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**October 2008**

**Volume 43 Issue 2**

The next general membership meeting will be held

**Thursday October 16, 2008**

7:30 PM at the Palm Beach Garden Club, across from the Science Museum

## **Program Notes**

This month's program will be presented by representatives of the Woman's Jewelry Association. The WJA, founded in 1983, is the preeminent association of professional women in the jewelry, watch and related businesses. Through the national organization, headquartered in Chicago Ridge, Illinois, and a network of eleven regional chapters, members benefit from educational and networking opportunities, scholarships, design competitions and recognition programs.

Presenting the program will be Diane Warga-Arias, Chapter President, and Lillian Mindich Kaplan, Southeast Chapter Treasurer.

Diane Warga-Arias is one of the premier communications consultants in the jewelry industry. Diane's long association with the industry as a speaker, motivator, educator & business consultant have made her one of the most sought after and talented executives in the country.

Lillian Mindich Kaplan is an independent jewelry designer, her company is Lillian Designs. Lillian has been a member of WJA since 2007 and has served on the board of the Southeast Chapter for the past year.

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### **Steak Dinner and Auction**

#### **Sunday October 19th Garden Club**

Steaks will be ready to eat at 12:30, so be sure to get to the Garden club in plenty of time to grab a table! Steak, potatoes, and bread will be provided. Please bring a potluck dish, utensils, plates, condiments, and drinks!! Donations for the Auction will also be welcomed!!! Auction donations may be brought to the membership meeting on the 16th or the day of the dinner. Dinner is free to members, guests \$10 PP.

#### **VOLUNTEERS are needed to help cook!!!!**

Please call Deb Bengtson 561-707-4549 for more information.

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#### **Bylaws ballot enclosed in this newsletter**

There is a *prepaid* postcard ballot enclosed in this newsletter mailing. Please be sure to vote and mail the card back before the end of October

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There is still plenty of time to volunteer for our upcoming Show at the Fairgrounds. Job descriptions and form are on the last 2 pages of the newsletter. Volunteering at the show for 4 hours or more gets you a free ticket to the Christmas dinner in December!

## Door Prizes.....Raffle Items

Please remember, every person arriving before 7:30 will receive a FREE door prize ticket. Come early this month so you can get a ticket! The door prize this month is a shell necklace. Raffle prizes will include an Opal and Sterling necklace, a Red jasper necklace, and 2 cloisonné bracelets.

*Harriet Flashenburg,  
Raffle Coordinator*

The secret raffle drawing this month is...well...it's a secret, dontcha know! I would like to thank everyone who helped make the September raffle such a big success. There were lots of extra prizes and we raised a new record high \$72! Thanks everyone!!

*Jeff*

## October Birthdays!!

Sandra Bologna	Laura Chevinsky
Karen Dorsey	Ellen Jean
Arlene Lazzaro	Jim Toomath
Catherine Wenzel	

## Microgroup

Our microgroup met on Oct. 6...we talked, ate, looked, and...possibly learned...about how beautiful minerals really are!!

We will start meeting on the first Thursday of the month, instead of the first Monday...so mark your calendars now...the next meeting will be Thursday, November 6th.

All are welcome..if you would like to see a new world of beautiful, symmetrical, colorful, minerals, please join us. We have giveaways at every meeting..and, usually some yummy munchies..feel free to bring munchies, drinks, microscope (if you have one), and an open mind...

Directions? Questions? Call KC at 561-968-5287

## The return of the Steak picnic!!!

### More information.....

October 19th.....Reserve this date for the Annual Gem & Mineral Society Steak Picnic. The Garden Club will be the location for great food, fun and fellowship, and did I mention the steaks???

The Society will be providing the steaks, grilled potatoes and bread. Members and guests attending should bring their own plates, silverware and drinks. Also bring a covered dish to share, either a side dish to go with the steaks or a dessert.

Dinner is free to members, guests \$10 PP.

There will also be an auction, so take a look around in the garage or storeroom for anything you would like to donate to the club. The auctioneer has not been drafted yet, but we are sure it will be a fun time. We will start serving by 12:30.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please have items for the October ROCKHOUND by **November 12**. Submissions can be emailed to [BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM](mailto:BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM)  
Or you can call Jeff Ursillo 561-706-9549

## 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.

The Rockhound  
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Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

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## **Minutes of the General Meeting September 18, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 pm. by President **Jeff Ursullo**.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as read.

**Treasurer:** report was posted for information purposes.

**Newsletter:** Contact **Jeff Ursullo**, with any items for publication. The deadline for the October newsletter is October 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Classes:** Classes should resume by the end of October. A new class coordinator will be announced soon.

**Field Trips:** **Michelle Renné** is still working on the trip to Venice Beach. **KC Foster** reported that the trip to Ruck's Pit will be the third week of October. Starting the 16<sup>th</sup> until the 19<sup>th</sup> there will be dealers and food besides the dig. The cost will be \$30.00.

**Social Events:** **KC Foster** also reported that there will be a picnic with the Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild and the Gold Coast Gem and Mineral Society on November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 to 3, at TY Park, pavilion 4. There will be raffles, bingo, swap and sale, and lots of fun. Bring a dish. Donations for activities would be appreciated. Call John Speier at 954 728 9963 for any questions.

**Shop:** **Jeff Ursullo** reminded everyone to fill out and return the survey which includes input on the shop.

**Show:** **Carl Bengtson** reported that everything is going well. The cases will have new lighting. He encouraged everyone to look at a case with the new lighting that **KC Foster** had set up in the back of the room. If you would like to adopt a case let **KC Foster** know so she can arrange to have it for you at the October meeting. This will give you time to prepare and practice setting up your display. The next show meeting will be October 20<sup>th</sup> at KC Foster's house. **Barbara Ringhiser** reported that the steak dinner would be October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Garden Club. Bring a covered dish, drink, utensils and donations for the auction that will follow the dinner.

**Website:** **Jen Ursillo** is making some changes on the website. Let Jen know what you want to see or not see on the website.

**Old Business:** **Jeff Ursillo** called for a motion to adopt the new Articles of Incorporation as approved by the Board of Directors. The motion was carried. Jeff also reported that the Proposed changes to the Society's Bylaws must be approved by two-thirds of the club membership. To meet this requirement there will be voting forms made available for all members in the October Newsletter.

**New Business:** None

**Raffle:** \$72 was collected in the raffle. Thank you for all of the extra donations.  
The meeting ended at 9:41.

*Respectfully Submitted*  
*Mary Barrenechea, Secretary*

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### **Big fossil found in Ike-ravaged home's front yard**

CAPLEN, Texas - A homeowner whose beachfront property in Texas was destroyed during Hurricane Ike has found a football-size fossil tooth in the debris. Dorothy Sisk asked her colleague, Lamar University paleontologist Jim Westgate, to accompany her to her Bolivar Peninsula home after Ike hit. Together they found something unusual in the remains of Sisk's front yard: a six-pound fossil tooth. Westgate believes the fossil is from a Columbian mammoth common in North America until around 10,000 years ago. The tooth, which looks like a series of boot soles or slices of bread wedged together, is expected to be sent to the Texas Memorial Museum in Austin. More than 1 million people fled the Texas coast because of Hurricane Ike.

*Via the AP. Submitted by Ingrid Webster*

## **Swap and Sale at TY Park, Sunday, November 2!!**

This event will take place at Pavilion #4, from (app) 10:00AM-3:00PM. Entry into the park costs \$1.50 per person. Main dishes will be supplied by the 3 sponsoring clubs. MMLG is bringing turkey, Fla. Gold Coast Gem and Mineral Society (Ft. Lauderdale) is bringing hot dogs and burgers (and buns), and GMSPB is bringing ham. Please bring utensils, plates, drinks, condiments, and a potluck dish...salad, veggies, casserole, dessert, etc. We will also be playing bingo(YAY), and we'll have a raffle...so, bring those dollars and checkbooks....DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED for bingo and raffle prizes!!! Members are also invited to bring a table (and chairs)..to participate in a swap and sale of hobby related items!!! SEE YOU THERE!! For more info, please contact John Speier 954-728-9963.

T.Y. Park is located in Hollywood, 3300 N. Park Rd. (just west of I-95, north of Sheridan St.)

### **Classifieds**

**FOR SALE:** One thriving wireworking business. Cash needed by owner to pay-off gambling debts. Send \$50,000 down-payment to Luigi, Cell Block H, The Big House, U.S.A.

#### **BUY THIS BOOK AND GET RICH**

**QUICK!** My hand-written book can teach you how to become rich! The money will come rolling right in - and you don't send anything out! It's easy! Send \$100 to: S. Ucker, 13 Yellow Brick Road, Oztrylia.

**FOR SALE:** Parakeet, answers to the name of Jules. A real goldmine to the right person. Trainable. Eats like a bird. Able to retrieve diamonds from carelessly placed earrings. Telephone: (454) 555-1212.

**FOR RENT:** One slightly used Dremel. Owner asking \$5 a week. Must sign contract for 15 years and pay in advance. PO Box XZ 126, Lively, Ontario, Canada.  
**WANTED:** A "thriving" business to use as a tax write-off. Serious sellers only. Preferred location Alcatraz area. Long-term residents given first refusal. Telephone: (999) 999-9999.

**FOR SALE:** Heirloom jewelry owned by little old lady who never drove faster than 25 mph. Must be seen to be believed. Send \$5 for 1,000-page color catalog to Harold the Hermit, PO Box 1, Arctic Circle.

**WANTED:** Short length of gold-filled wire, needle-nose pliers, ring mandrel and instruction book. Needed desperately by cheapskate who wants to buy his fiancée a wedding ring. Please hurry! Send to Wired Box 8888.

**LAST CHANCE!** Send \$799.95 for 18-piece tool set that will set you up in your own wire-working business! Guaranteed top quality, money back if not satisfied. Allow six to eight weeks for delivery. Bankers draft only, please, to Flybynight Tools, Yuma Cutoff, Hwy 66, AZ.

#### **CABS CUT WHILE YOU WAIT!**

Yes, I can do it in your driveway! I have a van with all sorts of equipment and I am prepared to come right to your home and cut cabs! Price of cabs is the current market price, plus gas. 24-hour service, no extras. (When ordering, allow traveling time from Nome, Alaska, which is where I live.) Call now for speedy service! (907) CUT-CABS.

### **Library to be open soon!**

Aurora Siegel, one of the Society's new members, has volunteered to be our Librarian. The Society has a large collection of books and video tapes that will be available for our members to borrow. The cabinet is in a bit of disarray at the moment, but I will be working with Aurora to get it all organized, sorted out and ready for use before the end of the year.

One of our goals is to have a list of the contents available to our members. As I mentioned earlier, there are a lot of Video tapes in the library, and if someone in the Society has the facilities to transfer the tapes to DVD, that would be a great help as well.

*Jeff*

Did you know that you can perk up your live plants with a jolt of coffee--adding leftover coffee grounds to the soil supplies extra nutrients, like nitrogen, that boost blooms. it's a natural and a cheaper alternative to fertilizer.

**Rock Swap - Fossil Dig  
Mineral Show  
Fort Drum Crystal Mine Tur-  
key Creek Campground  
October 16—19**

Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 8am to 5pm. \$30.00 per day per adult and you can collect and keep one 5 gallon bucket plus one matrix piece per day per adult. Children 12 and under \$15.00, Children 7 and under are free. You will need to bring your own tools, 3lb. Hammer, Rock Pick, Chisel, Pry Bar, 5 gallon bucket, and lots of newspaper to wrap your specimens in as you get them. We will be cooking hot dogs, baked beans, and soft drinks. And you may also bring a cooler if you would like to. There will be fresh material brought from mine daily for this dig. For further information call Eddie Rucks Jr. #863-634-4579 or Edwin Rucks Sr. at 863-634-0691

**Classes will be  
starting soon.....  
Be sure to sign up!!!**

We have a class coordinator!

Jen Ursillo, who is currently the Society's webmaster has agreed to take over this position. Jen will be monitoring class sign up, notifying teachers of who is signed up for their classes and the scheduling of classes into the classroom, making sure there are no conflicts. The teachers will be responsible for contacting the students and making them aware of the scheduled class location, date and time.

**GARDEN HINT?**

Walt Brundage of the Shawnee G&MS gets the sludge left in the water tray of his Genie into suspension, then dumps it into his chrysanthemums. He gets all kinds of different colors in the flowers from the mineral content of the sludge.

**Exhibitors needed...  
hobby related exhibits!!**

**Plenty of cases available  
for this year's Show!**

This club has so much talent!! Let's show it off!!! Please label items, for example, sterling silver, type of mineral or cabochon, or material used. Exhibitors can put their business card in the case if they wish. Case set-up will be on Friday, November 20th, STARTING AT 12:00PM. Please contact KC 561-968-5287, for more info.

**New Online Discussion Group**

A new discussion group has been formed. Oryctics is a discussion group devoted to the history of mineralogy and crystallography. Topics for discussion will include antiquarian books, publications and manuscripts, crystallographic goniometers and other antique crystallographic and mineralogical instruments, crystal models, and anything else related to the history of these sciences.

To subscribe go to: <http://www.mineralogy.be/oryctics.html>

**Word pairs.....**

**ingenuous / ingenious**

For ingenious, think of genius; for ingenuous, ingénue. Ingenious means remarkably clever; ingenuous means innocent, naïve, without guile. "They figured out an ingenious way of floating the contraband down the river without detection. " "The young boy was too ingenuous to understand the humor in the naughty joke."

**tamper / temper**

Tamper means to meddle with or interfere with, especially as to cause alteration or harm. One meaning of temper, used with 'with' is to moderate or mitigate. To temper justice with mercy.

## Ancient trees recorded in mines

By Jonathan Amos Science reporter, BBC News, Liverpool

Spectacular fossil forests have been found in the coal mines of Illinois by a US-UK team of researchers. The group reported one discovery last year, but has since identified a further five examples. The ancient vegetation - now turned to rock - is visible in the ceilings of mines covering thousands of hectares. These were among the first forests to evolve on the planet, Dr Howard Falcon-Lang told the British Association Science Festival in Liverpool.

"These are the largest fossil forests found anywhere in the world at any point in geological time," he told reporters. "It is quite extraordinary to find a fossil landscape preserved over such a vast area; and we are talking about an area the size of (the British city of) Bristol."

The forests grew just a few million years apart some 300 million years ago; and are now stacked one on top of another. It appears the ancient land experienced repeated periods of subsidence and flooding which buried the forests in a vertical sequence. They have since become visible because of the extensive mining operations in the border area between the states of Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky.



### Scientists look up to see what would have been the forest floor

Once the coal seams have been removed (what were, essentially, the compacted soils of the forests), it is possible to go into the tunnels and look up at what would have been lying on the forest floors.

"It's a really exciting experience to drive down into these mines; it's pitch black," the Bristol University research said.



"It's kind of an odd view looking at a forest bottom-up. You can actually see upright tree stumps that are pointed vertically up above your head with the roots coming down; and adjacent to those tree stumps you see all the litter.

"We found 30m-long trunks that had fallen with their crowns perfectly preserved."

The researchers believe their study of these ancient forests could give hints to how modern rainforests might react in a warmer world. The six forests straddle a period in Earth history 306 million years ago that saw a rapid shift from an icehouse climate with big polar ice caps to a greenhouse climate in which the ice caps would have melted. "The fascinating thing we've discovered is that the rainforests dramatically collapse approximately coincident with the greenhouse warming," explained Dr Falcon-Lang.

"Long-lived forests dominated by giant club moss trees almost overnight (in a geological sense) are replaced by rather weedy fern vegetation." The next stage of the research is to try to refine the timings of events all those years ago, and work out the exact environmental conditions that existed. The thresholds that triggered the ancient collapse can then be compared with modern circumstances.

### Interested in stained glass??

For our members in the south part of the county, there is a great stained glass supply store located in Delray Beach. Art Glass Environments (561-278-8838) is located at 440 SE 5th Ave (Southbound Federal Highway) about 4 blocks south of Atlantic Ave. They offer a full line of supplies, including fusing and dichroic supplies. They also offer a wide variety of classes in enameling, stained glass, solder, fusing, and using gold and silver leaf.

## **OPAL CRACKS AND CRAZING**

*by Paul Downing from Serendipity Gems, 1/92, via Gem Cutter Gazette, 8/08*

Opal they say is a delicate stone. They are wrong! Two things may happen to an opal. It may crack or it may craze. An opal may crack when subjected to severe pressure applied by a sharp instrument. An opal may craze if it dries out and/or changes its internal structure; but the vast majority of all opals do not crack or craze.

Crazing is readily identifiable in an opal. It starts with intertwined cracks at the surface of the stone, which may spread over time. The pattern they form looks like a spider web or a dried mud puddle. Scientists do not know why some opals craze. One common explanation is that the opal loses part of the water trapped between silica spheres. It then shrinks and the surface tension causes the crazing. Another explanation is that the chemical structure of the silica spheres changes because of being exposed to the light. The energy of the light activates the chemical reaction.

Cracking is easily distinguished from crazing. Cracks are long and go into the stone. When examined with transmitted light, a crack will reflect an orange light from one or more directions. Usually there is only one crack. Cracks are caused by external pressure. The miners break up large pieces of opal by squeezing them between the sharp jaws of a file nipper. Prongs in jewelry designed for faceted stones do the same thing to an opal. Most cracked opals are the result of inappropriate setting. On rare occasions, an opal will crack for no apparent reason. People have told me of opals that cracked in their rings when they went outside in very cold weather.

The problems of cracking and crazing made me curious, so I started an experiment about a year ago. I took several opals and put them in a paper bowl in the freezer. After several days, they were frozen solid. I then ran them under scalding tap water. After repeating this exercise six times, none of the opals cracked or crazed. Next, I placed these opals in a west window and let them bake in the hot Florida sun. After almost a year, not a one has cracked or crazed. The experiment included opals of several types. Base colors ranged from white to gray. Some opals had full fire, some only lines of color, and some had no fire at all. They were from Coober Pedy, Mintabe, Andamooka, and Lightning Ridge. Some had inclusions in them. Others had cracks. Neither the inclusions nor the cracks spread.

I conclude from my observations that we really do not know why an opal crazes. We do know that almost all (well over 99%) of the opal from any Australian mining area does not craze. Know that almost all cracking results from pressure caused by improper setting of the opal or rough wear. Opal has an undeserved reputation. Cracking and crazing are very rare. Is opal delicate? Not really.

### **Frank Garcia reaches scientific milestone**

On June 27, 2008 Frank Garcia, notorious fossil hunter and dedicated friend of the world of paleontology received the official notice that his favorite paleontological discovery, “nanosiren garciae”, would officially be named after him. Daryl Domning, of Howard University in Washington DC sent official word to Frank on this scientific milestone. The name nanosiren means “little mermaid.” Garcia says that at first he thought the bones he found in the early 70’s were from a baby dugong, but upon further examination and careful study of the bone characteristics he knew that the discovery was something never seen before; he had found something new to science.

The pygmy sea-cow fossils were found in the Bone valley layer at the Leisey shell pit in Ruskin, Florida and all over Bone valley in Polk County. Garcia has been credited with discovering over 30 animals new to science. To his credit are discoveries of new species of giant bear, clam, giraffe, antelope, gaint beaver and dugong among many others. When asked which of all of these is his favorite, his grin belies his childlike glee as he says “my favorite is the dugong...” “Little Mermaid”...I think that is so cool.”

*Excerpts from an article by editor Tricia Lynn in The Coral Geode 8/08*

## October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12	13 Open Shop 7-9PM Lapidary machines (cabbing / trim saws)	14	15	16 <b>Membership Meeting Speakers / Women's Jewelry Assoc.</b>	17 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	18
Ruck's Pit Rock Swap Fossil Dig Oct 16—19 See P.5						
19 <b>STEAK DINNER Garden Club Noon See page 1</b>	20 Open Shop 7-9PM open beading Show Comm. KC's house	21	22	23	24 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	25
26	27 Open Shop 7-9PM Lapidary machines Torchwork	28	29	30	31 Happy Halloween!!! No open shop	1

## November 2008

2 <b>TY Park Swap &amp; Sale See page 4</b>	3 Open Shop 7-9PM Open beading  <b>Micromounters Meeting See page 2</b>	4 <b>Board Meeting @ Shop 7PM</b>	5	6	7 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	8
9	10 Open Shop 7-9PM  Lapidary machines Torchwork	11	12	13	14 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	15
16	17 Open Shop 7-9PM  Fused Glass	18	19	20 <b>Membership Meeting  Eddie Rucks  Show Setup</b>	21 Setup for Our show At the Fairgrounds	22  OUR SHOW At the Fairgrounds Sat & Sun

**New shop rules are in effect . Copies are available at the shop. Please note on your shop waiver form that you have received and read the new rules. New liability forms need to be signed for 2008 for anyone using the shop.**

\$5 shop use fee is NOT charged when attending a class. Whether attending a class or using the shop, you must sign a Liability Waiver (New waiver must be signed after the first of every year) and sign the Shop's Log book on each visit.

**Classes**

CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	PHONE	COST	DATE	TIME
Art Clay Silver	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$50 + \$85 materials (depending on cost of silver)	Saturday, TBD	10-4PM at the Shop
Cabochon Six 3-hr sessions	Ed Flashenburg	561-733-1466	\$60	Wednesday TBD	6-9PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Beg) – Box Chain	Kelly Azor	561-635-7619	\$40 + \$20 materials	Saturday, Date TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Beg) – Byzantine Chain	Kelly Azor	561-635-7619	\$40 + \$30 materials	Saturday, date TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Beg) – Japanese Exploration	Jen Ursillo	561-329-4343 / morocket@aol.com	\$30 + \$25 materials	Tuesday, date TBD	7-9:30PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Adv) – Snake Chain	Jen Ursillo	561-329-4343 / morocket@aol.com	\$30 + \$25 materials	Saturday, TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Adv) – Turkish Round	Jen Ursillo	561-329-4343 / morocket@aol.com	\$30 + \$25 materials	Saturday, TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Enameling on Copper Two 3-hr sessions	Hazel Levin	561-439-6915	\$40 + \$15 materials	Two Tuesday afternoons TBD in June	1-4PM at the Shop
Enameling on Copper Two 3-hr sessions	Hazel Levin	561-439-6915	\$40 + \$15 materials	Two Saturday sessions TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Fused Glass (Beginner/ Tuesday AM)	Frank Hecker	561-742-4337	\$40 + \$15 materials	Ongoing - Tuesdays – call Frank prior to confirm	9:30 -12Pm at the Shop
Fused Glass (Beginner/ Saturday)	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$40 + \$15 materials	Saturday, TBD	12-4PM at the Shop
Fused Glass (Advanced)	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$40 + \$15 materials	Saturday, TBD	12-4PM at the Shop
Non-solder Wire Work	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$40 + \$15 materials	Saturday, date TBD	12-4PM at the Shop
Right Angle Weave Cubes	Jen Ursillo	561-329-4343 / morocket@aol.com	\$40 + \$50 for optional kit <u>OR</u> supply list can be provided	Saturday, TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Wire Wrapping (Beginner)	Cynthia Lariviere	772-285-3987	\$40 + bring your own supplies (list provided)	Tuesday, TBD	7-9PM at the Shop

**Jump ringer certification**

Members can be certified on the Society's Jump Ringer at either the Monday or Friday night Open Shop sessions, Members will be certified after instruction by the Shop steward, or by demonstrating their knowledge of the equipment. \$5.00 shop fee applies. As always, call ahead to be sure Shop will be open.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Junior Membership - \$10.00  
 (Under Age 18)  
 Single Membership - \$15.00  
 (Over Age 18)  
 Family Membership - \$25.00  
 (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 Febru-  
 ary of the new year. To renew your  
 membership, make your check or money  
 order out to:

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

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

**NAME TAGS**

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

Open Shop schedule is  
**TENTATIVE** due to changing  
 class schedule. Call the shop  
 steward listed below before you  
 go!

Shop fee is \$5 per visit, payable  
 to the Shop Steward.

**SHOP STEWARDS:**

**Head Steward**

John Holmstrom 561/585-7094

**Monday PM**

Michelle Renné 561/969-3291

**Wednesday AM**

Ed Flashenburg 561-733-1466

**Friday PM**

Jeff Ursillo 561/706-9549

**Saturday PM**

Keith Allum 561/689-2565

**SHOP PHONE 561/585-2080**

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2008**

**OFFICERS**

President*	Jeff Ursillo	706-9549
1st Vice President*	Michelle Renné	969-3291
2nd Vice President*	Deb Bengtson	641-4493
Secretary*	Mary Barrenechea	969-6056
Treasurer*	Marv Berkowitz	364-9696

**DIRECTORS**

Past President*	Barbara Ringhiser	588-5458
Past President*	Michelle Renné	969-3291
Past President*	Jeff Ursillo	706-9549
Show Chairman*	Carl Bengtson	641-4493

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE**

Class Coordinator	Jen Ursillo	329-4343
Field Trips	Michelle Renné	969-3291
Historian	OPEN	
Hostess	Coralie Norvell	965-4748
Junior Program	OPEN	
Librarian	Aurora Siegel	988-7006
Membership*	Ingrid Webster	793-8646
Newsletter Editor*	Jeff Ursillo	706-9549
Programs	The Board	
Raffle Coordinator	Harriet Flashenburg	733-1466
Refreshments	Debbie Anderson	965-9279
Sunshine Committee	Karie Bliss	772-631-3576
Social Events	KC Foster	968-5287
Head Shop Steward	John Holmstrom	585-7094
Website Manager	Jen Ursillo	329-4343

\* Denotes a Voting Board Member

The Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc. is a member of the Eastern and Southeastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies, and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary 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 West Palm Beach Garden Club across from the South Florida Science Museum in Dreher Park, West Palm Beach.

**Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches Website**  
[www.gemandmineral.cc](http://www.gemandmineral.cc)

## **Volunteer time for the annual show!!!**

November 22, the start of our annual show, will be here before we know it!! That means it is time to start thinking about volunteering NOW. Here's a list of volunteer positions and the duties required. **If you volunteer at the show for 4 hours or more, your ticket to the Christmas Dinner (December 13) is free!**

YOU can make a difference! Without you, our society members, it would be impossible to fill the many time periods necessary to make the 2008 show the best show yet! Over 100 volunteer shifts need to be filled. Please let us count on you.

Please give the attached form to Barbara Ringhiser or Carl Bengtson at the September, October or November meeting; or, mail the form to:  
Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.  
P.O. Box 18095  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-8095

or, call Barbara Ringhiser at 561-588-5458, email her at Bar5678@aol.com to sign up.

### **Thursday Set-up Crew – November 20th**

Approximately 10 people are needed to move tables around and set up each booth area. Tables must be carried, unfolded, aligned, and set up properly. Some of this is very hard work and requires two people for each table. This position requires about 5 hours of moving tables around.

### **Friday Set-up/Sunday Take-down – November 21st and 23rd**

As many volunteers as we can get are needed during the day on Friday and from 5:00 PM on Sunday. On Friday, materials such as our display cases, from the storage unit, must be loaded in the rented truck, and brought to the Fairgrounds, unloaded and set-up. On Sunday, after the show is over, everything must be packed up, loaded in the truck, and delivered back to the storage area. This is a strenuous job and requires lots of lifting, loading, and unloading. The Carolina mine is also set up on Thursday/Friday and taken down Sunday night. If you want to help with the display case setup, or want to reserve a case for your self during the show call KC Foster at 561-968-5287

**This is such an important time—the more volunteers  
the lighter the load would be for everyone!**

### **Ticket Takers – November 22nd and 23rd**

Two people are needed for each 2-hour time slot. Responsibilities include taking tickets at the entrance doors, tearing the ticket in half, depositing one half in the box, and giving the second half to the guest. This position requires either sitting on a stool or standing. Requirements include a pleasant, friendly, helpful, courteous, and kind personality. At times, ticket takers are very busy. This is a very important position because ticket takers are the "first impression" that people get of our society.

### **Information Table – November 22nd and 23rd**

Two people are necessary for each 2-hour time slot. Responsibilities include answering questions concerning the show and providing information about our society's activities. Information attendants should be able to direct visitors and provide information about everything from who is in charge, to where a particular dealer is located. This position requires sitting at the information desk. The ability to be pleasant and helpful, without getting flustered, is important. club history books located at this table as well.

**Chinese Auction Raffle – November 22nd and 23rd**

Two people per 2-hour time slot are needed. Responsibilities include encouraging people to purchase tickets for the raffle of the many items available. It is extremely important to be friendly, inviting, cheerful, and encouraging without being insistent. The main objective is to point out the items that may be won with only a \$1.00 ticket.

**Show Security – November 22nd and 23rd**

Two to four people are needed for each 2-hour time slot. Responsibilities are to observe people, watch for those acting in a disorderly manner (for example, drunk, smoking, or shoplifting), and report it to Show Chairman, Committee Chairperson, Fairground Security, or Armed Security. Show Security guards should NEVER confront or accuse anyone, ONLY report it. Greeting the public in a friendly manner is also important. This position requires walking around or standing.

**Demonstrations – November 22nd and 23rd**

People are needed to demonstrate their skills during each 2-hour time slot. The area is large enough for several demonstrators to present simultaneously. This is the opportunity to greet the public and show-off by participating in beading, stained glass, wire wrapping, chain making, or any other lapidary skills. If you are interested in volunteering to demonstrate at the show, please contact demonstration coordinator Kelly Azor-Anderson at 561-688-7903 or 561-635-7619

**Lunch on Set-up Day – November 21st**

Lunch will be served to the dealers, society members, and fairground workers on Friday, set-up day.

**Mining/Fossils/Geode Cracking – November 22nd and 23rd**

Nine people for each 2-hour time slot are necessary to run the mining area effectively. Duties include keeping buckets filled, collecting money, and keeping lines moving. For the fossil dig, volunteers will be briefed on what fossils are available in the dig. There will be a card available with fossil samples.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

Positions interested in:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle times you are available (2 hour shifts)

Thursday (November 20th) Set-up 9am 11am 1pm 3pm

Friday (November 21st) Set-up and Lunch committee 9am 11am 1pm 3pm

Saturday (November 22nd) 9am 11am 1pm 3pm 5pm

Sunday (November 23rd) 10am 12pm 2pm 4pm 5pm (take-down)

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