



ROCK TALK

Rock & Gem. St Lucie County, Florida

No.78

February 2011

Club Directory

President:

Meri Jo Theobald.....334-5346

Vice President:

Hannah Pollack.....878-1176

Secretary:

Denise Baker.....460-2450

Treasurer:

Linda LeMieux.....464-6607

Directors:

Paulette Lease.....489-5585

Hannah Pollack.....878-1176

Ruth Young.....461-4063

Membership/Registrar:

Marcia Robart.....340-3841

Building Coordinator:

Hannah Pollack.....878-1176

Show Chair:

Marcia Robart.....340-3841

Show Co-chair:

Norman Holbert.....873-0787

Canc. Stamp:

Don Theobald.....334-5346

Field Trips:

Larry Hissem.....335-2554

Librarian:

Rene Viola.....344-9847

Program:

Hannah Pollack.....878-1176

Raffle:

Larry Hissem.....335-2554

Sunshine:

Sue Ritter.....879-0411

Newsletter:

Coordinator:

Jenny Shibona.....359-0442

Circulation:

Bonnie Rodman.....464-7463

Workshop.....462-6597

St.Lucie County Rock & Gem Club

Founded Feb. 1978

Annual Dues: \$ 15.00

Member SFMS & AFMS

Monthly Membership Meeting

4 th Sunday,2 PM

at Rock & Gem Workshop

Website

www.slrockandgem.org

President's Message February, 2011

As we move into our "busy" season in the workshop we find the classes are in full swing and the student count is up. Along with this comes some issues that are being brought to the attention of the instructors. There seems to be an increase in the reports of machinery being misused, improperly cleaned, or just plain abused. We don't need to be told that our Club is unique in that we supply equipment, tools and materials for our members and a physical workshop. In return we ask that our members be conscientious about the use and care of this equipment. Please ask your instructor if you have any questions or doubts about using the equipment and listen to your instructor's advice on proper use.

There have been discussions about members using the equipment and workshop beyond what would be considered for teaching purposes. The reality is that once you get hooked on the lapidary arts, it becomes very expensive to set up your own shop or purchase tools needed to advance your skills. There are so many facets (no pun intended) of the arts that it becomes natural to want to try them all. While we want to nurture your desire to get better and explore your options, the Club can not financially support us all. It has become clear that in order to maintain the equipment and tools in the workshop so our members are safe and well supplied, we will need to add additional fees to the classes we offer. The Club has resisted for years imposing what amounts to a lab fee or workshop fee but we can no longer ignore the obvious. Our members deserve the best and it has become clear that members will have to pay to play. In doing this, we can relax the restrictions on what the students can produce in class because the upkeep of

the equipment becomes less of a strain on our budget. The amount of the fees will be determined by the kind of equipment used and input from the instructors. We will expect to have these fees set and in place by the next session.

Since we pay dues to belong to this club, we are all considered equal owners and we should respect and care for our possessions.

Meri Jo Theobald

COMING EVENTS

Feb. 24.....Board Meeting at the workshop at 7:00 pm

Feb. 27.....General Meeting at the workshop from 2:00 pm 4:00 pm

Jan 4-March 12.....Winter classes

March 26.....Clean up at Workshop at 9:00 a.m.

March 26.....Tailgate

MISCELLANEOUS

Library books need to be returned and checked back in.

REMINDER***

CLUB DUES ARE NOW DUE.

FOR SALE

Acetylene Tank almost full – used for silversmithing - \$75.00

Barbara Mangram

216-206-9265

(Jensen Beach)

St. Lucie Co. Rock and Gem Club
General Membership Meeting
January 23, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 2:00. There were 34 members and three guests present.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the Rock Talk.

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented. The Board reported going forward with investing in the re-purchase of a new CD. Banks are being assessed for the best offer.

Bids for Electrical work needed in the shop are currently being taken.

The tailgate sale and clean-up day have been slated for March 26, at 9:00am. Spaces are for sale at \$10 per slot and as always, provide your own table and chair. A reminder... there is additional parking in back. Clean up will take place during and after the tailgate sale.

Marcia Robart reported that class sign-ups have been good and to remind that January is dues month. There will be four new classes in March: Bead Stringing and Knotting with Meri Jo Theobald, Wax Carving with David Crandell, Intermediate Lamp working with Ann Royer and Stone Stabilization with Ray Claus. Classes are filling up fast and dates and times will be posted in the Rock Talk.

Norman Holbert brought in a flier for a Free Dig and Rock Swap at Graves Mountain, GA to take place in April and October. The information will be posted in the front and available for copy to anyone interested.

The long awaited drawing for William Holland took place and Marilyn Papendick won the annual drawing. Jo Baker won the drawing from the 48 tickets sold by the club. Congratulations to them both!

Workshop news starts out with kudos to Pat Niglio for the research and advice on the purchase of the new burnout oven. Also, approval was expressed to all members who keep the motto of "Safety First" and help with the up-keep of our club.

Recently the hoses, gauges and the torch for casting set-up had to be replaced due to leaks and mis-use. The casting instructor reported that the gauges had been tampered with and asked that no one other than the instructor adjust or attempt to turn on and off the tanks to the casting torch.

Please report any leaks or concerns with equipment to instructors. There is a note pad in the front room and you are asked to write down any problem you recognize.
Do not attempt to make corrections or changes without authorization.

It was mentioned that members are asking to purchase supplies for use out of class. Our club is not in the business of buying and reselling materials (tax reasons) for such use and we ask that members purchase only what will be used in class. There was talk on the floor of a possible Co-op of members who would like to buy supplies for personal or production work at home, to save on shipping and possible quantity discounts. Those interested in this idea would do this on their own, independent of the club orders.

Another suggestion was to add a supply fee in addition to the class fee. This would be put towards defraying the costs of running and maintaining the building and the equipment. This lab fee will be evaluated and most likely will be in place by the next session. Suggestions are welcome in helping our club to becoming safer and more efficient in operation.

As always, members are both welcome and encouraged to provide their own tools and/or supplies or to use what is available through the club, *as long as the club premises, supplies/resources and it's equipment are used for the purpose of education only.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Thompson (for Denise Baker, Secretary)

INSTRUCTORS TELEPHONE #'S

Denise Baker	460-2450	Dave Hara	545-7275	Marcia Robart	340-3841
Betty Brown	466-9512	Earl Henderson	334-7585	Sandy Tharp	336-0882
Ray Claus	240-9012	Jim Mahar	464-7809	Debbie Thompson	460-2450
Ben Davis	785-9070	Marilyn Papendick	781-7348	June Vaughan	220-1826
Jay Dumas	408-3552	Hannah Pollack	878-1176	Bob Young	461-4063

SPECIAL CLASSES

Those interested in the following classes need to contact Marcia:

1. Intermediate Lampwork - \$35 – March 22nd - 26th – 9am-5pm – bring lunch
2. Beginning Chainmaking - \$10 – March 5th – 10am-3pm – bring lunch
3. Stone Stabilization - \$10 – April 2nd – 10am-12pm

SPECIAL THANKS

To Marilyn Papendick for the refreshments at the January Meeting. Also, make sure to thank Lew & Marilyn Martin for providing us with the roll out drawers which enable us to have another lock-up cabinet for the wirewrapping supplies. And to Marilyn Papendick for providing the wheels for the drawers.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard & Becky Cullen
Nancy Murtie
Jeanette Pina

Karen Savarese
Rosa Solinger

CLUB LOGO

Has anyone come up with an idea for a new club logo? Put your thinking caps on and let us know.

CLASS SCHEDULE WINTER SESSION 2011 JAN. 4 – MARCH 12

	9AM-12N	1PM-4PM	7PM-10PM
MON	Open Workshop <i>B. Young</i>	Bead Weaving <i>(Seed Beading) M.Robart</i>	Open Workshop <i>D. Hara</i>
		Enameling <i>M. Papendick - \$15 supplies</i>	
TUES	Beg. Cabbing <i>H.Pollack</i>	Wire Wrapping <i>J. Vaughan</i>	Faceting <i>J.Mahar</i>
WED	Cabbing Workshop <i>H.Pollack</i> <i>Prerequisite: Beg. Cabbing</i>	Beg. Bead Weaving <i>M. Robart</i>	Cabbing <i>R. Claus</i> 6:00 – 9:00
		Glass Fusion <i>B. Brown</i>	
THUR	Stained Glass <i>E. Henderson</i>	Casting <i>J. Dumas</i>	Silversmithing <i>R. Claus</i> 6:00 – 9:00
FRI	Carving <i>B. Davis</i>	Wirewrapping <i>S. Tharp</i>	Open Workshop <i>D. Baker & D. Thompson</i> 6:00 – 9:00
SAT			
SUN			

St. Lucie County Rock & Gem & Club
 6901 Heritage Drive
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34952
 Non-Profit Educational Organization

Our workshop is located at 6901 Heritage Drive, Port St. Lucie. Directions Take US #1 to Williamsburg Way intersection. (2 ½ miles south of Midway and US #1 or ¼ mile north of Rio Mar and US #1 intersection.) Turn west on Williamsburg Way and south on Heritage Drive. Turn right at the driveway #6901 is on the door