



# The PRESQUE ISLE PROSPECTOR

Official Publication of the Gem City Rock and Mineral Society  
Monthly Meetings, First Friday at 7:30 PM



**February 2005**

## **Last Month's Meeting:**

Last month we actually had a pretty long meeting, discussing ways to fulfill the club's "educational" purpose – we came up with several ideas, which are described later in the newsletter. We then looked at several things members had brought in to show-n-tell and help identify, and by that time it was too late to start a video, so we decided to save that until this month.

## **This Month's Meeting:**

This month our meeting will be Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM at the Club Rooms. Our program will be videotapes of some of the programs that you have seen listed under the Rockhound TV section and that I actually managed to tape. We have at least the **Modern Marvels** programs on **Diamond Mines** and **Quarries**, both of which were very interesting – the one on Quarries seems to be of particular interest to those of us who toured Geiger & Sons Monuments a year or so ago, since this shows how they extract and prepare some of those lovely 5x10-foot "slabs" that we all ooh-ed and ahhh-ed over.

Also, now that we've entered a new Calendar Year, club Dues are due! If you joined at the show last July (2004), your dues are paid through the end of 2005; if not, it's time to pay up again for another year. Dues are still as follows:

- \$5.00 Junior (under 18)
- \$10.00 Individual
- \$15.00 Couple (or parent and one child)
- \$20.00 Family

Please try to remember to bring your dues along to the meeting, or mail a check to the club Treasurer, Val Engelleiter, at her address in the footer of the newsletter. We will give you a month or two to get your dues in, but those not current on their dues will stop getting the newsletter and not be eligible to participate in any club activities! So please help us keep you current by renewing promptly.

## **Club Projects Planned:**

The Gem City Rock & Mineral Society is an educational non-profit corporation, and as such, we have done many 'educational' programs for the public in the past. Most recently, Bob Gallivan teaches Mineral ID to Boy Scout Troops, and a few years ago we made up a display for the Erie County Public Library display windows in 3 of their branches, including the one in the main branch downtown. But Bob uses his personal supplies, and the library window display was also put together from pieces in the personal collections of several club members. It has been suggested that the club should solicit donations to a special permanent "educational collection" that could then be used either for presenting educational programs or making up educational displays – not necessarily the same items for each category.

Items of particular interest for presentations would be mineral specimens to identify, crystals in characteristic shapes (like hexagonal quartz, cubic pyrite, rhombohedral calcite, etc.), rocks with a few easily differentiated minerals (granite, sodalite), examples of the three main types of rocks (igneous, metamorphic, & sedimentary) -- preferably several examples of each item for group

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participants to share around. Examples of rocks & minerals that we use in everyday life, like marble and granite for building, coal for heating and electricity, graphite in pencils, garnet (emery) in sandpaper, gold and silver in electronics, etc., would also be good. After all, "If you can't grow it, you have to mine it!" These would not have to be large or showy items, just characteristic.

Items of interest for displays would be much the same types of things, but showier (to grab attention), larger (to be seen from farther away), or otherwise display-worthy, though perhaps also some that are simple and characteristic.

We hope eventually to work toward a few different displays, like one on mineralogy, one on rocks & minerals in our world and how we use them, and one on lapidary and how we cut & polish stones.

While the collection of donations of these types of things is expected to be a lengthy project over several years, we'd also like to get a display for the Library windows set up for this year. This means we'd love to have donations, but expect to also need to borrow a great many items. If you have something you think is display-worthy and you wouldn't mind lending for a couple of months, please bring it in, safely packaged and clearly marked as to ownership, and we'll see what kind of display we end up with. Note that the large downtown display window is securely locked, but the display windows at the Presque Isle and Millcreek Mall branches are only secured by being behind the checkout counter; if you aren't comfortable with that level of security, please so mark your items.

### **2005 Eastern Federation Convention:**

The 2005 EFMLS Convention (<http://www.amfed.org/efmls/convention.htm>) will be hosted by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club (<http://www.che-hanna.org/>), in Sayre, PA, March 18-20, 2005, with their Show being March 19-20, 2005. Since the convention is so close, we discussed sending delegates (2) this year to represent our club at the convention meetings. While the club can only send two actual delegates, there's no reason more of us couldn't go to the social gatherings and the show. For more info on what you can expect to see at the Show and Convention, check out [http://www.che-hanna.org/html/show\\_news\\_and\\_information.html](http://www.che-hanna.org/html/show_news_and_information.html) or the packet of info I'll bring to the meeting.

### **2005 Wildacres Schedule:**

The EFMLS sponsors two annual lapidary and jewelry making workshops at a retreat known as Wildacres in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. Each session lasts for one week during which classes are given in areas such as Mineral Identification, Cabochon Making, Faceting, Soapstone Carving, Chain Making, Wire-wrapping and Wirecraft Jewelry, Precious Metal Clay, Lost Wax Casting, Intarsia, Channel Inlay, Micromounting, and Silver Filigree. This year's sessions are June 3-9 and September 12-18, and the class schedule has been announced. You can get general info on the Wildacres classes at <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm>, and they now **have** updated the web site for this year's classes; I'll also be bringing that info to the meeting, for those without web access who might be interested.

### **Field Trip Planning:**

The club has not sponsored a major collecting trip since the Herkimer NY trip that ended up with only 3 club members going, since it was so hard to find a time when more of us could go for a whole weekend. But individual club members are welcome to plan trips, and to invite other club members to go along for company or to share expenses. Club member Ed Lytle is planning a trip to North Carolina in April, and perhaps another trip in June – maybe Arkansas for quartz. If you might be interested in going along, check your calendars and talk to Ed at the meeting, or email him at [edward\\_lytle@yahoo.com](mailto:edward_lytle@yahoo.com) or phone him at 814-868-1514.

### **Rockhound TV This Month:**

**PBS:** nothing rock-related this month.

**Discovery Channel: Pompeii: The Last Day.** On August 24, 79, Mount Vesuvius showered the city of Pompeii with ash, smoke and rock. The city lay undisturbed under volcanic debris for more than 1,500 years. Follow a compelling account of the city's final 24 hours, based on the buried evidence. Jan. 30, 9:00PM, 11:00PM; Feb. 1, 8:00PM, 11:00PM; Feb. 5, 3:00PM. **Raging Planet: Tidal Wave.** Emerging from deep water at only one or two feet high, tidal waves can stretch 600 miles from crest to crest and can climb to a height of 500 feet by the time they reach land. These crashing walls of water are triggered by underwater earthquakes. Feb. 5, 12:00PM. **Earthquake Storms.** Earthquake storms are a deadly natural disaster. Istanbul, one of the biggest cities in the world, could soon be hit by the terror of nature's force. Four million lives are at risk and there is nothing anyone can do about it. Feb. 5, 1:00PM. **Supervolcanoes.** One of the world's largest supervolcanoes, much more powerful than Mt. St. Helens, lies under Yellowstone National Park. The last eruption in Sumatra 70,000 years ago pushed mankind to the edge of extinction; scientists think the next is overdue. Feb. 5, 2:00PM. **Hope Diamond.** In the backroom labs of the Smithsonian Museum, history is about to be made. The Hope Diamond, one of the most valuable diamonds in the world, has been removed from its setting so that scientists can take exact measurements of the famous stone. Feb. 10, 9:00PM, 12:00Mid; Feb. 13, 2:00PM.

**TLC: The Next Wave: Science of Tsunamis.** Discovery demystifies one of the most dangerous and enigmatic forces on earth, tsunamis. See the science behind their devastating power. Understand where they come from and what we can do to better prepare. It's not if it will happen again, but when. Jan. 31, 8:00PM, 11:00PM; Feb. 3, 9:00PM, 12:00Mid. **Tsunami Survival Stories.** No description available. Jan. 31, 9:00PM, 12:00Mid; Feb. 3, 10:00PM; Feb. 4, 1:00AM. **Mega Machines: Mega Munchers.** Former Baltimore Ravens star and Superbowl champ Tony Siragusa guides a tour of terrain chewing, material munching machines. From a device that liquidates limestone to a forestry mower, this is a buffet of big machines with insatiable appetites. Feb. 8, 8:00PM, 11:00PM. **Mega Machines: Mega Haulers.** A haul of huge machines lifts and carries colossal loads. Take to the sea with a massive ship turned launch platform to see a 20-ton satellite rocket into space, and hit the ground running with a rig large enough to transport the military's biggest tank. Feb. 15, 8:00PM, 11:00PM.

**Travel Channel: Secrets of Hawaii's National Parks.** Discover a land where the pyrotechnics of earth-in-the-making meets tropical paradise. At the edge of an active volcano, retrieve a lava sample, follow a flow as it strikes the sea, and marvel at a black sand beach where giant sea turtles bask in the sun. Feb. 2, 10:00AM. **Best of the National Parks.** Each year, millions of people are amazed by majestic vistas, geysers, smoldering volcanoes and rugged country where wildlife roam free. Visit the most spectacular places and open spaces in North America, from Yosemite to the Everglades. Feb. 4, 5:00PM. **Great National Parks of the World: Lands of Wonder.** Meet the mountain gorillas of Uganda, and experience the alpine grandeur, vivid blooms and ibex of Italy's Gran Paradiso. Explore the honeycombed stones of Northern Ireland's Giant Causeway, and witness the tapestry of wildlife in the Serengeti. Feb. 4, 6:00PM. **Top Ten Natural Wonders of the World.** Take an exhilarating look at the world's best natural wonders, including the planet's most recognizable waterfalls, mountains and canyons. Learn how these structures were formed and discover the wildlife that lives around them. Feb. 7, 10:00AM; Feb. 18, 10:00PM; Feb. 19, 1:00AM; Feb. 20, 11:00AM. **Travel Channel Hot Spots: Below the Volcano: Crater's Edge.** From Mt. Etna's fiery show of lava to St. Helen's mighty blast, survey the world's most active volcanoes. Discover what attracts populations to the perilous slopes of these smoldering beauties. Feb. 10, 4:00PM. **Volcanoes Up Close.** Rare footage and original interviews reveal exciting, first-hand accounts of dangerous encounters with the world's most violent volcanoes. Meet a couple paragliding over a volcano in Indonesia, and a man who fell into 2,000-degree lava. Feb. 10, 5:00PM. **Active Volcanoes.** At Hawaii Volcanoes National Park in Hawaii, a geologist gathers hot lava samples from the world's most active volcano. At Mt. St. Helens in Washington, a helicopter pilot rescues campers, residents and loggers trapped by the 1981 eruption. Feb. 10, 6:00PM. **Travel Channel Presents: Australia Revealed.** The land Down Under is the smallest continent in the world. A land of vast deserts, snowfields and coral reefs, rich in minerals, it is also one of diverse cultures, from the ancient aboriginal to the cosmopolitan immigrants. Feb. 10, 9:00PM, 12:00Mid. **American Icons: The U.S. Rockies.** From the Southwest to the Canadian Border, journey across three states to discover the breathtaking beauty of the Rocky Mountains. The inspiration for the lyrics to "America the Beautiful," the Rockies have come to define the landscape of the nation. Feb. 13, 6:00PM. **The Colorado: River of Wonders.** The Colorado River offers whitewater adventure and ancient mysteries. From the towering peaks of the Rocky Mountains to the majestic Grand Canyon, six National Parks along its banks enchant visitors with their spectacular scenery and wildlife. Feb. 13, 7:00PM; Feb. 14, 2:00AM. **Secrets of Niagara Falls.** Discover the geographical facts on what makes Niagara Falls so unique. Find out how the raging waters are transformed into limitless, electrical power for cities and states throughout the region. Feb. 13, 8:00PM, 11:00PM. **Alaska Wide Open.** Alaska is the largest state in the union, and the most extreme. For centuries, people have braved the elements in search of beauty, isolation and riches. From finding gold

to traversing the land via dog sled, Alaska's treasures are revealed. Feb. 13, 9:00PM; Feb. 14, 12:00Mid.

**Top Ten Wonders of the West.** Each year, visitors flock to the deserts, coasts and mountains to climb on, hike over and kayak across the wonders that abound in the West. From Yellowstone National Park to Yosemite and beyond, capture the region's most awe-inspiring features. Feb. 13, 10:00PM; Feb. 14, 1:00AM.

**Engineering Marvels: Underground.** Delve beneath the surface of America into tunnels, tubes, mass transit systems and mines. Discover how these underground marvels are designed, built and maintained—sometimes at an enormous cost of both money and life. Feb. 18, 6:00PM.

**Natural Wonders of Hawaii.** From lush tropical jungles to fiery volcanic peaks, no place else on earth offers a more diverse array of natural treasures than the Hawaiian Islands. Experience these spectacular sights up close and uncover the fascinating stories behind them. Feb. 21, 6:00PM.

**Hidden Yellowstone.** Journey to the untouched heart of Yellowstone National Park, the nation's largest and oldest. Learn how this pristine land and its native inhabitants endure against nature's most ferocious elements -- ice, wind and fire. Feb.22, 4:00PM.

**Canadian Rockies: Banff & Jasper.** Snow-capped peaks and glacial lakes provide the setting for two majestic icons of the Canadian Rockies, Banff and Jasper National Parks. Soak in the hot springs, trek the backcountry trails, then shop the boutiques of this rustic resort wilderness. Feb. 22, 7:00PM; Feb. 23, 2:00AM.

**Secrets of Denali National Park.** Visit Alaska's most famous National Park, Denali, a remote wilderness of unspoiled beauty. This remarkably diverse terrain is set amid the Alaskan Range. Rising above it all is Mt. McKinley, the tallest mountain in North America. Feb. 22, 8:00PM, 11:00PM; Feb. 26, 3:00PM.

**America's Best Places to find Cash and Treasures.** In Arkansas, diamonds can be found on the eroded surface of a volcanic pipe. Sports cars and jewelry are on the block at the Department of the Treasury's auction in Los Angeles; and in Key West, a company combs the sea bottom for the sunken treasure. Feb. 27, 8:00PM, 11:00PM.

**America's Best Places to Find Cash & Treasures – 2.** Travel the country in search of hidden riches, from precious emerald digs in North Carolina to gold claims in California. In northern Wisconsin, join the search for John Dillinger's missing suitcase, filled with cash. Feb. 27, 9:00PM, 12:00Mid.

**America's Best Places to Find Cash & Treasures – 3.** In Beverly Hills, explore exclusive pawnshops where visitors can buy diamonds, Rolls-Royces, and even an Emmy Award for rock bottom prices. Dig for rubies in North Carolina, and in Washington State, hunt for the missing loot of DB Cooper. Feb. 27, 10:00PM; Feb. 28, 1:00AM.

**History Channel: Modern Marvels: Silver Mines.** It was called the "mother lode", a deposit of silver so massive that it would produce \$300-million in its first 25 years of operation, establish Nevada as a state, and bankrupt the Union Army in the Civil War. Named after an early investor, we'll see how the Comstock Lode, discovered near Virginia City, proved to be a scientific laboratory from which vast improvements in mining technology and safety were pioneered, including innovations in drilling, ventilation, drainage, and ore processing. Feb. 1, 10:00PM; Feb. 2, 2:00AM.

**Modern Marvels: Gold Mines.** Around the world and across the eons, gold stands as a symbol of power, wealth, and love. The quest for the yellow metal took men across oceans, into the depths of the Alaskan winter, and miles beneath South African earth. This is the story of the hunters of the precious metal and their methods for extracting it. Feb. 1, 11:00PM; Feb. 2, 3:00AM; Feb 9, 12Noon, 6:00PM.

**Modern Marvels: Metal.** They constitute the very essence of the modern world; the cadence of our progress sounds in the measured ring of the blacksmith's hammer. From soaring skyscrapers and sturdy bridges to jet planes and rockets, metals play a key role. Our journey begins before the Bronze Age and takes us into the shiny future when new metal structures--engineered at a molecular level to be stronger, lighter, and cheaper--shape human progress, as they have since man first thrust copper into a fire and forged a tool. Feb. 2, 8:00PM, 12Mid.

**Gold! The Gold Wars.** Throughout history, gold sparked man's imagination with dreams of riches and power; it built empires and destroyed civilizations. During the conquest of the Americas, the Spanish pillaged Native-American gold, and pirates plundered it from Spanish galleons. Custer's expedition into the Black Hills led to a discovery of gold that changed the way of life for the American Indian and led to his demise. In South Africa, greed and power drove two nations into conflict over gold--the Boer War. Feb. 9, 8:00AM, 2:00PM.

**Gold! Gold Fever.** From the lone prospector panning in California's rich rivers to an army of miners tapping South African veins, we explore the greatest discoveries of gold. Throughout history, gold rushes created dreams of opportunity and riches for the common man. But when panning for gold proved elusive, big companies could dig deeper in search of that precious metal. Rushes for gold throughout the world eventually left the lone miner behind and became the domain of massive multinational corporations. Feb. 9, 9:00AM, 3:00PM.

**Gold! The Stuff of Dreams.** Mankind has long been lured by the hypnotic power of gold, following maps, rumors, legends, and fantasies in search of treasure. We recount the quests for King Solomon's Gold and the Ark of the Covenant, the legendary Seven Cities of Gold and El Dorado, and the most magnificent golden discovery of all time--King Tut's tomb. Experience the temptations of the Lost Dutchman and his mine in Arizona's Superstition Mountains and the search for the sunken treasure of Spanish galleons off the Florida Keys. Feb. 9, 10:00AM, 4:00PM.

**Gold! Cold Hard Cash.** The story of gold spans 6,000 years and five continents--from Venice's canals to California's gold fields, from the Asian trade routes to Wall Street's trading floors. Venture

back in time to Constantinople and Venice to see how gold was used to control the known global economy. Hear about the millions in gold stolen by the Nazis to keep their war effort afloat, and how the sinking of the *SS Central America* nearly sank the U.S. economy. If money makes the world go round, then gold is its axis! Feb. 9, 11:00AM, 5:00PM. **Modern Marvels: Quarries.** Dynamite explodes hills to bits, drills divide sheer stone walls, 400,000-pound blocks are pulled from pits by giant cranes, and men work around the clock to wrest rock out of the earth. Not diamonds or gold...rock, the raw material of civilization! Without rock, modern society wouldn't exist. Roads, sewers, dams, bridges, buildings, paint, glue, make-up, antacids, and even chewing gum need crushed stone. From ancient days to the present, we explore the evolution of quarrying techniques. Feb. 21, 1:00PM, 7:00PM. **Wild West Tech: Biggest Machines in the West.** In this episode, we find out that size did matter in the Old West, where cowboys wanted big toys! Big profits required big equipment to dig, dredge, paddle, and plough through the wilds of America. Technology would replace the pan and the pick with massive machines roaming the forests and deserts like dinosaurs, feeding on the minerals above and below the soil. Even weaponry was super-sized! We take a look at the huge and deadly Hotchkiss cannon and the cumbersome Colt Buntline Revolver, carried by famous frontier personalities like Wyatt Earp, Frank and Jesse James, and Judge Roy Bean. And we review the history of the infamous Mankato Gallows, built to execute 38 Dakota warriors at the same time on December 26, 1862 in Minnesota--the largest mass execution in U.S. history. Hosted by David Carradine. Feb. 23, 11:00AM, 5:00PM. **Modern Marvels: Diamond Mines.** Half a mile below the earth's surface, men mine for rough diamonds--a pure carbon substance. Brilliant when cut and polished, they are marketed as the most precious gem in the world. From the earliest mines of the 4th century BC to today's technological wonders in South Africa, we explore the history and technology of the diamond mine. Feb. 28, 11:00PM; Mar. 1, 3:00AM.

### Exhibits:

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History is preparing for the exhibit **Feathered Dinosaurs: The Bird-Dinosaur Connection** (<http://www.cmnh.org/exhibits/featheredindex.html>), open February 26 through May 29<sup>th</sup>.

“**Think you know birds?** The next time you watch birds fluttering around a feeder, consider that you're most likely looking at the living descendants of the dinosaurs. Some of the brightest minds in science have been probing the boundaries between birds and dinosaurs. Spectacular fossil finds over the past decade have given new insights into birds' ancient past, and also revealed new questions.”

And speaking of dinosaurs, the **Carnegie Museum of Natural History** is expanding and revamping their Dinosaur Hall ([www.carnegiemnh.org/exhibits/carnegiesdinosaurs/future.htm](http://www.carnegiemnh.org/exhibits/carnegiesdinosaurs/future.htm)) starting this March. They plan not only to re-mount the skeletons more in line with current theory of how dinosaurs moved, but also to build exhibits that will show the dinosaurs in context with their environments – a big change from the current exhibit, which while state-of-the-art for the time of its inception, is still largely based on the fossil discoveries and display techniques of a century ago. The hall will remain open during construction, but if you want to see the ‘before’ to compare with the ‘after’ you’d better go soon.

### Upcoming Shows in the area:

Of course, THE place to be from January 29 through February 13 is TUCSON, ARIZONA!! And, of course, most of *us* will NOT be there. And the show season around here – at least within easy day-trip range – is pretty slow until spring. But here are some things to think about:

**Feb. 26-27, Albany, NY** - 12th annual show, “**James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and Sale**” New York State Academy of Mineralogy, Capital District Mineral Club; New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Madison Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; admission \$5; contact Mike Hawkins, Geology Collection Manager, (518) 486-2011 or (518) 473-7154; e-mail: [mhawkins@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:mhawkins@mail.nysed.gov).

**Mar. 4-6, Sharonville, OH - GEMSTREET USA.** Gem, mineral, jewelry, fossil, & bead show. Sharonville Convention Center, 11355 Chester Rd. 4th, 11-7; 5th, 10-6; 6th, 11-5. Strieter Productions Inc., Jane Strieter-Smith, 216-521-GEMS, [spi@stratos.net](mailto:spi@stratos.net), [www.gemstreetusa.com](http://www.gemstreetusa.com).

**Mar. 12-13, Pittsburgh, PA - Bead Mercantile Shows.** Allegheny Valley Holiday Inn, 180 Gamma Dr., 15238. 423-639-7919, fax 423-638-5676, [dawn@beadmercantile.com](mailto:dawn@beadmercantile.com), [www.beadmercantile.com](http://www.beadmercantile.com).

**Mar. 19-20, Sayre, PA - 36th annual show, Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club;** Athens Twp. Fire Hall, 150 Herrick Ave.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$2, students \$1, kids under 8 free; **Hosting EFMLS Annual**

**Convention**, demonstrations, displays, kids' mini-mine, door prizes, mineral exhibit, silent auction of Carnegie Museum minerals, outstanding dealers; contact Hazel Remaley, RR#3, Box 316A, Gillett, PA 16925, (570) 888-7544; e-mail: northridge@infoblvd.net.

**Apr. 1-3, Cleveland/Berea, OH - GEMSTREET USA.** Gem, mineral, jewelry, fossil, & bead show. Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Bagley Rd. (0.6 m west of I-71 & Bagley Rd.). 1st, 11-7; 2nd, 11-6; 3rd, 11-5. Strieter Productions Inc., Jane Strieter-Smith, 216-521-GEMS, [spi@stratos.net](mailto:spi@stratos.net), [www.gemstreetusa.com](http://www.gemstreetusa.com).

**Apr. 1-3, Pittsburgh, PA - The International Gem & Jewelry Show.** Pittsburgh ExpoMart. 301-294-0034, [www.intergem.net](http://www.intergem.net).

**Apr. 2-3, Hamburg, NY - 37th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Buffalo Geological Society;** Erie County Fairgrounds, 5600 McKinley Parkway, Market & Grange Buildings; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children under 12 free. Contact (716) 648-9733.

**Apr. 2-3, Canton, OH - 38th annual show, Stark County Gem & Mineral Club;** Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children 6-14 \$1; silent auction, demonstrations, displays, rock craft items, jewelry, lapidary supplies, mineral and fossil specimens; contact Barry Heiks, (330) 868-4047; e-mail: [bjheiks@raex.com](mailto:bjheiks@raex.com).

**Apr. 23-24, Cuyahoga Falls, OH - Show and sale, "Gemboree" Summit Lapidary Club,** Akron Mineral Society; Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Rd.; Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-6; minerals, rocks, gems, jewelry; contact Warren Salchak, (330) 929-3798, or Carl Miller, (330) 633-4250; e-mail: [SummitLapClub@hotmail.com](mailto:SummitLapClub@hotmail.com); Web site: [www.summitlapidaryclub.com](http://www.summitlapidaryclub.com).

And of course there are many more shows in warmer areas – like Florida and Arizona, though other places as well. So if you are traveling outside our area (and many of us will be), check the Rock and Gem Magazine Calendar (<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates/showdates.shtml>), and the Lapidary Journal Calendar (<http://www.lapidaryjournal.com/cal1.cfm>).

### **Club Web Site Updated for Work Sessions:**

We have been going down to the club room for work sessions every Saturday morning (which sometimes extend to 2:00-3:00PM) since the last meeting, and probably will many other weekends while the weather is yucky enough to encourage indoor activities. A request was made that there be some general notice of this to the club, not just a couple of people phoning the usual suspects on Saturday morning; but often the decision isn't made until Friday night or Saturday morning, since at least 2 people have to go down (safety rule – there must be at least two club members present to operate any of the equipment), and if the weather is *really* bad, we may not have two people intrepid enough to brave it, or plans may get changed on short notice, etc., so advance scheduling has been difficult.

But now that we have the web site, I can post notice when the final decision *is* made, even if it's not till Saturday morning, and any club member with internet access can go to the web site ([www.treebeard.net/gemcity](http://www.treebeard.net/gemcity)) and check if we're going down this week. The fact that I have to plan to do this also means we tend to decide sooner, though you should check Saturday morning to be really sure (I'll have to post it at least by 9:00AM before I leave to go down to the club).

I've also taken to doing an email poll of the usual suspects to find out if it's even likely that there will be a session. If you'd like to be on that email list for work sessions, please email me at [gemcity@treebeard.net](mailto:gemcity@treebeard.net) and ask to be put on that list. This list is separate from the Newsletter list. (Of course, if you'd like to get the newsletter by email as well, you can email me to that effect any time.)

So if you've thought it would be nice to come down for a work session, either lapidary or silver work, but didn't know how to get notice, you now have another way to check in addition to the old "call (Harriet) at 455-4851 or Bob Gallivan at 454-6770" that's been in the newsletter for so long you've probably stopped seeing it. If you want to learn something specific, there may or may not be someone there who can help you, but you can always watch and learn something, or make arrangements for someone to meet you and help you with something particular.

You can still also call to arrange another time for a work session if Saturdays aren't good for you, and someone will try to accommodate you.