



**Miami Mineralogical
and
Lapidary Guild**



Where South Florida Really Rocks!

THE GEODE – The MMLG Monthly Newsletter

Volume 67, Number 1

January 2023

*Our **January Meeting** will take place on **January 29 at 1pm** at the **BETTER FAMILIES THROUGH TAE KWON DO ACADEMY** located at **6723 SW 81st St. Miami, FL 33143** just behind **THE BIG CHEESE**, a South Dade dining landmark.*

Besides our meeting and educational presentation there will be raffles, refreshments, and door prizes



The educational presentation at the meeting will be "Chialstolite: the forgotten Trapiche Gemstone". Given by Sandy



A new feature: Email Raffle. Just respond to this email Suzanne (newsletter editor) sbanas09@yahoo.com by January 20 to be entered in the raffle for this lovely piece of Amethyst geode. 6" in length. Winner announce at meeting and next newsletter.



What Is A Rockhound?

Webster dictionary defines a rockhound as a specialist in geology, or someone who's an amateur rock and mineral collector.

But in reality, a rockhound is someone who cannot pass by a pretty rock without

picking it up for a closer look. A rockhound is someone who can't quite say no when it's time to leave, because there's just one more rock to be found.

Here are some Rockhound traits

- 👤 A rockhound owns more pieces of quartz than underwear.
- 👤 A rockhound thinks the primary function of road cuts are for easy rock and mineral collecting.
- 👤 Rockhounds tend to lick rocks in order to bring out all of the wonderful natural colors.
- 👤 A rock hound would rather attend a Gem and Mineral Show than anything else.
- 👤 Rockhounds ALWAYS find themselves examining individual rocks in driveway gravel.



Why Be a Rock Seeker?

We know that sometimes rock seeking started when you were little, by being introduced to it by an adult or sometimes you went on a field trip to a rock and mineral show or a museum and was totally amazed at all the different specimens you saw.

1. Training Not Required

There is no experience needed to become a rockhound! All you need is to get outside and look down at the ground. It can be as simple and easy as that.

2. No Need To Travel

There's a whole world just outside your door. Rockhounding can be as simple as going down to the nearest creek or road cut by your house. Those two locations alone will turn up many fine rock and mineral specimens.



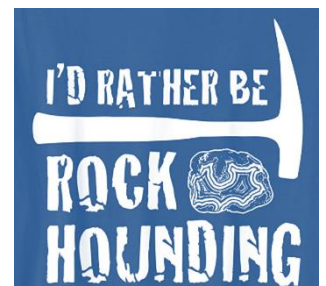
3. Low Budget Hobby

It's inexpensive! However, like most other hobbies, rock hunting can be as cheap or expensive as you want it to be. Some rockhounds will travel the world in the name of rock hunting, while other rock collectors never go further than their neighborhood.

4. Getting Outdoors

The best reason for a rock hunting hobby is that it gets you outside! It can get everyone outside, make it a family trip. Rockhounding is an awesome excuse for getting outside and spending time together in the fresh air and the sunshine just miles from where they live.

Rock collecting is a big-time hobby, and rockhounds are very helpful and friendly people. So if you're thinking about starting up, do it!

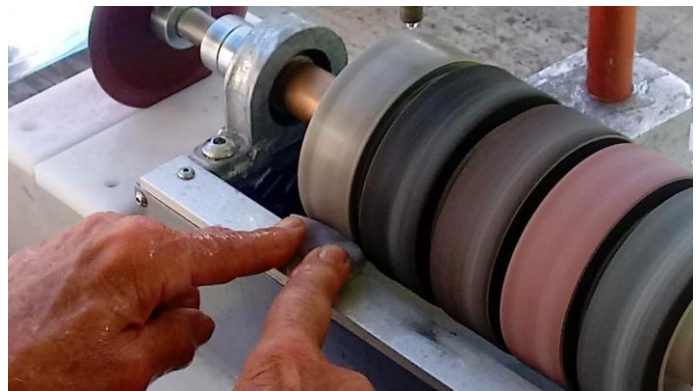


NEXT MONTH: Where to Rockhound in Florida



Our Beading Workshop (limited to 3 or 4 participants at a time) has met continuously on a twice-a-month basis – producing an array of beautiful creations

Our Lapidary Workshop has been and continues to be available to our members (on an appointment basis) at no cost to members. The Workshop boasts two cabbing machines, a trim saw, and a Dremel tool station. (And we're periodically receiving new equipment from the estates of former members who are no longer with us.) Club members who would like to use any of our equipment or just use bench space for their own lapidary projects should call our club voicemail at 305.460.2244. We'll see that the right person gets back to you.



WE'RE TRYING NOT TO SOUND LIKE A BROKEN RECORD... (Ah, sadly – most of you younger folks have little acquaintance with the unique characteristics of *vinyl* audio!)

The life blood of any non-profit organization is its cadre of volunteers.



Our club (MMLG) has fewer and fewer members handling the same undiminished work load of responsibilities. Some of our member volunteers are serving in double, triple, even quadruple capacities – and ***we need your help to share the work load***. Most roles don't require special skills or major time commitment – helping to set up for meetings, bringing refreshments, selling raffle tickets, helping with the shows, distributing event flyers. Other roles will need unique attributes – editing a newsletter, managing a website, monitoring the club's voicemail messages, creating educational presentations. Others involve the sensitivities and responsibilities of organizational skills. If you are at all able to respond to the club's needs, please email us at webguy@mmlg-inc.org. Additionally, we're resuming our annual election of Officers and Trustees at our November meeting, and we encourage the participation of all folks with a desire to serve in addressing our Club's challenges.

2022 MMLG Officers and Board of Trustees

Officers

President - John Speier
Vice President – Sandy Mielke
Secretary/Treasurer - Dianne Mielke

Board Trustees to December 2022

Adam Lawrence
LoRain Dudley

Board Trustees to December 2023

David Lubow
Lauren Kairalla
Bernice

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10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sat., Closed Sun. & Mon.

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