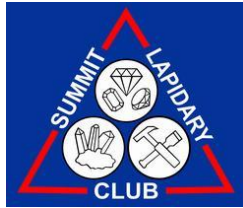


# The Summit Gem - June 2023 Newsletter



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

244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

Phone: (330) 929-3798

**2023 Board Members:**

President – David Macseoinin

Vice-President – Annie McNeilly

Treasurer – Laura Thomas

Secretary – Kathi Hampton

Membership Chair – Cathy Milhoan

Newsletter Editor – John Kerr [slcnewsletter2023@gmail.com](mailto:slcnewsletter2023@gmail.com)

244 Chestnut Blvd, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Trustees – David Rich (exp 12/2023), Bob Spore (exp 12/2024), John Kerr (exp 12/2025)

Immediate Past President Gene Willis

2023 Gemboree Chair – Mary Myers

### Mission Statement

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

### June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Monthly Meeting

(The SECOND Tuesday of the month) held in person

(and online - only when tech savvy people attend 😊)

**at 7:00 PM at the Polish American Club**



The Polish American Club (PAC) is located at 472 Glenwood Ave, Akron 44310. The invitations to the Zoom meeting are sent to those who have provided their email addresses.

### Below are the 2023 ZOOM LINKS for our monthly Zoom meetings (if activated).

Summit Lapidary Club is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Summit Lapidary Club: Member's Meeting (Recurrs Monthly, 2023)  
Every month on the Second Tue, until Dec 13, 2023.

Jan 10, 2023 07:00 PM  
Feb 14, 2023 07:00 PM  
Mar 14, 2023 07:00 PM  
Apr 11, 2023 07:00 PM

May 9, 2023 07:00 PM  
Jun 13, 2023 07:00 PM  
Sep 12, 2023 07:00 PM  
Oct 10, 2023 07:00 PM

Nov 14, 2023 07:00 PM  
Dec 12, 2023 07:00 PM

**MEMBERS' MEETINGS**

**MEMBERS' MEETING ID: 850 1031 2200**

**Passcode: 733657**



**Here is the link for the monthly MEMBER'S Meetings**



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85010312200?pwd=VIF1SmpMNM92bk5NVWJTMUFROFdHZz09>

**Computer or Digital Device:** You're welcome to activate your camera and speaker settings. Once inside the Zoom virtual meeting, you can type comments in the chat feature to 'everyone' or to another member 'privately'. **Your attention and participation are appreciated.**

Please **'mute your microphone'** during the administrative meeting to eliminate background noise not related to the meeting, if you are not actively speaking. This will help us run a smooth virtual meeting; appropriately distanced. Once the general meeting has concluded, you are welcome to stay online to chat it up with other members. *\*Consider reaching out to your friends who may not be as versed in digital capabilities as you and offer to lend a digital-techie hand and help bring them up to speed.*

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**President's Message – by Dave Macseoinin**

Well, summer is here and the activities are all around us.

Now be aware that we as a club do not have business meetings in July and August, but the clubhouse remains open for classes, workshops and socializing.

To the newest members, we are available Tuesday nights and Saturday mornings. The building is open for continued work or first training. Come on down and share with us. If those times are not convenient with you then you must let me know or Kathi Hampton or Mary Myers to arrange a time to train you on the equipment. Speak up for yourselves. (Heaven knows we do)

Classes: Becky's wire wrap is now full but will be repeated to accommodate the interest. Laura Thomas has expressed an interest in doing a metal stamping class so look for that and we have ear plugs for that class.

So, to wrap up this message, you as a club member must come down to the club in summer to see what's going on. Ask questions. If you don't come down, we don't see you or get to know you.

**Gemboree news from Mary Myers:**

Gemboree News – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – A CALL FOR GOOD QUALITY SLABS!

**Call for slabs:**

**We are issuing a call for donations of GOOD QUALITY slabs from our members!** After visiting Parma's Rock Show to investigate the possibility of doing basket raffles, I spoke with their Treasurer and discovered that they make TWICE the amount on their slab tables as they do on their raffles – plus – it's a grab, pay, and go operation – no storing or delivering of baskets later. John Wallace has agreed to give slabs a trial basis at the silent auction table, so both the silent auction and slabs will be available. Please donate some GOOD quality slabs to this trial. We would also like the slab identified, if possible.

**New floor plans:**

The new floor plans are done. Thank you, Ron Maitland, for all your work on these!

**New mini-vendor booths:**

We will have the new vendors as previously discussed. If you know people who might be interested in the new 2 table booths, please give them Evelyn Tryon's email address.

**Admissions information:**

To alleviate crowding at the Admissions Table, Silent Auction will house the door prizes. The system will be the same, (dots on the back of every 50 tickets), winners will simply be directed to visit our Silent Auction tables. (Yeah! It's another encouragement for attendees to go there!)

**Financial information:**

The final tallies are in – Thank you to Laurie McElroy and to her back-up, Laura Thomas! Congratulations to all – we had a record income compared to the last 10 Spring shows! Congratulations to all! Well done. The checks (and of course, the financial data) will be given to the clubs as soon as possible. And, good news, Geodes provided a nice amount of income this year! Woo-hoo!!! Thank you to all that worked our show!!!

**Gem Mine Lead:**

Many thanks to Bob Spore for having taken the Lead of the Gem Mine for the past 30 years! (more or less, lol)!!! Thank you, Bob! Our deepest gratitude is that you are not abandoning us for you are still willing to help however needed, helping with the tumbling, bagging, setup, teardown, etc. And let's offer a BIG thank you to our new official Lead – Mark (and of course, Kristin) Morrow! Thank you for trying this role for our Fall

Gemboree – now let's all help them by volunteering to work the Mine this Fall! We hope that they will be willing to continue – but they'll need our help to do that! We now need someone to volunteer to be their new Back-Up.

**Gemboree Meeting:**

There will be a Gemboree Meeting for the Leads (or their Backups) at 6:15pm before the Summit Lapidary Meeting on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Polish American Club. We will discuss our finances in greater detail, and we need to finalize the Leads and Back-Ups for each area. Also, I have heard that Garry Getz is not able to come, but I am confirming that with him directly. Our Gemboree is scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**SLC Dues** –2023 Dues are past due! They can be paid to Laura Thomas. (If you have any questions as to whether or not you've paid for this year, contact Laura PLEASE! The initial registration fee for new members is \$25. **The annual dues are \$48 per year and you have to reapply (an additional \$25 cost!)**

Dues can be brought to our meetings or sent to **Summit Lapidary Club, 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Oh 44221**. Let's get those paid soon!

**Sunshine News from Mari:** No news.

**Library news from Doug Shorter:** No news.

**Newsletter from John Kerr:** Please forward any interesting articles you would like included in the newsletter to slcnewsletter2023@gmail.com.

**Membership information:** If you know of anyone in the club who is not receiving emails or invitations to our zoom meetings, please forward their email addresses to Cathy Milhoan at **cthymilhoan@yahoo.com**. Please update your contact information to Cathy if you move or change your phone number.

**Machine Maintenance:** No news.

**Midwest Federation News:** NEXT MEETING: Annual Show and Convention, Howell, Michigan  
September 16-17, 2023  
Hosted by Livingston Gem & Mineral Society

The 2023 American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Show and Convention is coming to Billings, Montana August 3-6. The activities will take place at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center, 1223 Mallowney Lane. The Billings Gem and Mineral Club, is busy working to bring us a special show of "Montana Treasures."

**Shop Tender Days:**

Dave Macseoinin, Kathi Hampton, John Kerr, and Mary Myers have volunteered to be 'shop tenders' for any of our club members who do not have a key to the club, or for new members who would like to learn to use our equipment. It is so nice to see members coming back to the club!

Shop tenders can open the club for you and be on hand if you have questions about the equipment downstairs. New members will be able to work on making some slabs or cabochons, but you must make an appointment with one of our shop tenders.

You can call or text David Macseoinin at 234-706-1523.

You can call or text John Kerr at 330-701-1882.

You can call or text Kathi Hampton at 330-690-2070.

You can text Mary Myers at 330-696-4315.

We will be available by appointment only – and please remember bring your masks and safety gear! You must wear safety glasses and a dust mask when working on the machines downstairs. Oil mist, rock dust, and chips are dangerous to your eyes and your lungs.

**Additional Club Information:**

We received sad news that Marilyn (Cat) Bennington passed away on Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup>. Her husband Don is having a Celebration of her life on July 2, 2023, at 4:30.  
Horizon Christian Fellowship Church  
2201 Lake Center Rd.  
Uniontown, Oh 44685

Dinner to follow the service.  
Please RSVP to Don's email by June 27<sup>th</sup>.  
[BigBen19@live.com](mailto:BigBen19@live.com)

Our Club President David Macseoinin wants to know (definitively) at the June meeting if members (and which members) would want the club to host a members only sale in November or early December, probably at PAC.

A special thanks to new club member Finley Lahmers for fixing the tool drawer in our workroom downstairs.

**Classes and Events:**

Bus trip to Fantasia mining:  
Friday June 9.  
(Our appointed time for Fantasia is 3pm)  
Please meet at the far corner of the parking lot across from Sheraton at 2pm. The bus will leave at 2:20pm. We will return at approximately 5:30 pm.  
Or you can meet us there by 3pm.  
Please call Susanne at 240 357 3785 if going on bus. Cost will be \$12 in cash at boarding time.

Trip to Herkimer  
Meet at Roadway Inn in Little Falls NY on June 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 25th (26)  
Call Susanne so we can arrange carpooling or caravan.  
240 357 3785  
(YOU need to make your own hotel reservations !!!!!)  
The first mine we will explore is Mohawk Valley Mineral Mining.

The SLC/AMS picnic will be on Saturday August 26th at 35 South River Rd Munroe Falls 44272.  
12pm until.....  
Help with teardown and cooking is highly appreciated.  
R S V P...240 357 3785.

## Bench Tips for June

**See Other Tips in my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making Problems**

<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>

**Happy hammering,**

**- Brad Smith**

[BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com](mailto:BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com)

**And here are the Bench Tips for next month.**

### ANNEALING THIN WIRE

Annealing thin wire can be tricky. For a good anneal, all areas of the wire must be heated uniformly to just barely red before quenching in water. If you're heating with a torch, the tricky part is how to get every inch of the wire up to the same proper annealing temp without melting any of it.

The first thing I do to avoid problems is to wind the wire into a tight coil about two inches in diameter and bind it together in several places with scrap wire. Any stray loops or loose ends will heat up very quickly and possibly melt before the more bulky coil reaches the annealing temperature.

Annealing fine wire with a torch is always risky.

A perfect anneal with no risk of melting is easy if you have an enameling or casting oven. Heat to about 1200 F, place the coil of wire into the oven, let it soak for 5 minutes, and quench.

But for those with no oven, here's how I use a scrap of thick sheet metal and an old tuna fish can to build my own "oven" and avoid melting delicate items when annealing.

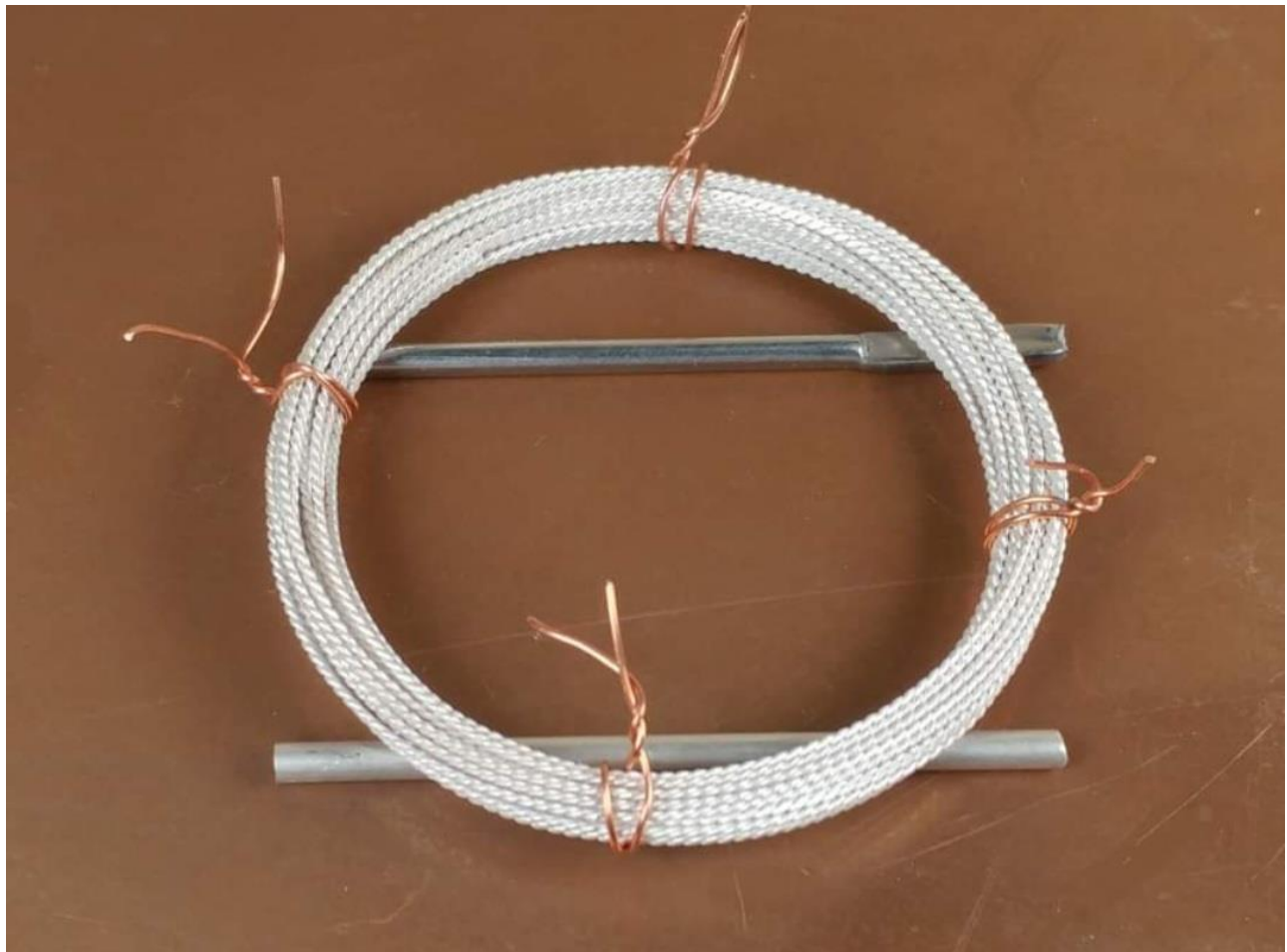
1. Elevate the sheet on a tripod or a couple fire bricks at your solder station so you can heat it with a torch from below.
2. Place the coil onto the sheet and elevate it with a couple pieces of steel or broken solder pad so the silver wire does not touch the plate. An old bur shaft or a nail works nicely.
3. Cover the wire coil with a metal can similar to what tuna fish comes in.
4. Heat from the bottom and hold at the annealing temperature for several minutes before quenching.

Avoid getting the sheet metal red hot. One easy way to gauge the proper annealing temperature inside the can is to use a black marker on the outside as shown. Another is to put a dab of paste

flux on the sheet metal plate. The marker will disappear, or the flux will melt when the can reaches the proper annealing temperature.

And BTW, the wire coil I'm annealing here is filigree wire that I'm making up for a workshop I'll be teaching this July in Culver City, CA at the Fiesta of Gems Show. For more information on the classes there, see <https://culvercityrocks.org/fiesta/>

Here's the coil of wire bound tightly and sitting on the metal plate. Note that if the coil touches the plate, I had it get too hot once and bond to it. So, I now elevate the coil on a couple of steel nails, old bur shafts or pieces of broken solder pad.



This shows a black Magic Marker being used to give an indication of the temperature inside the can as the makeshift oven is heated up to temperature.

