



The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast
Gem and Mineral Society

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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!

The Opening Act

Monthly Meeting

Our February meeting is **Wednesday, February 15th at 7:30pm**. Our feature presentation will be the PBS movie "Treasures of the Earth: Gems". This 1 hour portion of the 3 part series explains how & where many popular gem stone are made.

Meeting Refreshments: This month's meeting refreshments will be sponsored by club member Colleen Lacy.

Rock Star of the Month is Tanzanite !!!

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

Shop Classes Ongoing

If you're interested in learning how to cab or facet a stone, we have classes available. Capping classes can begin at any time and meet on Thursday evenings & Sunday mornings. Faceting classes are currently underway. The next available faceting class will be on or about Saturday, March 11th and meet on 5 consecutive Saturday mornings. Details are available on our website. Please speak with Steve or Sean to reserve your spot. Our newly acquired Panther slab saw is running great and available to cut slabs from your rock or small geode for a nominal fee.

Spring Field Trip Announced

Darlene Harris has organized a spring field trip for our club. The Shark's Tooth Festival & Warm Mineral Springs Trip is Thursday, April 6th to Sunday, April 9th in the Venice/Nokomis, Florida area which is approximately 3 hours from Broward County. Darlene has booked accommodations at Addys Villas, 330 Tamiami Trail North, Nokomis, FL 34275. The field trip occurs during the 25th annual "Sharks Tooth Festival", which offers over 100 artists showing a variety of works, multiple live bands, food and of course, all types of shark's teeth. As if this isn't enough, there is also an excursion to the "Warm Mineral Springs", which is approximately 88° year round! The itinerary for attendees is to meet at Addys Villas & check in by 3:00PM. The group will hunt for shark's teeth right away and then have a cook out back at the villas. On Friday at 9:00 AM the group will drive to the Warm Mineral Springs for the majority of the day.

(Cont'd on page 3)

“Diamonds Are Forever”

Magma cools in igneous rocks known as kimberlites & lamproites. Volcanic pipes spew these rocks during an eruption. Kimberlites form in the 2.5B year old crust & form a bluish rock, while Lamproites vary in age, as young as 60,000 years old and form a yellowish rock. Diamonds become embedded in these molten rocks. Other indicator minerals such as pyrope garnets, olivine, chrome diopside & ilmenite may also form. There are about 6400 known pipes with 900 bearing diamonds, but only 30 considered to be profitable. This is because during the eruption, which brings diamonds to the surface, variables such as temperature, pressure & speed and surrounding material can cause diamonds to lose 60% to 80% of their weight. Weathering of the exposed rocks after eruption allows diamonds to be released forming alluvial (moved by geologic activity – glaciers, rivers etc.) deposits which provide the majority of larger diamonds. So, how unusual are “gem quality diamonds” ? Answer on page 4.



Kimberlite



Lamproite

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 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. See Frank Cox Productions website for discount.

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

February 10-12—MELBOURNE, FLORIDA: Show and sale; Frank Cox Productions, Melbourne Auditorium; 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd.; Daily 10-5; Admission \$5, Under 16 Free; Gems, Jewelry, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Beads. See Frank Cox Production website for discount.

February 4-5—MERRITT, ISLAND, FLORIDA: Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club Annual Show, Kiwanis Recreation Center; 951 Kiwanis Island Park Rd, Merritt Island, 32952, Sat. & Sun. 10-5, Admission \$5, Children 11 and under free with adult; Pearls, findings, minerals, slabs, finished cabs & jewelry.

February 25—LAKELAND, FLORIDA: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society, Inc. Annual Show, First Presbyterian Church; 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr, Lakeland, 33801; Sat. 9-4:30; Adults \$3, Students/Children free; Door prizes, Spin & Win Mineral Wheel, Kids Treasure Dig, demonstrations, educational displays, silent and Chinese auctions, over 30 dealers with rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gifts, hobby supplies, lapidary demonstrations, wire wrapping & cabochon making.

Local News

January 16th Meeting Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. The minutes of the December meeting were accepted after correcting a mistake. Beverly Norona was re-elected treasurer. (My sincere apologies Beverly!) There were 33 members and 2 guests in attendance. The refreshments were sponsored by the club. Shop Report: A couple of the cabbage machine had wheels replaced and everything is operational. Attendance has been good. Beginning wire wrapping class is available, as well as a wire ring wrapping class. A carving class will be offered soon. Sean has asked that all members help in scheduling monthly programs. If you have a suggestion for a monthly program, know someone in the mineral, gem or jewelry trade or would be willing to speak on any related topic, please let Sean know as soon as possible. Our field trip coordinator, Darlene Harris is doing a great job! She has scheduled a spring trip to Venice, Florida to hunt for fossil shark's teeth. This field trip coincides with a shark fossil show in the same area. (Please see the article on page 1.) Don Dietz gave an informative & interesting presentation on Opal. Thank you Don! The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM.




Tri County Picnic: The tri-county picnic was held at TY Park on Sunday, January 22nd. The turn-out was better than expected with many members displaying items. Prizes were awarded during bingo & the raffle. The date of our next picnic will be released soon.

Shark Tooth Festival *(from page 1)*

The Shark's Tooth Festival begins Friday night from 4:00PM to 9:00PM. On Saturday, you can hunt for shark's teeth on Venice beach and still have time to enjoy the festival. Sunday check out is 11:00AM and allows time for you to revisit any of the previous activities or get an early start home. Plan on bringing your own breakfast items, beverages & snacks. Please bring a side dish for the Thursday BBQ; Darlene will have the main entrees. All other meals are on your own. **All reservations must be made through Darlene at stay@limpkinlodge.com.** The cost is \$406.56 for a queen efficiency. (Darlene has verbal commitments for the rooms she has reserved. If you are interested in going, please contact her via email ASAP. If additional rooms are needed, the room cost will be slightly more, as only villas are available. Villas have a separate living room. All units have kitchens.) Reservations must be paid in full by March 15th. Please make a check payable to Limpkin Lodge Operations. All additional activities such as the mineral springs & the festival admission charges are not included. (The festival is \$4.00 PP & the mineral springs is \$20.00 PP.) Contact Darlene for an information sheet or if you have any questions. Thank you Darlene for putting this together!



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 Hours: 12 Noon to 6 p.m. Tues., Wed., Thur., Fri. 6835 Stirling Road
 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat., Closed Sun. & Mon. 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

The 12 part series on diamonds requires a lot of research from a variety of sites. Additional information from the sites I've used is available on the web at: info-diamond.com, hardasrocks.info, Wikipedia, minesqc.com, science.howstuffworks.com, geology.com, gia.edu/diamond.com, livescience.com, greatmining.com, mining-technology.com, beyond4cs.com, heartsonfire.com & the Arkansas Geological Survey of the Crater of Diamonds State Park.



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THINGS TO REMEMBER

The March 2017 meeting is **Wednesday, March 15th** at 7:30 pm. Please make plans to attend.

Diamonds Are Forever: Depending upon the mine, only about 20% to 40% of diamonds are gem quality. References state on average over 200 tons of ore is mined to produce a 1 carat gem quality diamond.

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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