



The Rockhound

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

www.gemandmineralsociety.org
March/April/May Volume 54 Issue 4

President's Message

I can't believe it's May already!! Hope all of you have been well! Thank all of you who ventured out for the April Meeting! We had a great turnout! I have lots of incentives for you to come out and join us!! Every month there will be a birthstone challenge which you will bring in your best specimen for that month's birthstone and will have a chance to win a great prize! An attendance challenge will get you a raffle ticket for every meeting you attend, and the more you attend, the more chances to win a spectacular specimen!

If you don't already know, we have been actively fundraising with a monthly Auction on "Betterworld" to help keep the club afloat since we were not able to have our gem show last year. Keep an eye on your emails to see up-to-date news going on with club.

We are planning another fundraiser that everyone will have an opportunity to participate in. Save your broken jewelry for that challenge! You can drop it off at the Shop.

Please, if you have not yet renewed your membership, you can either pay at the meeting or go to website for easy online payment! We need you all to renew now more than ever! And, all of these challenges will only be open to current paid up members. You will be missing out if you don't renew!

The show is a go this year, and we will need your participation, so think about how you can volunteer to help! This club is only as good as you all make it! If you have any suggestions or would like to see something at our meeting, please let me know and I will try make it happen! Hoping to see you all at the general meeting on May 20th!

- Arlene Lazzaro, President

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, May 20th at 7:30 pm
4801 Dreher Trail North
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
Come at 6:30 to socialize!

SHOW, TELL & SELL

Bring your mining finds and recent projects! They don't have to be gem-related. Those interested in selling, please call Arlene at 516/810-3495.

MEETING HIGHLIGHT: PEACE RIVER FIELD TRIP FINDS

BIRTHSTONE CHALLENGE:
EMERALD or anything GREEN

PRIZE FOR BEST GEM—This emerald

and rhodochrosite slab!



DOOR PRIZES & SILENT AUCTION

Online Auction
May 21—30



Donations of stones, slabs, tools, supplies, finished projects are needed. Bring to the Shop during regular shop hours—call the shop steward first.

<https://gmspb.betterworld.org/auctions/gem-mineral-society-palm-beaches>

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Club Organization

The Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches is part of a national hierarchy of mineralogical societies, as shown below.



The **American Federation of Mineral Societies**—amfed.org—oversees the **Regional Federations** shown above.

Two **Regional Federations** are our parent clubs:

- ◆ **Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies**—amfed.org/efmls
- ◆ **Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies**—amfed.org/sfms

The **Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches**—gemandmineralsociety.org—has several **Neighbor Clubs**:

- ◆ **Florida Gold Coast Gem and Mineral Society**—fgcgms.com—(Broward County)
- ◆ **St. Lucie County Rock and Gem Club**—slockandgem.org
- ◆ **Treasure Coast Rock and Gem Society**—treasurecoastrockandgem.org (Indian River County)
- ◆ **Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild**—mmlg-inc.org

All of these Clubs have extensive websites with articles, information, and newsletters of interest to all rockhounds.



The EFMLS and SFMS newsletters are not yet available online. They will be emailed to you along with this newsletter. There are two versions of the EFMLS newsletter.



March Birthstone: Aquamarine



The birthstone for March is aquamarine. Aquamarine, also known as blue beryl, is the same basic mineral as emerald. Both are beryl but have different impurities. The name aquamarine comes from ancient Rome and is Latin for seawater. Aquamarine

is quite hard on the Mohs scale (7.5-8) which makes it stand up well in Jewelry.

In recent history Brazil has been the largest source of aquamarine with the most famous area being the province of Minas Gerais Brazil but the deposits in this area are being depleted and a number of countries including Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Russia compete with Brazil in aquamarine production.

The largest cut aquamarine in the world is named the Dom Pedro aquamarine and is from Minas Gerais Brazil and is currently housed in the Smithsonian in Washington. The crystal was huge and the prospectors who found it dropped it and it broke into 3 pieces the largest of which was used to make the Dom Pedro stone. The uncut piece weighed about 60 pounds and was carved into an obelisk that is 14 inches tall and weighs 10,363 carats. The stone has carved patterns in it said to represent snowflakes on a frozen pond. The photo shows the before and after of the Dom Pedro stone.

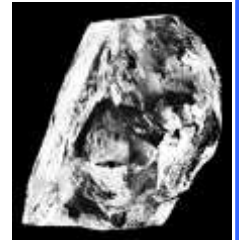


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<http://www.gemologytidbits.com/blog/2012/03/30/worlds-largest-aquamarine/>

- Article compiled by Richard Tracey

April Birthstone: Diamond



Diamonds were first mined in India starting about 3000 years ago. Up until the mid-1800's diamonds were very rare. The Indian deposits ran out in the 1700's and the search was on for another source until a deposit was found in Brazil but it was only a small deposit and the demand exceeded the supply. In 1866 a 15 year old found a large diamond in a river in South Africa. In the 1870's in South Africa another large diamond was found and this set off a diamond rush. In 1880 De Beers Consolidated Mines was formed and controlled the supply of diamonds but the price was in decline because of lack of demand. De Beers coined the phrase "A Diamond is Forever" in 1947 as part of a marketing campaign. This started the trend that engagement rings must have diamonds.

The largest rough diamond ever found is known as the Sergio diamond that was found in Brazil in 1895. While it weighed 3,167 carats it sold for only \$25,000 as it was not of gem quality. It was cut up into smaller pieces and used in cutting and engraving tools. The largest gem quality diamond ever found is the Cullinan diamond which weighed in at 3106.75 carats and was found in South Africa. It was cut into a number of stones the largest of which is the Great Star of Africa which is part of the crown jewels of England and weighs in at 530.4 carats.

Prices vary widely for cut diamonds. Cut diamonds are classified by what is known as the 4 C's or Carats, Clarity, Color and Cut. Even with the classification system there is still some subjectivity in the classification process. A search of a few sources on the internet for the price range on a 1 carat diamond prices ranged from \$1000 to \$26,950. Most people would need someone of trust to make a diamond purchase of significance.



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<https://www.brilliance.com/education/diamonds/history>

- Article compiled by Richard Tracey

May Birthstone: Emerald

Emerald, the birthstone of May has been known since ancient times. There is a papyrus scroll called the Papyrus Prisse said to be the oldest book in the world that mentions the mining of emerald. The scroll is between 4000 and 4500 years old and it mentions that the writing about emerald mining is from a 1000 year old document which means emerald was known at least 5000 years ago. Cleopatra had a large emerald collection. Emeralds were known in Greece, India and Rome. The Romans exploited the mines of Egypt. Independent of Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, the Incas and Aztecs in South America were mining emeralds. The Spanish conquistadors looted the South American mines and from then on Europe and the rest of the world looked to what is now Colombia for emeralds. Of course, the emeralds themselves are much older with the oldest dated at about 3 billion years old.

Today the three most important mining locations for emeralds are Colombia, Brazil and Zambia. Smaller deposits are also mined in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Russia and Australia while minor deposits exist in the United States. The Colombian emeralds are the most prized of all because of the usual 4C's (carat, cut, color and clarity).

Emeralds have been found in much larger sizes than diamonds ever have. There is an 840 pound stone called the "Bahia Emerald" found in Bahia Brazil which contains 180,000 carats of emeralds. This stone is currently in custody in California in an ownership dispute. In Zambia there are 2 finds from the Kagem mine of huge emeralds. In October 2018 a 5655 carat "The Inkalamu (Lion) Emerald" was found and in 2010 a 6,225 carat emerald called "The Insofu (elephant) Emerald". There is also a 7,052 carat uncut emerald from Colombia that is privately owned. For a list of large emeralds see: <https://www.gemsociety.org/article/worlds-largest-emeralds/>. The largest uncut emerald from the USA is from Hiddenite, NC. It weighs in at 1862 carats and is privately owned.



While North America is not really known for emeralds there are a number of locations where emeralds are mined. There are mines in Connecticut, Georgia, Nevada, New Mexico and North Carolina. There are several mines in Hiddenite, NC and one of them,

Emerald Hollow Mine (<https://www.emeraldhollowmine.com/>) claims to be the only emerald mine in the US that is open to the public for treasure hunting although I think several of the others that are open to the public have yielded emeralds but don't advertise specifically for emeralds.



Unguentarium Emerald

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- <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/08/31/north.carolina.emerald/index.html>
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Photo References:

- Bahia Emerald:* bhcourier.com [CC BY-SA 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)]
- Unguentarium Emerald:* Robert Reisman CC BY 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)
- irvin calicut* [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)]

-Article compiled by Richard Tracey



Member Highlight: **Clay Hecoeks**

This month, our spotlights focus on Clay Hecoeks. As a young boy growing up in Michigan, Clay's parents introduced him to two subjects that would become his lifelong passions: music (via piano lessons) and earth science (via a geology club subscription). In high school, he took every earth science and music class available to him, excelling in both. When it came time to go to college, he had to pick between the two.

He chose music as a career, and obtained a bachelors degree from the University of Michigan, and a masters degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He's an accomplished pianist and has traveled the world with his music. His music led him into ministry as well, and he is currently the Worship Pastor for the Boca Raton Community Church where he is responsible for the church's music.

But the passion for gems and minerals never left him. Over the years, his collection grew and grew, to the point that he realized he needed to sell some of his specimens so he could buy more. He loves "the hunt", as he calls it, and has learned to buy in large lots and avoid the middleman.

Clay currently maintains a website at undergroundtreasures.com and an Etsy store at etsy.com/shop/UGTreasures. As someone who loves to stay busy, he's working towards "retiring into" his online shops. He has an interesting take on his two passions, in that he considers his interests in both music and minerals as lining up along esthetic lines. In both areas, his primary focus is on the esthetics, and his interest is broad. He doesn't specialize in any one genre of music, nor in a single category of minerals.

On his website, Clay has started a blog with interesting articles, one of which appears on the [next page](#). You'll probably see more of his articles in future issues of The Rockhound.

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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Gem & Mineral Collecting: Do You Just Look At Them?

by GMSPB Member Clay Hecoeks

What is it that draws people to gem and mineral collecting? I'm convinced every kid has had a rock collection. Purely aesthetics – it sparkles, has a neat shape, interesting color, it's "pretty." It's undeniably a universal draw. Then kids begin to throw rocks. And then by accident, a rock breaks and the inside is fresh, clean and lustrous – one's first discovery of contrast in a rock. Then you go on a science class field trip and see some nicer rocks. Then to a museum and see really nice rocks. And if you're lucky, for your birthday or Christmas, someone gets you a kid's rocks & minerals kit with lots of cool rocks annoyingly glued to a piece of cardboard so you can't even hold them, let alone throw them at someone. Your collection most likely ends up in a box in the garage or attic, and then life takes over. But somewhere along the line you see a Geode somewhere, a fossil, a Quartz crystal, and it all comes back to you. But now you're older and have some money (or generous parents) and you pick the hobby back up. And now you're hooked. You go to local shows and/or online to find some pieces that catch your eye. You may enjoy this hobby for a season or you may pursue it for the rest of your life. Your collection just might end up in a nice display case for you to enjoy and your friends and family to be impressed by.

The appeal is hard to define or even describe. But it's true for every collector, whether it be cars, antiques, coins, stamps, knives, or fill-in-the-blank. There's an appeal, a draw, and the thrill of the hunt. For gem and mineral collectors it's no different. We're looking (hunting) for that piece or pieces that simply grab our attention and that have the all important "wow" factor. It's different and unique for every collector, and the collection is your trophy case. It's there to enjoy, to look at, to recall the various circumstances that led you to

that particular piece.

The Question

Many years ago, when my collection was growing – more like doubling every few months – my daughter, upon gazing at all the minerals I had displayed everywhere, asked a fair question: "What do you do with your collection of rocks – do you just look at them?" "Well, yes." I went on to explain that they're minerals, not rocks, and that I do look at them and I study the individual pieces. I look at crystals under magnification, I compare them to similar pieces online (to see if I had gotten just a fair or a truly great deal), I grade them (quality, clarity, etc.), and I consistently marvel at the creator's hand! All in all, I thoroughly enjoy my collection, and after concluding a reasonable inventory, I, of course, consider what pieces I need to acquire next!

Time To Sell

Many years have elapsed since my daughter's question, and now I not only look at them, but I also sell them. My hobby became a business. I can't pinpoint the day that particular revelation revealed itself, but I just came to the realization that I wanted to share all of these pieces with others. I enjoyed when friends and family would visit and eventually the conversation about my collecting hobby would come up along with a request to see what I was talking about. I enjoyed collecting, but I really enjoyed sharing as well. So, the idea of selling began to grow. As my collection began to fill display cases, drawer cases, mineral boxes, shelves, and various other depositories, the drive to begin selling took on an urgency! So, I made the decision, and I dove in headfirst.

Gem & Mineral Collecting: Do You Just Look at Them? *(continued)*

First there was finding a name. Then a URL. Then a website. Then selling at shows. And then I needed more “inventory.” (Inventory is code for needing to go to the big Tucson and Denver shows in the winter and fall – I’m not going to these shows to buy gems and minerals, I go to expand my inventory!) After many months of photography, mineral specimen descriptions, measurements, the never-ending challenge of pricing, and loading up inventory onto the website, it was time to “go live.” I’ll never forget my first sale – a large, uniquely shaped Amethyst Geode from Uruguay. I think I packed and repacked it two or three times to make sure it was as safe as could be. And yes, it arrived safely, and I couldn’t have been more relieved and excited. Thus, UnderGround Treasures began.

It’s Personal

At a recent show someone asked me, as she stood in front of my case of high-end specimens, “How can you sell these pieces, they’re so beautiful – if they were mine, I’d never let them go.” Yet that’s the beauty of collecting – it’s personal, almost possessive, and for good reason. Each piece is unique, each collector is unique, and when that collector finds a unique piece that catches their eye, then they should get it, hold on to it, and enjoy it.

I remember the wonder in my grandkid’s eyes when I would give them a small piece of Rose Quartz, or a polished slice of Agate, or a small Amethyst Geode, a Rocks & Minerals kit, or especially the carved soapstone dinosaurs. It made my day. And when I sell pieces and subsequently see the faces (at shows) and read the comments (online) of those who have just made their own amazing discovery, it’s really no

different than my grandkids’ reactions. It makes my day. I collect for the purpose of sharing.

Something For Everyone

I’ve been to the stunning Gems & Minerals display at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC a couple of times and I’ve yet to see a bored face in the place. Now, most people don’t stay for three or more hours as I do, but there’s just an inherent awe when you see the variety, the colors, the luster, the size, the crystals – it’s hard to believe it’s natural, no artificial colors, and they come from under the ground! Whether it’s a striking piece of Rogerley Fluorite, an Aquamarine with Schorl Tourmaline, or a polished free-form of BumbleBee Jasper, there’s something for anyone and everyone. That’s literally the beauty of the gem and mineral world – you can spend a lifetime studying gems and minerals and continue to be fascinated with their unique crystallography, inclusions, colors and locations, or just look at a colorful piece without any knowledge whatsoever of what it is, where it’s from, or its mineral makeup and yet be drawn to it. You can’t wait to display your new acquisition on a mantle, or bookcase or in your office for all to see. Since it doesn’t decay, fall apart with age, or go out of style, it then becomes something to be treasured and passed on to subsequent generations.

So, I find great pleasure in helping others to find that certain piece or pieces that make them marvel at creation. And yes, I still like to just look at them!

Check out Clay Hecoeks’ website undergroundtreasures.com and his blog on the site.

Field Trip Report: Art, Picnic & Junk Tour

Saturday, March 6



In attendance: Kelly Azor, Lo Rain Dudley, Lorna Hayes, Gale Langford, Arlene Lazzaro, Carol Swete, and Jenny Wright.

Field Trip Report: Peace River

Saturday, May 1



In Attendance: Arlette Dawson, Brian Grayson, Daniel Grayson, Fred Grayson, Giselle Grayson, Gale Langford, Arlene Lazzaro, and Sarah May.



The “Old-Fashioned Rock Swap”

March 12-14 in Live Oak, Florida



Tri-County Picnic

Sunday, April 25 in Plantation, FL

This quarterly picnic, auction, and rock swap has been known as the “TY Park Picnic” in the past. This time, though, venue had to be changed due to covid, and attendance was limited to 50 pre-registered members of the Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami clubs. Our Arlene Lazzaro, Samantha Lazzaro, and Stephanie Rosicci were there this time. We hope we can soon resume our usual TY Park picnics!



Sunshine News

Our sympathy to the family of past president Don Chenoweth. Don was president of the club in 1996 and again in 2001. Please see article on [Page 13](#).

Our condolences to the family of Keith Klein.
May he rest in peace.

Our sympathy to Jenny Wright and family on the recent loss of her beloved mother.

Our wishes for a speedy, easy recovery to Dennis Rietwyk.

Our hearts go out to Clara Pflueger and family in the wake of a devastating house fire.

Thank you for your generous donations to William Blandy, Susan Cairl & Walt Triche, Lo Rain Dudley, William Ekeson, Deborah Garson, Daniel Jacobson, Debbie & Geoff Kashdan, Mark Kucera, Gale Langford, Anthony Leong & family, Lee Miller, Clara Pflueger, Laura Phillips, Windsome Rainford, Mary Ricciardi, Barbara Ringhiser, Raymond Ritari, Donna Sypnewski, David & Cindy Taylor, Richard Tracey, and Jenny Wright.

And a really BIG thank you for BIG donations to Marta Cruz & John Janzen, Clay Hecoeks, and Alan Meltzer & Deborah Oster!



MARCH

Susan Cairl
Linda Carle
Sandra Hart
John Janzen
Nicholas Leon
Janis Perryman
Winsome Rainford
Dianna Ray
Richard Tracey

APRIL

Diane Birkhead
Nancy Canary
Marilyn Mapes
Alan Meltzer
Carol Pelt
Mary Ricciardi
Jack Stamper
Jenny Wright

MAY

Carolee Boyles
Jacqueline Karpel
Nick McCollum
Ray Ritari
Karin Sexton
Douglas Terry



We don't grow old. When we cease to grow, we become old.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

AFMS Considering Expulsion of EFMLS

Reprinted from May 2021 EFMLS News

The purpose of this article is to alert everyone that the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) is considering the possibility of expelling the EFMLS (*Editor's note: Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies*) from membership. Since its inception, the EFMLS has been fully and successfully in good standing with the AFMS.

You may or may not be aware that EFMLS President (David Nock) and Treasurer (Gary Bergtholdt) made a decision to not pay EFMLS' dues to AFMS for 2021. This decision was made without consultation with the EFMLS Board of Directors nor the AFMS Board of Directors. Dues to be paid by EFMLS to AFMS are based on the total membership as of December 31st of the year just closed and are due and payable on the first day of each calendar year (January 1). EFMLS has been in a "suspension" status with the AFMS, which means that the EFMLS is deemed to be not in good standing, since the dues were not paid within 90 days (April 1) after the date on which they were due.

If AFMS should vote to expel EFMLS from its membership, the following participation/benefits will be lost: AFMS monthly newsletter; AFMS scholarships (2 per year); AFMS field trips; All American Club Contest; BEAC Contest; induction into the Editor's Hall of Fame; Junior programs; multi-federation field trips; AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year Contest; the Website Contest; EFMLS members serving on the AFMS Executive Board and AFMS committees; etc.

As a member of the EFMLS Past Presidents Advisory Committee, I believe that the non-payment of dues to AFMS directly affects each EFMLS club and am interested in your opinion. Please respond to me by May 20, 2021 to let me know if you are for or against the EFMLS being expelled from the AFMS.

- Matt Charsky, AFMS First Vice President Representing EFMLS - matt2430@comcast.net

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Trouble has been brewing within the EFMLS club for months, largely relating to decisions made in violation of club By-laws. The North Carolina club has formally asked for the club President to be impeached, and also for a full audit of the club treasury. For an explanation of [Club Organization](#), please refer to the article on [Page 2](#).*

William Holland 2021 is Canceled

Classes at William Holland that were originally scheduled for 2021 have, unfortunately, been canceled. From their [website](#):

We would like to express our gratitude to all students and instructors for your patience and understanding during the last year and a half as we navigate through this pandemic. We met with the board over the last few days discussing the 2021 season and how it is affected by the current Pandemic status. We worked through different scenarios trying to find a solution that was financially feasible for us to open while keeping up with Georgia and CDC guidelines to keep our students, teachers and staff safe. We are sad to say, our efforts lead to the decision that it is not going to be possible to open in a traditional way this year.

For more information, please consult the website lapidaryschool.org. For good news about Wildacres 2021, check out the [next page](#)!

Brad's Bench Tips

PROBLEMS WITH SMALL DRILLS



Drilling small holes can be a problem. With drills that are less than 1 mm (18 gauge or .040 inches), some chucks will not tighten down well enough to hold the drill securely.

The problem is easily solved in either of two ways - with a chuck adapter or by buying your small drills with a 3/32 inch shank size. Either way you have a large shank to be gripped in your drill press, Foredom or Dremel, so changing bits is fast and easy.

Follow Brad Smith on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/>

Wildacres 2021 is ON!

Both sessions scheduled for summer/fall are a "go" this year! They have changed the food service from family style, and are doing extra cleaning of the accommodations, so that you can participate worry-free. *Located in northwestern North Carolina near Little Switzerland.*

AUGUST 23-29:

Metal Mania	Cindy Moore
Silver II-Filigree	Jason Hamilton
Wire	Rowan Morgan
Casting	Bill Harr
SW Silver	Morning Sherrod
Special Projects	Jeff Sheer

SEPTEMBER 13-19:

Casting	Bill Harr
Gem Trees	Jerri Heer
Leather	Tom Slavicek
Gem ID	Teresa Polly
Electro Etching	Micah Kirby
Chain Maille	Marilou Hillenbrand
Silver III-Inlay II	Chuck Bruce
Metal Mania	Cindy Moore

Complete information is available at SFMSworkshops.org.

Questions? Please contact Lisa Roberts, Education Coordinator, at antleycreations@yahoo.com or 423/494-7096.

To register for classes, contact Claudia Erwin, Registrar, at registrarwildacres@gmail.com or 865/973-1933.

In Memory of Don Chenoweth

1932-2021

Don Chenoweth was the GMSPB President in 1996, and again in 2001. His wife Ruth was also on **the club's board**. They were both heavily involved in the club activities, especially the annual show.

Don and Ruth met in Baltimore and married. They moved to Florida in 1969. He was a sheet metal mechanic until he retired. Other than gems and minerals, Don was really fond of remote control airplanes.

After his years with the club, Don and Ruth moved to Inverness in Citrus County, FL. Ruth passed away in 2015, and now sadly, so has Don. May they both rest in peace.

SHOW REPORT

We are happy to report that the 54th annual show will be held November 20 and 21st!

The first Show Committee meeting will be held on Monday, May 24 at 7 PM via Zoom. A notice will be sent out for you to register for the meeting.

All vendors from the 2019 show have been contacted and most will be back for the show. We also have several new vendors. At this point, there are a few vacancies.

We will again be promoting the show via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Barbara Ringhiser will serve as the Acting Show Chairman this year.

SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING

Our first Show Committee Meeting for 2021 will be on Monday, May 24 at 7 PM via Zoom. Membership is open to all GMSPB members, and observers are welcome.



Contact Barbara Ringhiser for an invitation to the Zoom meeting—bar5678@aol.com

Broken Jewelry Challenge

WANTED: Your old broken, junk, and unwanted jewelry!

We will be holding a “broken jewelry challenge” this summer—breathing new life into old jewelry by making new pieces from old, broken, and discarded jewelry. This is a great time to clean out your jewelry box!

Please drop off your broken or unwanted jewelry at the shop whenever it's open!



Little Pine Garnet Mine

Near Asheville, North Carolina

A recent trip to the mine is chronicled on video by our club member Anthony Leong. Check out his amazing finds at www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVficsLDefk

Anthony is looking for new subscribers to his YouTube channel for [Crystal Miner Rocks](#).



Please subscribe to his channel for a chance to win this beautiful specimen he collected at the garnet mine!

Memorial Day Sale!



Mark it on your calendars! We are planning a big sale for Memorial Day weekend. Details are still being worked out, and we will update you via email when we know the specifics.

Recreational Rockhounding and Recreational Rockhounds: What Do They Mean?

By John Martin, AFMS Conservation and Legislation Chair

Reprinted from May 2021 AFMS Newsletter

In the simplest terms, Recreational Rockhounding is the lawful removal of non-renewable natural resources from public lands for personal non-commercial use.

Recreational Rockhounding also applies to the removal of non-renewable natural resources from private land with the permission of the land owner.

Recreational Rockhounds are persons who engage in Recreational Rockhounding. (as defined above)

There. That was simple enough, or was it? Think about it. The second word in the definition is lawful; what does that mean? How does one know if their removal is lawful or what is unlawful recreational rockhounding?

The lawfulness of Recreational Rockhounding has been defined and is explained in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 1 through Title 50. Lucky for the Recreational Rockhound, there are mostly only 2 titles that really apply: Title 30 – Mineral Resources(1) and Title 43 Public Lands: Interior(2) .

Starting with Title 43, here are some of the definitions and rules for Recreational Rockhounding:

Pa8365 of Title 43 CFR [Code of Federal Regulations], which provides for the collecting of “reasonable quantities” of rocks, minerals, semiprecious gemstones, and invertebrate and plant fossils of non-scientific importance, for personal use.

Legal Definition of Recreational Rockhounding as defined in Title 43 CFR.....

§ 8365.1-5 Property and resources.

- (a) On all public lands, unless otherwise authorized, no person shall;
- (1) Willfully deface, disturb, remove or destroy any personal property, or structures, or any scientific, cultural, archaeological or historic resource, natural object or area;
 - (2) Willfully deface, remove or destroy plants or their parts, soil, rocks or minerals, or cave resources, except as permitted under paragraph (b) or (c) of this paragraph; or

(3) Use on the public lands explosive, motorized or mechanical devices, except metal detectors, to aid in the collection of specimens permitted under paragraph (b) or (c) of this paragraph.

- (b) Except on developed recreation sites and areas, or where otherwise prohibited and posted, it is permissible to collect from the public lands reasonable amounts of the following for noncommercial purposes:

- (1) Commonly available renewable resources such as flowers, berries, nuts, seeds, cones and leaves;
- (2) Nonrenewable resources such as rock and mineral specimens, common invertebrate and common plant fossils, and semiprecious gemstones;
- (3) Petrified wood as provided under subpart 3622 of this title;
- (4) Mineral materials as provided under subpart 3604; and
- (5) Forest products for use in campfires on the public lands. Other collection of forest products shall be in accordance with the provisions of Group 5500 of this title.

- (c) The collection of renewable or nonrenewable resources from the public lands for sale or barter to commercial dealers may be done only after obtaining a contract or permit from an authorized officer.

In accordance with part 3600 or 5400 of this chapter. Next month I will discuss the rules and definition of collecting for personal use and commercial use as well as the methods of collecting under the CFR 43 and the extrapolation of the requirements for petrified wood as provided under subpart 3622 and mineral materials as provided under Subpart 3604 of this CFR title 43.

Footnotes: CFR Title 30: Mineral Resources:
[https:// www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/30](https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/30)

CFR Title 43: Public Lands Interior:
[https:// www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43](https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43)

“Happy Recreational Rockhounding and enjoy your Public Lands”

“A Day to Treasure”

Field Trip!

Saturday, June 19

Join us for another full day of fun and education as we view centuries-old treasures pulled from our local waters.

McLarty Treasure Museum
in Sebastian Inlet State Park
Admission: \$2.00

The museum occupies part of the former site of the Survivors' and Salvagers' Camp—1715 Fleet, and is part of Sebastian Inlet State Park. It houses exhibits on the history of the 1715 Spanish treasure fleet, and features artifacts, displays, and an observation deck that overlooks the Atlantic Ocean.

Mel Fisher's Treasure Museum

1322 US Highway 1 * Sebastian, Florida
Admission \$8-Adults \$6-Seniors (65+)
\$4-Kids 4-12

www.melfisher.com

You can lift an authentic Atocha gold bar! And view a spectacular collection of cultural artifacts and treasure recovered from the ocean depths by world famous treasure hunter, Mel Fisher.

From 1963 on, Mel spent seven years successfully salvaging the 1715 Fleet of sunken treasure-laden ships off Vero Beach—which is how the surrounding area got the name, “Florida’s Treasure Coast”. He later went on to discover the main pile of Nuestra Senora de Atocha in 1985—the largest underwater treasure find in history. Mel Fisher opened this permanent museum in Sebastian in 1992.

\$5 off coupon available at

www.melfisher.com/TreasureSales/Sebastian.asp



The Plan

*Leave WPB 8:00-8:30-ish
Get to McLarty's by 10:30*

*Quick Lunch
Exploring/Beachcombing*

McLarty's 2:30-4:00-ish

Home by 6:00-ish

*Call or text Gale Langford for details
561/386.3332*

Shop Talk



The GMSPB Shop is open again, but on a very limited basis. Shop hours are available only to GMSPB members. Shop fees are \$7 for up to three hours, and \$10 for longer. Note that this represents an increase over previous years.

IMPORTANT! Members must complete a 6-class Certification Class before using the cabbing equipment. This class runs for six consecutive weeks for 3 hours each week to provide safety instructions and cabbing techniques. If you received training elsewhere, you will still need to demonstrate your proficiency before using shop equipment. For information on cabbing certification please call Lo Rain Dudley or Lee Miller (numbers listed below).

ALSO IMPORTANT! You must contact the Shop Steward listed below before you come to the Shop. No walk-ins, please. We will observe all COVID-19 precautions—only a few people will be allowed in the Shop at any given time. You will be required to arrive with:

- ◆ A functional, well-fitting mask, worn over the nose and mouth at all times.
- ◆ Gloves.
- ◆ Plenty of hand sanitizer.

The Shop times listed below are approximate and may be negotiated with the Shop Steward on duty at the time.

Open shop is available for lapidary, metal work, enameling, fused glass, classes and to use the library. You must be certified to use the kiln! For kiln certification and classes, please contact Samantha Lazzaro. At the present time, kiln use is limited to Monday Open Shop Hours.

You will be asked to sign a one-time liability waiver and be given a copy of the shop rules.

Always sign in and out of the log book and complete the information on the sign in sheet.

OPEN SHOP HOURS & STEWARDS

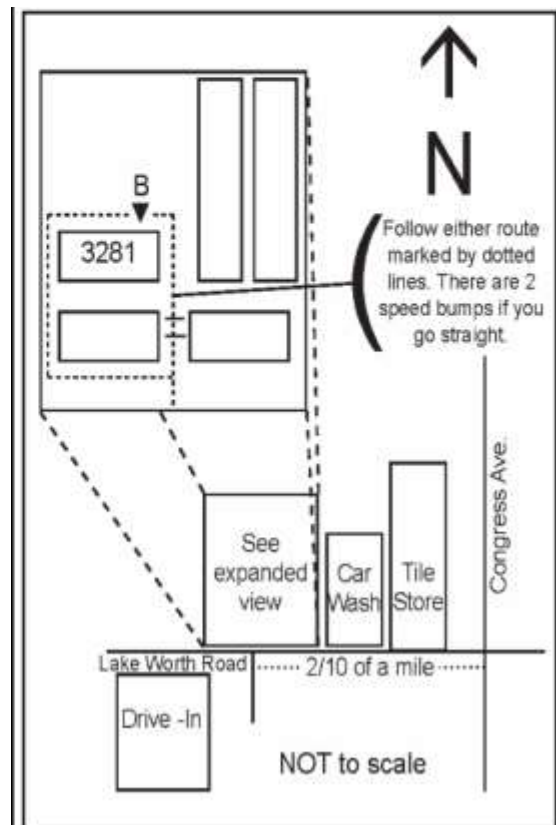
Mondays 10:30am - 5:00pm
Samantha Lazzaro, Shop Steward
631-764-6556

Wednesdays 12:00pm - 3:00pm
Lo Rain Dudley, Shop Steward
561-827-5793

Thursdays 12:00pm - 3:00pm
Dennis Rietwyk & Lee Miller, Shop Stewards
561-329-8872 (Lee)

Fridays 12:00pm - 3:00pm
Lo Rain Dudley, Shop Steward
561-827-5793

Saturdays 10:00 am-2:00 pm
Lee Miller, Shop Steward
561-329-8872



The street address of the shop is:
3281 Lake Worth Road, Suite B,
Lake Worth, FL 33461

AVAILABLE CLASSES

CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	COST	DATE/TIME/NOTES
◇ Introduction to Metalsmithing	Debbie Kashdan 561/738-6524	To be determined	Contact instructor to arrange.
Cabochon sessions Six 3-hr sessions	Lee Miller 561/329-8872	\$75 + \$20 materials fee	Contact instructor to arrange.
Cold Connections Class Series: ◇ Explosion Pendant ◇ Fold Forming Bracelet w/Beveled Stone Setting ◇ Scrapbook Bracelet (rivets) ◇ Metal Etching & Air Chasing Bracelet ◇ 3D Pendant w/Druzy Stone Slice NEW!	Arlene Lazzaro 516/810-3495	\$40 + \$35 materials fee \$40 + \$35 materials fee \$40 + \$35 materials fee \$40 + \$40 materials fee \$40 + \$40 materials fee	Contact instructor to arrange.
Enameling	Samantha Lazzaro 561/372-2359	\$40 + \$50 materials fee	Contact instructor to arrange.
Flat Lap	Lee Miller 561/329-8872	\$40 + \$10 supplies fee	Contact instructor to arrange.
Gem Tree	Dianna Ray 561/707-6753	TBD	Contact instructor to arrange.
Metalsmithing: ◇ Alien Prong Ring	Arlene Lazzaro 516/810-3495	\$40 + \$15 materials fee	Contact instructor to arrange.

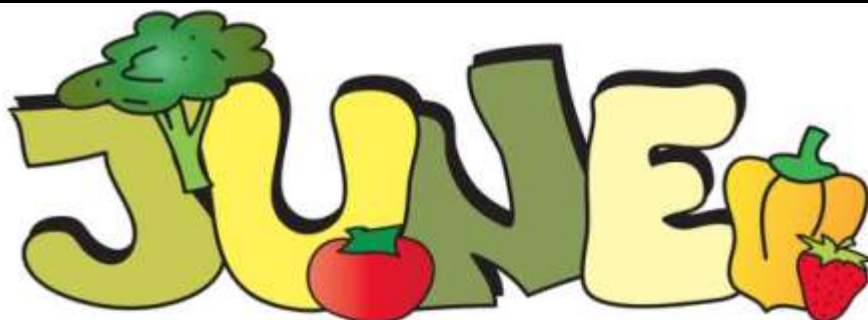



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 PEACE RIVER FIELD TRIP 10-2 Lee 561/329-8872
2	3 Open Shop 10:30AM - 5 PM General Work Samantha 631/764-6556	4	5 BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM 12-3 PM Lo Rain 561/827-5793	6 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lee 561/329-8872	7 Open Shop 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	8 Open Shop 10-2 General Work Lee 561/329-8872
9 	10 Open Shop 10:30AM - 5 PM General Work Samantha 631/764-6556	11	12 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793	13 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lee 561/329-8872	14 Open Shop 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	15 Open Shop 10-2 General Work Lee 561/329-8872
16	17 Open Shop 10:30AM - 5 PM General Work Samantha 631/764-6556	18	19 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793	20 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 PM 12-3 PM Lee 561/329-8872	21 AUCTION BEGINS 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	22 Open Shop 10-2 General Work Lee 561/329-8872
23	24 SHOW COMM MEETING 7:00 PM 10:30AM - 5 PM Samantha 631/764-6556	25	26 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793	27 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lee 561/329-8872	28 Open Shop 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	29 Open Shop 10-2 General Work Lee 561/329-8872
30 AUCTION ENDS	31  10:30AM - 5 PM Samantha 631/764-6556					

**Lo Rain is available on Fridays 5-8 PM only with 24-hours notice.

The Rockhound

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM 12-3 PM Lo Rain 561/827-5793	3 12-3 PM Lee 561/329-8872	4 Open Shop 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	5 10-2 Lee 561/329-8872
6	7 Open Shop 10:30AM - 5 PM General Work Samantha 631/764-6556	8	9 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793	10 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lee 561/329-8872	11 Open Shop 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	12 Open Shop 10-2 General Work Lee 561/329-8872
13	14 Open Shop 10:30AM - 5 PM General Work Samantha 631/764-6556	15	16 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793	17 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 PM 12-3 PM Lee 561/329-8872	18 AUCTION BEGINS 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	19 TREASURE MUSEUMS FIELD TRIP 10-2 Lee 561/329-8872
20 	21 Open Shop 10:30AM - 5 PM General Work Samantha 631/764-6556	22	23 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793	24 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lee 561/329-8872	25 Open Shop 12-3 PM (5-8 PM**) Lo Rain 561/827-5793	26 Open Shop 10-2 General Work Lee 561/329-8872
27 AUCTION ENDS	28 SHOW COMM MEETING 7:00 PM 10:30AM - 5 PM Samantha 631/764-6556	29	30 Open Shop 12-3 PM General Work Lo Rain 561/827-5793			

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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 - \$7
Over 3 hours shop time - \$10

SEE CALENDAR FOR OPEN SHOPS

SHOP STEWARDS

Head Shop Steward:
Lee Miller 561/329-8872
Dennis Rietwyk 561/255-0292
Samantha Lazzaro 561/372-2359
Lo Rain Dudley 561-827-5793

Shop Phone:
561/585-2080

2021 OFFICERS

President*	Arlene Lazzaro	516/810-3495
1st Vice President*	Barbara Ringhiser	561/379-4307
2nd Vice President*	Dianna Ray	561/707-6753
Secretary*	Clara Pflueger	201/566-6492
Treasurer*	Jenny Wright	561/634-1427

2021 DIRECTORS

Head Shop Steward*	Lee Miller	561/329-8872
Membership*	David Taylor	561/644-1888
Newsletter Editor*	Laura Phillips	561/523-3594
Member-at-Large*	Lo Rain Dudley	561/827-5793
Show Chairman*	Barbara Ringhiser (Acting)	561/379-4307
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	Dianna Ray	561/707-6753
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 or 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** account:

<http://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