



THE

R

O

G

K

HOUND

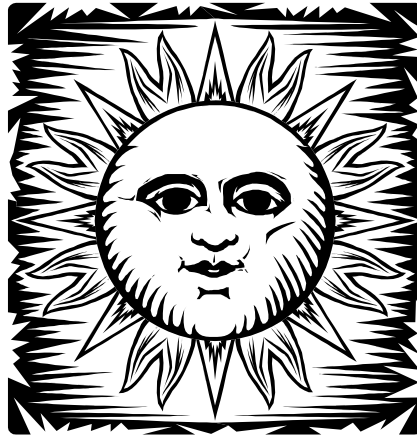
July 2008

Volume 42 Issue 11

The next general membership meeting will be held

Thursday July 17, 2008

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



Summertime.....

**And the living is
easy.....**

So, with that in mind, the program this month will be very casual. We will start with the business meeting, break for refreshments and socializing. We will then have a great DVD from Jewelry Television titled "The Pearl Story." "From the historical to the mystical the Gemstone Adventure Series...is filled with fascinating information about these glorious gems." The program runs 45 minutes.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR.....

The Society's By-laws committee presented it's final draft of the revised Articles of Incorporation and By-laws to the Board and the draft was approved by the Board at the July Board meeting. A copy of the proposed Articles and By-laws will be included with the August Rockhound and will be up for discussion at both the August and September Membership meetings. We will vote to ratify the new Articles and By-laws at the September meeting.

SHOW COMMITTEE

As mentioned at the June meeting, if you are interested in "adopting" a display case for the show this year, please contact KC Foster (968-5287) This is a great program. Rather than rushing to set a case up at the show, with your adopted case at home, you can take the time to get your case just right, making setup time at the show so much less stressful (and leaving you more free time to help with setup!!)

The next show committee meeting will be held on September 15 at KC's house.

There are 2 great field trips coming up....

So get out your travelin' shoes and check Page 5 for information

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 polished agate slab. Raffle prizes will include a red Jasper necklace, blue & gold drop earrings and a garnet and hematite necklace. As always, there will be one or two surprise items as well!



*Harriet Flashenburg,
Raffle Coordinator*

(If you attended the June meeting, we had a special drawing for a beautiful piece of polished fire agate. The only catch was, you had to be wearing a name tag to be in the drawing. Not sure who the special group will be this month, so be ready! Just the guys? The ladies? Glasses wearers? Brunettes?)

Jeff



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

If you are celebrating your Birthday this month, have a Happy one! I apologize for not having a list of members who are celebrating, but computers being the finicky things that they are, I couldn't get mine to cooperate this month.

Jeff

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please have items for the August ROCKHOUND by **August 11**. Submissions can be emailed to BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM
Or you can call Jeff Ursillo 561-706-9549

MICRO MOUNTER NEWS

Our micro meeting this month was sparsely attended, but we had fun, and enjoyed each other's company.... Next month, Monday, August 4th, Roberto will be showing us how to photograph micro minerals....The meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. Please RSVP to KC, or to get directions.. 968-5287, or 523-4600.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

CLASSIFIEDS are FREE to members. Deadline for submission is the first day of each month. If possible, forward your ads via email to Jeff Ursillo at BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM

FOR SALE—Raytech 8" Gem Maker and Pump. Many extras included. \$700. Call Paul or Janis after 5:00 PM at 561-733-5038

FOR SALE - Lampwork Beads in all shapes and sizes including flowers and leaves. Special orders upon request. Handmade by Melodie Janis of Magnolia Street Glassworks. Please call 561/832-1275 or email at melo-diebeads@aol.com. If you would like to see my work we can arrange to meet or I will send you pictures.

My name is Bill Rogers. I am looking for partners who would like to drive over to the Peace River, rent a canoe and spend a half day on the river looking for sharks teeth and fossils. Phone 561-965-2552, email pote89@att.net.

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 2008
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 OF THE GENERAL MEETING JUNE 19, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm. by President **Jeff Ursillo**.

There were three visitors in attendance.

Programs: Society member **Sandra Bologna** presented a program on the healing characteristics of amethyst Bio-mats.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as read.

Treasurer: Report was read for information purposes only.

Newsletter: Contact **Jeff Ursillo**, the Newsletter Editor, with any items of interest for publication.

Membership: Ingrid Webster – Four new members signed up at the last meeting. One signed up tonight.

Classes: Deb Slutzky resigned as class coordinator. Therefore, we need a new coordinator. There has been a problem with teachers showing up to teach a class, but the students don't show. There won't be any classes this summer unless some of the teachers still want to teach. We'll get a new coordinator in the fall and reorganize the classes.

Field trips: Michelle Renné reported that the Peace River is still low. The next trip will be on Saturday, June 21st, with another trip another trip on 7/12. This one will be to Venice Beach and Caspersan beach on Saturday, the 12th, and then head up the Peace River on Sunday. The visibility is poor at Venice Beach but you can snorkel. There was a trip to Gainesville and there will be another in the fall to look for fossils. There will be a trip to Bob Friedman's fossil warehouse in Cocoa Beach in August. He has a lot of shark jaws and teeth. It's about a three-hour trip.

Shop: Ed Flashenburg and **John Holmstrom**, shop stewards, are out of town until November. There are still open shop nights on Monday and Friday during the summer. Information is in the newsletter.

Show: Barbara Ringhiser—We won't have speakers this year because cookware demos by the Americraft Co will be held in that space. Their contract with the Fairgrounds states that they may demo their cookware at all Americraft Expo Center events. If you want to have a display case at the show, you can get one early and keep it at your home. Contact **Deb Bengtson** and she'll bring it to the July meeting. Next year we're going to a \$1 rather than \$2 off coupon. We won't be increasing the admission price. The next show committee meeting will be September 15th at **K. C. Foster's** house at 7 pm. Contact her for directions.

Events: K. C. Foster – There will be a trip to the Morse Museum of American Art (home of the Tiffany glass chapel) in Winter Park on July 19th. The Tiffany glass chapel is there. Admission is \$3. It's about a three-hour drive up the Turnpike. We'll car-pool and leave from the Garden Club. Call **K. C. Foster** if you're interested.

Website: Changes are still being made. Contact **Jen Ursillo** about any changes you want made.

No old business.

No new business.

Raffle: \$44 was collected in the raffle.

The meeting ended at 9:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Ruth Ekiert, Secretary

KRYPTONITE UNEARTHED

That lethal green crystal that saps the strength of Superman is still a piece of fiction although a new mineral recently discovered bears it a close chemical kinship. The unique chemistry described in the film 'Superman Returns' matches closely a real mineral found in a Serbian mine. It fluoresces a pinkish-orange but doesn't 'glow.' The chemical makeup was worked out and the literature was searched with the surprising result that the mineral's chemical formula, sodium lithium boron silicate hydroxide, is the same formula as that of the fictional kryptonite. The new mineral does not contain fluorine, which the fictional mineral did, nor does it contain any krypton, a real element in the Periodic Table that takes the form of a gas. The new mineral cannot therefore be named kryptonite, but will probably be called jadarite' after Jadar, the name of the place where the Serbian mine is located.

Ref: Diablo Diggin's 6/07 <http://mews.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature>

The original link for this story came from one of the rockhound lists to which I belong . It started a lot of discussions as to the "sensationalism" of the diamond "migration" being caused by a comet strike. The consensus is that glaciers were more likely the cause, but no one can rule out the comet theory, just preface it by "well, of course is IS possible, but...."

Jeff

DIAMONDS RAINED DOWN DURING ICE AGE

By Ker Than, Special to LiveScience

Diamonds and precious metals found in the eastern United States might have rained down during the last Ice Age after a comet shattered over Canada and set North America ablaze, all leading to a mass die-off of animals and humans. New chemical analyses of diamond, gold and silver found in Ohio and Indiana reveal the minerals were transported there from Canada several thousand years ago. The question is, how?

"There are no gold mines or silver mines in Ohio that anyone knows of, but there are plenty of them in Canada," said retired geophysicist Allen West, who was involved in the study. The discovery is consistent with a theory proposed by West and colleagues that a 3-mile-wide comet splintered over glaciers and ice sheets in eastern Canada about 12,900 years ago and wiped out man and beast. "These would have been like ten thousand Tunguskas going off at once," said West, referring to a mid-air explosion over Siberia a century ago possibly caused by a fragmenting meteor.

Precious rain

The diamonds, gold and silver could have been ejected into the air during the blasts, West said, or they could have been carried south by rivers formed from the meltwater of liquefied glaciers. For several months following the comet strike, the skies rained precious stone and metals, the researchers speculate. Diamonds drizzled down by the tons. "Some of them you couldn't see, and animals would've been breathing them in," West told *LiveScience*. "But other ones would clearly have been visible. They might've even hurt if they hit you."

The larger diamonds were visible to the naked eye and dropped like hail stones within seconds of the blasts, West said. The smallest diamonds, the "size of cold viruses," would have lingered in the atmosphere for weeks or months, eventually wafting down to Earth like expensive snowflakes.

Killed man and beast

Flaming fragments of the comet crashing to Earth sparked forest fires around the globe, West contends. The intense heat from the blasts set the very air on fire. North America's grassland, the furs of animals, the hair and clothing of humans — all would have been set ablaze. West and his colleagues have proposed that the comet strike contributed to the extinction of several species of North American megafauna, including mammoths and mastodons, and led to the early demise of the Clovis culture, a Stone Age people who had only recently immigrated to the continent. The multiple airbursts might have also caused large amounts of fresh water to be dumped into the Atlantic Ocean, temporarily disrupting currents and prompting a sudden global cold snap called the Younger Dryas period. "The kind of evidence we are finding does suggest that climate change at the end of the last Ice Age was the result of a catastrophic event," said study team member Ken Tankersley, an anthropologist at the University of Cincinnati. While the discoveries in Ohio and Indiana are consistent with the theory of a comet colliding with Earth during the last Ice Age, West cautions that it is not a "smoking gun."

"We're a long way from saying categorically that these things got here because of this event," West said.

"They're consistent, but we've got a lot more work to do to show there's a direct connection."

The researchers are preparing to submit their research to a scientific journal.

A superior driver is one who uses his superior judgment to avoid needing to call to play his superior driving skills...

LIKE CAVES???

Go to <http://www.lakeneosho.org/Temp64.html> for some great pictures of a living cave in Kentucky. Some of the pictures show water droplets hanging from the formations for a good demonstration of how they form.

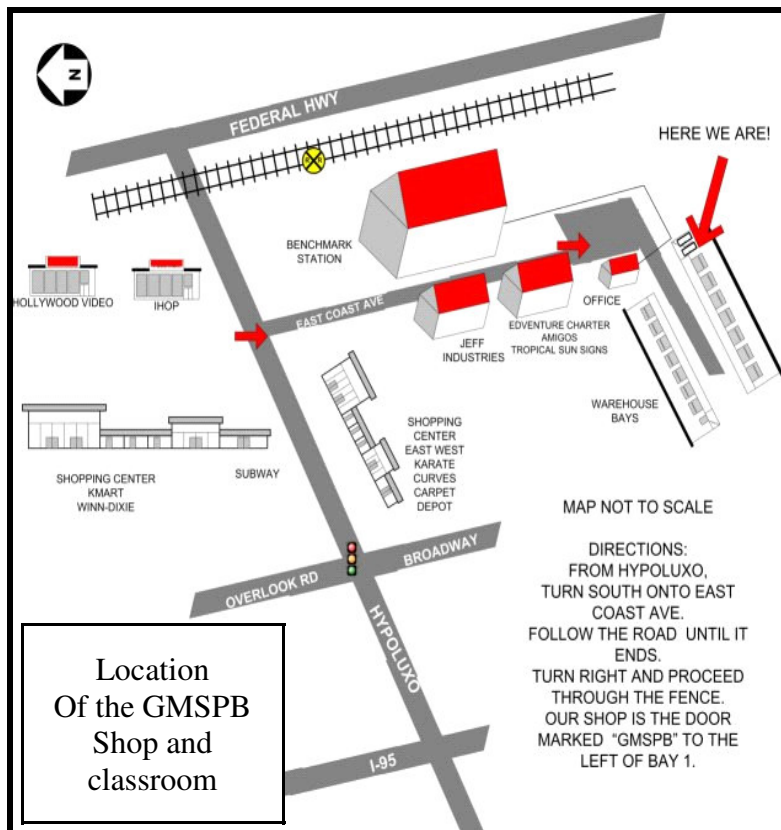
FIELD TRIPS

2 GREAT TRIPS COMING UP...

Our first trip will happen on Saturday, July 19th...we will be going to the Morse Museum of American Art, in Winter Park, FL. This is where the famous Tiffany Chapel is located, as well as amazing stained glass, jewelry, paintings, etc., by Louis Comfort Tiffany!!! The trip will be about 3 hours each way. We will meet in front of the Garden Club at 8:00AM. We plan to "car pool", by consolidating drivers, and splitting the gas and toll expenses. To reserve a spot, please call KC Foster (523-4600), or Barbara Ringhiser. You will need a comfortable pair of shoes, if you get chilly, a sweater, lunch money, gas and toll money, and admission to the museum (\$3.00). We plan to arrive, enjoy the Museum, and then walk maybe a block or two to the center of the town "square" area, where there are numerous lunch spots and shops to enjoy. Please join us!!!

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2008
COCOA BEACH, FL
"THE SHARK KING"**

I'm planning a trip to Bob's warehouse to check out his supply of fossil and modern shark teeth, shark jaws, sting ray pelts and barbs, sterling jewelry related to marine life and a LOT of other assorted "finds". I have been buying from Bob for a few years now. He does the Tampa Fossil show and the Shark Tooth Festival every year. Anyone interested in going please contact me (Michelle Renné) at 561/644-2323 or FGMR4@aol.com for info or directions. Hope to see ya !



A WORD OR TWO ABOUT CLASSES...

As you can see from the class schedule on Page 7, there are no classes scheduled the summer. Our class coordinator, Deb Slutzky, after doing a great job getting the ball rolling and scheduling a lot of new classes, had to resign to to work related issues. The Board decided to take advantage of the summer doldrums and spend the summer looking at the class situation and find a new coordinator. Class signup sheets will still be out at the meetings, but no dates are set for classes yet. The signup sheets will be to gauge interest in offered classes. Classes will resume in the fall. So, take a look at what the Society has to offer, sign up for a class or to and support the club!!!

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.

JULY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
13	14 Open Shop 7-9PM	15	16	17 Membership Meeting	28 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	19
20	21 Open Shop 7-9PM	22	23	24	25 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	26
27	28 Open Shop 7-9PM	29	30	31	1 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	2

AUGUST 2008

3	4 Open Shop 7-9PM	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	9
10	11 Open Shop 7-9PM	12	13	14	15 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	16
17	18 Open Shop 7-9PM	19	20	21 Membership Meeting	22 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	23

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.

Classes will be scheduled when teachers have enough students signed up. Class fee is pre-paid and non-refundable unless the class is cancelled. The Club receives 50% of the class fee only, not materials fee. \$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.

If you are interested in taking a class that is listed above, but cannot make it to the Membership meeting to sign up, there is hope!!!! Call Deb Slutzky at 561-753-9937, or the teacher of the class. Occasionally, there are seats available and every effort will be made to fit you in to the class.

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

On call KC Foster 561/968-5287

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*	Ruth Ekiert	514-1448
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	OPEN	
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