

CORAL GEMSTONE



A Publication of the Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club

JULY

HOT ROCKS, COOL GEMS & FABULOUS JEWELRY

2021

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ABOUT OUR CLUB

10207 Fisher Avenue, Tampa, FL
33619

Email: info@tampabayrockclub.org

Mailing Address: PO Box 89146
Tampa, FL 33689

Phone: (813) 684-2039
Tampabayrockclub.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gerri Lundergan

For those of you who missed our June Tail Gate, it was fabulous! The next one is September 4 from 9-10:30 a.m. with a club meeting at 11 a.m. We are planning for a guest speaker, so stay tuned.

We were asked by several new members; "What is Tail Gate?" It is a day where members can bring items they wish to sell, that relate to our club activities. Rocks, used equipment, DeStash, finished items, cabs, slabs, etc. Please, no yard sale items. Only members can sell, but we open it up to the public to come shop. This is a great opportunity to let folks see all we have to offer at the Clubhouse, purchase items from members and gain new members. Plus, members get a chance to get together and visit. We offer a few tables inside, but mostly it is opening the back of your car or truck and selling out of it in the parking lot. There was a terrific selection of items for those folks who took advantage of the offerings.

Next Question from New Members; "What is up with that Rock Pile?" The TBMSC Club Rock Pile is out in the parking lot against the concrete wall. It offers our members a place to rock hunt. It is fed regularly by

the Club and members. Find a few pieces you like, and they are yours. It is there for all members to enjoy and collect from. Please – no filling up of backpacks, buckets, or the trunk of your car. We want to make sure the Rock Pile is here for years to come for future members to enjoy. My first year as a member, I cabbled a lot of material found in the rock pile. There are some nice specimens out there and we will put nice pieces up on the wall for you. We now have a hose attached to the pump house next to the Rock Pile so you can water down the rocks to better see what they are. If you use the hose, please roll it back up and turn the water off. Bring your rock picks and enjoy.

We had a Club Meeting June 5 with a few folks who stayed after the Tailgate. It was mostly an informative meeting since we have not held club meetings since last year.

Consensus was to hold the next meeting in conjunction with our Tail Gate and take another survey then about returning to holding Club Meetings.

Classes continue to be popular, and we are working on adding classes as we find instructors.

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We are in the process of shooting videos of the various departments in the clubhouse and working on a video tour to be used at the show, website, and other social media platforms. It is how the marketing process has changed, and we must change and keep up to continue drawing in new members. We now have an Instagram and working towards a YouTube channel for classes and learning videos.

Rainy season has started.

Stay cool, hydrated, and take advantage of that indoor craft time.

P.S. The volunteer book for the November Show is now in the Clubhouse on the counter in the kitchen. There are pages for each area we need volunteers. This is what helps make our Show run smoothly. If you are unable to make it to the clubhouse, you can also call me to see what is available.

Gerri Lundergan

NEW GEM TREE WORKSHOP

JULY 13-15, 10 AM - 4 PM

Announcing a new workshop for "budding" Gem Tree artists. Three days, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., with a break for lunch, so bring your own food!

We will do a basic tree first, talk about some gem tree design concepts, then move on to a Cherry Tree and finally, a Christmas Tree. Workshop fee for all materials and 3 days of class time is \$80. Space limited to 6 students, so sign up early! Contact Jerri Heer- jheerx6@aol.com.

METAL SHOP NEWS

The Tuesday evening Silver I class came to an end on June 19, and our new class started up this past Tuesday from 3 to 6 p.m. We have a full class with 3 new Silver I students and, Sheri Patterson, a member that graduated from our most recent Silver I class. Sheri is working one-on-one with me taking her Silver Smithing skills to a higher level. She has recently learned how to make a tube setting ring, and a pendent with a cabochon and a tube setting. She is also mastering pick soldering and soldering multiple elements at one time with hard solder.

Our current class will run from now until August 24th, and the next class will begin sometime in September, depending on when I take my trip to Colorado.

Currently, Metal Shop is on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 9 am to 12 p.m. Saturday, July 10th Lynn Sheffield will be monitoring Open Shop from 10 am to 1 p.m. A big thank you to Lynn who has agreed to help me with Open Shop.



LAPIDARY CORNER

with Gerri Lundergan



Another busy month for the Lapidary Department.

Classes, slabbing, Fordite Workshop with Paul Meyer & a visit from Sherman Rowland, owner of Highland Park Lapidary. It has been quite the month!

Sherman would like to offer Slab Saw Trouble Shooting workshops in our clubhouse. We are now an official Highland Park affiliate. Stay tuned for the dates.

We have taken in a couple estates and continue to catalog and go through it all.

Antonio Nazario has been busy examining all the mineral specimens, sorting, grading, and adding several to our display cases. There are some nice rare specimens. We are blessed to have been gifted.

The New Wheels have arrived! Now to plan a day for wheel changing, then let our Lapidary regulars come in and help break them in. Our idea boxes are multiplying. We are up to six. There are a great mix of slabettes, preforms and some started cabs. Have you seen the two for \$1 box? Wow!

Well, our new slab saw has been named Fiona – she is big and green like an ogre. Fiona then presented us with triplets. Farkle – 14" Slab Saw, Fergus 6" Trim Saw and Felicia – 3 lb Tumbler.

We have some stellar material we will be slabbing the next few months. Members get first choice at our slabs before we post them online and they have been snagging them out of the saws!

Ron Wadas has been on Vaca Rockhounding across the US, and we are looking forward to seeing what he is bringing back.

Mark Burton has been bringing material back from the Ducktown copper mine in Tennessee. Lots of interesting finds, and we will have some specimens available.

Plus, the Florida agatized coral is out of the tumblers and it is gorgeous. We have various sizes for sale in the clubhouse.

Lapidary Schedule:

- Tuesday 6 - 8:30 p.m. Open Shop - must reserve a spot
- Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Open Shop – Must reserve a spot
- Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Beginning Cabochons 1-4 Cab 2 & 3

Slabbing – we are running about 3-5 weeks, depending on the size of the rough you bring in.

Contact Gerri Lundergan 813-943-5665 to schedule Open Shop time or to sign up for Beginning Cabochons

WIRE WRAP

We had a big group for our first Wire Wrapping class this year. Everyone did a beautiful job creating a caged stone.

The group came back for the Open Wire Wrap Session and brought all the practice work they had done. Just Stellar work. We demonstrated how to wrap a Crystal and off the group went. So many possibilities.

Next Class is July 11 from 1-4 p.m. We will be learning how to make a Tree of Life Pendant.

Cost is \$35 which includes materials and class time.
You can contact Gerri Lundergan to Pre-Register for the class.
813-943-5665 or dunpaintedfarm@yahoo.com



WIRE WRAPPING CLASS #2

Finalizing sign ups for the Wire Wrapping Class #2, for Sunday July 11 from 1-4 p.m. We will be creating the Tree of Life pendant.
Cost is \$35 and includes all materials, instruction and class time.

To reserve your spot contact Gerri Lundergan:
813-943-5665 or dunpaintedfarm@yahoo.com

CLUB DONATION

The club received a large donation, 13 boxes of materials from the family of former member Billy Case. Many thanks to his daughter, Deborah Byrnes, for thinking of us!



Moldevite, part of the Case donation:



HOT ROCKS, COOL GEMS AND FABULOUS JEWELRY

62nd Annual
TAMPA BAY MINERAL AND SCIENCE CLUB SHOW



NOVEMBER 6-7, 2021
Saturday - Sunday 10am - 5pm

New Location!

**SADYE GIBBS MARTIN
COMMUNITY CENTER**

302 MARYLAND AVE. , PLANT CITY, FL
(Take I-4 Exit 22 South onto Park Rd. • right on MLK Blvd. to facility)

- GEMS & MINERALS • FOSSILS • JEWELRY
- TOOLS AND LAPIDARY SUPPLIES • BEADS
- JEWELRY-MAKING SUPPLIES

THE CLUB WILL FOLLOW
CURRENT CDC
AND COUNTY COVID-19
SAFETY PROTOCOLS.

For more information, visit us at tampabayrockclub.com

ADULTS: \$5 TEENS 12-16 & STUDENTS WITH ID: \$4 ACTIVE MILITARY: \$4 KIDS UNDER 12: FREE (WITH PARENT)
\$1.00 OFF ADMISSION - UP TO 4 PEOPLE - WHEN YOU PRESENT THIS FLYER AT THE DOOR • FREE PARKING!

SILVER SHOP NEWS

Silver Earring Workshop

Tony Carrino has agreed to offer an Earring Workshop for our members. Tony has been a member for several years, used to teach full time in our Metal Shop and is now working full time as a Silver Artist traveling to shows.

Workshop will include 3 pairs of earrings:

1 Lapis, 1 Rainbow Moonstone, 1 Malachite.

Wednesday July 21 & 28 from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$75 which includes all materials & instruction payable to Tony Carrino. \$30 shop time paid to the Club. Only 4 spots available for this workshop. You will need to prepay to reserve your spot in this Workshop.

Contact Lisa to reserve your spot in this workshop:
meggymoo65@gmail.com

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SHOW VIDEO IN PROGRESS



Beginning preparations for developing video to be used at shows and on social media.



BRAD'S BENCH TIPS

FANCY RIVET HEADS



For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

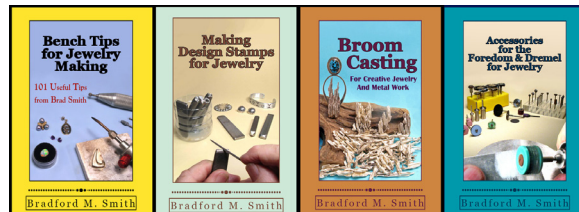
The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 16 or 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to www.LeeValley.com and do an item search on "escutcheon pin."

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to a leave a little less than one diameter sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.

EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a shallow groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers with a slight groove on one jaw.

The easiest way to create a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the quickest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a separating disc. Then do a rough polish on the slot with a medium grit, knife-edge silicone wheel.



Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Books: [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

NEW CLASSES IN STAINED GLASS

Dani, Andrea, Chris, and Matt



Melinda Riddle



Gene Woods



TAMPA BAY MINERAL AND SCIENCE CLUB BOARD MEETING

June 5, 2021

Board Meeting Members in Attendance: Susan Buc-
ciero, Gerri Lundergan, Greig Lundergan, Melinda
Riddle, Irene Potter, Lisa Miller, James Denslow, Tony
Carrino; Late arrivals: Jerri Heer, Christy Gorrow.

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Secretary's Minutes from May Board Meeting: Mo-
tion to accept minutes: Tony Carrino, Second by
Melinda Riddle. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion presented by Lisa Miller to move money mar-
ket account from a personal account to a business
account and seconded by Irene Potter.

Audit/Bringing Books current: The current standard
operating procedure (SOP) states that any expenses
(including cash and checks written) over the amount
of \$100.00 currently needs to be approved by the
board. It has been suggested that this amount be
changed to \$250.00. Any expense less than this
amount does not need to be approved by the board,
however still warrants all receipts be submitted. Mo-
tion presented by Lisa Miller to approve the increase
in the amount from \$100.00 to \$250.00, Melinda
Riddle seconded the motion. The board vote: one
nay and eight ayes; this motion has been voted in by
the board.

It has been suggested that a bookkeeper should be
hired as a contracted service to bring the club ac-
counting books to current; this will be an outsourced
function. Motion presented by Lisa Miller to contract
a bookkeeper to bring the club accounting to cur-
rent, and to bring the accounting concurrent with
the SOP. The bookkeeper will need to supply the
reconciled information to the treasurer monthly. The
bookkeeper will need to be contracted prior to the
next board meeting in July, 2021. The motion sec-
onded by Tony Carrino. The board vote: nine ayes;
this motion to have a bookkeeper contracted by the
next board meeting is voted in by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Checking account:
\$6235.99; money market account: \$58,395.90;
Paypal account: \$2,165.65.

SHOW REPORT: Currently 166 vendor tables have
been sold. The club table is available for members
selling at club table with 20% commission of all
sales paid to the club. The children's activities are
the sluice and rock painting, both of which can be
outside under the overhang for cover. Phillip Ste-
phenson of <http://www.rarerocksandgems.com/> has
been confirmed to offer a presentation/workshop at
upcoming club show. The show volunteer sign-up
book is being placed in the clubhouse, and mem-
bers are encouraged to sign-up to volunteer for the
show. Members can also contact Gerri Lundergan to
volunteer. The board needs a list of all vendors with
contact information. This information is in a spread-
sheet and is available to anyone on the board.

INSURANCE UPDATE: The clubhouse homeowner's
insurance will give a discount due to the wind miti-
gation factor with the new roof, but will not do so
until next policy year. The insurance company does
not do adjustments mid-year.

TAILGATE REPORT: The first tailgate event since
pre-COVID operations was on Saturday, 6/5/21,
and was very well attended. The forthcoming tailgate
events will be scheduled for the last month of each
quarter. The next tailgate will be in September on the
1st Saturday of the month and December is sched-
uled after that.

EXHAUST FAN FOR SILVER: We are looking at
installing a couple of stove or range-like exhaust
hoods or fans. Currently gathering costs for materi-
als and installation.

LIBRARIAN AND WEBMASTER: The club's librar-
ian and webmaster has left the state and the club
now needs a new webmaster. All members who can

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either help with the club website or know someone who can help are asked to contact Gerri Lundergan.

PAINTING EXTERIOR UPDATE: The first quote is \$6,800.00, but other quotes are needed. All members who know of painting contractors are asked to contact Gerri Lundergan.

NEW BUSINESS:

CLASSES/CLASS FEES/KEEPING AREAS CLEAN:

Complaints have been made about the spaces not being cleaned. All instructors are reminded to keep their respective areas clean, especially after all workshops/classes, which includes emptying the trash cans. This is becoming a large problem, and further discussion might be needed regarding consequences to students/members/instructors that do not keep their respective areas clean. It was suggested that the common areas in the clubhouse need to be cleaned more often as well, especially the floors. All members are encouraged to sweep/clean/straighten a mess or untidy area in the common areas of the clubhouse.

REVISIT INSTRUCTORS TRADE-A-CLASS FOR CLASS GIVEN:

This agreement was originally created to offer volunteer instructors compensatory time (comp time) for open shop only, not for a comp class. This will be reiterated with all volunteer instructors.

WORKSHOPS: There have been recent workshops in

the clubhouse, one of which was offered by Paul Myers. Other workshops will be offered soon. Members are encouraged to share their knowledge and skill by offering workshops.

Class Instructors are asked to look at their respective budgets as the club returns to pre-covid operations. This will include incoming class fees and outgoing expenses.

FIRST GENERAL MEETING BACK IN THE CLUBHOUSE:

June 19: This general meeting is to get all members back in the clubhouse and to start scheduling membership meetings again. At this meeting show volunteers will be asked to sign up for the fall show.

ITEMS FROM FLOOR: Melinda Riddle attended the stained glass workshop/class with Ken Moser, and Melinda suggested that stained glass becomes a new area/offering for the club. There are materials and equipment that need to be purchased and the estimate for such is \$1,000.00. The instructor is requested to provide a written proposal to the club, which lists the materials the club would need to provide as well as what materials are needed for stained glass open shop.

Motion to adjourn by Tony Carrino

Second to adjourn by Melinda Riddle

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

ANNUAL FALL SHOW

Once again, we are planning our Fall Show. Contracts have been sent out to past vendors, members and non-members. If you want a table at the Show, contact Jerri right away, as space is limited. Table price is \$100 per 8 ft. table.

Members have the option to purchase their own space or share a space at the club booth on a commission basis. Contact Jerri or Gerri for questions about this option.

Until Covid is no longer an issue, we will continue to maintain reasonable Covid protocols. This means we will not be doing demos, auction or other indoor activities that tend to draw crowds in a small space. we will attempt to set up the sluice outdoors to provide a safe environment for a kid's activity.

We will still need volunteers for setup, admissions, club booth, sluice and security/floaters. Signups will be available closer to the show.

Jerri Heer, 419-344-9999. Email: Jheerx6@aol.com