



# The PRESQUE ISLE PROSPECTOR

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

October 2005



## Last Month's Meeting:

Last month our meeting was the annual cub picnic, and even though we had to find another table site since the one we'd planned on was blocked off, most – I hope all – people were eventually able to find us at the Niagara Boat Launch area, and we all decided that it was a nicer location anyway and should plan to use it in future.

We had a great time shopping in retired dealer Mel Ward's boxes of rocks, and those of us who were disappointed at the lack of rough at our show were more than compensated by the great stuff Mel set out for us to look through and drool over. I hope he thought it was worth the effort to box it all up and pack it into his van – I know I helped a little to lighten his unloading when he got the remainder back home! Thanks, Mel!

Mel had such a lot of great stuff that we never got around to any 'swap meet' stuff – I brought a few things, but never got around to unloading them, or the rocks that our friend Frank from Salt Lake City gave us to share around with other club members when we met up with him on the field trip last month. I'll bring it all down to the club room for the meeting.

## This Month's Meeting:

This month our meeting will be Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30PM. The program will be "RockHounds: The Movie", a 50-minute film produced this past year by the makers of the GeoAmerica series and several other documentary films. They filmed at the Dallas Gem & Mineral Show, and at several field collecting trips, including the World Championship Quartz Crystal Dig at Mt. Ida, AK, and a dinosaur fossil dig, to give an overview of the hobby. They are also working on a TV series! There is a web site at <http://www.savvycenter.com/explorer/rockhounds/default.htm> for those who would like to know more.

We will also be discussing what you will need to bring to the Work Sessions planned for making the Woven-Bail Cab Pendant, our major fall project.

## Major Fall Project:

This year's major project for the fall will be a beginning wire-wrapping project, the Woven-Bail Cab Pendant from the December 2004 / January 2005 issue of the Wire Artist Magazine that the club gets. So far, we have 2 work sessions scheduled: Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM, and Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30AM. If you can't make either of these sessions, email me at [gemcity@treebeard.net](mailto:gemcity@treebeard.net) or call me at 455-4851 and we'll try to schedule another one.

The project calls for a 40x30mm cab, and 3 feet of 20-gauge square dead-soft wire and 1 foot of 21-gauge half-round half-hard wire. The club is putting in a group order for the wire to get a bulk price and save on shipping, so if you haven't signed up for how much wire you want, the meeting will be your last chance – the order goes in on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. If you want to do the project in Sterling Silver, the cost for the wire should run about \$3-4 per pendant. If you want to do it in Gold-Filled wire, the cost should probably be somewhere around \$6-9.



Club Web Site address: <http://www.treebeard.net/gemcity/index.htm>

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If you don't have a 30x40mm (or slightly smaller) cab to wrap, I have a few that I got with the batch of wire to make up the sample pendant, and I will bring them along to the meeting if you might want to buy one – or you can look in the Rio Grande catalog and see if there's something else in there you'd like to order.

The project will also require flat-nose pliers, chain-nose pliers, flush cutters, and either 3-step combination pliers or round-nose pliers – the club has some pliers, but not enough for everyone, so if you think you might want your own pliers, you can get a cheapie set at Michaels or A.C. Moore, or check around online or ask me about ordering some tools when we order the wire.

Before you spend too much on tools, though, be aware that we are trying to arrange with Franko (of *Franko Wire-Wrapping*, a vendor at our show) to have a special wire-wrapping class the day before the show NEXT summer, when he can just come up a day early and spend Friday giving a wire-wrapping class to those who are interested. He said the class would be \$50 per person for all day, and that he would provide wire and things to wrap, and he said not to buy special tools for the class because you'd get a much better idea what tools are worth the money in the class. We are still discussing the possibility of setting this up, so let me know if you are interested – Franko would prefer to have at least 8 people for the class, so we will need to judge interest within the club and how to find others to augment our numbers if we need to – but we have a few months.

### **Field Trip:**

We plan to go to Alden, NY on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, where Ed will show us where / how to collect pyrite / marcasite nodules and pyritized fossils in shale. We will discuss final plans at the meeting for where & when to meet up to form carpools for the trip up. You should have waders / wellies / old shoes for wading in a stream to get to the banks where the stuff is, in addition to the usual field trip gear – rock hammer, goggles, bucket for finds, hat, water bottle, sunscreen, etc.

We will also be facilitating carpooling for those who want to go down to the Carnegie Gem & Mineral Show (<http://www.carnegiemnh.org/minerals/gemshow/home.htm>), November 18-20, this year "Silver Spectacular" also celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hillman Hall of Gems & Minerals.

### **Field Trip Report – Crystal Grove, NY, September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005:**

Once again, have removed the field trip report with its photos that make this file so big many people can't download it; but you can see it on the Field Trips page of the web site at <http://www.treebeard.net/gemcity/crystalg.htm> -- see how much fun we had!

### **Library Display Window:**

The club display -- themed "Lapidary – How Do You Cut Rocks, and What Do You Do With Them?" – will be in a "display table" on the main floor of the main downtown Public Library for the month of October. Check it out if you get a chance!

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

**PBS: Beads, Baubles, and Jewels: We're Taking It Down to the Wire.** Oct. 1, 12:00Noon. **Beads, Baubles, and Jewels: Exotic. Unique. Style.** Saturday, Oct. 8, 12:00Noon. (Likely other Saturdays at Noon too, but schedules not available.) **Nature: Violent Hawaii.** Hawaii's breathtaking beauty was forged in fire, created by the awesome power of volcanoes on land and in the sea, by earthquakes and tsunamis, natural wonders that continue to shape the islands today. Shot in high definition by a team of award-winning filmmakers who live on the islands, this spectacular film features volcanic eruptions, rivers of molten lava, monster waves, humpback whales and perhaps most surprising of all, snow. Oct. 9, 8:00pm, 12:00Mid, 3:00AM. **NOVA: Ancient Creature of the Deep.** <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/fish/> Meet the coelacanth, a bizarre fish and "living fossil" that has changed little in its 400 million years on Earth. Oct. 25, 8:00PM. **NOVA: Volcano Under the City.** <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/volcanocity/> A restless mountain threatens a bustling metropolis perched on its flanks. Nov. 1, 8:00PM.

**Discovery Channel: Supervolcano.** Amidst the stunning wilderness of America's most famous National Park, steam and hot water bubble and hiss from thousands of colorful, mineral-encrusted springs and vents. These geothermal phenomena make Yellowstone a time-bomb that could spell disaster. Oct. 2, 8:00PM, 12:00Mid. **Mega-Tsunamis.** Discover a geologic force capable of generating skyscraper-sized waves. Huge landslides create these walls of water. The next one might send a monster wave across the Atlantic and straight for the East Coast of the United States. Oct. 15, 9:00AM. **Comet Collision!** NASA's brilliant but risky mission

is designed to collide with a comet and in the process, reveal what lies in the heart of those blazing voyagers of our solar system. Filmmakers use state-of-the-art spacecraft animation and stunning location photography. Oct. 15, 2:00PM. **Pompeii of the East.** Almost 200 years ago, Mount Tambora in Eastern Indonesia unleashed a deadly volcanic eruption wiping out an entire ethnic group. Find out if this blast could have triggered an extraordinary and cataclysmic event worldwide climate change. Oct. 23, 12:00Noon.

**TLC:** Nothing rock-related this month.

**Travel Channel: Secrets of Zion & Bryce.** In Southwestern Utah, two of America's National Parks are spectacularly different yet equally awe-inspiring. Experience the mysterious labyrinths of twisted rock and the highest sheer cliff walls in North America. Oct. 2, 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. Oct. 2, 10:00PM, 1:00AM; Oct. 10, 6:00PM. **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. Oct. 4, 10:00PM, 1:00AM; Oct. 8, 3:00PM; Oct. 10, 7:00PM. **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. Oct. 10, 9:00AM; Oct. 17, 10:00AM. **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. Oct. 10, 10:00AM; Oct. 16, 5:00PM. **Secrets of Glacier National Park.** Glacier National Park is a spectacular snow-capped chorus of peaks. Icebergs float in aquamarine pools and rivers wind through dense forests into pristine lakes and waterfalls. Experience a white-knuckle ride of alpine twists that cuts through the clouds. Oct. 10, 11:00AM; Oct. 18, 10:00AM. **Secrets of Alaska's National Parks.** Alaska is one of the few remaining frontiers. Take a scenic expedition from ocean to mountains to tundra to ice, revealing the unparalleled beauty and unforgettable wildlife of this great land. Oct. 10, 1:00PM; Oct. 16, 6:00PM; Oct. 20, 10:00AM. **Hidden Yosemite.** To discover the true beauty of Yosemite, trek by llama and mule to remote locations not mentioned in the guidebooks. Discover the secrets to ice climbing, snow camping and snow shoeing, and make reservations for a traditional Christmas dinner. Oct. 10, 2:00PM. **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. Oct. 10, 3:00PM; Oct. 19, 10:00AM. **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. Oct. 10, 5:00PM. **Grand Canyon: Nature's Great Escape.** Head beyond the mule rides and hiking trails to the Grand Canyon's hidden treasures. Meet the team specialized in rescuing "fallers", wander the ghost towns of nearby abandoned gold mines, and find the secret path that leads into a forest of Joshua trees. Oct. 10, 8:00PM, 11:00PM; Oct. 16, 3:00PM. **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. Oct. 16, 8:00PM, 11:00PM. **Earth's Natural Wonders – 1.** Explore the world's most awe-inspiring natural wonders. Second in length to the Nile, the Amazon River is 60 times greater in volume of water. The ocean of sand known as the Sahara is the largest desert, and Angel Falls is the tallest waterfall. Oct. 20, 5:00PM. **Earth's Natural Wonders – 2.** Explore the powerful Niagara Falls and Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Visit the Grand Canyon, the world's finest example of water erosion, and then climb the highest mountain peak, Mt. Everest, which grows higher each year. Oct. 20, 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. Oct. 20, 7:00PM, 2:00AM.

**History Channel: Meteors: Fire in the Sky.** Meteors, comets, and asteroids cross the solar system to offer clues about our planet and universe. Can they destroy civilizations? Did they wipe out the dinosaurs? Have they brought life to our planet? And when will the next one hit? Aided by elaborate animation and live-action footage, we learn what these mysterious space rocks really are and imagine what likely happened 65-million years ago, when an object plowed into the Yucatan Peninsula. We see how certain spectacular meteor falls advanced our understanding of what they are and the danger that they pose. We talk to leading experts--astronomers and geologists including David Levy and Carolyn Shoemaker, co-discoverers of the Shoemaker-Levy comet that fell into Jupiter in 1994. And we talk to NASA scientists about recent missions to asteroids and comets and speculate on ways to move Earth-threatening asteroids and comets out of our way. Because it isn't a question of if, but when, the next deadly impact will take place. Oct. 2, 8:00PM, 12:00Mid. **Modern Marvels: Niagara**

**Power.** An exploration of the rich history of one of the world's greatest technological achievements--the harnessing of power from Niagara Falls. From the "War of the Currents", a battle between geniuses Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla, to the Robert Moses Plant, primed to take the powerhouse into the 21st century, we highlight its story. Oct. 19, 7:00AM. **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. Oct 19, 8:00PM, 12:00Mid.

### **Upcoming Shows in the area:**

**Oct. 1-2, Cleveland, OH - Great Lakes Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Show.** Cuyahoga Fairgrounds, 19000 Bagley Rd. 10-5 daily. 888-729-6904, [ibs@beadshows.com](mailto:ibs@beadshows.com), [www.beadshows.com](http://www.beadshows.com).

**Oct. 8-9, Worthington, PA - Kit-Han-Ne Rock & Gem Club Show.** Worthington-West Franklin Fire Hall, Rte. 422. 8th, 10-6; 9th, 10-5. Albert Zabinski, 724-567-3237.

**Oct. 22-23, Cuyahoga Falls, OH - Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society.** Gemboree. Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Rd. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10-7; 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10-6; minerals, rocks, gems, jewelry. Warren Salchak, 330-929-3798, or Carl Miller, (330) 633-4250; [www.lapidaryclubofohio.org](http://www.lapidaryclubofohio.org).

**Oct. 22-23, Rochester, NY - Rochester Lapidary Society.** Gem, Jewelry, Fossil, and Bead Show. Monroe County Fairgrounds, Minett Hall, Calkins Rd. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10-6; 23, 10-5; gems, jewelry, fossils, beads, kids' activities, demonstrations;. Larry Schulman, 585-271-6967.

**Nov. 11-13, Washington, PA - Fair & Balanced Promotions. Annual Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show.** Washington County Fairgrounds, Bldg. 4. 11th & 12th, 10-6; 13th, 10-5; gems, minerals, jewelry. F.M. Zambrotto, 304-825-6845, [frankowrap@juno.com](mailto:frankowrap@juno.com).

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

**Nov. 18-20, Pittsburgh, PA - Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Gem and Mineral Show: Silver Spectacular.** 412-622-3131, [www.carnegiemuseums.org/cmnh/minerals/gemshow](http://www.carnegiemuseums.org/cmnh/minerals/gemshow).

**Nov. 25-27, Hamburg, NY - GEMSTREET USA.** Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil, and Bead Show. Erie County Fairgrounds, 5600 McKinley Pkwy. 25th, 11-7; 26th, 10-6; 27th, 11-5. Jane Strieter Smith, 216-521-GEMS, [spi@stratos.net](mailto:spi@stratos.net), [www.gemstreetusa.com](http://www.gemstreetusa.com).

These are only the shows within day-trip distance, 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>).

We have been down in the club room many Saturday mornings (which sometimes extend to 2:00-3:00PM), but **check the club web site** at [www.treebeard.net/gemcity](http://www.treebeard.net/gemcity) or call and find out if you would like to join us for any *particular* Saturday. The web site is usually updated with a 'definite' status Friday night or early Saturday morning -- or call me (Harriet) at 455-4851 or Bob Gallivan at 454-6770 to make sure. You can also call to arrange another time for a work session if Saturdays aren't good for you, and someone will try to accommodate you.