



GEM SCOOPS



Vol. 54, No. 3

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

March 2016

All About Fluorescent Minerals

President's Message

The PDGMS presentation for March brings back Hendersonville's Tim Barton, who will talk about fluorescent minerals. This glowing talk will illuminate why some rocks and minerals look completely different under various forms of light (or its absence). While Ted Wallenius will bring his Geiger counter to the event, there is no truth to the rumor that pregnant women should not attend! The talk takes place at 7 PM at our usual OLLI meeting location, Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

As Spring has now seemingly sprung, I note that our club's digging activities have really picked up. There have been two excursions to Diamond Hill over the last three weekends and several trips to Lake-Douglas during the past months. I hope that our club can keep this up—the good time of year, where it is not overly hot or cold, is here.

Let me remind you of the MAGMA rock, gem, and mineral show in Asheville, NC the weekend of March 18-20. The Graves Mountain Spring dig and rock swap is scheduled for April 22-23—this is always a good time. Also, please keep those donations for our "Beneath Your Feet" display coming. They make great show and tell pieces at the meeting. *Robert*

APRIL MEETING

The next meeting of the PDGMS will be on April 19, 2016. Put it on your calendar.

MARCH MEETING

WHEN: March 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm

WHERE: The OLLI Classroom Building

SPEAKER: Tim Barton

TOPIC: Fluorescent Minerals

The PDGMS presentation for March brings back Hendersonville's Tim Barton, who will talk about fluorescent minerals. This talk will help us understand why some rocks and minerals look completely different under various forms of light.

Fred Sias will serve snacks this month.

Visitors are always welcome.

PDGMS MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2016

OPENING

The regular meeting of the Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 7:05pm on February 16, 2016 in the OLLI Building by Robert Lund.

There were 15 attendees. See sign-in sheet for names.

AGENDA

Fred Sias on Easy Jewelry Making. Fred gave a very informative talk and slide presentation on easy jewelry making using Wes Gem Pliers to place a stone in a setting. Thank you Fred for the instructions and assistance to help Robert create a beautiful piece of jewelry. Dard and Bob Whitmore provided snacks for our meeting. Thank you, Dard and Bob.

OLD BUSINESS

"Beneath Your Feet" display: We are still requesting samples for the display. Ted brought in some nice specimens for the display. He also had some more of the club brochures

printed.

Dues are due! Please contact John Ishler if you have not paid your dues for 2016.

NEW BUSINESS

OLLI fee for building use: if the club is not active in presenting classes for OLLI we will be charged a fee to use the space for our meetings.

Members are encouraged to attend the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc annual meeting and show.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 by Robert Lund. the next meeting will be on March 15, 2016. Tim Barton will be presenting "Flourescent Minerals"

Officers for 2016

Robert Lund, President.....864-888-8719

John Palmer, V. Pres.....941-545-3713

Teresa Smith, Sec.....864-888-8719

John Ishler, Treasurer.....864-885-9126

2016 Directors

Carol Lund (Past Pres).....864-888-8719

Charlie Rowe.....864-985-0446

Fred Sias.....864-654-6833

Bob Whitmore.....303-565-2727

Beginners Guide to Making Gemstone Jewelry

by Fred Sias

This is the course description of a class I plan to offer for PDGMS members this spring. We need to know how many are interested enough to invest about \$60 in the jewelry-making kit shown in the illustration to the right. Those that do not attend the meeting, please let Fred know by email.

Setting gemstones in jewelry is one of the skills that must be mastered to become a jeweler. Usually this requires a lot of specialized and expensive tools and equipment. There is, however, an alternative that makes it possible for an unskilled beginner to quickly and easily make quality jewelry using special “pre-notched findings” that are available from several manufacturers. A “finding” is an unfinished gold or silver jewelry part or assembly that normally requires the specialized skill of a jeweler to turn it into a finished piece of jewelry. Using a special tool, a beginner with a little instruction can turn pre-notched jewelry findings into finished jewelry with a few simple tools and some basic instructions. This course is designed to provide that instruction and allow unskilled beginners to make fine jewelry from gold and silver findings that are available at wholesale prices.

This course will be presented in three 2-hour classes as follow:

Class 1 – Observe a presentation and videos that describe the jewelry-making process using findings from Tripps, Inc. in New Mexico. Describe the contents of a \$60 kit that



Jewelry-setting Kit sold by Tripps Inc. for beginner stone setting.

includes the required tools, precious metal findings, and gemstones to make several gemstone pendants. The instructor will demonstrate setting a stone in class. After each step the piece will be passed around so that each student can observe the results of the step.

During the class the students will use their computer to go online and order the kit. (Please bring a laptop computer, if you have one, and credit card to class.)

Class 2 – Using the pre-ordered kit, learn to use the tools to set gemstones in the provided sterling silver and 14k gold pendant findings. The instructor will provide individual instruction, first with sterling silver “practice” findings using inexpensive CZ gemstones and finally using a quality gemstone and a 14k gold pendant finding. All students will become proficient at setting gemstones using pre-notched findings and the special stone-setting tool.

Class 3 – Return with the jewelry made in Class 2 and any additional findings and gemstones purchased between Class 2 and Class 3. This class will be devoted to completing any unfinished projects and finally “touching up” the polish on each piece using a Dremel tool and jewelry polish.

We will devote any time necessary to be sure that each student knows how to use the special setting tool and is able to achieve satisfactory results.

We will expect students to pre-register for the class and it may be possible to obtain a quantity discount on the jewelry kits if enough students pre-register.

SFMS 2016 WORKSHOPS

WILLIAM HOLLAND
June 5--12

WILDACRES
August 22--28th
September 19--25