



**D O O R
P R I Z E S
R A F F L E
I T E M S**

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 for a **Sparkling Holiday ornament.**

Raffle items will include:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Polished Agate Slab | Silver Rose Pin |
| Chalcedony Rose | Jewelry Tweezer |

We need your donations!! If anyone has collected too much, any donations would be appreciated for our monthly raffles.

Harriet Flashenburg, Raffle Coordinator

BYLAWS COMMITTEE FORMED

As part of the Society's efforts to establish our non-profit status, the bylaws and articles of incorporation need to be revised and updated. The committee, Barbara Ringhiser, Michelle Reneé and Jeff Ursillo will start meeting after the first of the year.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please have items for the January **ROCKHOUND** by **January 8**. Submissions can be emailed to **BNMJJEFF@AOL.COM** or you can call Jeff Ursillo 561-706-9549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Another year flew by – sometimes I thought not fast enough. But, we're almost there. I want to thank those who volunteered to help on committees, volunteered for the show, helped get our shop in A-1 condition and those who taught classes. This was the year that the shop finally was fully ready for business. An organization is only as good as the people who volunteer so generously. I also want to thank the general membership for supporting the club by attending meetings. It seems to me that our meeting attendance is up and that's wonderful!!.

This was the first year in a long time that we had events with the other two South Florida clubs. We're going to have more of those next year. Let's put on our thinking caps and think of more field trips we can take in the coming year. From what I've heard, the one to Gainesville was definitely enjoyed by those who went.

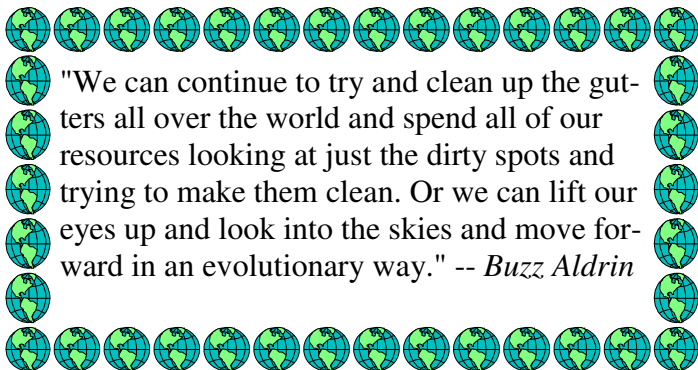
This was also a very sad year – we lost many members – among them, Floralee Stein, Harold Shonkwiler, and Skip Gross.

Let's all get behind the new officers and make next year another successful one.

Again, thank you all for your support.

Barabara

P.S. I apologize for the disorganization attached to holding the December meeting, but we're definitely going to plan better for next year. Thank you, Coralie, for bringing it to my attention.



"We can continue to try and clean up the gutters all over the world and spend all of our resources looking at just the dirty spots and trying to make them clean. Or we can lift our eyes up and look into the skies and move forward in an evolutionary way." -- *Buzz Aldrin*

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

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Articles not bylined are by the Editor.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Presiding, **Barbara Ringhiser**, President.

MEETING – The meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM at the Garden Club.

PROGRAM – This month's program was presented by Eddie Rucks. He spoke about the calcite clams and fossils available from his mine at Fort Drum. Eddie also brought in many beautiful specimens to share. December is the Election of Officers and a Show-N-Sell. The cost of a table is \$10 or a donation worth \$10. Contact Barbara if you would like a table.

MINUTES – The meeting minutes for October were motioned to be accepted and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – **Marv Berkowitz** read the Treasurer's report for October (for information).

SUNSHINE – **Karie Kiser** reported that Bill Stein wanted to thank the club for sending flowers and mentioning **Floralee Stein** in the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER – **Jeff Ursillo** reported that everything is going fine with the newsletter. Please contact **Jeff** with any member news you would like to share with the club.

WEB SITE – No report.

FIELD TRIPS – No field trips planned at this time.

SHOP – **Ed Flashenburg** reported that the shop is being used for Enameling recently. All machinery is running and in good shape at the shop.

CLASSES – **Michelle Renné** reported that class activity will be slow over holidays and pick up in January. Classes for Viking Knit with **Marv Berkowitz** will be held on November 27th and December 4th. If there is a class you would like to teach or take, contact **Michelle Renné** or **Deb Slutzky**.

MEMBERSHIP – **Ingrid Webster** was absent and no report was provided. **Barbara Ringhiser** notified members that club membership dues for 2008 can be paid now until the end of February, 2008.

SHOW – **Carl Bengtson** reported that progress for the show is proceeding nicely and the set-up is ahead of schedule. Ads will be running on several radio stations.

BOARD MEETING – The next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 5th, at Olive Garden, corner

of Lake Worth Rd and 57th St. in Greenacres. Meeting starts at 6:30 PM. Join us for dinner and an informative meeting. Everyone is welcome.

SOCIAL EVENTS – The Holiday Dinner will be held on December 15th at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn on Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach. Anyone who volunteers for four hours or does demonstrations or displays a case at the show will be awarded a free ticket. Otherwise, tickets are \$10 for guests and members. Officers for 2008 will be installed at the dinner. The next tri-club Rock Swap will be held in mid-February at TY Park.

RAFFLE – This month's raffle proceeds brought in \$34, which will be donated to the **Bob Durney** fund.

JUNIORS PROGRAM – No report.

MISC. – The general meeting in December will be held on the second Thursday of the month, instead of the usual third Thursday.

The Board presented the following slate of officers for 2008:

President – **Jeff Ursillo**
1st Vice President – **Michelle Renné**
2nd Vice President – **Alan Meltzer**
Treasurer – **Marv Berkowitz**
Secretary – **Ruth Eikert**

The following club members will be appointed to serve as a committee chairperson:

Membership – **Ingrid Webster**
Social Chairperson – **KC Foster**
Historian – **Mary Koplin**
Librarian – **Cynthia Lariviere**
Classes – **Deb Slutzky**

Check the monthly calendar for the meetings, socials, workshops, and class schedules.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Submitted by Deb Slutzky, Secretary

ONE MORE TIME!

I know it has been tried in the past, but I would like to set up emailing of the Rockhound to any member that is interested. The newsletter would come as a PDF file, in full color! If you are interested, send me an email and I will add you to the list.

Jeff Ursillo, Editor
BNMJJeff@AOL.COM

FLORIDA FOSSIL PERMITS

There is now a link on our website to take you directly to the permit application on the Florida Museum of Natural History's website. Richard Hulbert, who now is in charge of the permit program, would like to remind everyone to submit a photocopy of your ID with your application.

www.floridafossilhunters.com

SOCIETY WEB SITE

Terry Koplin has been a busy lady! She has been hard at work updating the website. She has added lots of pictures from the 2007 show, as well as the Society's history and activities pages. Be sure to check out her efforts!

"Any dead fish can float downstream. It takes *life* to go against the current."

ANON

FROM THE EASTERN FEDERATION

It is with profound sorrow that I must tell you that Cathy Gaber passed away this morning. She had spent the last month in the ICU in the hospital battling kidney and liver problems as well as two intractable infections.

In recent days she was placed on a respirator and given dialysis in the hope that both would allow her functions to begin healing, but evidently the problems were too deep rooted. Bruce indicates that even had she survived this ordeal, her quality of life would have been unstable and greatly diminished.

Should you wish, contributions in Cathy's memory should be made to:

AFMS Scholarship Foundation
% Bob Livingston (checks to AFMS Scholarship Foundation)
59 Ely Drive; Fayetteville, NY 13066-1001

Eastern Foundation Fund
% Ellery Borow (checks to EFF)
PO Box 47; Waterville, ME 04903-0047

Cathy was a good friend to many, past president of the EFMLS, one of the mainstays of the Wildacres faculty, an incredibly talented author, and talented craftsperson who inspired and influenced so many of us.

Carolyn Weinberger dated 12/1/07

MEMBER NEWS

Donna Sypniewski recently returned from Galax, Virginia after attending a "Steiff on the Mountain" weekend. Teddy bear collectors and dealers came from, England, the Netherlands plus many American cities and states. Steiff bears have been made in Germany since 1902 and are still the finest made today.

Alan Meltzer has been fortifying his banded agate collection while waiting for petrified wood listings to pick up.....

Ed Flashenburg started cabochon class on Oct. 31. He is looking for people who would be interested in learning this art form.

SHOP TIP

Polishing Speeds: No doubt you have heard that it is better to polish certain stones at a slower speed. If you don't have a speed control on your polisher, just work the center of your polishing disc. What you are concerned about is the surface speed. Remember that your disc surface in one complete revolution at TWO inches from the center will travel 6.26 inches, and at EIGHT inches from the center it will travel 25.12 inches. So you should use the area near the center for slower polishing speeds and the outer surface for faster polishing speeds.

From Calgary Lap. Journal 12/03 via Rock Collector, 2/07

SHOW COMMITTEE

THANK YOU for all of the help and support at this year's Gem & Mineral Show! I feel the show was a success because of that support. Quite a few of you were there all day every day and that was a huge help. We have received a lot of positive feedback. I have already had several new vendors wanting a space, which are friends of other vendors, and other returning vendors wanting larger spaces. This year's show was dedicated to Sy Schwietzer. True to form he came to the show with a pocket full of stones to hand out to children who were there. He also gave us a box of flashy pieces to add to the mine buckets. Thank you to our speakers and to those of you who set up display cases to share with everyone. We are still tallying our expenses for the show will present the club with a donation at the annual installation of officers and holiday party on Saturday, December 15th at the Airport Holiday Inn. Please contact Barbara Ringhiser to reserve your place. Remember that if you worked 4 hours at the show you are invited to the dinner for no charge. All other member or guest tickets are \$10.00. I look forward to seeing you all there!

*Carl Bengtson
Show Chairman*

If you still have your badge holder/lanyard from the show please return it to Carl or Barbara at a meeting.

SHOP NEWS

The motor on the 12K/50K sanding wheels finally gave up the ghost last week, and is in the process of being replaced with a donated motor. Ed will also be moving the light by this machine to it's final position. We will also be replacing the fluorescent light bulbs as they are starting to fail. The Raytech dop pot has been cleaned and has a nice bracket added to it to hold dop sticks.

Just a reminder that the new shop rules are in effect. Copies are available at the shop. It is required that members using the shop read and understand the new rules. A space will be made on the liability forms for you to acknowledge your receipt of your copy of the rules.

MUMMIFIED DINOSAUR REVEALS SURPRISES

WASHINGTON, (Dec. 3) - A partially mummified hadrosaur discovered by a teenager in North Dakota may be the most complete dinosaur ever found, with intact skin that shows evidence of stripes and perhaps soft tissue, researchers said on Monday.

Enough of the animal remains to show it ran quickly and was far more muscular than scientists believed such dinosaurs were.



"It's sort of King Tut meets T. Rex," paleontologist Phil Manning of the University of Manchester in Britain said in a telephone interview. The creature is fossilized, with the skin and bone turned to stone. But unlike most dinosaur fossils, tissues are preserved as well. This includes large expanses of the animal's skin, with clear remains of scales.

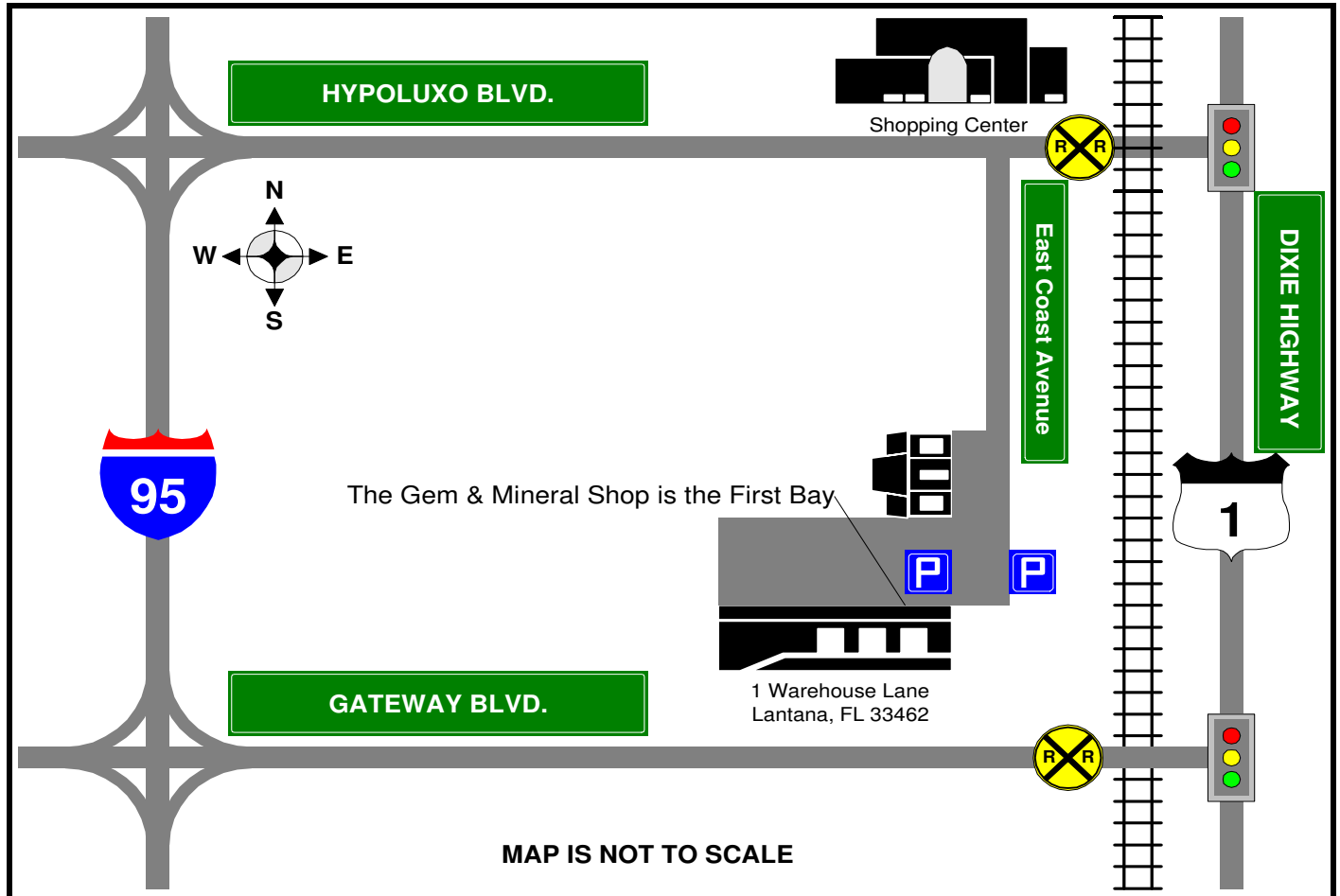
"This is not a skin impression. This is fossilized skin," Manning said. "When you run your hands over this dinosaur's skin, this is the closest you are going to get to touching a real dinosaur, ever."

The remains of the hadrosaur, dubbed Dakota, were found in 2000 by Tyler Lyson, then 17, on his uncle's ranch in North Dakota. The hadrosaur, a plant-eating dinosaur that walked on two legs, lived 67 million years ago, during the late Cretaceous Period.

Manning had the team remove the monstrous specimen, weighing close to 10,000 pounds, almost intact, with just the tail in a separate block.

They persuaded the Boeing Company and NASA to use a huge computed tomography, or CT, scanner in Canoga Park, California, that is usually used to scan space shuttle parts.

*Maggie Fox,
Reuters*



UPCOMING SHOWS

January 19 through 20
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

January 26 through 27
Orlando, FL

American Gem Expo

Commercial Retail/Wholesale Show - This is a Bead Show; & Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Gift, Fine Craft, Lapidary, Lampwork art and Gift Show; with lots of Beads, Gems, Crafts, Minerals, Gem Jewelry, Gifts and More. Show is Open to the Public. Visit our website for more info at: www.americangemexpo.com

Location: **War Memorial Auditorium,**
800 Ne 8th St, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Hours: **Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM**
Sun. 10 AM to 5 PM

Promoter: www.americangemexpo.com

Contact: American Gem Expo - Samuel Otto, P.O. Box 490803, 770-739-0057
info@americangemexpo.com

American Gem Expo

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Location: **Central Florida Fair Grounds,**
4603 W Colonial Dr , Orlando, FL 32803

Hours: **Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM**
Sun. 10 AM to 5 PM

Promoter: www.americangemexpo.com

Contact: American Gem Expo - Samuel Otto, P.O. Box 490803, 770-739-0057
info@americangemexpo.com

DECEMBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16	17 Open Shop 7-9PM	18 Fused Glass Open Shop 9AM - Noon	19 Open Shop 9AM—NOON Cab class 6-9PM	20	21 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	22 Open Shop* 2-5 PM
23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Merry Christmas 	26 Open Shop 9AM—NOON Cab class 6-9PM	27	28 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	29 Open Shop* 2-5 PM
30	31 New Year's Eve					

JANUARY 2008

		1 Happy New Year!! 	2 Open Shop 9AM—NOON Board Mtg 6:30 PM	3	4 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	5 Open Shop* 2-5 PM
6	7 Open Shop 7-9PM	8 Fused Glass Open Shop 9AM - Noon Newsletter Deadline	9 Open Shop 9AM—NOON Cab class 6-9PM	10	11 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	12 Open Shop* 2-5 PM
13	14 Open Shop 7-9PM	15 Fused Glass Open Shop 9AM - Noon	16 Open Shop 9AM—NOON Cab class 6-9PM	17 Membership Meeting	18 Open Shop 6-9PM General Work	19 Open Shop* 2-5 PM

Shop schedule is **TENTATIVE**, 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 **Wednesday PM** Jeff Ursillo (On call) 561/706-9549
Friday PM – Jeff Ursillo 561/706-9549 **Saturday** (On call) Keith Allum 561/689-2565
 On call – KC Foster 561/968-5287 **SHOP PHONE** 561/585-2080

CLASSES

CLASS	TEACHER	PHONE	COST	DATE	TIME
Art Clay Silver	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$50+ \$85 materials		
Beginner Beading	Ingrid Webster	561-793-8646			
Cabochon 6 wk class	Ed Flashenburg	561-733-1466	\$60	October 31	6-9 Pm at shop
Chain Making Basic & Advanced					
Enameling on Copper	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$40 + \$10 materials		
Faceting	KC Foster	561-968-5287	\$80 + \$20 materials		
Fused Glass Beginner	Frank Hecker	561-742-4337	\$40+ \$10 Materials	11/6 9AM—Noon	
No-solder Wire Work	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$30 + \$20 materials		
Pearl Knotting	Ingrid Webster	561-793-8646	\$25		
Pottery Jewelry	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291	\$30 + \$10 materials		
Silversmithing	Michelle Renné	561-969-3291			
Stained Glass	Anna Medley	561-313-1594			
Torched Glass Beads			\$50 + materials		
Torched Glass Bead advanced	Jan Comos	561-969-9564		Early 2008	
Viking Knit (wire) 2 part class	Marv Berkowitz	561-364-9696	\$40 + \$35 materials	Nov. 20 & 27 7PM at shop	

Important Please Read!



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. **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.**

CLASSIFIED SECTION

CLASSIFIEDS are FREE to members. Please limit ads to 35 words. 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 - 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 melodiebeads@aol.com. If you would like to see my work we can arrange to meet or I will send you pictures.

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

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.

BOB DURNEY CANCER FUND

A special account has been created in Bob's name at Washington Mutual Bank. The account is "ROBERT DURNEY # 3161978679." Updates will be available on our website. Bob's address is 522 Worthmore Ave., Lake Worth FL 33460. 561/585-4848. His email address is bluebob232002@netscape.net.

YELLOWSTONE ON THE RISE.....

WASHINGTON — Yellowstone National Park, once the site of a giant volcano, has begun swelling up, possibly because molten rock is accumulating beneath the surface, scientists report.

But, "there is no evidence of an imminent volcanic eruption," said Robert B. Smith, a professor of geophysics at the University of Utah. Many giant volcanic craters around the world go up and down over decades without erupting, he said.

Smith and colleagues report in Friday's issue of the journal *Science* that the flow of the ancient Yellowstone crater has been moving upward almost 3 inches per year for the past three years.

That is more than three times faster than ever observed since such measurements began in 1923, the researchers said.

"Our best evidence is that the crustal magma chamber is filling with molten rock," Smith said in a statement. "But we have no idea how long this process goes on before there either is an eruption or the inflow of molten rock stops and the caldera deflates again."

It's not unusual for ancient volcano sites like Yellowstone and Long Valley, Calif., to rise and fall, according to the researchers.

The Yellowstone volcanic field was produced by what the researchers described as a plume of hot and molten rock beginning at least 400 miles beneath Earth's surface and rising to 30 miles underground, where it widens to about 300 miles across.

Blobs of molten rock sometimes rise to refill the magma chamber beneath Yellowstone.

The volcano at Yellowstone produced massive eruptions 2 million, 1.3 million and 642,000 years ago, all larger than the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens.

Site of the famed Old Faithful and hundreds of other geysers, Yellowstone sprawls across parts of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

Via the Associated Press

"In an age when man has forgotten his origins and is blind even to his most essential needs for survival, water along with other resources has become a victim of his indifference."

Rachael Carson

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Junior Membership - \$10.00
 (Under Age 18)
 Single Membership - \$15.00
 (Over Age 18)
 Family Membership - \$25.00
 (Includes Children Under Age 18)

Membership expires on December 31st each year and is due in **January** of the new year. To renew your membership, make your check or money order out to:

Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches 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

CLUB VESTS

Club vests can be ordered from
 Wearguard at 1-800-388-3300.

Order the following:
 Color: BL (Blue)
 Unisex sizes: XS,S,M,L,XL,XXL
 Style: 348
 Price: \$19.99 (plus \$6.50 S&H)

You can purchase a Society patch at a
 General Membership Meeting.

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.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2007

OFFICERS

President*	Barbara Ringhiser	588-5458
1st Vice President*	Debbie Bengtson	641-4493
2nd Vice President*	Lee Krenz	744-5196
Secretary*	Deb Slutzky	753-9937
Treasurer*	Marv Berkowitz	364-9696

DIRECTORS

Past President*	Jack Stamper	964-4710
Past President*	Michelle Renné	969-3291
Past President*	Jeff Ursillo	706-9549
Show Chairman*	Carl Bengtson	641-4493

COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE

Class Coordinators	Michelle Renné	969-3291
	Deb Slutzky	753-9937
Club Patches & Pins	OPEN	
Field Trips	Michelle Renné	969-3291
Historians	Bill & Floralee Stein	684-0950
Hostess	Coralie Norvell	965-4748
Junior Program	OPEN	
Librarian	Cynthia Lariviere	772-285-3987
Media (video & photos)	Terry Koplin	848-5885
Membership*	Ingrid Webster	793-8646
Newsletter Editor*	Jeff Ursillo	706-9549
Programs	Lee Krenz	744-5196
Raffle Coordinator	Harriet Flashenburg	733-1466
Refreshments	Debbie Anderson	965-9279
Special Projects Raffle	Junior Members	
Sunshine Committee	Karie Kiser	772-631-3576
Social Events	OPEN	
Head Shop Steward	John Holmstrom	585-7094
Website Manager	Terry Koplin	848-5885

* 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