



## Summit Gem - March 2020 Newsletter

Website: [SummitLapidaryClub.com](http://SummitLapidaryClub.com)  
244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221  
Phone: (330) 929-3798

**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*



**Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00pm**

**Polish American Club**

**472 E Glenwood Ave, Akron, OH 44310**

**(phone # in case of emergency: (330) 253-0496)**

**[Please enter parking lot on Dan Street]**

*Dues: Joining fee \$25 then \$48 per year\*\**



### Programs:

**March 2020: [Geo-Trivia with Dick Hite](#)**

Join fellow club member Dick Hite in an identification game of *Geo-Trivia*. Dick knows *a little bit about pretty rocks* and has developed a game around matching visual clues to minerals and objects, based on the expressed interests of club members. ***Prizes will be awarded to winning teams!***

A Penn State graduate and retired Professional Mining Engineer, Hite has more than 50 years of experience with exploration, mine development, and reclamation projects worldwide. He worked for New Jersey Zinc, Bethlehem Steel, Cleveland-Cliffs, Graymont, and is the principal in his own consulting company. His expertise includes surface and underground mining methods, rock mechanics, geohydrology, environmental permitting and he happens to know ... *a little bit about pretty rocks*.

**Expert Tip:** Dig through your geology books and brush up on specimen specifics beforehand. “An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.” ~ Benjamin Franklin

**March Host:** [Thank you, Deb Matczynsyn!](#)

**Hosts:** **Please consider hosting for June, September, or November!** Being the host is easy – just bring the main food or snacks. Save the receipts – you can be reimbursed up to \$50. Bring plates and napkins or stop at the club and get them. Everyone else - bring something to share!

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

“And a rock feels no pain; and an island never cries” – Paul Simon

March – The month when Spring officially begins. And so many things to celebrate this month! Daylight Savings Time when we get to “Spring Forward,” Easter, St Patrick’s Day, and the Spring Equinox!

There is still some time to get classes in. Pearl Stringing will be taught on March 14<sup>th</sup> by Evelyn Tryon. Would love to have all hands-on deck for assembling Mini Gem trees Saturday March 22 from 9-noon for the children’s table at the Gemboree. Also, Open Torch Time is scheduled March 22 beginning at noon and Beginning Silver Smithing on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Spring Gemboree is around the corner – April 25 & 26, 2020. The Sign-up Genius has been set up – please go to Summit Lapidary Club website and enter link to Sign up Genius. Every member needs to sign up for at least 4 hours for each Gemboree. It is really very helpful to let us know where and when you plan to be there – very helpful to the leads to know what coverage they have. The Gemborees (and dues) are the money-making activities for our clubs – Their success determines what we can spend on activities and guest speakers. If you don’t have computer access, ask Rob at the next meeting to sign you up with his laptop.

Enjoy the Spring and keep Rockin’ - Becky

**March classes:** Check for more details posted at the Clubhouse with the sign-up sheets!

March 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-Noon (Saturday)	Threading & glass pearls with Evelyn Tryon. \$5.
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-Noon (Sunday)	Polymer Clay, Caning, Advanced with Mari Takai-Manley
March 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00-Noon (Saturday)	Mini Gem Trees for the Gemboree
March 21 <sup>st</sup> and 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Noon-? (Sat. and Sun.)	Torch time. Note: The last few months no one has come for this. If interested, contact Dave Macseoinin.
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Noon-? (Sunday)	Beginning Silver Smithing with Dave Macseoinin
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	7:00-9:00PM (Weds)	Beg. wire-wrap a cabochon with Dave Macseoinin \$5.

**Just a reminder about classes:** Please call the instructor or the club if you cannot attend the class!

### **March Events:**

March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7:00PM (Tuesday)	SLC membership meeting at Polish American Club
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	1:00PM (Sunday)	GeoJuniors meeting at the clubhouse
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 PM (Thursday)	CVAS meeting at the clubhouse
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	6:00PM (Saturday)	AMS dinner and meeting at 7pm at the clubhouse.
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:00PM (Wednesday)	New member dinner – by invitation only please! New members will be contacted, at the clubhouse.
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	7:00PM (Tuesday)	Executive Board Meeting at the clubhouse

### **April Events:**

April 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00PM (Tuesday)	SLC membership meeting at the Polish Amer. Club
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00PM (Thursday)	CVAS meeting at the clubhouse
April 11 <sup>th</sup>	6:00PM (Saturday)	AMS dinner and meeting at 7PM at the clubhouse
April 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-? (Saturday)	Rock bagging for Gemboree
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	1:00PM (Sunday)	GeoJuniors meeting at the clubhouse
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Set up for Gemboree
April 25 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday & Sunday	Gemboree

Just a reminder about equipment use: Equipment cannot be used during meetings at the clubhouse.

### **Sunshine News from Evelyn:**

Richard Lee is back home from hospital for his back surgery and infection after surgery. However, he still has problem with his recovery. His doctor made an arrangement to send a nurse for home care. We send him our prayers to get well soon.

Cathey Lee is also back from hospital from her surgery. Thankfully she is recovering better than her husband, Richard, although she gets tired easily. We wish her much rest and a speedy recovery.

Joyce Kish keeps fighting for her recovery. She is experiencing problem with pain medication, so she fights hard not to take any. We pray for her strength and speedy recovery.

**Gemboree:** Chair report for March 2020

We will have a Gemboree meeting on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00PM at the Club. Everyone is welcome...would especially like to have all area leads/chairs. We need your input before we make any final arrangements. P.S. you can stay for dinner at 6PM. The sign-up genius is now online and available on our website!

**GeoJuniors:**

GeoJuniors plan to meet at 1:00 PM on March 8<sup>th</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Newsletter:** Please email me at [slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com) if you expected to receive this newsletter through the mail or through your email, and did not receive it. (Sorry we didn't meet your expectation!) We're working on keeping our lists current!

IMPORTANT Newsletter note: The cost for printing and mailing the newsletter is high. Therefore, March of 2020 is the last mass snail-mailing that the club intends to complete. Henceforth we will **email** the newsletter to you (if we have your current email), and we will also bring a few copies for viewing to the meetings. If you must have a hard copy, please notify me at [slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com) and I will bring a copy for you to the meeting. If you must have a hard copy mailed to you, let me know that also.

March has two birthstones: Aquamarine and Bloodstone. Bloodstone is considered to be one of the most beautiful Jaspers. It is typically a deep and dark green stone emboldened with spots of bright red inclusions of hematite. Many believe that bloodstone has many magical properties - Carry some bloodstone in your pocket and you may be able to avoid being struck by lightning or perhaps even conjure up a rainstorm! Aquamarine, on the other hand, is considered to be the treasure of mermaids, has been often carried by ocean travelers as a protection against water (e.g., no storms on the sea), and is a talisman of eternal youth (nice!) (<https://www.crystalvaults.com/crystal-encyclopedia/crystal-guide>).

**Miscellaneous items:**

- 1- **Parking Ban:** In Cuyahoga Falls around our clubhouse the city declares a parking ban whenever there are over two (2) inches of snow. Call the CFO Non-Emergency (330) 928-2181 to determine whether there is a ban. There are no parking restrictions at the Polish American Club in Akron where we have our General Meetings.
- 2- **Gemboree Sign up Genius** – Be sure to sign-up when you will help during the Spring Gemboree. Go to the SLC Website and click the Sign-up Genius tab. If you don't have a computer have Rob help you sign up at our March meeting. It is really important to let the leads know the coverage they have.
- 3- **William Holland trip** - Just a reminder our joint trip with AMS to William Holland will be a wonderful chance to have fun and learn with your fellow Rock buddies. You can decide pretty much up until the last moment if you want to join us. Be prepared you might get closed out of a class the longer you wait. You must provide your own transportation there and back. When and where: Sept 13-18, 2020 in Young Harris, Georgia.
- 4- **Safety first!** - When working in the basement of the clubhouse always remember safety first! Wear protective eye wear and closed toe shoes. Wear a p95 protective mask. Limit yourself to four hours per week cutting silica and friable material. Try to work with a buddy when possible – even if they are upstairs.
- 5- **Reminder about documenting your machine use** - To help the machine maintenance team please indicate the number of the machine you have used to slab or polish when you sign the log book. Thank you for being conscientious and careful.

- 6- **Dues:** If you haven't paid your membership fees, please give the money to pay Nancy Halloran, the treasurer, immediately.
- 7- **Akron Mineral Society's trip to the Cincinnati Gem Show:** May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Balance is due by the March membership meeting. Questions? Call Joyce at 330-753-7081.
- 8- **Fantasia Mining update:** The store is now open again Tues-Thurs from 10-3PM.

### Old News:

Summit Lapidary Club, February 4th 2020 General Meeting

Becky Kosco called meeting to order at 7pm

Hostess: Susanne Shoffner

Visitors, Courtney Cable: Elizabeth Brainard-Sandwick

Newsletter, Mary Myers: Please make sure she has your email, if you receive your newsletter in the mail there was a box on the front table to pick up.

Treasurer, Nancy Milton-Halloran: Please pay your dues.

Member Chair, Lisa Troxell: Please fill out membership application & return it to Lisa.

Classes, Dave Macseoinin: 2/8 9am-noon Beading: Classic Spiral with Mari Takai-Manley; 2/9 9am-noon Polymer Clay Caning Advanced with Mari Takai-Manley; 2/15 9am-noon Multi Strand Necklace with Evelyn Tryon; Torch time with Dave Macseoinin 2/15 & 2/16 noon-?; 3/14 9am-noon Pearl Stringing & knotting with Evelyn Tryon; 3/21 & 3/22 Torch time with Dave Macseoinin. Please mark your calendars for the mini Gemboree™ gem trees (all hands on deck please) on 2/22 and 3/21 9am-noon at the clubhouse. Hope to see you there.

Gemboree™ Guy Kotch: April 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Kim is working on Signup Genius. Evelyn has a PDF for the Gemboree™ flyer. We are in need of base rocks for mini Gemboree™ trees, please see Evelyn. We need to vote on the chairman for Gemboree™: Mary Myers nominated Guy Kotch, Wendy Smale 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, vote was unanimous.

Sandy Shorter & Bob Spore are taking care of the website, thank you both for your time.

Geo Jrs, Evelyn & Robert wrote a nice article on them for the newsletter.

Sunshine, Mari Takai-Manley: Joyce Kish broke her arm in AZ. She has had to be sent to California for surgeries and she has some pins & rods. It looks painful. We wish you a speedy recovery, Joyce. Richard Lee had a UTI not a kidney problem. Helen Franks said that Bob is doing better.

Building Maintenance: Hot water tank was replaced and we now have hot water in the kitchen sink.

Machine Maintenance, Gene Willis: Machines are running well. Please remember use your eye protection at all times & breathing masks while using the slab saws or grinding on material. When you are using the slab saws or the grinders please make sure you are logging your time. That way we can keep accurate records for maintenance.

Trips: William Holland September 13<sup>th</sup> –September 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 Kristine Morrow is collecting money; Akron Mineral bus trip to Cincinnati Gem Show May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 Kristine is collecting money for that trip also.

Rob Spore: Wally is getting a ton of rocks. He is mailing them back for rock bagging. He needed addresses to get some rocks sent to other people. After the meeting I spoke with Rob. He was pretty confident he had enough volunteers & it was handled. If you need more people, Rob, let me know.

Becky Kosco lead a discussion about using the "Buddy System" while working at the clubhouse that would be at least 2 people in the building. There was a spirited debate over the buddy system. A lot of

good points were brought up for the buddy system. We are getting older. If you have an accident you could always go into shock. There were objections to the buddy system also. The buddy system cannot be enforced, please just be very careful.

New Business: March 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 is the new member dinner; this is by invite only. Think about some questions you would like to ask.

March 30<sup>th</sup> 2020 Annual Gala Fundraiser silent auction for The Boys & Girls club in Akron. If anyone has any spare jewelry or items you have made & would like to donate please see Robert or give him a call (330) 310-9148.

July 11<sup>th</sup> will be our summer picnic Lehner Community Center at 35 S. River Rd Monroe Falls, OH 44262.

We will have a small auction in the spring, some homemade equipment & rocks, more info to come.

Please check the host/hostess sign-up sheet if you have not already done so.

Motion to adjourn by Nancy Milton-Halloran Julie Fultz 2<sup>nd</sup> passed

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Milhoan

**Keep the Dates in 2020!**

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Program:**

**Read Magoun**, owner and key maker at **Magoun Pewter**, will reinforce your background knowledge and spark creative vision in his upcoming presentation **Casting for Fun**. Magoun presented to the club 15+ years ago and is looking forward to returning to share more of his expert tips about casting. He will cover topics of how things work from design to cast-able or not cast-able materials, and more. Want to be inspired to fire up the casting equipment in the clubhouse? April is the month for you.

**April Hosts: Laurie McElroy**

**June, 2020:** We are hoping to schedule another “**Big Dig**” on Flint Ridge. No date has been set yet.

**July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Summer Picnic at the Lehner Community Center at 35 S. River Road, Monroe Falls, OH 44262. Just a reminder, alcohol is permitted but must be consumed inside the building.

**December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** We are tentatively planning this date for the Christmas Party, to be held again at St. George’s.

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**And the BIG date – April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020: The Spring Gemboree!**



## BENCH TIP IDEAS

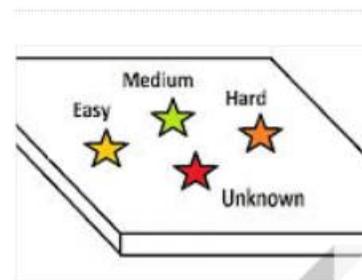
### IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify.

The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder.

What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.

(A thick scrap of metal, with several sample standards of solders on it).



### INEXPENSIVE ELECTRIC WAX PEN

You can make your own wax pen from a small soldering iron plugged into a light dimmer switch for heat control. Both components are easily found at a big hardware store or at Harbor Freight. As an example of the components, see items # 43060 and # 47887.

File the tip of the soldering iron into the shape you prefer or even better get a soldering iron with replaceable tips. Then you can make several tip shapes for different tasks. Set the dimmer control just hot enough to melt the wax without producing any smoke.

A tip design that I find ideal for some work is a length of small gauge wire that lets me reach in around the model to melt some wax. The wire is 18ga and about 15mm long.

I use Sterling wire to conduct heat easily to the tip, and I silver solder it into a hole on the end of a copper or brass rod that fits into the soldering iron.

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 Thank you to Bob Powers for providing the two bench tips above from Bradford M. Smith. You can find more resources from Bradford Smith at [www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](http://www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)