



## Summit Gem - May 2020 Newsletter

**Website:** [SummitLapidaryClub.com](http://SummitLapidaryClub.com)  
 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221  
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**Board Members:**

**President – Becky Kosco**  
**Vice-President – Courtney Cable**  
**Treasurer – Nancy Milton-Halloran**  
**Secretary – Cathy Milhoan**  
**Membership Chair – Lisa Troxell**  
**Trustees – Bob Spore ( exp 2021), Tom McLaughlin (exp 2022), David Rich (exp 2023)**  
**Newsletter Editor – Mary Myers [slnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:slnewsletter2019@gmail.com)**

**Mission Statement**

*To afford the opportunity to share interest in lapidary knowledge and working techniques*



**May's Monthly Meeting will be held online**  
 due to the Covid19 pandemic  
*Dues: Joining fee \$25 then \$48 per year\*\**

The meeting for May will be held online at 7:00PM on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 hosted by Courtney on the Zoom platform. (Note: Zoom does not permit phone calls into meetings – you must join through the computer link via computer, laptop, or smartphone. You can use a smartphone to join the meeting but you must be able access email through your phone.) The invitations to all members who have provided their email addresses will be sent by Mary. The links are also given below:

<b>Meeting 1: Tuesday, May 5, 2020</b> <b>7:00 - 7:40 pm</b>	<b>Meeting 2: Tuesday, May 5, 2020</b> <b>7:50 - 8:30 pm</b>
<b>Topic: Summit Lapidary Club Administrative Meeting</b> Time: This is a recurring meeting. *Microphones will be automatically muted upon entering this meeting.	<b>Topic: After-Chat for Summit Lapidary Club members</b> A time for our members to socialize!
Join Zoom Meeting: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3517161407">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3517161407</a>	Join Zoom Meeting: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3517161407">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3517161407</a>
Meeting ID: 351 716 1407	Meeting ID: 351 716 1407

**Programs:**

Programs will resume once we can meet again in person.

**President's Message – by Becky Kosco:**

I don't know about you but I am suffering from Gemboree withdrawal! I not only miss the opportunity to see so many beautiful "things", but also the chance to see so many of you. That comradery is what I really miss.

We have been attempting a “virtual gathering” to compensate for missing some of our Saturday morning and Tuesday evening get togethers. We are still working on which video conferencing form we will decide to choose. Keep an eye on your email for invitations to join Google Meets or Zoom. Thanks go out for the efforts of Courtney Cable, Mary Myers and David Rich.

Our next scheduled meeting is May 5<sup>th</sup>. The Polish American Club (PAC) is still closed. Because Social Distancing is still in effect, we are offering an alternative - a live stream or virtual meeting. We'll keep you informed. Eager to see all of you soon!

Some levity for these days: So, how do you know if you're a rockhound?

Well, You Know You're a Rockhound if:

- You prefer Baryte roses to real ones
- Your garage is so full of rocks you can't get your car in
- You've ever sorted through a mullock heap (Mary asks, 'What's a 'mullock' heap???)  
The answer: It's a mound of loose stones left over from a gold mining operation!!!
- You have ever Dumpster Dived at a marble warehouse
- You color coordinate your clothes and shoes to match your gemstone pendants
- The sign on the road says “Falling Rock” and you pull over to wait (☺)
- You like to examine rocks in your driveway
- You spend hours searching the ground while everyone else around you is bored

Stay healthy – keep Rockin' – Becky

### **April Classes and Events:**

April classes and events are cancelled. We encourage members to be ready to offer classes as soon as the social distancing restrictions ease and the club reopens. Let's be proactive with developing some ideas about possible classes that you can offer to the rest of us!

**Sunshine News:** Joyce is back in town, still healing. Good news that Guy Kotch is permitted to drive again. The club has sent a contribution to the charity listed in Debbie and Mark Shorter's son's obituary.

### **Gemboree from Guy:**

The committee has already begun its planning for the Fall Gemboree. Contracts for the Fall are already starting to arrive. The down-payment for Emidio's facility will be used for the Fall.

### **GeoJuniors from Evelyn:**

We did a Zoom meeting for our April meeting and six families joined. The kids shared their favorite specimens and then presented their research in public places to go mining. Then, we played Geoguesser - Our kids' knowledge of geography is quite impressive!

### **Library news from Doug Shorter:**

We have purchased two new books for our library. The first book is Picture Jaspers from the Northwest (184 pages) by Hans Gamma and Lauritz A. Jensen. This book provides locations and photographs of Picture Jaspers from southeast Oregon to Southwest Idaho. This publication contains hundreds of color photographs, factual tidbits about the Owyhee jaspers, their mines, and some locations where rockhounds can still collect.

The second book is 101 Bench Tips for Jewelers (120 pages) by Alan Revere. It is the companion book to Profession Jewelry Making by the same author which our library already has. This book is filled with helpful, full-color illustrations and offers tips for all aspects of bench work, from soldering and stone setting to final polish.

Digital library facts: Did you know the Club's desktop computer has video downloads of jewelry making? There is a video on how to use the Hydraulic Press called Jewelry Basics for the Hydraulic Press. The other video is a two-part video on Keum-Boo. When the clubhouse reopens for social gatherings, check them out!

**Newsletter from Mary:** Please check with all your SLC friends to make sure they are receiving the newsletter at their email address. We would like to keep all our members informed. If you know of anyone in the club who is not receiving emails, please forward their email addresses to [slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com).

**Miscellaneous items:**

The AMS Cincinnati Trip to the GeoFair 2020 Gem Show on May 2-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 has been cancelled. Anyone who signed up and put down a down payment and who has not received a check in the mail should contact Kristin.

Evelyn advised that the Mansfield/Richland County Rock, Mineral, Fossil, and Gem Show scheduled for June 13-14, 2020 has been cancelled due to the pandemic.

We are still hoping to schedule another "Big Dig" on Flint Ridge sometime in the summer or early Fall after the Gemboree. No date has been set yet. Mrs. Nethers has requested that people stay away for a while so that she doesn't catch this dreadful virus.

No decision has been made on our Summer Picnic planned for July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Lehner Community Center at 35 S. River Road, Monroe Falls, OH 44262. We'll let you know!

William Holland Update. Fall in the mountains of North Georgia is an amazing time. The leaves will be in full color and the view from WH balcony will take your breath away. With fingers crossed, a lot of new rules and social distancing in place, we still have hope that our mid-September (09/13-18/2020) William Holland week will be a go. Currently they are scheduled to open for classes in mid-July. I would recommend that students keep an eye on the William Holland website ~home page and their facebook page for the most up to date announcements on all items regarding the school. Please do not call them.

The William Holland board will meet at the end of May and we should know a lot more of the details at that time. If you know of anyone else who wants to go (it is still possible to join us!) or if you have any questions, please contact Sandy Shorter 440-479-0069.

No decision has been made about our Christmas Party which has been planned for December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at St. George's on Ridgewood Rd. Surely by then we'll have figured out this Covid19!

**Old News:**

Summit Lapidary Club, April 2020 General Meeting was cancelled due to the Covid19 pandemic.

## Gems provided by members:



### **May birthstone:** The emerald, by Mary Myers

The gem of Venus, the green emerald, has long symbolized love and rebirth, and is considered to aid in fertility if any of our club members are interested in that topic. Ancient Egyptian mummies were often buried wearing an emerald to symbolize eternal youth and eternal bliss and romance. This gem is also supposed to protect its wearer from evil and may give its wearer the ability to detect deception and lies – is that the truth or a lie? A deeper and more vivid color of green makes the stone more valuable, but the most valuable and most beautiful emeralds exhibit an intense bluish hue in addition to their bold green color. Did you know that natural emeralds are almost always found with ‘birthmarks’ or inclusions? The presence of some inclusions is expected and typically does not detract from the value of this stone as much as with other gems.

<https://www.wixonjewelers.com/education-type/gemstone-guide/?gem=Emerald> and <https://www.jared.com/may-birthstones>

**Brad's Bench Tips for May:** Bob Powers, courtesy of Bradford M. Smith (Discover New Jewelry Tricks in Brad's "How To" Books at <https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith>).

### DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. Having sliced my fingers occasionally in my younger days, I avoid band-aids now by using flat-jaw pliers or a ring clamp. Pliers also save you if the piece gets hot. Put a little tape or a piece of vinyl tubing over jaws of the pliers if needed to avoid scratches.



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### DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$7.



Chuck the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.

**Some ‘Pearls’ of wisdom to finish this month’s newsletter and hopefully to brighten your day, brought to us by our own President Becky – How many can you answer correctly?**

1. Q: Where do little pebbles grow up?
2. Q: Where do rocks sleep?
3. Q: Why did the aquamarine replace the bloodstone?
4. Q: Where do retired Lapidarians like to relax?
5. Q: Why did the geologist take his girlfriend to the Quarry?
6. Q: What do you do with a dead Geologist?
7. Q: Why shouldn't you let a geologist drive your car?
8. Q: What do you call a can of soft drink found in a conglomerate?
9. Q: Why wasn't the Geologist hungry?
10. Q: What is the rear end of the Trilobite called?



**(Don't peek at the answers below before you guess!)**



**And the answers are ...**

1. A: In the rockery, of course!
2. A: In the bedrock!
3. A: People got tired of seeing all the bloody spots!
4. A: In a rock-ing chair, where else?
5. A: He wanted to get Boulder!
6. A: Better Barium soon!
7. A: Because they get hammered and stoned way too often.
8. A: Coca Cola Clastic.
9. A: He lost his Apatite.
10. A: The Trilobutt, of course! (What else on earth could this answer possibly be?)

**And finally, if you find yourself running short of toilet paper ...**



**Notice: Please don't use the rocks.**

**(A small tribute to the Lord of the Rings.)**