



NEWSLETTER  
FOR CENTRAL  
BREVARD  
ROCK AND  
GEM CLUB

# Brevard Gems

Web address: [www.centralbrevardgems.org](http://www.centralbrevardgems.org)

**Open Shop Hours: Sun. 1-4 PM;  
Wed. 9:30 AM-12:30 PM, 1-4 PM.**

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2021

## President's Message

### REMINDERS:

**2021 DUES ARE DUE.** Pay by mail, at the shop, or at the January 7th, 2021 meeting. Remember to complete the membership form on the last page. Thank You .

**January 3, 2021.**  
Workshop reopens.

**January 7, 2021.**  
CBRGC Meeting at Merritt Island Library. 6 pm. Michelle will do a presentation on her visit to the 2020 Tucson Show. See page 7.

**February 4, 2021.**  
CBRGC Meeting at Merritt Island Library. 6 pm

**February 6-7, 2021.**  
44th Annual Symphony of Gems at Kiwanis Island. See page 8. Volunteers are needed. See signup list at the meeting.

Welcome to January 2021. Hopefully all the drama of 2020 is fading away and we are all beginning to breathe a little easier... Hopefully!

The shop is open again, and John has been working on the equipment as needed to ensure a smooth start to the new year. I hope everyone had a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

With the New Year, comes new issues to be addressed as well as some old, but with your help I am confident that we can overcome anything that comes our way as we move towards my ultimate goal... "To make this the best possible club!!!" To accomplish that I need your help, ideas & suggestions are always welcome and I look forward to hearing each and every one of them. I hope to see you all at the next meeting...January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Until then..."Keep On Rockin!!!"



**Mario Vento**  
**2021 President**



Turtle necklace and earring set that was made by CBRGC member Jason was one of the Grand prizes at the 2020 Symphony of Gems

January 2020

■ Classes   ■ Open Shop   ■ Meetings   ■ Event

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Open Shop 1 – 4 p.m. 31					Happy New Year! 1	2
Open Shop 1 – 4 p.m. 3	4	5	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 pm 6	Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Library 7	8	9
Open Shop 1 – 4 p.m. 10	11	12	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 p.m. 13	14	15	16
Open Shop 1 – 4 p.m. 17	18	19	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 p.m. 20	21	22	23
Open Shop 1 – 4 p.m. 24	25	26	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 p.m. 27	28	29	30

## INSTRUCTORS

- ◆ Michele is available to teach Wire Wrap or Opal Cutting or Intarsia on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m. raymich06@bellsouth.net
- ◆ Mario will continue with Cabbing on Monday evenings 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. rokhounds@gmail.com
- ◆ Tom Brown is available for Wire Wrapping, Cabbing, and Faceting. tbrown2045@cfl.rr.com..
- ◆ Lucy is currently unavailable for Glass Fusing.
- ◆ John Catana for Beginner Silver, Advanced Silver, Southwest, Filigree, Baskets, or Casting at jcatana58@gmail.com.
- ◆ Bill Dewey for Faceting on Wednesday mornings.
- ◆ Elizabeth (izbet@aol.com) and Roz (roz.mestre@att.net) are available to teach Kumihimo and Basic Chainmail.
  
- ◆ Classes are available for all CBRGC members.
- ◆ To sign up for classes, please contact Roz by email at roz.mestre@att.net or 321-431-0159 or sign up at meeting.

## 2020 CBRGC HOLIDAY DINNER AND INSTALLATION OF 2021 BOARD MEMBERS

On December 3rd, CBRGC members and guests met at Olive Garden on Merritt Island for the annual Holiday Dinner. The conversation was congenial and the food was delicious . It was a fun and festive evening. A good time was had by all. May we have more times of sharing and conversing and celebrating together in 2021.



2021 Board members:  
Bill, John,  
Roz,  
Elizabeth,  
Tom,  
Michelle,  
Sara, and  
Mario.

Lucy and  
Dick were  
absent.



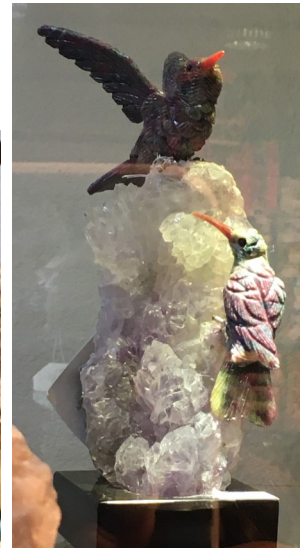
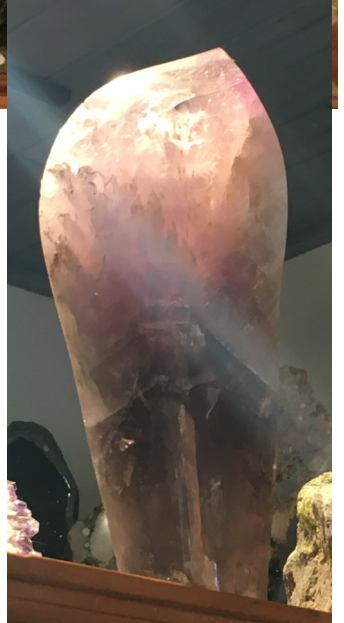
# EXPLORING IN NEW SMYRNA

Michele was in New Smyrna Beach early in December and found a rock shop there near the beach that has been there 15 years but she hadn't discovered before. It's New Smyrna Rock and Gem on Flagler Avenue.

There's a beautiful selection of specimens and a few are shown in her photos. She was particularly taken by the amethyst sculpture.

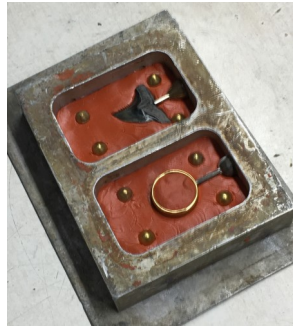
She thought you could only drive on the beach in Daytona but you can in New Smyrna too.

She also found a museum featuring a private collection of Florida art in Daytona.



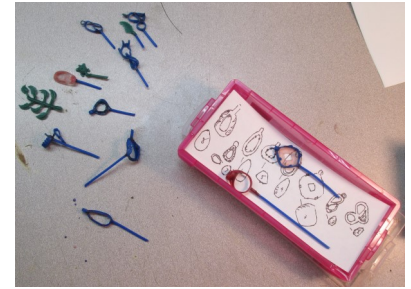
# STERLING SILVER CASTING

On December 10-12, John Catana taught a Silver Casting Class at the Cape Canaveral Shop. This class is using the Lost Wax Process.



The first step is creating or selecting models.

Robert is creating models from a shark tooth and a ring. Michelle is making models from wax for mounting cabochons. Elizabeth selected premade wax models that will be used in silversmithing and the Southwest Jewelry Class.



The models are attached to a base and placed within a flask that will be filled with investment, a plaster like material.

After the investment dries overnight, the flask will be placed in the kiln and heated to 1200 °F as the wax burns out and the mold cures.

Scrap silver is being melted to remove impurities before being used in casting.



The kiln (left) and the interior of the casting apparatus (below). John and Robert are melting the silver using a torch. When the silver is liquified, the pin will be released and the silver will enter the mold .





Michelle's cast silver (left) after cleaning and removing the investment.

On the right is Elizabeth's.

Next the pieces will be separated and cleaned and polished.

Below left are Robert's finished pieces.



Below right are Elizabeth's. The two pieces in the bottom right corner are from the base and the sprue which are scrap and will be used in future projects. The feathers, leaves, arrowhead, and small blossom will be used in the Southwest Jewelry Class.



**Club Purpose:**

The purpose of this club is to foster interest in and to promote knowledge and appreciation of minerals, gems, fossils, and the earth sciences. We also disseminate information and instruction in the lapidary arts and the utilization of precious metals in our crafts. These purposes are accomplished through regular meetings with informative programs, workshops, study groups, and field trips.



**OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Officers:**

President:	Mario Vento	(321)264-6332	rokhounds@gmail.com
1st Vice President:	Elizabeth Bishop	(321)452-1579	izbet@aol.com
2nd Vice President:	Lucy Caracoglia		
Secretary:	Roz Mestre	(321)632-8281	roz.mestre@att.net
Treasurer:	Michele Huntington	(321)799-8536	raymich06@bellsouth.net

**Directors:**

Bill Dewey	2021-22
John Catana	2021-22
Dick Cunion	2020-21
Sara Fellows	2020-21

**Shop Location:**

407 Imperial Blvd, Unit D  
Cape Canaveral, FL  
(Imperial is located off A1A just south of the Port)



Member of Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. - [www.amfed.org/sfms/](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/)

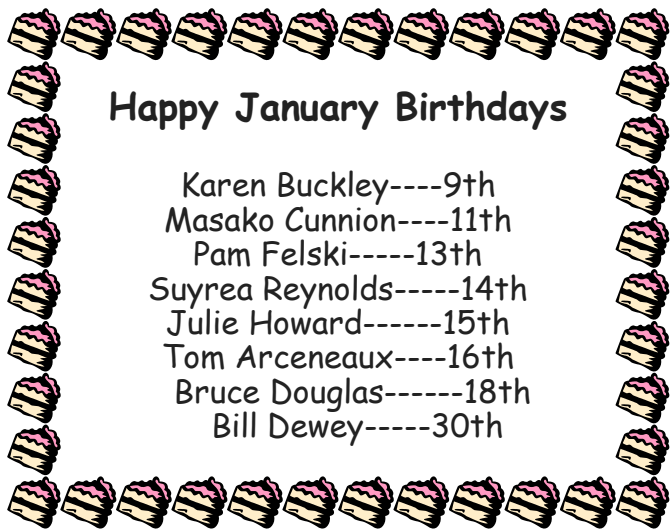
Affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies - [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)



**MICHELLE HUNTINGTON'S TUCSON TRIP**

In the March 2020 CBRGC Newsletter Michelle had a great article complete with photos of her visit to the Tucson show. She had planned on doing a presentation, but COVID altered everyone's schedule. She will be sharing slides and her experience there at the January 7th meeting.




  
**Happy January Birthdays**
  
 Karen Buckley----9th  
 Masako Cunnion----11th  
 Pam Felski-----13th  
 Suyrea Reynolds----14th  
 Julie Howard-----15th  
 Tom Arceneaux----16th  
 Bruce Douglas-----18th  
 Bill Dewey-----30th

**AGATE CABOCHON AND BRACELET**



Fred O'Brien prepared this beautiful Laguna agate cabochon and set it in this bracelet form

# 44TH ANNUAL SYMPHONY OF GEMS

Enclosed are flyers for Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club's Annual Show on February 6th-7th, 2021. We will have several new vendors including Po'Boys and their wonderful opals and Tom Mitchell with a variety of gemstones for faceting as well as faceted stones.

Please make copies and distribute to anyone or any business or group that would be interested.



**Rocks,  
Gems and Jewelry  
Show and Sale**  
February 6 and 7, 2021

**Show Hours**  
Saturday 10-5  
Sunday 10-4

**Kiwanis Island Recreation Center**  
951 Kiwanis Is Park Rd  
Merritt Island, FL 32952

**Hourly Door Prizes**  
**Silent Auction**  
**Grand Prize Drawing**

**ADMISSION: \$ 4.00**

Children under 12 free when  
accompanied by adult.

**Sponsored by:**  
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**Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club Inc.**

2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ANNUAL DUES: ADULTS \$30.00, JUNIOR: \$10.00 (under 18 w/parent)

**CBRGC USE ONLY**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  NEW  RENEWAL  JUNIOR

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL#: \_\_\_\_\_ B'DAY MONTH/DAY: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

CASH  CHARGE  CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

CARD ISSUED ISSUED BY \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB FUNCTION: \_\_\_\_\_ INITS: \_\_\_\_\_

SAFETY BRIEFING: \_\_\_\_\_ INITS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST;

- GENERAL  BEADING  CABOCHONS  CASTING  FACETING  FUSED GLASS
- INLAY  INTARSIA  KUMIHIMO  OPALS  SILVER  WIRE WRAP

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US?  FACEBOOK  WEB  FRIEND  OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

