

ROCK-A-GRAM



November, 2007



Volume 39, No.3, Page 1

General Meeting

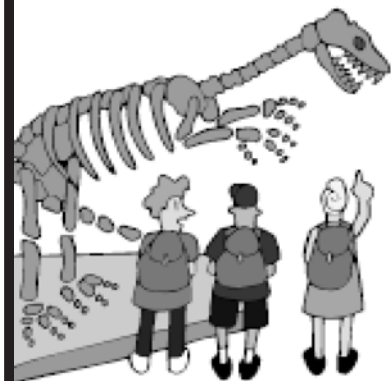
Thursday, November 15, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Azalea Adult Center

1600 72nd Street North

St. Petersburg



Guest Speaker:

Brian Evensen

Brian, an honorary life member of SGAMS, is back to update us on his travels, latest finds, and continuing digs. He has been very busy with his newest adventure of moving his *Lost in Time* shop to the Pier.

You might of seen the St. Pete Times article, September 19, Neighborhood Times section, about the opening. While all that he does could not fit in this space another Times piece, July 9, 2006 Floridian, uncovers even more. If you can read both for background and get your questions ready!

Cash donations to our building fund
are always welcome.

If your last name starts with A-M, please bring goodies to our meeting.

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ROCK-A-GRAM

SGAMS Clubhouse Address: 4619 69th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709, Phone: (727) 541-1291, www.sgams.com

Clubhouse Activities: Listed on mailer coversheet and announced at membership meetings.
SGAMS Board of Director's Meetings: 7:30 p.m., 1st Tuesday of each month; September - May.
All members are invited to attend SGAMS Board of Director's Meetings at our clubhouse.
We solicit your attendance, and constructive suggestions for improving our club.

Quartz

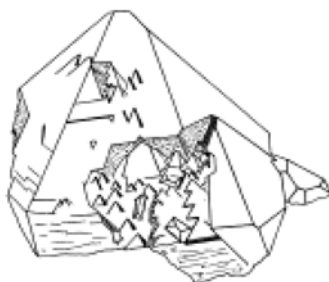
Quartz is one of the most common minerals in the earth. Quartz crystallizes in the hexagonal crystal system. "Hex" means six. Find a quartz crystal and count the number of flat faces around the crystal. You will find there are six! On this picture you can see three faces. On the other side of the crystal that you cannot see, there are three more faces.

On the mineral scale of hardness (which is also called "Moh's Hardness Scale" because it was invented in 1822 by a German scientist named Friedrich Moh) quartz is number 7.

Uses: Quartz is used to make glass. It is also used in jewelry, especially when it is colorful. It is also used in watches and other electronic equipment.

Colors: Quartz is found in many colors.

Purple is called Amethyst
Pink is called Rose Quartz
White is called Milky Quartz
Brown is called Smoky Quartz
Black is called Morion
Yellow is called Citrine



DUES ARE DUE!
\$15 Individuals \$20
per family

If not paid this month,
you will no longer
receive this newsletter.

Postage
Stamps
Needed

Please remember to bring those stamps to the meeting. Stamps must be either off the paper or neatly trimmed with 1/4" border around the stamp. discard any stamps that are torn or defaced in any manner. To remove stamps, wet envelope with a little dish soap and warm water, stamp will fall off. Place stamp upside down on paper towel to dry. Thank you.



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The Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society
a local non-profit club proudly presents:

38th Annual

Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show and Sale

March 7, 8, 9, 2008

Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Continuous Working Demonstrations

- ◆ Bead Stringing
- ◆ Wirecraft
- ◆ Channel Work
- ◆ Gem Cutting



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RUBIES
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DOOR PRIZES
EXHIBITS
AND
MUCH MORE....**

ADMISSION

Adults - \$5.00 good for all three days, children under 6 FREE
Students with parents or I.D. Card \$4.00

DIRECTIONS

- ◆ Minnreg Building
6340 126th Avenue No.
Largo
- ◆ From Tampa I-275 cross
Howard Franklin Bridge.
At Exit 30, take Ramp
(right) onto SR-688
(Ulmerton Rd) Merge
onto SR-686. Bear LEFT
(West) onto SR-688
(Ulmerton Rd) turn
LEFT (South-East)
onto US-19 N. Turn
RIGHT (West) onto
126th Ave N.
- ◆ From North on US 19
take 66th Street exit go to
126th Ave., turn left.

FEDERATION NEWS

Tips and Trips, Georgia Mineral Society, Feb. 2007

www.AMFED.org

2007 Regional Federation Shows & Conventions

Eastern Federation

October 6-7, 2007

Newark, NY

Southeast Federation

Gulf Coast of Mississippi

November 9-11, 2007

Gem Shows

Chert Chatter, Vol. 33, No. 7

October 2007

November 17-18: West Palm Beach

Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches

South Florida Fairgrounds and Expo Center

Fairgrounds Road

Hours: 17th, 9a.m. – 6 p.m.

18th, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

November 30-December 2: Spring Hill

33rd Annual Withlacochee Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show

Slovene American Club (SNP)

13383 County Line road

Hours: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

December 9-10: Deland

Tomoka Gem and Mineral 40th Annual Show

Volusia County Fairgrounds

Hours: 9th, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

10th, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

January 11-13: Largo

Pinellas Geological society 32nd Annual Gem, Jewelry and
Mineral Show and Sale

Largo Cultural Center

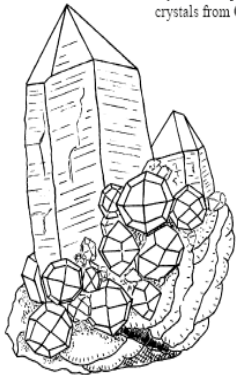
Parkside room

105 Central Park Drive

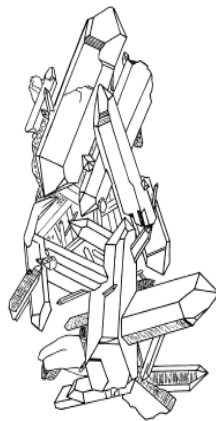
Hours: 11th & 12th: 10 a.m – 6 p.m.

13th, 12 noon – 5 p.m.

Left: Black quartz with deep red garnet
crystals from China.



Right: Yellow citrine quartz
from Arkansas.



Federation Websites:

Future Rockhounds of America

www.amfed.org

Lodestar Newsletter

www.amfed.org/sfms_lodestar_newsletter.html

EFMLS News

www.amfed.org/efmls/newsletters.htm

HINTS & TIPS

How to find the Fire in fire Agate: Fire agate is a quartz-based rock with layers of iron oxide in chalcedony which results in iridescence. It occurs in nodules of milky or grayish translucent chalcedony. Sometimes it is found in botryoidal growths in geodes and in chalcedony roses. Fire agate appears as a dull, reddish brown layer, but when the surface layers are removed the rainbow colors or iridescence are exposed. The fire is brought out by tumbling, trimming, and grinding off the outer layers to expose the iridescence. Polishing magnifies the fire.

To find the fire, remove the matrix, then tumble polish the stones. Tumbling removes the excess chalcedony. When polished, remove excess stone around the edges, then polish and set. Allow the stone to retain its irregular shape and polish slowly, so you don't go through the fire layers. The graceful natural shapes are superior to those cut to calibrated sizes, as the best fire doesn't always fit a mold. To set it off, mount the fire agate in a custom-made gold or silver setting. Fire agates are most often found in Arizona, California, Idaho, and Mexico, among other locales.

From the SRIBE 2007 CD (From Breccia 7/01 via GOLDEN SPIKE NEWS 10/01) Canaveral Moonstone November 2007 Vol. XXXXIII No. 10



CABOCHONS FOR SALE

MALACHITE

3-16X12 MM. OVAL _____ \$4.00 EA
 1-25X18 MM. OVAL _____ \$7.00
 5- 5X20MM.(APPROXIMATELY)— \$2.00 EA
 LONG OVAL (NOT CALIBRATED)

GREENAGATE

1-6MM. ROUND _____ \$ 1.50

1-HOWLITE

6MM. ROUND _____ \$.50

LAPIS LAZULI

I-PAIR 14X10MM.OVAL _____ \$10.00 BOTH
 GEM GRADE
 1- PAIR 6X6 MM. SQUARE _____ \$6.00 BOTH

CARNELIAN

5- 30X22MM.OVAL _____ \$6.00 EA.
 5- 25X18MM. OVAL _____ \$5.00 EA.
 5- 16X12 MM. OVAL _____ \$2.50 EA.
 3- 8X6 MM. OVAL _____ \$2.00 EA.
 6- 7X5 MM. OVAL _____ \$1.50 EA.

BLOOD STONE

2- 25X18 MM. OVAL _____ \$4.00 EA.
 1- 18X13 MM. OVAL _____ \$2.25
 2- 14X10 MM. OVAL _____ \$1.50 EA.

ROSE QUARTZ

2- 25x18 MM. OVAL _____ \$3.50 EA.
 4- 16X12 MM.OVAL _____ 4/\$6.00
 1- 6 MM. ROUND _____ \$1.00

SNOWFLAKE OBSIDIAN

1 PAIR 6MM ROUND _____ \$1.00 PR.
 3- 30X22 OVAL _____ \$3.00 EA.
 6- 18X13 OVAL _____ \$1.25 EA.

NEPHRITE JADE

1- 18X13 OVAL _____ \$7.00
 1- PAIR 14X10 OVAL _____ \$7.40 PR.

RED FLOWERAGATE

1- 30X22 MM. OVAL _____ \$3.00

BLACK ONYX

3- 30X22 MM. OVAL _____ \$4.00EA.
 2- 25X18 MM. OVAL _____ \$3.50EA.
 4- 18X13MM. OVAL _____ 4/ \$7.00
 16-16X12 MM. OVAL _____ 4/ \$5.50
 3- 8X6 MM. OVAL _____ \$1.00 EA.
 3- 20 MM. SQUARE _____ \$4:00 EA.
 2-16 MM. SQUARE _____ \$3.00 EA.

CONTACT:

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 Email, anitajangems@aol.com

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Minutes of General Meeting

October 18, 2007

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., by President Dave Cordes.

After the Pledge, Sue Hazeldon gave the September's treasurer's report and Bill Schmidt gave us an update on our upcoming show.

Dave was happy to announce that the work actually started on our clubhouse, Wednesday, 10/17. He certainly got a round of applause for that announcement.

Sue reminded everyone that the club collects aluminum cans, copper wire, cancelled stamps and donations are needed for an upcoming yard sale on 11/2/07 & 11/3/07.

Laura Wetzel was our guest speaker who gave us a very interesting talk on diamonds. How diamonds are formed and where they can be found. Everyone present seemed to really enjoy the program.

Evie Loster

Acting Secretary



Thanksgiving Word Search

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Words To Find:

APPLES
CARVE
CORN
FAMILY
FEAST
GRAVY
HUNTING
INDIANS
NOVEMBER
PILGRIMS
PLYMOUTH
POTATOES
PUMPKIN PIE
STUFFING
TURKEY

X	A	P	U	E	O	Z	O	D	V	E	I	Y	S	Z
P	V	S	C	N	S	I	M	I	A	Q	E	E	F	B
N	F	P	L	Y	M	O	U	T	H	K	L	D	C	P
O	I	I	U	W	A	E	S	X	R	P	O	G	O	B
V	G	L	V	M	T	Z	D	U	P	P	U	H	R	L
E	O	G	W	N	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	S	N	B
M	L	R	R	V	V	K	C	G	X	P	T	B	X	U
B	R	I	I	A	X	U	I	P	M	U	S	Q	O	O
E	L	M	E	B	V	N	C	N	F	A	M	I	L	Y
R	A	S	V	C	D	Y	J	F	P	E	M	F	T	L
V	C	N	R	I	S	M	I	D	U	I	A	I	C	S
F	W	G	A	W	A	N	P	P	M	D	E	S	G	J
G	H	N	C	G	G	F	A	J	J	V	R	F	T	G
W	S	K	J	E	U	I	K	C	L	J	A	D	A	B
M	H	U	N	T	I	N	G	V	C	G	T	J	M	H

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
Minutes of Board Meeting
November 6 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., by Vice President Bill Schmidt. Also present were Sue Hazelden, Sue Black, Homer Rankhorn, Evie Loster, Julia Larson, Dave Cordes; and newsletter editor: Debbie Bremer.

Minutes from last meeting were accepted as published. The 2006-07 audit was also accepted.

The treasurer's report was accepted, with a suggestion that next month's report include a breakdown of the amounts paid to the contractor and a note as to what these payments covered. Sue Hazelden supplied a verbal list. She also stated that property taxes had gone down a bit. They are due in December. There is a concern that the club will be left with very little cash on hand when the construction costs were paid. The yard sale did not generate as much money as the one in April did. The board agreed to store the unsold items at the clubhouse, with the thought of having a yard sale there early next year. Sue said, she is unable to hold future sales at her house. There was insufficient help for her to set up the day before the sale, and she had to do much of the physical work herself. One member made a cash donation to the yard sale proceeds.

Old Business:

Construction at the clubhouse is well underway, but probably will not be completed until January. Discussion was held regarding opening classes to the general public. Julia will verify this with the insurance liaison at the meeting in Biloxi, but the general feeling is that only club members would be covered by insurance, so opening the classes to the public probably should not be permitted. Gert and Tom McWilliams sent Sue a congratulatory email regarding the construction.

The issue of turf blocks vs. gravel for the driveway was discussed. This would involve another trip to the county, which Dave said, he would handle. Also under discussion was the issue of a planted hedge vs a three-foot fence. One club member has several ixora plants she wants to donate, and Julia will go by to see these.

Painting, refinishing a small floor section and bathroom tile will have to be done by club members. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS. It was brought out that those who volunteer often do not show up when scheduled. We need to be able to count on volunteers from the general club membership, not just on the handful of folks who always seem to end up doing 98% of the work.

Show Reports:

Currently we have only seven dealers. Several have dropped out this year, and several have not responded. Sue is trying to get Channels 9 and 10 to carry show information on air. Show flyers and cards were done by Debbie Bremer and given to Bill Schmidt for printing. Since some of the bigger dealers will not be coming, we not have to order as many flyers. Wilda Bisset will continue to address the show cards as she has done in the past.

Nominating Committee: A nominating committee for next year's board members has to be appointed this month. This will be addressed at the general meeting. Nominees' names have to be in the January 2008 newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Julia Larson

Recording Secretary

Rock-A-Gram

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

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juliamlarson@earthlink.net

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.

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, September through April at 7:30 p.m., at the Azalea Adult Center; 1600 72nd Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida. 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: \$15.00 single or \$20.00 couple/family; due annually each September

All exchange bulletins should be sent to the Rock-A-Gram editor.

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

ROCK-A-GRAM (Official Bulletin)

Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

Debra Bremer, Editor

1349 Lakeview Road

Clearwater, FL 33756

Clubhouse Activities

Board Meeting:
(September - May)
First Tuesday: 7:30 p.m.

Cabbing Classes:
TBA

Clubhouse Maintenance:
TBA

Faceting, Silversmithing,

Wire Wrapping Classes:
By appointment