Gem Cutters News

Award Winning Bulletin of the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Inc.
Baltimore, Maryland
<www.gemcuttersguild.com>
Volume 60, Number 7 September, 2011

Program Notes

from Richard Meszler

Chris Coleman, co-owner of Nelson Coleman Jewelers in Towson, will be the speaker at our September 6th meeting.

A native of Baltimore and graduate of the University of Baltimore, Chris is a fifth generation jeweler. He is GIA certified and a member of the American Gem Society. He spent 20 years at BGE and the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development before joining the family business.

His talk will be about current events in the gem industry and will include a discussion about precious metal prices and the related challenges and opportunities. With gold currently trading above the $1700 per ounce mark, and silver fluctuating, the talk should be most interesting for those of us who make and purchase metals and jewelry.

Our meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at our workshop at Meadow Mill.

Volunteers Needed

Help is needed for the auction of Joe Sobrio's items starting at about 10:30 am. Contact Dave Mitchell if you can help log in bidders, help unpack the auction lots, set up chairs and tables, keep auction records, be a "spotter" or help with clean-up.

Food items - brownies, cookies, cake, etc. are also needed as are a few people to help sell them. Contact Jane Fallon to find out what food or drink items are needed and what you can do to help sell the food.

Huge
Auction Sale

Saturday, September 10, 2011

Material and Equipment from Joe Sobrio
well known Baltimore area Lapidary and Teacher

Over 150 lots
Equipment, Slabs, Rough, Tools, Etc.
auction listing can be found at <gemcuttersguild.com>

Preview at 11:30 A.M.
Auction Begins at Noon

Terms: Cash or Check
If paying by check, total purchases about $300 will be held until check clears
All Sales Final

Woman's Club of Catonsville
10 St. Timothy's Lane
Catonsville, MD
(Off Frederick Rd, just 0.2 mile west of Exit 13 - I-695)

Gem Cutters GUILD OF BALTIMORE, INC.

The Gem Cutters Guild is a founding member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. and affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

About our Guild:

The Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Inc. was established in order to allow its members to gain knowledge and skills in gem cutting, jewelry making and in identifying and evaluating lapidary materials. Through field trips, exhibitions, and cooperation with other societies, we endeavor to further not only our own knowledge, but also that of the general public.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month except January, July and August at our workshop which is located at Meadow Mill at Woodbury, 3600 Clipper Mill Rd, Suite 116; Baltimore, MD 21211. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. Visitors are always welcome. Dues are $30 per year for families and $18 for individuals. More information and directions to our meetings can be found on our website, <www.gemcuttersguild.com>.

Officers:

President - Mary Keller
info@gemcuttersguild.com

Vice President -Joe Gehring

Recording Sec'y - Sallie Miller

Corresponding Sec'y - Trinh Phan

Treasurer - Steve Weinberger

Past President - Richard Meszler

Directors:

20010 - 2011	2011 - 2012
Jan Anderson	Wayne Homans
Richard Hoff	Anne Millar
Gene Miller	Dave Mitchell

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Deadline is the 15th of each month
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Mary's Musings

by Mary Keller, President

I hope everyone has had a fun and productive summer, will be bringing examples for Show and Tell, and are thinking about setting up a display case for the Show. If you have not yet checked your class flyer, please take a look and consider signing up for one of the classes. There is a great selection of revised and new classes.

As most of you know, I retired from State service as of July 1st. I am still looking for all the free time I am supposed to have now to do fun things like beading and lapidary. Perhaps there will be some particularly inspirational slabs at the Sobrio auction. Then there are the wonderful vendors that will be at the Show. If there are some especially interesting beads, slabs, or rough, my budget is in trouble. Of course I will be coming with a list of findings I need to go with the stash I have already. One of the benefits of working at the show for both days is lots of time to shop.

Our annual show is coming up on September 24 and 25th. Please volunteer to work a couple of hours (or more). It's a fun way to help the club, meet the public...and if you work, you get free admission to the show too.! I also hope you'll consider setting up a display case of your work.

Thank you to the shop monitors who have generously given their time for open shop over the summer and also to the members who took advantage of the opportunities.

You may have heard that work is underway to compile guidance on shop usage in one document. The intent is to gather most of the rules that have been passed on verbally and provide standardized information on general shop safety, what days open shop could be scheduled, how notice will be made that it will be open (including the hours), and stress the need to provide feedback for monitors that there is interest in the individual dates. The guidance, after being reviewed, edited, and approved by the Board, will be distributed to all members.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on September 6th for what should be a very informative presentation by Chris Coleman of Coleman Jewelers.

Mary

Refreshments

Bernie Emery and ***Pauline Furtaw*** have volunteered to bring refreshments for the meeting on September 6th. Thank you in advance. Of course anyone else who wishes to add to the nibbles is more than welcome to do so.

Save the Dates!

from Bernie Emery

Our annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show comes up at the end of the month - September 24 - 25 to be exact and we need YOU to come and volunteer to help us.

Everyone in the Guild should be able to help out at least 2 hours - tasks are not difficult. Here's what we need:

★Several people to help with set-up on Friday morning. This involves moving tables, dropping a few light cords, taking show-cases from the trailer and covering a few tables. Contact Bernie to volunteer.

★2 people each hour to take tickets. This is a "sit-down" job. We still need someone to coordinate this.

★1 person each hour to sell tickets. This is a "sit-down" job. Contact Sallie Miller to volunteer.

★4 or 5 people each hour to help at the gem mine. Contact Wayne Homens to volunteer.

★2 people (or more) each hour to demonstrate -- cabbing, faceting, wirewrapping, silversmithing (no torches allowed though), pmc, polymer clay, etc. This is a wonderful way to introduce the public to our hobby and encourage them to take our classes. These are "sit-down" jobs.

★1 or 2 people each hour at the info desk. Again, mostly a "sit-down" job. Contact Steve or Carolyn Weinberger.

★1 person each hour at the wishing well. This can be a "sit-down" job. Contact Richard Hoff to volunteer.

★An assortment of "floaters" to help out wherever and whenever.

★Members to help take down the show on Sunday evening after 5 pm. Wire needs to be picked up, cases need to be collapsed and stored in the trailer, table covers need to be removed and folded or trashed. Contact Bernie to volunteer...or just stay around when the show closes.

The show is our means of sharing our hobby with the public. It also introduces our workshop classes as well. Proceeds generated help fund our workshop and Guild programs (our dues do not cover all our expenses).

If you're a member of the Guild, your help is needed at the show. Come and shop - our vendors will be delighted to see you - and give the Guild 2 or more hours of your time by taking on one of the tasks to be filled. It's a fun and productive way to spend a morning or afternoon (or two).

In addition, plan on setting up a showcase to show off your creations. The Guild has a supply of empty cases, several liners to soften the inside appearance (or make your own). Setting up a display is not difficult -- pick a few of your best creations, set them in the showcase in an interesting manner, create some computer labels so the public knows what they are looking at and you are done. Send in a registration form to reserve a case now so you do not forget. Forms are on page 16-17 of this issue. If you don't have sufficient items to display by yourself, share a display with another member.

Let's make our 47th the best show ever!! Join the fun and volunteer...then shop 'til you drop the rest of the time.

Nominating Committee

from the Board of Directors

Each year the Guild selects a nominating committee of five members plus one alternate who are charged with assembling a slate of candidates to hold the various Guild offices in the coming year. Announcement of the slate is made at the October meeting with elections held at the November meeting.

All office positions are up for election -- president, vice president, recording and corresponding secretaries and treasurer. Incumbents may succeed themselves - there are no term limits. In addition 3 Directors must be elected.

Serving on the nominating committee this year are:

Pam Jeffries, Chairman
Adam Block
Melinda Hope
Anne Millar
Cathy Yestramski

Some of us will be contacted by a member of the committee in the next couple of weeks. If you're asked to serve, please say "yes". Board membership requires your attendance at about six extra meetings per year.

Show Committee Chairs:

Show Chair - Bernie Emery
Co-Chair - Dave Mitchell

Advertising - Pam Jeffries
Decorations - Trish MacNeal
Demonstrations -
Exhibits - Mary Keller
Gem Mine - Wayne Homens
Information - The Weinbergers
Ticket Sales - Sallie Miller
Ticket Takers -
Wishing Well - Richard Hoff

June Meeting Minutes

from Sallie Patterson, Secretary

The June 7th Gem Cutters Guild meeting was called to order by President Mary Keller at 7:36 pm. The May Guild minutes were approved as printed in GC News by the membership. Treasurer, Steve Weinberger again reported that the Guild's finances were in order and solvent. He will supply more information on request.

Membership Chair, Linda Goldberg introduced visitors and new members. Wayne Homans, Field Trip Chair had no additional news to share. Sunshine Chair, Pat Baker reported that Melinda Hope had a shelf fall on her and received a concussion, but is recovering.

Old Business:

Class Planning/Workshop: Richard Meszler thanked members for their input on classes that they were interested in being taught. Dave Mitchell reported that the 10 inch saw was repaired.

The next Bead 'N Brunch is scheduled for June 12th at the workshop and all members may attend.

Our 47th Gem Show will be held September 24-25 at the Howard Co. Fairgrounds. Co-Chair Dave Mitchell, asked that members email him to volunteer for the show. Please contact Pat Baker to set up displays or to demonstrate.

New Business:

The annual picnic at Patapsco State Park's Pickall Area will be held on August 7th beginning at 1pm.

The International Gem and Mineral Show will be held on July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Please sign up to help at our info. table. Anyone working and wearing a badge will get in to the show free.

Announcements:

Our next meeting will be September 6th at 7:30 PM.

Show and Tell: Dave Mitchell introduced items in the Show and Tell case.

Following the Coffee Break, we were treated to a very informative presentation on Fossils by Lloyd Gleason a member of the Chesapeake Gem and Mineral Society.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Submitted by
Sallie Miller, Secretary

Board Notes

from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors held it's last meeting on Monday, August 2nd. Present were Joe Gehring, Trinh Phan, Dave Mitchell, Anne Millar, Jan Anderson, Steve Weinberger, Richard Meszler, Mary Keller and Parliamentarian Carolyn Weinberger.

Items discussed by the Board included the upcoming Sobrio auction. Dave has rented the Women's Club of Catonsville and will arrange to have the items moved there for the auction on Saturday, September 10. Fliers will be sent to all the local clubs and the list of items to be auctioned placed on our website for viewing. The Guild will receive the usual 15% member commission for conducting the sale and the family will pay all expenses. Members will be asked to donate food and drink items and to help with record keeping, auctioneering etc.

Dave found a 10" Barranca saw which the board authorized him to purchase for the shop. This will replace the existing Raytech. The saw has a motor and almost new blade.

Richard Meszler will make new bench pins. A shop clean-up day is to be scheduled sometime in August before fall classes begin.

Mary purchased several new books for the library which will be available for loan as soon as procedures for the library have been finalized.

Discussion about our upcoming show was held with Mary agreeing to handle the display area this year.

Dave, Richard and Mary will work on a workshop policy stating when the shop will be open, procedures for notification of members etc. They will also formulate a policy for monitors to follow. Once completed this will be presented to the Board for approval and printed for all members.

Upcoming Guild programs announced by Richard and Carolyn are Chris Coleman of Nelson Coleman Jewelers in September and Helen Serras-Herman in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Show & Tell

from Dave Mitchell

We had a good assortment of interesting items in our June Show & Tell showcase.

Pam Jeffries displayed two necklaces she made in the Reactive Metals Class. Both had plastic discs in the center and the two anodized hemispheres were cold connected.

Linda Goldberg displayed her first attempts at cabbing, a geode she purchased at our show last year and a cast bronze pendant.

Trinh Phan showed off a Graveyard Point agate cab that she wire-wrapped.

Getting rid of some of her stash is **Pat Baker**'s goal. As a result she cabbed a piece of jasper, then set it as a pendant in sterling silver.

Cathy Yestramski brought in some fossils found at Calvert Cliffs.

Joe Gehring showed off the anodized titanium bracelet he made during the Reactive Metals class as well as a crazy lace cabochon.

Jen Wilde displayed a slab of Blue Mountain jasper.

Wayne Homens had an assortment of items he made including cabochons from variscite, Tiffany Stone, labradorite, and rutilated quartz. He also displayed 2 sets of earrings made with pmc.

And finally, **Dave "e-bay" Mitchell** showed a slab of recently acquired Sonora Sunset dendritic rhyolite and a cab cut from it.

Picnic Fun

by Carolyn Weinberger

Approximately 30 Guild members enjoyed good food and wonderful conversation during the Guild summer picnic at Patapsco Valley State Park.

Although the forecast called for temperatures in the 90's and the possibility of a late afternoon thunderstorm, it was pleasant sitting under cover of the pavilion and the rain held off until the very end when most Guilders had already left.

There was an awesome assortment of food and everyone quickly helped reduce the bowls and platters to a just few left overs. Steve Page provided his grilling expertise and we ate well on burgers and dogs with all the trimmings. Appetizers, potato, pasta, cole slaw, quinoa and cucumber salads, sesame noodles, chips, and lots of luscious desserts rounded out our choices.

As might be expected, conversations centered on summer travels and projects, with some showing off their latest creations and photos.

Thanks to Steve Page and everyone, the Guild picnic was a lovely afternoon.

Member News

from Pat Baker

September birthday honorees have a choice between sapphire and lapis as their birthstone. Good examples of both can be found in rings, pendants and brooches.

We wish a wonderful birthday celebration to the following members:

Peggy Hanna - 10
Barb Finney - 10
Manzar Moghbelli - 11
Dave Mitchell - 13
Anne Allen - 16
Edgie Scott Wilson - 16
Rose Duke - 19
Michael Shongo - 25

I've not heard of any illness befalling members this summer. That's great news.

We'd like to welcome back Melinda Hope (info in the roster under Chris Douglas) and note that Marcia Rouscher has gone back to using her maiden name - Packard.

If you learn of any members having illnesses, special events or receiving honors, please let me know.

Clockwise from upper left:

Work by
Trinh, Joe, Pat,
Dave, Pat

Internet Resources

by Lorraine Johnston

NASA's Photo Archive

Several years ago, a friend acquainted me with NASA's stunning *Astronomy Picture of the Day* (APOD) archive. NASA's portal into the archive <apod.nasa.gov/apod> includes a search engine, and an explanation is given beneath each photo. Listed below are some of my favorites.

Ancient African nuclear reactors: <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap100912.html>. Remains of naturally-occurring nuclear reactors over two billion years old have been found in the Okelobondo mines of Gabon. In ancient times, when uranium 235 deposits existed in high enough concentration, spontaneous nuclear reactions were triggered within these deposits when about a meter or greater in size. For more information, see the January 26, 2009 issue of *Scientific American* magazine at <www.scientificamerican.com>- enter "ancient reactor" in the search box.

The walking rocks of Death Valley: <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap070508.html> - Rocks weighing up to one hundred pounds travel across Racetrack Playa of Death Valley, leaving trails in the sand, but no evidence of what moves them. Read one proposed solution to this mystery in the Summer 2011 issue of *Johns Hopkins Magazine* <magazine.jhu.edu/2011/06>.

Islands of the Four Mountains in the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, pictured from above: <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap100622.html> - Snow-covered volcanoes, one of which is active, resemble a slice of beautiful Bird's-Eye Rhyolite, just one of an abundance of examples that throughout the universe, the large is mirrored in the small.

Hoodoo Sky, Bryce Canyon National Park <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap080703.html> - A hauntingly beautiful moonlit photo of towering rock formations known as hoodoos. Weathering and erosion form hoodoos in arid parts of our planet.

Ecuadorian volcano Tungurahua erupts: <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap070918.html> - A spectacular photo of the 2007 eruption. Tungurahua erupts about every ninety years.

Richat Structure, Sahara, Mauritania: <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap021028.html> - Ah, the mysterious Richat Structure in Africa. Why is it perfectly round, and flat? There is no evidence that it was formed by a meteor impact. For a good discussion of this eroded anticline, see *The Geology News Blog* dated 9.25.08 at <geology.rockbandit.net>- key "Richat Structure in Mauritania" into the search box to access the September 2008 discussion.

Lake Ossiach, Switzerland paraselene: <apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap100402.html> - A nighttime rainbow known as a paraselene—also called a "moondog"—formed by moonlight shining through hexagonal ice crystals in high cirrus clouds.

To share websites or topics for future columns, Guild members can contact me using the information in the Guild roster. Da svidaniya!

September Bead 'N Brunch

The next Guild Bead 'N Brunch is set for Sunday, September 18 beginning at 11 am.

ALL members of the Guild are invited to attend. Just bring along a food item to share with the group and whatever beading project you want to work on. There will be NO open shop that day and you do not have to be an Open Shop member to participate.

Join the fun...good food, good conversation, good projects!

A Look Back – 61 Years of History, Part 3

by Carolyn Weinberger

During the 1960's several momentous events occurred in our Guild. Membership continued to grow and our annual show became more and more popular; so much so that it was renamed the "Atlantic Coast Gem & Mineral Exhibition" and moved to the Pikesville Armory. Instead of just a few vendors and displays, the "new" show would feature special exhibits, more dealers, competitive and non-competitive displays and awards. Those entering their display at the competitive level would have them evaluated following the AFMS Uniform Rules and would receive ribbons and trophies if the scores qualified them for these.

These early shows were amazing. The Guild purchased heavy duty table covers for all the vendor and display tables so that the show would have a uniform appearance. Members, especially Marge and Morris Lake decorated the hall, usually creating a large floor display in front of the information booth, and adding numerous vases filled with fresh flowers throughout the hall. Thank goodness we did away with the uniform table covers years ago since they were a royal pain to put on all the dealer booths, then refold, wipe down and store after the shows were over!

Initially there were only 20 dealers at the Armory and each had exactly the same size booth. Tables groaned with unusual cutting rough, metals, tools and equipment.

Floyd Carpenter, a dealer from Havre de Grace brought numerous pieces of equipment - grinders, saws, polishing rigs etc. to sell along with slabs and uncut geodes. He also brought a two bladed saw that he'd built and cut open those geodes for the public when they purchased one from him. That saw never stopped running cutting two geodes at once every 10 minutes that the show was open!

Dealers came from as far away as Idaho and sold fabulous cutting rough. Mineral dealers, including Gordon Hanna, offered spectacular and good quality specimens at nominal prices. We also had a metals refiner from Philadelphia who brought roll upon roll of silver wire and sheet in a variety of gauges, shapes and textures and every metal working tool imaginable. He also carried a supply of gold wire and sheet, but even then, due to the high cost of gold, usually took some of it home with them.

The center of the Armory was devoted to displays --- and there were usually between 60 and 80 of them. Many of our members set up as did club members belonging to Pennsylvania, D.C. and other Maryland clubs. Friendly rivalries developed between friends who entered competitive displays too. Many dealers also put in displays adding to the interest of the show.

Those entering at the non-competitive level were eligible to receive one of two awards. "The Directors' Award" was presented to a non-member whose display was deemed to be the best in the group by the show director. The Presidents' Award was given to a Guild member whose display was deemed the best of all the non-competitive Guild displays. This process was discontinued about 15 years ago.

One of the hallmarks of those shows was always a special display designed to attract the public. One year we were able to borrow an evening gown (remember those?) that had Linde Star Rubies and Sapphires sewn on it. Catherine Muffoletto, who modeled the dress, noted how heavy it was, but gamely modeled it every 2 hours. Attendance at that show topped the 4,000 mark!

Another year we were able to obtain an exhibit entitled "Crystal City" from Gerry Muchna, a faceter living in Phoenix, Arizona. He had taken optical quartz and faceted numerous pieces of it into a variety of objects including replicas of noteworthy buildings, furniture objects, toys etc. The crowd viewing the display was often 10 deep.

Another year we brought in Stan Timms, a fellow from Arizona who had learned and perfected the Indian art of silver channel work. We gave Stan a couple of tables in the demo area and he patiently demonstrated what he did.

The Armory location soon proved to be less than ideal as parking became increasingly difficult due to weekend National Guard activities. The final nail in the coffin for us at the Armory occurred when the building was closed to outside rentals due to heightened Homeland Security activities following the events of September 11, 2001.

Howard County Fairgrounds became our new home in 2002. The new venue, although longer and narrower than the Armory, allowed us to add a few more vendors and be more flexible with dealer booth size.

We've lost some of our early caché - fewer displays, less decorating, far fewer demonstrations, but the show remains an excellent one that helps introduce the hobby to the public and give each of us a chance

The Fundamentals of Lapidary: Making Smaller Pieces"

by Donald Clark, CSM of the International Gem Society. From Gem & Mineral Journal, June 2011

One discipline that is common to all forms of lapidary is how to take large pieces of stone and reduce them to useful sized pieces. If you are in the field, you might be able to drop them off a precipice, and then retrieve the pieces at the bottom. This method has two disadvantages. One is that there is rarely a convenient cliff to drop them off. Second is that the method is extremely wasteful. You have no control over how the pieces break and you are not likely to find them all.

Lacking a handy cliff, you will have to resort to mechanical methods. The quickest way to reduce a large rock to smaller pieces sounds, many people slave over their saws when a few quick blows from a rock hammer would do the job.

Hammering rough does not allow precise control over the size pieces you get, although it is much more accurate than the dropping it off a cliff method. If the rock you are working on has a fracture, you can usually break it along that line.

Cutting a kerf in the stone will give you greater control. A kerf is a shallow saw cut, usually less than an inch deep. You can create a kerf almost anywhere you need it. Place a chisel or large screwdriver in the kerf and give it a solid blow with the hammer. The rock will split in two under the kerf. While the technique does not always give you a clean, straight split, it is surprising how well it works.

The above methods are only useful for cabbing material of moderate value. You would never want to hammer an expensive piece of rough where the loss would amount to much money. Nor would you want to use the technique on something fragile, like opal or calcite. Expanding fractures would reduce the usable areas and value of the material too much to be worth the savings in labor. For these materials, saws and tile nippers are called for.

Saws

Lapidaries use slab and trim saws. The difference is the size blade they use. Trim saws have small, thin blades that remove a minimum of material. Slab saw blades are thicker, because they are designed to do heavier cutting.

Trim saws use 4 to 6 inch blades that run between .004 and .012 inches thick. The cost will vary between $25 and $50.

Diamond blades are like a revolving finger nail file. They will not cut fingers, but they will give you a creative manicure if you are not careful. The exceptions to this are the very thin blades of .004 to .006 inches. At this size they will cut fingers. They are also much easier to bend, or dish, than a heavier blade. So unless you are cutting very expensive material, it is best to use a slightly thicker blade.

Slab saw blades run from 6 to 36 inches with thickness of .025 to .200 inches. A diamond blade will cost between $30 for a small, medium quality blade, to well over $1,000.

Other than size, the main difference in price is the amount of diamond on the blade. How much you need depends on how often you are going to use it. A hobbyist, who just cuts an occasional stone, can get by with any of the good quality blades. These have the diamond abrasive rolled or bonded on. A professional shop, which uses their saws constantly, would best be served with a sintered blade. Sintered means the rim has diamond throughout it, not just on the surface. Because there is so much more diamond in these blades, they cost considerably more. However, the value is there because they last so much longer.

Beware of very inexpensive blades. Some of them will only cut three or four stones and are not worth the money.

Mud Saws.

Not all slab saws use diamond blades. An older style is called a mud saw and they are still available as used equipment. A mud saw has no abrasive attached to the blade. Instead, the blade runs through a troth of abrasive, which is usually silicon carbide. This is the "mud." It carries some of the abrasive with it on each pass.

The primary advantage of a mud saw is economy; they cost much less than one with a diamond blade. Their disadvantage is that they require more maintenance. The abrasive breaks down with use and the saw must be shut down and recharged periodically. Properly set up and maintained, a mud saw works superbly.

Feed

When selecting and operating a saw you need to make sure the stones are fed straight into the blade. If you feed the stone to the blade at

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an angle it will bind and possibly bend, ruining an expensive blade.

With new slab saws, this should not be a problem. However, on a used saw you should not take it for granted. Check the feed mechanism to make sure it runs perfectly parallel with the blade.

With trim saws, you feed the stone in by hand. To do this properly, stand so your primary eye is in a direct line with the saw blade. This way you can see if the blade starts to bend, indicating you are not feeding the stone straight. Keep the table around the blade clean of debris, as bits of rock can deflect the stone. With small pieces, it is helpful to press them into a piece of cardboard, and slide the cardboard into the blade. On some occasions, you might even want to embed your stones in wax or plaster.

In all cases, you are instructed to hold the stone against the table as you slide it forward. No one has ever recommended hand holding the stone as you feed it to the blade. It is simply too difficult to feed straight and the chance of damaging the blade gets much higher.

That is what every saw manufacturer recommends. However, when trimming facet rough, it can be extremely difficult to both lay the stone on the table and feed it in a direction that removes a bare minimum of useless material. The price of good quality facet rough tends to be quite high and sawing off more than necessary is an expensive proposition.

As a rough dealer, I learned to feed stones into the blade by hand at whatever angle was best for preserving material. First, either find a line on the surface, or mark the stone where it needs cutting. Now, the main trick is to keep your eye in line with the blade. Hold the marked line on the stone straight to the blade. Feed it in gently and watch the saw blade constantly. If you see any bending, make a gentle but immediate adjustment.

There are also occasions where you need to saw a kerf in a stone that is too large to feed through your saw. The only way to do this is to set one end of the rock on the table and a side on the blade. Then gently rotate it forward until a suitable kerf is cut in place. Again, keep your eye in a straight line with the saw blade and make sure it doesn't bend.

Do this at your own risk. If you do not have a keen eye, a steady hand, and an adequate attention span, you will ruin your blade.

Lubrication

Trim saws will work and last well without any lubrication other than water. However, that is not necessarily recommended. At the minimum you should add a rust preventative. There are commercial products available where saw blades are sold. These usually have a lubricating properties as well, which is all to your advantage.

Slab saws have much more stringent requirements. There are saw oils on the market that are excellent, if a bit on the expensive side. If you are unsure what to use, get an oil that is specifically designed for lapidary use.

Lapidaries have used a variety of lubricating solutions over the years. One of the most popular is a combination of kerosene and motor oil. While it serves its lubrication purposes well, it is both toxic and flammable. There are water-soluble oils that are designed for use in machine shops. These do away with the flammability problem and are much less toxic. Several people like to use automotive anti-freeze.

Bear in mind that all of these substances are toxic to breathe and there is always mist when the saw is in operation. When setting up a saw make sure there is adequate ventilation. If you are using a flammable solution, outside is best. You certainly d do not want the fumes collecting in a closed room while you are away! I have seen some excellent workshops set up in a carport or under an awning.

Cleaning

Before throwing out a blade because it no longer cuts, try cleaning it by sawing a common brick. It is amazing how much this can extend the life of your blades. It removes tiny particles of grit that have accumulated between the diamonds. Harder stones, like agate will not do the same job.

Periodically, you will also need to clean the sump of your saw. Fortunately, it doesn't have much odor, because it is one of the nastiest jobs you will ever undertake. You need a large can or bucket to hold the residue, scrapers and rubber gloves to protect your hands.

Open the valve, or tip the saw to remove the lubricant. If you run it through a filter, (coffee filters work,) you can reuse it.

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Fundamentals of Lapidary

continued from page 9

There will be a layer of sludge left in the bottom that needs to be manually scraped out. Any flat scraper will do, but a putty knife works particularly well for getting into corners. You do not have to remove every last bit of sludge, but the more you get out, the longer it will be before you have to clean it again.

Now all you have to do is to find a home for the mess you removed from your saw. The stone residue is nicknamed "the plumbers best friend" because it takes so little to plug up a drain. So that method is out. Most likely it is mixed with a toxic petroleum product, so you should find a hazardous waste disposal site. These are getting easier to find and many now exist at the local dumps.

Nippers

Tile nippers are available in all hardware and building supply stores. Their usefulness is limited, but in the right circumstance they are excellent.

Nippers are used almost exclusively for removing small amounts of material from facet rough, or edges of cabbing material that has already been slabbed. Simply place the and give them a squeeze.

This is usually faster and more efficient than using a saw. There is no preparation or clean up afterwards. On fractured gems, you can press on the fracture and cause it to finish splitting all the way through. This will save you more material than the most careful sawing, as the fracture may be a curved line. A saw can only cut in a straight line and you always lose the width of the blade.

This is an excellent method for preparing tanzanite for faceting, where removing fractured areas is one of the most common steps. With the nippers you will frequently get a large piece with maximum recovery, and a smaller piece for melee. If you use a saw, the primary piece will be smaller and you will lose the small gem altogether. When the material is this valuable, all of it is worth saving!

Grinders

The coarse wheels on a cabbing unit are also helpful for reducing rough to a useful size and shape. Indeed, that is what they are designed for. A saw is faster for removing large amounts of material, but a grinding wheel will give you more control. You can cut curves with a wheel, where you are restricted to straight lines with a saw.

You must be careful when grinding delicate material. A coarse wheel that is ideal for jasper would shatter an opal. It can also open up dozens of fractures in stones with perfect cleavage. Always think about the stability of your gem before taking it to a grinding wheel. If you are in doubt, either practice on a piece of junk, or start with a finer grade. Certainly do not drop your opal off a cliff.

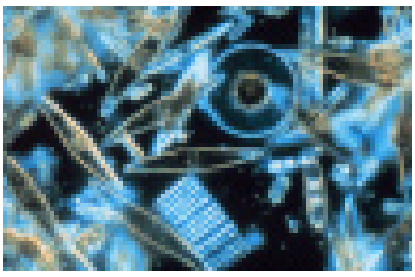
Rock Snot ??!??

from Rockhound Roundup, Aug. 2011

While vacationing in Vermont last week, I saw an official sign warning of the dangers of "Rock Snot". I stifled a laugh when I saw the sign, then read that it is a fast blooming algae, *Didymosphenia geminata*, or didymo, that chokes out the life of a river, and is easily spread especially by fishermen when the algae stick to their boots and transport it to other rivers.

"Well, this gives rocks a bad name" I thought. But after doing some research, turns out that didymo is a single-celled algae that uses silicon dioxide (SiO_2) as its cell wall, and as you know, SiO_2 is very common in rocks (sand, quartz, etc.), so technically "rock snot" isn't far off the mark.

Single-celled organisms that utilize SiO_2 as their cell walls are called diatoms. Diatoms are a major group of algae and phytoplantkton. Diatoms are extremely small...in the 2-200 micrometer size range (although some can grow as large as a millimeter). Fossil diatoms build up as sediments and are called Diatomataceous Earth. Diatomataceous earth has many uses because of its abrasive properties, such as the abrasive in toothpaste, stabilization of nitroglycerin to make dynamite, a natural insecticide (it absorbs lipids from the insects exoskeleton, dehydrating them), absorbents, and filtration of water and other liquids (commonly used in swimming pools and drinking water treatment).



Diatoms through the microscope

The Formation of Geodes

by Sally Gwylan from The Rollin' Rock, June 2011

Geodes are the mysterious treasure boxes of the geological world. Undistinguished lumpy balls of rock from the outside, they often reveal crystal-lined interiors when cut or broken open. The crystals are most often clear quartz, although they are sometimes amethyst or calcite. Rarely, crystals of pyrite, sphalerite, and other minerals may also be found. Geodes may be less than an inch in diameter, though some, like the Brazilian amethyst cathedrals, can be several feet across. But some geodes, commonly referred to as duds, are empty. Others are solid crystal, or nearly so; these are called nodules.

There's no way of telling what you will find in a particular geode from looking at the outside, although nodules are noticeably heavier than hollow geodes. Geologists don't agree on the exact processes involved in the formation of geodes. Given that geodes form in both volcanic and sedimentary rocks under very different conditions, the subject is a complex one. But the most common theory is that geodes form inside already existing hollows within the rock. In the case of volcanic rock these hollows are the result of gas bubbles in the molten flow. Cavities in sedimentary rock may be the result of concretions, of an expansion in the rock due to internal fluid pressure, or of the dissolving out of earlier material by groundwater - or any combination of these causes.

Groundwater laden with silica and other minerals fills these hollows. Over hundreds to thousands of years minerals precipitate out of the water, leaving a silica gel on the interior walls of the cavity that hardens into rock as it dries. The first layer is usually chalcedony, a strong, crypto-crystalline form of quartz. As this process of mineral precipitation reoccurs over and over, later layers form distinct, inwardly pointing crystals. Geodes that are empty missed these later cycles. When a number of geodes are found together in a layer of rock, often it's the ones at the top - ones that were often above the level of the groundwater - that are duds.

A similar process of mineral precipitation can create crystal-lined cavities called vugs. The difference between one of these cavities and a geode is that the outer layer of a vug is not durable enough to survive weathering, so it disintegrates when exposed rather than forming a ball or rock with a crystalline mystery at its heart.

The Remarkable Eye of a Trilobyte

via The Facets, February 2009

The eyes of trilobites, small extinct arthropods of the Paleozoic Era, have been found to possess sophisticated, glass-like lenses capable of producing clear images over a wide depth of field. The lenses owe their remarkable properties to their impregnation with the mineral calcite, specifically calcite with its crystal structure arranged precisely to produce the optical properties of glass, says Kenneth Towe of the paleobiology department of the Smithsonian Institution. The crystal orientation is so accurate and consistent from specimen to specimen that it must have been due to a process of bio-mineralization. The "calcite lenses," says Towe, "must have been present during the life of the animal." To study the optics of the lenses, Towe embedded specimens in clear epoxy, face down on glass slides and looked at objects through the eye with a microscope. The result was inverted images that stayed in focus from a few millimeters to optical infinity. A few living arthropods have calcified lenses in their eyes, but their poor crystal orientation would produce double vision.

John T. Fix

December 6, 1941 – July 21, 2011

Although John Fix was not a Guild member, many of us either knew him or knew of him. Head of the Metalsmithing and Jewelry Program at Towson University, he taught several of our members and former members. In addition, he gave several programs at our meetings and taught a number of classes for us at our workshop. A talented man, he created fabulous silver and gold objects including a variety of perfume bottles, unusual pendants and rings, and even torah ornaments.

One of the founders of the Metals Guild of Maryland, a memorial service was held on August 27 at Broadmead in Cockeysville.

The Story of Victoria Stone

by Vyonne Mack from Quarry Quips, July 2011

Victoria Stone is also known as "Imori Stone", named after its Japanese creator, Dr. Imori. It is not an artificial or fake stone. What Dr. Imori was able to accomplish was to actually blend several different minerals using a special process known only to him to come up with an Imori Stone, commonly called Victoria Stone.

This beautiful reconstructed gem is mineralogically similar to Nephrite Jade. It has a hardness of six, specific gravity of 3.02 and a refractive index of 1.62. It was laboratory produced from natural raw materials such as quartz, feldspar, magnesite, calcite, fluorspar, etc. for a total of seven different minerals-fused together under high pressure and a high temperature and again mineralized to make this gem by adding special crystallizers and habit regulators. This is not an imitation or synthetic, but is a reconstructed natural stone. The boule of Victoria stone was slowly cooled down for 35 to 40 days to make it crystallize into the pretty fan shapes.

Although Victoria Stone is mineralogically similar to nephrite jade, the arrangement of the actinolite crystals is different. Instead of the crystals interlocking and tying together as they do with jade, they have crystallized in fan shapes to provide the beauty of the stone. As a result of this difference, the rough stone is more likely to crack or splinter if overheated.

Victoria Stone could be bought by the boule or in slices when it was produced in 15 different colors from 1960 to the 1980's –green, sky blue, reddish purple, yellow green, blue green, sky indigo, chocolate, yellow, deep indigo, white, quiet green, quiet yellow, quiet blue, grey and black.

To cut Victoria Stone, first cut it lengthwise, and then let it rest for 24 hours before you can go ahead and slice it using normal cutting procedures. Use plenty of water to keep it cool so it won't shatter. First sand on sharp 220 grit sanding cloth, then sharp 320 cloth, with a final sanding on a worn 320 cloth. A quick and easy polish can then be obtained finishing on a dry leather buff with tin oxide.

The transparent Victoria Stone that is used for faceting is composed of disilicates or trisilicates of earth elements and alkali metals. The hardness is 5.5 to 6, specific gravity of 3.02 and a refractive index of 1.12. It was quickly cooled down in one day so that it wouldn't crystallize into patterns. The faceted Victoria Stone came in 8 colors, including sapphire blue, emerald green, amethyst purple, ruby red, topaz, aquamarine, garnet and peridot green.

Dr. Imori died without confiding in anyone how the process worked and no one has been able to duplicate it. There is only a limited and nonreplenishable supply of Victoria Stone in existence and when this material is used up to make jewelry and cabochons, it will become scarcer and almost impossible to find.

Volunteers

from Calgary Lapidary Journal, March 1985

Volunteers are like: ---

FORD - they have better ideas.

COKE - they are the real thing!

PEPSI - they have a lot to give.

PAN AM - they make the going great.

DIAL SOAP - they care more. Don't you wish everybody did ?

VO5 HAIR SPRAY - their goodness holds in all kinds of weather.

FROSTED FLAKES - they are GREAT !

The Trivia Vug

by R. J. Harris
from RockBuster News, August 2011

◆Twenty-four-karat gold is not pure gold; there is a small amount of copper in it. Absolutely pure gold is so soft that it can be molded with the hands.

◆Leaded crystal glass is not crystal. Glass consists of atoms and molecules in a jumble, not in the well patterned order that defines a crystal.

◆The crocodile does not chew its food, but swallows it whole. It carries several pounds of small stones in its stomach to aid in grinding up and digesting what it eats.

◆Zircon crystals from the Jack Hills of Western Australia are thought to be the oldest pieces of our planet's surface at 4.4 billion years old.

◆The streets of New York City are not paved with gold, but the schist bedrock contains opal, beryl, chrysoberyl, garnet and three types of tourmaline.

Sources:
Discovery, NatGeo, and Launch Radio

About Water and Minerals

by Kempton H. Roll from Mountain Mineral Monthly, January & February 2007
via the RockCollector, June 2011

Water is a strange and fascinating chemical. It could be said we're living on a misnomer; that our planet should have been named "Water" instead of "Earth." In its liquid and solid form, water comprises about three-quarters (72 percent) of Earth's surface. It's the main reason why our planet is such a beautiful blue "marble" when seen from outer space. Down here, water is the chemical we depend on for survival, if not our very existence. We drink it. We cook much of our food in it— food which couldn't have grown without it. We wash ourselves, our clothes, and our dishes with it. We can swim in and sail on it in the summer and skate on it in the winter. It can rain on us when it's warm or make us shovel it when it's cold. When heated sufficiently it can undergo a phase change—turning from a liquid to a gas (steam). Here in the mountains, water boils at a slightly lower temperature because the atmospheric pressure is slightly lower. In a vacuum (no pressure), water can actually "boil" at room temperature!

When the pressure is increased, such as in a locomotive boiler or a pressure cooker, it takes a higher temperature to make the water boil. But it will still change phase and turn into a gas. The vapor confined causes the pressure to increase so the inside temperature can rise higher than 212 degrees. The higher the pressure, the higher the water temperature must be in order to go through its phase change.

However a strange thing happens to water when both the temperature and pressure are raised above a certain point, known to mechanical engineers as its "critical point." At these extremes, water no longer undergoes a phase change from liquid to gas. It remains liquid! This phenomenon takes place at 705.4 degrees F and 3206.2 psi pressure (more than 218 atmospheres). Mechanical engineers call the resulting liquid medium "water substance" (J. Gieck, Invention & Technology, Vol. 12, 1996). It is no longer ordinary water.

Water Substance

While "water substance" is important to the mechanical engineer, it appears that it might also have a very special meaning for the geologist and mineralogist. It may help explain why, deep in the bowels of some parts of the earth where temperatures and pressures exceed the "critical point," water can still be present as a liquid. Leonard Wiener, a recently retired geologist with the NC State Geological Survey, calculates that to attain critical point pressure (3206.2 psi) water alone, without heat, would have to be at a depth of about 7,500 feet or nearly 1½ miles below the surface. Typical rock, he notes, exerts critical point pressure at a depth of roughly 2,700 feet or about ½ mile. So water confined under a rocky overburden at this depth would have reached its critical point, pressure-wise. Add heat so that the temperature of this trapped water can reach at least 705.4 degrees F, and its liquidity will be assured by the higher pressure. It now becomes "water substance."

Returning to liquid water's ability to dissolve solids, every tea drinker knows that sugar dissolves more easily in hot tea than in cold. This is because all chemical reactions, including dissolution are influenced by temperature: the higher the temperature, the more rapid the rate of reaction and the more solids the liquid can hold in solution.

If water's ability to dissolve solids is enhanced at higher temperatures, then it makes chemical sense that water, or "water substance" to be more precise, deep down in the earth enjoys a greater capability of dissolving minerals like quartz and even metals like gold. In contrast, up on the surface that same chemical H2O, under normal temperature and atmospheric conditions, even when boiling, can at best dissolve only tiny traces of quartz, for example. A "noble" metal like gold is virtually insoluble.

Another condition that could play a role in the deep earth dissolving process is the pH factor. How acid or alkaline is this "water substance?" There are two answers: "We have no way of knowing," and "It depends on what other chemicals are present." Either way, high or low pH, more "hydrothermal" (water + heat) chemical reactions will tend to take place which would lead to the formation of more, often exceedingly complex chemical/mineral combinations. It's only when these aqueous solutions subsequently work their way up to the higher reaches, cool down and solidify (hopefully crystallize), that we can appreciate their complexity and enjoy what Mother Nature and Father Chemistry have created for us down below.

Magmatic Water

Surface water is essentially indestructible. It may not be in the right place at the right time, too much or too little, but it's always there, even if it's just in the form of clouds floating in the sky. On the Earth's surface and at temperatures higher than 212 degrees F, water simply turns to vapor and escapes into the atmosphere. It does this even at lower temperatures in the form of humidity. Too low and it returns to its original liquid state, i.e., fog and clouds, or if the air is really saturated, rain. Drop the

continued on page 14

Water and Minerals

continued from page 13

temperature still further, and it changes phase again and becomes solid, falling as snow or hail.

With all of these forms of water so readily accessible on the land, in the sky and in the rivers and oceans, if the Earth is essentially solid, how does any of this water get down to those depths where "hydrothermal" mineral formation can take place? It doesn't.

Some surface waters will work their way deep within seemingly impervious rock formations. Most mines, even the deepest, usually encounter water; however, such waters cannot possible reach "critical point" conditions. Certainly the temperature would be much too low. Instead, "water substance is literally liberated or created by chemical reaction down in the mantle itself where high temperature/high pressure reactions are constantly taking place. Bill Miller notes that such water molecules can come from OH groups or H20 in minerals (mica, amphiboles, etc.). Then, he adds, there is "juvenile" or magmatic water—"original water"—formed deep within the earth, which has a different isotopic signature than meteorological water. Some of it also originates as hydrogen and oxygen gases released through chemical reactions that can recombine to form water and heat energy. While most volcanoes—"the safety valves for these subsurface chemical reactions—spew an assortment of subterranean gases and solids out into the atmosphere; the most voluminous gas is almost always water vapor in the form of steam. This is magmatic water. It may end up as rain and drinking water, but it did not start out that way.

If not ejected violently, magmatic water formed at the extremes of pressures and temperatures encountered deep in the earth's reaction chambers will remain in the liquid state, not as ordinary water, however. It is "water substance" and as such becomes the solvent—"super solvent"—that seems capable of dissolving a far more impressive array of chemical elements and compounds (minerals) than its surface counterpart. The great pressure encountered at these depths can force a saturated liquid substance to work its way upward, taking the nearest path of least resistance, percolating through fissures and cracks in matrix rock dislocations created by plate tectonics. Or it can collect in vugs left by gas pockets.

At some point, when conditions have changed from high temperature/high pressure to lower pressure and temperature, especially the latter, the above process reverses itself. What went into solution now has to come out.

Whenever any liquid is saturated—dissolved as much as it can—those solids in solution will precipitate out when the temperature drops. Rock candy crystals, for instance, begin to "grow" when a hot, saturated sugar solution cools down.

In the case of subsurface saturated "water substance," if the escape action is not associated with volcanic activity, but instead the liquid remains trapped beneath rock overburden, as it nears the cooler upper regions, it will begin to "freeze" and allow the chemicals in solution to precipitate as solids. Now they turn into "minerals" for the rockhound and "ore bodies" for the miner. Minerals held in solution may ultimately precipitate out as vein deposits or interstitial deposits, and sometimes, if the rate of cooling is just right and if there is room, they form into large, multi-faceted crystals. If we rockhounds are lucky, we may someday find some of them.

While the chemical known as "water" plays a vital part in our lives, in the form of "water substance" it may be even more important because of its ability to create so many of the minerals and crystals we enjoy collecting. It is a most powerful substance; yet, strangely, one which we mortals destined to live out our lives up here on Earth's surface will never see or feel or taste, even though we drink tame versions of it every day—long after Mother Nature has finished with it down below.

Shop Hints

from sources as noted

Cutting the Last Slab: To cut that last slab from your favorite piece, use waterglass. Apply a thin coating to a board small enough to fit your vise. Then put the rock on the board, moving it around until it has a firm seating. Let dry for at least 24 hours. To remove the piece remaining on the board, soak in hot water until it slips off. *from Carney Hound, November, 1962*

Trying to get a polish on a porous cab that doesn't fade out? After final polish, apply a light coat of wax and then buff it off again. The wax will seal the stone's porosity and water won't be able to be absorbed to cause oxidation.
from Calgary Lapidary Journal, June 2001

Tips From the Jeweler's Bench

by Brad Simon

Magnetic Holder for Files

An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip. They're not expensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about $5 each. My only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got a little magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in a bottle in my tool box.

Finishing Pierced Patterns

After sawing patterns there's always a little cleanup to do. Needle files (7-8 inches) can get into the larger areas, and escapement files (4 inches) can get into some of the corners. But I often find myself looking for even smaller files. Couldn't even find them at a watchmaker tools supply company, so I had to try something else.

I ended up grinding down the tip of a 4" barrette file using a separating disk (or cutoff wheel) in your Dremel or Foredom.

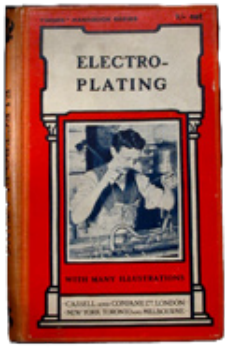
The wheels are inexpensive and do a great job grinding steel (poor at soft metals like silver). The disks have other uses like modifying pliers and making design stamps. My preference is the one inch diameter ones as shown at <www.ottofrei.com/store/product.php?productid=3919&cat=3439&page=1>.

Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disk, and definitely wear your safety glasses. A flake of steel in your eye makes for a bad day.

New Digital Antique Metalsmithing Books

by Carolyn Weinberger

Here are the latest volumes of antique metalsmithing books that have been digitized and made available on the web. The charge for the downloads remains at $1.35 per volume. Proceeds will be used for the Ganoksin Project.



The website for accessing these books is < www.ganoksin.com/listing/ecom-catshow/dab.html>. Proceeds from the downloads will be used for the Ganoksin Project.

Electro-Plating (with numerous engravings and diagrams), Paul Hasluck, Editor, 1905

Art Metal Work and Jewelry by Louis J. Haas, 1916

The Jewelry Repairer's Handbook by John Keplinger, 1902

How to Enamel: Practical Enameling of Jewelry with Hard Enamels by Howard M. Chapin, 1911

The Art of Enamelling Upon Metal by Alexander Fisher, 1905

Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

Howard County Fair Grounds

2210 Fairgrounds Road West Friendship, Maryland
(Exit 80 off Route 70)

Dear Friends,

The Gem Cutters' Guild of Baltimore, Inc. is sponsoring its 47th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show on Saturday and Sunday, September 24th and 25th. The hours of show are from 10: AM to 5:00 PM Saturday, and from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sunday.

Once again we will present an educational show featuring the lapidary and earth sciences. There will be continuous demonstrations, and many excellent dealers who have been selected for the high quality and variety of their material.

As always, we will have a large area set aside for exhibits. Please consider my personal invitation to you to enter one, two, or more showcases in this year's exhibition. This is your chance to show your skills, talents, and treasures. Start thinking about it now! If you don't have enough to fill a whole case, team up with a friend and share a case. One or two items with a few props works just as well as a case-full of items.

If you desire to use one of our display cases, we have an assortment of liners for you to choose from, or you may provide your own. Normally used are 1 inch thick sheets of polystyrene insulation board covered with fabric. Liners measure approximately 20 1/2 inches x 21 inches for the side panels, the bottom and back panels measure 21 1/2 inches x 44 1/2 inches.

If you have additional questions regarding exhibits, please feel free to call me.

Thank you in advance for your participation. Our setup time will be Friday, September 23 from 1:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Take-down will be Sunday, September 25 after 5:00 PM. If you are interested in having your exhibit judged, please let me know and I can provide you with the necessary information.

Enclosed you will find an application for exhibit space. Please return the completed application as soon as possible, but no later than September 10th to the address listed below. This will allow us ample time to make accommodations. I look forward to hearing from you. Let's make this yet another fantastic show together!

Sincerely yours,

Mary Keller, Exhibits Chair
2724 Valley Park Dr
Baltimore, MD 21209-5229
410-486-2609
<maryjkeller@verizon.net>

Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

Howard County Fair Grounds

2210 Fairgrounds Road West Friendship, Maryland
(Exit 80 off Route 70)

Application for exhibit space
(Please use a separate form for each exhibit)

I would like to enter an exhibit in the Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT INFORMATION LEGIBLY

Name: _____ Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

Member of (club name) _____

Description of Exhibit_____

I will provide my own case _____ I will need a case provided _____
(inside dimensions are approx. 2' x 4' x 2')

The Gem Cutters' Guild and its show committee assume no responsibility for loss or damage to the exhibitor's property, material or specimens displayed. The Show Committee will provide good security for the Show. I understand that all risks are my own and that neither the show nor the Society has insurance which applies to my exhibit or to me.

_____
Signature of Exhibitor Date

Please return application to:
Mary Keller, Exhibits Chair
2724 Valley Park Dr
Baltimore, MD 21209-5229

Gem Cutters GUILD OF BALTIMORE, INC.
Carolyn Weinberger, Editor
PO Box 302
Glyndon, MD 21071-0302

Visit us on the web at
www.gemcuttersguild.com>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Possible Open Shop*	3 Possible Open Shop*
4 Possible Open Shop*	5  Possible Open Shop*	Meeting of the Guild Refreshments: P. Furtaw, B. Emery	7 Reg. Deadline Cold Connections	8 Reg. Deadline Inter. Jewelry Projects	9 Reg. Deadline Wire Wrapping Possible Open Shop*	10 Sobrio Auction Noon Women's Club of Catonsville NO Open Shop
11 Possible Open Shop*	12	13	14 Cold Connections Class begins 7 pm	15 Intermed. Jewelry Projects Class begins 6:30 pm	16 Possible Open Shop*	17 Possible Open Shop*
Bead 'N Brunch 11:00 am ALL members invited NO Open Shop	19 Wire Wrapping Class begins 6:30 pm	20 Reg. Deadline Lapidary 2	21	22 Reg. Deadline Knots, Knots etc ▶	23 Show Set-up beginning at 9 am Showcase set-up beginning at 3 pm NO Open Shop	24 OUR Show NO Open Shop
25 OUR Show NO Open Shop	26	27 Lapidary 2 Class begins 7 pm	28	29	30 Possible Open Shop*	

* For Those Paying 2011 Shop Fees