



THE CORAL GEODE

NOVEMBER 2023

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ABOUT OUR CLUB



Address:
10207 Fisher Ave.,
Tampa, FL 33619



Email:
info@tampabayrockclub.org



Phone:
(813) 684-2039



Website:
tampabayrockclub.org



Calendar

President's message



Peter Favaro



Photo by Rick Jackson



Photo by Ardys Favaro

What a good show. We had a few hiccups, but in the end, the Fall Show was a success in my opinion. Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help. Without you, things would have been much harder for us as a club. We are already looking forward to the spring show and hope that we can make it even better.

Construction was put on hold temporarily so we could get the show stuff sorted and ready, but it is starting back up soon. Please watch your step when inside of the clubhouse as we will be having concrete poured and the floor leveled by the back door. Please do not walk in that area until we give an all clear. This will ensure that the concrete will have plenty of time to cure and harden fully.

There is still some equipment that didn't sell at the show, including two slab saws. If you're interested, please reach out and let us know.

Classes have been going on and filling fast. So keep your eyes out for new postings on the website.

Lastly, and really again, to all of you that helped get this show off the ground, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

More from the Fall Show, Pages 3-5

Cast your vote!

It's time to fill open leadership positions for 2024. Click on the ballot box below to vote online early. If you'd like to vote in person, you may do so at the clubhouse from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, before the General Members Meeting.



New members!

- Nick & Valerie Costa
- Sheba Matheu & Amina
- Susan Carey
- Brandy Metcalf
- Nick Tsourakis & Suzanne Lynn
- Cyndi Eller
- Donna & Howard Robinson
- Kimberly Fielder
- Natasha Chery & Phillip Masters
- Mage Harrah
- Todd & Kim Buettner
- Dee Selby
- Jon Ericson
- Aurora Aguilar
- Devin Arrabito
- Beth Privett
- Ralph Barber, Kevin & Lori Hart
- Elizabeth Frankenfeld
- Dawn Bracket & Celia Kahn
- Carmen Estrada
- Michelle Wacker
- Johanna Torres

Showcase your work at the State Fair contests

The 2024 Florida State Fair contest's entry deadlines are fast approaching. You will have a chance to win ribbons and prize money, plus your work will be on exhibit at the State Fair, which runs from Feb. 8-19.

Jewelry categories include bead stringing, kumihi-mo, jewelry fabrication, casting, wire wrapping/weaving, chain maille, viking knit, metal clay, fused glass, and much more.

For the 2024 Fine Crafts Competition Handbook with all the entry rules and details, click [here](#). Entry deadline is Dec. 8 (late entry Dec. 9-15), but delivery deadline is Jan. 11-13, so you have some time to get your work ready.



2023 Jewelry Best in Show

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Tailgate, meeting, then holiday celebrations!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Dec. 2. Bring your crafts, cabs, slabs and more for the holiday members tailgate. This will be a great place to shop for your loved ones. After we take care of business at the Members Meeting, we'll celebrate with a potuck lunch. Please bring a dish, beverage or dessert to share. Here is the schedule for that day. We hope to see you all there!

- **9-11 a.m.: Members tailgate**
- **11 a.m.: Quarterly Members Meeting**
- **Noon: Holiday potluck**

64TH ANNUAL FALL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW



Photo by Lyra Solochek

Special thanks to all the volunteers!

The 2023 Fall Gem and Mineral Show was a great success. We had about 1,500 visitors, not counting children. We had more than 60 vendors. Guests, vendors and club volunteers all had a good time.

The club volunteers were amazing and helpful, and we are very thankful for you all. We're going to do it again the first weekend of April 2024 at the Florida State Fairgrounds inside the Special Event Center.

The Club made a good amount of money at this show. I will have a full show report with the November Treasurer's Report, and it will go out in the December Geode.

Again, I want to thank everybody for all their hard work. And those of you who picked up my slack, here's a "thank you very much!"

I hope we can generate more volunteers in April and have another great show.

– Greig Lundergan, Dealer Chair

Scenes from the 2023 Fall Show



Photo by Lyra Solochek



Photo by Ardys Favaro



Photo by Lyra Solochek



Photo by Lyra Solochek

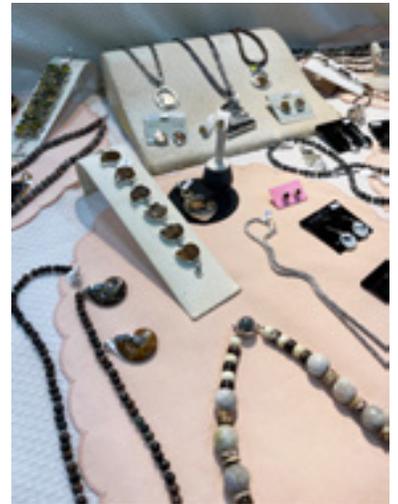


Photo by Lyra Solochek

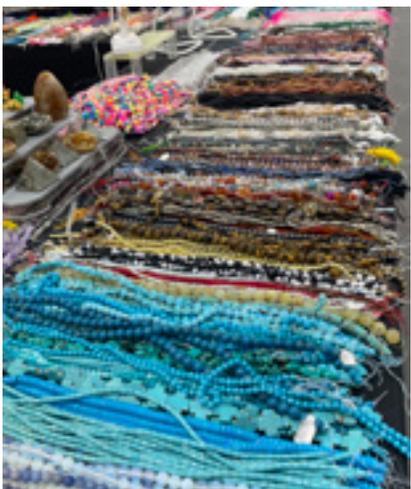


Photo by Lyra Solochek



Photo by Rick Jackson



Photo by Rick Jackson

Scenes from the 2023 Fall Show



Photo by Ardys Favaro



Photo by Rick Jackson



Photo by Ardys Favaro



Photo by Rick Jackson



Photo by Lyra Solochek



Photo by Rick Jackson

LAPIDARY

Beginning Cabochon classes set for early 2024

December's Beginning Cabochon class is already full. But more classes are coming after the new year. Dates for the first quarter of 2024 are:

- January 13-14
- February 10-11
- March 23-24

This is a two-day workshop covering the basics of turning slabs of rocks into polished pieces. Go to the Signup Genius link (see article on the right) to reserve your spot. The cost of the class is \$210, which includes materials, instructor fees and shop time. A deposit of \$110 is required to save a spot, and the balance of \$100 should be paid to the instructor the day of the class. Bring a waterproof apron, an Optivisor, a large towel and lunch.



Reserve your seat using Signup Genius

We've officially launched class signups on Signup Genius for Lapidary classes and Open Shop. Click the links below to go to the signup pages.

[Beginning Cabochon or tinyurl.com/cabochon1](https://tinyurl.com/cabochon1)

[Open Shop or tinyurl.com/openshop1](https://tinyurl.com/openshop1)

Find the class or open shop you'd like to sign up for. Click on Sign Up for that date, then click on Save & Continue at the bottom.

- On the next page, fill in your name, email and phone number. If you've created a Signup Genius account, you may log in instead.
- For classes, a deposit is required to reserve a seat. Click on **Sign Up & Pay Now** to enter your payment information.
- For Open Shop, click on **Sign Up Now**. Please pay the monitor directly with cash, check or PayPal on the day of the Open Shop.
- If you need help signing up, contact Peter Favaro at hawk_doc@hotmail.com or Lyra Solochek at lyrasolochek@gmail.com.

Practice your craft during Open Shop

Open Shop has been fairly slow, so if you are looking to get work done, now is a great time as we have open seats. Open shop hours are Tuesdays from 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. It's best to make a reservation on Signup Genius to make sure there is a machine available to use.



Carlo Lucin is cranking up the slab saws again, so if you have some rough you'd like to have cut, drop them off with him. Carlo is in the shop on Tuesday evenings. For details on pricing, contact Peter Favaro. Make sure you fill out the order form with name and contact number, and special instructions.



Our Opal Class will start in January for experienced cutters. This is an advanced class and you need several months of cutting under your belt to participate. Why? Because you must exercise control to keep from overcutting or overheating these expensive stones. Look for class signups on the website and newsletter.

— Peter Favaro

REMINDER

When using the cabbing machines, make sure you use the whole width of each wheel and not just one area. We recently had to replace a wheel prematurely because of excess wear at the center. Place the stone to the wheel in different areas each time to prevent this.

You don't need to put excessive force to the wheel. Let the wheels do the work. Patience is key. Too much force might gouge the wheel. It might also introduce more scratches on the stone which you'll have to work out. Please remember that these wheels are not cheap. So help us take care of our lapidary shop.

If you have any questions, please ask the shop monitor.

TABLE CRAFTS

Upcoming classes



Wire Wrapping I

\$50.00

Your class will include:

- A 3-hour class (taking home at least two completed projects)
- Instructor fee
- Two packages of different shaped copper wire
- A selection of polished stones for your project

When:

- Noon to 3 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 28
- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 30
- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 3

Skills learned in this class:

- How to create a bail in a wire wrapped project
- How to read the curves of the stone to highlight the best versions of stone with the wire
- Creating a design with wire to embellish the overall vision on the stone



Geometric Wire Wrapped Earring & Necklace Class

\$50.00

Your class will include:

- A 3- to 4-hour class (taking home an earrings & necklace set)
- Instructor fee
- Shop fee
- Material fee
- Wire for the earrings and necklace
- Chain for the necklace w/ jump rings and lobster claw
- A selection of pearls or beads for your project

When:

- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 25

Skills learned in this class:

- How to make your own ear wires
- How to shape and manipulate wire
- What tools to use when completing your project



Christmas Earring Class

\$50.00

Your class will include:

- A 3-hour class (taking home at least four completed projects)
- Instructor fee
- Club fee
- Four Christmas earrings kits w/ all materials needed to complete each set
- Wire to make the findings

When:

- Noon to 3 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 5
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 7
- 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Dec 9

Skills learned in this class:

- How to make your own findings
- How to stack different beads to create a design

Contact instructor Linda Collins for availability by calling 508-944-3399 or emailing LCollins1953@gmail.com.

NOTE: Loaner Jewelry tools will be available for those who do not have them.

TABLE CRAFTS

Viking Knit, Kumihimo, more!

If you have unfinished projects in Viking Knit, Kumihimo, Chaining or Beading, come join us. Table Crafts fee is \$3.50 an hour, but if you want to stay 3 hours, the cost is \$10. Email cgorrow@juno.com, text 813-857-4454 or leave a message to inquire about availability and to reserve a space and time.

— Christy Gorrow



KILN ARTS

Classes canceled

Metal clay classes by Barbara Rivolta that were scheduled for November and December have been canceled. Barbara hopes to reschedule these classes for early next year.

FACETING



Our foreman is back

We had a Tom Dershem sighting this past weekend. Our faceting foreman has returned to Florida after his medical leave. Please welcome him back!

If you would like to learn how to facet a stone, contact Tom at rocky1375@verizon.net or Peter Favaro at hawk_doc@hotmail.com. We will have two instructors for Saturdays, but if you need a different day, let us know. We will try to accommodate your schedule.

METAL

Want to learn how to create silver jewelry?

In the Beginning Silver nine-week course, you will learn how to saw, manipulate and solder silver into your own pieces of wearable art. For more information, email instructor Tony Carrino at tcarrino@verizon.net.



Club member wins William Holland scholarship

Congratulations to Joseph Kenney for receiving a scholarship from William Holland Lapidary School in Young Harris, Georgia, where he will be able to take a weeklong class next year.

Joseph, who just turned 18, has been a member of the club for four years, and a junior board member for the past two.

Here's an excerpt from his application:

I am a 17-year-old high-schooler who has been a member for four years and a junior board member for two years at the Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club. Every six months, I help run the children's area of the biggest rock show in Florida at the Florida Fairgrounds. Almost every vendor at the event knows me.

I was lucky enough to get a tumbler when I was young. At the same time then-TBMSC president Gerri Lundergan, who also learned the arts at William Holland, taught me about cabochons and cabbing for free.

This scholarship would enable me to volunteer at the TBMSC by showing that a young person can make art and jewelry from rocks. I can help preserve lapidary and jewelry arts by instructing people my age in my community about rocks, the colors in them, and how to identify cabochons and slabs. I would be incredibly thankful to receive this scholarship and the one-of-a-kind instruction from William Holland. To say one was trained at William Holland is an honor that gets respect from artists and professionals all over the world. Here in Tampa, we have hosted classes from instructors trained at WH and the classes are successful.

The opportunity to properly learn and train in classic European lapidary and opal crafts and develop my expertise in geology will enhance and increase my academic opportunities. This scholarship will help my community, help my family, and help secure my future as a geologist.

TBMSC INSTRUCTOR LIST

Tony Carrino

tcarrino@verizon.net
Silver, Metal Shop Foreman

Linda Collins

LCollins1953@gmail.com
Cold Connections, Wire Wrapping,
Lapidary, Metal

Tom Dershem

rocky1375@verizon.net
Faceting, Faceting Shop Foreman

Peter Favaro

hawk_doc@hotmail.com
Faceting, Lapidary, Lapidary Foreman

Christy Gorrow

cgorrow@juno.com
Beading, Kumihimo, Viking Knit,
Intarsia

Jim Kammel

jmkammel@gmail.com
Faceting

Barbara Rivolta

barbara.rivolta@gmail.com
Metal Clay, Fused Glass, Enameling

Lyra Solochek

lyrasolochek@gmail.com
Lapidary, Faceting

Club shows in Florida

Nov. 18-19

WEST PALM BEACH

Show and sale hosted by Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. Jewelry, beads, rocks, minerals, gemstones, settings, findings, fossils, meteorites, tools, books, and more. Educational activities and exhibits. Demonstration area. South Florida Fairgrounds, Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$10, 2 day pass \$15, Children under 12 are free. Visit gmspb.org for a \$1 off coupon.

Dec. 1-3

HUDSON

Annual show hosted by Withlacoochee Rockhounds. Veterans Memorial Park, 14333 Hicks Road; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; \$5 Adults. 14 and under free.

withlacoocheerockhounds.com

Dec. 2-3

MIAMI

Annual show hosted by Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild; Westchester Cultural Arts Center, 7930 SW 40 St. Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Adults \$5, children under 12 free with adult. Mineral displays & exhibits, children's activities, gem mining sluice, geode cutting, and vendors with specimens, cut gemstones, fossils, artisan jewelry, lapidary crafts, lapidary supplies. miamigemandmineral.com.

Used equipment for sale



Hillquist 16-inch slab saw
\$1,000
The saw works but must use a zip tie to keep feed lever in place.



Vacuum pumps
\$25 each
Unknown if these work.



Lortone 10-inch slab saw
\$600
This saw needs a new feed motor.
Everything else is fine.



Wire saw
\$25
Unknown if this works.

Contact Peter Favaro if you're interested at hawk_doc@hotmail.com.

Brad's Bench Tips

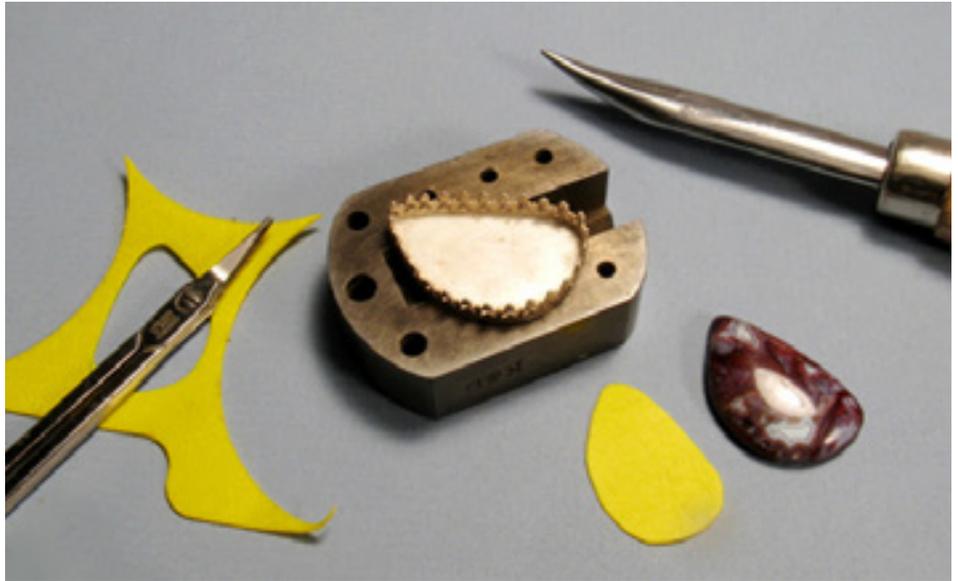
By Bradford Smith

Raising a cabochon

When a cabochon sits too low in a bezel, the bezel hides a lot of the stone. The solution is to either sand down the bezel height or boost up the stone. But if you choose to to raise it up, the question is what is the best material to use?

I was taught to use fine sawdust, but now think that might be a problem when used in rings. I reason that rings will frequently get wet, which would cause the sawdust to swell in size and push the stone against the bezel. Then when the sawdust dries out, the stone would be a little loose.

In any case, I now prefer to insert a flat sheet to boost up my stones. It can be a scrap of metal or some plastic from product packaging or old credit cards. In either case, just cut a piece to loosely fit into the bezel and drop in the stone (with some dental floss) to check its height.



“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 common 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: 3-8 p.m.
Thursday: 9-1 p.m.
Saturday: 9-1 p.m.



CLASSES, OPEN SHOP AND EVENTS (Classes and events are in ALL CAPS)

Sat Nov 18, 2023

9am Club hours
9am Lapidary Open Shop

Tue Nov 21, 2023

10am GEOMETRIC WIRE
WRAPPED EARRING AND
NECKLACE
3pm Club hours
4pm Lapidary Open Shop

Thu Nov 23, 2023

CLUB IS CLOSED FOR
THANKSGIVING

Sat Nov 25, 2023

9am Club hours
9am Lapidary Open Shop
10am GEOMETRIC WIRE
WRAPPED EARRING AND
NECKLACE

Tue Nov 28, 2023

12pm WIREWRAP 1
3pm Club hours
4pm Lapidary Open Shop

Thu Nov 30, 2023

9am Club hours
10am Silver Open Shop
11am WIREWRAP 1

Sat Dec 2, 2023

9am Club hours
9am TAILGATE
11am GENERAL MEMBERS MEET-
ING
12pm HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Sun Dec 3, 2023

11am WIREWRAP 1

Mon Dec 4, 2023

6:30pm TBMSC BOARD MEETING

Tue Dec 5, 2023

12pm CHRISTMAS EARRINGS
3pm Club hours
4pm Lapidary Open Shop

Thu Dec 7, 2023

9am Club hours
10am Silver Open Shop
11am CHRISTMAS EARRINGS

Sat Dec 9, 2023

9am BEGINNING CABOCHON,
Day 1
9am Club hours
10am CHRISTMAS EARRINGS

Sun Dec 10, 2023

9am BEGINNING CABOCHON,
Day 2

Tue Dec 12, 2023

3pm Club hours
4pm Lapidary Open Shop

Thu Dec 14, 2023

9am Club hours
10am Silver Open Shop

Sat Dec 16, 2023

9am Club hours
9am Lapidary Open Shop

Tue Dec 19, 2023

3pm Club hours
4pm Lapidary Open Shop

Dec 21-Jan 4, 2023

CLUB IS CLOSED FOR THE
HOLIDAYS

Sat Jan 6, 2024

9am Club hours
9am Lapidary Open Shop

Mon Jan 8, 2024

6:30pm TBMSC Board Meeting

Tue Jan 9, 2024

3pm Club hours
4pm Lapidary Open Shop

Thu Jan 11, 2024

9am Club hours
10am Silver Open Shop

Sat Jan 13, 2024

9am Club hours
9am BEGINNING CABOCHON,
Day 1

Sun Jan 14, 2024

9am BEGINNING CABOCHON,
Day 2

Mon Jan 15, 2024

6:30p TBMSC BOARD MEETING

TBMSC Board Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2023

Board Members present: Tony Carrino, James Denslow, Christy Gorrow, Lyra Solochek, Linda Collins, Melinda Riddle, Greig Lundergan and Carlo Lucin.

Non-Board Members present: Katie Day

Call to order: 6:49 p.m.

Motion to approve October's minutes made by Melinda Riddle. Seconded by Greig Lundergan. Approved by all.

Treasurer report was given by Greig Lundergan. The club made profit last month. Approval of Treasurer's Report is tabled because of printer malfunction. The board will ratify at next board meeting.

Show report given by Greig Lundergan. We're waiting on the fairgrounds' final bill to submit a final show report.

Discussion regarding table fees change going forward, and show participants were notified. The final show report will be available for the December meeting. Discussion regarding more advertising for show. Lyra Solochek suggested setting up an advertising budget.

Project update: Concrete is expected to be poured this week to level the floor. Members must stay off of it for two weeks. Discussion regarding projects left to finish. Discussion on blacktop/concrete pour and logistics.

Discussion opened regarding insurance bill questions by Christy Gorrow. Companies and information given by Greig Lundergan.

Motion to adjourn proposed by Tony Carrino. Seconded by James Denslow. Approved by all.

ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS OF THE TBMSC

Officers

Peter Favaro, President

James Denslow, Vice-President

Greig Lundergan, Treasurer

Ardys Favaro, Secretary

Board Members

Tony Carrino

Linda Collins

Christy Gorrow

Carlo Lucin

Melinda Riddle

Lyra Solochek

2023 October Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance			
Checking	\$43,077.97	Savings	\$52,101.50
			\$1.71
Ending Balance	\$28,522.66		\$52,103.21
Difference	{\$14,555.31}		\$1.71
			Profit/Loss {\$14,621.47}

Deposits

Date	\$	Type
10/4/2023	\$2,359.67	PayPal
10/11/2023	\$2,020.45	PayPal
10/11/2023	\$595	Weekly
10/10/2023	\$104	Sign-up Genius deposit
10/18/2023	\$1,070.50	Weekly
10/21/2023	\$588	Weekly
10/19/2023	\$104	Sign-up Genius deposit
10/17/2023	\$312.50	Sign-up Genius Deposit
10/23/2023	\$588	Weekly
	\$7,742.12	

Regular Expenses

Date	\$	To	For
10/10/2023	\$90.00	Intuit	Quick Books
10/20/2023	\$12.89	Instant Ink	Ink
10/17/2023	\$27.85	City of Tampa	Water
10/20/2023	\$15.12	Amazon	Membership
10/4/2023	\$21.49	T-mobile	Phone
10/30/2023	\$241.07	Teco	Power
	\$408.42		

Checks

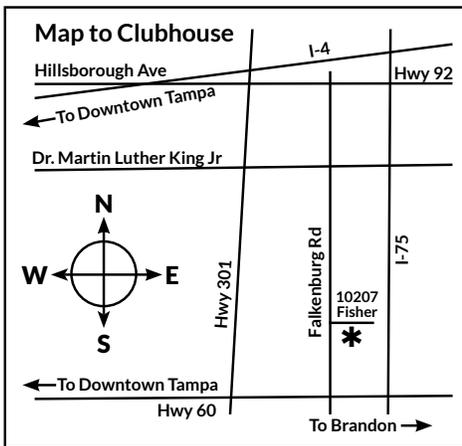
Date	#	\$	To	For
10/12/2023	1164	\$150	Lyra Solochek	Geode
10/12/2023	Via PayPal	\$200	Alejandro Rivera	Lawn
10/12/2023	1162	\$266	Peter Favero	Class Supplies
10/3/2023	1163	\$20,391.00	Fair Authority	Final Show Payment
10/21/2023	1165	\$200	Peter Favaro	Class Supplies
		\$21,207		

Misc Expenses			
Date	\$	To	For
10/4/2023	\$43.44	SP HP Lapidary	Handle for Hippie
10/6/2023	\$198.00	College Hunks	Moving to and from Fair Grounds
10/6/2023	\$40	Facebook	Show Ads
10/15/2023	\$67.66	Amazon	Wristbands for show
10/10/2023	\$11.99	Sign-up Genius	monthly
10/10/2023	\$40.00	Facebook	Ads for Show
10/18/2023	\$3.42	Facebook	Show Ads
10/16/2023	\$163.46	Home Depot	Paint
10/24/2023	\$90.10	Lordco Pack	Flyers for the Show
10/27/2023	\$90.10	Lordco Pack	Flyers for the Show
	\$748.17		

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?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Phone		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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): \$40 individual, \$20 for each additional adult in the household, and \$4 for each child under 18.
Multi-year membership: \$140 individual for 4 years, \$70 per additional adult in household for 4 years
Lifetime membership: \$500 individual, \$250 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	