



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The club auction was a great success. Thanks to everyone for your participation it really helps the club. Thank you one and all.

Our February meeting will be our last get together prior to the annual gem and mineral show in March. If you haven't already signed up to help please consider doing so. Check with the show committee chairman, Bill Schmidt, to see where you can be the most help, to make this our best show so far! The Show is a three-day event and it takes a lot of people to make it happen. With the show changing its location this year we have faced some real challenges. I can't commend our show committee enough for all their extra efforts putting this show together this year.

Joe Cooper, President

#### NEXT MEETING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20 AT 7 PM

Member Chris Goin-Anderson will explain the power of minerals and crystal healing through the ancient practice of dowsing the Chakras.

\* \* \* \*

A notice to all members: if you are still contemplating donating anything (for example, jewelry, cabochons, specimens, slabs, etc.) to the Silent Auction for the March show, please bring them to the meeting the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**If your last name starts with A through L, please bring a snack to share at the meeting.**

## Board Members and Appointed Positions

*Joe Cooper, President* .... 317-775-5476

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Susan Biel, Vice President* .. ..

315-380-7037 Email:

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Eric Odegaard, Treasurer* . . . . 727-333-5668

Email:

[sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Gerri Groves, Recording*

Secretary

727-656-0322

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Dan Stefanski, Corresponding Secretary* ..

734-216-6855

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Pat Davis, Past President* .. . . . 727-323-2147

Email: Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Dave Watson, Director* .. 727-541-2917

*Richard Buton, Director* .. .. . 570-592-6562

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Sandy Theisz, Director* . . . . . 727-686-1209

Email: Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*Bill (William) Schmidt, Facilities*.. 727-657-0998

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*Donna Sapp, Membership*. . . . . 727-420-0383

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*Debbie Bremer, Webmaster*..... 727-298-0061

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*Bill (William) Schmidt, Show Chair*.. 727-657-0998

Email: [SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com)

*Sandy Theisz, Dealer Chair*. . . . .

727-686-1209

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

*JoAnn Knoss, Dinner Committee*.. 727-914-4569

Email: [sgams2020@gmail.com](mailto:sgams2020@gmail.com)

### HELP WANTED!

Do you know your way around Facebook?

SGAMS is looking for a computer-savvy member to handle our presence on Facebook. Contact Pat Davis at [shasta73@gmail.com](mailto:shasta73@gmail.com) to discuss.

## Show News

I hope you have been able to spread the word about our show to your friends and acquaintances. There are 3 short weeks left till D-day! Remember I have electronic copies of the different sized fliers and written notices for you to distribute. Just call or e-mail with your requests. Also, our website has the full sheet flier in color. Feel free to mention us on any social media that you use and announce us in your other club meetings.

As of this writing we have about 80% of the show volunteer slots filled. The sign up sheets can be found in the front of the Clubhouse Main Room. Check over the empty time slots and step up where you can. Some need a second person in the earlier shifts, especially with the club booth. You can talk directly to Donna S for the ticket and information booths and to Susan B for the silent auction.

The last show committee meeting will be **Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**. We will be pre-setting up the club tables, picking rocks for prepping, and staging most everything inside. Then on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> we will pre-load the trailer at 10 am for the early 5:30 am Friday haul to Banquet Masters.

Thank you to the folks who came Saturday morning for the Grab Bag filling. After a slow start things went fine and the new example board looks great!

Thanks, Bill Schmidt, Show Chair

## SUNCOAST GEM &amp; MINERAL SOCIETY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

01/02/2020

Meeting was called to order by President Joe Cooper at 6:50 p.m.

Board members in attendance were President Joe Cooper, Dave Watson, Pat Davis, Rick Bunton, Gerri Groves Dan Stefanski, and Susan Biel. Also in attendance were Julia Larson, Donna Sapp, and Bill Schmidt.

Secretary's report was reviewed. Treasurer's report was not given.

Building-the a/c in the clubhouse is up and running. Thank you to Bill Schmidt for all his hard work. Dan Stefanski is painting all the new lumber around the outside of the building. We need to replace the wood in the breezeway,

Show committee will check with Banquet Masters and see how many electrical outlets are available and working.

This month's program is the annual auction, hope to see everyone there.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Submitted by Gerri Groves, Recording Secretary

## SUNCOAST GEM &amp; MINERAL SOCIETY

## GENERAL MEETING

JANUARY 16, 2020

Meeting was called to order by President Joe Cooper at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary report-motion by Dan Stefanski to approve the minutes as published in the Rock a Gram was approved.

Treasurer's report-Eric Odegaard presented the Treasurer's report. A motion by Sue Hazelden to approve and file for audit was approved.

Show committee we need volunteers for Fri. March 6<sup>th</sup> to set up the tables and get everything ready for the show. Need to be at Banquet Masters at 7:00 a.m. Grab bags will be done on Sat Jan. 18, at 9 am. Next show meeting will be on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Newsletter-anyone who would like something published in the newsletter should send it to Julia Larson.

Tonight's program is the annual auction.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by Gerri Groves, recording secretary

**SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**

**49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

**GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW AND SALE**

**MARCH 6, 7 & 8<sup>TH</sup> 2020**

**FRIDAY – 1 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

**SATURDAY – 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

**SUNDAY – 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**\*\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*\*BANQUET MASTERS**

**13355 49<sup>TH</sup> ST. N.**

**CLEARWATER, FL**

**WIRE WRAPPING, SILENT AUCTION**

**CABOCHON & GEM CUTTING**

**GRAND PRIZE DRAWING**

**DIAMONDS, EMERALDS, RUBIES, BEADS**

**14K GOLD, ROUGH STONE & SLABS**

**FREE PARKING**

**DONATION: \$5 ADULT- GOOD FOR ALL THREE DAYS**

**CHILDREN UNDER 6 FREE;**

**STUDENTS WITH PARENTS OR I.D. CARD \$4**

**WE ARE A LOCAL NON -PROFIT CLUB**

[WWW.SGAMS.COM](http://WWW.SGAMS.COM) \_ LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

**\$1.00 OFF ADULT ADMISSION WITH THIS AD; LIMIT 1 PER PERSON**

## 6 Things You Need to Know if You Make Cabochon Jewelry

I didn't know many important facts about cabochons that would affect how they are set and used in jewelry until the first time I tried to set a cabochon on my own.

Issue after issue occurred. How can my back plate be uneven? Why is the bezel lopsided? What's causing the bezel wire to crimp? A poorly cut cabochon, that's what. When I bought my first cabs to set on my own, I didn't know what to look for to choose the best cabochons for jewelry designs. Here are the six things I wish I'd known when I first attempted to buy cabs and make cabochon jewelry.

1. When choosing a cabochon that will be used with a bezel, check the shape and make sure that the bottom is flat; otherwise it will rock back and forth on the back plate.
2. Check the sides of the stone. Notice if the sides are straight up and down, or if they are angled toward the top of the stone. Stones angled with a smaller bottom and larger toward the top will not fit well into a bezel. Stones with the straight sides will probably need to be set into a bezel with a bit of glue to hold them. Stones wider at the bottom and gradually narrower at the top will be easier to set.
3. When you find a stone that screams "PICK ME PICK ME!" first check out the angle of the sides. A well-cut stone will have the same angle all around the stone. A poorly cut stone will have different angles on each side, and though you may not notice it now, your bezel will fold down differently on the sides, and it will look like a poorly set stone, when really it's a poorly cut stone. Hold a stone at eye-level and check the angles around the stone.
4. Check the front of the stone to make sure it's level across the face of the cab. Again, a poorly cut stone will catch a reflection of an angle, which may mar the beauty of the face of the cab. The polish or the recent excursion into matte stones (my favorite) should be an even finish all across the face of the stone.
5. A well-cut stone will have a tiny, almost indiscernible 45-degree angle cut all along the bottom edge of the stone. This is there for a very important reason. When you have a snug bezel, and you go to pop the stone into the bezel, you can accidentally chip the edge of a stone without that little cut on the bezel as you snap it into. That snap may result in a crack appearing on the face of your stone and the cracking of your stone all the way through. Disaster!
6. You don't have to pass up a stone because of its highly irregular edges. It can be set with prongs, so as to not block the delicacy of that rough edge. Just remember sharply pointed stone will require greater caution and more expertise in setting.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our condolences go out to member Mike Sibio, whose mother, member Barbara Seebarrow, has passed away. Her house and contents, including cabbing material, faceting machine, tumbler and rocks, are for sale. Contact Mike at 727-581-9554 if you are interested. The house is located at 16 Jeff Road in Largo.

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies web site is at: <http://www.amfed.org>

American Lands Access Association: [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Website at: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

National Park Foundation: [www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks](http://www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks)

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society: [www.canaveral-mgs.com](http://www.canaveral-mgs.com)

Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society: [www.cfmgs.org](http://www.cfmgs.org)

Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society: [www.bonevalley.net](http://www.bonevalley.net)

Pinellas Geological Society: [www.pgs.rocks](http://www.pgs.rocks)

Tampa Bay Fossil Club: [www.tampabayfossilclub.com](http://www.tampabayfossilclub.com)

Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club: [www.tampabayrockclub.com](http://www.tampabayrockclub.com)

Withlacoochee Rockhounds of Hernando County: [www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com](http://www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com)

**OUR WEBSITE: [www.sgams2020.com](http://www.sgams2020.com)**

#### UPCOMING SHOWS

February 22—Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society, Lakeland FL

February 22-23—Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society, Jackson MS

**WE THANK OUR ADVERTISERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE ALL OUR MEMBERSHIP TO VISIT AND PATRONIZE THEIR BUSINESSES.**



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and want to promote your busi-  
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## **Clubhouse Class Schedules**

**CABBING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm**

TBD

**Wednesdays, 12 to 4pm**

Larry Murry 727-686-1314

**FACETING/WIREWRAPPING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm**

*Dave Watson (727) 541-2917 or  
sgams2020@gmail.com*

**SILVER SMITHING: Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm and Saturdays 1 to 5 pm**

*Joe Cooper 317-775-5476  
or sgams2020@gmail.com*

### **Contact Instructors, if interested in following classes:**

FUSED GLASS: Julia Larson (727) 410-3781 glassgal0947@gmail.com

GEM TREES: Jerri Heer (419) 344-9999 or jheerx6@aol.com

WAX CASTING: Joe Cooper (317) 775-5476, sgams2020@gmail.com

Cost for classes (except Faceting and Wax Casting) is \$3.00 per hour, or any portion thereof, plus any additional supplies.

\*Please contact instructor to set up start date and schedule. Each class has minimum number of students needed to start a class.



**Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society  
Amendments Requested by SGAMS Bylaws Committee.**

In accordance with Article XII: Amendments. The Bylaws Committee recommends that the following changes be made to the SGMA Bylaws. (Please note that **red strike thru text** are to be removed and yellow highlighted text are our requested changes to the Bylaws.

**Article III: Section I D. Honorary Membership:** Any person who has made outstanding contributions in promoting popular interest in the fields of earth science or lapidary arts shall, upon majority vote of the Board of Directors, be granted an Honorary **Life** Membership in this Society. No more than two (2) Honorary Memberships shall be granted in any one (1) calendar year. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay dues and are not entitled to vote or hold office.

**Article III: Section 4: Suspension** Membership dues are due September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Any member whose dues are not paid by **December 1** September 30 of each year is automatically suspended and forfeits the right to vote and the privilege of holding office. Further suspended members shall not use club facilities and club equipment, participate in any club classes, and can no longer attend club activities.

**Article III Section 5: Reinstatement** A member, suspended for non-payment of dues, **may be reinstated by paying delinquent dues before the next September 1. If delinquent dues are not paid before September 1, the former member shall apply as a new member and meet the requirements then in force.** must reapply as a new member by submitting a new membership application with dues payment and be approved by the club's membership Chairman. Until suspended members are reinstated, they forfeit the right to vote and the privilege of holding office. Further, they shall not use club facilities, club equipment, participate in any club classes, and can no longer attend club activities.

**Article IV Section 3: Delinquent**

Dues shall be considered delinquent if not received by **December 1** September 30<sup>th</sup>, and the membership shall be suspended. Any suspended member must reapply as a new member by submitting a new membership application with dues payment and be approved by the club's membership Chairman. Until suspended members are reinstated, they forfeit the right to vote and the privilege of holding office. Further, they shall not use club facilities, club equipment, participate in any club classes, and can no longer attend club activities. **If dues are not received by the next September 1, membership shall be forfeited.**

## ROCK-A-GRAM

This is the official newsletter of the SUNCOAST GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733-3254

This Society is a member of the SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC., and its parent society, the AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC

The general purpose of this society is to promote popular interest in education and research in the earth sciences and lapidary arts, and to cooperate with other similar organizations

General Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, September through April at 7:00 p.m., at our clubhouse, 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL. December and May meetings are special meetings and a time and place will be announced in this bulletin. The public is cordially invited to attend the general membership meetings.

**Dues: \$20.00 single or \$30.00 couple/family; due annually each September**

**Feel free to copy any material from this bulletin, but please list all byline credits**

### Webmaster

(Website)Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
Debbie Bremer  
Email: [bremerslapidary@yahoo.com](mailto:bremerslapidary@yahoo.com)  
Phone: (727) 298-0061  
[www.SGAMS.com](http://www.SGAMS.com)

### Membership Committee

(Membership)—Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
Donna Sapp  
Email: [DSapp43@yahoo.com](mailto:DSapp43@yahoo.com)  
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3200 74th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702

### Show Committee

(Show Chair)—Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
Bill Schmidt  
Email: [SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemShow@gmail.com)  
Phone: (727) 657-0998  
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### Facilities

(Building Supervisor)—Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
Bill Schmidt  
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### Dinner Committee

(Club Dinners)—Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
JoAnn Knoss  
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Phone: (727) 914-4569  
P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254

### Dealer Contact

(Dealer Chair)—Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
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Phone: (727) 686-1209  
P.O. Box 13254, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3254

#### Clubhouse Activities September - May

**Board Meeting:**  
(September - May)  
First Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

**General Meeting:**  
(September - May) Third  
Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

#### Clubhouse Activities Year Round

**Cab Room:**  
**Clubhouse Open:**

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
And  
Wednesdays 12:00- 4:00  
p.m.

#### Clubhouse Activities Year Round

**Silver Room:**  
**Clubhouse Open:**

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
And  
Saturdays 1:00- 5:00 p.m.

#### Clubhouse Activities Year Round

**Faceting:**  
**By Appointment:**  
Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.,  
**Lost Wax Casting:**  
**By Appointment:**  
Friday pm and Saturday