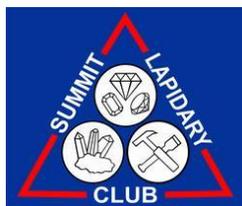


# Summit Gem - March 2021 Newsletter



Website: [www.SummitLapidaryClub.com](http://www.SummitLapidaryClub.com)  
244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221  
Phone: (330) 929-3798

## Board Members:

President – Gene Willis  
Vice-President – Courtney Cable  
Treasurer – Nancy Halloran  
Secretary – Kathi Hampton  
Membership Chair – Cathy Milhoan  
Newsletter Editor – Mary Myers [slnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:slnewsletter2019@gmail.com)  
Trustees – Tom McLaughlin (exp 2022), David Rich (exp 2023), Bob Spore (exp 2024)

## Mission Statement

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

## **March 2021 Monthly Meeting – to be held online**

On the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM  
due to the Covid19 pandemic

To join the club there is an initial registration fee of \$25, plus  
ANNUAL DUES: \$48 per year by March 1<sup>st</sup> or later.



***A Friendly Reminder – Our 2021 dues are past due!***

The meeting for March will be held online as a Zoom meeting at 7:00pm on the first Tuesday in March, 03/02/2021, hosted by Courtney. The invitations to the Zoom meeting for all members are sent by Courtney to those who have provided their email addresses.

## **Here is the Link to Join Our Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83233792599?pwd=Nm1VRWx3SVJBQ2ZKM0YzTGhyY1duQT09>

Meeting ID: 832 3379 2599

Passcode: 903404

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83233792599>

**NOTE: This Zoom link is set up as a 'Recurring Digital Meeting'.**

## **Save the link in this message to connect to following future meetings:**

Every month on the First Tue, until July 6, 2021,

**Feb 2, 2021 07:00 PM**

Mar 2, 2021 07:00 PM

Apr 6, 2021 07:00 PM

May 4, 2021 07:00 PM

Jun 1, 2021 07:00 PM

July 6, 2021 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

**Monthly:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZcvdOqvpzkvE91yBtZis9vAA9aPQI5VS0B-ics?icsToken=98tyKuGrrDgpHd2XtRCORpwwAljCb-3xmHpYi\\_oMhT3xOSIAOxXXF7tDAoNWR7j](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZcvdOqvpzkvE91yBtZis9vAA9aPQI5VS0B-ics?icsToken=98tyKuGrrDgpHd2XtRCORpwwAljCb-3xmHpYi_oMhT3xOSIAOxXXF7tDAoNWR7j)

One tap mobile

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+13126266799,,83233792599#,,,,,0#,,903404# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location  
 +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)  
 +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
 +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
 +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
 +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
 +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 832 3379 2599

Passcode: 903404

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc4WbJ95Rn>

**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.*

**Program: Virtual Visit to the clubhouse**

Hosted by Courtney Cable. Come and visit the clubhouse with us – see what's been happening (not much since Covid, but a little). Take a walk through the club with Courtney.

By the way, only 9 people have used the machines downstairs between Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> to March 20<sup>th</sup>. Even with Covid restrictions there is certainly more opportunity for members to avail themselves of the machines.

**President's Message – by Gene Willis**

So happy that we are beginning to turn the corner on the Covid-19-20-and-21 restrictions. With this in mind, I urge members to continue to wear their masks and practice social distancing whenever visiting or using the clubhouse to keep our members safe and sound. This summer will hopefully bear the fruit of using these protections, so let's hope that we can meet again in person during the summer. Get your hobby stuff polished up and let's get back to work. Start thinking now about planning for new display cases (or refreshing old displays) for the Gemboree, new classes, or however we can get members involved again with our club.

The saws are now all up and running again. A motor overload switch was replaced on one of the saws and the others were checked for any problems and those were fixed. Paul McElroy was a super help to me this month getting those back in use. Planning ahead, for when we have more members coming to the clubhouse to use the equipment again, we are going to need 1 or 2 regular volunteers to help with the filtering and cleaning of the oil in the saws. Until the Covid restrictions are lifted, of course, masks and social distancing will be expected. Please contact me if you can help.

At the Executive Board meeting this month, a member suggested a change to our by-laws. After discussion the Board voted to table further discussion until we can meet again in person so that everyone is informed of such suggestions and has a vote in such matters.

By the way, if anyone is interested in attending the zoom Executive Board Meetings (on the last Tuesday of every month) at 7:00PM, please contact me several days ahead so that I can make sure that you get the link to attend. We want all our members to feel welcome – it's our club!

Until we meet again, I hope you stay safe and warm as we wait for Spring (and the vaccines) to arrive.  
Gene

**SLC March 2021 Reminder:**

*There is an initial registration fee of \$25, plus members pay their ANNUAL DUES of \$48 per year by March 1<sup>st</sup> or later. **But remember that members can save money by paying their dues early – dues are just \$44 if paid before March 1<sup>st</sup>!***

With no certainty of meeting in person please send your dues to Nancy Halloran or to the Clubhouse at the addresses below:

**Nancy Halloran  
9432 Outlook Dr  
Brooklyn, Oh 44144  
(216)409-4209**

**or send/drop them to**

**Summit Lapidary Club  
244 Chestnut Blvd  
Cuyahoga Falls, Oh 44221**

Reminder about COVID-19: We have had a good number of members catch COVID-19, and at least one has died from it. Please continue to practice all precautions if you come to the clubhouse. Please wear a mask, limit groups to 6 people, use the exhaust fan, sanitize, wipe the tables down after yourselves, etc.

**Classes and Events:**

**SO IS ANYONE INTERESTED IN TAKING (OR GIVING) A CLASS YET?**

As long as the class was limited by the instructor, not greater than 5 participants and the instructor (6 people in total) with the following Covid restrictions?

Covid restrictions: Masks still must be worn when at the clubhouse. Sanitizing products will be provided by the club. Classes held on our zoom account must be limited to members. If you would be interested in taking a class or scheduling time at the clubhouse, please contact Mary Myers or Dave Macseoinin. Remember we don't make money off fellow members but members can be expected to pay for their own supplies for these classes.

Several members have begun to form small groups to slowly begin participating (in small groups, wearing masks) in activities at our clubhouse, such as the regular Saturday mornings coffee klatches, slabbing, grinding, polishing stones, and the Saturday-afternoon silver-smithers. Please take COVID precautions!

**Is anyone interested in taking a mine safety class?** Please contact Joyce Kish. The class is typically free and typically lasts the greater part of a day. Anyone who is interested in visiting any mines (including Flint Ridge which is an 'open pit' mine) should take such a class.

**Sunshine News from Mari:** No report

**Gemboree from Becky:** Gemboree news

The decision to cancel the Spring Gemboree or not was ultimately decided by the Executive Boards of both Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society. The decision was made desiring to ensure the safety and health of all involved. Though I realize we are all becoming weary of social restraints due to the pandemic, now is not the time to let our guard down.

Now we need to plan for our next Gemboree! The Fall 2021 Gemboree is scheduled **October 23 & 24<sup>th</sup>**. Please save those dates! We will need everyone involved to make this Gemboree one to remember. Evelyn has already heard from some of our venders desiring to be in our show - I hope our members will share their enthusiasm.

Throughout this Spring and Summer we will keep working on all the details that make up our Gemboree. Please let me know about and thoughts or concerns you have. I am hoping many members will become engaged with the club again as we anticipate the return of one of our favorite activities!

Thank you all in advance – Becky

You can email Becky at [kingtoast@aol.com](mailto:kingtoast@aol.com). We need your support!

**GeoJuniors from Evelyn:** Due to Covid restrictions, GeoJuniors are not currently meeting in person.

**Library news from Doug Shorter:** There are many resources in our library if you are interested. Check with David Macseoinin. He has keys and can often assist you in borrowing these assets.

**Newsletter from Mary:** I apologize for being late with the newsletters again. I'm sending both March's AND April's newsletter this month, just as I sent both January's and February's in February. I would love to include a short paragraph from our members about something you've learned or a special location related to our lapidary interests would be most welcome! Don't worry about 'polishing' your piece, I'll do that for you (ha-ha!) Please email me at [SLCnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:SLCnewsletter2019@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](mailto:cthymilhoan@yahoo.com). Please update your contact information to Cathy if you move or change your phone number. Membership dues were due on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 and were to be sent either to Nancy Halloran, or mailed to (or left at) the clubhouse.

**Miscellaneous items:**

**Calls for Volunteers:**

We need YOU!

- Fall Gemboree: We will need many volunteers for our Fall Gemboree on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>!
- We are still looking for members to help with the Rock Tumbler Role. Could you do that? They usually meet about once a month for a couple of hours to change out the rocks. This work will likely start back up later this spring.
- We are still looking for our traveling members willing to serve as providers of source materials for the Gemboree and GeoJuniors. Any members planning to go out west?
- **Speaking of the Fall Gemboree – did I mention we are going to need you for that project?**
- We also need members to volunteer to vacuum once in a while, wipe down surfaces, clean the restrooms, swab the floor, sweep the decks, that sort of thing. If you have a few minutes when you're there, perhaps we could begin by thinking of the jobs that need to be done and writing them down? If you think of any jobs that need to be done – please let me know and I'll be more than happy to post them here in the newsletter and help keep track of who's doing what around here. We need your help! It's OUR clubhouse. ... and I promise kudos to volunteers (if I know about their efforts).

**Kudos to Our February Volunteers:**

- Kudos to David Mac for cleaning the glass in our showcases – they hadn't been cleaned in a while!
- Kudos to Susie for keeping the pop, water, and other supplies refilled.
- Kudos to Gene Willis and Paul McElroy for seeing that the saws are all up and running!
- Kudos to David Mac, Mary Myers, and John Kerr for being shop tenders for the month of March – if anyone who doesn't have a key wants to use the machines at the clubhouse – please contact any one of the three of us! Just a note: Dave's new job means that we need more people to help at the clubhouse.
- Kudos to David Macseoinin for wiping down tables, running torch time, and for taking out the trash.
- Kudos to Courtney Cable for planning our monthly speakers and programs.
- And finally, kudos to all those volunteers whom I have forgotten to mention. (Please let me know who I might have missed.)

**Introductions to members:**

I often hear or meet members of the club and I find that I don't know anything about them. I thought that it might be important for other members, especially our new members to be introduced to people whom they

might meet here. Each month, I thought that I would love to introduce us to each other. Will anyone volunteer a bit of information about yourself that I can share with the membership? Just email me a short paragraph. It's not bragging – it's getting to know each other!

**Introducing Dave Macseoinin** – Dave is a four-time past President of our club. He is currently our education coordinator with Mary Myers. He recently got a new job sewing uniforms for the Department of the Navy. He loves to work with anything that is fiber-related, including really strong fibers like ... stones and metals. He has been involved in lapidary work on and off since high school which was about a decade ago (ok, so maybe it was more than that but who's counting?) He also loves the theater and his favorite theater is the Canton Players' Guild.

His favorite rock is Ohio Flint, with Jade being his second favorite. He finds the lovely patterns in Ohio Flint to be seductive. We used to be able to find Dave at the clubhouse until late at night watching anything from the ... (hey, watch it!) ... Online Jewelry Academy and the Restoration Home channels, but he will now be working the second shift so he won't be found late night at the clubhouse as often. He's going to be missing our meetings, too, so please make an effort to keep in touch with him and to keep him informed.

**Introducing Kathi Hampton** - Kathi LOVES to travel and she has been to Hawaii, Panama, Costa Rica, Morocco, Greece, Mexico, Russia, and Canada, to name a few places she's visited. She has plans (as soon as Covid restrictions ease) to visit even more countries, including Australia, the Rhine River (on a cruise), New Zealand, and Fiji.

Kathi joined the club 2 years ago in October 2019. She has made more than 150 cabochons! She is married and has two grown children. She used to love to fly (in her very own little Piper Cherokee) but gave up that hobby long ago as being too expensive. She enjoys wire wrapping and copper and silver smithing here at the club. She has made many turtle and wire wrapped settings for her pieces. She loves to read and her favorites are good mysteries. Her favorite stone (this week) is a piece of golden tiger eye that is mixed with hematite, agate, and jasper from which she has made three cabochons in doublets.

### **February Shop Tender Days:**

John Kerr, Dave Macseoinin, and Mary Myers have graciously volunteered his time if anyone who doesn't have a key would be interested in using the machinery downstairs. **Who else with keys would be willing to volunteer occasionally as a shop tender?** Please volunteer at [SLCnewsletter2019@gmail.com](mailto:SLCnewsletter2019@gmail.com)

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 shoptenders.

You can call or text David Macseoinin at 1-234-706-1523.

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

You can text Mary Myers at 330-696-4315 or leave a message for her at 330-928-3335.

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

### **Informal gatherings in the clubhouse - Saturday mornings or on Zoom, anytime:**

There are often members in the clubhouse for Saturday mornings coffee klatches and Saturday afternoons for silversmithing, but there are no guarantees about the availability of the clubhouse then. Remember, we are still limited to small gatherings at least for a while yet, and please take proper precautions. We do not want to be labeled as a super-spreader!

### **Old News:**

#### **Zoom:**

Our Club has purchased a Zoom account. If you would like to teach a class over Zoom to our Club members,

you can contact Courtney Cable to set that up. Hey, everyone's teaching online these days, so can you!

**February , 2021 Summit Lapidary Club Meeting Minutes:**

Platform: Zoom 7:00 pm Start Time 8:00 pm End Time

Meeting leader: Gene Willis, President Minutes taken by Kathi Hampton

Minutes from February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting on Zoom

Kudos for Mary for getting the January and February newsletters out.

Tonight's guest speaker was John Michael Warner and his talk was on Land or Earth Art. It is minimalist art reduced to the most basic form. He showed pictures of the different displays of Land Art from many pieces at Chinatti TX, to Spiral Jetty, and Rodin's Crater. Nancy commented that there is a lot of Land Art in Utah. Robert Smithsen and Nancy Holt are well respected in the field.

William Holland trip- Joyce said there was nothing to report.

Mary made a motion to accept the January minutes and Becky seconded it. After discussion the minutes were accepted by the majority.

Sandy made a motion to accept the December minutes and Mary seconded it. There was no discussion and the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer- there is no report.

Joyce is looking into mine safety information.

Susanne called and cancelled the mine trip.

Classes- There are no classes scheduled for February except for the silver smithing workshop on Saturdays at noon. If you would like to come contact Dave as space is limited. We will start classes up after the vaccine has been distributed.

Sunshine- Bob Powers tested positive for Covid 19. Guy's uncle has died.

Gemboree – We have postponed the Spring show and Becky moved the deposit to the Fall show. The storage fees will be due in April to Emidios.

Gene is working on the budget. So far we have an expected income of \$7,000 and the expenses of \$7,700. It was suggested that we charge for use of the machines (4.00 to use the shop for ½ day). Another idea was to hold a sale of members' art and a Silent Auction including food was mentioned which could be held outside to meet our expenses. A committee was suggested to find funds for the club. Mari volunteered to organize fund raising activities. Thomas and David Rich volunteered to help Mari.

It was suggested that we look into government grants as part of Covid relief packages. We are looking into available grants and someone to write them.

Our soft drink fund is not balancing out. Please pay for the drinks in the refrigerator.

Dave Macseoinin said only 2 saws were operational. Gene said he would try to get to the machines on Thursday. Laura volunteered Paul to help Gene. Gene has the switch for one saw. Becky has a key to the tool box if needed.

Library- Doug has nothing to report.

Thomas made a motion to adjourn and Becky seconded it.

**Gems provided by members:**

## MidWest Federation News sent from Cheryl Neary, AFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

American Federation of Mineralogic Societies' Convention is scheduled for June! It is official! The combined AFMS-Rocky Mountain Federation (RMFMS) convention will be held in Big Piney, Wyoming, June 17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>.

More information about the joint convention should be out in the next few weeks. There has been discussion of field trips for petrified wood in the Blue Forest, fish fossils, and other trips (in case you cannot make the field trip being run by Doug True, chair of the AFMS Inter-Regional field Trip).

MEF news can be found on their web sight: [www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)

### Brad's Tips



### SHARP KNIVES FOR CUTTING MOLDS

Cutting molds is easier and more precise with a sharp blade. A new Xacto blade is sufficient for cutting RTV molds but is usually not sharp enough for vulcanized rubber. For that it's best to use scalpel blades available from most jewelry supply companies.

The #11 blade is triangle shaped, and the #12 is hawksbill shaped. I find the hawksbill is particularly nice for cutting the registration keys of the mold.

### USE YOUR THUMB

When using multiple bits in a Foredom, we often have to deal with several different shaft sizes - the usual 3/32 inch burs, the larger 1/8 inch shafts sizes and of course the many different sizes of drills. For some reason I really dislike having to turn the key multiple times to open or close the jaws of the handpiece chuck.

So I have two ways to speed up that task. For opening up the jaws, I just remember "four", the number of turns I have to make to open the chuck just enough from the 3/32 bur shaft size to the larger 1/8 bur shaft size.

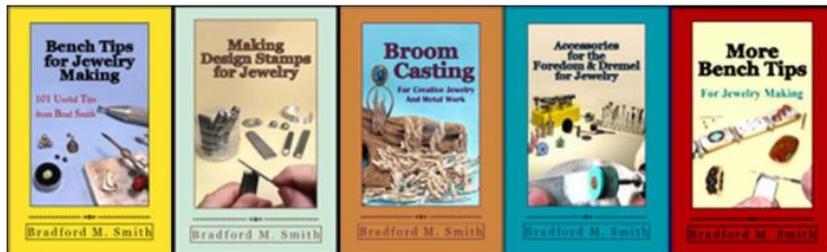
For closing the jaws around a smaller shaft, there's a neat trick. Hold the new bit in the center of the open jaws of the chuck, put your thumb lightly onto the outer toothed collar of the chuck, and gently start up the Foredom. As the chuck turns, it will naturally tighten the jaws around the bur shaft or the drill bit. Then all you have to do is a final tightening with the key.

By the way, Brad has offered a couple online jewelry making workshops that may be of interest to some of our members. One was on how to make [Castellated Bezels](#) - elegant in a ring, pendant or bracelet. Another was [Adding Textures Without a Mill](#) - for those who do not have access to a rolling mill. Please check his website for more details about classes he may offer in the coming months. Recordings of some of his classes may still be available on his website.



**Brad Smith Jewelry**

Learn New Skills with Brad's "How To" Books at <http://amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith>



and finally,

