



Summit Gem - April 2020 Newsletter

Website: 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 slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com

Mission Statement

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



April's Monthly Meeting has been cancelled

at the 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:

Programs will resume once we can meet again in person!

President's Message – by Becky Kosco:

Let me begin by wishing everyone good health and strength as we navigate through these difficult times.

Sadly the Spring 2020 Gemboree has been cancelled due to the mandates by the State of Ohio "Shelter at Home".

Why do we have a Gemboree twice a year? Obviously, it is the main source of our finances, but the event is so much more than that. The club could survive without that influx of cash should we miss a show, but what about the influx of knowledge, excitement, comradery and new members we receive with every show. This is the backbone of the club.

The most important aspect of all of this is maintaining the health of our members. "Social distancing" to control the spread of the pandemic coronavirus has caused many changes to our daily lives and will continue to change every day. Not knowing the future of this pandemic it makes it even more important that we remain social. Social comes from the Latin socius meaning "friend". What we need now as individuals and as a club is to be kind and caring – to look out for each other and give support.

Though we have no scheduled classes or meetings through the end of April we are still a club. Visit our websites and Facebook page to see what other members are doing. We can anticipate the next General Meeting or future auction.

The day will come when our focus is no longer on “social distancing” and we can enjoy our club again.

Be well and safe - Becky

April Classes and Events:

The classes and events that were originally scheduled for April will be rescheduled. We'll keep you posted!

Sunshine News from Mari:

Guy is back home and is beginning to recover from his stroke. Joyce is also recovering but it is very slow. She's had a 3rd surgery and is planning to come back home soon to continue her recovery here. Cathy and Richard Lee are also doing better but Richard is still having some inflammation problems.

Gemboree from Guy:

The Spring Gemboree has been cancelled. The committee will reschedule its meetings.

GeoJuniors from Evelyn:

The GeoJuniors meeting that was scheduled for April 19th has been cancelled for the time being.

Newsletter from Mary: I will be sending the email from slcnewsletter2019@gmail.com. Please email me at that address if you have any problems with receiving the newsletter. We're working on keeping our lists current. Remember, if you must have a hard copy mailed to you, let me know that also. Correction to the March 2020 newsletter: The March Sunshine News actually came from Mari Takai-Manley. (It was your newsletter editor's mistake.)

Miscellaneous items:

The Spring 2020 Gemboree (for April 25-26 at Emidio & Sons Expo Center) has been cancelled.

Also cancelled or postponed are all other classes and meetings scheduled through the end of April. Please watch our Websites and Facebook page for updates.

Sadly, the AMS Cincinnati Trip to GeoFair 2020 Gem Show has also been cancelled. The show was cancelled when the venue was closed due to coronavirus mandates by the state. The trip was scheduled May 2/3, 2020. Anyone who signed up and put down a down payment will receive a check in the mail by Kristin.

The VRock Shop sent out an email they will be closed as of March 23 until further notice to be in compliance with the Ohio State order. The VRock Shop is at 7061 Sunset Strip Ave NW, N Canton, Oh 44720.

On a happier note:

We are still hoping to schedule another “Big Dig” on Flint Ridge sometime in June 2020. No date has been set yet.

We are still hoping to hold our Summer Picnic on July 11th, 2020 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.

The William Holland trip is still currently scheduled for Sept. 13-18, 2020 in Young Harris, Georgia. Members must provide their own transportation there and back. This will be a wonderful change to have fun and socialize again with our fellow rock buddies.

We are still tentatively planning for the Christmas Party to be held on December 19th, 2020, at St. George's on Ridgewood Rd.

Old News:

Summit Lapidary Club, March 3rd 2020 General Meeting
Courtney Cable started the meeting with at 7pm with 29 people in attendance
A big thank you to Lyle Jenkins for running home & grabbing a HGI cable
Hostess: Deb Matczyszyn

John reminder: join the Polish American Club for the low price of \$5.00, you will receive emails on upcoming events & you can rent the hall cheaper for your events. On Fri's they are having a fish fry 4:30pm till 8pm. (I'm guessing that these have been cancelled due to our country's current situation)

Dick Hite did a wonderful job on the Geo Trivia Game; it was very interesting & educational.
1st place was Wendy Smale
2nd place was Robert Spore
3rd place was Ron Maitland

Visitors, Courtney Cable: Mary Alice Stroski she is the president of the Polish American Club wife

No treasurer report as Nancy Milton-Halloran was unable to make it

Classes, Dave Macseoinin: *(Editor's note: These will all be rescheduled at some later date).*
3/14 Pearl stringing & knotting with Evelyn was cancelled, 3/15 Advanced polymer clay with Mari,
3/22 Beginning silver noon-? With Dave, 3/25 Beginner wires wrap with Dave this class will be repeated per Dave. Torch time is always the 3rd weekend of the month cancelled 4/11 Mari will teach a class on a beaded cage with a 40 x 30 polished cab 9am till noon the cost is \$3.00

Sunshine, Mari Takai-Manley: Cathy & Richard Lee are both still in recovery, Cathy is doing better; Richard is making slow progress as he is having issues with infection. Joyce still has 2 surgeries scheduled for her arm; she is experiencing an issue & her Doctors are trying to find a solution. I am also sad that Mark & Debbie Shorter lost a son. Please keep all of them in your prayers & all of our other members that are having a tough time right now.

Library, Dave Macseoinin: You may check out a book for 1 month & a DVD for 2 weeks

Newsletter, Mary Myers: It costs between \$2.00 & \$3.00 to mail each newsletter out. Lyle Jenkins made a motion to send newsletter email only. Tom Banks 2nd it. A question was brought up about the people that don't have an email not being able to receive it? Susanne suggested maybe members could donate money towards postage to mail them, maybe donate

some stamps to the club for mailing the newsletter out. Lisa suggested bringing some hard copies to the meeting.

Gemboree™ Guy Kotch: Sat. March 14th 2020 Gemboree™ meeting 5pm before the AMS meeting everyone is invited. (Meeting was cancelled as was the March 2020 AMS meeting). Buy a phone for Wi-Fi hot spot & a square. Becky & Guy bought quartz, slabs, geos etc. for silent auction Per Rob gem mine stuff coming in from Wally. March 21st mini gem tree class has been canceled. April 18th rock bagging 9am at the clubhouse this has been canceled also. Started boost on emails "the Devil Strip." Club food for vendors, no hot foods except hotdogs in the crockpot, we do need donations: cheese plates, fruit, coffee just to name a few. I am deeply sorry to have to say that spring 2020 Gemboree™ has been canceled due to the issues going on in the world right now.

Geo Jrs, Evelyn, Rob & Kim: Gem stone's history of lore, flint ridge and gold digger association fieldtrips. Some vendors donate specimens for the Geo Jrs; we have 10-25 Geo Jrs members.

Machine Maintenance, Gene Willis: Replaced parts on 2 of the saws, the saws are not being cleaned after each use, we need everyone's help on this, please remember to clean the saw after use.

Property Maintenance, Frank Mack: No issues

Old business: Mark Morrow needs help cleaning rocks from Tallmadge for the auction.

New business: Bill Maki asked for everyone to please remember to fill out your United States Census 2020.

Fantasia Mining was open to the public Tues – Thurs. I would guess they are closed right now. 625 Erie St S. Massillon, OH 44646 (330) 400-8741

July 11th Picnic.

Courtney Cable motion to dismiss at 8:35pm. Bill Maki 2nd it
Respectfully submitted by Cathy Milhoan

Gems provided by members:

A review of Art-n-Glow: Kathi Hampton

Art n'Glow is a casting and coating epoxy resin made to fill in imperfections such as cracks and dents in cabochons. The resin works best in temperatures between 72° and 78° F. Gloves, eye protection, and a well-ventilated area are required. Put the resin and hardener bottles into a glass of warm water to raise the temperature. Just be sure not to splash water into the resin. Mix equal parts of A and B, stirring slowly for 3 minutes. Then pour the mixture into another container and stir it for 40 seconds to make sure it is completely mixed.

Apply a couple of thin coats to the cabochon get it completely covered. We used artist brushes to apply the resin and then used the vacuum machine to get the resin into the cracks. The working time is 30-40 minutes. Once satisfied with the coverage, watch for bubbles. You will need to check for them during the first couple of hours after application. Use a flame or a tooth pick to carefully pop the bubbles. It takes 24 hours to dry and the results are a highly polished shine on your cabochon. The Art n' Glow reviews I have read highly recommend the product. If you are having issues getting a polished shine, or need to fill cracks, this is the product to use.

April birthstones: Mary Myers

According to the American Gem Society, April's birthstones are tough! In fact they are 58 times harder than anything else in nature. Did you know that? Diamonds actually come in many colors – brown, red, pink, yellow, blue, and green, and they range in intensity from faint to vivid and the more saturated colored diamonds are usually higher in value. Brilliantly colored diamonds may be more valuable than colorless diamonds of equal size. There are also diamonds that are color-treated in laboratories. But do you know how diamonds became connected to romance? 💎 = ❤️ Well, the diamond market is controlled almost entirely by a single diamond cartel, called De Beers consolidated Mines, Ltd, based in South Africa. It was a De Beers' marketing campaign in the 1940s that convinced every woman that she should receive a diamond ring from her fiancé that was equal to 2 months of his salary! (Yes! 2 months!) This marketing plan later told consumers to also hold onto their family's diamond jewelry forever as heirlooms because, well, "A Diamond is Forever," after all. And that ploy almost completely eliminated the aftermarket for diamonds, thereby increasing the demand for De Beers' new diamonds! Sources: <https://www.americangemsociety.org/page/diamondoverview> and <https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/earth/geology/diamond4.htm>

Brad's Bench Tips for April: Bob Powers, courtesy of Bradford M. Smith (Discover New Jewelry Tricks in Brad's "How To" Books at <https://www.amazon.com/Bradford-M.-Smith/e/B009LYAEOC>).

PROBLEMS WITH SMALL DRILLS

Drilling small holes can be a problem. With drills that are less than 1 mm (18 gauge or .040 inches), some chucks will not tighten down well enough to hold the drill securely.

The problem is easily solved in either of two ways - with a chuck adapter or by buying your small drills with a 3/32 inch shank size. Either way you have a large shank to be gripped in your drill press, Foredom or Dremel, so changing bits is fast and easy.

**PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS**

As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 – 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things.

First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.

Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they're not dependable for stones with steep side walls.



Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with stones that have a sharp edge around the bottom. Burnishing the bezel over one of these stones will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).

Ready to Rock, Rockhounds! Becky Koscsó, courtesy of Jennifer Haley, Historian of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (reprinted from the AFMS newsletter)

Woo-hoo! Did anyone else see it? I was sitting on the couch half watching the Oscars on TV, and more interested in my bowl of pistachio ice cream, when a clever Facebook commercial came on the screen catching my attention. The theme of their ad was called, "Ready to Rock." The creative commercial showcased twelve popular groups who have the word rock in their description and who use Facebook. It was a high energy advertisement using one second video clips for each group. Examples of the variety of group users were, Moab Rock Climbers, Table Rock Lake, Rock Buggies-Off Roving and Experimental Rocketry to name a few.

I just about fell off the couch when I saw one of the twelve groups printed in big letters was, "Rockhounds," showing a photo of the famous selenite cave in Naica, Chihuahua, Mexico with people exploring the cave.

I had to look up the cost for these ads because not only was the commercial shown during the Oscars, it was shown during the Super Bowl this year, and the word rockhounds was featured in both. The cost of a commercial during the 2020 Super Bowl was \$5.6 million for 30 seconds. The cost of an ad during the 2020 Oscars was from \$2.6 million and higher for 30 seconds. The part of the Facebook commercial recognizing "Rockhounds" was a full 60 seconds! Do the math folks, we were just gifted with some amazing free advertising. How many people watched the Oscars this year? 23.6 million. How many people watched the Super Bowl this year? 101 million.

In case you missed seeing the commercial, you can watch it in full at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0uYOOTz6kk> "Rockhounds" is mentioned at approximately 40 seconds into the ad. The message in big letters at the end of the commercial is, "Whatever you rock, there's a Facebook Group for you." I am still on cloud nine that this happened for Recreational Rockhounding and that Facebook thought enough to include us in their advertising.

I hope societies mention this exciting news at your next general meeting and include the information in your bulletins to inspire members. At a time when we sometimes worry about changing times and its impact on our recreational activity, this experience of receiving free national advertising is truly amazing and something to celebrate. Any time your society editor would like to include an AFMS Historian article in your bulletin, I am more than happy to forward you a digital copy to use. Ready to Rock, Rockhounds, that's us!