

# The Summit Gem - November 2025 Newsletter



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

## 2025 Board Members:

President – Mary Myers  
 Vice-President – Joyce Kish/Kim Evangelisti  
 Treasurer – Laura McElroy/Laura Thomas  
 Secretary – Patricia Burk  
 Membership Chair – Cathy Milhoan

Newsletter Editor – John Kerr [slcnewsletter2023@gmail.com](mailto:slcnewsletter2023@gmail.com)  
 Trustees – John Kerr (exp 12/2025), Susanne Schoffner (exp 12/2026),  
 Greg Megois (exp 12/2027)  
 Immediate Past President Finley Lahmers  
 2025 Gemboree Chair – Cathy Milhoan

## Mission Statement

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

## November 11th, 2025 Monthly Meeting

(the SECOND Tuesday of the month) held in person.  
 at 7:00 PM at the Polish American Club



The Polish American Club (PAC) is located at 472 Glenwood Ave, Akron 44310

The November program will be club member Dick Hite speaking on Montana Agates

## President's Message

November 2025 President's message

Welcome to Fall, and I hope you all enjoy our first snowfall of the coming winter as much as we did as children enjoying our first snow day of school! Woo hoo!

Congratulations to all who participated in our well-executed Fall Gemboree! We couldn't have done it without all who volunteered their time, talents, and treasures. Personally, I am so proud of all the members who worked so hard to make this show a great one.

These Gemborees are what pay the bills to keep our club up and running. It is REALLY important for EVERYONE to volunteer. Please remember that if you had a valid excuse, please contact Cathy Milhoan right away (at [cthymilhoan@yahoo.com](mailto:cthymilhoan@yahoo.com)) because she is compiling Santa's 'naughty and nice list' of the members who volunteered their minimum four hours, and ... a list of those who did not. The club is only as good as its members!

Besides crystals, cabochons, classes, and camaraderie, exactly why do we work so hard at our Gemborees? How should we reward ourselves for all that labor?

I have heard so much about field trips in our ancient history. We have done a few small car caravan field trips this year, including the Big Dig, three Lake Erie Beaches, and Fantasia Mining. I have thought much about the suggestion of renting vans, but the driver would have to have really good insurance to cover passengers' injuries in the case of an accident. So. Let's do an (insured) bus trip.

I think we could get a 34 passenger bus for an overnight trip for about \$8,000. I am suggesting an Ohio/Kentucky trip. Here's an example: What would you think about going to the Ohio Caverns (a guided tour on foot), stopping at Ceasar Creek Gorge (for fossil hunting), and the next day before returning home we could take a boat/kayak tour at the Gorge Underground in Kentucky (it's an old Limestone Mine) in May of 2026. This is just one idea. If you have a better idea, please speak up and volunteer to help coordinate a trip. Or ... we could just go to see the Christmas lights in Wheeling.

And I am not quite sure what all the club should pay besides for the bus. Perhaps entry fees? Perhaps some towards the hotel costs?

And I don't know how/if we could/should include any of the members who just didn't bother to volunteer - or get excused - from our Gemborees but we can figure that out as a group. Perhaps members who did not volunteer or were not excused could pay their own way if they wanted to go? Just one idea.

Would anyone be interested in going on such a trip? (i.e., Ohio Caverns, fossils hunting, & Limestone Mine boat/kayak tour).

Speaking of going somewhere, who's going to our Christmas/Holiday social? It's coming up! Make your reservation and pay your share of the dinner cost to Laurie McElroy!

And don't forget, elections are coming up in December. We need members who are willing to participate by becoming a member of the Board to step right up! Please let me know if you are interested in any of the open positions: President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. So far, our Newsletter Editor and Membership Chair have volunteered to continue. I will advise you in our December meeting if I wish to run again as President.

Rocking on,  
Mary Myers  
2025 SLC President

#### **Gemboree news from Cathy Milhoan:**

Hello SLC members, thank you to each & every member that worked so hard to have another successful Gemboree. Without you there is NO Gemboree.

Nov. 11 we will have a Gemboree meeting at 6 pm, at PAC, we will also vote for 2026 Gemboree Show Chair. FYI, there will be no Dec. Gemboree meeting, I hope everyone has a wonderful December.

We will be celebrating the Gemboree's 50th anniversary next year in 2026.

Thank you,  
Cathy M  
2025 Gemboree Show Chair

**SLC Dues** –2026 Dues can be paid to Laura McElroy. (If you have any questions as to whether 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 only \$44 - IF PAID BEFORE MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>.**

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 David Macseoinin: No News**

**Newsletter from John Kerr:** Please forward club news or 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 [cthyamilhoan@yahoo.com](mailto: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:** See attached MWF newsletter.

**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.

**Classes and Events:**

Macaroni Angels for Christmas Ornaments

Nov 8 @ 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Polymer Clay #2

Nov 9 @ 12:00 – 3:00 PM

Basic Wire Wrap

Nov 12 @ 6:30

Metal Smithing

Nov 22 @ Noon

Metal Smithing

Nov 29 @ Noon

Penannular Brooch

Dec 4 @ 7:00 PM

Faceting – Individual Instruction

January Saturdays @ 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Game Nights at the Clubhouse

Nov 13 @ 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Dec 11 @ 7:00 – 8:30 PM

**Annual Christmas Party December 19, 2025**

Place: Houston Hall

Address: 3069 Houston Road, Norton, Ohio 44203

Time: Social hour @ 6:00 pm- Dinner @ 6:30 pm

The total cost of the party is \$30.00 per person. The Summit lapidary club will pay \$10.00 for the dinner per member. Akron Mineral will also pay \$10.00 for their members in good standing. Money is due by December 9th to Laura Mc Elroy, Summit Lapidary's treasurer, or Kristin Morrow Akron Mineral treasurer.

Please bring a wrapped prize for the game that we play. Bring something you would like to receive. Thanks to Annette Long for facilitating this. This game is a lot of fun so come join the festivities.

Included are the menu chosen by both AMS/SLC boards:

Baked Chicken Alfredo

Roast Beef

Parsley Potatoes

Rice Pilaf

Corn

Salad

The clubs will furnish a cake.

Questions call Joyce Kish 330-753-7081

Christmas Party Committee:

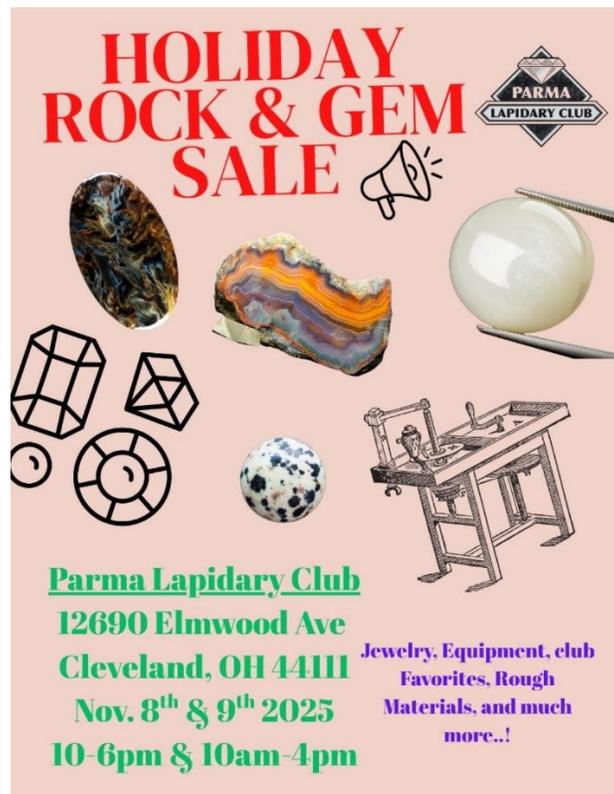
Mari Takai Manley, Kristin Morrow, Joyce & Skeeter Kish

**SLC/AMS 2026 Summer Picnic**

Chestnut Lodge at Sand Run Metro Park

Address: 1501 Sand Run Parkway, Akron, OH 44313

August 22, 2026, 12:00 PM to 5:00 pm

**Parma Lapidary Club Holiday Rock and Gem Sale:**

**HOLIDAY  
ROCK & GEM  
SALE**

**PARMA  
LAPIDARY CLUB**

**Parma Lapidary Club**  
**12690 Elmwood Ave**  
**Cleveland, OH 44111**  
**Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 2025**  
**10-6pm & 10am-4pm**

**Jewelry, Equipment, club  
Favorites, Rough  
Materials, and much  
more..!**

The poster features a collection of images including various gemstones (marble, agate, opal, diamond, pearl), a megaphone, a lapidary workbench, and a diamond. The background is a light pinkish-orange color.

**Veterans Day – November 11, 2025**

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

We extend our sincere gratitude and respect to all Summit Lapidary Club members who are veterans of the United States armed forces. Your service to our nation is truly appreciated.



## Bench Tips for November

Here's a couple of my jewelry bench tips for use in your club newsletter next month. If you do include it, please include an attribution (and the live link if possible) such as given below.

See More of my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making at

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

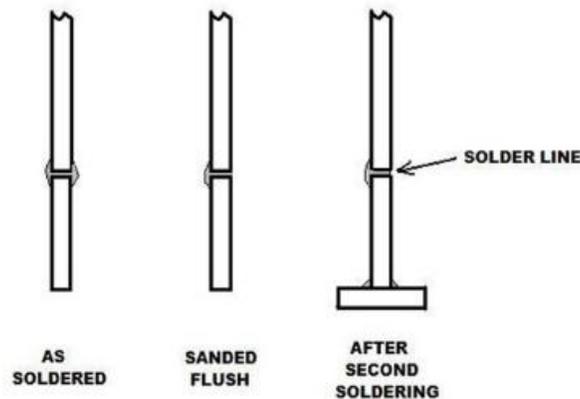
Happy hammering,

- Brad Smith

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



### AVOIDING SOLDER LINES



After finishing a soldered joint on say a bezel, have you ever seen it reappear after you've soldered the bezel to a base plate? What's happening is that every time you heat a soldered piece to the temperature that solder flows, the liquid solder seeps a little more into the surrounding metal. This leaves a small furrow where the solder had been sanded off flush at the joint. To get rid of the furrow, you have to re-sand the joint area down to the bottom of the furrow.

To avoid this when I have another soldering operation to follow, I try to leave a little extra solder on my joints. For instance, when trimming off excess base plate from around a bezel, I leave a paper thickness of excess plate material whenever possible until I'm done with all the soldering.

Of course, this isn't always possible like when a soldering operation prevents you from gaining access to an area for final sanding and polishing. Coating the finished solder joint with ochre seems to help a bit but is not a complete solution.

## LOOSE HEADS



Flying off the handle is never good, particularly if it's a hammerhead. The traditional way to tighten a loose hammerhead is a bit of work with wedges, but if the head is basically secure, there's a fast and easy way to tighten a loose head for about 50 cents - superglue.

Simply put a couple drops in from the handle side, let it set up, and then a few drops from the top side. Be sure to get the thin super glue, not gel. It penetrates better. Packages of superglues are usually available at the 99 cent store.

Note that this is only a safe practice if the hammer head is just a little loose but is basically secured onto the handle. Gluing is not a fix for a hammerhead that has come off the handle or is at risk of coming off.