



The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast
Gem and Mineral Society

August 2018
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Club Website: <http://www.fgcgms.com> Federation Website: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

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*The Florida Gold Coast
Gem & Mineral Society
meets at 7:30 PM ON THE
3RD WEDNESDAY OF
EACH MONTH at "Ye Olde
Rock Shop" 1425 S. 30th
Ave, Hollywood, FL 33020*

*Take I-95 to Pembroke
Road, (Exit 19), go West ½
blk. Turn Right just before
the RR tracks. Turn Right
after the 1st building, then
Left at the fence. Ye Olde
Rock Shop will be on the left
50 feet up.*

**Visitors & Members are
encouraged to attend!**

Headlines

Monthly Meeting

Our August meeting is **Wednesday, August 15th at 7:30pm**. Our presentation will be a "Show and Tell" by our club members! Bring what you've found, bought, made or acquired to show the club. We'd love for you to bring as much as you want but please bring at least one item to show and tell the group. Some of you have just returned from trips mining or to rock and mineral shows and have found or bought some beautiful stuff. Others have created cut stones or jewelry. Share it with the club! As always, items can be traded or sold. Tables will be set up to display your items. If you're bringing a lot, please a table.
Meeting Refreshments: August's refreshments will be sponsored by the club.

Rock Star of the Month is Quartz !!!

The Rock Star of the Month for July is Quartz. Please bring any Quartz rough, specimens or jewelry you have to show the club.

Refrigerator Door Program at August Meeting

In addition to "Show and Tell", at our August meeting we will have our quarterly "Refrigerator Door Program" where members bring in items they made, designed, cut or collected in the past quarter, to show the club. Please get your items ready!!

Tri-County Picnic Date Announced

The date of the next tri-county picnic was announced at the July meeting. It is Sunday, October 7th. Details of the picnic can be found on our website. Additional information will be printed in the newsletter as the event gets closer.

Past Rock Stars – A Look Back

Last month we talked about one of our past "Rock Star's", Malachite. Today we'll cover its true blue sister mineral, Azurite. The name comes from the Arabic word "azul" & Persian word "lazzward" meaning blue. Azurite is also a copper carbonate hydroxide mineral. It forms by carbon dioxide rich water (which forms carbonic acid) permeating through copper ore, dissolving some of the copper. Precipitation of the mineral occurs during temperature changes, allowing formation in crevices.

The Egyptians smelted Azurite for copper. Pliny the Elder wrote about it in his "Natural History" encyclopedia under the Greek name (Cont'd on page 3)

"In the News"

Each month for our club meetings, I choose a "Rock Star" of the month and assemble a few slides explaining the gem or mineral. One of the sources I use to get important details and photos is a website named "GemSelect". This site's purpose is to sell gems & minerals but they have a wealth of information that you can access. GemSelect has a newsletter that you can either subscribe to or review on line. Each month it covers various topics in detail. July's edition is titled "Lovely Gemstone Luster". What is luster? In their article they state "luster refers to the way light reflects from the surface of the gemstone. It's essentially the opposite of brilliance which is the way light reflects from the interior of a stone." Examples with pictures describe the various types of luster such as vitreous, silky, waxy and more. By Googling "GemSelect Newsletters" you can scroll through years of articles, month by month, on different topics. Go to: www.gemselect.com.



Silky & Chatoyant Charoite

GET INVOLVED!

The Florida Gold Coast Gem & Mineral Society offers a variety of ways that you can become involved within the club.

What is it? Got a rock you've always wondered about? At each monthly meeting we spend a few minutes identifying rocks, gems or minerals. Sometimes we know...sometimes we have to find out.

The Cabbing Shop Learn how to cabochon or facet a gem stone by our experts, for nominal fee. Once you learn, the shop is available for use, for a small charge. Please ask Steve or Don about classes.

The Library The Les & Marge DeGarmo Library has a variety of books & magazines on just about any subject dealing with rocks, gems, minerals or jewelry.

Outside Our Area Check out the Southeast Federation website. Rock & Gem Clubs from all over the U.S. have websites that you can contact. Lapidary & jewelry schools such as Wild Acres or William Holland list class schedules.

TIPS AND TRICKS By Brad Smith are available at [facebook.com/benchtips](https://www.facebook.com/benchtips) or groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips. For details go to <http://Createspace.com/3976439> or <http://amazon.com/dp/0988285800>

Mineral Study Group: KC Foster has a monthly group meeting the first Thursday of each month from 7:30 to 10:00pm. Contact KC at 561-523-4600. You will learn about crystal systems, how to ID minerals, what reference materials are available and how to collect, mount and display micro-minerals.

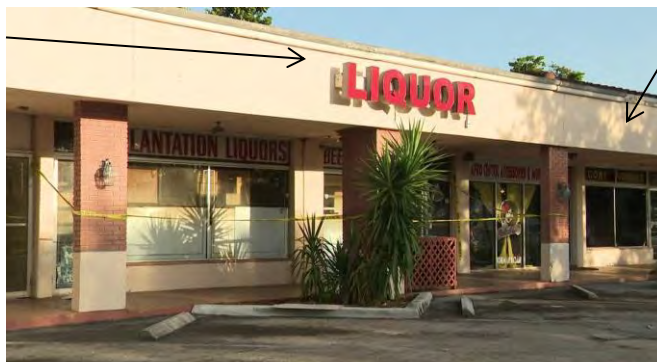
Fire Threatens Rock Club Shop

Excerpts from the Sun Sentinel Article, July 19th, 2018 by Wayne K. Rouston

"A liquor store had extensive damage from a fire that broke out at a Plantation strip mall and threatened other businesses after flames got into the building's shared roof. A Plantation police officer investigating a burglary alarm at the East Acre Plaza shopping center about 1:30 a.m. Thursday spotted the smoke and flames and had firefighters called to the scene.

The shopping plaza at 27 East Acre Drive is located just north of Broward Boulevard and just west of Florida's Turnpike. Fire inspectors are working to determine the cause of the fire which some tenants suspect may have been electrical in nature."

Here was the fire, just 2 doors away from the shop.



Here's our shop.

Local News

July 18th Meeting Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM. The minutes of the June meeting were accepted & approved. There were 21 members and no guests in attendance. Thank you Steve Ackerman for bringing the refreshments. Shop Report: All equipment is working, we only need people. Please speak with Steve to sign up for a cabbing or faceting class. Sean was contacted by the president of the Jacksonville club and asked if we would consider giving a 45 minute presentation at their annual show September 21st through the 23rd. In return they would give a presentation at one of our monthly meetings. This is being considered but it is short notice based on the length of presentation they are requesting. This may be something we plan on for next year. The date for the next tri-county picnic is Sunday, October 7th. The presentation was the first segment of the National Geographic Channel's show "Mine Hunters". The segment was on Emerald mining in Columbia and was fun to watch. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

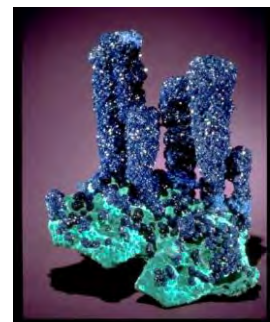


Past Rock Stars – A Look Back (from page 1)

“kuanos”. It has also been used for paint pigments since the 12th century. This beautiful deep blue mineral has over 50 variations. It is found with and pseudo-morphs into Malachite from oxidation, weathering and exposure to the elements. Specimens are massive to nodular and often stalactitic.

Azurite's color lightens when it is exposed to heat or constant light. Azurite has a Mohs hardness of 3.5 - 4.0, streaks light blue, has a specific gravity of 3.78 and can have a vitreous or dull luster. It is a monoclinic crystal. (3 unequal axes, 2 at right angles to each other and the other at any angle other than 90°) Azurite is used as an indicator mineral when mining copper ore. It has limited use in jewelry, due to its softness and brittleness, usually used for beads or pendants. It is primarily a specimen material.

Azurite is found worldwide with significant areas being France, Australia & Mexico. In the U.S., Azurite can be found in Arizona, New Mexico & Utah. Metaphysically Azurite is a stone of heaven, raising psychic awareness and aiding in meditation & healing. This beautiful blue mineral is a true rock star!



Information for this article gathered from Smithsonian Rock & Gem, Google Image, www.minerals.net, www.geology.com, www.gemselect.com, www.minerals-n-more.com, Bing Images & Wikipedia

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Hours: 12 Noon to 6 p.m. Tues., Wed., Thur., Fri.
10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat., Closed Sun. & Mon.

Stirling Place
6835 Stirling Road
Davie, Florida 33314

Design By Nature

Ye Olde Rock Shoppe
1425 S. 30th Avenue Hollywood, FL 33020
yeolderockshoppe@comcast.net

The showroom is open Tuesday - Saturday 9:00- 2:00 and other times by calling 954-295-0606.



The Art School

The Art School offers classes in precious metal clay, metals fabrication, cabochon cutting, enameling and other art jewelry related subjects, as well as drawing, painting, clay and pottery, photography and more. Check it out at www.bocamuseum.org/theartschool or [facebook.com/bocaschool](https://www.facebook.com/bocaschool) or call at 561-392-2503.

The Last Word

I know that some members took fun trips mining or to rock shows within the last couple of months.

Our club needs you to share what you bought, found, mined, made or saw at this month's meeting. Your participation is what "Show and Tell" and the "Refrigerator Door" is all about.



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THINGS TO REMEMBER

The September 2018 meeting is Wednesday, September 19th at 7:30 pm.

The next tri-county picnic is Sunday, October 7th.

Shop Hours: Thursdays 6:30 - 9:30 PM, Sundays 9:00AM-12:00PM - Contact Steve to RSVP 954-989-1664. The shop is located at 33 East Acre Drive, Plantation, 33317, Ste. 33.

FGCGMS OFFICERS CONTACT INFORMATION

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