

GEM SCOOPS



Vol. 49, No. 7

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

July 2011

Ponderings From the Podium

We lost a friend on Tuesday, July 12th. Connie Earl, who with her husband, Bill, has operated the Mercantile on the square in Pendleton for over 20 years, lost her long battle with cancer. Connie was an inspiration and a supportive friend after my diagnosis and subsequent treatment for Stage IV Colon cancer in 2001, and even more so during my follow-on surgery and chemo treatment for liver cancer in 2002. We should celebrate Connie's life rather than mourn her passing. Cindy Earl Higgins, who presented our February 2011 Program on "Beading", is Connie's daughter.

Although it's difficult for me to shift from sadness to joy, I learned early on in my cancer battle that every day is a gift and we need to make the most of each one. Let's therefore move on to address a get-together with a high potential for a joyous time. I'm speaking about our August Meeting — our Annual Picnic. Elsewhere in this edition you will find information about the "when and where" of this event. I want to concentrate on the "what and how". Although this is a "potluck" event, the club will provide the main meat dish, soft drinks,

NEXT MEETING August 17, 2011

There will be no formal club meeting in August. Instead we will have a covered dish picnic.

JUNE MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, July 20, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Clemson-Central Library, 105 Commons Way, Central.
TOPIC: Live Demonstration of Cabochon Cutting and Polishing.
SPEAKER: PDGMS President Larry Boller
PROGRAM: Club President Larry Boller will demonstrate cabochon cutting and polishing. Cabochons are slabs of stones that have been cut and ground into round or oval shapes with a polished convex side and a flat unfinished opposite side. Larry has been making "cabs" for many years and will bring in his own equipment. He has many practical tips to share.

Refreshments will be set up at 7:00 p.m. by Ansel Miller and the meeting will start at about 7:15. Visitors are always welcome.

ice, and the necessary paper ware and eating utensils.. If you have particular beverage desires (beer, wine, etc.) you are welcome to bring your own. You will be asked at the July meeting to choose which type of "potluck" item you will bring to the Picnic - Salad, Vegetable or Dessert.

I look forward to seeing you all at our July meeting, and am already salivating at the thought of sampling your culinary specialties at the August Picnic.

Larry

Plans for the Picnic

I have reserved the Summit Cabana for our picnic on August 17th from 4:00 p.m. on (in case someone wants to swim, I will be there.) Here are some directions in case you are new to the club.

Directions to PDGMS Annual Picnic: From the intersection of US 76/123 and SC 130 in Seneca.

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Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society Minutes of General Meeting June 15, 2011

Location: Library Meeting Room at the Central-Clemson Library.

Attendance: 12, including 1 visitor. (A bad thunderstorm occurred before, during and after the meeting.)

President, Larry Boller, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the visitor who was Eleanor Richardson, a long-time member who can't usually make Tuesday evening meetings. Re-

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2011 Officers	
President: Larry Boller	864-296-8077
V.P. : Ed Overly	864-328-3057
Secretary: Cecelia Jackson	864-261-3580
Treasurer: Phyllis Phillips	864-654-8514
2011 Directors	
Dave Cicimurri	864-650-7115
Jim Duzenberry	864-654-5741
Fred Sias	864-654-6833
Rich Warner	864-654-0913

General Meeting Minutes (Continued)

refreshments were provided by Ed Overly.

Program: Bill Bridwell, a lecturer from OLLI and retired electrical engineer, presented us with information on the dangers of Radon in the home and testing and mitigation techniques. Mr. Bridwell was very informative and answered a number of questions from our group. He is making available a pdf file of his talk on disc for us.

Break: Raffle tickets were sold for donated items. Ansel Miller and John Denny offered to bring in specimens for the next raffle. All members are encouraged to do so also.

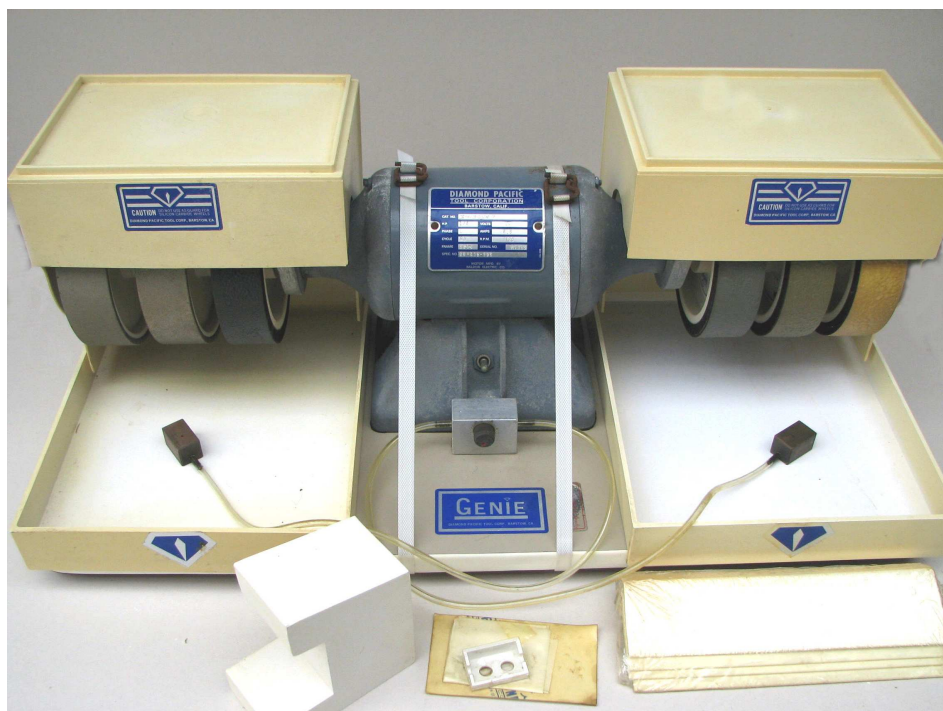
Business Meeting: After a correction was made to reflect that the previous meeting minutes were recorded by Cecelia Jackson, the minutes for the May 2011 meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report was provided by President Larry Boller.

Old Business: We needed a Field Trip Chairman and Mr. Palmer offered to serve with the proviso that he may be out of the area at certain times of the year. The members agreed to his terms.

We need to print up the brochures and distribute them to the welcome centers, libraries, the geology museum and the website.

Programs: The July 20th meeting will have Larry Boller presenting a demonstration and lecture on cabochon cutting. Refreshments will be provided by Ansel Miller.

The August 17 meeting will be a semi-pot luck cookout at the Summit Subdivision in Seneca. The club



This is the Diamond Pacific Genie. The PDGMS has several of these machines but we have no place to have a Workshop since Clemson condemned our previous workshop. The Genie is also the machine that is used for lapidary workshops at both Wildacres and the William

will provide the meat, and the members can bring salads, sides, drinks and appetizers. For planning purposes, the turnout for this meeting could be 20 people. Come a little early if you want to swim.

A suggestion was made for the September 21 meeting to be a Show and Tell. Michelle offered to provide refreshments if needed.

New Business: Possible field trip sites include Chunky Gal Mountain, west of 441 in a stream in North Carolina. There are garnets in Buck Creek and beryl in southern Anderson County. Gold panning is possible in northern Oconee County, for example, off winding Stairs Road behind Lake Cherokee. Mr. Frank Stewart said a field trip to find garnet is possible and he will let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Kerns

Publicity Chair

August Picnic Directions (Continued)

(There is a traffic light at this corner, as well as a CVS Drugs and Ingles store). From there, go 0.8 miles North on SC 130 (in the direction of the Duke Power Nuclear Plant) and turn left at the entrance to the SUMMIT Subdivision on Grand Summit Drive. Go to the Stop sign, and turn right on North Summit Drive. Then go to the next Stop sign and turn left on Viewpointe Court. The Summit Owners Association Amenities Center is just over the top of the hill. The pool will be open at 4:00 p.m. for folks who want to swim or just socialize. Supper will begin at 6:00 p.m. **Ted**

2011 SFMS WORKSHOP DATES

Wildacres, August 22 - 28
Wildacres, September 12 - 18
William Holland, October 9 - 15