



NEWSLETTER
FOR CENTRAL
BREVARD
ROCK AND
GEM CLUB

Brevard Gems

Web address: www.centralbrevardgems.org

**Open Shop Hours: Sun. 1-4 PM;
Wed. 9:30 AM-12:30 PM, 1-4 PM, and 6-9 PM;
and Thurs. 6-9 PM. (except on meeting nights)**

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2020

President's Message

REMINDERS:

March 5, 2020,
CBRGC Meeting at
Merritt Island Library.
6 pm. Brevard
County Library will
give a program on
library resources.

April 4, 2020.
CBRGC Kars Park
Picnic, 11 am-3 pm.
Do you have a gas
grill the club can use
for this event? See
page 8.

CBRGC Meetings

April 2, 2020.

May 7, 2020.

June 4, 2020.

September 3, 2020.

October 1, 2020.

November 5, 2020.

Know any interesting
speakers or
upcoming events?
Let someone on the
board know or send
an email to
CentralBrevardRocks@gmail.com.

March is the third month of the year in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It is the second of seven months to have a length of 31 days. March's birthstones are aquamarine and bloodstone. These stones symbolize courage.

The Gem show is behind us and I am proud of the job we did as a club to make the show a success, and, as we move on to whatever the future holds for us it is important to remember that we are a group of people with passion. Passion for all things Lapidary, and with that passion there is a certain inherent power that we can harness to do wonderful things for others and ourselves.

My only regret at this point is that I was unable to attend the last meeting as I heard we had a group of new faces there... ahh but life goes on!! But, anyways, I will be there this month so swing by and attend the meeting... I'd love to be there and see all the faces, new and old, for myself. Until then....Rock On!!

*Mario Vento
2020 President*



Mario demonstrating
Cabbing at the Parade of
Gems.

March 2020

■ **Classes**
■ **Open Shop**
■ **Meetings**
■ **Event**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	Meeting at 6:00 pm at Library SHOP CLOSED	5	6
Open Shop 1 – 4 pm 8	9	10	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 pm 6-9 pm 11	Open Shop 6-9 pm 12	13	14
Open Shop 1 – 4 pm 15	16	St. Patricks Day 17	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 pm 6-9 pm 18	Open Shop 6-9 pm 19	20	21
Open Shop 1 – 4 pm 22	23	24	Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 pm 6-9 pm 25	Open Shop 6-9 pm 26	27	28
Open Shop 1 – 4 pm 29	30		Open Shop 9:30 am-12:30 pm 1-4 pm 6-9 pm	Open Shop 6-9 pm		0

INSTRUCTORS

- ◆ Michele is available to teach wire wrap or opal cutting 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 for Glass Fusing at 321-794-0697.
- ◆ Elizabeth is available to teach beginning kumihimo and chainmail. izbet@aol.com.

- ◆ To sign up for classes, please contact Roz by email at roz.mestre@att.net or by cell (321-431-0159) or sign up at meeting.

Classes are available for all members.

TUCSON SHOW by Michelle Huntington

Ray and I joined the CBRGC in 1994, and, after hearing so much about the Tucson Show from our show vendors and other club members, we became very interested in attending. Ray died last year without getting there so this year I decided I was going for both of us and I am so very glad I did. I had a wonderful time.

I stayed with friends who live about an hour from downtown and I did as Rick Spechler advised. I reviewed the booklet from the previous year and identified the dealers I wanted to see and where they were located in order to make best use of my time. I parked at the centrally located and lowest parking cost @ \$5 for the day, 22nd Street Show, and took the free trolley from there to the other show venues. Note: There are other trolleys and many other show venues around the city so you really do need to plan.

The first day I went into the 22nd Street Show first and found Lahoud Opals from Australia. They deal in both Lightning Ridge and Boulder Opal. On the way, I noticed a sign on the fence by the next show that there was a dealer there with carving tools. I found The AGTA at the Convention Center and GJX show across the road were for professional dealers and they wanted documentation before giving a badge to go in. I had my tax number but did not have a business card with me so I could not get a badge. So I ate lunch in the GJX lobby and went on. I then went to The Red Lion (GIGM-Globex Show) and looked closely at the stones from Absolute Opal from Australia because there was someone else looking who seemed to be in my category (a small buyer). Their opal was mostly small rubs and finished. I found True Blue Opal on my way back to the shuttle stop. I bargained with everyone and was usually successful getting a reduced price on my purchases.

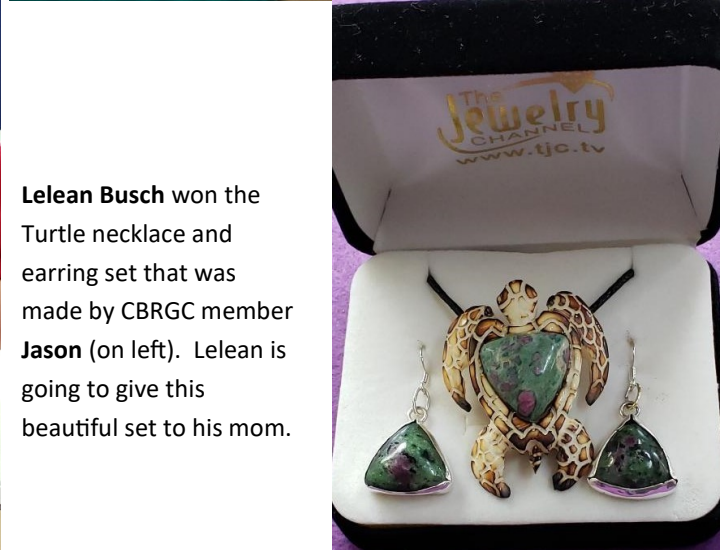


The next day, I did the same thing but found a food vendor at the 22nd street show with a huge wonderful bear claw for breakfast and then saw the petrified wood dealer opposite. He was very proud of his Arizona rainbow petrified wood and I have some samples. I left half the bear claw and the petrified wood purchase in the car. I went on to the next show where I found two good tool dealers and many huge specimens which I photographed for you. I don't know how Rick manages to sort through it all when he goes there. There were lots of specimen dealers all over. Then I went to Ramada Inn, Pueblo Gem and

Mineral, and found another tool dealer, Jade Carver, and Poor Boy Opals. Jim had already sold his rough at Quartzite. So I found Hopkins Opal and some interesting bags of Lightning Ridge carvers I was looking for. Then I found Opaline Australia, Peter and his mother, who had the most beautiful opals I have ever seen. Their \$65,000 piece was a stunner!!! I just took pictures of his stuff. I should have at least asked the price of some pieces but by then I had spent what I went prepared to spend.

Then I went to Sedona for a week and it was gorgeous!!! I have lots of scenic pictures and some of contemporary Native American artists and silversmiths work which I will show at the April meeting as currently scheduled by Elizabeth.





Lelean Busch won the Turtle necklace and earring set that was made by CBRGC member **Jason** (on left). Lelean is going to give this beautiful set to his mom.

2020 GEM SHOW SURVEY

We have been doing a survey for the last several years to determine how our attendees heard about the show. This helps us see trends regarding the influence of social media such as Facebook and other more traditional forms of promotion such as advertising in Florida Today.

Our show is becoming an event that many people look forward to during the first weekend in February. When asked “How did you hear about our show?”, the leading response was that they had attended the show in previous years. The next leading categories were Facebook, Flyers, Word of Mouth, the internet, Signs, Vendors, Florida Today and Other Publications in that order.

A big Thank You goes to Roz Mestre and all her volunteers who made this another great show of the Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club.

PARADE OF GEMS 2020 VENDORS & VOLUNTEERS



WWW.FABULOUSKEOKUKGEODES.COM
YouTube: Woodies Rock Shop
Facebook: @fabulouskeokukgeodes



CBRGC member John had a table with his creations.

Yvon St Pierre from Montreal won the beautiful Gem Tree.

Below are volunteers at the raffle table collecting the tickets for the prize drawings.





VENDORS

CBRGC member **Bill** at his table and assistant **Tom**.



Below is Joes Fossils.





The PARADE OF GEMS is run by CBRGC members who volunteer. Second vice-president **Lucy** is at the Silent Auction Table. Board members **Bill** and **Sarah** are welcoming at the Sign-in table. Webmaster **Richard** at the Spinning Wheel where everyone is a winner. Board member **Richard** who collects survey information (see page 4). **Pete** at the ever popular sluice. The CBRGC and the Parade of Gems is only possible with volunteers. Ask a Board Member how you can contribute. We can always use more help.



VOLUNTEERS



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 Felski	2019-20
Pam Felski	2019-20
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/

Affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies - www.amfed.org



**CLUB PICNIC AT KARS PARK
By Roz Mestre**

The Club Picnic will be at Kars Park in Merritt Island Area 2 on Saturday, April 4th from 11 am to 3 pm. Do you have a gas grill the club can use for this event? Contact Mario at 321-264-6332 and he will pick it up and return to you.

The CBRGC will provide hot dogs, burgers, rolls, condiments, and soft drinks. Please bring side dishes and let me know what you will be bringing so we will not have too many duplicates. We will have signs posted. Guest/family members are invited.

We will have a silent auction. Not sure if we will be doing a live auction. If anyone has any equipment or tools they would like to donate for the live auction it would be most appreciated.

Directions: Courtenay Parkway north, go over the barge canal to Hall Road, turn right, take it to the end of the road, turn left into the park entrance. Follow main road until you see a stop sign, turn left and continue until you see the pavilion on the left. Park wherever you can.

Roz Mestre.....321-431-0159 roz.mestre@att.net

**Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club
General Meeting
February 6, 2020
Merritt Island Library**

Attendees: 31

Meeting opened at 6:05 pm. We began with the pledge of allegiance.

Membership report provided by Lucy: 7 new members.

Treasurer's report delayed due to Michele out of town.

Classes: for February and March will include Silver casting with John Catana, Cabbing with Mario, Fused Glass with Lucy, Kumihimo with Elizabeth, and beginner silversmithing with Lucy. Dates for classes will be determined by consensus of each class group.

Newsletter going out to all members regularly.

Show report provided by Roz: We had a total of 616 attendees. According to Dick Cunion, greatest reponses of how people knew about our show were: having had attended previous years, flyers, facebook and florida today. Bills our still coming in so we cannot report yet on actual dollars made.

Speaker Phil Howard presented a slide and lecture discussion about meteorites. We had several guests attend in addition to club members. Advertising this event at the show greatly added to our participants.

Meeting closed at 7:50pm following refreshment.

Minutes provided by Roz Mestre.



Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

2019 Membership Application

Annual Dues: Adult \$30.00 ; Junior \$10.00(under 18 w/parent)

Date: _____ ? New ? Renew ? Junior

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ B'Day (Month/Day): _____

Email: _____

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: _____

CBRGC Use Only	
Date: _____	
Paid: _____	? Cash
? Check # _____	
Card Issued: _____	Inits: _____
Club Function: _____	Inits: _____
Safety Briefing: _____	Inits: _____

The 2020 catalogue of classes for William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, Georgia is available online at

https://lapidaryschool.org/2020_william_holland_catalogue.pdf

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

