

Rock Talk

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December 2016

Happy Holidays



Rock Talk



December Club Meeting Program

Election of officers will take place at the December meeting. Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat..... Yes, it's right around the corner! If you have a last minute gift to make, or a project to finish, now is the time! Our December meeting is all about being ready for Christmas. We will have the grinding/polishing machines out and ready to use, and we'll have folks on hand to help you or answer questions. PLUS, we are having a Silent Auction so you can stock up on gifts and goodies!

That's right – It's a Two-fer! A workshop AND a silent auction. So bring your projects along with your items for the auction, and we'll have a lot of fun! See you there!

Members can bring their rocks, minerals, and fossils for identification. We will also have desserts and beverages available.

The Meeting as I Saw it



as I saw it

by

Dorwin Skinner



The November meeting had to be one of the best meetings of the year. There was so much going on that I almost forgot to take pictures.

We have a celebrity in our club. Melodye Steverson's handcrafted jewelry won third place at Orlando's, Fiesta in the Park art festival. There were over 200 entries and hers were among the best. Congratulations Melodye!!

Melodye showed a DVD about crystals. There were crystals larger than a human. Imagine having one of those on a necklace.

There were two tables full of petrified wood specimens on display. The specimens were brought in by Pat Gould, Dave Letasi, Linda Spaulding, Mike Stone and Peggy Burns, and Dorwin Skinner. Pat brought in a fantastic fossilized Patagonia pinecone. One of the best I have seen. I would bet that a slice of it would make a beautiful necklace or belt buckle.



Melodye and her Fiesta in the Park Art Festival ribbon.

Mike Stone set up his microscope with a camera attachment for a close up view of our specimens. With this set up you can save the picture for future reference or for printing.

Mike Stone and Peggy Burns also brought in a bucket full of specimens that they were giving away for free. I managed to get a few pieces before most of it disappeared. Among the specimens I grabbed was a nice piece of melon gravel. It was formed by basalt that had been rolled around and worn smooth by water action. He also had several nice specimens of crinoids in matrix.

A visitor Paulette Shipley brought in a large crystal specimen mounted on a custom stand made of purple heartwood. The stand had a light in its base, making the crystal glow with a seemingly internal light. It was beautiful. Thank you Paulette. Judith Birx said she was thinking of heading up a field trip in April and wouldn't you know it, I will be on a cruise.

Before I knew it Ralph had called the meeting to order and the business part of the meeting was in full swing. A short time later it was open season on the refreshments. All too soon it was time to call it a night and head for home.

This month's *Rock Talk* cover is Uvarovite (garnet)



Uvarovite pendant

We are now on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/withlacoocheerockhounds1/?ref=page_internal

Our website continues to change, check it out. If you find errors, omissions, or have any suggestions, let us know.

Mike Stone
n1ve@amsat.org

Next Meeting, Wednesday December, 14th 7:00 PM at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center

November Club Meeting Photos

Photos by Dorwin Skinner



Rovie grinding and leveling a large quartz crystal.



Mike with microscope, digital camera, and computer.



Pat and Linda setting up the petrified wood display.



Paulette Shipley and her illuminated crystal



Examples of Melodye's jewelry.



Patagonia fossilized pinecone.



Jim and June Betts organizing their specimens.



Peggy and Ralph discussing rocks.



Linda with some of the fossilized wood on display.

Secretary Report

by
Melodye Steverson



Withlacoochee Rockhounds Monthly Meeting Minutes November 9, 2016

- The meeting was called to order by club president Ralph Barber at 7:15 pm.
- We all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent prayer.
- There were no new members to recognize.
- There was one guest in attendance; Paulette Shipley
- Dave Letasi made a motion to accept the minutes of our October meeting as printed in the newsletter, seconded by Dave Davis. Passed by all members.
- Treasurer Janet Wheeler gave the Treasurer's Report.
- Sunshine Report; Rovie reported that his wife Elaine had a knee replacement and was doing well and had walked today.

New Business

- Dave Letasi ; The Curator for the 1885 Depot in Brooksville, wants to have our displays in his facility starting in January. He also wants brochures and literature about our club available to the public.
- We should have a booth at The Heritage Festival in February. 10,000 attendees are expected and they will see our displays. No one volunteered to man the booth.
- The Vulcan mine is open for digs on the 2nd Saturday of each month through the winter. Gate opens at 8:30am. Be early to sign the required release forms.
- Judith Brix announced that she and Linda Spaulding are putting together a mining fieldtrip to

Graves Mountain, April 28th – 30th 2017. They are looking for members to come along. See Judith or Linda for details.

Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss.
- Next month's refreshments will be provided by Mike Stone and Peggy Burns.
- Mike Stone made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dave Letasi seconded, passed by all.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by club secretary Melodye Steverson.

Show Us Your Stuff

We're always looking for information for the *Rock Talk*. Club members would enjoy seeing other members rock cutting and polishing equipment, display cabinets, projects, and favorite specimens. Take a photo and send it to your editors along with a description and we will be glad to include it in our newsletter.

Mike Stone

n1ve@amsat.org

Upcoming Shows

January 13, 14, and 15, 2017

Pinellas Geological Society, Inc.
with the SFMS Quarterly Meeting
Largo Cultural Center, Largo, FL

January 21 and 22, 2017

Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society
Volusia County Fairgrounds, Deland, FL

www.tomokagms.org

March 3, 4, and 5 2017

Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society 47th Annual
Show

Club Elections

Club officer elections will held at our December meeting. All members are encouraged to consider how they can best serve our club. There are several openings for officers and appointed positions. We can use "new blood" to help plan and guide the future of our club. New ideas are always a good starting point! If you have the imagination, and interest in seeing our club continue to flourish, please consider filling one of these positions. At this point the slate of officers is as follows:

Ralph Barber.....president
Dorwin Skinner.....vice president
Melodye Steverson.....secretary
Janet Wheeler.....treasurer
Judith Birx.....board member (three years)
Judith Birx.....education chairman

All positions are available including sunshine chairman.

2017 Dues are Due

A reminder that the dues for 2017 club year are due. The 2017 membership dues form is on page twelve in this issue of the *Rock Talk*. Please fill out the form and bring it, with your dues to the December or January meeting and give them to club treasurer Janet Wheeler. Or mail the form and your check made out to "Withlacoochee Rockhounds" to Janet Wheeler , 338 Appaloosa Rd., Tarpon Springs, FL 34688.

Club Website

www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com

Next Meeting, Wednesday December 14th, 7:00PM at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center

Withlacochee Rockhounds

November 15, 2016

Board Meeting Minutes

Attending members: Rovie Alford, Ralph Barber, Judith Birx, Dorwin Skinner, Mike Stone, Janet Wheeler, and (Roger Wheeler visitor)

The meeting began at 7:00 PM

- Dorwin will take over as club program director, arranging for meeting programs. February club meeting - workshop. Dave Davis will demonstrate knapping at March meeting. April meeting, Dave Letasi will present a program. May club meeting - workshop
- We are now on Facebook. Ralph and Karen set up our Facebook page. Ralph explained that members could help expose the club by joining us on Facebook, liking us on the club Facebook page, and spreading the word through Facebook friends.
- A discussion about forming a club nominating committee. A nominating committee will be appointed for the 2018 club elections. At a future board meeting, specific job descriptions will be created for each elected office and appointed position. Dorwin agreed to be considered for the 2017 club vice president position.
- Discussion of the duties of the education chairman. Judith Birx agreed to be considered for the 2017 education chairman position.
- Heritage Day on Feb. 25th is a way to expose and promote our club. At the December meeting we will determine if any club members are willing to set up and occupy the club booth and display during the one-day event.
- Dave Letasi will coordinate with the director of the January 1885 Train Depot to set up a club educational display
- A discussion about purchasing a modern LED projector. The projector we have is old and not directly compatible with modern computers without specific interface cables. Also there is a high cost to replace the bulb. New LED projectors have long-lasting bulbs and are smaller, lighter, easier to store, and less expensive than the older models. Ralph made a motion to have club member, Michael Steverson, purchase a new LED projector for up to \$300. Rovie seconded the motion and all approved it.
- Dorwin emphasized the need for materials for members to work with when learning how to cab and

making jewelry at our classes and workshops. He suggested that the club provide basic supplies rather than relying on the donations from members and instructors. Judith will come up with a list of class supplies (silver, wire, beads, slabs, cabs, etc.) that are needed for the club classes and workshops.

- Club meeting door prize or 50/50 raffle, and specimen or other item raffle. One-dollar raffle tickets will be sold at club meetings starting in December. The money earned from the sale of tickets can be used to help finance class supplies. Rovie will handle the December meeting raffle and Judith will handle the February meeting raffle. We need member-volunteers to sell raffle tickets for subsequent meetings. Also we need members to donate specimens and other items for the raffles. We will have a rock or other item raffle starting with the February club meeting.
- Chain making will be taught at the 9:00 AM, on the first Tuesday of the month (December 5th) club workshop at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Minutes submitted by Mike Stone

A Faceters Night Before Christmas

by Tom Mitchell

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the workshop

Not a crystal was stirring, not even a brass dop.

Designs were all strewn on my bench everywhere,

In hopes that I'd find the best cut for a Pear.

The rough stones were nestled all snug in their trays,

While planning their future would take many days.

And me with my visor and in my arm chair,

I scanned each stone closely to find one with flare.

When out in the workshop there came such a clatter,

I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.

Away to the slab saw I flew in a flash,

Yanked open the cover to see a stone splash.

The jaws of the vise still held part of the rough.

So all was not lost. I yet had enough.

The matrix was gone from most of the stone,

But I could recover the rest without moan.

So onto the dop with black wax it went,

And into the quill for which it was meant,

Then fixing the angle to cut the first face,

And setting the index position with haste,

I adjusted the tower and faceting head

And lowered the quill just above the lap bed

Then turned on the lap to start its rotation

And adjusted the light for the best eye location.

On P1, On P2,

On P3, on girdle,

Then transfer and alignment,

The next true big hurdle.

On C1, On C2

On C3, On Table,

I cut all the facets for which I was able.

To the last meet on the crown and pavilion,

I polished the stone till it shown like a million.

Once it was finished I removed the doped stone,

And soaked it in solvent where it sat all alone.

As the stone fell away from the dop and was free,

I grasped with stone holders to admire it with glee.

It sparkled and glimmered and dispersed the light such,

That it twinkled and glittered with brilliance so much.

I drew down my visor to view with a grin,

The glowing return of the light from within.

I measured the stone and weighed it in carats,

And placed it in a gem jar which listed its merits.

The gem jar I placed in a case for safe keeping,

To protect it from damage while I was sleeping.

My work was now finished and now I could rest.

I'd created a treasurer that would shine with the best.

My satisfaction with what I had done

Was all that I needed, for this work was fun.

So I cleaned my machine and the laps I was using,

And stored them away in a case of my choosing,

Then cleared my work station and turned off the light,

To wish you a Merry Christmas and to all a good night.

Field Trip to the Vulcan Mine

by Mike Stone

Five members of our club met on Saturday morning, November 13th at the entrance to the Vulcan mine, north of Brooksville. It was a beautiful morning, with just a bit of chill in the air. At nine o'clock a mine employee led all twenty-five vehicles through the gate and into the mine property. Most of the route to the big open pit was covered with powdery dust, due to the previous month of dry weather. Huge opaque plumes of what looked like white smoke billowed out from each vehicle, and soon each was covered by a layer of fine white dust.

Once we parked at the bottom of the enormous flat



Withlacochee Rockhounds at the Vulcan Mine. L to R Mike Stone, Dorwin Skinner, Linda Spaulding, Pat Gould, and Bill Spaulding

-bottom pit, the sun broke through the clouds and the chill disappeared. We were given a short pep talk by the mine employee about the dangers of climbing the steep walls and also that the change of seasons and the sunshine brings out snakes. He emphasized that we needed to be very cautious about getting too close to them. It was recommended that we do our rock hounding in pairs and groups. We were told that the mine's biggest concern is for our safety. He also said that we could keep anything we find, but he'd like a photo of any rare or important specimens anyone digs up.

Everyone spread out and some began looking over the rocky soil where grasses and brush haven't yet taken hold. Rain has washed away the smaller and lighter bits and pieces, exposing rocks and

hopefully fossils. Some rock hounds climbed the back wall of the pit, which is less steep than other walls, looking for places to dig and scrape. And a few hunkered down with their hammers, chisels, scrapers, and buckets and pounded, dug, and sifted through what they had unearthed.

Compared to past trips to the mine, I found this visit much less interesting, and after poking around from one end of the pit to the other and after climbing up onto the top of one wall, I ended the morning with a few very deep-colored chunks of chert containing sea life fossils and a couple of small druzy calcite pockets. If anyone is interested in various colored boulders of chert, they are readily available, but it will take some grunting to move them into a vehicle. At one end of the pit there is a preponderance of white chert from garbage can size boulders to fist size pieces.

Dorwin found a rare echinoid (that will take some cleaning) and a few other sea life fossils. Linda and Bill found echinoids, and Pat hauled home several large size chunks of fossil-filled limestone.



What was once freshly exposed rock is now largely covered with dense growth.



Upper left, Dorwin and Linda. Bottom, Bill digging in.



The Vulcan Mine, top 2008, bottom 2016

Vulcan Mine Field Trip

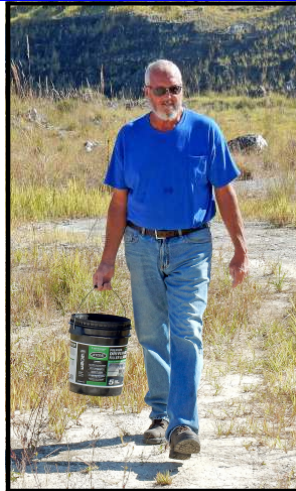
by Dorwin Skinner

It was a very nice day for a fossil hunting trip at the Vulcan Mine, just a short distance from Brooksville. Mike and I arrived early and only a couple of people from another club were there ahead of us. As time went by we started to believe that we would be the only ones representing the Withlacoochee Rockhounds. Just a few moments before the gates were opened, Bill and Linda Spaulding and Pat Gould joined us. The guide took us back to a part of the mine where I have collected before. This part of the mine is good for finding a couple of varieties of echinoids (Clypeaster Rogersi and Rhyncholampas Gould). After



Gathering for the safety briefing.

our mandatory safety briefing we were on our own. That was about the last I saw of Pat, as he was headed for parts unknown. Bill immediately began digging while I took my normal lazy way of doing it...surface hunting. Soon I found a small Clypeaster Rogersi. It looked pretty good so I put that in my collection bag. That was about all I found for the day, except for several pieces of broken echinoids. Linda was digging with Bill and doing some surface hunting too. She ended up with at least one nice echinoid. Mike had a big bucket and headed for the high ground. After a while he was back with a nice specimen of flint with some

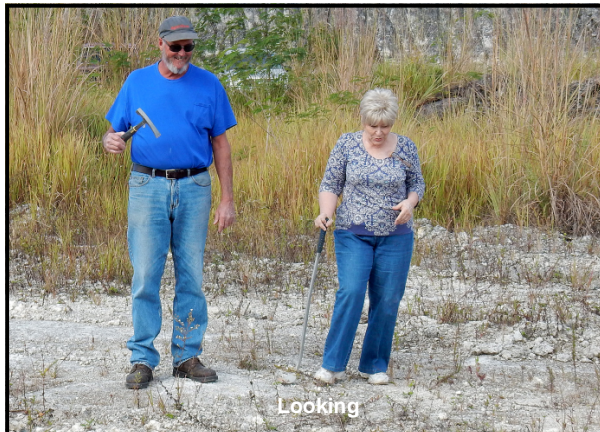


druzy calcite on it. The day was warm and comfortable and all to soon it came to an end, and it was time to follow the guide out of the mine. After cleaning my find of some of the matrix it was apparent that I had a broken specimen. Oh well maybe next time.

The bucket brigade.



Bill Spaulding hard a work.



Looking

Heritage Day Festival

The Heritage Day Festival and Historic Home Tour will be held Saturday, February 25th from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM on the grounds of the Train Depot Museum located at 70 Russell Street Brooksville, FL 34601. The Hernando Historical Museum Association and the Historic Hernando Preservation Society sponsor this Event.

Vendors will be set up to sell items or services at this event. There is a \$30.00 charge for vendors. Demonstrators are individuals or groups that intend to display, act out, enrich, or teach attendees. There is no charge for demonstrators.

Last year the **Withlacoochee Rockhounds** set up a booth to promote our organization and we were considered demonstrators. We distributed fliers, had specimens and other rock-related items on display, offered door prizes, set up two educational displays, and had members available to talk with interested visitors.

The event is an excellent way for us to make ourselves known within the area and possibly interest community members in attending a club meeting and/or joining our club. We need club member volunteers to set up the booth, occupy the booth for the day, and take down and return the booth and material. We will be asking for help with the Heritage Day Festival at our December meeting. Please consider helping at this event.

Tuesday Workshop at the

Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens' Center

The Withlacoochee Rockhounds is giving workshops on wire wrapping (stones), chain making (jump rings) and possibly other related skill at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens' Center in Spring Hill. The workshops are on the **first Tuesday of the month from 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon**. The cost per workshop is \$1.00. To participate in the workshops, one must be a member of the *Withlacoochee Rockhounds*, which covers dues to the *Weeki Wachee Citizens Club*. Contact number: 352-587-1702

Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens' Center.

**3357 Susan Dr.
Spring Hill FL 34606**

Next Meeting, Wednesday December 14th, 7:00PM at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center

In Search of Echinoids

by Mike Stone

November 5th was such a gorgeous day, so Peg and I rode the motorcycle north on SR 19 to the Cross Florida Barge Canal, or more accurately, what was supposed to become the Cross Florida Barge Canal that would have provided a short, quick water route across the state, nine miles north of Crystal River. But the overly ambitious and ill-fated project was abandoned in 1971.

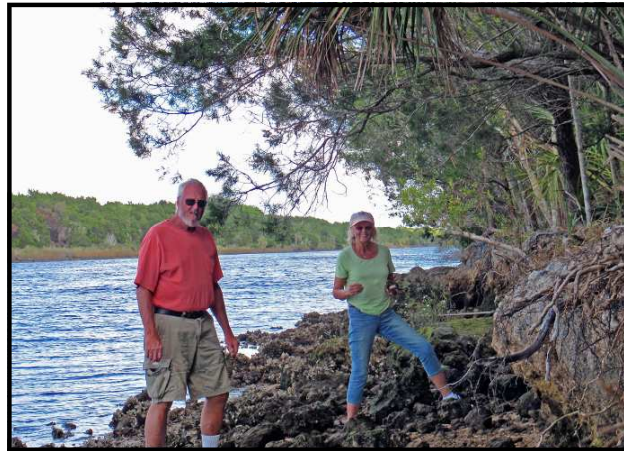
We followed the limestone road west of the bridge, paralleling the south side of the canal and parked at the end-most parking area closest to the Gulf. A bicycle/walking path also follows the dead-straight canal for about four miles from SR 19, to the edge of the Gulf.

Walking the short distance from the parking area to the edge of the canal required passing through an area of brush, vines, overgrown palms, and cedars. Peg was quite uncomfortable because of the number of orb spiders and their webs and the black spiders with red legs that were running around. She also came across a black snake. There are alligator warning signs posted at the parking and picnic areas, so it's best to be on the lookout for all sorts of insects and critters.



Collecting echinoids on the edge of the canal.

We walked and stumbled along the south edge of the canal near its western end, carefully looking at the constantly eroding bank that is made up of spoils dredged when the canal was dug several years ago.



The constantly eroding bank exposes echinoids.

Mother Nature continues to chew and wash away the relatively loose material, constantly exposing a gravelly mix of chunks of limestone and occasional fossils. The rise and fall of Gulf water, mixed with fresh water from Lake Rousseau apparently has just the right nutrients to spawn a prolific growth of oysters, both large and small varieties. Walking along the edge of the water requires sturdy foot ware for protection from the razor-sharp bivalve mollusks.

We poked around the banks and looked over a few huge boulders that were unearthed by the dredging machines, in search of good quality, large-size echinoids. These are more than twice the size of the echinoids we find just off Hernando Beach and at the Vulcan Mine



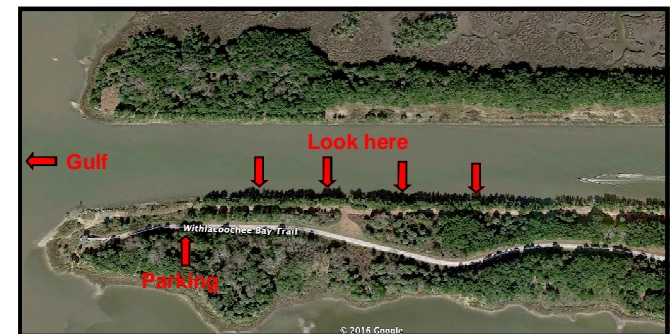
Fossil and other finds before cleaning.

After a couple of hours we had two Walmart plastic bags full of mostly echinoids, one curious looking fossil that looked like some kind of leg bone, and a few concretions. Not many of the specimens were in good condition, but after soaking and cleaning them, a few were worth keeping.

We found most echinoids toward the west end of the canal at these coordinates: 28° 59' 47.78" N, 82° 44' 01 94" W.



Echinoids before and after cleaning/



Your Favorite Specimen

We are always looking for something of interest for our club members. We're sure that many club members have specimens in their collections that would be of interest to others in the club. If you would send us a digital photograph of your specimen we can publish it in the *Rock Talk*. A bit of information such as what it is, when, and where you found it would be great. If you don't have a digital camera, bring your specimen to a club meeting for others to see, and perhaps someone at the meeting could photograph it for the next issue of *Rock Talk*.

Rock Talk editors: Mike Stone and Peggy Burns

n1ve@amsat.org

October Club Meeting Photos



In October the Bristle Mammoth Skull was put on display at the University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology in Ann Arbor. The skull was found near Chelsea Michigan and was nearly complete, however the base near the spinal cord was bashed open by paleo-Indians about 13,000 years ago. Ice Age Paleo-Indians removed the brain for a food resource valued for nutrition. These remains are the most complete mammoth found in Michigan. Dr. Daniel Fisher, University of Michigan resident paleontologist, has been working on frozen Mammoth remains in Siberia as well working on this find.



Ristle mammoth

Last month I gave a program entitled "The Pre-historic Animals of Pinellas County. The Seminole Historical Society hosted the event on October 26. In 2007 I was involved in the identification of the fossil site at Boca Ceiga Millennium Park. This find led to the discovery of nearly 200,000 specimens and a Mammoth lower jaw. These fossils are on display at their fantastic museum and include the late Ice Age mammoth bones discovered in the park. My program can be viewed on utube.com on the Internet; the entire program is one and one-half hours in length. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ghq_n780Rn8



The Boca dig.

My dear friend Susan Swartz excavated at the Montbrook fossil site near Williston Florida on Nov 19. The University of Florida is excavating the fossil remains of a sub adult long-jaw elephant known as a Gomphotherium. This was her first time assisting with a professional fossil dig. She recovered the remains of a four million year old Miocene fossil turtle! Way to go Susan. You may sign up for volunteer fieldwork with the University of Florida on line. You must be at least 15 years old, accompanied by an adult if you are under 18, and must pre-register and spend a minimum of three and a half hours per dig day. You may obtain further information at <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/vertpaleo/volunteering/field>. The application is on this page. Click on [montbrookdigapplication2016-2017.pdf](#).

Dates are still open from January 14 through May 21.



Soft shell turtle section



Gomphotherium jaw

For Sale Items

Club members can post appropriate club-related type **for sale** items in the *Rock Talk* free of charge. Contact your editors by the 25th of the month to have your items posted in the next issue.

Mike Stone

n1ve@amsat.org



Next Meeting, Wednesday December 14th, 7:00 PM at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center

Withlacoochee Rockhounds—Rock Talk



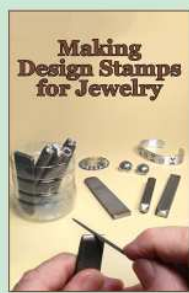
Bench Tips by Brad Smith



Bench Tips for Jewelry Making and Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry are available on Amazon

Announcing Brad's latest jewelry techniques book for those who like Southwest-style stamped jewelry.

"*Making Design Stamps For Jewelry*" covers the step-by-step process of selecting best steels, carving the design, hardening the steel, and tempering the completed stamp to ensure a long service life. It describes the tools to use, gives examples for how to make several design stamps, and 78 close-up photos that illustrate the important details. Both Kindle and paperback editions are on Amazon at <http://amzn.to/2fvf58T>



Bradford M. Smith

Bench Tips Loose Heads

Flying off the handle is never good, particularly if it's a hammer head. The traditional way to tighten a loose hammer head takes a bit of work with wedges, but if the head is basically secure, there's a fast and easy way to tighten a loose head for about 50 cents - Superglue.

Simply put a couple drops in from the handle side, let it set up, and then a few drops from the top side. Be sure to get the thin Superglue, not the gel. It penetrates better. Packages of two tubes of Superglue are usually available at the 99 cent store.

Note that this is only a safe practice if the hammer head is just a little loose but is basically secured onto the handle. Gluing is not a fix for a hammer head that has come off the handle or is at risk of coming off.



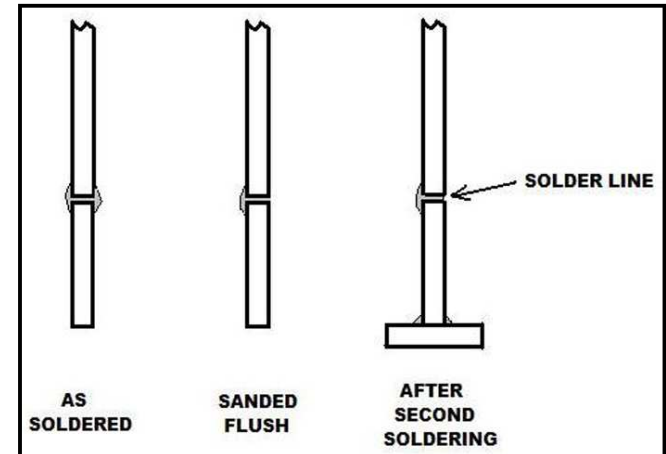
Applying Superglue to tighten the head to the handle.

Avoid Solder Lines

After finishing a soldered joint on a bezel for instance, have you ever seen it reappear after you've soldered the bezel to a base plate? What is happening is that every time you heat a soldered piece to the temperature where solder flows, the liquid solder seeps into the surrounding metal. This leaves a small furrow where the solder had been sanded off flush at the joint. To get rid of the furrow, you have to re-sand the joint area down to the bottom of the furrow.

To avoid this, when I have another soldering operation to follow, I try to leave a little extra solder on my joints. For instance, when trimming off excess base plate from around a bezel, I leave a paper thickness of excess plate material whenever possible until I'm done with all soldering.

Of course, this isn't always possible as when a soldering operation will prevent you from gaining access to an area for final sanding and polishing. Coating the finished solder joint with ochre seems to help a bit but is not a complete solution.



What is It?

Can you identify the specimen below?



Answer in next month's *Rock Talk*.

Last Month's "What is It?" was
"Staurolite twin or fairy cross"



Next Meeting, Wednesday December 14th, 7:00 PM at the Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center

2016 Gem Show Photos



Withlacoochee Rockhounds

Membership Dues Form, 2016

Please complete the form and bring it with you to the December or January Withlacoochee Rockhound meeting. Attach your membership dues to the form.

Annual Dues: \$15.00 for an individual member or \$25.00 for a family

Please Print

Primary Member

Last name _____ First Name _____

Renewing members check here if no change in information below.

Additional family members:

Last name _____ First Name _____

Last name _____ First Name _____

Last name _____ First Name _____

Last name _____ First Name _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Please give this completed form along with your check for dues made out to "Withlacoochee Rockhounds" to club secretary Janet Wheeler at the club meeting. Or mail the form and your check to Janet Wheeler 338 Appaloosa Rd. Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Rock Talk



His Nibs

Diamonds and Jewelry
Insurance Appraisals
Gemstone Identification
Professional Repairs

Jerry Johnson, G.G.
Graduate Gemologist-GIA
(352) 573-0830

12470 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34609

Hours: By Appointment Only

5-15

Your Business Card Size Ad in Rock Talk

The cost to advertise your businesses in *Rock Talk* is \$25.00 for twelve issues—one year . Contact Mike Stone or Peggy Burns to set up an ad in both the club newsletter and our website. It will benefit both your business and our club.

RALPH BARBER

STONE JEWELRY
bottle wind chimes

Hernando County Farmers Market
US 19
Spring Hill Fl
352.200.6852
barbersbloomers@hotmail.com

4-15

Withlacoochee Rockhounds

Purpose

We are a non-profit organization whose purpose is to foster interest and promote knowledge of minerals, gems, fossils, lapidary arts, and earth sciences, through regular meetings, informative programs, workshops, and field trips. PLUS our annual gem and mineral and jewelry show. Membership is open to anyone sharing such interests.

Dues

Dues are \$25.00 annually for a family and \$15.00 annually for a single member

Club Meeting Location and Time

Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Center, 3357 Susan Drive in Spring Hill. The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

2016 Club Officers

President.....	Ralph Barber.....	352-200-6852.....	barbersbloomers@hotmail.com
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Treasurer.....	Janet Wheeler.....	727-938-3644.....	ceecgirl@tampabay.rr.com
Rock Talk Editors.....	Mike Stone / Peggy Burns.....	603-524-0468.....	n1ve@amsat.org
Club Web Master.....	Mike Stone.....	603-524-0468.....	n1ve@amsat.org
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Education Chairman.....	Gloria DuPont.....	352-515-1517.....	ddupont6@tampabay.rr.com
SFMS Stamp Program.....	Audrey Stead.....	352-688-7821.....	audreyste35@gmail.com
Gem Mine Chairman.....	Jean Casanova.....	352-442-2667.....	
Sunshine Chairman.....	Audrey Stead.....	352-688-7821.....	audreyste35@gmail.com

Board of Directors: Rovie Alford, Ralph Barber, Doug DuPont, Gloria DuPont, Dave Letasi, Melodye Steverson, Mike Stone, Janet Wheeler