



# *THE ROCKHOUND*

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

[www.gemandmineral.cc](http://www.gemandmineral.cc)

**October 2009 Volume 44 Issue 2**

The next general membership meeting will be held

**Thursday October 15, 2009**

7:30 PM at the West Palm Beach Garden Club, West Palm Beach, FL.

## **October Program**

It's almost November, which can only mean one thing here in the Gem Society....our annual show is fast approaching!

October's program will be a showcase of the event of the year and the significant source of our club's income, the Annual Gem and Mineral Show! Join us as we present photos from years past, information about the Mastodon (this year's highlight), all the activities available at the show and more! Web Master Jen Ursillo will be giving this program, with help from the Show committee so be sure to come to this important meeting and help us get geared up for this year's show!

## **Show Committee Report**

2 big booths available now. 57 deposits received to date. 21 paid in full get free ad in the program. The sheet metal trays in the flume mine have been re-designed and are being fabricated by a sheet metal company to avoid the leaking joints at the corners. If you want to have a display case at the show contact KC Foster. (561) 968-5287.

Jen Ursillo can get large mastodon picture 10'x14' in 4 sections. We can take pictures of attendees in front of the picture for a small fee. There will also be a display showing the differences between mammoths and mastodons. We don't know how many classes will be taught at the show. If you'd like to teach one, contact Kelly Azor-Anderson.

Volunteering is extremely slow. If you'd like to volunteer contact Jim Wood. By email—[jameswoodIII@yahoo.com](mailto:jameswoodIII@yahoo.com), bring your volunteer slip to the next meeting and give it to Jeff Ursillo, Barbara Ringhiser, or call Jim Wood at 561-963-9350, or mail the slip to the P. O. Box—GMSPB, Inc. P. O. Box 18095, West Palm Beach, FL 33416.

New name tags were designed with a mastodon theme. We're going to do an internet mailing this year to advertise the show. This is in addition to the postcard mailing, the radio ad and the newspaper ad in the Post. We're going to try to have an article about the show in the Accent section of the Post. We're going to ask attendees how they heard about the show and are going to do a vendor questionnaire about whether they'd like to be listed on our website next year and also would they like to receive correspondence via email.

## October Birthdays!!!

KELLY B. AZOR  
MARIA HOPE  
CASSANDRA STRYKER

LAURA CHEVINSKY  
ELLEN JEAN

KAREN DORSEY  
ARLENE LAZZARO  
JIM TOOMATH

### Door Prizes.....Raffle Items

The door prizes for October is a wire wrapped ring with a turquoise colored stone. Raffle prizes will include an amethyst pendant and earring set mounted in silver, teardrop shaped aventurine beads and some cutting material. As always, there will be some surprises. Thanks to Ron Ketelaar and Andrea Petretti for handling the raffle last month. We made \$80!! Well done, guys...

A pseudomorph is a mineral that has replaced another mineral's chemistry and structure with its own without changing the outward shape of the original mineral....

#### \*\*\*\*\***REMINDER**\*\*\*\*\*

The Board would like to remind everyone that there is NO selling at the regular membership meetings. The TY Park outings as well as the December member's sale are available for selling. Bringing items in for an informal "Show and Tell" is fine, but not for sale.

There is NO PARKING in the circular drive or on the grass bordering it in front of the Garden Club. We can park in the Parking lot that is across from the Museum, or in the grass field to the west of the Garden Club (left side of the building as you face the front door).

#### **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Please have items for the November ROCKHOUND by **November 11**. Submissions can be emailed to [BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM](mailto:BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM)  
Or you can call Jeff Ursillo 561-706-9549

### Advertising Space Available...

The Board has decided to offer advertising space in the Rockhound. Ads will be business card sized (2 x 3 1/2 inches). The ad can advertise your business, or hobby related business, but do NOT have to be hobby related. Ads are available to members or companies that members own only. Advertising rates are \$55 per year for 12 insertions. If response is strong enough, the ads will be put into a special advertising page. Till then, they will be randomly inserted throughout the newsletter.

### Sunshine Committee

If you know of any Society members who are under the weather, injured or just not at 100%, please let Sunshine Lady Lo Rain know, and she will send a card on behalf of the Society. Lo can be reached at 561-827-5793

### 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  
Copyright 2009  
by the

Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

Permission to reprint original material herein not otherwise copyrighted is granted provided credit is given to both author and publication.  
**Articles not bylined are by the Editor.**

## Minutes, General Meeting Sept. 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President **Jeff Ursillo**. There were three guests. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as read.

**Treasurer:** The treasurer's report was posted for information purposes.

**Newsletter:** Contact **Jeff Ursillo** if you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail. By using e-mail you will receive the entire newsletter in color. The deadline for the October newsletter is October 7, 2009.

**Membership:** There was one new member.

**Classes:** **Jennifer Ursillo** reported that members should call her or the teacher listed in the newsletter to sign up for a class.

**Website:** **Jennifer Ursillo** reported that the website is still up. The dealer application and discount coupon are now available on the website.

**Field Trips:** **Michelle Renné** reported that there would be a field trip to Art Glass Environments in Delray on Saturday, September 26th. The trip to Bob Friedman's in Titusville will be October 17th. Members should contact Michelle Renné if they are interested in going on either trip.

**Shop:** **Jeff Ursillo** reported that the shop is running well and participation is up. Friday, September 18th the shop will be closed.

**Show:** **Barbara Ringhiser** reported that there are two large booths still available. 50 deposits have been received. The mine is out or storage and in the shop to be worked on. The next show meeting is August 31 at 7PM at **KC Foster's** house. She encouraged members to take \$1 off coupons to distribute. Volunteering has started, you can e-mail **Barbara Ringhiser**. **Jim Woods** will be in charge of volunteers. The volunteer form will be in the September newsletter. If you are interested in an exhibit case please see **KC Foster**. Contact **Kelly Azor** if you would like to do demonstrations or teach a class at the show.

**Social Events:** October 4th is the TY Park tri-club picnic. It will be in pavilion 9 at 10 AM. They are looking for donations for the raffles and bingo prizes. Members may set up tables to shop and swap.

**New Business:** **Aurora Siegl** announced that **Nina Murray** would be the new librarian. She then dedicated the library to **Frank Hecker** and presented the plaque honoring him. She also stated that the club is still open to suggestions to solve the problem of books not being returned. **KC Foster** announced that the Miami Club show will be October 25th. **Jeff Ursillo** gave a special thanks to **Bonnie Watts** and **Donna Sypniewski** for preparing refreshments for the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Mary Barrenechea*  
Secretary

## TY Park Outing

October 4th was a hot one, but TY park was great fun! There were about 35 people from the three clubs, with a lot of members setting up tables. There was used equipment, slabs (lots and lots of slabs!) cutting rough, finished cabs, jewelry, fossils, stone wine racks, and plenty of food! The clubs once again outdid themselves with donations to the raffle, proceeds from which offset the cost of renting the pavilion

## The Trivia Vug

*by R. J. Harris from Rock Buster News, August 2009*

o Only natural ice counts as a mineral such as snow, natural lake or river ice, glacier ice and permafrost. Liquid water does not get the same consideration by most mineralogists because it lacks the crystalline structure of ice.

o The characteristic Widmanstätten patterns of a meteorite (revealed by polishing then acid-etching a slice of the meteorite) reflect the specific nickel-iron ratio and the rate of cooling of the host body and are effectively the fingerprint of an iron meteorite.

o Sulfur itself has essentially no scent. As for the rotten-egg odor we detect, this occurs when water (including humidity in the air) mixes with the sulfur and a small amount of hydrogen sulfide gas is produced.

o Some minerals will glow when heated; this is called thermoluminescence. And there are some minerals that will glow when they are stuck or crushed; this is called triboluminescence.

## MICROMOUNTERS

### Save the first Thursday of the month.....

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

## **Librarian's Corner- October**

As the new Librarian for the GMSPB, I would like to say thank you for the appointment. I am looking forward to getting to know more of our members, and assisting you with your book and library selections.

We have some additions, donated to the library this month; thank you Jeff. I have had the pleasure of reviewing and learning from these books as they are added to the library. Here is a list of the new book additions that I am sure many will enjoy.

### **Library new book additions:**

- 1) **Jewelers' dictionary** – 1976, 3rd edition Published by Jewelers' Circular-Keystone Edited by Donald S. McNeil *This extraordinary and comprehensive book has been compiled especially for you, the jeweler, watchmaker, silversmith. .... More than 7,000 entries; nearly 2,000 refer to terms, items and processes established within the last twenty-five years! Some 7000 illustrations, charts and tables give you a fuller, more in-depth explanation of your industry and product lines.*
- 2) **Rock and Stone Craft** – Creating Art and Functional Objects from Natural Materials – 1973 Elyse Sommer – 184 photographs, 24 color plates
- 3) **Stoneware & Porcelain** – The Art of High-Fired Pottery - 1959 Daniel Rhodes
- 4) **The Artist's Handbook of Materials and Techniques** – 1957/1968 Revised Edition Ralph Mayer – The Viking Press *Preface: This book has been prepared for the purpose of giving the artist a complete and up-to-date account of the materials and methods of his craft.....*
- 5) **The Design and Creation of Jewelry** – 1961/1972 Revised Edition Robert von Neumann – Chilton Book Company *Discover the pleasure of creating your own beautiful jewelry with this complete handbook.....*
- 6) **Creative Jewelry Making – Techniques for Craftsmen** – 1975 Larry Hemard – Over 200 illustrations, 10 in full color *A complete guide to the jeweler's craft – techniques, tools, and their uses, materials.*
- 7) **How to Design Jewelry** – 1977 Richard D. Austin and Iva L. Geisinger *Design is the element that adds something special to jewelry creation. ...*
- 8) **How to Do Full and Mosaic Inlay in Silver Cast** – 1975 Carmon Phillips and Carole Goodwin
- 9) **Jewelry Craft Made Easy** – 1976 Bernada French – Gembooks
- 10) **Handbook of Gemstone Carving** – 1968 Ed and Leola Wertz – Gembooks *A complete guide to the materials, equipment and techniques for carving gemstones.*
- 11) **So You Want to Cut Gem Stones!** – 1969 Jack R. Cox and Robert Ramos – 3rd Edition, 6th Printing – Covington Lapidary Eng. Corp. With Photos by Jack Cox.
- 12) **Proper Uses and Common Abuses of Wrenches and Pliers** – 1974 Hand Tools Institute, NY, NY

### **OVERDUE BOOKS PLEASE RETURN TO LIBRARY for others to enjoy:**

**Arlene Lazzaro - Jewelry Art Picture Archive**

**Michaëlle Holder – The Jewelry Repair Manual**

**Andrea Holtz – 1) Gemstones of the World 2) Field Collecting Gemstones and Minerals**

Please remember that the library is here for all members to enjoy. Books can be checked out at the monthly meetings and are due back to the library the following month. There is a \$20.00 deposit due for books that are checked-out, which will be refunded upon return of the books to the library. Thank you.

*Nina Murray, Librarian*

## SEPTEMBER'S FIELD TRIP

On Saturday, September 26, 5 Society members went to Art Glass Environments in Delray Beach. The owner, Bill Klug, gave us an very informative 2 hour tour of his establishment. It started in the main entrance where he has BEAUTIFUL examples of the work they do - stained glass and etched glass doors, sidelights, mirrors, lamps and domes. He has a small retail supply area where you can purchase stained glass supplies and finished jewelry. Then we went behind that area where they have a room for classes in stained glass, fused glass, mosaics, PMC and "open" studio time. You can rent space for \$5/hr. He has various sized kilns for fusing glass, and offers to fuse glass for you starting at \$10 per piece. At the other end of the building we toured the BIG shop area where the large pieces are created. They are located at 440 SE 5th Ave. in Delray Beach. Their hours are 8-4pm Monday-Friday with some classes on Saturdays. Call for more information at 561/278-8388. The Website is artglassage.com.

## OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 (postponed from the September date)

8 am - 5 pm (at the latest)

We will be returning to Bob Friedman's (Sharking on Ebay) in Titusville (just north Cocoa Beach) to check out his collection of various shark teeth and jaws, fossils, jewelry, artifacts and VERY unusual art objects from all over the world - many for sale at wholesale prices. BRING YOUR CAMERA ! We'll leave about 8 am, caravan up, go through several different rooms, eat lunch he graciously supplies then head back in the afternoon.

\* Anyone interested in this trip PLEASE contact Michelle Renne' at 561/969-3291 or fgmr4@aol.com. for directions.

G & LW WHOLESALE SHOW IN KISSIMMEE October 30, 31 & November 1. You MUST have a wholesale license to attend

## The Color of Crystals

*from The Roe Sac, June 2009 via gem cutter news 09/09*

The color of a crystal can be its most striking feature. The causes of color are varied, and many minerals occur in a range of colors. Something looks a particular color largely due to your eye and brain reacting to different wavelengths of light. When white light (daylight) falls on a crystal, some of the wavelengths may be reflected, and some absorbed. If some are absorbed, those remaining will make up a color other than white because some of the wavelengths that make up white light are missing. Sometimes light is absorbed and re-emitted without changing and the mineral will appear colorless.

### Idiochromatic

Some minerals are nearly always the same color because certain light-absorbing atoms are an essential part of their crystal structure. These minerals are described as idiochromatic. For example, copper minerals are nearly always red, green, or blue according to the nature of the copper present. Sulfur is a idiochromatic mineral and normally crystallizes in bright yellow crystals. These are found as encrusting masses around volcanic vents and fumaroles (gas vents).

### Allochromatic

A large number of minerals occur in a wide range of colors caused by impurities or light-absorbing defects in the atomic structure. For example, quartz, diamond, beryl, and corundum can be red, green yellow and blue. These minerals are described as allochromatic. Rhodochrosite: Manganese minerals such as rhodochrosite are usually pink or red. The bright red color of some beryls is due to tiny amounts of manganese. Cobalt minerals, such as Erythrite are usually pink or reddish. Trace amounts of cobalt may color normally colorless minerals. When exposed to invisible ultraviolet light, some minerals emit visible light of various colors. This is called fluorescence, usually caused by foreign atoms called activators in the crystal structure. The fluorescent color of a mineral is usually different from its color in daylight. The feldspar mineral labradorite can occur as yellowish crystals, but more often it forms dull gray crystalline masses. Internal twinning causes interference of light, which gives the mineral a sheen, or schiller, with patches of different colors.

A space in the atomic structure of a crystal, caused by a missing atom, can form a color center. Coloration of common salt is thought to be caused by this. The color in some minerals is really a play of colors like that seen in a oil slick or a soap bubble. This may be produced when the light affected by the physical structure of the crystals, such as twinning (two crystals of the same mineral that are joined at a common crystallographic plane) or cleavage planes (form along the weakest plane) or by development during growth of thin films. Microscopic "intergrowths" of plate-like inclusions (during growth, crystals enclose crystals of other minerals) also interfere with the light.

Reference: Crystal and Gemby Dr. R. R. Harding, Alfred A Knopf, New York, 1991.

### October fun facts!!

- 10) In 1881, the Shootout at the OK Corral took place, spawning over 200 Western movies starring everyone from The Marx Brothers to Kevin Costner.
- 9) Mrs. O’Leary’s cow kicks over a lantern, starting the 1871 Great Fire of Chicago, and coincidentally, marks the invention of BBQ.
- 8) John Lennon was born in Liverpool England in 1940. Imagine....
- 7) In 54 A.D, Roman Emperor Claudius died after eating poisonous mushrooms prepared for him by his wife, the Empress Agrippina.
- 6) 1871, Thomas Edison successfully tested the world’s first electric incandescent light bulb,.
- 5) Ninety members of the Donner Party departed Illinois in 1846, headed for California. Amazingly, there were 48 survivors of that horrific winter in the Sierras.
- 4) The Statue of Liberty was dedicated in 1886. A gift from the people of France to commemorate the French-American alliance during the Revolutionary War.
- 3) In 1938 Orson Wells radio broadcast of The War of The Worlds panicked millions of Americans who believed the Martian invasion was real.
- 2) Queen Marie Antoinette was beheaded following the French Revolution.
- 1) An ancient traditional celebration combining the Christian festival of All Saints with Pagan autumn festivals becomes the most fun October day of all.....Halloween!

### Nominating Committee

The 2009 Nominating Committee was formed at the October Board meeting. It’s members are Ron Ketaaar, KC Foster and Lo Rain. Give some thought to running for office this year! Talk to the current officers, see if an office fits you. Then talk to one of the Committee. Let’s see if we can get more than one name on the ballot for each office this year!



### Board Meeting Attendance

For general information. If no one is interested, let me know.  
 SB (snow bird) means up North for the summer, SBR means up north and reporting to Board.

Board Member	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
J. Ursillo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NO MTG	Y	Y	Y		
M. Renné	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	NO MTG	Y	Y	Y		
Jen Ursillo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NO MTG	Y	Y	Y		
M. Barrenechea	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	NO MTG	Y	Y	Y		
M. Berkowitz	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SBR	NO MTG	SBR	SBR	SBR		
B. Ringhiser	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NO MTG	Y	Y	Y		
A. Siegl				Y	Y	Y	NO MTG	Y	R	R		
J. Holmstrom	Y	Y	Y	Y	SB	SB	NO MTG	SB	SB	SB		

## **Mines Could Provide Geothermal Energy**

ScienceDaily (July 31, 2009) — Mine shafts on the point of being closed down could be used to provide geothermal energy to local towns. This is the conclusion of two engineers from the University of Oviedo, whose research is being published in the journal Renewable Energy. The method they have developed makes it possible to estimate the amount of heat that a tunnel could potentially provide.

"One way of making use of low-intensity geothermal energy is to convert mine shafts into geothermal boilers, which could provide heating and hot water for people living nearby", Rafael Rodríguez, from the Oviedo Higher Technical School of Mining Engineering, tells SINC. This type of energy, which is hardly used in Spain, is obtained from the internal heat of the Earth.

The engineer and his colleague María Belarmina Díaz have developed a "semi-empirical" method (part mathematical and part experimental) to calculate the amount of heat that could be produced by a mine tunnel that is due to be abandoned, based on studies carried out while it is still in use.

"When the mine is still active one can access the tunnels easily in order to gather data about ventilation and the properties of the rocks, as well as to take samples and design better circuits, and even programme the closure of some sections in order to use them for geothermal energy production", says the engineer, who stresses that, although geothermal energy can be made use of once the mine is closed, "it is no longer possible by that stage to make any modifications, or to gather any useful data to evaluate and improve the system".

The study looks into geothermal exploitation of a two-kilometre-long mine shaft, in which the temperature of the rocks 500m below the surface is around 30° C. This is typical of many of the mining areas in Asturias, although it could also be applied to other parts of the world. Water could be forced in through tubes at 7° C and return at 12° C, a big enough heat gain to be of benefit to towns located above the mines.

Advantages of geothermal energy from mines

Rodríguez and Díaz highlight the benefits of building geothermal boilers in mine shafts in that, aside from their predictable energy production levels, they also function practically as an open tube system "but without any risk of heat contamination of aquifers".

Using geothermal energy also helps to reduce CO2 emissions, and is not dependent upon climatic conditions (unlike other renewable energies such as solar or wind power). Other advantages are that these facilities make use of a country's own resources, do not require new developments on large sites, do not pollute the immediate environment, and are believed to be profitable over the long term.

Geothermal energy can be used directly in family homes, housing developments, swimming pools, fish farms, industrial units and other buildings.

### **Mineral related puns!!!**

A mineral collector walks into a bar with a pail of crushed limestone, and says "I'll have a beer, please, and one for the road".

A Chemist trying to create a transparent mineral stirred Calcite into Sulphuric Acid, but the result was nothing to look at.

## **EXPERTS DISCOVER SIX KILOMETERS OF CAVES IN EASTER ISLAND**

*Cave System Said To Be 11th Largest In The World* By Chris Noyce

A team of experts recently discovered a six-kilometer-long lava cave system on Easter Island thought to have been used as a refuge by the island's inhabitants during the 16th century. The team confirmed it is the largest cave on the island and the 11th-largest in the world in terms of area.

The expedition, which began in 2005 and focused on the Roiho sector in the east of the island, uncovered 45 caves with a host of archaeological finds, including arrowheads, spears, axes, utensils, petroglyphs (rock engravings), and some 30 human skeletons. Cave experts, or speleologists, confirmed the caves were used by inhabitants of the island as refuge from tribal wars at a time when society was on the verge of collapse as a result of infighting, severe environmental degradation caused by deforestation, droughts, and famine.

"The most common use was in periods of tribal warfare, when the caves would turn into secret chambers where islanders would protect themselves," explained Claudio Cristino, an archaeologist from the Universidad de Chile who took part in the expedition. "They also would have been used as a site to collect water ..."

Easter Island, also known as Rapa Nui, is a Polynesian island located some 3,500 kilometers off the west coast of Chile. It was annexed by Chile in 1888, with its inhabitants given Chilean citizenship in 1966.

"It was our fourth expedition to Rapa Nui," explained Jabier Les, president of the Spanish Alfonso Antxia Society of Speleological Sciences, which led the expedition alongside a team of Italian experts and Chilean archaeologists. "In each expedition we charted the island and its caverns, being surprised by a series of finds. But to find a system of natural galleries more than six kilometers long in such a small, distant island was astonishing." Prior to their exploration, the caves had aroused the interest of tour operators who told stories of islanders who continued to inhabit the caves to emulate the lives of their ancestors.

"It has been a revelation," said Enrique Tucki, administrator of the Rapa Nui National Park. "We knew these caves existed – they have been there for centuries – but we had not taken into account their variety, quantity, and peculiarity." The discovery will be featured in the TV show "Science Hunters," for which state-owned TV network TVN is negotiating the rights.

"We were out in the field with Les' team and we saw that this was something that had never been shown before," explained Diego Rojas, the show's producer. "Putting yourself in these caves meant going deep into the history of Rapa Nui in unknown and mysterious places. A whole veil of enigma was lifted when these underground labyrinths were explored, sometimes on foot, sometimes crawling."

National Geographic also showed a documentary about the exploration of the caves by a Polish team entitled "Easter Island Underground" in June in the U.S. that will be shown across Latin America this month.

The Cultural Center at Chile's presidential palace La Moneda is currently hosting an exhibit entitled "Rapa Nui Spirit", exhibiting some 300 historical items from Easter Island. The exhibition, which was visited by over 3,500 "Santiaguinos" this Saturday alone, will be on display until Sept. 23.

*SOURCES: LA TERCERA, EL MERCURIO*

## **Iceland Spar**

*"The Mineral That Won the War"? by Tim Baker*

In the June issue of Gem Cutters News there was an article on "Talc -- The mineral That Won the War." Well, there were actually a lot of minerals that "won the war."

Iceland spar was a critical element in the Norden bomb sight because of its ability to polarize light. The Norden bomb sight was used to guide the Enola Gay in dropping the bomb that ended World War II. It is generally credited with the destruction of Nazi Germany's war material production. (There is some revisionist history that claims that it was not all that accurate, but I like to believe, as many other Air Force veterans do. it was of essential importance.)

Iceland spar was mined in Dixon, New Mexico (I have given some specimens I found there to members of the club), in Oregon, and of course in Iceland.

Muscovite Mica was also the "mineral that ended the war." It was used for electrical insulation and also in the Norden bomb sight. Optical quartz was also "the mineral that won the war" for its use in essential military optical instruments. The United States developed a cooperative health program for the Rio Doce Valley in Brazil to protect the miners in the Mica. optical quartz. and iron mines. (I evaluated this program. which was still operating effectively in 1960.)

And of course iron was probably the most important "mineral that won the war." In addition to the Mesabi iron Range in the US, there was a major source in the Belle Isle mine in Newfoundland. This mine now extends under the ocean to follow the iron oxide vein. Belle Isle is the only place in North America that was shelled by Nazi warships. The Newfoundlanders say "Oh, they were just returning what we sold them before the war." And of course uranium from Congo, Canada from Colorado, "won the war." Interestingly, Pierre and Marie Curie ordered Carnotite from Colorado for their early experiments). Perhaps club members can come up with other "minerals that won the war."

*Gem cutter news 09/09*

**Oct. 15-18--OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA:** Rock dig and mineral show; Fort Drum Crystal Mine; Rucks Pit, 28320 N.E. 55th Ave.; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; adults \$30; bring your own tools, dig for fossil clams, vendors; contact Sabrina Braswell, 28320 N.E. 55th Ave., Okeechobee, FL 34972, (863) 634-0692; e-mail: [fortdrumcrystalmine@yahoo.com](mailto:fortdrumcrystalmine@yahoo.com); or Edwin Rucks Sr., (863) 634-0691

**Oct. 24-25--TAMPA, FLORIDA:** 50th annual show and sale; Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club; Florida State Fairgrounds, 4800 U.S. Hwy. 301 N; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students (K-12) \$4, children under 5 free with adult; contact Tony Carrino, 3124 Partridge Point Trail, Valrico, FL 33596, (813) 482-7774; e-mail: [tcarrino@verizon.net](mailto:tcarrino@verizon.net); Web site: [www.tampabayrockclub.com](http://www.tampabayrockclub.com)

**Oct. 31-1--STUART, FLORIDA:** 31st annual show; St. Lucie County Rock & Gem Club; Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy. (A1A); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children free, discount coupon on Web site; jewelry, gemstones, beads, minerals, rough, demonstrations, drawing; contact Norm Holbert, 455 SW Balfour Ave., Port St. Lucie, FL 34953, (772) 873-0787; e-mail: [normholbert@bellsouth.net](mailto:normholbert@bellsouth.net); Web site: [www.slrockandgem.org](http://www.slrockandgem.org)

**Nov. 6-8--SARASOTA, FLORIDA:** 194th show; Frank Cox Productions; Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Tr., (Hwy. 41); Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; gems, jewelry, beads; contact Frank Cox Productions, 755 S. Palm Ave. #203, Sarasota, FL 34236, (941) 954-0202; [frankcox@comcast.net](mailto:frankcox@comcast.net); [www.frankcoxproductions.com](http://www.frankcoxproductions.com)

**Nov. 7-8--MELBOURNE, FLORIDA:** Show, "Parade of Gems"; Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society; Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, seniors \$2, children free; children's corner, fluorescent minerals, lapidary demonstrations, club displays; contact John C. Almasi, (321) 956-9742; e-mail: [almasij@fit.edu](mailto:almasij@fit.edu)

## October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5 Open Shop 7-9PM  Call first Michelle 561-969-3291	6 <b>Board Meeting 7 PM At the Shop</b>	7 Beads On the Ave 151 SE 2nd Ave Delray Beach Open Beading 6—9 PM	8	9 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549	10 Open Shop 9—Noon General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549
11	12 Open Shop 7-9PM  Call first Michelle 561-969-3291	13	14 Beads On the Ave 151 SE 2nd Ave Delray Beach Open Beading 6—9 PM	15 <b>Membership Meeting @ Garden Club 7:30 PM</b>  <b>Ruck's Pit See Page 9</b>	16 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549 <b>Ruck's Pit See Page 9</b>	17 Titusville Field Trip See Page 5  <b>Ruck's Pit See Page 9</b>
18 <b>Ruck's Pit See Page 9</b>	19 Open Shop 7-9PM Call first Michelle 561-969-3291	20	21 Beads On the Ave 151 SE 2nd Ave Delray Beach Open Beading 6—9 PM	22	23 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549	24 Open Shop 9—Noon General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549 Tampa G&M Show
25 <b>Tampa G&amp;M Show See Page 9</b>	26 Open Shop 7-9PM  Call first Michelle 561-969-3291	27	28 Beads On the Ave 151 SE 2nd Ave Delray Beach Open Beading 6—9 PM	29	30 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549	31 <b>St. Lucie Cty R&amp;G Club show See Page 9</b>

## November 2009

1 <b>St. Lucie Cty R&amp;G Club show See Page 9</b>	2 Open Shop 7-9PM  Call first Michelle 561-969-3291	3 <b>Board Meeting 7 PM At the Shop</b>	4 Beads On the Ave 151 SE 2nd Ave Delray Beach Open Beading 6—9 PM	5	6 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549	7 Open Shop 9—Noon General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549 <b>Canaveral G&amp;M Show See Page 9</b>
8 <b>Canaveral G&amp;M Show See Page 9</b>	9 Open Shop 7-9PM  Call first Michelle 561-969-3291	10	11 Beads On the Ave 151 SE 2nd Ave Delray Beach Open Beading 6—9 PM	12 <b>Membership Meeting @ Garden Club 7:30 PM</b>	13 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work Call first Jeff 561-706-9549	14

Please remember to call the listed shop stewards for Open Shop nights to be sure the shop will be open.  
It is best to call the day before.

**Please note on your shop waiver form that you have received and read the shop rules.  
New liability forms need to be signed in 2 places 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. Jump ringer certification is available on Monday or Friday nights.  
Jump Ringer blades are available at the shop.

The **ROCKHOUND**

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

**Change in procedure for Classes**

Members interested in taking classes are requested to contact the teacher directly to schedule a class, as opposed to contacting the Coordinator. The teachers will then be responsible for contacting the Head Shop Steward to make sure the shop is available. The class coordinator will be a central information point between teachers and the Society and will still report on classes at the meetings.

CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	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	Thursday	6-9PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Beg) – Box Chain	Kelly Azor 561-688-7903	\$30 + \$25 materials	Saturday, Date TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Beg) – Byzantine Chain	Kelly Azor 561-688-7903	\$30 + \$25 materials	Saturday, date TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Beg) – Japanese Exploration	Jen Ursillo 561-329-4343	\$30 + \$25 materials	Tuesday, date TBD	7-9:30PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Adv) – Snake Chain	Jen Ursillo 561-329-4343	\$30 + \$25 materials	Saturday, date TBD	1-4PM at the Shop
Chain Making (Adv) – Turkish Round	Jen Ursillo 561-329-4343	\$30 + \$25 materials	Saturday, date 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	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
Flat Lap	Ed Flashenburg 561-733-1466	\$40 + \$10 Supplies	Wednesday	9AM—Noon at the shop
Faceting	KC Foster 561-968-5287	\$80 + \$20 materials 6 sessions	Monday	TBD
Fused Glass (Beginner/Tuesday)	Ed Flashenburg/John Holmstrom 561-733-1466	\$40 + \$15 materials Or \$5.00 open shop fee	Ongoing - Tuesdays – call to confirm	9:30—Noon at the Shop
Fused Glass (Beginner/Saturday)	Michelle Renné 561-969-3291	\$40 + \$15 materials	Saturday, date TBD	12-4PM at the Shop
Fused Glass (Advanced)	Michelle Renné 561-969-3291	\$40 + \$15 materials	Saturday, date 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
Kumihimo (Japanese Weaving)	Kelly Azor 561-688-7903	\$20 + \$15 kit	TBD	9-12 or 1-4PM at the shop
Right Angle Weave Cubes	Jen Ursillo 561-329-4343	\$40 + \$50 for optional kit <u>OR</u> supply list can be provided	Saturday, date TBD	1-4PM at the Shop

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 - \$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 February 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

**Friday PM & Saturday AM**

Jeff Ursillo 561-706-9549

**SHOP PHONE 561-585-2080**

**2009 OFFICERS**

President\* Jeff Ursillo 706-9549  
1st Vice President\* Michelle Renné 969-3291  
2nd Vice President\* Jen Ursillo 329-4343  
Secretary\* Mary Barrenechea 969-6056  
Treasurer\* Marv Berkowitz 364-9696

**2009 DIRECTORS**

Past President\* Barbara Ringhiser 588-5458  
Past President\* Michelle Renné 969-3291  
Past President\* Jeff Ursillo 706-9549  
Show Chairman\* Barbara Ringhiser 588-5458  
Show Dealer Chairman Ellen Jean 931-372-8236

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE**

Class Coordinator Jen Ursillo 329-4343  
Field Trips Michelle Renné 969-3291  
Historian OPEN  
Hostess Coralie Norvell 965-4748  
Librarian Nina Murray 596-3390  
Membership\* Aurora Siegl 988-7006  
Newsletter Editor\* Jeff Ursillo 706-9549  
Photographers Lo Rain/Aurora Siegl  
Programs The Board  
Raffle Coordinator Harriet Flashenburg 733-1466  
Refreshments Debbie Anderson 965-9279  
Sunshine Committee Lo Rain 827-5793  
Social Events KC Foster 968-5287  
Barbara Ringhiser 588-5458  
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**

## **VOLUNTEER TIME FOR THE ANNUAL SHOW!!!**

November 21, 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.

**REMEMBER—if you work for at least 4 hours, you get a free Christmas banquet!!!**

YOU can make a difference! Without you, our society members, it would be impossible to fill the many time periods necessary to make the 2009 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 Jim Woods or Barbara Ringhiser at the September, October or November meeting; or, mail the form to:

Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

Volunteers

P.O. Box 18095

West Palm Beach, FL 33416-8095

or, call Jim Woods at 561-963-9350, email him at jimwoodIII@yahoo.com to sign up.

### **THURSDAY SET-UP CREW - NOVEMBER 19TH**

Approximately 6 people are needed to move tables around and set up each booth area. We will be supervising Fairgrounds help in the placement of tables according to our floor plan. This position requires about 5 hours of mostly directing people who are moving tables around.

### **FRIDAY SET/UP/SUNDAY TAKE DOWN - NOVEMBER 20TH AND 22ND**

As many volunteers as we can get are needed during the day on Friday and from 5:00 PM on Sunday. *We have hired help to do the heavy lifting, but we still need members to assist in directing helpers on where unloaded materials go at the fairgrounds.* 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. *Again, we have hired help to do the heavy lifting, but we still need members to assist in directing helpers on where materials go to be loaded into the truck. We also will need some people to go to the storage location to direct the hired help on where to put the unloaded materials.* 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

### **TICKET TAKERS - NOVEMBER 21ST AND 22ND**

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 21ST AND 22ND**

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 are located at this table as well.

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE - NOVEMBER 21ST AND 22ND**

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. This position requires some standing. The main objective is to point out the items that may be won with only a \$1.00 ticket.

**SHOW SECURITY - NOVEMBER 21ST AND 22ND**

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 21ST AND 22ND**

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 20TH**

Lunch will be served to the dealers, society members, and fairground workers on Friday, set-up day. We need someone who will shop for the supplies (we have a list – sandwich makings, drinks, salad, plates, utensils, donuts, coffee, etc.) Everyone makes their own sandwiches. You would be advanced funds for shopping. Serving is buffet style. We need a couple of volunteers there to oversee the buffet between 9am and 5pm – 2 hour shifts.

**MINING / FOSSILS/ GEODE CRACKING - NOVEMBER 21ST AND 22ND**

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 and gemstone mining, volunteers will be briefed on what fossils and gemstones are available in the dig and mine. There will be cards available with fossil samples and rough gemstone samples to aid in identification if participants request the information.

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

Best Time to Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Position(s) Interested in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle times you are available (2 hour shifts)**

Thursday	(Nov. 19)	Set Up	9AM	11AM	1PM	3PM		
Friday	(Nov. 20)	Set Up/Lunch	9AM	11AM	1PM	3PM		
Saturday	(Nov. 21)		9AM	11AM	1PM	3PM	5PM	
Sunday	(Nov. 22)		9AM	11AM	1PM	3PM	5PM	Take Down

Please give this form to Jim Woods or Barbara Ringhiser at the September, October or November meeting, mail the form, or call Jim Woods at 561-963-9350, email him at jameswoodIII@yahoo.com to sign up.

Mail form to: Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.  
 Volunteers  
 P.O. Box 18095  
 West Palm Beach, FL 33416-8095