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**September 2008  
Volume 43 Issue 1**

The next general membership meeting will be held

**Thursday September 18, 2008**

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

**PROGRAM NOTES**

Don Deitz, from the Gold Coast Gem & Mineral Society of Ft. Lauderdale, will be giving a program on Florida's Black Coral Jewelry! As you may know, Don has written a number of articles on the subject published in the Lapidary Journal and has given numerous lectures on it as well. He will show how to select the coral, how to prepare and polish it, how to shape it (including how to tie knots etc) and display many of the pieces he have made.

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION VOTE THIS MONTH.**

Included with last month mailing of the Rockhound were the proposed changes to the Society's Articles of Incorporation and By-laws. We will be voting to accept the Articles of Incorporation only at this month's meeting. The By-law change needs to have a 2/3 majority of the entire Society's membership, so we will be doing a mail/proxy ballot for that, which will be included in next month's newsletter. Please take the time to review the changes before we vote on them at the September membership meeting. There will be time for questions an the meeting.

**SHOW COMMITTEE**

Meeting will be Monday Sept. 15 at KC Foster's house 7PM.  
Call KC at 561-968-5287 for directions

**CALENDAR UPDATE**

Starting Sept. 15, Monday night open shop will be for specific work. See the calendar for what work will be allowed on each Monday night.

**THE SAGA OF THE SURVEY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

To date, out of 110 surveys that were mailed out, we have received 10... less than 1% response. The main question on the survey had to do with input from the members about the Society's shop. Out of those 10, 6 replied to that vital question. Out of those 6, two were neutral, two asked questions about the shop and offered suggestions, 3 were positive for keeping the shop open and one was for closing the shop. Silence can speak volumes if you let it, which is why I would love to see the membership speak up on this issue. The Board needs information to make this decision, and our membership is a key source of that information. There will be surveys available at the meeting for those who have not submitted one.

*Jeff*

## **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 terminated quartz crystal. Raffle prizes will include a Sterling bracelet, a mother of pearl necklace, and a beautiful rhodinite specimen.. As always, there will be one or two surprise items as well!

*Harriet Flashenburg,  
Raffle Coordinator*

(The ladies at the August meeting were the benefactors for the secret raffle drawing, with the prize being a beautiful, polished piece of Bolder opal. The September Raffle may be a repeat of a previous one.....)

*Jeff*

### **WEBSITES TO VISIT...**

<http://www.ebenchnewsletter.com/>  
Good information source for Benchworkers

The largest searchable databases of rocks and minerals on the web, with extensive information on composition, common names, and localities.

<http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/table.shtml>

American Gem Trade Association  
<http://www.agta.org/gemstones/index.html>

## **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!!**

Carl Bengtson	Cliff Blomgren
Jean Cummins	Elaine Durow
Seymour Jetter	Lee Krenz
Anna Medley	Michelle Renné
Barbara Ringhiser	

### **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Please have items for the October ROCKHOUND by **October 8**. Submissions can be emailed to [BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM](mailto:BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM)  
Or you can call Jeff Ursillo 561-706-9549

## **THE RETURN OF THE STEAK PICNIC!!!**

Dateline West Palm Beach, FL  
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 corn on the cob. 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.

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. There may be time for games as well, who knows??? (aside from the Shadow that is!!)

We will start serving close to noon, so try to get there by 11:30 or so, because it is best to wait for the steaks, not have them wait for you!

### **Excerpt from Richard's Ramblings by Richard Meszler, President of the Gem Cutter's Guild of Baltimore, MD.**

“We as members of the Guild are fortunate to have a well equipped shop that gives us a place to work and access to equipment we might not otherwise have available to us.”

## **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 JULY 17, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:48 pm. by President **Jeff Ursillo**.

There was one visitor in attendance.  
The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as read.

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

**Newsletter:** Contact **Jeff Ursillo**, with any items of interest for publication. The deadline for the September newsletter is September 10th.

**Membership:** **Ingrid Webster** reported that two new members had signed up.

**Classes:** We are looking for a new class coordinator who will reorganize the class schedule and take care of the notebook used to sign up for a class.

**Field Trips:** **KC Foster** reported that trip to The Morse Museum of Americas Art was very interesting. **Michelle Renné** said there would be a trip to Venice Beach in October or November. **KC Foster** reported that the second weekend of October there would be a trip to Ruck's Pit. There will be dealers and food besides the usual dig.

**Shop:** The shop is underutilized.

**Show:** **Carl Bengtson** reported that the planning was going well. There is a waiting list for vendors. There will be discounted hotel rates for vendors or visitors the weekend of the show. There will be a link with details on our website. If you want a display case for the show and

would like to get one early to practice setting it up, contact **K.C. Foster**. The next show committee meeting will be September 15th at **K.C. Foster's** house at 7pm. Contact her for directions.

**Website:** **Jeff Ursillo** reported that the website got fewer hits last month. For any information or changes about the website contact **Jen Ursillo**.

**Old business:** **Jeff Ursillo** asked that everyone fill in and return the anonymous survey concerning the utilization of the shop. The shop cost \$400 a month and is underutilized. The survey will help define the merits of the shop as it relates to its use.

**KC Foster** said the next micro meeting would be September 1st at 7PM at her house to continue mounting micros. There will be a session on micro photography when there are more people that can attend. Please call **KC** to confirm your attendance so she can plan accordingly.

**New Business:** The Annual Steak BBQ will be held October 19th at the Palm Beach Garden Club. Steaks will be served at 12 o'clock. The club will provide the steak and potatoes. Please bring a side dish to share and your utensils and drinks. There will be an auction following the meal. This is free for members and \$10 for guests.

**Raffle:** \$28 was collected in the raffle.

The meeting ended at 8:48.

Respectfully Submitted  
*Mary Barrenechea, Acting Secretary*

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**SHARK'S TEETH FOUND ON LAKE WORTH BEACH IN AUGUST, 2008**

Petrified sharks teeth have been found recently on Lake Worth Beach by the volunteers who patrol for sea turtle nests. These teeth were reportedly found just north of the public beach in Lake Worth, just north of John G's Restaurant. The directions are to park in the public parking lot at Lake Worth Beach and walk north of John G's until you come to the first apartment buildings. Start digging and continue to walk north and dig some more using your sand flea shovel. Its that easy! No reason to travel all the way to Venice Beach on the other coast to indulge your shark tooth fix! Michelle Renné had mentioned a few meetings ago that she found 3 petrified shark's teeth on the public beach in Lantana – so grab your sun block and go fossiling locally! Shark's teeth – they're not just on the West Coast anymore!!!!

*Aurora Siegl*



A diver explores an emerald kingdom in New Zealand's Wet Jacket Arm marine reserve. Black coral creates an undersea forest for colorful reef fish and can live for 300 years. Aiding its marine ecosystems by creating reserves, New Zealand hopes to protect 10 percent of its waters by 2010.

*Photograph by Brian J. Skerry*

## **THERE'S CORAL...AND THEN THERE'S BLACK CORAL**

Actually there are more than 500 species of coral, (antipatharians), but only 150 species of black corals. From Hawaii alone, come 14 species of black coral. But the most rare of all black corals comes from the Western Caribbean off Grand Cayman Island from depths of over 200 feet.

The growth rate of this rare black coral is 1/4 to 1/2 inch diameter - every 100 years - which is why it's a protected species by international law and divers are only allowed to retrieve pieces which have broken off a reef naturally (in spite of its firm attachment to the sea floor). Black corals are carnivores and have a hardness ranging from 4.0 - 5.5 and a density of 2.43 - 2.70 and are found in all oceans, most commonly in deep water habitats of tropical and subtropical seas. Of the 150 species of black coral, some can be found on reef slopes in water as shallow as 3 feet and as deep as 300 feet. Black coral has actually been found growing in depths of up to 20,000 feet. But coral larvae living in shallow waters will always be found in shaded areas where light is extremely limited.

Black corals are colonial animals related to sea anemones. Colonies of black coral require swift currents which feed them

animal plankton over their polyps. Black coral colonies thrive in deep, and therefore dark waters, usually near drop-offs and ledges.

It is the skeleton of the coral we see in jewelry and not the living coral that produces it. "A thin veneer of animal tissue, called the cenosarc, secretes the tightly-layered central skeleton of horn-like protein. Depending on the species, the living tissue may be black, red, orange, brown, green, yellow or white. The gelatinous polyps located in this living "bark" are short and cylindrical, their six, non-retractable tentacles are armed with stinging cells."

"Relatively little is known about the life cycle and reproduction of black corals. Like other cnidarians, black corals have life cycles that include both asexual and sexual reproduction. Asexual reproduction (budding) builds the colony by adding more living tissue that in turn secretes more skeleton. Regular growth rings laid down as the skeleton thickens can be used to estimate the age of the colony. Sexual reproduction involves the production of eggs and sperm to create young that can disperse and settle new areas. Polyps are either male or female, but a single colony may be hermaphroditic, with both male and female polyps. The larval stage, called a planula, can drift with currents until a suitable surface is found. Once the larva settles, it metamorphoses into a polyp form and secretes skeletal material that attaches it to the sea floor. Then it begins budding, creating more polyps that will form a young colony. Asexual reproduction can also occur naturally by fragmentation of branch ends."

"Black coral has been harvested for centuries as a charm and a medicine. Early peoples of many cultures believed that black coral had the power to ward off evil and injury. The name, 'antipathies,' means 'against suffering.'" Hawaii's state gem is black coral as of 1987. Renowned American designer and master sculptor Bernard Passman has turned black coral into a popular art medium and created works of art for Princess Diana, the Queen of England, President Nixon and Pope John Paul II. For Charles and Diana's royal wedding Passman created a 97-piece black coral and sterling silver tableware service followed by an 11-piece set (in miniature) for Prince William.

The tools used in cutting and carving black coral are similar to those used by dentists. Bernard K. Passman galleries are located in Georgetown, Grand Cayman Island; St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; Las Vegas, Nevada; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Ketchikan, Alaska. Bernard Passman has been granted a special permit to work with rare and precious material known as the black gold of the Caribbean. Speaking of gold, his beautiful rings sell for \$20,000 and his famous Ziegfeld girl has a value of \$135,000. Other objets d'art, sculpture and jewelry of Bernard K. Passman can be seen at: [www.passman.com](http://www.passman.com). Source: Tom Taffel, San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society, [www.sfgms.org](http://www.sfgms.org)

## **IT'S FASCINATING – SPECIFIC GRAVITY**

by Don Laufer

Hieron II, tyrant king of Syracuse from 270-215 BC, decided to have a new gold crown made to put upon his head while he sat upon his throne. So he went to the vault and withdrew a couple bars of gold. Hieron then summoned the royal jeweler and requested that he use all of the gold to create a crown fit for a king. This the jeweler did, and when it was completed he presented it to the king. The king was very pleased with the fine work; the jeweler was richly rewarded. Later that day as King Hieron was thinking upon his throne, he wondered if his jeweler used all of the gold in the crown, or had he perhaps mixed in another metal for the crown and kept some of the pure gold for himself?

So Hieron called upon his good friend Archimedes to discuss this problem. Now we all know Archimedes was also a great thinker, but he had no throne upon which to think. However, he did have a bath tub where he relaxed and did his thinking. This time Archimedes noticed the tub was full to the rim with hot water and as he slid down into his bath he noticed all the water spilling out onto the floor. Leaving that mess for the servants to clean up he started thinking, and a few moments later [he] suddenly jumped up out of the bath and started shouting EUREKA! EUREKA! while running around the streets of Syracuse. Now most of the townsfolk thought Archimedes had a screw loose to begin with and this little incident didn't help, but when you're a friend of the king, you can get away with most anything.

What was it that Archimedes was all excited about? He realized that a 200 pound person would displace more water out of the bath tub than a 200 pound gold ingot. In other words, he had discovered specific gravity or density. So what does this story have to do with gemology? It is one of the few physical tests we can do to help us identify an unknown gem stone. Different stones have different densities, and determining specific gravity will help in identification. Many physical tests will damage a stone, like the hardness scratch test, and we certainly don't want to scratch our \$30,000 sapphire, do we?

By definition: specific gravity is equal to the weight of a stone in air divided by an equal volume of water. To find a stone's specific gravity we first weigh the stone in air and then weigh the stone in water. Finally, we use the stone's weight in air and divide that by its weight in air minus its weight in water to get its specific gravity. This is an accurate method for large gems but not so for small ones. Air bubbles attach to the surface and inclusions will alter the true specific gravity of a gem. For small stones we use liquids of known specific gravity. If the stone sinks, it has a higher specific gravity; while if it floats, it has a lower specific gravity than the liquid. A set of six different liquids is usually enough for gemological purposes.

So what happened to the Royal Jeweler? I understand things didn't go too well for him, even though I doubt the methods of determining specific gravity during Archimedes's time were very accurate.

*from Monongahela Rockhounds News, October 2007 via the Gem Cutters Gazette 09/08*

### **GOT BEADING QUESTIONS??**

Membership Secretary Ingrid Webster has started a new online network for beaders

“Pearls of Wisdom—Beads of Knowledge” on ryze.com (it's FREE!)

Log on at : <http://powbok-network.ryze.com>

This is a place to share ideas, ask/answer questions.  
Learn about the tricks of the trade, make friends and more.

### **NEW WORD OF THE MONTH**

Arachnijig (ah-rack'-nuh-jig)  
The involuntary dancing pattern one makes when one accidentally walks into a spider web, or is told that there is a spider ON them!

**POLISHING TIGER IRON***from Pat Baker*

The Lapidary List on the web is a wonderful forum



for asking questions or learning about cutting and polishing a variety of lapidary materials used for cabs or carving. One of the recent questions asked on the list was how to get a good polish on tiger iron. Here is the response from Larry C.

“Polishing tiger iron is difficult due to the hardnesses and textures of the minerals that make it up. The best polish I have ever been able to obtain on tiger iron was using Raybrite® (Linde A) on suede leather. Starting out with the leather slightly wet and let it dry as you polish. With a little practice you will find that there is a point right before the leather gets bone dry that you will be able to feel it pulling when polishing. This is when Tiger Iron seems to be taking it’s best polishing action. Don’t continue polishing too long after the leather gets dry. If you need to polish the stone more give the leather a light spritz of water. Happy cabbing!”

**MOONSTONE***author unknown**from Stoney Statements, June 2005**Via the Gem Cutter’s Gazette 09/08*

Moonstone is the best known gem variety of orthoclase feldspar, being potassium aluminum silicate  $KAlSi_3O_8$ . It is usually polished as a cabochon, and is often carved with a moon face. Its importance as a gemstone arises because of its schiller, which in moonstone has been given the name adularescence. This is caused by a feature of its crystal structure. Orthoclase feldspar and albite are present in close association, arranged in layers. This causes an interference effect of light. The color of this schiller regarded as most desirable is blue, which usually occurs in a white or grey body color. If the albite layers are too thick this schiller appears whitish which is less attractive.

Moonstone was very popular early in the 20th century and was extensively used in Art Nouveau jewelry. Moonstone has a hardness of 6 and a specific gravity of 2.57. It is monoclinic; it has one two-fold axis of symmetry. Adularia is a common type of moonstone. Oligoclase is another type of moonstone; Labradorite and albite are rare forms.

**Inclusions:** Moonstone contains a number of typical inclusions which appear to be stress cracks. These give the appearance of centipede type insects, Chinese “aeroplanes” looking like characters from

Chinese writing, negative cavities looking like rectangular crystals, and needle-like shapes. If present in large numbers, the needle shaped inclusions can cause a cat’s eye chatoyancy effect.

**Color:** The most desirable color of moonstone is blue, but it also occurs in grey, white, pink, green and brown.

**Lore:** Probably the most famous moonstone of all was not a moonstone but a diamond. In the well-known classic book “The Moonstone” by Wilkie Collins, a large diamond was stolen from an Indian shrine, and a retired policeman is hired as a private detective to investigate a murder and robbery. Wilkie Collins is recognized as the inventor of the English detective novel, and was a friend and colleague of Charles Dickens. Although “The Moonstone” was written in 1868, it remains to this day a masterpiece of English literature. The book is clearly based on a number of stories about famous diamonds which have disappeared and reappeared over the centuries. Moonstone is the anniversary gemstone for the 13th year of marriage and is the state gemstone of Florida and New York. Moonstone is also said to balance yin/yang.

## **WILLIAM HOLLAND IN OCTOBER**



Please take the opportunity at your September meeting to invite your members to come share in a fun week at William Holland this October. The Federation week, October 12-18, is just about the perfect time to enjoy the fall foliage in the mountains. Please remind your members that room, board, classroom instruction and the camaraderie of rockhounds is included for the modest price of **\$310.00 per week**. Classes range from wirecraft to faceting. A complete list of classes is found on the website: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/william-holland-retreat.html>. This is truly camp for grown-ups. A week of play and no dishes to wash! But the real value is in the skills you can learn and the friends to meet.

### **SESSION FOUR - WILLIAM HOLLAND - SUNDAY, October 12-18**

Cabochons - Anita Westlake  
Cold Connection - Kathy Morris  
Fused Glass - Addy DiPietro  
Opal cutting - Joe DiPietro  
Digital Photography - Ken Kipnis  
Scrimshaw - Gino Deskins/Betty Porter  
Silver, beginning - #1 Dan Haga  
Silver, intermediate\* - Allen Jewell

Chainmaking, Inter.\* - Bill & Dee Conybear  
Faceting Two - David Corn  
Gourd Carving - Pat Davis  
Lost Wax Casting - John Iacullo  
PMC - Pam Hall  
Seed Beading - Vivian Heath  
Silver, beginning - #2 Don & Ann Monroe  
Beginning Wire - Janet Corn

\*Advanced classes have prerequisites. Check with the instructor for details.

Feel free to contact Denise Talbott, the Registrar, or me with any questions you may have about the classes. Denise will be more than happy to get you signed up for the class of your choice.

Hope to see you in October.

Pat Davis  
SFMS William Holland Director

Denise Talbott  
216 Springview St.  
Murphy NC 28906  
828-494-7213  
whregistrar@yahoo.com

Pat Davis  
4642 23 Ave N  
St Petersburg, FL 33713  
727.323.2147  
whdirector@yahoo.com

### **A WORD ABOUT CLASSES...**

First and foremost, we are still in need of a class coordinator for the fall. This position would require monitoring class sign up, notifying teachers of who is signed up for their classes, 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. Please give some thought to volunteering for this position, because without a class coordinator, the fall class schedule will fall to the Board, and with the issue of the shop before it, it will not get the time it deserves.

## SEPTEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
14	15 Show Comm. Open Shop 7-9PM Solderless Wirework	16	17	18 <b>Membership Meeting</b>	19 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	20
21	22 Open Shop 7-9PM Lapidary machines (cabbing / trim saws)	23	24	25	26 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	27
28	29 Open Shop 7-9PM open beading	30	1	2	3 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	4

## OCTOBER 2008

5	6 Open Shop 7-9PM open enameling	7 <b>Board Meeting Shop 7PM</b>	8	9	10 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	11
12	13 Open Shop 7-9PM Lapidary machines (cabbing / trim saws)	14	15	16 <b>Membership Meeting</b>	17 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	18
19	20 Open Shop 7-9PM  open beading	21	22	23	24 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	25

**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	OPEN	
Field Trips	Michelle Renné	969-3291
Historian	Mary Koplin	844-0410
Hostess	Coralie Norvell	965-4748
Junior Program	OPEN	
Librarian	OPEN	
Media (video & photos)	OPEN	
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.

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.

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

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

Positions interested in:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle times you are available (2 hour shifts)

Thursday (November 21st) Set-up 9am 11am 1pm 3pm

Friday (November 22nd) Set-up and Lunch committee 9am 11am 1pm 3pm

Saturday (November 23rd) 9am 11am 1pm 3pm 5pm

Sunday (November 24th) 10am 12pm 2pm 4pm 5pm (take-down)

Please give this 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.