lanka and donated to the Smithsonian in 1960 by Rebecca Logan.

### References

<https://www.americangemsociety.org/page/septemberbirthstone>

<https://www.wixonjewelers.com/education/gemstones/gemstone-guide/#sapphire>

<http://www.webexhibits.org/causesofcolor/8.html>

<https://m.wikihow.com/Buy-Sapphire>

<https://geogallery.si.edu/10002687/logan-sapphire>

— Article compiled by Richard Tracey

# Dino Dude Ranch

Do you yearn to go on an exciting dinosaur fossil dig? Just outside of Dinosaur, Colorado, and near the Dinosaur National Monument, Tyree Lamph and his helpers operate a dino dude ranch. They will teach you how to dig, stabilize, document, and safely remove fossils.

Dig times are seasonal and weather-permitting. Camping, cabin, and meals are available. They have daily rates, weekly rates, and family/group rates. Supervised children ten and older are welcome.



## Watch Tyree Lamph and Chase Pipes on YouTube

[Chasing History: Tales of the Dino Dude Ranch—  
The 8-Foot Dinosaur Rib](#)

[Chasing History: Destroying Dinosaur Fossils!!](#)

## Find Them on Facebook

[Utah Dump Digger](#)

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## JULY

*John Beachli  
Marta Cruz  
KC Foster  
Debbie Griffith-Brown  
Leslie Markowitz  
Jennifer Martin  
Grant Simmons  
Laura Simmons  
Robert Wenst*

## AUGUST

*Susan Cairl  
Bennett Cramer  
Diana Cunningham  
Odani Garcia  
Melodie Janis  
Debbie Kashdan  
Carole Marshall  
Sierra Phillips  
Lo Rain Dudley*

## SEPTEMBER

*Elaine Durow  
Lorna Hayes  
Daniel Pecoraro  
Michelle Renne'  
Barbara Ringhiser*



*I will never be an old man. To me, old age is always 15 years older than I am.—Frances Bacon*



## Member Highlight: **Winsome Rainford**

This edition of the newsletter focuses on one of our newer members – Winsome Rainford. Originally from Jamaica, Winsome moved to the United States decades ago. For years, her life revolved around her family and a demanding career in law enforcement, immigration inspection, and customs and border protection. Along the way, she also served as a diplomat in Canada and Barbados, and as a computer programmer on IBM mainframes.

Sometime around 2010, she took a rockhounding trip with “Road Scholar” and enjoyed it. Another trip in 2019 to Delta, Utah sealed the deal for her – she wanted to learn more. Since joining the club, she has gone on a trip to Hogg Mine in Georgia. She took the cabbing class series and several jewelry-making classes, especially loving the silversmithing class and Arlene Lazzaro’s cold connections class.

Gardening is another passion of Winsome’s. She has been involved with Mounts Botanical Garden for years, and completed a series of courses there, earning a “Master Gardener” certificate. She also enjoys spending time with her daughter, son, and four grandchildren. She has traveled extensively and is enjoying her retirement years!

Winsome looks forward to the club being able to hold meetings and open the shop again. She wants to take more classes in jewelry making, especially working with silver, and she looks forward to us scheduling field trips in the future.

### Club Purpose

To associate persons of the Palm Beach area of Florida who are interested in earth sciences, to work together as an organization in the gathering, cutting, displaying, and studying of rocks, shells, artifacts, and any kind of scientific objects of interest to the individual and the organization, to promote community interest in these objects.

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# Rockhounding in the Time of a Global Pandemic

From <http://wheretofindrocks.com/rockhounding-in-the-time-of-a-global-pandemic/>

By Jeremy Zolan

None of us expected to be hit with a pandemic disease in 2020 and it is undoubtedly changing many aspects of every day life. Taking precautions to slow the spread of the virus unfortunately has caused the cancellation of many of the spring and summer mineral shows that we all eagerly await. Local club meetings and field trips may also be canceled so hobbyists may get discouraged to field collect. The hobby can still be engaged in a fun way, and you can still get out and dig too. It is very important to take the new coronavirus seriously and pay attention to cleanliness, health, and social distancing. Going out rockhounding can definitely give you a healthy workout, and you'll usually be very socially distant.

## ***Engaging Your Club and Other Diggers-***

While meetings and club shows are canceled for the time being, it's critical that you stay engaged with your fellow members and other collectors, ensuring the health of your mineral club until you can meet again. While you are required to stay physically distant, you can still maintain a strong presence through electronic resources.

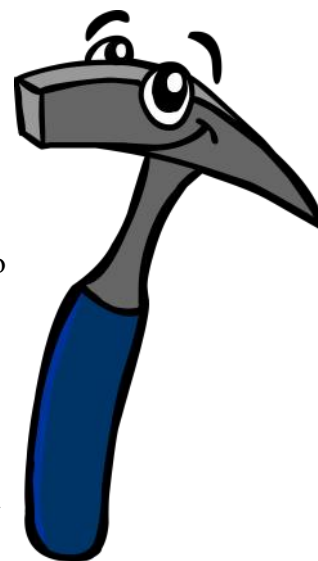
The internet, obviously is great for this. It might be a good idea if you haven't already, to create a Facebook group for your club. After you create the group, you need to request other members to join and nurture the page with posts so it grows. Post your recent findings, something you just cut and polished, or a favorite specimen. Share your passion. It is still possible to trade material too. Make sure to pack it in a box with clean hands to mail it long distance or maybe just drop things off on your fellow club members and local friends' doorstep so you don't physically engage them.

There are so many online resources for collectors. It's very easy these days to see hundreds of mineral related pictures a day through social media. Personally, I love the picture based format of Instagram. Lots of diggers are very active there, posting pictures of their findings. It is easy to get engaged in that community. Use hashtags describing the mineral you are posting, relating to appearance, species, locality, etc. Facebook, again is good too.

The majority of people in the US have a Facebook [account] and there are many regional groups, etc. It is a good place to reach out to people to discuss mineral topics.

## ***Educating Yourself and Kids-***

**Mindat.org** is a mineral database cataloging thousands of different minerals and possibly close to one million localities. It is a great place to learn about minerals you are unfamiliar with, or research new spots to dig. There is also a messageboard where you can discuss mineral related subjects from the most basic to graduate level academic topics. Mindat is the website that got me into minerals as a child. If your kids are into science or nature, explore the site with them and learn about your regional minerals. Nothing beats a book either, and now many of us have plenty of time to read since it is harder to go out. While libraries are closed, plenty of books are available on Amazon and Ebay, as well as from mineral dealers, etc. Many new instructional guides on lapidary topics are excellent, there are gorgeous picture books of fine specimens, and superb field guides too. If you are an ardent field collector, old guides are available from time to time online. It's a good time to rediscover that elusive lost locality!



## ***Buying and Selling Minerals-***

All of our favorite shows are canceled and it is a big disappointment to buyers and sellers alike. Again, we all should turn to the internet to get our mineral fix! There is so much available on private dealer websites, Instagram, Facebook, Ebay, Etsy, and even Amazon. It's a great time to support a local miner too. Buy crystals and lapidary rough you see directly from the people who mine them! Not only will you get

## Rockhounding in the Time of a Global Pandemic (continued)

something unique and exclusive to add to your collection, but you'll ensure the miners themselves continues to be productive and successful at saving crystals! Many assortments, kits, and sets of minerals are available too, which are perfect for teaching a kid who is home from school about earth science with a hands on approach.

Buying and selling minerals through live feed on Facebook simulates at least some of the appeal of a mineral show and allows customers and dealers to engage in real time. It's a great way to be able to discuss specimens and sell quickly if viewers can be attracted. A good camera is very important as well as a kind, gentle, informative speaking manner when engaging customers.

### ***Field Collecting-***

Digging your own specimens is a healthy activity and the best way to learn about how minerals occur in the wild! Due to COVID-19, I am insistent that you only collect solo or with people you live with. Social digging will have to wait. Fee dig sites are mostly closed as well. There are still ways to dig and say socially distant but you will need to take precautions. Explore sites from guides on or available through wheretofindrocks.com and also old publications and dated websites for some neat sleeper locations far off in nature. Always carry a phone on you when you are alone in case you get injured or need help. Be extra careful these days, as going to a doctor or hospital puts you in extremely close proximity to the virus. Eat well and get hydrated before you dig so you do not compromise your immune system. Don't dig or hike too hard to avoid injury. Wear gloves and eye protection too. Be very very careful. I personally have dealt with a collecting injury that required going to the hospital and it was no fun. The best advice I can give you is MOVE SLOW! As COVID-19 continues to spread and the situation gets more intense, it affects our every day lives more and more. Instead of focusing on the privileges we have lost, focus on those we still have. Don't make fun your priority and go out to rockhound until you're exhausted. Moderate it and prioritize health. Rest a lot. Take care of your body like you would your best specimens.

## Brad's Bench Tips

### **RAISING A CABOCHON**

When a cabochon sits too low in a bezel, the bezel can hide a lot of the stone. The solution is to either sand down the bezel height or boost up the stone. But if you choose to to raise it up, the question is what is the best material to use?



I was taught to use fine sawdust but now think that might be a problem when used in rings. I reason that rings will frequently get wet, which would cause the sawdust to swell in size and push the stone against the bezel. Then when the sawdust dries out, the stone would be a little loose.

In any case, I now prefer to insert a flat sheet to boost up my stones. It can be a scrap of metal or some plastic from product packaging or old credit cards. In either case, just cut a piece to loosely fit into the bezel and drop in the stone (with some dental floss) to check it's height.

### **TRANSPARENT CABS**

When bezel setting a transparent cabochon in silver, I usually cut out the back of the bezel to allow background light to show off the colors and patterns in the stone. If this is not possible or appropriate, I worry that the silver bezel will tarnish under the stone and will ruin its brilliance. What to do?

My solution is one extra step before setting the stone. I place a piece of thin silver Mylar plastic under the stone to act as a mirror that will never tarnish. Mylar is readily available in craft and gift wrap stores, or in a pinch from a party balloon supplier. You may even want to experiment with using colored or patterned Mylar (i.e. diffraction pattern) under some stones.

*Learn New Jewelry Tricks and Techniques*  
with Brad's Jewelry-Making Books  
[amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



# A 12 Million Year Old Praying Mantis Encased in Amber

From <https://twistedgifter.com/2018/07/12-million-year-old-praying-mantis-encased-in-amber/>



Sold by Heritage Auctions in 2016, this small lozenge size piece of amber is water clear and pale yellow which makes it very easy to see the amazing praying mantis preserved forever inside.

The creature with its triangular head, bulging eyes, and flexible neck is clearly visible in the exceptional specimen of the fossilized tree resin. The insect with the unique characteristics is poetically singular in the otherwise pristine fossil remnant. A close-up photo of the bug gives further insight into this entombed mantis. This is a tiny specimen with a major inclusion.

## **Amber with Inclusions**

Hymenaea protera

Oligocene

Dominican Republic

Overall Measurements: 1.18 x 0.61 x 0.52 inches (3.00 x 1.56 x 1.32 cm)



# Reef Knot Cuff

From [wirejewelry.com](http://www.wirejewelry.com)



**Designed by Lindi Schneck**

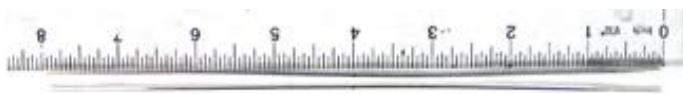
**Skill Level: Beginner/All**

**Technique: Adjustable Bracelet**

As a quilt maker I use a variety of knots in my work. A square knot popped out one day and asked to be made into a unisex bracelet. (Research found that this is also known as a 'reef' knot, thus the title of this pattern.) Although shown using sterling silver, this bracelet would be stunning if created using a gold/silver combination.

## Step 1

Using the **formula**, straighten, measure, and cut two pieces of Formula length 16-gauge wire and then mark the middle of each piece.



## Materials

2 Formula lengths of 16 Gauge round soft wire  
1 5" piece of 20 Gauge half-hard half-round wire

## Tools

Flat Nose Pliers  
Round Nose Pliers  
Wire Cutters  
Bracelet Mandrel  
Large Double Barrel Bail Pliers or Regular Sharpie marking pen (not fine point)

## Formula

Wrist + 1½ inches

## Step 2

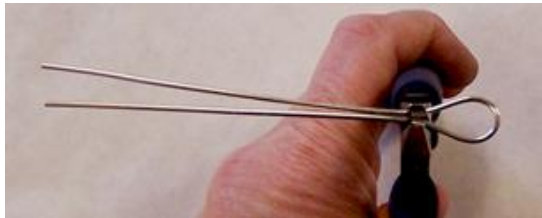
Use the middle mark to center the mark on the large barrel of the Double Barrel Bail Pliers, or Regular sharpie marking pen, and bend the wire, forming a C. Repeat on the other Formula length wire.



# Reef Knot Cuff (continued)

## Step 3

Measure down 1-inch from the top of each C, on each side, and mark. With flat nosed pliers at these marks, gently pull the wires together, making a slight bend in the wires at the marks. Reshape the C if needed and trim the legs so they are the same length. Repeat on other C wire.



## Step 4

Use round-nose pliers to form a centered loop at both ends of each C wire, rolling each end in toward the other. Repeat on other C wire.



## Step 5

On each C segment, place one loop on top of the other and tape. Measure 1/2-inch up from each loop and mark. Repeat on other C wire.



## Step 6

Use 20g half-round wire to begin wrapping the wires together; working from the 1/2-inch marks down toward the double loops. End by tucking the end of the wrap wire into the loops. Repeat on other C wire.



## Step 7

Begin shaping each C component around a found item or mandrel until almost a semi-half-moon shape. Insert the looped end of one C component into the front of the other C component and the other looped end into the back of C. Gently pull on the looped ends until the C shapes form a loose 'reef knot'.



## Reef Knot Cuff (continued)

### Step 8

Finish forming the cuff bracelet on your favorite found item or bracelet mandrel.

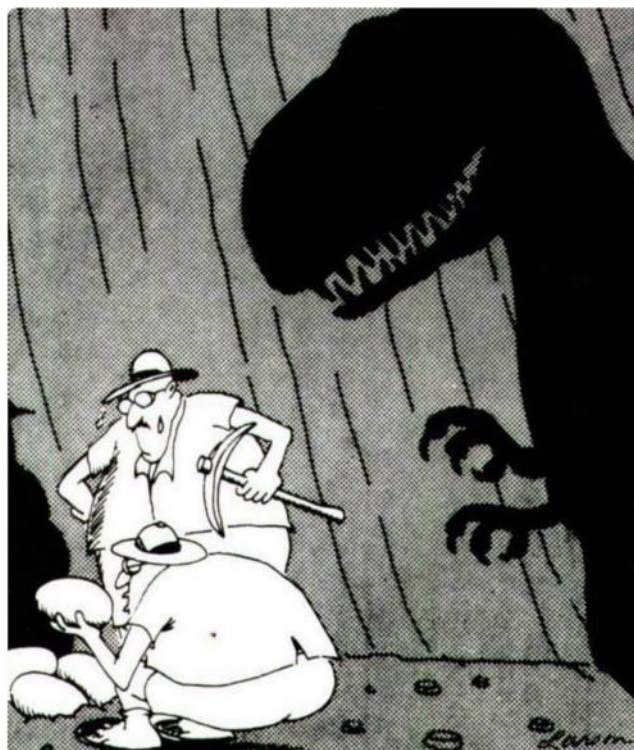
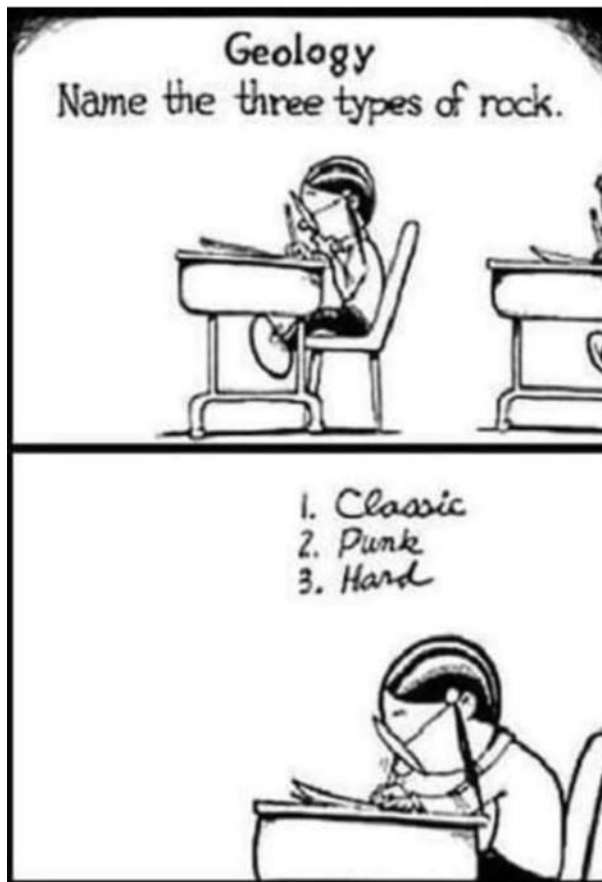


## [www.wirejewelry.com](http://www.wirejewelry.com)

*is a great resource for jewelry makers of all skill levels. They focus specifically on making jewelry from wire. The site offers a wide array of supplies—wire, tools, cabochons, gemstone beads—as well as lots of articles, patterns, ideas, tips, techniques, how-to videos, and a jewelry making blog.*

*Sign up to receive daily jewelry making tips via email here:*

[https://www.wirejewelry.com/pages/free\\_wire\\_jewelry\\_making\\_tips.html](https://www.wirejewelry.com/pages/free_wire_jewelry_making_tips.html)



"Millions of years old and they look as if they were laid yesterday!"

# Craftsy Courses Online

*The GMSPB shop remains closed, possibly for months to come. Many of us are eager to get back to the shop, and to the classes the club offers. If you're open to taking courses online, this site offers a lot of multi-session and fairly comprehensive classes.*

***Craftsy.com** has been around for years. It was recently rebranded as **blueprint.com** but returned to the **Craftsy** brand on September 1. They offer great courses in all sorts of creative ventures—painting, sewing, cake decorating, photography, and yes, jewelry making as well as dozens of other crafts. Most of the courses have a half dozen or more lessons that you can take at your own pace. Many have specific projects for each lesson. Classes can be purchased one at a time, but the best value is a yearly subscription at \$79.99.*

*Below is a list of the current offerings in jewelry making.*

**Learn How to Bead on a Loom**  
**Wire-Weaving Bracelets: Basics & Beyond**  
**Start Wire Weaving: Cabochon Pendants**  
**Jewelry Workshop: Bead, Wrap, Chain & Etch**  
**Essential Seed Bead Techniques**  
**Bead & Tapestry Cuffs**  
**Wire-Wrapped Stones, Crystals & Clusters**  
**Metalsmithing at Home**  
**Make Your Own Wirewrap Findings**  
**Polymer Clay Jewelry: Learn 10 Beads & Charms**  
**Essential Wirework Techniques**  
**Professional Bezel-Setting Techniques**  
**Jewelry Making and Metalworking**  
**Bead Stitches: Peyote, Brick, Square & Daisy Chain**  
**Solder Smarter: Strategies for Better Results**  
**Beading with Wire, Chain & Leather**  
**Soldering Success in Every Scenario**

**Creative Wire-Wrapping Techniques**  
**Settings for Every Shape**  
**Foundations in Silversmithing**  
**Organic Wire-Wrapped Pendants**  
**Jewelry Design for Bead Artists**  
**Resin Sculpting & Casting Techniques**  
**Prong Settings from Start to Finish**  
**Wire-Wrapped Stones: Designer Techniques**  
**Professional Foldforming Techniques**  
**Bead Stitches: Ladder, Herringbone, Hubble, Chevron & Chenille**  
**Bead-Stitching: Right Angle Weave**  
**Torch-Fired Precious Metal Clay**  
**Knotted Jewelry-Making**  
**Dimensional Wire-Wrapping Techniques**  
**Fabricated Dimensional Metal Jewelry**  
**Polymer Clay Jewelry: Mixed Media**  
**Polymer Clay Jewelry: The Art of Aging Gracefully**  
**Bead Stitching: Shaped Peyote**  
**Granulation Techniques Demystified**  
**Artisan Metalsmithing Techniques: Layered Pendants**  
**Filigree Jewelry: With a Twist!**  
**Big & Bold Wire Jewelry**  
**African Helix Stitch 101**  
**Brilliant Knit Beads**  
**Epoxy Clay Artistry**  
**Polygon Stitch 101**  
**The Metalsmith's Toolbox**  
**Kiln-Fired Silver Metal Clay**  
**The Perfect Connection: Rivets and Hinges**  
**Silver Metal Clay: Adding Stones & Dimension**  
**Make the Most of your Hydraulic Press**  
**Torch-Fired Enameling: Luscious Color & Design**  
**Torch-Fired Enameling: The Immersion Method**  
**Beyond the Basics of Polygon Stitch**

## AVAILABLE CLASSES

| CLASS  | INSTRUCTOR                       | COST  | DATE/TIME/NOTES                |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| ◇ Introduction to Chainmail<br>◇ How to Use the Jumpringer<br>◇ Introduction to Metalsmithing<br><br>◇ Viking Wire Weave   | Laura Simmons<br>407/234-0444    | \$30 + \$10 materials fee<br>\$10 + \$5 materials fee<br>\$50 + \$30 materials (copper)<br>or \$60 materials (silver)<br>\$30 + \$15 fee      | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Cabochon sessions<br>Six 3-hr sessions   | Susan Cairl<br>561/293-1298      | \$75 + \$20 materials fee   | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Cold Connections Class Series:<br>◇ Explosion Pendant<br>◇ Fold Forming Bracelet w/Beveled Stone Setting<br>◇ Scrapbook Bracelet (rivets)<br>◇ Metal Etching & Air Chasing Bracelet<br>◇ 3D Pendant w/Druzy Stone Slice NEW! | Arlene Lazzaro<br>516/810-3495   | \$40 + \$35 materials fee<br>\$40 + \$35 materials fee<br>\$40 + \$35 materials fee<br>\$40 + \$40 materials fee<br>\$40 + \$40 materials fee | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Enameling  | Samantha Lazzaro<br>561/372-2359 | \$40 + \$50 materials fee   | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Flat Lap   | Susan Cairl<br>561/293-1298      | \$40 + \$10 supplies fee  | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Gem Tree   | Dianna Ray<br>561/707-6753       | TBD   | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Metalsmithing:<br>◇ Alien Prong Ring   | Arlene Lazzaro<br>516/810-3495   | \$40 + \$15 materials fee   | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Wire Fan Bracelet Class  | Debi Kachman<br>561/568-8736     | \$30 + \$20-50 materials fee<br>(depending on metal) OR<br>supply list can be provided  | Contact instructor to arrange. |
| Wire Sculpture Class   | Debi Kachman<br>561/568-8736     | \$30 + \$20-50 materials fee<br>(depending on metal) OR<br>supply list can be provided  | Contact instructor to arrange. |

*NOTE: These classes will not be scheduled until the shop reopens. In the meantime, please contact the instructors about classes you are interested in, so they will be ready to schedule classes when possible.*

## The Rockhound

Official publication of the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

Junior Membership—\$10.00  
(Under age 18)  
Single Membership—\$20.00  
(Over age 18)  
Family Membership—\$30.00  
(Includes 2 adults and children under age  
18 in a single household)

*Membership expires on December 31st  
each year and is due by the end of  
February of the new year.*

To renew your membership, make your  
check or money order to:

Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm  
Beaches, Inc. and mail to:

Membership Coordinator  
Gem & Mineral Society  
P.O. Box 18095  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-8095

### NAME TAGS

Available from:  
Ace Marking Devices (\$12.00)  
3308 S. Dixie Hwy.  
West Palm Beach, FL 33405  
561/833-4073

### SHOP FEES

Up to 3 hours shop time - \$5  
Over 3 hours shop time - \$7

SEE CALENDAR FOR OPEN SHOPS

### SHOP STEWARDS

Head Shop Steward:  
Susan Cairl 561/293-1298  
  
Laura Simmons 407/234-0444  
Dennis Rietwyk 561/255-0292  
Samantha Lazzaro 561/372-2359  
Lee Miller 561/329-8872

**Shop Phone:**  
561/585-2080

### 2020 OFFICERS

|                     |                   |              |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| President*          | Laura Simmons     | 407/234-0444 |
| 1st Vice President* | Dianna Ray        | 561/707-6753 |
| 2nd Vice President* | Barbara Ringhiser | 561/379-4307 |
| Secretary*          | Clara Pflueger    | 201/566-6492 |
| Treasurer*          | Jenny Wright      | 561/634-1427 |

### 2020 DIRECTORS

|                    |                |              |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Head Shop Steward* | Susan Cairl    | 561/293-1298 |
| Membership*        | David Taylor   | 561/644-1888 |
| Newsletter Editor* | Laura Phillips | 561/523-3594 |
| Member-at-Large*   | Lo Rain Dudley | 561/827-5793 |
| Show Chairman*     | Walter Triche  | 561/628-1031 |
| Webmaster*         | Richard Tracey | 561/318-6891 |

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE

|                       |                      |              |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Hostess               | Samantha Lazzaro     | 561/372-2359 |
| Jr. Rockhound Program | Mitchell Turk        | 561/506-4655 |
| Librarian             | Shop Steward on Duty |              |
| Programs              | Barbara Ringhiser    | 561/379-4307 |
| Raffle Coordinator    | Laura Simmons        | 407/234-0444 |
| Refreshments          | Arlene Lazzaro       | 516/810-3495 |
| Sunshine Committee    | Jenny Wright         | 561/634-1427 |
| Social Events         | Open                 |              |
| Webmaster             | Richard Tracey       | 561/318-6891 |

\*Denotes a Voting Member of the Executive Committee.

### WEBSITE

[www.gemandmineralsociety.org](http://www.gemandmineralsociety.org) or [www.gmspb.org](http://www.gmspb.org)

### Club Email Addresses

membership@gmspb.org  
newsletter@gmspb.org  
president@gmspb.org  
show@gmspb.org  
vendorinfo@gmspb.org  
webmaster@gmspb.org

Link to our [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) account:

[http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-6196330](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-6196330)

The Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) corporation and a member of the Eastern and Southeastern Federations of Mineral and Lapidary Societies, and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month except for December, which is held on the second Thursday. Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the former Garden Club building (across from the Science Center), 4800 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach, FL 33405.

*The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches ("GMSPB"). GMSPB does not verify any claims made for accuracy, and is not responsible for the views expressed. Nothing contained herein constitutes any sort of professional advice, including but not limited to legal, medical, or financial advice. Any action you take based on information published in The Rockhound is strictly at your own risk.*

Send comments or submissions to [laurajeanphillips@gmail.com](mailto:laurajeanphillips@gmail.com)