

Official Publication of the West Suburban Lapidary Club
Elmhurst, Illinois

Volume XXXXVII

No. 4

April 2008

NEXT CLUB MEETING

April 25, 2008 - 8 pm
(doors open at 7:00)

THE ABBEY
407 W. St Charles Rd
Elmhurst, IL 60126



Members of:
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
Chicagoland Gem and Mineral Association
Scribe



West Suburban Lapidary Club
Mary Prosek, Opal Editor
PO Box 783 - Lyons, IL 60534

First Class

Dated Material

THE OPAL



WEST SUBURBAN LAPIDARY CLUB
A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION INCORPORATED IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Mission Statement:

To foster the development of the lapidary arts and the jewelry craftsman's and to increase public interest in handcrafted gems, jewelry, and their materials

Regular meetings of the West Suburban Lapidary Club are held on the fourth Friday of the month at 8 p.m. with the exception of June, July, August & December at The Abbey, 407 W. St. Charles Road, Elmhurst, Illinois. Parking in the East and West parking lots. Visitors are welcome. Board meetings are held as announced in The OPAL. Annual membership dues are \$17 per household/family. Dues are due January 1, delinquent January 31.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS - 2008

President	Ed Gallagher	
Vice- President	Karen Dave'	
Treasurer	Jose Ponce'	
Secretary	Barb Freeman	
OPAL Editor	Mary Prosek	Contact: mitty27@sbeglobal.net
MWF Liaison	Terry Licko	
Board Member (3rd of 3 year term) (shared position)	Susan Wilson & Joanne Samuel	
Board Member (2nd of 3 year term)	Lee Herrera	
Board Member (1st of 3 year term)	Barb Petry	
Past President	Don Shore	

Committee Chairpersons

CGMA Delegate:
position open

Kitchen Supplies:
Ed Gallagher

Gem of the Month:
Tony Gass

Historian:
Joanne Samuel

Publicity:
Lee Herrera

Webmaster:
Don Shore

Hospitality:
1 person from the month's team

The OPAL:
Mary Prosek

Librarian:
Gwyn Roland

Activities Coordinator:
Karen Dave'

MWF Liaison:
Terry Licko

Lizzadro Museum Liaison:
Jack Maher

Silent Auction/Club Show:

Field Trip:
to be announced

Lapidary School:
Karen Dave'

Instructors:
Lyle Backus
Tony Gass
Max Schultz

Assistants:
Lucy Backus
Jose Ponce
Mary Prosek
Alberta Schultz

The OPAL is the official publication of the West Suburban Lapidary Club and is issued September through May with the exception of December. It is mailed, one copy per household, without further charge to members of the WSLC. Email in addition to or in place of mail is also available by contacting the Editor. Articles may be copied provided full credit is given to the author and this bulletin. The deadline for material to be published is the fourth Friday of the month prior. Visit the WSLC website at: www.westsuburbanlapidaryclub.com

April Program - An Evening With Tiffany's

by Susan Wilson

The program for April will be a Power Point (slide) presentation by Steven A. Snyder, graduate gemologist who works for Tiffany's (yes, THE Tiffany's) in Oak Brook. Steve was a designer for Tiffany's for many years. His program will present the work of Jean Schlumberger, celebrated French jewelry designer who was responsible for many of the amazing designs and creations that were coveted by Tiffany customers over the years.

Steve's career in the jewelry arts also includes working for many high end stores. His main interest is in colored stones.

STONE-OF-THE-MONTH: Gem Trees

The Stone-of-the-month for April is Gem Trees. Gem Trees usually have a base made out of stone or mineral. Various kinds of wires are twisted and shaped to form branches and a tree. The wire tree is then secured to the base. Small gemstones or tumbled rocks are then either glued or wrapped to the end of the "branches". These trees can range from simple to very ornate and are quite beautiful.

If you have any gem trees, please bring them along to the next meeting for all to see. Make sure whatever you bring is properly marked and labeled to identify it as your own.

Please note that the May General Meeting will be held on the 3rd Friday, May 16 at the Joanne Wagner Center, also located in Elmhurst. Complete information along with a map will be published in the May Opal. The meeting will start at 7:30, 1/2 hour earlier.

MINI SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!

Doing some Spring cleaning in your workshop? Did you come across a tool that maybe you have 2 of or no longer need? Or maybe some rough or slabs that you just can't figure out why you got it in the first place? Please consider donating these surplus items to the WSLC to be sold in the Mini Silent Auctions that happen at the monthly meetings. All proceeds go directly to the club. It's a good way to clean up and give back to the club that has given so much to you. Books are also welcome. Please see club Treasurer Jose Ponce who coordinates these auctions each month.

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

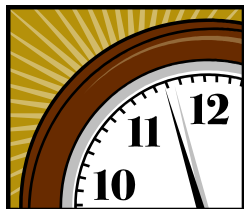
April:	Dave, Karen	Muno-Martinez, Robert & Eva	Wilson, Susan
Ballesteros, Isidro & Rosalua	Dove, Sherry & John	Naegel, Barbara	
Bryant, Fred	Knudsen, Jacqueline & Bob	Shore, Don	

May:	Dillon, Rich & Linda	Kaplan, Jim	Strickert, Larry & Gloria
Blake, Jim & Jimmy	Gass, Tony	Polley, Joan	
Dempsey, Lynn	Gianonni, Ed	Reisner, Virginia	

WSLC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the WSLC is \$17 per year, per household/family. Student memberships are available for \$10. Students are identified as 22 years of age and younger and currently enrolled in an accredited school and have a valid school I.D. Dues are payable by January 31st for that calendar year regardless of the date you joined. Please submit a completed application for Board Approval to the WSLC Treasurer, Barbara Petry. **This is to be done at any General Meeting. Applications will not be accepted via mail or at a WSLC function other than a meeting.** Visitors are welcome at all General Meetings. Members of the WSLC are expected to serve on various committee's and volunteer their time where needed. Applications may be found on the website at: www.westsuburbanlapidary.com

Members of the WSLC receive in district rates with the Elmhurst Park District for classes taken at the Lapidary School, regardless of their residence. Contact information for all Board Members are located on page 2 of The Opal



MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7, 2008 BOARD MEETING

by Barb Freeman

The WSLC Board meeting was held at the Abbey on Friday, March 7, 2008. The meeting was called to order by the President, Ed Gallagher at 7:53 PM.

Those attending were: Ed Gallagher, Don Shore, Lee Herrera, Barbara Petry, Barbara Freeman, Mary Prosek, Joanne Samuel, Susan Wilson, and Jose Ponce'.

The minutes of the February 2008 Board meeting as published in The Opal were unanimously approved following a motion by Joanne Samuel and a second by Lee Herrera.

Treasurer's Report: was given by Jose Ponce following transfer of funds and accounts by the prior treasurer Barb Petry. Jose will keep a small amount of cash available as petty cash to be used for the silent auctions or other incidental club expenses. Accounts will be documented as usual.

Webmaster: Don Shore reported that the club's domain name has been renewed for the next five years.

OPAL Editor: Mary Prosek reported that more articles are being submitted for publication, which is helpful and informative. A suggestion was made that each month's team submit one recipe that will be served at refreshment time. Mary also shared the applications for two prospective members, Robert & Evangelina Munoz-Martinez and Isidro & Rosalua Ballesteros. The members were accepted into the club following a motion by Jose Ponce and second by Lee Herrera.

Jose Ponce', coordinator of the mini-silent auctions that are held at monthly meetings, suggested that a reminder be put in The Opal that items are needed and may be donated at any meeting. Jose also offered to remind the team members about designating a person to welcome guests as the Hospitality Host for the month.

Lapidary School: Classes are full and Saturday classes offer opportunities for participants who may not be able to attend on weekday evenings. The park district will be reminded of accurate dates and prices for publication and on the website.

New Business: Volunteers for the various summer activities are needed to participate. Please ask a Board Member for more information.

The Midwest Faceter's guild is in the process of finalizing the contracts with Elmhurst College. Their website provides more information and registration at midwest-facetersguild.org. Sign up early to be among the first to participate and benefit from the wonderful classes.

Lee Herrera brought up that our club is not mentioned in the current edition of the Rock and Gem journal. He will pursue this publicity function for three of the most familiar journals including Jewelry Arts and Colored Stones. While notices have been sent in the past, they do not always get printed. Thanks Lee for getting this publicity going again. We will be planning for additional publicity with our upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations.

March Program: Barb Petry announced that she was able to obtain artist and teacher Joe Eddy Brown as the speaker for the March program. He has an illustrious career in jewelry which he created from found objects. He has had his works in seven galleries simultaneously. He is multi-talented as also does juggling and magic, which fascinates his students and audiences.

The most current copy of the WSLC Constitution, revised in 2004, was distributed to all Board Members. Discussion occurred on the beginning sections. It is helpful to have Board Members present who are aware of the club history to provide their perspective. This review will continue and when completed, possible modifications will be brought to the general membership for approval as stipulated in the constitution.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM following a motion by Lee Herrera and second by Susan Wilson.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2008 GENERAL MEETING

by Barb Freeman

The March 28th general meeting of WSLC was called to order by the Vice President Karen Dave' at 8:02 PM at The Abbey in Elmhurst, IL.

Minutes of the February 22 general meeting, as published in The Opal, were approved following a motion by Joanne Samuel and second by Barb Petry.

Treasurer's report: Jose Ponce read the report to inform members.

Attendance: 38 members signed in for the meeting and 10 guests were present.

Midwest Federation report: Terry Licko read the report for the Federation and encouraged members to participate. This year is the 50th anniversary celebration which will be a special event for the Annual meeting in Lincoln, NE on 6-20 to 6-22. Terry and her husband Irv have been active members for over 20 years and formed longstanding relationships with other members throughout the region.

Announcements: A mention was made in regards to The Des Plaines Valley Geological Society's 43rd Annual Jewelry, Gem, Fossil, Mineral and Lapidary Arts show on Saturday and Sunday April 12-13, 2008. (continued on pg 5)

Stone of the Month-Kunzite: Three specimens were on display. Two large faceted stones brought in by Rich Dillon and Lorel Abrell, and one 1,000 plus carat stone brought by Jack Maher. Thank you for sharing these items with the membership.

School report: Karen Dave reported that the classes are in progress and to check the park district website for specific information.

Miscellaneous: Willard Smith, known for his teaching at College of DuPage donated a collection of items for the club's use. Thank you for this generous donation.

Upcoming Events: The Midwest faceters group will have informative seminars in Elmhurst during August. Classes will be presented for all levels of skill from beginners to more advanced competencies. There will be volunteer opportunities for all of our members so you will be part of an even larger group. Join the classes and take advantage of the skills being presented and practiced. The instructors are knowledgeable and make the experience fun. For further information, their website is: <http://www.midwestfacetersguild.org/>

Program: Joe Eddy Brown gave a most compelling presentation on his process to develop highly individual and award winning jewelry and art objects. He brought in humor to his accomplishments and reminiscence. Also, inspiration can be found if we look and seek.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm following a motion by Lynn Dempsey and second by Susan Wilson. Members then enjoyed a buffet table with a great assortment of foods; and small groups met for future program planning. Socialization centered on the multitude of art objects brought by the speaker and fellow students and artisans.

PROGRAM REVIEW

by Barb Freeman



Joe Eddy Brown, presented slides of some of his earlier works with interesting commentary. Many of the pieces were part of his early works, he fondly recalled the various components, how they were found, and the mechanical working of several of the items. The presentation was aptly titled "Back in the Day: Street Jewelry circa 1975 and Beyond". He also brought several examples of his works which involved wire, various joints, and components.

Joe Eddy brought along with him several former students and colleagues to assist in his presentation.

His enthusiastic and encouraging style of presentation made for an enjoyable event. Some of his words of encouragement, thoughts on creating and designing jewelry, general words of wisdom, and random philosophy on the creative process included:

-If you can think it you can make it, -See and design, -obsessed with making things, -Draw it first,-Pieces that will outlive me, -too weird to throw away,-Made of time and passion, Each one had a secret, -taken from Captain Midnight, -Part of a spoon, -Cage with a stone inside, -Get (your name and creations) into the newspaper, -Test the item; throw it on the floor to be sure it doesn't break. random pictures, -make the tool, "Thing Maker", 4 finger solar ring, -parts spin, -found objects; one size fits all, my pieces are what they are, -certificate of authenticity, list of ingredients, -ask 3 people for what you are looking for,- if you look for it you will find it; stuff will find you

Joe showed and explained various phases of his work including: casting, etching, needles and thread, chess boards, cartoon in the drawings, horse hair, green level cylinder, musical pieces, kinetic works, obsessed with hooks and connections. He says he grew up on a farm and was familiar with creating/fixing items using objects at hand, and still enjoys going to the family farm buildings to look for treasures.

Here is a picture of one of the pieces that Joe Eddy brought to the meeting that illustrates the whimsy of the artist. (Photo by Barb Freeman)



*one of the creations
of Joe Eddy Brown*

Interestingly, his former teacher and mentor attended the presentation and contributed some stories of their escapades. Since Joe recently retired after 35 years of middle-school teaching, the art teacher who replaces him, also attended the presentation.

BITS AND PIECES THAT DIDN'T FIT ANYWHERE ELSE

Member Directory: The 2008 West Suburban Lapidary Club Member Directory is on page 7-8 of this month's Opal and includes all members paid to March 27th. Please refer to this directory for your future reference. The directory may not be used or sold for commercial purposes. Kindly contact the Opal Editor, Mary Prosek with any changes.

Get well wishes: Get well wishes are in order for long time WSLC member George Walter.

IN MEMORIAM

by Mary Prosek

It is with regret we report the passing of longtime WSLC member Neal O'Daniel. Neil was a very accomplished lapidary as well as a silversmith. He created many beautiful jewelry pieces which were often given to family members as gifts. Neal was also an avid crossword puzzle solver and could often be seen before meetings working on a puzzle. He left the club only recently when a change of residence occurred. Condolences to his family.

AMERICAN OPAL SOCIETY 2007 OPAL AND GEM SHOW

by Erik Spande

Where do you go to see the largest opal show in the United States? The *Tucson Gem Show*? Nope, but that's the right idea. Maybe the *Australian Opal Exhibition*? Well, they probably have a terrific selection of opal but they are in Australia – which is quite a trip (even if it would be great fun). The correct answer is the *2007 American Opal Society Opal and Gem Show*, which was held in Anaheim on November 3rd and 4th. This show is hosted by the American Opal Society (AOS), which is the oldest and largest opal organization in the United States, and as the title of the show indicates they've been hosting opal shows for 40 years.

I had the pleasure of attending the 2007 show where I came across Lyle and Lucy Backus, long time members of the WSLC and long time opal lovers.



Lyle & Lucy Backus at the 2007 Opal Show

The Anaheim opal show featured over two dozen opal and gem dealers in a large crowded but well organized conference center at the Clarion Hotel Anaheim Resort.

The first person I met was none other than Lucy, who was busy at the registration table. I arrived a bit early on Saturday and even though registration desk was a bustling, Lucy used her "pull" to get me a 25 percent discount on the day's entrance fee (from \$4 to \$3) and then proceeded to direct my attention to the raffle. Show vendors and AOS members had donated opal, jewelry, specimens, books, and even cash to be raffled on Sunday. One of the opal specimens was valued at over \$5000 (!!!), and one of the opal jewelry pieces was quite clearly a one-of-a-kind creation. Lyle and Lucy donated a vintage book on opals, too. The glass case full of raffle goodies enticed me to buy some additional raffle tickets. After all, it was for a good cause (and I had my eye on the opal specimen – you never know!).

Shortly after I finished registering Lyle appeared and pointed out that there were seminars offered throughout the weekend. Seminar topics ranged from gem carving and artistic inspiration, casting for jewelry, inlay techniques, digging for opal in Nevada, opal expeditions to Australia, and more. I did a bit of quick math and found that if I attended all of the seminars almost half my time over the weekend would be accounted for! And then there were the demonstrations in cabochon cutting, gem faceting, silversmithing, wire-wrapping, and gem carving. Obviously this was going to be a very full weekend.

We had a bit of time before the first seminar so Lyle started to introduce me to the various AOS officers and long-time members as well as some of the vendors. Everyone was genuinely warm and friendly. Most were surprised at the turnout from the Chicago area.

The gem and opal dealer room was packed with over two dozen display areas and I only got a chance to look them over ever so briefly before the first seminar started. What I saw was a great variety of rough opal, specimens, jewelry (of course), opalized fossils and general opal and gem goodies from all over the world.

I attended all the seminars I could and thoroughly enjoyed them all. But, a few stood out for me. First and foremost were the presentations by Helen Serras-Herman who gave a seminar on gem carving and an inspirational seminar the following day entitled *Passion for Opal*. Helen is a renowned gem carver and artist who works with opal and hard gems to create contemporary sculptures and 'wearable sculpture' (jewelry). Among her many honors was her induction into the Lapidary Hall of Fame in 2003. Her art has been featured at black-tie events throughout the nation as well as the *Tucson Gem Show*. Closer to us in the Chicago area, her work was featured at the Lizzardo Museum as part of the "Gem Artists of North America".

Helen's presentation on Saturday described how the creative process works for her and where she draws inspiration. Some of her seminar also focused on the how-tos of gem and jewelry artwork, which I found to be fascinating as an insight into her unique mindset. Her artwork was superb, and during the Sunday seminar she presented a full hour of artwork that featured opal – hence the title *Passion for Opal*. Since she works with many stones and gems as well as opal, gold, silver, and bronze it is not a stretch to say the pieces are lush. One of the many pieces that caught my eye was *Flame* (pictured right). The Australian Koroit opal used in this sculpture was carved to accentuate its features to suggest flame and was then mated with a hand crafted bronze base.



"Flame"

A second piece that stood out was the fanciful *Volcano Eruption* that used a dark Lightning Ridge opal as the ash cloud over a rhodocrosite volcano (pictured left). Helen



described how she worked with the opal for quite a while before deciding what to use it in (the volcano) and how to mount it. She demonstrated how she used the imagery of the piece as part of the creative process. This made each work much more meaningful, and using the unique attributes of each stone brings out the most in the stones and the artwork. She

had many more gem and opal sculptures and jewelry, many of which can be seen at her web site <http://www.gemartcenter.com/index.htm>. Plan to visit Helen's web site – you won't be disappointed. Another seminar that caught my attention was by Larry Hoskinson and Leslie Neff of the Australian Opal Company. They discussed the 3 month long opal expeditions they've made to Australia for the last 10 years. Their slide show featured the beautiful scenery of Australia, the characters they've met and made friends with, as well as a slide tour of the opal fields they've visited over the years (continued on page 9)

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AMERICAN OPAL SOCIETY-(continued from page 6)

Much of the presentation was on boulder opal and opal from Yowah, which is a type of matrix opal. I had a chance to chat with Larry and Leslie at their vendor display about their trips and I have to say I'm envious of their experiences. Both were outgoing and said they'd be happy to give a presentation to the WSLC if they're in town. I intend on taking them up on the offer!



Larry Hoskinson & Leslie Neff

Other seminars were enlightening, too. Dr. Walt Johnson gave his audience a primer on beginning casting. He made it look easy, and although he assured us that the basic techniques weren't challenging I suspect that a novice would need a bit of practice to give it a go. I missed the seminar on Advanced Inlay Techniques by Stan McCall, but Lyle assured me it was more than excellent and that I'd missed something extraordinary. Thanks Lyle – now I feel better. Jim Pasani gave a ground's-eye view on his opal digging in Virgin Valley Nevada, and brought some beautiful Virgin Valley black opal he's found for show and tell. He also had images of some of the spectacular finds that have been made, but warned us the opal is generally unstable – very sad. Digging opal looks like very hard work, and Jim emphasized many times that you have to move LOTS of dirt and rock to get the prize, which is never guaranteed. He mentioned that when you do get a strike it generally comes just before dark or just before you're leaving for the season. Or you leave your work area and the next guy gets a beauty you'd overlooked or was just a few inches deeper. Ah the frustration.

I learned quite a lot while at the Anaheim opal show. I'd never seen the 'chocolate' Ethiopian opal before, and it is beautiful – and very expensive. One of the vendors discussed its tendency to fracture to pieces while removing it from its matrix. Apparently it is under pressure that has to be released slowly, and even then it is a gamble. The prospect of watching a gorgeous chocolate opal fall apart in as you watch is alarming and heartbreaking. There was also a representative of the Spencer Opal Mines that had some very attractive pink opal from Idaho. This opal comes in thin, bright layers, is relatively stable and has been mined for going on a hundred years. Other vendors had copious amounts of opal rough, jewelry, boulder opal, cut and rough matrix, treated opal matrix, opalized fossils – the works. A beautiful Mintabie sheet opal (very thin face of uniform crystal opal on a sandstone-like base) specimen that was more than 1 ft by 1 ft had a price tag of \$10,000, and a nice painted lady opal was listed for \$5,000. My overall impression is that everything was a bit pricey, and perhaps this is due to the sad fact of supply and demand as opal supplies seem to be declining – or so I'm told. They prices could also be due to the fact the show was in California and so I saw 'California pricing' (as Lyle called it). Nonetheless, there was plenty of eye candy to go around.

Overall I enjoyed the show immensely and will certainly return in 2008. I learned a lot and met a great number of extraordinary people. My purpose in attending the show was to expand my base of knowledge and in this I succeeded. As I expected I was busy all the time, and by the time Sunday was drawing to a close I hadn't gotten a chance to see even one of the demonstrations, but there is always next year. The 2007 Anaheim Opal and Gem Show only whetted my appetite for more!

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies News



by Terry Licko

Visit the Midwest Federation's website. It is constantly being updated and has lots of great links and helpful information. When you're planning your summer vacation, check the MWF site for local museums at your destination to enhance your visit and take advantage of some local flavor. The website address is: www.amfed.org/mwf/default.htm



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

by Don Shore

The Ad-hoc Inter-Regional Field Trip Chairman, Richard Pankey is focused on promoting field trips between AFMS members and clubs. All WSLC members are also members of the MWF and AFMS. Here is an excerpt from his column in the April 2008 edition of the AFMS Newsletter:

"While the stated purpose of the committee is to hold and promote field trips, I think the scope could be expanded to include rock swaps, seminars, classes and the like. To start, we will focus on field trips.

A difference between an "Inter Regional Field Trip" and a Federation field trip of a club trip often comes down to who is invited, how the trip is promoted and where it is promoted. The last few years I have received and diligently read several other Federation newsletters and have become aware of a number of field trips and related events that could easily fit the criteria of an "inter-regional trip". By its' nature, an inter-regional field trip is probably bigger than most other field trips and therefore requires more thought and planning. Since the purpose is to attract a broader geographical attendance, the collecting opportunity should be for material that is of good quality and good supply, and easily obtainable by both experienced and inexperienced rockhounds. There can be other attractions and activities like potluck dinners, swaps and evening campfires as well as local sightseeing opportunities.

Over the next few months I will be talking more about the considerations and planning for an "Inter-Regional Field Trip. If anyone has any thoughts about what we should consider, please let me know"- *Richard Pankey*
email: dickpankey@juno.com

WSLC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEETING LOCATION: THE ABBEY: 407 West St. Charles Road, Elmhurst, IL 60126
Abbey public phone: 630-530-9874

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting begins at 8:00 p.m.
Next Meeting: Friday, April 25, 2008

WSLC BOARD MEETINGS:

The Abbey
The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.
Next Meeting: Friday, May 2, 2008

UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

May 3 & 4: Elmhurst, IL - Elmhurst Art Museum - "Art in the Park" - Elmhurst Art Museum's 12th annual festival -150 Cottage Hill Ave-Elmhurst, on the grounds of the Art Museum, just north of Wilder Park. There will be 110 outstanding artists exhibiting at this exciting weekend-long event with live entertainment and an assortment of food for sale by select vendors. Be sure to bring the entire family to enjoy the artists, music, food and other fun activities!

May 24 & 25: Wheaton, IL - Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association - "32nd Annual Gem, Jewelry, Fossil & Mineral Show & Sale" - DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 W. Manchester Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187. Dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, kids corner, silent auction, special displays. Food available. Saturday-10 am to 6 pm. Sunday 10 am to 5 pm. Adults \$5. Seniors & students \$3. Children under 13 free with adult. Free parking. For more information call (630) 377-0197 or email CGMA@sbcglobal.net

June 20-22: LINCOLN, NE, "50th Annual Show w/ MWF Convention", Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Pershing Ctr, 226 Centennial Mall S, Contact: Roger Pabian, 5301 X St, Lincoln, NE 68504, (402) 465-0144, rpa-bian@neb.rr.com

June 28 & 29: Wyoming, MI -Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society - "Rockhound Seminar" - Godwin High School (SW Metro Grand Rapids), 50-35th Street S.W., Wyoming, MI. Hands on workshops, demonstrations and lectures to attend both days beginning thru advanced. Courses will include faceting, wire wrap, beading, gem trees, silversmithing, lapidary and much much more. Adult admission in advance: \$15 per day - \$25 for 2 days. At the door \$18 per day - \$30 for 2 days. High School students \$5 per day. For further information and a complete schedule, contact Don Brown (734) 421-8159 or Bill Hapiuk at (313) 937-3228 or email mgags2008@yahoo.com

Aug 15-17: Elmhurst, IL-Mid-West Faceters Guild - "19th Annual Seminar" - Elmhurst College-190 Prospect Ave-Elmhurst. Featuring weekend long classes that include faceting for beginners, intermediate & advanced as well as beading, glass fusing, chain making and others. Reasonable class rates. Must register by July 15, 2008 Info: John Zaborowski 440-949-8242 bor@roadrunner.com, Linda Sharkey 989-382-9141 visit: www.midwestfacetersguild.org/

LAPIDARY SCHOOL: Spring Session



Introduction to basic beading: Age 16 and up. A variety of design and stringing methods will be used to complete four to five projects. Stringing materials will be included. Finding and beads are extra - available for purchase or bring your own. One 5 week session Thursdays: 7 pm to 9 pm 5/8/2008 - 6/5/2008 - \$39 Residents \$49 Non-Residents

Cutting And Polishing Stones: Age 13 and up. One 5 week session. Tuesdays: 7 pm to 9 pm 5/6/2008 - 6/3/2008 Residents: \$45-Course Fee Non-Residents: \$56 Course Fee

Silversmithing : Age 16 and up. One 5 week session. Mondays: 7 pm - 9 pm 5/5/2008 - 6/9/2008 (no class 5/26) Residents: \$68-Includes Tools \$38-With Your Own Tools - Non-Residents: \$75 Includes tools - \$45 no tools

All classes are presented in cooperation with the Elmhurst Park District and are located at: Crestview Park - Lower Level - 245 E. Crestview Avenue - Elmhurst, IL - (just East of York Road and North of I290). Classes tend to fill up quickly and is on a first come, first serve basis. WSLC members enjoy resident rates and must give this information when registering. Registration may be done online at: www.epd.org or by calling the Elmhurst Park District at (630) 993-8900. If one class is full, try another! **Those interested in checking out a class for future reference may stop by during that scheduled class but may only observe. Class participation is limited to those who have officially enrolled with the Park District.**