



# The Golden Nugget

The Newsletter of the Florida Gold Coast  
Gem and Mineral Society

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*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 October meeting is **Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**. Our presentation will be given by Robert & Juying Janowsky on the art & history of Chinese Picture Stone. They will be bringing a variety of Chinese Picture Stones to show and sell. Don't miss this interesting presentation! **Meeting Refreshments:** October's refreshments will be sponsored by Betty Bunnell.

### Rock Star of the Month is Larimar !!!

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

**Tri-County Picnic Postponed** The new date for the Tri-County picnic has not yet been decided. A separate announcement will be emailed & posted on our website as soon as a date is scheduled.

## The American Institute of Diamond Cutting

If you look on the Gemological Institute of America's website (gia.edu) you'll notice that there are only a few diamond cutting schools in the world. We are lucky enough to have one in our own backyard. The American Institute of Diamond Cutting is located in Deerfield Beach. After looking through their website, I called them to discuss diamonds and the education they provide.

Last week, I met with Mr. Nizam Peters, a master diamond cutter, author, inventor and founder of the AIDC. Nizam has experience in every aspect of diamonds including filing claims, prospecting, mining, processing rough, grading rough, cutting & polishing diamonds and selling the stones. He has consulted with foreign countries helping them to establish diamond cutting centers. He has written numerous books on diamonds & invented specific tools to aid in cutting.



After high school Nizam learned how to cut diamonds from an "old-timer" in Nevada and with master cutters in Africa & South America. Nizam & his father mined alluvial diamonds and later began their own business. After 40 years of cutting diamonds professionally, Nizam wanted to pass his knowledge on to others and founded the AIDC in 1980. Each of his children has worked there over the years, but his son Leslie has made it his career.

The AIDC is the only school in the United States licensed to teach diamond cutting and rough grading in all of its phases. The courses taught prepare the individual for self-employment. (Cont'd on Page 3)

**“Diamonds Are Forever”**

While it seems evident that a clear, colorless, quality cut stone will be worth more than one with flaws or inclusions, it doesn't explain the basis of pricing. Large mining companies hold quarterly sales events at secure sites for large wholesale dealers. Parcel purchases of both rough & finished diamonds keep prices low to these types of buyers. Local miners sell rough only. A rough grader examines stones estimating the weight retention after cutting, as well as the quality of the diamond. The Rapaport Diamond Report, released every Friday, is the basis for determining prices. This chart uses weight, color, clarity, etc. and market effects to price single loose diamonds. The wholesale buyer deducts approximately 40% to determine a wholesale price starting point and negotiates from there. The retail pricing is marked up 100% to 200%. Carat weight is often used to manipulate prices without regard to the quality of the cut. (By keeping the weight at 1C, instead of .99C, the diamond is worth 20% more.) This is why a GIA or AGS certification is important. It insures you are getting the size & quality diamond you are paying for.

**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 Trade Shows****October 28-29—ORLANDO , FLORIDA:**

Florida Fossil Hunters Annual Show; Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr, Orlando, 32808; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Admission \$4, Children \$1; Fossils, rocks, minerals, books, supplies, educational exhibits, silent auctions, children's dig pit

**November 4-5—PLANT CITY, FLORIDA:**

Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Show, Plant City Strawberry Festival Expo Hall, 303 N. Lemon Street, Plant City, 33563; Sat & Sun 10-5; Adults \$5, Students \$4, Children under 12 free w/parent; Hot Rocks, Cool Gems & Fabulous Jewelry

**November 18-19—WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA:**

Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Show, South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd, WPB, 33411; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$9, Children under 12 free; Fossil dig, gem mining, geode cracking, rock and face painting, spin the wheel game, displays, demonstrations, speakers

## Local News

**September 20th Meeting Minutes:** The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM. The minutes of the August meeting were accepted & approved. There were 22 members and 2 guests in attendance. Thank you to Mary Danforth for bringing the refreshments! Shop Report: Attendance has been low. Please contact Steve Ackerman with any suggestions or comments that will bring more people to the shop. If a different night during the week would allow you to use the shop, please let us know. A new date for the tri-county picnic has not been determined. The park was closed to due hurricane debris. Darlene Harris discussed the trip to Quartzite, AZ to mine & attend the Tyson Wells Sell-a-Rama. If you would like to know more about it, please contact Darlene at stay@limpkinlodge.com. Sean gave Lillian Stern the final money from Fred Stern's collection & equipment. We were able to raise \$3500 for her. Our presentation was on fossils, specifically dinosaur bones by Alan Meltzer from the WPB club. Alan gave a great presentation on the variety of petrified & agatized dinosaur bones he has in his collection. He brought some beautiful pieces to show. Thank you Alan for the fantastic presentation! The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.



## The American Institute of Diamond Cutting (from page 1)

The AIDC offers a variety of courses for those who are interested in becoming a professional diamond cutter or those who want to grade rough diamonds or manage a jewelry business. The "Diamond Cutting & Polishing Program" begins in January. Each section is a 3 month class: beginning, intermediate & advanced. The complete syllabus for each section is listed on their website. The diamond cutting class generally has 3 to 4 people in it but can handle up to 10 students. The most popular class the AIDC offers is the "Rough Diamond Grading Program" which takes 1 week providing 30 class hours. Many companies within the diamond industry send employees to learn rough diamond grading. Other programs offered are "Diamond Business Management & Marketing", "Diamond Manufacturing & Equipment" & "Fancy Colored Diamonds".


In addition to the educational side, AIDC also offers diamond services including appraisals & insurance, re-cutting, repairing & re-polishing diamonds, laboratory testing, diamond cutting & polishing, white diamond purchases, custom jewelry design, colored diamond investments and diamond consultation. AIDC Advantage Corp. specializes in colored diamonds as an investment and they only deal with GIA certified diamonds. Colored diamonds are rare and grow their value. White diamonds & jewelry can be purchased at AIDC at wholesale prices.

If you are interested in finding out more about the American Institute of Diamond Cutting and the programs they offer, please go to their website at [www.diamondschool.com](http://www.diamondschool.com). If you are interested in investing in colored diamonds go to [www.aidcadvantage.com](http://www.aidcadvantage.com).

*(Editor's note: I'd like to personally thank Mr. Nizam Peters for meeting with me and for donating 3 hardcover text books, which he wrote, for our library. It was very generous of you Mr. Peters and our entire club thanks you.)*



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The Crystal Cave  
 Rock and Gem Shop.com

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



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

**The Last Word**

Be sure to check out 2 articles on geology.com: the first is about “Diamond Bullion” which was just listed on the Singapore Diamond Investment Exchange. The article is dated Oct. 12. The second article, dated Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> is titled “What are Emeralds”. Both make interesting reading and can be found under the “News” section of their website.



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**THINGS TO REMEMBER**

The November 2017 meeting is **Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 pm. Please make plans to attend.

**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.**

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