

The clubhouse is closed for renovations. Reopens July 7.



IN THIS ISSUE

- President's message, 2
- Table crafts, 4
- Wire wrapping, 5
- Metal Shop, 5
- Faceting, 6
- Lapidary, 7
- Metal Clay, 8
- Casting, 9
- Instructors, 10
- Bench Tips, 11
- Calendar, 12
- General members' minutes, 13
- Board meeting minutes, 14



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IMPORTANT DATES

- **June 13** — Work Day: Moving furniture for Phase 1. 9 a.m. start.
- **June 17-18** — Flooring installation begins
- **June 19** — Floor curing day. No entrance into club.
- **June 20** — Work Day: Moving furniture for Phase 2. 9 a.m. start. (Will continue on June 21 if needed.)
- **June 22** — Floor installation Phase 2 begins, completes June 23.
- **June 23** — Floor curing day. No entrance into club.
- **June 27 and 28** — Work Days: Moving back in and unpacking.
- **July 4-5** — Continue unpacking as needed.
- **July 6** — Club reopens with board meeting.
- **July 7** — Club reopens!!

The club is getting a facelift

Summer is here, and things are moving fast at the Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club. From fundraising to major facility upgrades, here is a quick look at what's happening behind the scenes and what to expect next.



Lyra Solocheh
President

Shop closure & floor remodel update

As a reminder, our classes and open shop are currently paused as our highly anticipated clubhouse floor remodel is officially under way!

The actual flooring will go in starting June 17 and will conclude the following week. The process will take place in two phases: first will be the western half of the building on June 17-18, and second will be the remainder (not including the lapidary shop) on June 22-23.

We have been busy packing up and removing contents from the clubhouse, but some large furniture pieces still remain. These will have to be moved **Saturday, June 13**, to clear the floors before the first phase begins.

After Phase 1 is complete and the flooring is cured, we will move everything to the completed side of the building on **June 20** (and June 21 if needed) to prepare for Phase 2.

Once the flooring is completely done and cured, we will move back into the clubhouse beginning June 27-28 with our official re-opening scheduled for July 7.

A massive thank you to our board members and club members who are helping with this major undertaking. We appreciate everyone's patience while we improve our space!

Celebrate our reopening: Full July class lineup!

To celebrate getting back into our refreshed space, we are preparing a full slate of classes for July! Whether you want to learn a brand-new skill or sharpen your craft, we have something for everyone.

Our July lineup features:

- Weekend and weekday beginning cabochon classes to learn how to turn raw material into polished gems
- Cabochon challenge: Cutting a velvet obsidian
- Faceting classes to learn the precise art of cutting sparkling gems.
- Wire wrapping to turn your cabochons or stones into wearable art
- Beading and table crafts with some new sparkling projects

Important update: Silver instructor needed!

Silver instructor Lisa Miller has decided to take a break from teaching. We want to send a warm thank you and wish her well.

Because of this, we are officially on the lookout for another Fundamentals of Silver instructor to join our education team.

If you have experience with silversmithing and a passion for sharing your craft, we would love to talk to you! Please reach out to our metal shop foreperson, Linda Collins, to discuss the role.



New members!

Morgan Cooper
Kari Campbell
Yeila Sanchez
Arielle Cusmano
Steve Cusmano
La Rae Brownell
Chris & Melissa Shepard
Mark Bendall
Lori Houdek
Jessica Coiro
Lindsay Duroe
Allan Biddlecomb
Raina Collins

Continued on next page

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 Bhave, Brenda Gregory, Jojo Torres

Webmaster:

Miles Bhave, 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

Continued from previous page

Fundraising garage sale and tailgate wrap-up

Another huge thanks to everyone who came out to shop, volunteered, or donated items for our Fundraising Garage Sale & Members' Tailgate on June 6! We brought in more than \$1,000 in proceeds. Many people walked out with some good deals and special finds. Remaining items were donated to charitable organizations.



The club's booth at the Gemorama gem show in Plant City.

Gemorama recap

At the end of May, our club hit the road and participated in the Gemorama Gem Show in Plant City. We want to extend a big thank you to the Gemorama organizers for generously providing a booth for our club. Thanks to their support, we were able to spread the word about our upcoming classes, chat with potential new members, and build hype for our own big show coming up this November!

Housekeeping note

Please, NO FOOD in the metal and lapidary shops, or in the faceting area. Food may be consumed in the main room at the tables. Non-sugary beverages are allowed, but please make sure the containers do not spill. Thank you.

Stay connected

Even though the physical shop doors are temporarily closed for renovations this month, our community doesn't stop. Follow us on Facebook where we will be posting updates on the floor progress.

Got questions? Feel free to reach out to any board member if you need information regarding membership renewals or upcoming summer plans.

Thank you for being an active part of the TBMSC family. Enjoy the start of your summer. We can't wait to welcome you back into a shiny "new" clubhouse next month!

TABLE CRAFTS

Two new classes for table crafters

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**



WIRE WRAPPING



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 [SignUp Genius](#).

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)

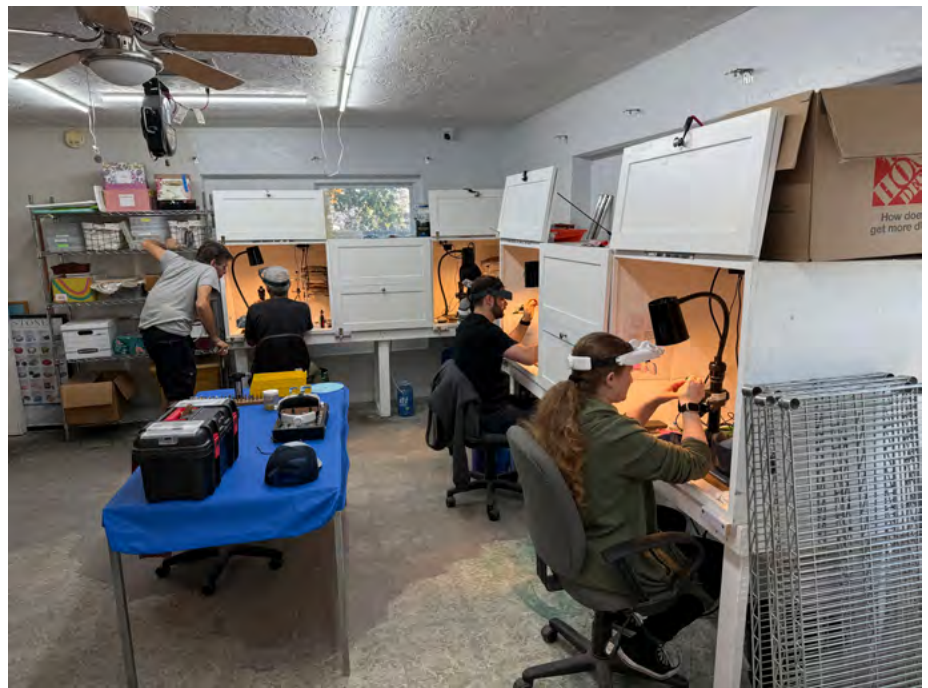
This is a two-day class on cutting faceted gemstones (transparent stones similar in appearance to diamonds). You will learn how to choose cutting material, dop the stone, cut and polish facets, transfer a stone, and proper operation and care of a faceting machine. Each student will complete one stone.

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

- 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. July 7, 8, 14, 15 (Leah)
- 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. July 18-19 (Jojo)
- 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. August 4, 5, 11, 12 (Leah)

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.

Click here to sign up



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.

Cabochon challenge: Velvet obsidian

- 1-4 p.m. July 11

You will learn how to orient a velvet obsidian rock to bring out the colors and take the cabochon to a high polish.

Click here to sign up



Instructor: Lyra Solochek

Class fee: \$40. includes shop fee deposit of \$18, and material and instructor fee of \$22 payable the day of class.

Prerequisite: Completion of the Beginning Cabochon class.

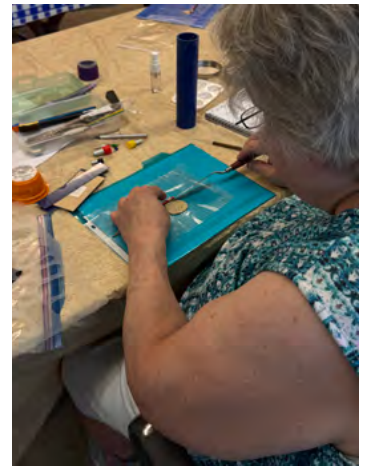
Wear closed-toed shoes. No loose clothing, and long hair must be tied back. Bring a waterproof apron, an Optivisor/magnifier, and a towel.

NOTE: Class must meet two-student minimum.



METAL CLAY

June metal clay class



CASTING



Intro to wax carving and silver centrifuge casting

**Click here
to sign up**



**July 25-26
August 29-30**

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.





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 instruc-
tor, Lapidary instructor

Jojo Torres

ceramics.johannatorres@
gmail.com

Lapidary

Leah Welch

rockabundance74@gmail.com

Intarsia and Lapidary instructor
and Lapidary foreman

Club gem shows in Florida

June 19-21—FT. WALTON BEACH: Annual show; PGMS Panhandle Gem and Mineral Shows; Fort Walton Beach NW Florida Fairgrounds, 1958 Lewis Turner Boulevard; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; \$5 entry good all weekend, under 12 free; Grand Door Prize, free identification. www.panhandlegemandmineralshows.com.

Prepaid Shop Card still available

Buy one — or more — of the Prepaid Shop Cards (PSC) and use them as you visit the club for Open Shop. Write “PSC” under payment when you sign into Metal, Lapidary or Faceting Open Shops, then present your card to the monitor who will punch out the number of hours used.

The cards come in three price points:

- 5 hours for \$30
- 10 hours for \$60
- 20+1 bonus for \$120.

These are approximately business card-size, easy to keep in your wallet. And there is no expiration date.

If you're interested, you can purchase them from club officers.

These prepaid cards are for only Metal, Faceting and Lapidary.

You can still pay for Open Shop by cash, PayPal or credit card if you prefer.

CLASS REFUND POLICY

- **Registration & Deposits:** Class signups are handled through SignUp Genius. A deposit is required to reserve a spot. Balance due day of class.
- **Refund Eligibility:** To receive a full refund of the deposit, participants must notify the Tampa Mineral and Science Club at least 14 days before the first day of class.
- **Rescheduling:** Students may choose to either receive a full refund or reschedule once to a different class date.
- **Emergency Cancellations:** In case of an emergency, a refund or re-scheduling may be possible. Contact the club for details.
- **Processing Fee:** A 10% cancellation fee will be deducted from all refunds for processing.
- **Transfers:** Class registration can be transferred once to another class of equal value. To request a refund or transfer, email tampamineral@gmail.com with your name, and for transfers, include the title and date of the class you'd like to attend instead.
- **No-Shows:** No refunds or credits will be issued for no-call, no-show participants.
- **Club Cancellations:** If the club cancels a class, all registered participants will receive a full refund.

Brad's Bench Tips

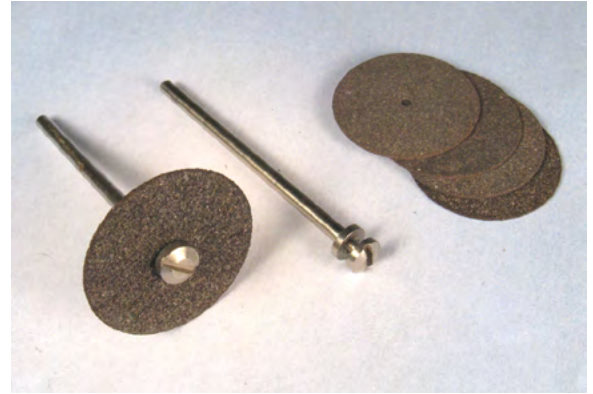
By Bradford Smith

Cutoff wheels

Cutoff wheels (also called Separating Discs) are inexpensive and do a great job cutting or shaping steel. You can use them to sharpen tool points, cut piano wire to length, make slots, and sharpen worn drills. Other uses include modifying pliers and making your own design stamps.

My preference is the one inch diameter size. Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disc, and definitely wear your safety glasses. Those are little flakes of steel coming off the disk.

By the way, cutoff wheels are not as good at cutting soft metals like copper, silver and gold. They will work, but soft metals tend to clog up the cutting edges.



"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, June 13, 2026

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. WORK DAY: MOVE FOR PHASE 1

Wed June 17-18, 2026

Flooring project, Phase 1

Saturday, June 20, 2026

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. WORK DAY: MOVE FOR PHASE 2

Sunday, June 21, 2026

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. WORK DAY: MOVE FOR PHASE 2 (IF NEEDED)

Monday, June 22-23, 2026

Flooring project, Phase 2

Saturday, June 27, 2026

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. WORK DAY: MOVE BACK

Sunday, June 28, 2026

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. WORK DAY: MOVE BACK

Saturday, July 4, 2026

Club closed for July 4 holiday

Monday, July 6, 2026

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

Tuesday, July 7, 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

Wed July 8, 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, July 11, 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. CABOCHON WORK-SHOP: Obsidian

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

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

Wed July 15, 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

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

Wed 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. - 1 p.m. Club hours
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lapidary Open Shop
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Metal Open Shop

Sunday, July 26, 2026

8 a.m. - 3 p.m. FACETING, 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

Wed 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
1 p.m. - 4 p.m. METAL CLAY: Clay and Coffee

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

Wed 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
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 WEAVING - Beginner

TBMSC General Membership Minutes

June 6 , 2026

Time: 11:35 AM

Chair: Lyra Solochek, President

1. Call to order & welcome

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 AM by Lyra Solochek. Lyra introduced herself to the membership as the new president.

2. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from the March general membership meeting were reviewed. Motion: Melinda Riddle motioned to approve the March minutes. Second: Christy Gorrow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by all members present.

3. Show reports and event planning

A. Spring Show Results

Attendance: The event drew an estimated 1,100 to 1,200 attendees, which was decent considering it was Easter weekend, and the show was on Friday-Saturday. Many vendors reported highly successful sales and expressed strong satisfaction with the event.

B. November Show Plans (November 7th & 8th)

Layout & Vendors: Discussion held on adjusting layout to maximize space and accommodate additional vendors.

Merchandise: New club T-shirts will be produced and made available for the November show.

Marketing & Advertising Strategy: It was noted that previous digital billboard advertisements were not productive. The club will shift focus toward increasing street-team promotion and expanding social media advertising. Call for Action: Members are encouraged to submit any creative promotional ideas to the board.

4. Clubhouse renovation & construction update

A comprehensive overview of the facility renovations and the action plan for the upcoming month was presented:

Flooring Installation Schedule: Phase 1: June 17-18, Phase 2: June 20-21

Relocation Timeline: The timeline for moving equipment and setting up the updated spaces will follow immediately after flooring completion.

Grand Reopening: The facility is on track to officially reopen to members on July 7, 2026.

5. Adjournment & Next Meeting

Christy Gorrow moved to adjourn at 11:51AM. Melinda Riddle Seconded motion.

The motion passed unanimously by all members present.

The meeting concluded following the completion of scheduled agenda items.

Next General Membership Meeting: Scheduled for September 5, 2026.

Minutes submitted for record by: Cindy Britten Recording Secretary

TBMSC Board Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2026

Present: Lyra Solochek, Linda Collins, Kathy Reid, Brenda Gregory, Christy Gorrow, Cindy Britten, Miles Bhave, Patti Kemple

Attending by phone: JoJo Torres

President Lyra Solochek called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 2026 board meeting was made by Brenda Gregory and seconded by Linda Collins. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Linda Collins reported that all monthly income and expenses were reviewed and discussed.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Kathy Reid and seconded by Brenda Gregory. The motion carried unanimously.

Gemorama Update

- Linda Collins and Lyra Solochek reported that show expenses were minimal.
- The club made approximately \$850 from slab and merchandise sales.

Old Business

Construction Update

- Electrical and lighting system issues, including the timer switch, remain unresolved.
- The previous company has not returned calls, and the board will move forward with another contractor to correct prior work.
- The floor project is scheduled to begin with Phase 1 on June 17–18, followed by a curing day plus move, and Phase 2 on June 22–23.
- Open shops and classes will resume on July 7.
- Members will assist with packing and moving items out of the building in preparation for the floor renovation.
- Planned work days will be scheduled to support renovation preparation.
- Items remaining in the building during the flooring work will need to be covered.

June Members Meeting and Garage Sale

- The garage sale will be held inside. Tape and stickers are needed for pricing.
- Pricing will take place each evening.
- Remaining items will be handled through thrift store pickup or delivery.

Department Updates

Lapidary

- The Cab King bearing is failing. Motor replacement would cost approximately \$1,000, making purchase of a new 6-inch machine the more economical option. The replacement should allow for future motor replacement. A motion to purchase a new machine was made by Linda Collins and seconded by Cindy Britten. The motion carried unanimously.
- Linda Collins recommended replacing equipment with new equipment when practical rather than continuing temporary repairs on broken machinery.

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- The “Hippie” saw continues to require repairs, parts are difficult to source, and a new 20-inch saw would cost \$5,529 with free shipping. The board will explore selling the current saw. A motion to replace the 20-inch saw was made by Kathy Reid and seconded by Linda Collins. The motion carried unanimously.
- Slab-cutting prices should be revised, and only donations of quality material should be accepted.
- The club will investigate additional sources for raw rock.
- The quality of club slabs should be improved.
- Club slab cutting will remain the priority.
- The lapidary area must be prepared for renovation, including covering Cab Kings and polishing wheels with plastic.
- Advanced lapidary classes are being considered for the future.

Silver

- Make-and-take classes beyond the beginner level are being developed.
- Kathy and Linda will incorporate Lisa’s methods so that all classes are taught consistently.
- Mixed metal classes are also being offered.

Table Crafts

- Wire-wrapping classes in July will include a variety of projects.
- Cold connection techniques will be introduced in Geode, and classes are being planned for October.
- Christy Gorrow reported that Viking Knit classes will be scheduled for July 26 and August 2 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- A beaded “Festival of Lights” bracelet class is scheduled for July 18 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Kumihimo classes are ongoing.

Casting

- The current casting class concluded this weekend.
- Class enrollment is consistently full, expected to increase.

Faceting

- Faceting classes continue to fill quickly.
- Lyra Solochek will attend a faceting symposium in July.
- The Facetron machine requires repair. Lyra will take to the symposium to talk to Facetron dealer.

Metal Clay

- The most recent metal clay class had five students.
- More advanced metal clay classes are being considered for the future.

Building Maintenance

- Filters need to be changed before and after the flooring project.
- Light bulb replacements are needed.
- The clubhouse grounds will receive donated plants for landscaping.
- Fire extinguishers require certification and reinstallation, and a fire inspection is needed.
- Exit signs are needed for all exit doors.

New Business

- T-Mobile does not provide sufficient upload capability, so service will be changed to Frontier Fios/Verizon for phone and internet.

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- A used Connex container may be purchased for approximately \$3,000.

November Show Planning

- Contracts will be sent this month.
- Melbourne's show conflicts with the club's November show.
- Because Gemorama is in October, prior to the club's November show, the club was offered a table for promotional use. Only one or two people would be needed to staff it. Kathy Reid and Linda Collins will lead this effort.
- Cindy Britten will serve as Dealer Chair for vendor applications and payments for the November show.
- Additional vendors are needed for findings and specialty beads.

Membership

- The next phase of the new website will include the membership application.
- The board discussed adding a student membership rate of \$25.
- Discussed availability of Starter Kits for each class. The board will brainstorm the contents of each kit and establish a budget.

A motion to adjourn was made by Cindy Britten at 8:43 p.m. and seconded by Linda Collins.

The general club meeting will be held on June 6. The tailgate and garage sale will begin at 8:00 a.m., and the members meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m.

The next board meeting is scheduled for July 6.

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* Patti Kepple**
Carlo Lucin** Milind Bhavé**
Kathy Reid* Jojo Torres*

*Term expires in 2027

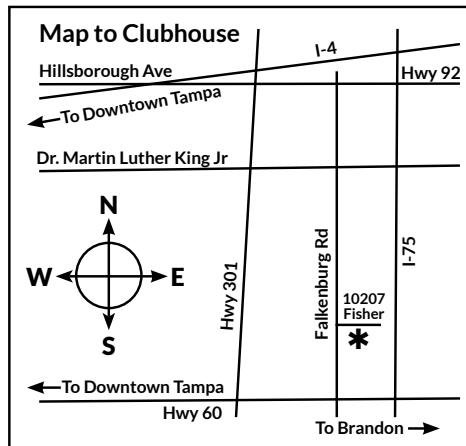
**Term expires in 2026

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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Revised 1/2025