



Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild



Where South Florida Really Rocks!

The Geode – The MMLG Monthly Newsletter

Volume 60, Number 2

February 2015

Our February General Meeting will take place on Wednesday Feb 4 at 7:45 PM at the MIAMI SCIENCE MUSEUM, 3280 South Miami Avenue, directly across the street from Vizcaya.

Our program will be a video presentation on CRATER OF DIAMONDS STATE PARK in Hot Springs, Arkansas, America's only open-to-the-public diamond prospecting site. Dozens of gem-quality diamonds are found there each year! Learn how you can get in on the fun!

Our meeting will also feature announcements, Q & A, refreshments, and Patrick's legendary gem-and-mineral raffle. We hope to see you there!

Club News –

- Our 60th Anniversary GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL, AND JEWELRY SHOW in December at Evelyn Greer Park in Pinecrest was such a huge success that we're going to have another one in the Spring – April 18 & 19 to be precise. We had so much interest in another show that we have increased the number of vendor tables. The December Show had 24 vendor tables – the April Show will feature 32. We encourage participation by our members before opening vendor opportunities to folks outside our club. If you are at all interested, please contact us at webguy@mmlg-inc.org so that we can give you full details and answer questions.

- If any of you have photos or video of last month's show, please email us at webguy@mmlg-inc.org. Once we have copies of all the video/photos that are available, we'll post them on our web site.

- One of the ways in which we try to serve our members' needs is by providing a no-cost way to *buy-sell-trade* gem/mineral/lapidary-specimens/supplies/crafted items in an online "trading post" at our website. Right now, we have no postings, but, in the past, several of our members and supporters have successfully listed (and sold) specimens, equipment, and supplies. Just go to our website www.mmlg-inc.org and click on "trading post" to get started.

- Dues are due! The membership year starts every January 1. Single membership is \$15.00 per year - Family membership is \$20.00 per year. Dues are payable either by cash or check (made out to MMLG). You may pay the dues in person at our meetings & events or by mail to MMLG, P.O. Box 460206, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33346-0206.

What are the advantages of membership? While any member of the community may attend our General Meetings, dues-paying members are entitled to a number of benefits:

- participation at all club activities
- discounts on publications and outside educational activities
- access to club library, displays, and collections
- accidental injury insurance on field trips and at club activities
- discount access to club sponsored classes and workshops
- special interest groups within the club
- access to club swaps, raffles, auctions, and vendor activities
- voting rights at club elections, meetings, and referendums
- co-ordination with other clubs, groups, or associations

- We'll put on our monthly 4th Sunday event on February 22 from 1 to 4 PM in Classrooms A & B at the Miami Science Museum. Please join us – bringing rocks, gems, jewelry to exhibit or sell.

- Our newsletter accepts business and commercial advertising. The Guild charges \$35.00 per year to advertise a "business card" listing in **The Geode**. This amounts to just a few dollars per month – call us or email us to set it up. Additionally, if any hobby-related advertisers present a program (on any Guild related subject) at one of our meetings, the yearly fee of \$35.00 will be refunded!!!!

- Any member wishing to serve on a committee and/or present a program should contact John Speier, at 954.648.1874.

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Hours: 12 Noon to 6 p.m. Tues., Wed., Thur., Fri.
10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sat., Closed Sun. & Mon.

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WILDACRES

Our club is an affiliate of the *Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS)*. One of the benefits of that affiliation is the opportunity to sharpen our skills and deepen our appreciation for our unique common interest in special workshops conducted at *Wildacres*, a Western North Carolina conference center dedicated to the betterment of human relations. The facilities are used by educational and cultural groups such as music, art, mineral & lapidary classes, and religious, interfaith, civic, and science seminars. More than 80 diverse groups participate in a typical Wildacres season.

EFMLS sponsors Spring and Fall Workshops there that some of our fellow MMLG members have attended. (Some of our long-time members have even been instructors there!) This your opportunity to indulge your passion for minerals, gems, jewelry, and craft. There are entry- and intermediate-level short classes and fabulous programs from their great Speakers-in-Residence. Form new friendships and deepen old ones.

Do it all at *Wildacres*, a beautiful retreat center atop the Blue Ridge Mountains.

For complete details, contact info@efmls-wildacres.org

