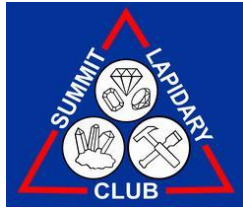


The Summit Gem - May 2023 Newsletter



Website: 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

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

May 9th, 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.*

President's Message – by Dave Macseoinin

Boy! What a Gemboree! We had a record numbers through the door and all the vendors were very HAPPY!

I must say that hearing back about how well the show works with so many club members working. Much of this is true. We still had some tight moments with duty coverage but we made it.

Now that the big show is over, we have to get down to regular living.

Classes are starting to fill up.
Plans for trips are rounding up.
Storage solutions researched.

From here on out I want to concentrate on membership. We took a hit with our numbers with COVID. So your responsibility is now to talk up the club.

The start of this is the new members dinner meeting. For our new members, this dinner is designed to tell you how the club works.

Working towards the next show is all well and good but now what are you going to do to improve your cutting skills or Metalsmithing skills. Come on and challenge yourselves.

That's all for now.

Dave Macseoinin

Gemboree news from Mary Myers:

Wow! Congratulations to all of those who worked so hard on our Gemboree. What a beautiful show. I received so many compliments from our vendors on how friendly, well organized, and how well run our show was, compared to other shows that they attend. So congratulations are due to all. Thank you, thank you, thank you, for making this show successful (and for making my job so much easier). Yeah! We did it!

The weather was perfect for an inside show – cold and rainy. I was informed by Bob Powers that our attendance was a 30-year high. The latest number that I have was (I think) 2462.

I worked closely with Frank Edwards at our Geode Cracking Station to make certain that no one should have any concerns about our geodes station. They are now using a cash box and a square. Frank has very clearly written records for the last 8 years of the number of geodes sold. Frank and I did a starting and he did an ending inventory of the number and size of geodes. Frank and I set the prices at a very reasonable increase and the geodes sold like crazy. Congratulations to Frank! Thank you to Donnell Shoffner who served as your backup on Saturday and helped on Sunday, and all your other helpers for doing such a nice job on the Geodes!

Oh golly, so many congratulations are due to our members. Bob Spore ran our Gem Mine, and that was crazy popular again this year. Congratulations to Bob and his team for how well run that Gem Mine is. Joyce Kish did our advertising for this show – and Sandy Shorter provided the emblems for those ads. I heard many compliments from the vendors about how well our show was advertised. Social Media – all free to us – really carried the ball. Because of the advertising done by Joyce, we were invited to be on TV, on Channel 8's New Day Cleveland. David Macseoinin and Mark Morrow carried a BUNCH of specimens up to Cleveland for that show – thank you all so much. What a great opportunity! Becky Kosco and Cathy Milhoan – you were both God-sends to me, personally. Every time that I turned around, you were automatically handling some hot spot where a member was needed.

I want to remind everyone that every single complaint that anyone has, vendor or patron, should be brought to MY attention as the current Show Chair. I am the Firefighter – I put out the fires. Please give Becky a much-needed break – she deserves it! Evelyn handled the vendors and she did a GREAT job. Thank you, Evelyn – and Evelyn is also a Firefighter for our Show for Vendor concerns! Bob Powers did a great job on Set-up,

answering questions and directing us efficiently and effectively to get it all set up. Congratulations! David Rich – God bless your soul – led the tear down and it was all down and closed up by 8:40! David Rich has awarded the “Hard-working Glove Award” to Edward Epp and Anthony Hoag for their effort on Tear Down. Congratulations! (And thanks for sending me home to rest! I needed it!) Gene and Bonnie did a great job on Admission – and Bob Powers stepped right in when Gene and Bonnie were sick on Saturday – Thank you, Bob, Gene, and Bonnie! Kathi Hampton kept us fed and filled with coffee, with the help of Rebecca Cunningham, even though Kathi was leaving for ... Australia!!! ... on Sunday. Thank you! Kim Evangelisti, with her backup, Deb Matczyszyn, did a wonderful job on the kid’s tables – the gem trees, pet rocks, and the Plinko board (provided and built by David Macseoinin) were very popular, as well as the Kaleidoscope. We had about 4 or 5x the typical number of families interested in our Geo-Juniors, according to Kim. Congratulations! Laurie McElroy and Laura Thomas did a fabulous job on handling the money – this is a great system we have going. The money collected is double-counted and is very well-tracked. I sat in there for a while on Sunday, giving the two of them a short bathroom and lunch break and was very impressed with how they are handling our funds. Susie and her son, Donnell Shoffner are God-sent Ever-Ready Bunnies – they did so much for our clubs at the Gemboree, and Susie, the Display Cases looked wonderful. Thank you so much! I walked into the Silent Auction Office and was so impressed with how clean and organized that Silent Auction was run by John Wallace and his backups, Mike and Ann and their son, Ben. Wow! John had set up innumerable items for sale in baggies ready for the sale. He is actually running 26 auctions at our Gemborees! Talk about being organized! He puts out between 20 and 25 items for each sale. Wow! Congratulations! David Macseoinin did a great job as the Lead for our Demonstrations – and Paulette Moore and Ron Maitland spent hours and hours cabbing and faceting. Jerry Hartung and his crew were very helpful throughout the Gemboree, and Jerry spent hours demonstrating his chain maille. Oh, and let’s not forget the new Banners – these were very, very nice!!! And our new outside bright yellow GEMBOREE! sign – hosted by Akron Mineral and Summit Lapidary was clearly visible all the way from the road. Thank you to Summit Lapidary and Akron Mineral for supplying those banners. And for all those who worked so hard on the Gemboree, if I have forgotten to personally thank you, please know that we all appreciate your efforts.

Speaking of banners, we need a new Geode Cracking Banner – the old one is torn and taped. We might even need two of those banners as I am considering expanding that station to sell even more geodes!

Now on to business, as most of you know already, Emidio’s increased our rent by 42%. And he wants his storage space back. So please put this in your mind so that by next April, we must have another storage space system in place. The Gemboree Committee (the Leads, the two club Presidents, the past Show Chair, myself, and the current Show Chair Backup) have met to discuss our options. We negotiated with Pellegrino (with the assistance of MaryAnne and David Rich, Donnell Shoffner, myself, and my BackUp, Cathy Milhoan) and we got the room rent decreased by \$250. We also got a three-show contract with the prices guaranteed. And we have ideas to offset the increase.

There will be another meeting of the Gemboree Committee - only, (i.e., the two club Presidents, the past Show Chair, and the current Show Chair backup) at 6:15 pm on Tuesday, May 9th, before SLC’s general meeting. The Committee has some business to discuss. I’ll be attending the SLC Meeting and will give this report there for any SLC members who have comments.

Thank you all so much for such a rocking good job at our Gemboree!
Mary Myers

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 pertinent club news or articles 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 **cthyamilhoan@yahoo.com**. Please update your contact information to Cathy if you move or change your phone number.

Machine Maintenance: No news.

Midwest Federation News: No news.

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.

Shop Tenders are talking about having 'open shop classes' for any of our members who either want to learn how to use the machines or who want a refresher on one or more of the machines. These will have established monthly dates and times. What a great opportunity to learn!

Classes and Events: Class on Tree of life pendant- May 6 at noon.

Club Members' Meeting Minutes from the April 11th meeting:

Program- Dick Hite spoke about the places he has gone rockhounding to the group. He had a slide show presentation and samples to show.

David brought the meeting to order.

Tiffany is a new member.

Treasurer- All bills are current.

Secretary- Sent minutes to John Kerr for the newsletter.

Sunshine- Mari has a couple of cards to send out.

Nether's farm- New rules \$10 per head for digging and \$1 per pound of flint. No parking on the farm side of the street.

Bagging rocks will be at the clubhouse on April 15 at 9:00. Bob Spore will bring donuts.

Torch time- April 15 at noon.

Class on Tree of life pendant- May 6 at noon.

Gemboree- We are coming down to the wire and still need members to sign up to help out.

David made a Plinko board for the Gemboree and Mary is looking for small prizes to give out.

Trips- Susanne is looking for members that want to go to Herkimer in June. She needs to know by the end of April if you are interested. She is planning on going to Fantasia Mining and Mrs. Nether's farm in July and August.

Machine maintenance- All machines are up and running.

Building- Mark will be able to work on it after the Gemboree.

Newsletter- It went out.

Web site- There are updates on the site for the Gemboree and Geo Jrs.

Geo Jrs.- Kids voted to reasearch agates. David is taking the kids down to Nether's farm on June 10.

New business- If your driver's license is up for renewal there is a 6 month grace period, otherwise you get to start the whole process again.

24 by 4 ft. Banner for the outside of Emidios was purchased. It will have the "Gemboree" name and "Sponsored by Akron Mineral Society and Summit Lapidary Club" on it.

New members dinner will be the middle of May at 7:00 at the clubhouse. Cathy M and the 3 trustees will host the event.

Joyce made a motion to adjourn and Bob S seconded.

Bench Tips for May

See Other Tips in my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making Problems

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

Happy hammering,

- Brad Smith

BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com

And here are the Bench Tips for next month



DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. Having sliced my fingers occasionally in my younger days, I avoid band-aids now by using flat-jaw pliers or a ring clamp. Pliers also save you if the piece gets hot. Put a little tape over the plier jaws if needed to avoid scratches.



DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$6.

Chuck the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.