



Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.



NEWSLETTER



Presidents Message

Hope everyone has Merry Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Respectfully, Harriet Rose

Thank you, Harriet Rose

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

Harriet Rose, President

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Russ Fisette, President Elect

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Heather Ferman, Vice President

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Anne Lanier, Secretary

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Deborah Ritter, Treasurer

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JGMS General Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2017

- Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Jason Hamilton, President, presiding.
- Pledge was said.
- Guests and new members were recognized.
- Heather Ferman announced her glass blowing studio would be open this weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- Debby Lowe spoke on Holiday Party detail social hour 6 to 7 P.M. followed by dinner at 7:00. Members were asked to sign up to bring a side dish. Club will provide meat.
- JGMS Annual Show Report: Vendors were well pleased with everything except the air conditioning. Check for the club will be presented to the club at the Holiday Party.
- SFMS meeting will be held in March.
- Publications: Tim Smeggil won First Place in AFMS for the web site. He placed second in SFMS. He reported seven hundred-forty-eight (748) followers on Facebook. Goal is one thousand. (1,000).
- Other Facebook information given by Carolyn Smeggil. She encouraged everyone to share.
- No Workshop updates. Casting equipment will be delivered soon.
- Russ Fisette spoke on field trips. January 13, 2018 is at Brooksville, FL. He also spoke on facility needs and encouraged members to volunteer for painting and other work.
- Karen Boger spoke on scholarships. Drawing for scholarship winners will be held at the Holiday Party.
- Pat Herring spoke on signing up to bring refreshment to meetings and encouraged members to sign up to bring a side dish to the party.
- Education: Anne Acker spoke on open workshop. Monday, December 18, through December 23, 2017.
- Cabbing, silver and PMC instructors will be present. She encouraged members to contact herself or Dani Bratten if you decide to attend. Anne asked members to contact her for classes they would like to see offered.
- CCTV equipment was lost in transit. It will be delivered.
- Homer Barrs announced that on January 11, 2018, there will be a meeting from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. to help outline classes for the upcoming year in faceting. Debby Lowe and Diana Daily qualified for faceting instructors. How to organize a case for the show will also be taught in 2018.
- Movie night will continue to be the third Thursday of the month. Educations videos will be presented.
- New Business: Elections for 2018 officers were held. Slate from nominating committee was presented: President: Harriet Rose, President Elect: Russ Fisette, Vice President: Heather Ferman, Secretary: Anne Lanier, Treasurer: Debby Ritter.

- There were no nominations from the floor and it was moved by Jeanie Sullivan and seconded by Harry Lee to accept the slate of officers as presented. Motion carried.
- Treasurer’s report: Report is posted on bulletin board.
- Junior Day was held on November 25, 2018 with twenty (20) children. Each did four (4) projects.
- Show and Tell
- Program: Video on opals.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Lanier, Secretary

Anybody that has Tumbled Rocks at home and would like to Donate them to the club, the COPS Programs would be extremely Thankful.

3rd Thursday of the Month Movie and Social Schedule

This new program is included with your membership to the Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society. This will provide some free educational options and social activities. JGMS will be offering 2 movies and popcorn each month from 7pm – 9pm on the third Thursday of each month. The Popcorn is FREE.

December 21st: High Fashioned Inspired Designs & Wire Wrap – One Step Further

January 18th: The Art of Making Bracelets & The Art of Lampwork: Creating Complex Shapes

Randy Ritter’s Beginning Cabbing Class



Community Outreach Program

December 9, 2017 - Boy Scouts Day Event



December 12, 2017 - Duval County Science Fair, UNF



Honorable Mention: Thank you to Harriet and Bob Rose, Paul Thomas, and Ron Abel for supporting the COPS Program throughout the 2017 year.

Respectfully Submitted
Chairperson of COPS
Craig Hamilton

Listening to the Rocks by Skipp Titus

As I look back on my life, I have always been drawn to rocks. They speak to me. Ok! Not in words, of course, but colors, shapes, & textures. They and their beginnings are amazing.

Being a child of Florida and having done very little travel until recently, I had NO idea the things they could say. We have sharks' teeth, broken shells and coral. Yes, occasionally you hear a pebble speak to you.

In our travels up the East Coast I wasn't listening. They were there. I just didn't know to listen. This year's travels took us through the central states and out West. It was amazing! I would step out of the RV and there they were....colors, shapes and textures like never before. Each place added a new sound for the symphony.

We dug for diamonds in Arkansas. Some places the sound was deafening...not in Arkansas. We listened everywhere we stopped.

In the beginning, we were just meandering with no place in particular to listen. The first directions we were given were in Minnesota. I mentioned rocks to a young lady who was a hound. She pointed out that the ground was covered in mossy agate. It was joyous! I listened in the cold and rain... the sounds were quite, but plentiful.

From there it was Google and places to stop. In Wisconsin there was "Pink Lady" stones talking everywhere in our campground. We met a family of 7 children. They were excited about the rocks. Their mom says they spent the rest of the trip hounding.

Another place full of sound was Lake Michigan. Deer Lick Park borders the lake. It was a place of many colors, shapes and textures. When we returned to the RV and I was washing my find a gentleman came over to look. He and his wife have been hounding for years. They identified some and told us where else to look.

Ohio gave us Lake Erie, but not very many talkers. It seems we found the ear bones of fish.

Seneca Lake in New York was a surprise. I contacted the local club and they said hounding was minimal in a couple of places. Surprise! While out looking for white deer we stopped by the lake. The rock chorus was in tune.

Since we were in NY State we stopped in Herkimer. Ace of Diamonds is fun and gives you a chance to hear the crystals sing. We spent 3 hot days sluicing. It was our kind of fun.

Our next rock spot was North Carolina. Finding a place to actually, dig was hard. We ended up at a place where they salt the dirt and you sluice it. It was fun and the rocks were nice. Best yet was our next campground, as I was cleaning the fire ring I heard the two most beautiful specimens speak to me. It was an incredible find.

Our trip to Franklin was rained out. There is always next year. We returned home with close to 100 pounds of rock.

Jason Hamilton's Acrylic Inlay Sea Shells Class



Timothy Smeggil's Mason Jar Chainmaille Class



The Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society of Jacksonville, Florida is a non-profit 501 (c)3 organization. It was created to stimulate interests in rocks and minerals by furtherance of the activities of its members, in the earth sciences; to disseminate knowledge, methods and procedures for the collection, identification, classification, cutting, polishing, setting, and mounting of specimens for these activities; and to promote good fellowship, proper ethics and conduct in the relationships of said members with each other and with members of other earth science societies in the pursuit of these activities.

Website: www.jaxgemandmineral.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleGemandMineral>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/jacksonvillegem>

Thank you to the following businesses for supporting the Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society.

