



The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast
Gem and Mineral Society

June 2017
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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 June meeting is **Wednesday, June 21st at 7:30pm**. Our presentation will be given by MS. Jane Ramsey of Tenhagen Appraisals in downtown Miami. Ms. Ramsey is a certified GIA gemologist who appraises gemstones, diamonds, watches and all types of jewelry. She will explain the reasons, process and types of evaluation in the appraisal report. She will also be bringing a variety of faceted semi-precious stones for sale. There will be a random drawing for one club member to have an appraisal at the meeting. Please bring an item in the event you are the lucky winner!

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

Rock Star of the Month is Emerald !!!

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

Did You Know...

The Museum of Discovery & Science has a "Minerals Rock" exhibit which shows over 60 different mineral specimens. The museum has a variety of interactive displays & exhibits for the whole family. The museum is located at 401 SW Second Street in Ft. Lauderdale, 33312. Go to www.mods.org for more information.

Our Rock Star – A Look Back

A few months ago we talked about one of the universe's true Rock Star's and one of the oldest gemstones known to man, Peridot. This beautiful green stone is the gem version of Olivine. Olivine is one of the most common minerals by volume on earth. It's formed in the earth's mantle and brought to the surface by volcanic or tectonic activity in basalt or gabbro. Olivine is actually a group of minerals with the same chemical composition. If it's more magnesium rich, it's considered Forsterite which is green. If it's more Iron rich, it's considered Fayalite which is brown. This explains why Peridot, which is one of the few gemstones that is found in only one color, can vary from light yellowish green to dark brownish green. Peridot is an idiochromatic gemstone; meaning that its color comes from its basic chemical composition, not trace impurities.

Peridot was mined on the isle of Zaborgad in 1500BC. Its name comes from the Arabic word "faridat" meaning gem. The Romans called it an "evening emerald". The Hebrews called it "Pitdah" & the Crusaders brought it back as gifts to churches & Priests. (Cont'd on Page 3)

“Diamonds Are Forever”

There are 2 types of final recovery methods: Hydrophobic (HP) & X-Ray Fluorescence (XF). Depending upon the type & size of diamond, 1 or both processes may be used. In HP recovery “collector grease” is spread onto a stepped table by hand. Water is sprayed over concentrated ore & vibrated down the tables. The water washes away other gems, rock & dirt but the diamonds stick to the grease. This is because diamonds are hydrophobic meaning they resist water. The grease is manually scraped off and put into a boiler to separate the diamonds from the grease. This generally recovers diamonds less than 1 mm. In XR recovery an “X-ray Separator” beams x-rays across a stream of falling ore. The diamond fluoresces, triggering a jet of air which deflects the diamond into a collector box. This process generally recovers 98% of diamonds 1mm to 25 mm in size. These processes can be adjusted to the size of recovery needed. So how does a diamond end up as jewelry? 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.

Summer’s Here....So are the Ticks

(from Geology.com)



Whether you’re prospecting, hiking, golfing or just enjoying the outdoors, you need to be aware of ticks. Spring & summer is the time you are most likely to get bit. Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever & other diseases are caused by tick bites and can lead to problems which can last for years. By recognizing & treating the problem early, you may avoid serious symptoms.

Ticks live in wooded, bushy, high grass areas with abundant leaf litter. May, June & July is the time when they are most active. Wear long pants & long sleeve shirts. Use sprays with 20% to 30 % Deet on your bare skin & cloths. Inspect your clothing and yourself before going inside your house or hotel.

If a tick is attached to your skin, use tweezers, holding the tick, as close to your skin as possible & pull it off. Wash the area with soap & warm water, then rubbing alcohol. If the tick was attached less than 24 hours, your chance of contracting Lyme disease is small. Save the tick in either a baggie in the freezer or a vial of alcohol. In the event you become ill, this will help the doctor diagnose your problem. If bitten, most people will develop a “bulls-eye” rash at the bite mark, followed by fatigue, headache, fever or joint pain. Treated early, the disease is easy to cure.

Go to Geology.com/articles/ticks-lyme-disease for the complete article with tick identification, location graphs & photos. The CDC website, (www.CDC.gov) has an extensive site explaining all aspects of Lyme disease.

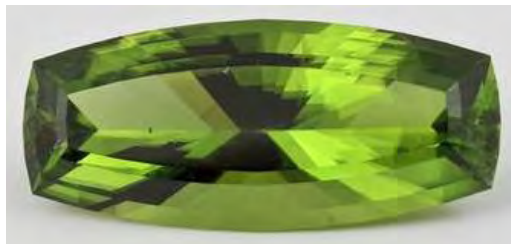
Local News

May 17th Meeting Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. The minutes of the April meeting were accepted. There were 25 members and 3 guests in attendance. Thank you Kathy Arenal & Tony Shouse for bringing the refreshments! Shop Report: Everything is going well in the shop but it has been a little slow in the last few weeks. There is room available in both the faceting & cabbing class. Darlene passed out a field trip survey to the members which asked general questions about the type, length & expense of future field trips. For those who were not there last month, surveys will be available at the June meeting. This will help her in investigating locations for future trips. Sunshine Report: Jacque Yoder of Crystal Cave & Hillary Schiff are both doing better. Don has scheduled a trip to Les DeGarmo's house to recover slabs & rock. Sean & Steve brought a variety of slabs, minerals & equipment from Fred Stern's estate which was sold to members. All of the proceeds were given to Fred's widow Lillian. Thank you to those who helped. Michele Renee, from the WPB club gave an interesting presentation on fossils from the Crystal River area & from Morocco. She brought in a variety of dinosaur bones and sharks teeth. Thank you Michele for a fascinating presentation! The meeting was adjourned at 9:10PM .




Our Rock Star (from page 1)

Peridot has a Mohs hardness of 6.5 - 7, a vitreous greasy luster & a SG of 3.28 - 3.48. Peridot is usually faceted. Occasionally it will produce a 4 ray star when cabbed. Peridot is found in many locations around the world including Burma, China, Pakistan & Australia. The largest deposits are found in the United States on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation, where only members of the tribe are allowed to mine the gem. It is sent overseas for cutting and returned for sale. In Hawaii, the green sands of Papokolea Beach are tiny Peridots. Peridot has even been discovered in fallen meteors and on Mars and the Moon as Olivine. As the birthstone for August and the 16th wedding anniversary stone, this Rock Star is said to bring peace, good luck, success & health. Peridot, an affordable gemstone is a true Rock Star!



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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 | The Art School
 Museum of Art

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 or call at 561-392-2503.

The Last Word

Going on a trip this summer?

Check out the Southeast Federation website (www.amfed.org/sfms). Rock & Gem Clubs from all over the U.S. have websites that you can contact. These clubs would love to have guests from around the country. Many have local field trips or can recommend "must see" locations in their area. Don't be shy!



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THINGS TO REMEMBER
 The July 2017 meeting is **Wednesday, July 19th** at 7:30 pm. Please make plans to attend.

Diamonds Are Forever: A diamond is chosen for jewelry or industrial use through hand sorting & categorizing by experts.

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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