



THE CORAL GEODE

July 2026

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**We're completely
floored...**

**by the new look of the clubhouse!
Check it out, pages 4-6.**

ABOUT OUR CLUB



Address:
10207 Fisher Ave.,
Tampa, FL 33619



Email:
info@tampabayrockclub.
org



Phone:
(813) 684-2039



Website:
tampabayrockclub.org



Calendar

TBMSC COMMITTEES

The Coral Geode newsletter:

Lyra Solochek, editor/designer

Gem Show:

Lyra Solochek (show chair), Cindy
Britten (dealer chair), Brenda
Gregory, Linda Collins

Membership:

Christy Gorrow, director

Social media

and advertising:

Lyra Solochek, Miles Bhavé, Bren-
da Gregory, Jojo Torres

Webmaster:

Miles Bhavé, Lyra Solochek

Field trip:

Carlo Lucin, chair

Program coordinator:

Lyra Solochek, Cindy Britten

Sunshine:

Brenda Gregory

Education/youth:

Cindy Britten

Landscape: Brenda Gregory, Carlo
Lucin

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The club is getting a facelift

Dear Members,

I hope you all had a wonderful Fourth of July!

I'm happy to report that the club renovations are coming along very well. In June, we installed a beautiful new floor, and it looks fantastic! It's a much-needed improvement that's been years in the making, and we're excited to finally see it completed. As you can imagine, this was a huge undertaking as we needed to move out the contents from the work areas.

Our original plan was to reopen on July 7, but we've had a slight delay. As the project progressed, we decided it made sense to tackle a few more improvements before moving everything back in. We know you'll appreciate the extra effort once you see the finished space.

Here's some of what we've been working on:

- New cabinetry and countertops for the metal shop soldering station
- New display cabinets for our mineral specimen collection
- A dedicated faceting room
- A second classroom
- A new dining and gathering area

Our Board members and volunteers have put in an incredible amount of time and effort to make all of this happen. I can't thank them enough for their hard work and dedication. Their willingness to pitch in has made a tremendous difference.

A special thanks to member Russ Hislip for fixing many of our electrical problems and other construction work.

There's still much to be done. We will be doing some heavy lifting Saturday and Sunday, July 11-12, to relocate furniture and move items back into the building. If you would like to help, we will begin at 9 a.m. each day.

We'll have a soft opening this weekend with the Faceting class, and we're planning to resume Open Shop on Tuesday, July 14. And the Beginning Cabochon class on July 18-19 will take place as planned.

If you have a chance, stop by and see how everything is coming together! We're also excited to invite everyone to our Grand Re-opening and Open House on September 12. Since Labor Day falls close to our regular meeting date, we'll also hold our September Members Meeting that day.

Take a look on Pages 4-6 to see some photos of the work we've done.

Looking Ahead to the Fall Show

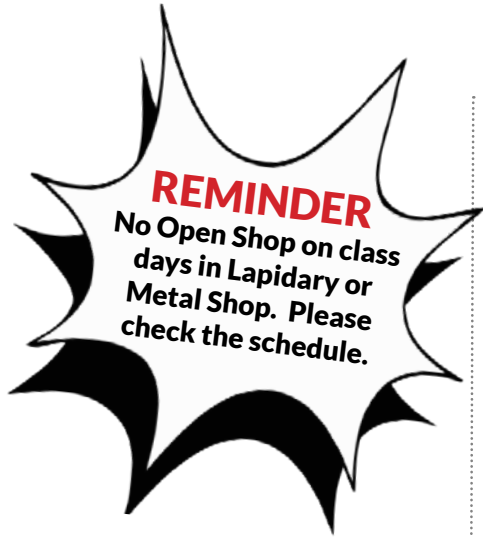
Even though it's only July, we're already gearing up for our November Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Vendor applications are going out now, and we're hoping to make this year's show our biggest and best yet.

To make that happen, we could use your help spreading the word. Beginning in August, flyers will be available at the club. Please take a few and post them at some of your favorite local spots—stores, libraries, community centers, coffee shops, or anywhere people might see them. Every little bit helps us reach new visitors and make the show a success.



**Lyra
Solochek**
President

Continued on next page



Members' Showcase



Leslie Stair, silver cuff, shark tooth and sea glass

Continued from previous page

Leadership Elections

Believe it or not, it's almost time for our annual elections. This year, we'll be electing:

- President
- Vice President
- Three members of the Board of Directors

If you've ever thought about becoming more involved with the club, we'd love to hear from you. Serving in a leadership role is a great way to help shape the future of our organization. If you're interested in running, please contact a member of the Elections Committee: Linda Collins and Cindy Britten.

We do need a member representative to be on this committee. If you are interested in participating, please contact me.

Thank you for your patience and continued support during the renovation process. We're looking forward to welcoming everyone back into the club and sharing all of these exciting improvements with you soon!

Club gem shows in Florida

September 12-13—ORLANDO: Show and sale; Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society, Inc; Florida National Guard Armory, 2809 S. Fern Creek Ave; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Adults \$6, Kids \$3, Scouts in uniform free; Vendors offering rocks, minerals, gemstones, fossils, beads, Jewelry, artifacts, handcrafted cabochons, etc. Silent auctions, door prizes, demonstrations and family activities. www.cfmgs.org

October 3-4—SANFORD: Show and sale; Florida Fossil Hunters; Sanford Civic Center, 401 E. Seminole Blvd; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; \$6/adult; \$2/child; Fossils, rocks, minerals, exhibits, children's activities, exhibits, silent auctions, bones. www.floridafossilhunters.com

November 7-8—TAMPA: Annual show; Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club; Florida State Fairgrounds Special Events Center, 4800 U.S. 301; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; \$8 adults, \$7 seniors/military, free for kids 12 and under; 67th Annual Fall Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show. Over 60 vendors will showcase a remarkable selection of unique slabs, cabochons, beads, gemstones, jewelry, and more. Whether you're a collector, creator, or simply love working with nature's materials, this event is perfect for you. Highlights include a kids' area featuring a sluice, a touch table with rock identification, a scavenger hunt, a mineral ID booth and a bean bag toss with prizes for kids and adults. Enter through the MLK entrance. Fairgrounds parking is \$12 at the gate. Prepurchase a parking pass for a discount at the fairgrounds website. This indoor, air-conditioned event offers a concession stand with lunch and refreshments, along with a conveniently located ATM. www.gem-showFL.com

November 14-15—MELBOURNE: Annual show; Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society; Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E Hibiscus Blvd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; \$5 age 12 and up; Hourly silent auction, kids' corner, opals, cut gems, beads, rough stone, slabs, tools, crystals, finished jewelry, findings, specimens and snack bar.

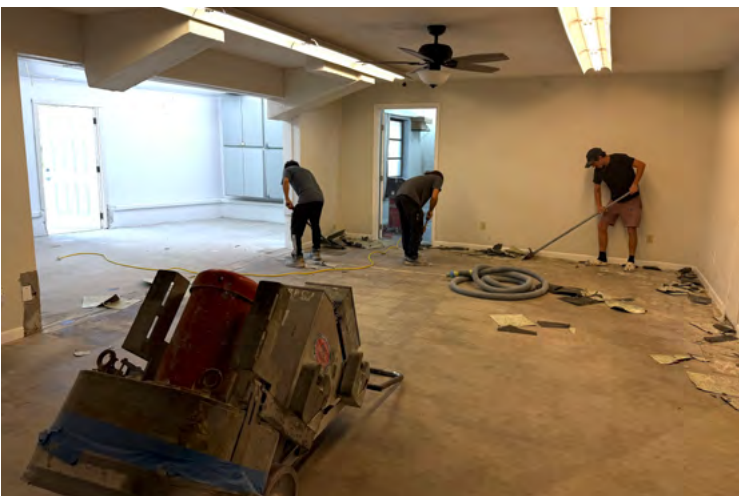
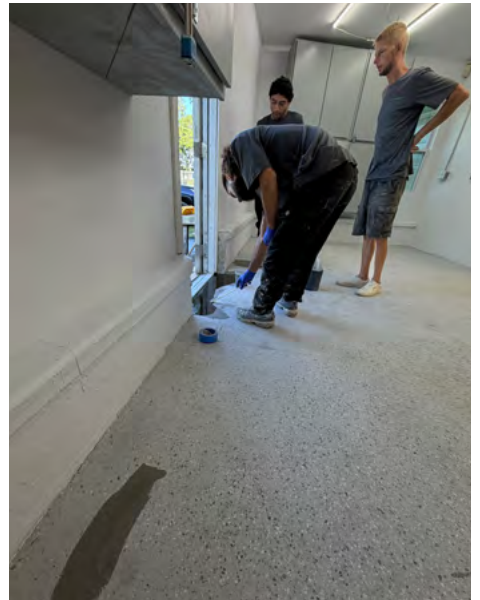
The transformation

Before





The work begins



Flooring complete



And the work continues

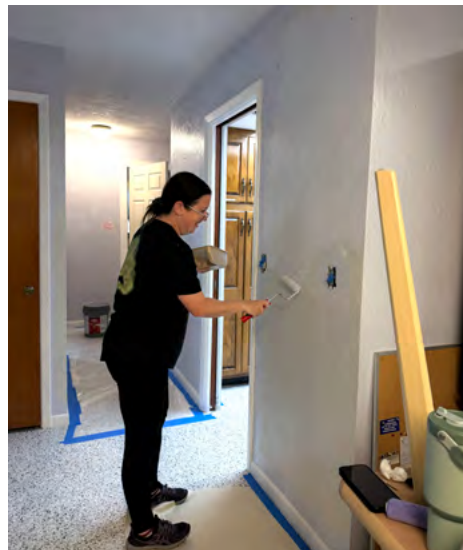


TABLE CRAFTS

Don't miss these table-craft classes!

July 18, noon-4 p.m.

Festival of Lights Bangle Bracelet

Check out this bright, sparkly, beaded bracelet. It's made by simply stringing beads. You need superdos, 4mm bicones, 11/0 and 15/0 round seed beads, plus some type of clasp. I've scheduled a class on July 18 from 12-4 pm. It's based on Jill Wiseman's Festival of Lights Bangle bracelet, but as you can see in the picture it has a toggle clasp. The total cost for this bracelet is \$30, which includes materials. You can sign up with a \$14 deposit to SignUp Genius and the materials fee of \$16 paid to the instructor on the day of the class. If you wish to use your own materials, contact me after signing up and I'll send you a materials list. No previous experience needed.

—Christy Gorrow, christygorrow@gmail.com

**Click here
to sign up**



July 26 and Aug. 2, 1-4 p.m.

Viking knit

Here's a chance to make a beautiful chain-like necklace made of woven 26-gauge wire. After making all those wonderful cabochons that have been turned into pendants with wire wrapping skills or silversmithing skills, you really need to create a chain-like rope to wear your pendants. Viking Knit is a great way to do this.

This class will take two sessions. The first to learn the technique and the second to learn how to finish the ends and add end caps and a clasp, with the possibility of some homework in between the two classes. The first is scheduled for Sunday July 26 from 1 to 4 pm and the second on the following Sunday (August 2 from 1 to 4) for drawing down the diameter, and adding end caps and a toggle.

The cost is \$20 for the two sessions, due at the time of sign up through SignUp Genius and \$12 materials fee due to the teacher at the first class.

If you have lots of supplies and would like to bring your own, I can send you a materials list or have questions contact me at christygorrow@gmail.com

Hope to see you in July.

—Christy

**Click here
to sign up**





July 18, 1-4 p.m.

Intermediate Wire Wrapping

\$72

If you have completed your beginners' Wire Wrapping Class and are ready for more, here's your opportunity to take your next steps. In this 3-hour class you step up to Cabochon Wrapping. You will learn how to create a design to wrap any size cabochon. You will be selecting an oval cab for the first project. The second project in the class will be a square stone. Each stone will be wrapped with a different style of bale and completed with a simple pre-made necklace.

All materials will be included in the class fee. Tools available on loan if needed. You should bring your own magnifiers. Go to SignUp Genius, sign up to reserve a seat by placing a deposit of \$20 for the shop fees and balance of \$52 paid to the instructor by cash or check on class day.

DATE: 1-4 p.m. Saturday, July 18

**Click here
to sign up**



July 24, 1-4 p.m.

Beginning Wire Wrapping

\$67

If you're interested and would like to start Wire Wrapping, this is the class for you! This class gives you the knowledge to manipulate the wire and capture your polished/tumbled precious stones using different size wires. The finished projects capture the stone completed with a simple bale, some wire decoration and completed with a chain. Each student should be able to complete two to three wrapped projects.

All materials will be included in the class fee. Tools available on loan if needed. You should bring your own magnifiers. Go to SignUp Genius, sign up to reserve a seat by placing a deposit of \$20 for the shop fees and balance of \$47 paid to the instructor by cash or check on class day.

DATES: 1-4 p.m. Friday, July 24

**Click here
to sign up**



METAL SHOP

Metal Open Shop Reservations

**Click here
to sign up**



Members who completed the Beginning Silver course may use the Metal Shop during Open Shop hours. Open Shop hours are:

- 1-6 p.m. Tuesdays
- 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays
- By appointment with shop foreman Linda Collins. Reach her by text at 508-944-3399.

You must present your shop pass to the monitor when you sign in. If you do not have a pass, ask the monitor or shop foreman about getting one. If you have previous smithing experience, but did not take the Beginning class, talk to the shop foreman for a Skills Check to get your shop pass. You must be a current member. Cost is \$6 per hour. PayPal, credit card or exact change only. Or purchase a pre-paid shop card.

FACETING

Practice your faceting skills in Open Shop

If you've completed the full faceting course, you are qualified to come to the club's Faceting Open Shop. These are available whenever there is a faceting class. Three machines are dedicated to class

Click here to sign up



students, and one machine is reserved for Open Shop. Make sure you reserve your spot, and do so early. To see available days and to reserve a station, go to "Faceting Open Shop" on [SignUpGenius](#).

Open shop is \$6 per hour. Payment by cash (exact change), Paypal or card.

Faceting requires practice. Keep honing your skills by cutting different materials and designs. Ask us about materials to practice with, or some new designs to try.

FACETING SYMPOSIUM IN NORTH CAROLINA

If you're serious about faceting, consider attending the Franklin Faceting Symposium on July 23-25, 2026, at The Fun Factory, 1024 Georgia Road, Franklin, North Carolina. The annual event, hosted by the United States Faceting Guild, has outstanding presentations by accomplished faceters from all over the country. Best of all, the presentations are FREE! There are also some classes offered to USFG members for a fee (registration is required), plus a pizza party and a prettiest stone contest. This is a great place to network with other faceters, plus there are vendors with some excellent rough to cut, as well as equipment and lap suppliers.

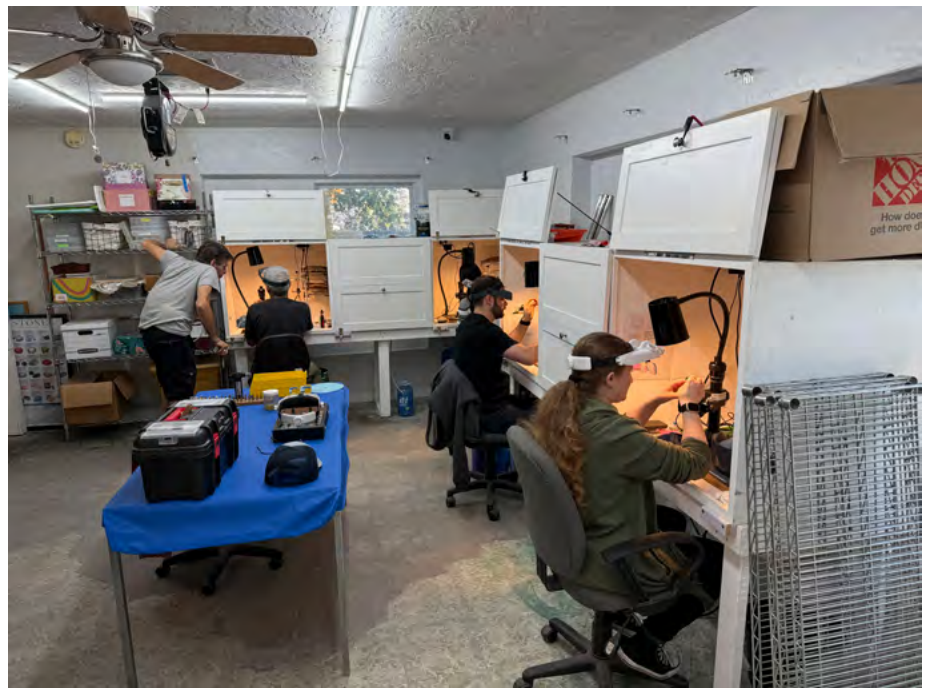
Beginning Faceting

- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 11-12 (Full)
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 25-26 (Full)
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. August 8-9 (Full)
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. September 5-6
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. October 3-4

This is a two-day class on cutting faceted gemstones (transparent stones similar in appearance to diamonds). You will learn how to choose cutting material, dop the stone, cut and polish facets, transfer a stone, and proper operation and care of a faceting machine. Each student will complete one stone. Cost is \$230 total, which includes materials, instructor fee, club shop time and use of machines. A deposit of \$130 is required to reserve a seat. The balance of \$100 should be paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class. Each student should have his/her own Optivisor to closely examine the stone during the cutting process. These are available on Amazon or Harbor Freight. You must wear closed-toed shoes. No loose clothing, and long hair must be tied back.



Click here to sign up



LAPIDARY



Sign up required in advance for Lapidary Open Shop

IMPORTANT: You must sign up in advance to reserve a seat for Open Shop so we can arrange a monitor to be present. If no one is signed up, the session will be canceled. Cabbers must arrive within the shop hours. We will not take anyone during the last hour.

**Click here
to sign up**



Members who completed the Beginning Cabochon class may use equipment in the Lapidary Shop

during Open Shop. You must present your shop pass to the monitor when you sign in. If you do not have a card, ask the staff on how to get one. If you have previous cabbing experience, but did not take the Beginning Cabochon class, talk to the shop foreman, Leah Welch, for a skills check to get your shop pass. She may be reached at rockabundance74@gmail.com.

You must be a current member to use club facilities. Cost is \$6 per hour. PayPal, credit card, Pre-paid Shop Card or exact change only. Please pay the shop monitor or club staff before you leave.

Beginning Cabochon class

- 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. July 18-19 (Jojo)
- 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. August 4, 5, 11, 12 (Leah)
- 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. August 22-23 (Jojo)
- 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. September 19-20 (Jojo)
- 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. October 10-11 (Jojo)

This workshop covers the basics of turning slabs of rocks into polished pieces. The cost of the class is \$230, which includes materials, instructor fees and shop time. A deposit of \$130 is required to save a spot, and the balance of \$100 should be paid to the instructor the day of the class.

You must wear closed-toed shoes. No loose clothing, and long hair must be tied back. Bring a waterproof apron, an Optivisor/magnifier, a large towel and lunch.

NOTE: Class must meet two-student minimum.

**Click here
to sign up**



INSTRUCTOR LIST

Linda Collins

LCollins1953@gmail.com
Instructor for Cold Connections,
Wire Wrapping, Lapidary, Silver,
Metal Shop foreman

Christy Gorrow

christygorrow@gmail.com
Instructor for Beading,
Kumihimo, Viking Knit,
Chaining and Intarsia

Jim Kammel

jmkammel@gmail.com
Faceting foreman and instructor

Mark Lauer

mdl3153@aol.com
Casting instructor

Lyra Solochek

lyrasolochek@gmail.com
Metal Clay foreman and instructor,
Lapidary instructor

Jojo Torres

ceramics.johannatorres@
gmail.com
Lapidary

Leah Welch

rockabundance74@gmail.com
Intarsia and Lapidary instructor and
Lapidary foreman

CASTING



Intro to wax carving and silver centrifuge casting

**Click here
to sign up**



July 25-26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

August 29-30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

This two-day class begins on the morning of Day 1 with an introduction to wax carving, where you'll create a freeform ring. In the afternoon, you'll learn how to set up a plaster of Paris mold. This mold will be placed in the kiln at the end of the day for burnout overnight.

On Day 2, you'll cast your ring in sterling silver and explore various methods to finish and polish your piece. Previous experience in silver classes is strongly recommended.

The fee for the class is \$250, which includes all materials, instructor fee, and shop time. A deposit of \$150 is required to reserve your spot, with the remaining \$100 payable to the instructor on the day of the class.

For more information, contact instructor Mark Lauer at mdl3153@aol.com.



Brad's Bench Tips

By Bradford Smith

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 14 - 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to www.LeeValley.com and do an item search on "brass escutcheon pin"

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to 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.



"24 Easy Metal Textures" - With No Rolling Mill Required

It details 24 different techniques for adding texture to your jewelry and metal work without the need for heavy equipment like a mill. The techniques make use of more tools and materials around the shop — like hammers, stamps, punches and tool bits for the Dremel or Foredom.

Each technique is explained in detail with:

- Description and pictures of the technique
- Procedures for creating the texture
- List of tools and supplies needed
- Options for modifying and personalizing

These methods are both useful and practical. I use them in my own work, and I teach them to others in classes and workshops. What's more is they're practical. None should put a dent in your budget.

Copies are available now at <https://amazon.com/dp/BOBPGPTBNH/>



Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems

Click to see all of Brad's books on amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith



CALENDAR

GENERAL CLUB HOURS

Tuesday: 4-8 p.m.

Thursday: By appointment

Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



vecteezy.com

CLASSES, OPEN SHOP AND EVENTS

Saturday, July 11, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., FACETING, DAY 1
8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Faceting Open Shop

Sunday, July 12, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., FACETING, Day 2
8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Faceting Open Shop

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, July 18, 2026

9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 1
12 p.m. - 4 p.m., BEADING: Festival of Lights bangle
1 p.m. - 4 p.m., WIRE WRAPPING - Intermediate

Sunday, July 19, 2026

9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 2

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Friday, July 24, 2026

1 p.m. - 4 p.m., WIRE WRAPPING - Beginner

Saturday, July 25, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., FACETING, Day 1
9 a.m.-5 p.m., CASTING, Day 1
9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Sunday, July 26, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., FACETING, Day 2
9 a.m.-5 p.m., CASTING, Day 2
1 p.m. - 4 p.m., VIKING KNIT, Day 1

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, August 1, 2026

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop
10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Metal Open Shop

Sunday, August 2, 2026

1 p.m. - 4 p.m., VIKING KNIT, Day 2

Monday, August 3, 2026

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., TBMSC Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 4, 2026

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 1
1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 2
12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, August 8, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., FACETING, DAY 1
8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Faceting Open Shop
9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop
10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Metal Open Shop
1 p.m. - 4 p.m., WIRE WRAPPING - Beginner

Sunday, August 9, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., FACETING, Day 2
8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Faceting Open Shop

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 3
1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 4
12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
1 p.m. - 4 p.m., STERLING BRACE-LET

Saturday, August 15, 2026

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop
10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Metal Open Shop

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, August 22, 2026

9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 1
10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Metal Open Shop
1 p.m. - 4 p.m., WIRE WEAVING - Intermediate

Sunday, August 22, 2026

9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., BEGINNING CABOCHON, Day 2

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, August 29, 2026

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop
9 a.m.-5 p.m., CASTING, Day 1

Sunday, August 30, 2026

9 a.m.-5 p.m., CASTING, Day 2

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, September 5, 2026

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop
10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Metal Open Shop

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Metal Open Shop
4 p.m. - 8 p.m., Lapidary Open Shop

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

12 p.m. - 3 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS
6 p.m. - 9 p.m., TABLE CRAFTS

Saturday, September 12, 2026

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Grand Re-opening/ Open House
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Members' Tailgate
11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., Members' meeting
1 p.m. - 4 p.m., Introduction to: Make-N-Takes

TBMSC Board Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2026

Present: Lyra Solochek, Linda Collins, Christy Gorrow, Carlo Lucin, Jojo Torres, Cindy Britten, Brenda Gregory, Kathy Reid

Via Phone: Miles Behave and Patti Kemple

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m. by Lyra Solochek

- Approval of minutes from June Meeting motion to approve made by Cristy Gorrow. Seconded by Jojo Torres. Approved by all.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Collins

- Discussed cost so far for club house renovations.
- Initial payment to the Fairgrounds for Fall Show in November has been made.
- Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Kathy Reid. Seconded by Christy Gorrow.. Approved by all.

November show update: Lyra Solochek

- Vendors are continuing to use new website program to register and pay for booths
- Tweaking the layout for the show to increase the # of available vendor tables
- Discussed the three-table minimum for vendor sign up
- Not paying for parking (Spring Show) saved the club a substantial amount of money and did not seem to affect attendance numbers directly.

Old Business:

Construction Update: Lyra and Linda

- A vote to move faceting into the office room was ratified by board members.
- Lighting system, sensor and flood lights are up and working after Russ fixed the work by contractor.
- Floor project is complete
- Painting mostly finished — back room not yet painted; have to wait until area is cleared.
- Unpacking and moving, new club configurations are underway and plans are for the club house to be ready for an open house in September.

Department Updates

Lapidary: Lyra

- Nothing new — still being used for storage. Will be cleared next weekend.
- Thomas Esmont has offered to help with slab saw repairs. In exchange, we will let him use our big saw. Beginning Cabochon class will take place July 18-19.

Silver: Linda Collins

- New look for the silver shop! Counters resurfaced and cabinets added underneath.
- Soldering stations will be set up to reduce confusion in classes.

Table Crafts, Casting and Metal Clay:

- On hold for construction and renovations; resuming within the next 2 weeks

Faceting: Lyra Solochek

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

- Moved to room that was the office (a lockable area)
- Faceting class resumes July 11-12

Building maintenance: Brenda Gregory/Carlo Lucin

- Windows in the faceting and utility room outside Lapidary need to be sealed shut. Not functioning.
- Filters will be replaced now that construction is completed
- Certification and reinstallation of fire extinguishers in progress.
- Safety re-certification is due. A fire inspection needs to be scheduled.

New Business:

- Phone and internet service being changed to Frontier and Verizon, cancel T-Mobile
- Grand reopening/open house and next quarterly meeting will be Sept. 12, 2026. We will switch from Sept. 5 to Sept. 12 because of the Labor Day holiday weekend. There will be a tailgate that morning also.

Election Time

- Positions that are on the ballot: President, Vice President and 3 board member seats.
- Election Committee members selected.
-

November Show planning:

- Need to ramp up advertising early– maybe include other rock/mineral clubs in other counties; listings (free) especially for kids events, discounts \$2 off general admission for mineral club members (by invitation)
- Upgrade the flyer to maybe a postcard size.
- Not fully participating in Gemorama (Oct. 9-11) – Robbins will let us set up a banner to advertise.

Faceting event

The club will host a Faceting Meetup, working with the U.S Faceting Guild on November 14-15. The club will be closed that weekend.

Discussed:

- Membership survey
- Suggestion Box (electronic)

Next board meeting: Aug. 3, 2026

Next quarterly members meeting and TBMSC Open House: September 12, 2026

8:05PM. Motion to adjourn made by Jojo Torres. Seconded by Brenda Gregory. Approved by all.

Treasurer's report will be available upon request.

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ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Officers

Lyra Solochek, President**
Christy Gorrow, Vice President**
Linda Collins, Treasurer*
Cindy Britten, Secretary*

Board Members

Brenda Gregory*
Carlo Lucin**
Kathy Reid*
Patti Kepple**
Milind Bhawe**
Jojo Torres*

*Term expires in 2027

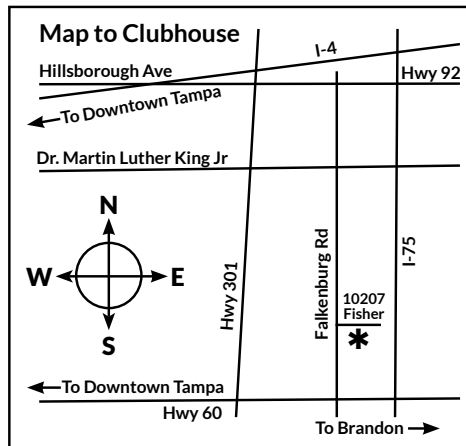
**Term expires in 2026

Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club, Inc.

Membership Application

*Mandatory fields

Adult 1 Name*		Email*		Birth month	
Adult 2 Name*		Email*		Birth month	
Child (under 18)				Birth month	
Child (under 18)				Birth month	
Child (under 18)				Birth month	
Address					
City		State	ZIP	Phone*	
Preferred form of contact*				Are you willing to receive your monthly newsletter by Email?	
☐ Email ☐ Text ☐ Phone				☐ Yes ☐ No	
I hereby apply for membership for myself and others listed above, and agree not to hold any claims against the club.*				Referred by:	
Signature			Date		



Annual dues (January 1-December 31): \$50 individual, \$25 for each additional adult in the household, and \$5 for each child under 18.
Multi-year membership: \$180 individual for 4 years, \$90 per additional adult in household for 4 years
Lifetime membership: \$600 individual, \$300 per additional adult in household.

Make checks payable to "TBMSC" and mail with this application to 10207 Fisher Avenue, Tampa, FL 33619, or drop it off at the club house when you visit.

Clubhouse: 10207 Fisher Avenue, Tampa, FL 33619
Phone: (813) 684-2039
Website: www.tampabayrockclub.org
Regular membership meetings: 1st Saturday of Mar., June, Sept. and Dec.
Board meetings: 1st Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m.
Monthly Newsletter: The Coral Geode

The Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club is a non-profit organization for the charitable and educational purposes of associating persons who are interested in natural science to work together as an organization in the gathering, displaying, and studying of rocks, shells, jewelry arts, and any kind of scientific objects of interest to the individual and the organization and to promote community interest in these subjects.

For Club Use

Cash or Check #	Amount	Receipt Done	Cards Done	Added to Mbr List	
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