

Summit Gem March 2017

Website: 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
or mail to 18270 Buccaneer, North Royalton, Ohio 44133

Mission Statement

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



Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, March 7th at 7PM
At The Quirk Center
1201 Grant Street Cuyahoga Falls



Host: Laurie McElroy

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

President's Message – by Andy Carey

Good Day Everyone!

Wow, what a weird weather month. Global warming? Maybe. With the warm weather it means we are that much closer to Gemboree time :) Yeah! Sign-up sheets are available at the club. We will also bring them to the meeting at Quirk on Tuesday. Anyone been down to Mrs. Nethers this month? If so bring some show and tell. I don't know about everyone else but I have spring fever!

See you soon, Andy

Summit Lapidary Club, February 7th 2017 General Meeting - Respectfully submitted by Laura McElroy, Secretary SLC

Andy Carey presided.

Speaker, Mike Cohill, presented a history of marbles.

Visitors, Dave Macseoinin: Carole Capozzi, Nancy Halloran, Becky Hartman, Bobby & Jenna King, Gena & Bonnie Willis, Michael & Rebecca Gusman, & Pattianne Gianti.

Classes, Dave Macseoinin: 2/8 Penannular Pin with Dave Macseoinin, 2/11 Mini Gem Tree Workshop with Evelyn Tryon, 2/19 Metalsmithing Workshop with Dave Macseoinin- bring your own project, 3/5 Beginning Silversmithing with Dave Macseoinin, 3/4 Polymer Clay with Jenn Fike, 3/16 Copper Cuff Bracelet with Kathy Jo Lappin.

Treasurer, John Kerr: Reported. Income received from Fall Gemboree.

Sunshine, Mari Takai-Manley: Noreen Miller is recovering from surgery, & Cindy Schubert has knee replacement surgery coming up. Dewey Starcher is engaged! Cat & Don Benington are celebrating their 50 year anniversary!

Library, Doug Shorter: Books are available to check out for one month, and can be renewed once. We need books back that have been checked out for years, please.

Newsletter, Pat Powers: Newsletters have been sent out. 12 were emailed & about 80 were mailed. Extras available for visitors. Please consider getting your newsletter by email to help defray printing & postage costs.

Gemboree, Bob Powers: Spring Show sign-up sheets are out. Friday April 21 is set-up, Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 Gemboree with tear-down after 5 on Sunday. Evelyn Tryon is hosting a mini gem tree day Saturday February 11 to make trees for the Children's area at Gemboree. New member, Robert King, has made and donated a lovely, large gem tree to the club, & it can be seen in the display cases at the club. Kathi Jo Lappin needs a replacement as Children's Area Chairperson, because they are involved in some medical trials. She is very willing to help the new Chairperson.

Machine Maintenance, David Moore: #1 saw is down. If you want machines that we can all use, then let David Moore know when they malfunction. Do NOT do your own repairs to club equipment.

Building Maintenance, Frank Mack: Ants are gone. Drain problem fixed.

GeoJrs, Rob Rothschild: Akron U speaker has postponed until March 2 for tour & careers discussion. People with skills are needed to help with classes & meetings. Bring your kids or grandkids to join.

Old Business:

President Andy Carey reported that a microphone set has been ordered & purchased.

June 24, 2017: Picnic will be at Kathi Jo & Marty Lappin's. JoAnn Harrison leads the planning committee.

Doug Shorter reminded us that before the next Flint Ridge outing we need to polish up some flint slabs to give to Mrs. Nethers, in appreciation. She loves to show people what comes out of her ground.

New Business:

JoAnn Harrison suggested having a Buy/Trade/Sell event for the club, maybe mid-May.

JoAnn Harrison requested an informal vote on when would be the best week for the Artisan Sale. November 4, a week after Fall Gemboree, won.

Dave Macseoinin announced the 2017 Metalsmithing Competition, with awards at the December general meeting. Requirements will be in the newsletter. Two categories: Beginner & Advanced, with great prizes!

The Executive Board meets the last Tuesday of most months & members are welcome to sit in.

Mari Takai-Manley had 2 showcases available for Gemboree, and they were immediately scooped up. If you'd like to show your stuff in a display case at Gemboree, let Mari know & maybe we can have a waiting list.

Sandy Shorter, Publicity Guru, will post your classes & your information on the website calendar if you let her know. Our Website is now SummitLapidaryClub.com

Rob Rothschild is involved with the Boys & Girls Club, and requests donations of original jewelry for their dinner/silent auction fundraiser.

Merry Anne McLeod-Wolfe suggested saving all 50/50 drawing non-winning tickets for a "2nd chance" drawing at the Christmas party.

Annette Long requested more money for buying extra gifts for the Christmas party "game". Will be discussed at the next Executive Board meeting.

Doug Shorter researched & reported his findings on slab saws. Covington 20" or 24" suggested. **Motion by Don Bennington to purchase a new saw, guy Koch 2nd.** Discussion. David Moore, Machine Maintenance, requests saws with interchangeable parts; we got rid of a Covington. **Motion tabled.**

Mike Ball purchased our new surveillance system for the club house & will install it this weekend.

Evelyn Tryon reported has a list of rock stuff for sale at the estate of Greg & Irene in Chagrin Falls.

Motion to adjourn by Pat Powers, Annette Long 2nd.

Respectfully submitted by Laura McElroy, Secretary SLC

Classes and Events for March – (more details posted at the clubhouse)

March 4 th	Polymer Clay Advance
March 5 th	Beginning Silversmithing
March 14 th	Jewelry Jam
March 16 th	Copper Bracelet
March 29 th	Wire Sculpture

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 23rd (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

Advanced level:

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

Prizes will be awarded at the December membership meeting.

Gemboree News – by Bob Powers

Final preparations for the Spring Show are in progress. Bulk letter mailings are printed and will be mailed out soon. Show postcard reminders will be mailed three weeks before the show to be delivered two weeks prior to the show. There are more opportunities for everyone to get involved with pre-Gemboree activities. Silent Auction bid slip preparation will be held in April, as will rock bagging, which is done on Saturday the week before the show.

Sign-up sheets are at the Clubhouse and are filling in fast. Reserve your time and work slots soon. Our shows are widely recognized as high-quality. We're able to keep the shows that way because of the great participation in the Show by the vast majority of club members. Few other clubs in the country hold events that are supported by over 100 active members.

Also I'd like to remind everyone that two area lead positions are available - Geode Cracking and the Kid's Activities. John Goldsmith did an outstanding job handling Geode Cracking over the last four or five shows. His presence will be missed. The Lappins set a new high standard for Kid's Activities. I've never seen that area look as attractive & interesting as it has the last two shows. The kids really appreciated it!

Area leads are not required to be at the Show full time, although many elect to do that. Lead positions can also be shared between two or more individuals. Officially, the primary responsibilities are to make sure that the area has all supplies ready well before the show and that the sign-up sheets are filled in before the show. Invoices submitted for supplies are reimbursed by the Gemboree Treasurer. This is a great way for newer members to get involved with the clubs. Please see me if you are considering volunteering.

What is Petrified Wood? How Does it Form? - Taken from http://geology.com/petrified_wood

Petrified wood is a fossil. It forms when plant material is buried by sediment and protected from decay due to oxygen and organisms. Then, groundwater rich in dissolved solids flows through the sediment, replacing the original plant material with silica, calcite, pyrite, or another inorganic material such as opal. The result is a fossil of the original woody material that often exhibits preserved details of the bark, wood, and cellular structures.

Some specimens of petrified wood are such accurate preservations that people do not realize they are fossils until they pick them up and are shocked by their weight. These specimens with near-perfect preservation are unusual; however, specimens that exhibit clearly recognizable bark and woody structures are very common.

Petrified Forest National Park

The most famous locality for observing petrified wood is Petrified Forest National Park near the community of Holbrook in northeastern Arizona. About 225 million years ago, this area was a lowland with a tropical climate and covered by a dense forest. Rivers flooded by tropical rain storms washed mud and other sediments into the lowlands. Enormous coniferous trees up to 9 feet in diameter and 200 feet tall lived and died in these lowlands. Fallen trees and broken branches were often buried by the river sediments. Nearby volcanoes erupted numerous times. These eruptions blanketed the area in volcanic ash with a high silica content.

Rapid burial allowed the plant debris to escape destruction by oxygen and insects. The soluble ash was dissolved by groundwater flowing through the sediments. The dissolved ash served as a source of silica that replaced the plant debris, creating petrified wood. Trace amounts of iron, manganese and other minerals were included in the silica and gave the petrified wood a variety of colors. These sediments, plant debris, and volcanic ash became part of a rock unit known today as the Chinle Formation.

In the millions of years after the Chinle Formation was deposited, the area was uplifted and the rocks deposited above the Chinle were eroded away. The petrified wood is much harder and resistant to weathering than the mud rocks and ash deposits of the Chinle. Instead of eroding away, the wood accumulated on the ground surface as the surrounding mud rocks and ash layers were eroded away. That is why areas of the Park are covered with a litter of petrified wood trunks, branches and fragments. Today, visitors to the park can observe the petrified wood and photograph it; however, collecting petrified wood in the park is prohibited.

Other Petrified Wood Localities

Petrified wood is not rare. It is found in volcanic deposits and sedimentary rocks at many of locations worldwide. It is sometimes found where volcanic activity covered plant material with ash, mudflows or pyroclastic debris. It is found where wood in sedimentary deposits was replaced by minerals precipitated from groundwater. It is especially abundant around coal seams, although many of the wood specimens in these locations are casts and molds rather than petrifications. One almost unbelievable material from Western Australia is known as "peanut wood" because of its ovoid markings, but those markings are actually boreholes drilled by a clam!

In the United States, noteworthy locations where abundant fossilized wood can be seen include:

- Petrified Forest National Park near Holbrook, Arizona
- Petrified Palm Deposits in the Catahoula Formation of Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi
- Ginkgo Petrified Forest near Wanapum Reservoir, Washington
- The Petrified Forest near Calistoga, California
- Mississippi Petrified Forest near Flora, Mississippi
- The Gilboa Fossils near Gilboa, New York
- Florissant Fossil Beds near Florissant, Colorado
- Gallatin Petrified Forest near Yellowstone, Wyoming
- Escalante Petrified Forest State Park near Escalante, Utah
- Petrified Wood Park in Lemmon, South Dakota (a rock sculpture park - some made of local petrified wood)

Petrified Wood by Many Other Names

A wide variety of names are commonly used for petrified wood. "Fossilized wood" is a general term for wood that has been petrified or preserved by other methods of fossilization. "Opalized wood" is petrified wood that has fossilization. "Opalized wood" is petrified wood that has been replaced by opal, an amorphous form of silica. "Agatized wood" is wood that has been replaced by agate, a form of chalcedony or microcrystalline quartz. "Silicified wood" is wood that has been replaced by any form of silica, including opal and agate.

Lapidary Uses of Petrified Wood

Petrified wood is often used in lapidary work. It is cut into shapes for making jewelry, sawn into blocks to make bookends, sawn into thick slabs to make table tops, and sawn into thin slabs for clock faces. It can be cut into cabocons or used to make tumbled stones and many other crafts. Small pieces of petrified wood can be placed in a rock tumbler to make tumbled stones.

Only a small fraction of petrified wood is suitable for lapidary work. Poorly preserved specimens, those with lots of voids or closely-spaced fractures do not polish well or break while being worked. Specimens with no fractures or voids and with spectacular color are highly prized for lapidary work.

Collecting petrified wood can only be done on private property where permission has been obtained from the landowner, or on limited tracts of government lands where small quantities are allowed to be collected for personal use. Before you collect, get permission and collecting rules from the owner of private property or from the agency in charge of any government land where collecting will occur.

Not Really "Wood"

A material found in the Catahoula Formation of Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas is widely known as "petrified palm wood." However, palm plants really don't produce "wood." Instead their trunk is made up of parenchyma, a fibrous support material that is surrounded by hollow tubes of the vascular structure known as xylem and phloem. These tubes transported water, nutrients, wastes and other materials through the plant.

Sunshine News – by Mari Takai-Manley

- Don and Cat Bennington were hit by two tragedies. Don's brother, Theodore, passed away last week, and then Don and Cat' son, John, had a massive heart attack and died on his way to a hospital last Friday. He was only 48 years old. We heard that John was visiting us at our club house with his daughter on Saturdays. I agree with Evelyn Tryon who broke the news that such events of losing loved ones one after the other were too much to bear for anybody. We send our deepest sympathy to Don and Cat and all of their family.
- Guy Kotch also lost his family member, his aunt passed away recently. We send our sympathy to him and his family.
- A "Get Well" to Mari Manley, our Sunshine person. She is having Physical Therapy for tendonitis. Get well soon! (submitted by Joyce Kish)

Just a Quick Note... – by Pat Powers

- Jing Spohn will be ordering name tags again in March or April. You can order & prepay from her or from Joe. Info will be on the website, on facebook.
- Be aware if there is a snow ban listed for Cuyahoga Falls on meeting night the current meeting is cancelled and automatically rescheduled for the following Tuesday. Check with the Cuyahoga Falls PD for weather conditions before you head out. 330-928-2181. Nothing more to add.

Bye and see you next month!