



Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild



Where South Florida Really Rocks!

The Geode – The MMLG Monthly Newsletter

Volume 60, Number 9

Sept 2015

As Bob Dylan used to say: *The times, they are a-changin'!!!* After 61 years being co-located with the MIAMI SCIENCE MUSEUM, we're in the process of reinventing ourselves. We're now out on our own, hoping to survive and even prosper as we look to the future.

We've taken our first step – securing a location to hold our monthly General Meetings. That will take place on the second Monday of each month at 7:45 PM at the MIAMI FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE in Coral Gables, directly across the street from Sunset Elementary School. (Please see the map and directions on pages 2 and 3.)

There will be meeting-and-greeting (hey, we haven't seen each other for months), refreshments, and an educational program: THE CORUNDUM CONUNDRUM – which, if you've forgotten, is about sapphires and such. By an amazing coincidence, Sapphire happens to be the birthstone for September.

Please feel free to bring your sapphires (jewelry or specimens) to show off to your fellow club members. We'll also have door prizes and raffles and a rockin' good time! (Yes that's a thematic pun.)

Club News –

- The next tri-county club picnic will take place at TY Park in Hollywood on Oct 4 in Pavilion 9 – food, friends, fun!
- Our next Gem-and-Mineral Show will take place on Saturday & Sunday December 5 & 6. We'll send out information about the Show by October 1, however, if you have any questions, please contact us at webguy@mmlg-inc.org.
- 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:

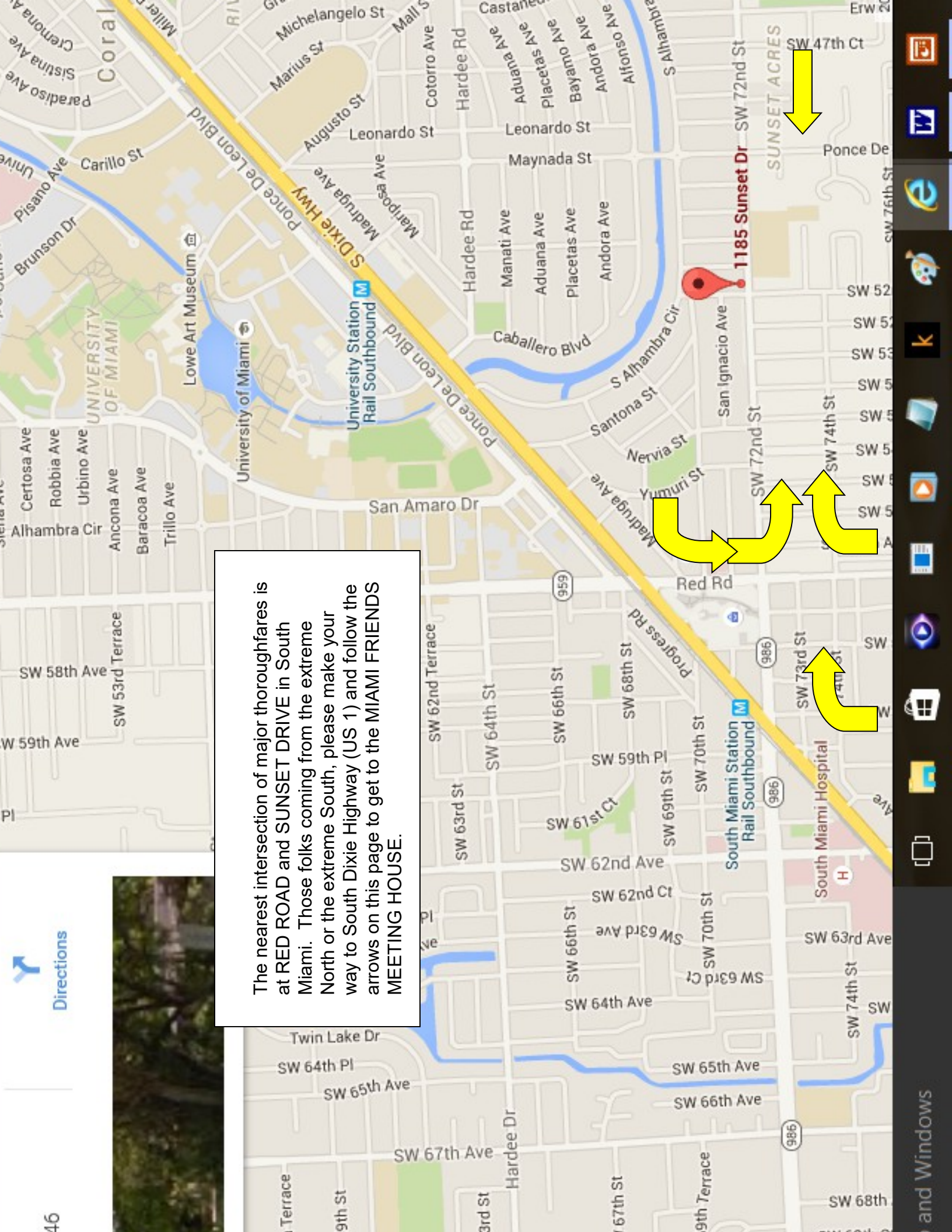
- participation at all club activities
- discounts on publications and outside educational activities
- access to club library, displays, and collections
- accidental injury insurance on field trips and at club activities
- discount access to club sponsored classes and workshops
- special interest groups 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

- 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.

Directions

The nearest intersection of major thoroughfares is at RED ROAD and SUNSET DRIVE in South Miami. Those folks coming from the extreme North or the extreme South, please make your way to South Dixie Highway (US 1) and follow the arrows on this page to get to the MIAMI FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE.



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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

