

# Summit Gem May 2017

Website: [SummitLapidaryClub.com](http://SummitLapidaryClub.com)

Summit Lapidary Club, 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

Phone 330-929-3798

**Board Members:** Pres. – Andy Carey, V-President – David Frazier,  
Treasurer – John Kerr & Laura Thomas, Secretary – Laurie McElroy  
Trustees – Tom McLaughlin, John Tryon, Frank Mack and David Rich  
Newsletter Editor – Pat Powers 440-237-6170 [SLCnewsletter@AOL.com](mailto:SLCnewsletter@AOL.com)  
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## Mission Statement

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



**Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM**  
**At The Quirk Center**  
**1201 Grant Street Cuyahoga Falls**



**Program: Club Auction**

**Hosts: Laura Thomas**

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

## President's Message – by Andy Carey

Hi All,

Another Gemboree is in the books! I would like to thank all involved with helping make it a success. Special thanks to the Gemboree committee for all of the time and energy they invest in order for everything to run smooth. Without the Gemboree it would be near impossible for our club to do all the things we are able to do. Such as, maintain the club house, buy new equipment, and go on trips. Thank you.

Now it is time to put on your Ambassador robes and welcome all of our first time visitors. I ask that we make them feel welcome, explain what the club can do for them, and how to get involved.

*“In other words, just keep being you!”*

See You Soon,  
Andy Carey

**Summit Lapidary Club, April 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 General Meeting** – Respectfully submitted by Laura McElroy,  
Secretary SLC

Andy Carey presided.

Thank you to the Morrows for hosting.

Visitors, Dave Macseoinin: Mary Curry, Bill James, & Ann Mandanici.

Classes, Dave Macseoinin: 4/30 Metalsmithing with Dave Macseoinin, previous Beginning Silver required. 6/4 Beginning Silver with Dave Macseoinin.

Treasurer, John Kerr: Reported.

Sunshine, Mari Takai-Manley: Andy Carey broke his foot & it will require surgery. John Johnson has shoulder surgery coming up.

Library, Doug Shorter: 3 new books including a New Mexico Geological with overlays of highways, Caves & Crafts of Southwest New Mexico, & Fluorite- Collector's Choice.

Newsletter, Pat Powers: E-mail copies are available.

Gemboree, Bob Powers: Sign-up sheets are at the clubhouse. Need help in Demos & the Kid's Craft area.

Evelyn Tryon: Posters, flyers, flyers for GeoJrs & flyers for the Stark County Gem Show all available tonight to take & please distribute.

GeoJrs, Rob Rothschild: Meeting this Sunday. One of the kids will be teaching the merit badge on Collecting. Dave Rich brought agates to give the kids.

Machine Maintenance, David Moore: Every 6 months the slab saws need cleaned & oil changed, & it's time. Volunteers (5-7) needed this Saturday at 9am. Oil is recycled & reused. Call David Moore if the saws are not working. Do not try to repair! The saw that is being replaced will be auctioned to members.

Building Maintenance, Frank Mack: All good.

#### Old Business:

Cathy Lee reported that the May 7 joint-meeting with the Geologists has to be cancelled.

Rob Rothschild thanked Mari Takai-Manley & Annette Long for their donations to the Boys & Girls Club fundraiser.

Jing Wang is taking orders for name tags tonight to have before Gemboree.

#### New Business:

President Andy Carey asked for a Long-Term Planning Committee & has asked Natalie Fox to chair it. Need 7-8 members, and would like several newer members. Please see Natalie after the meeting if you are interested in being on this committee.

**Motion by David Frazier to have Drake Collins come to teach chain mail classes for a weekend & pay his room, board & gas. Dawn Carey 2nd.** Passed. Classes will be paid by students. Multiple classes all weekend. Need to negotiate a date with Drake.

Silent Auction, May 2 General Meeting at Quirk Center. Rocks, motors, findings, ....50 years of stuff that's been stashed at the clubhouse. Auction Committee: David Rich, David Frazier, Frank Mack, & Deb Salay.

Dave Macseoinin requested a new roster of members.

Penn Dixie, near Buffalo NY, is hosting a "Dig with the Experts" weekend Memorial Day weekend. May 27, 28, 29. They will show how to find trilobites, cephalopods, fish remains, brachiopods, corals, wood & other fossils at Penn Dixie.

**Motion to adjourn by Kristen Morrow, Sandy Shorter 2nd. Passed.**

#### **Program for May Meeting** – by David Rich

Deming Style Auction will be going forward at our next meeting. Come on down and bid on some really good material. Once my auction crew gets the room and material set the bidding will start. Then we will have a short meeting. Please be patient when paying your bill. You will be able to use a check made out to SLC. Please bring snacks.

#### **Gemboree News** – by Bob Powers

In spite of the best weekend weather of spring we had another terrific show! Attendance was 1815 paid entrants through the doors, which historically is a good show. All visitors seemed to have a good time, with no issues arising. Several of them personally told me that it was a great show. While not all the dealers provided feedback, the ones that did said they were doing well and keeping busy with customers. Other than set-up issues with irregular tables, there were no complaints from the dealers.

Also important, the club members had a good time. It was encouraging to see so many new members supporting their first Gemboree. We need that help since many older members are less able to do the more physically strenuous activities like set-up and tear-down. Rob King deserves special mention here for his time and efforts. Once again many dedicated members put in far more than four hours at the show.

Member support at Admissions, usually a tough area to fill, was excellent! Some other areas like Kids Activities and Geode Cracking had staffing beyond what was on the original sign-up sheets, which made those areas a success. Demonstrations area was well staffed and provided most of the front-line contact with prospective new members. Gem ID with Cathy Lee was a big hit, as always. Silent Auction ran very smoothly, thanks to Jenn Shernit & Jimmy Caruthers. Gem mine also ran without a hitch and impressed many visitors. ODNR Division of Geology, across from Admissions, was pleased with their space and felt they had a successful outreach program. The (still new) Fluorescent Display was another big hit.

New Treasurer Laura McElroy was diligent in working on the financial statement for the show with help from Tom McLaughlin. The financial statement is being finalized, so please be sure to turn any final Gemboree receipts into her.

We plan for a Gemboree Meeting before the June Summit Lapidary Club meeting, June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Quirk Center to review what ran well and what could be improved for the next show. In the past we have had elections for the Show Chairman after the Spring Show, and that will be on the agenda. After being Show Chairman for the last eleven shows, I will not be running for Show Chairman. Guy Kotch shadowed me at the last show and is running for Show Chairman for the fall show.

Rules of the Gemboree state the Show Chairman duties are to appoint the Dealer Chairman and the Treasurer and approve all expenditures, as well as having overall responsible for all activities at the show. Show Chairman must provide regular status updates to both Akron Mineral Society and to the Summit Lapidary Club. Akron Mineral Society gives honorary member status to the Show Chairman, so it is not necessary to be a member of both clubs prior to election.

### **Metalsmithing Competition 2017**

Open to all members of Summit Lapidary Club only. Rules and guidelines for competition:

Use all elements of design. Workmanship will be graded so be neat.

- Use any metal you wish. For example silver, gold, copper, brass or bronze.
- This is for fabrication only. ( no metal clay, wirewrap or castings)

Novice level: Open to all members of 3 years of membership or less. Each piece must have at least one stone cut by entrant. No more than 3 pieces per entrant.

Advanced level: Open to all members over 3 years of membership. Work must have 2 or more stones with one stone to be cut by entrant. No more than 3 pieces per entrant.

All entries must be received by Dave Macseoinin no later than November Board meeting November 23<sup>rd</sup> (the last Tuesday of November).

### **Contest Prizes**

Beginner's level:

1st prize \$100 plus one year club membership  
 2nd prize \$50 plus one year club membership  
 3rd prize one year club membership

1st prize \$100 plus one year club membership  
 2nd prize \$50 plus one year club membership  
 3rd prize one year club membership

Advanced level:

Prizes will be awarded at the December membership meeting.

### **What are Precious and Semiprecious Stones?** – taken from

<http://geology.com/gemstones/semiprecious/>

#### **A Classification of the 1800s**

Gemstones were first classified into the categories of "precious stones" and "semiprecious stones" in the mid-1800s. These terms quickly become popular and are now used throughout the world. Most people who sell gems and jewelry are familiar with the terms and have used them. The terms remain in common usage in printed materials and discussions throughout the gemstone and jewelry industry. However, many people in the gem and jewelry industry do not like these terms, and their use is controversial.

#### **What Are "Precious Stones"?**

"Precious stones" is a name that is usually used in reference to four types of gems: diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds. Some people have included opal, jade, or pearls in the "precious stones" class, but these have not received persistent and widespread use. Separating stones into "precious" and "semiprecious" classes has led many people to believe that "precious stones" are more important and more valuable than "semiprecious stones." This idea has somewhat been supported by the fact that diamonds, rubies, sapphires and emeralds account for over 98% of the dollar value of U.S. gemstone imports for consumption reported by the United States Geological Survey.

#### **What Are "Semiprecious Stones"?**

The names "semiprecious stones" and "semi-precious stones" are used for all varieties of gemstones that are not categorized as "precious." Any gemstone suitable for being used in personal adornment would be included. Semiprecious stones include gemstones fashioned from: agate, amber, amethyst, aquamarine, aventurine, chalcedony, chrysocolla, chrysoprase, citrine, garnet, hematite, jade, jasper, jet, kunzite, lazuli, malachite, moonstone, obsidian, onyx, peridot, rhodonite, sodalite, sunstone, tiger's-eye, tanzanite, topaz, turquoise, tourmaline, and many other materials.

Some people believe that the word "semiprecious" is derogatory, irreverent, misleading, or confusing, and that its use should be discontinued. Perhaps the people who initiated this classification had the intent of casting all gems but a few under a derogatory light?

Unfortunately, eliminating the word "semiprecious" from use would be extremely difficult. Over the past 150 years, scores of popular books have been written with the word "semiprecious" in their titles. Today the terms appear repeatedly in numerous books, magazines, web pages, and other documents published by companies in the gem and jewelry industry, government agencies, and the most influential institutions in gemology. Purging these terms from professional use would be difficult, but, eliminating them from common use would be nearly impossible - especially because some people really like these names.

#### **Does "Precious" Mean Valuable, Rare, Beautiful or Desirable?**

The division of gemstones into the categories of "precious" and "semiprecious" might give some people the idea that "precious stones" are more valuable, more rare, more beautiful or more desirable than "semiprecious stones." Here are some of the problems with calling some stones "precious" on the basis of their value, rarity, beauty or desirability.

### **The "Value" Problem**

In 2004 the Aurora Australis Opal sold for \$1 million dollars, a price of over \$5500 per carat. High-quality 8x10 millimeter jade cabochons weigh about 2.5 carats and can sell for as much as \$25,000. Gems cut from red beryl have been sold for over \$10,000 per carat. These gems have much higher values per carat than most individual "precious stones" sold in the United States market. These examples are clear evidence that semiprecious stones can be worth a lot of money.

### **The "Rarity" Problem**

Many "semiprecious" stones are also more rare than precious stones. Red beryl, ammolite, benitoite, gem silica, demantoid garnet, tsavorite garnet, and numerous other gems are all found in a fewer number of locations and produced in smaller quantities than any of the "precious" stones. They are incredibly rare in comparison, but that does not earn them the term "precious."

### **The "Beauty" and "Desirability" Problems**

Beauty and desirability are both properties that are based upon the opinion of the observer. It would be interesting to present excellent specimens of diamond, ruby, emerald, sapphire and opal to a random cross section of people and ask them which, in their opinion, is the most beautiful or desirable. It is possible that opal, typically considered to be a "semiprecious stone" would win or place higher than the "precious stones" in the contest.

### **A Consideration of "Grade"**

Furthermore, the words "precious" and "semiprecious" do not consider the "grade" of the stones. "Grade" is a general measure of gemstone quality and marketability that considers color, clarity and potential price. Some rubies, sapphires, emeralds and diamonds are of a grade that gives them a very low price - often low enough that large numbers of semiprecious stones will be more highly valued.

For these reasons, the terms "precious stone" and "semiprecious stone" are arbitrary and meaningless. If the terms suddenly disappeared from the language of gems and jewelry, there would be no loss of accuracy and precision on common communication. At the same time, a bit of confusion would disappear with them. For that reason the terms should be eliminated, but they are so entrenched in the industry and common usage that eliminating them would be essentially impossible.

### **Focus On What Appeals to You**

A person who is interested in purchasing an item of jewelry should not be influenced by the names "precious" or "semiprecious." Instead they should focus on what gemstone appeals to them, suits their intended use, and has a price that they are willing to pay. The names "precious" and "semiprecious" are old and arbitrary designations that have never been truly meaningful.

### **All Gemstones Are "Precious"**

A gemstone is a mineral or other natural material that has the beauty and durability needed for use as a personal adornment or an ornamental object. Some people believe that any stone that meets this definition should be considered as something special and "precious."

### **Sunshine News – by Mari Takai-Manley**

- Andy Carey had foot surgery on April 12 and is recovering so well afterwards that his doctor already removed his stitches. He was at the club house this evening for the board meeting. He has had a remarkably speedy

recovery. He wants to go back to work soon. Well, Good luck to you, Andy, we hope you keep up your great recovery, and take care.

- Julie Greer, the daughter of Ellen Berisha, was in a hospital for 5 days for a MRSA infection because doctors have tried all kinds of antibiotics. She is back at home now. We hope she feels better.
- Paige Frazier, the daughter of David Frazier, is graduating from Medina High School and Medina Career Center this May. Congratulations to Paige who will be a new graduate, and her proud father, David. We wish much happiness and joy to you both!!
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**Just a Quick Note...** – by Pat Powers

- Andy Carey - To all Club Members, in order to make room for our new saw, the club is auctioning off saw #3. We will be accepting sealed bids from now until the next board meeting, Tuesday May 30th. Minimum bid is \$500.00. Saw is sold as is. It will be the responsibility of the winning bidder to remove the saw within one week of purchase. Bids will be accepted by any board member until 7:30pm on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Winning bid will be revealed at that time. Please bring any questions to our next meeting May 2nd at Quirk Cultural Center.
- Mary Ann Rich - Leaf and Blossom Garden Club will be having their plant sale on the club lawn Saturday, May 27 from 10-2:00 p.m. All club members are invited to come and purchase great vegetable, flower and perennial plants. Ten percent discount on purchases of five dollars or more since you graciously let us use the lawn. Club members have been our best customers!
- Dave Macseoinin - To all the members that demonstrated at our Spring Gemboree Show I offer a big thank you! Each of you was a fine representative for our club. You each talked up our clubs very well and I think we will get even more new members from your effort!

Nothing to more to add. Bye and see you next month!