



# The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast  
Gem and Mineral Society

January 2018  
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Mailing Address: 6254 NW 102 Way, Parkland, FL 33076 Club Email: [Thebranclan@bellsouth.net](mailto:Thebranclan@bellsouth.net)  
Club Website: <http://www.fgcgms.com> Federation Website: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Opening Act, Our Rock Star
- 2 Get Involved, In the News, Regional Shows
- 3 Local News, Meeting Minutes
- 4 Ads, Contacts, Things to Remember & The Last Word



*The Florida Gold Coast  
Gem & Mineral Society  
meets at 7:30 PM ON THE  
3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF  
EACH MONTH at "Ye Olde  
Rock Shop" 1425 S. 30<sup>th</sup>  
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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 January meeting is **Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**. Our presentation will be the movie "The Mystery of the Hope Diamond" by the Smithsonian Channel. Narrated by Kim Basinger, "The Mystery of the Hope Diamond" follows the famed stone across the world from the diamond's beginning through the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its donation to the Smithsonian.

**Meeting Refreshments:** January's refreshments will be sponsored by the club.

**Tri-County Picnic** The Tri-County picnic is **Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00AM to 4:00PM at TY Park, Pavilion #9, 3300 N. Park Road, Hollywood, FL 33021. This is 2 blocks North of Sheridan Street on Park Road. The clubs from Miami, WPB & Broward will bring the main dishes. Members are requested to bring a side dish or dessert. There will be a raffle & bingo with prizes. (Prize donations gladly accepted.) Members are encouraged to bring samples of their work or collections to show, trade or sell to other members. We should have beautiful weather & hope you make plans to attend.

## Our Rock Star – A Look Back

Last fall we talked about a true blue Rock Star, Kyanite! Its name comes from the ancient Greek "Kyanos" meaning dark blue. Kyanite forms mainly in metamorphic rock under high pressure altering clay minerals. This "aluminosilicate" is a polymorph of Andalusite & Sillimanite. Kyanite is commonly found with gneiss, schist, pegmatite, quartz, corundum & garnet. Kyanite is an "index mineral", meaning that it can be used to estimate temperature, depth & pressure at which rock undergoes metamorphism. (Metamorphism is the physical & chemical changing of pre-existing rock exposed to high temperatures & pressures.)

Kyanite usually forms as elongated columnar crystals but can form radiating crystals. It is commonly found in various shades of blue with white or gray. It is rarely found as green, pink or black. Recently orange Kyanite, (due to the presence of manganese) was found in Tanzania. Color zoning, spotting or streaking is common. Kyanite is transparent to translucent, trichroic and may display chatoyancy. Our rock star has a vitreous, pearly luster, streaks white, fluoresces red and has a specific gravity of 3.53 - 3.65. Its most unique property is "anisotropism"; having 2 different hardness's on perpendicular axes. Kyanite has a Mohs hardness of 4.5 - 5 on the parallel axes and 6.5 - 7 on the perpendicular axes making Kyanite a little more difficult to cut.

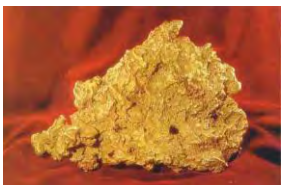
(Cont'd on Page 3)

***"In the News"***

Throughout the upcoming year, this column will bring to light a news story that you might have missed.

**"The 5 Largest Gold Nuggets That Still Exist"**

Most giant gold nuggets are melted down for bullion or coins by governments but some are saved & displayed. The "Pepita Canaã" found in 1983 in Brazil is the largest surviving nugget weighing in at 60.82 kgs & containing 52.33 kgs (1682 troy ounces) of gold. The "Great Triangle", mined in Russia in 1842 is the second largest nugget tipping the scales at 36.2 kgs with 32.94 kgs (1059 troy ounces) of gold. The "Hand of Faith", found in Australia in 1980, is the largest nugget ever found by using a metal detector. It was purchased by the Golden Nugget Casino in Las Vegas. The "Normandy Nugget, also from Australia weighs 25.5 kgs (820 ounces). The complete story of these & other gold nuggets can be found on either [mining.com](http://mining.com) under the "news/gold" tab or on [geology.com](http://geology.com) under the "news" tab, scroll down to find the article.



The Great Triangle Nugget

**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](https://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 Trade Shows****January 12-14—LARGO, FLORIDA:**

Pinellas Geological Society 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Show & Sale, Largo Cultural Center; 105 Central Park Drive, Largo, FL 33771; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-5; Free Admission ! \$1.50 drawing hourly, silent auction hourly

**January 20-21—DELAND, FLORIDA:**

Tomoka Gem and Mineral Society 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show & Sale Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 New York Ave, Deland, FL 32724; (1/2 mile East of I-4, Exit 118) Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Daily Drawings, Silent Auction, Demonstrations & Children's Activities; Adults \$4, Children 12 and under free

**January 20-21—PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA:**

Panama City Gem and Mineral Society Annual Show, Central Panhandle Fairgrounds, 2230 E. 15th Street, Panama City, FL 32405 Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission; Exhibits, Minerals, Fossils, Gems, Crystals, Lapidary arts, Jewelry, Beads, Silent Auction and more. Door prizes & Grand Prize Drawing

## Local News

**December 20th Meeting Minutes:** The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM. The minutes of the November meeting were accepted & approved. There were 36 members and 2 guests in attendance. This was our annual Christmas party & officer elections. The officers & membership would like to thank Audrey & Fletch for hosting our club meetings throughout the year. You are the best!! Thank you to all of you who helped set up and decorate and to those who stayed to help clean up and tear down. Also, thank you to everyone for bringing all of the delicious foods and desserts! It was a great time with special raffle prizes and great food. Shop Report: A variety of classes are offered. We hope our members will use the shop more often this year. The date for the tri-county picnic is Sunday, January 14th. Steve has donated a pull-up banner to the club which promotes our club & lapidary shop. It will be used at events throughout the year. Darlene is holding a meeting for those going on the field trip to Arizona. The officer election results are: President - Sean Branigan, Vice-President - Steve Ackerman, Secretary - Susan Anderson & Treasurer - Beverly Norona. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.



## Our Rock Star – A Look Back (from page 1)

Our rock star can handle the heat as its ability to accept high temperatures makes it perfect to be used in refractory products such as brick, mortar, kilns & high temperature molds & abrasives. Kyanite is used to make ceramics such as porcelain sinks or spark plug insulators. Kyanite is considered an exotic gemstone, not commonly seen in jewelry. Due to the different hardness's, it can be challenging to cut but Kyanite can produce beautiful cabs generally used for pendants or earrings. Top quality Kyanite may be faceted. Kyanite does have perfect cleavage, so the wearer must be careful to avoid damaging the stone.


Kyanite is found world-wide with major deposits in Brazil, Russia, Burma, Australia & Nepal. The finest Nepal Kyanite can rival Ceylon Blue Sapphires. In the United States, Kyanite can be found in North & South Carolina, Georgia, Pennsylvania & Connecticut.

Metaphysically, Kyanite is one of two "High Vibration Stone", meaning it never needs cleansing and may clean other gems & crystals. (The other HVS is Citrine.) Kyanite can help with dream recall, meditation & communication. Kyanite makes a beautiful specimen for your collection and is worth your time to cab for a beautiful gemstone!



Information for this article gathered from Smithsonian Rock & Gem, Google Image, [www.minerals.net](http://www.minerals.net), [www.geology.com](http://www.geology.com), [www.gemselect.com](http://www.gemselect.com), [www.mindat.org](http://www.mindat.org) & Wikipedia

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




The Crystal Cave  
 Rock and Gem Shop.com

E-mail: jackiescrystalcave@att.net Stirling Place  
 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.**



**BOCA**  
 Museum of Art

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](http://www.bocamuseum.org/theartschool) or [facebook.com/bocaschool](https://www.facebook.com/bocaschool) or call at 561-392-2503.

**The Last Word**

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please contact Audrey and renew today! Where else can you get so much value for such a low price? Informative monthly meetings, a geologic & gemologic library, a lapidary shop with a variety of classes available and of course, you wouldn't want to miss out on any of the exciting issues of the Golden Nugget!! We look forward to hearing from you!



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**THINGS TO REMEMBER**  
 The February 2018 meeting is **Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** at 7:30 pm.

**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**

President	Sean Branigan	954-592-1503	<a href="mailto:the_branclan@bellsouth.net">the_branclan@bellsouth.net</a>
Vice-President	Steve Ackerman	954-989-1664	<a href="mailto:tropicbuilding@pghmail.com">tropicbuilding@pghmail.com</a>
2nd Vice-President	Karen Warseck		<a href="mailto:kwarseck@gmail.com">kwarseck@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Susan Anderson		<a href="mailto:poochiepawlor@aol.com">poochiepawlor@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Beverly Norona		<a href="mailto:bevn12345@aol.com">bevn12345@aol.com</a>
Editor	Buzz Robinson		<a href="mailto:buzzrocks@comcast.net">buzzrocks@comcast.net</a>
Webmaster	Eugene Hirnyk		<a href="mailto:webmaster@fgcgms.com">webmaster@fgcgms.com</a>
Membership	Audrey Sessoms		<a href="mailto:theaudrey@comcast.net">theaudrey@comcast.net</a>
Sunshine Chair	Debbie Malloy		<a href="mailto:yorkierambo@bellsouth.net">yorkierambo@bellsouth.net</a>
Shop Foreman	Steve Ackerman		<a href="mailto:tropicbuilding@pghmail.com">tropicbuilding@pghmail.com</a>