



The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast
Gem and Mineral Society

June 2018
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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 June meeting is **Wednesday, June 20th at 7:30pm**. Our presentation will be given by Michelle & Dana from Global Exploration & Mining on Sapphires. They'll discuss the history, mining & the use of sapphires in jewelry. Global Exploration & Mining's U.S. office is located in Boca Raton. They sell rough, cut gemstones & specimens from the various mines they have access to worldwide. They will be bringing a variety of rough, slabs & specimens to show and sell. Please don't miss this exciting presentation! **Meeting Refreshments:** June's refreshments will be sponsored by Sean Branigan.

Rock Star of the Month is Fire Agate !!!

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

Past Rock Stars – A Look Back

Earlier this year we talked about a beautiful rock star, Aquamarine. The name Aquamarine comes from Latin meaning "water of the sea". Greek & Roman myths believed that Aquamarine came from a mermaid's treasure chest. Seafarers & sailors wore Aquamarine for protection at sea.

The gemstone is a green-blue to blue form of Beryl, a beryllium aluminum cyclosilicate. Iron impurities make Aquamarine blue. This 6 sided prismatic crystal has a Mohs hardness of 7.5 - 8, a SG of 2.72, streaks white, has a vitreous to resinous luster and is transparent to translucent. The deeper the blue color, the more valuable the stone. Low temperature heat treatments or radiation will enhance the blue color and change green-blue to blue. Aquamarine is dichroic and may appear a deep blue from one angle and a lighter blue-green from another angle.



Aquamarine is faceted for all types of jewelry. When cabbed it may form a "cats eye" (chatoyancy) and in exceptionally rare cases a 6 ray star (asterism). It may also be shaped into beads or carved. Aquamarine is the state gemstone of Colorado, the March birthstone & the 19th wedding anniversary stone. Aquamarine is found in a variety of places around the world with large deposits in Brazil, Myanmar, Australia, China and various countries in Africa. In the United States, Aquamarine is found in Colorado, North Carolina, Wyoming & Idaho.

(Cont'd on page 3)

*"In the News"***World's Tallest Active
Geyser Awakens**

I remember going to Yellowstone National Park as a kid and seeing the "Old Faithful Geyser" erupt. It's amazing to watch. Recently another famous geyser in the park, Steamboat, began erupting again. The Associated Press article that appears in GeologyIn explains that "Steamboat" put on quite a show, spraying water, steam and pebbles over 100' high. These are considered "minor eruptions". The "major" ones can top 400'. The geyser has erupted 171 times since 1878. In the last few weeks, Steamboat has erupted quite a few times. Scientists do not know what has caused the current eruptions. "Half of the world's geysers are located in Yellowstone National Park, each with its own unique underground system."

For the complete story go to www.the-vug.com, click on "educate and inform", click on The-Vug daily news and scroll down to the May 25th articles.

**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.

Regional Trade Shows

Many people from South Florida travel to North Carolina each summer. Cities like Franklin, Ashville & Spruce Pine in Western North Carolina hold terrific Gem & Mineral Shows with both wholesale & retail pricing. There are 5 different gem & mineral shows in the Franklin area that run concurrently from July 25 - July 29. Most of these shows are free and are open to the public.

In my opinion, the Highlands Road Show is the best of them all. It has a wide variety of specimens, fossils, slabs and more at incredible prices. The Echo Valley Show has unique dealers with rough, slabs & finished products. The Franklin Faceters Frolic specializes in faceting and offers classes & equipment, in addition to gemstones. The Macon County Gemboree is put on by the Franklin Gem & Mineral Society & the Chamber of Commerce. The G & LW Gem Show is only open to licensed wholesalers. It requires a tax ID to enter. This show carries all types of finished gemstones, specimens, findings and finished jewelry.

Spruce Pine has 2 shows, The 34th Annual Grassy Creek Gem & Mineral Show features over 60 vendors selling fossils, gemstones, specimens, equipment and more. The show runs from July 31st to Aug 7th and raises money for the Parkway Fire & Rescue Department. The North Carolina Gem Fest sponsored by the Mitchell County Chamber of Commerce, runs from Aug 2nd to Aug 5th and features 50 vendors from around the country.

Local News

May 16th Meeting Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. The minutes of the April meeting were accepted & approved. There were 18 members in attendance. Thank you Karen Warseck for bringing the refreshments. Shop Report: The blade on the small trim saw was replaced. Faceting & cabbing classes are available. Field Trips: The Washington DC trip is scheduled for October and a private group tour of the Smithsonian mineral collection has been set up. Darlene Harris explained the preliminary information about the Quartzite, AZ, 2019 Pow Wow scheduled for the last week in February. She also handed out another questionnaire to try to determine the levels of interest for field trips within the club. Sunshine Report: Don is feeling a little better and hopes to be at the next meeting. Please keep Suzanne Berkman in your thoughts. The agatized coral donation, explained in last month's newsletter was recognized. Sean has cut open some of the pieces which came out beautiful. The tri-county picnic is Sunday, June 3rd at TY Park. Please see our website for complete information. The movie "Mine Hunters" which was scheduled to be shown would not play for unknown reasons. A back-up movie, "Gemstone Adventures" was shown instead. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM.




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

Aquamarine has had a long metaphysical history from protection at sea for the Greeks & Romans to an antidote for poisoning in the middle ages. Aquamarine accelerates learning, overcomes a fear of public speaking, cleanses emotions and is calming.

The world's largest carved & faceted Aquamarine is the Dom Pedro, a 10,395 carat, 13.75 inch tall obelisk, designed & cut by gem artist Bernd Musteiner. The original Aquamarine crystal, found in Brazil was 1 meter long. It was broken into 3 pieces; the largest, a 60 lb. specimen became the Dom Pedro. It took a year to acquire it and another to study and cut it. After being exhibited in Europe, the finished piece was purchased by Jane Mitchell & her husband Jeffery Bland and donated to the Smithsonian. It's worth your time to read the complete story of this "rock star" the Dom Pedro at www.mineralscience.si.edu.



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 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 or call at 561-392-2503.

The Last Word

Oops!

There are 2 people I forgot to thank over the last couple of months. Thank you Sylvia Romans for bring the refreshments in February and thank you Bob Allen for bringing the refreshments in April.



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THINGS TO REMEMBER
 The July 2018 meeting is **Wednesday, July 18th** 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

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