



The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast
Gem and Mineral Society

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Mailing Address: 6254 NW 102 Way, Parkland, FL 33076 Club Email: Thebranclan@bellsouth.net
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!

The Opening Act

Monthly Meeting -Christmas Party

Our December meeting, which is our holiday party, will be held on Wednesday, December 21st, beginning at 7:30 pm. Please make every effort to attend as officers are elected. If you have not contacted Sean about what side dish, specialty recipe or dessert you are bringing for the party, please call him or email him immediately at either 954-592-1503 or thebranclan@bellsouth.net.

There will also be a "Chinese Gift Exchange", like we did last year. This is optional. For those who want to participate, please bring a wrapped gift of no more than \$15.00. Susan Anderson will conduct the game but basically, once a gift is chosen, it can be "exchanged" by the next person who picks. You may end up with what you want or you may not. It should be a lot of fun!

Editorial Opinion

In every group, organization or club, there always seems to be a few people who make it all work. At our December meeting we will elect officers. It's possible that one of our officers needs a break. There are plenty of you who have been in this club for years. Don't be afraid to "step up".

The Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches 50th Annual Show

The GMSPB held its 50th annual show November 19th & 20th and what a great show it was! There were over 80 vendors offering something for every gem cutter, collector & jewelry maker. Display cases showed all types of collections from club members from Palm Beach, Dade & Broward counties. Each day there were a variety of speakers who discussed various topics such as mining and collecting.

The featured guest speaker was Dr. Michael Wise who has been (and still is) "the" geologist for the Smithsonian Institute for 28 years. Dr. Wise gave a presentation on Pegmatites - Earth's Most Amazing Rocks. Pegmatites are found on every continent without ice. They often occur as horizontal or vertical squiggly lines in granite formations and can be hundreds of feet in width.

(Cont'd on page 3)

“Who am I”

I was born in Mount Morris, NY in 1834. By my early 20's I was already an experienced explorer having walked Wisconsin in 4 months, rowed the Mississippi from Minnesota to the ocean & the Ohio River from Pittsburg to the Mississippi. I studied & lectured at Wheaton & Oberlin Colleges. I became a Major for the Union Army in the Civil War & lost the use of my right arm at Shiloh. After the war I became the Professor of Geology at Wesleyan. By 1867 I began a series of expeditions across the Rocky Mountains & the Colorado River. I named Glen Canyon. Returning to a hero's welcome, I gave lectures across the country. I became the 2nd Director of the US Geological Survey. In 1888, I was 1 of 33 men who founded the National Geographic Society. I have buildings, schools, awards, lakes & a rare mineral named after me. I even have my own US postage stamp. **Who am I?** Answer on page 4.

**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 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.

Regional Gem & Mineral Shows

January 13-15—LARGO, FLORIDA: Pinellas Geological Society Show & Sale, Largo Cultural Center; 105 Central Park Drive; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-5; Free Admission! Jewelry, gem trees, spheres, crystals, mineral specimens, slabs, artifacts, cut gems, Indian & Western jewelry, exhibits, silent auction, lapidary training and publications.

January 13-15—SARASOTA, FLORIDA: Gem, Jewelry & Bead Show; Frank Cox Productions, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami (US 41), Daily 10-5; Admission \$5, Under 16 Free; Gems, Jewelry, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Beads. Receive \$2 off admission by mentioning Frank Cox Productions website.

January 20-22—ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA: Gem, Jewelry & Bead Show; Frank Cox Productions, The Coliseum, 525 Fourth Ave. N. St. Petersburg, 33701; Daily 10-5; Admission \$5, Under 16 Free; Gems, Jewelry, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Beads. Receive \$2 off admission by mentioning Frank Cox Productions website.

January 21-22—DELAND, FLORIDA: The Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. 46th annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and Sale, Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 E. New York Ave, (Tommy Lawrence Building), Deland, FL (1/2 Mile East of I-4, Exit 118) Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$4.00

Local News

November 16th Meeting Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. The minutes of the October meeting were accepted. There were 34 members and 1 guest in attendance. Thank you to Dick Haliburton for bringing the wide variety refreshments. Shop Report: The shop has been a little slow on Thursdays and a little busy on Sundays. Faceting classes will begin in January. We are asking for donations of new or used 6” wheels & blades. Audrey reminded the members that “dues are due”. Please contact Audrey to renew your membership. A sign- up sheet for side dishes & desserts for the party was passed around. Debbie Malloy has volunteered to be the Sunshine Chair. Thank you Debbie! The presentation was the game show “Rock Star” hosted by, editor Buzz Robinson. The members present were divided into teams and asked questions based on past meetings, presentations, the newsletter & general geology information. While an occasional heckler tried to distract the host, the game show was a success, everyone had a great time and Team Rock Heads won their choice of beautiful mineral specimens! The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.



Our Rock Star *(from page 1)*

The pocket or vug forms as flowing rock solidifies. It is these pockets which produce a variety of industrial minerals, rare earth minerals, rock crystals and some gemstones. Amazingly less than 1% of pegmatites contain pockets, yet over 700 different minerals come from pegmatites. Dr. Wise showed a variety of slides of pegmatite locations from around the world which featured minerals such as topaz, heliodor, tourmaline & kunzite to name a few. Dr. Wise also brought a display of new acquisitions from the Smithsonian which were amazing beautiful. The “sugar coated corundum” was spectacular.

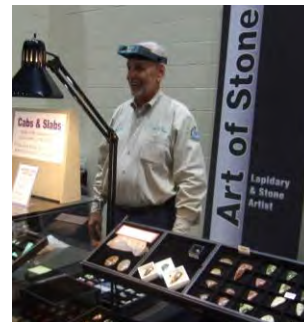
There were also a few of our own members with booths at the show this year, selling a variety of gemstones, cabs and mineral specimens. Below are a few photos from an outstanding show.



Dr. Michael Wise - Smithsonian



Lapis, Amethyst, Agate



Richard Alexis



Ian Bone



Sharks Teeth & Agatized Coral



Sean & Michael's Booth

JACQUELINE YODER

(954) 585-8988
Fax (954) 585-8989



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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

Regardless of your denomination, inspiration or affiliation we can all agree on this:

Peace on Earth



Have a wonderful holiday & a Happy New Year!



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THINGS TO REMEMBER

The January 2017 meeting is **Wednesday, January 18th** at 7:30 pm. Please make plans to attend.

Who am I? John Wesley Powell 3/24/1834 - 9/23/1902 American Geologist, Explorer, Anthropologist & Professor The rare mineral named after him is "Powellite".

Shop Hours: Thursdays 6:30 - 9:30 PM, Sundays 9:00AM-12:00PM - Contact Steve to RSVP 954-989-1664

FGCGMS OFFICERS CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Sean Branigan	954-592-1503	the_branclan@bellsouth.net
Vice-President	Steve Ackerman	954-989-1664	tropicbuilding@paradista.net
2nd Vice-President	Don Dietz	954-578-9005	dcdietz@comcast.net
Secretary	Susan Anderson		poochiepawlor@aol.com
Treasurer	Beverly Norona		bevn12345@aol.com
Editor	Buzz Robinson	954-881-4984	buzzrocks@comcast.net
Webmaster	Eugene Hirnyk		webmaster@fgcgms.com
Membership	Audrey Sessoms		theaudrey@comcast.net
Sunshine Chair	Debbie Malloy		yorkierambo@bellsouth.net