

# Canaveral Moonstone



## Presidents Corner

**Thank you for reading the Moonstone to stay up to date with events in our community.**



January has been the month for education! Multiple classes are being taught this month and the shop is very busy! Remember the open shop fee has been temporarily lowered to just 5\$! If enough people continue to come to open shop this change could become permanent. We will have the shop closed for Valentine's Day but we want to see you all at open shop Monday and Thursday from 5:30-9:30pm and on Saturdays from 10am-2pm.

If you haven't paid your dues please pay them at the February meeting. The education drawing will also take place at the February meeting and if your dues are not paid, you will not be eligible to win the Dave Wayment scholarship.

Our sister (CBRGC) club will be holding their annual gem show on February 7th and 8th at the Kiwanis center. This is a fantastic local show and everyone is encouraged to attend. They will have gold panning and other fun activities available as well as an incredible selection of rocks and gems. Share their Facebook ad about the show.

Our March rock swap is coming up! The rock swap will take place at Wickham park on March, 28th at pavilion 4. Vendor space will be \$25 and will include a picnic table or a spot in the grass to set up. Additional information can be found later in the Moonstone (page 7).

It's time to start preparing for rockhounding season. It might be cold right now but preparations and logistics are important to handle ahead of time. Besides our regular DMC field trips, that you should be receiving emails about, there will be many opportunities for adventure in March and April.

Get ready for the Rucks Pit Calcite Clam Festival in Ockeechobee, Fl March 19-21. This event boasts fresh material from the famous rucks pit. Shells have fossilized, calcified, and crystalized and now they wait to be discovered. The golden dogtooth honey calcite within is also fluorescent and phosphorescent. \$400 covers a whole bucket of material. \$50 off for veterans.

For a bigger and more affordable adventure; consider Graves mountain public dig and rock swap April 17-19. This event is semi annual and donation based. Lincolnton, GA is home to this amazing rock swap and dig that produces some great minerals like rutile and lazulite. This community is always welcoming and fun!

After graves mountain Rockhound connections and events will be hosting a series of digs. Diamond hill mine in Abbeville, SC on April 20 and 21 for quartz clusters and chances for amethyst; garnet, epidote, and aqua. The price is 20\$. On April 24th we will be Ruby mining at the Cherokee mine and the Scheffield mines respectively. They are both in Franklin, NC and they support camping. Expect around \$30 in digging fees for each. If you plan to go to these events feel free to reach out to me for more details.

James Hislop



Links to CMGS

**Exchange Bulletins are Welcome**

**(All material may be copied unless otherwise noted if credit is given)**

**The Dead Line for the March Moonstone is February 20, 2025**

**The URL for CMGS web site is: <http://www.canaveral-mgs.com/>**

The **Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society (CM&GS)** is a registered Florida not-profit-corporation approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax exempt , organization under Internal Revenue Code section of Florida 501 (c) (7) for the following purposes:

1. For the preservation, support, and promotion of the hobby of Mineralogy and its various forms of allied activities and earth sciences.
2. To dedicate ourselves to the furtherance of the hobby through the exchange of knowledge, experience, and other helpful information among ourselves and other like organizations.
3. To further the education of members and the general public of the hobby by programming talks, discussions, motion pictures, field trips, and the staging of shows and exhibitions.
4. To maintain an active affiliation with the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies and to participate in Federation activities to the fullest extent possible.

### **Goals and Objectives**

5. To promote the spirit of cooperation and fellowship among the membership.
6. To increase our knowledge of rocks and minerals and to explore the mystery and wonder of the earth.
7. To actively encourage members to attend educational classes, workshops, lectures, and demonstrations.
8. To stimulate interest in the earth sciences within the community by providing scholarships to worthy students at all educational levels.
9. To provide the necessary equipment and resources to enable members to develop their interests.
10. To enjoy our hobby and Have Fun!

### **Affiliations**

The Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)

### **Meetings and Dues**

Meetings are the First Wednesday of each month at the Melbourne Front Street Civic Center. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome! Dues are shown below and are paid annually.

Active members \$ 40.00

Associate Type 1 \$ 10.00-related to an active or honorary member, be under the age of eighteen .

Associate Type 2 \$ 20.00 - 13 – 18 years

# February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	3	4 Monthly Meeting 7PM	5 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	6	7 Open Shop 10am-2pm
8	9 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	10	11	12 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	13	14 Valentines Day—Shop is closed
15	16 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	17	18	19 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	20	21 Open Shop 10am-2pm
22	23 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	24	25	26 Open Shop 5:30—9:30pm	27	28 Open Shop 10am-2pm

Shop fee will be \$5.00 from now until the end of May 2026.

Bill Harr will present information about the pulsar welder at the February meeting.

## MINERAL OF THE MONTH MICAS GROUP

The micas group is made up of 37 silicate minerals that form crystals in the monoclinic system, predominantly forming as pseudo-hexagonal crystals, having a perfect basal cleavage allowing the crystals to split easily into fragile plates. Mica can be found in igneous, metamorphic and occasionally in sedimentary rocks. The MOHS hardness ranges from 1 to 4.5. Crystals are translucent to opaque with a vitreous or pearly luster. Color differences are from trace elements of other minerals some of which are;

LEPIDOLITE: purple, rosy, silver and gray

BIOTITE: dark green, brown and black

PHILOGOPITE: yellowish brown and greenish white

MUSCOVITE: colorless and transparent



**Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society**  
**January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

President James Hislop opened the meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Front Street Civic Center, 2205 Front Street, Melbourne, FL 32901.

James welcomed guests and new members. New members stood up and introduced themselves.

February speaker is Bill on Pulse arc welding. James will be in Tucson at a rock show.

The presentation was rock hounding safety and tools by Jim Price. He talked about proper equipment to go hounding. He emphasized keeping it simple with a bucket for tools, bucket for rocks and a lid to bucket to make a seat. When exploring bring a snack, water, first aid kit, and bug spray. Good kit items include a pick, foldable shovel, hatchet, gloves, a specimen box in case you find a nice small piece. It is good to have a black light if going on a night dig. For safety it is good to have a buddy and let someone know where you are going.

Announcements:

Class book is in the back of the room for sign up.

Pet of the month is Dancer ready for adoption.

Upcoming events are in the Moonstone online like Deland Show is Jan 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

Merrit Island is Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Next DMC field trip is Franklin County Alabama on Jan 24 to hunt for Marine Fossils.

The next CGMS hosted trip is in December 2027.

Pizza will be offered on next Monday at 5:30 at the workshop.

Budget meeting Wednesday Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30

Holiday party was a great success.

We need an Outreach Coordinator. If you have any ideas to increase membership, please talk to James.

If you have a course you want to teach please talk to Yvonne. It can be a pop up class.

Rock Swap is March 28<sup>th</sup>. Please talk to Shannon if you want a table. Cost is \$25. It is on the same date as the Wickham park craft show.

James took an interest survey on arrowhead hunting near Peace River. You need permission to legally collect artifacts.

Vice- President Report, Lynn McKinney

Several months of presentations are planned

Raffle is in the back. Proceeds send members to Wild Acres (week in Aug. and Sept) or William Holland (week in June) for a week of classes. Members are reimbursed after the trip. Fee pays room and board. Material fees are not included. Hoping to send 3 people. Drawing is in Feb.

Treasurer's report, Candace Walker- Budget will be ready for the Jan. meeting.

Secretary, Stephanie Hopper said last month's meeting was in the Moonstone.

Membership, Sharon Barhorst, We now have 153 members.

Education Director - Yvonne Alexander – Said you can only sign up at the club meeting. Please write legible. Check class schedule when you sign up to make sure you can make the class time.

Shannon is teaching Wire wrapping class. Class on Friday is full. Saturday class is empty. It is a two-day class

Bill Haar talked about casting class. Looking to move to Bronze at \$1 per ounce instead of silver for \$100 per ounce.

Moonstone, Shannon Byrd Moonstone – Is published online

Joe Bina, brought in some slabs pieces he cut which are free to pick up at break

Liz – raffle will be 8-10 winners.

Thanks for sharing all the great Show and Tell

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Hopper

# SHOW AND TELL



Mineral of the Month – Wulfenite



Joe Bina – Slab pieces

Stephanie Hopper

Secretary

## PICTURES



James talked about peace river fossils  
Had material from Curt



Scott – Tool Kit



Angela Pepper-Amber  
Dominican Republic



Arther Delaurmetis  
Amethyst ring and bracelet  
using loop technique



Kevin Vogt  
Amber & Laramar

# Show and Tell



Yvonne – intarget and chain mail



Bill Haar Slab cutting and polishing



Kathy Burnette– fossils



Ileana Tibuleac- Fossils



Sharron Barhost – fossils



Stephanie Hopper – Fossils



Mark Woods –Fossils



Jim Price – Talks about tools for rock hunting

## Bench Tips by Brad Smith

Work Smarter & Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Jewelry Books  
 See Other Tips in my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making Problems  
<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>

## FOREDOM MAINTENANCE

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well, being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of instructions on how to do everything.



The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and handpiece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can access it at <https://www.foredom.net/product-category/maintenance-and-replacement-parts/>. Any repair parts needed are available from the Foredom site or from many jewelry supply catalogs. If you have any question about their products, a phone call or an email will get quick answers.



Solve Your Jewelry Making Problems  
 With Brad's "How To" Books

[www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](http://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



Central Brevard Rock & Gem Show - 02/07/2026

Start Date: 02/07/2026

End Date: 02/08/2026

Hours: Sat. 9:00-5:00, Sun. 10:00-4:00

Venue: Kiwanis Island Recreation Ctr

Address: 951 Kiwanis Island Park Road

Kiwanis Island Recreation Ctr

Merritt Island, FL 32952

Website: <http://www.centralbrevardgems.com/>H & R Gem Shows Sarasota Gem Show - 02/20/2026

Start Date: 02/20/2026

End Date: 02/22/2026

Hours: 10:00 - 5:00

Venue: Municipal Auditorium

Address: 801 N Tamiami Trail

Municipal Auditorium

Sarasota, FL 34326

Website: <http://hrgemshows.com/>Panhandle Gem & Mineral Shows - 02/27/2026

Start Date: 02/27/2026

End Date: 03/01/2026

Hours: 10 a. until 5 pm

Venue: North Florida Fairgrounds

Address: 441 E. Paul Russell Road

North Florida Fairgrounds

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Website: <https://www.panhandlegemandmineralshows.com/>55th ANNUAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW - 03/06/2026

Start Date: 03/06/2026

End Date: 03/08/2026

Hours: Fri/Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 10:00-5:00

Venue: POLISH CENTER OF JOHN PAUL II

Address: 1521 N SATURN AVE

POLISH CENTER OF JOHN PAUL II

CLEARWATER, FL 33755

Website: <https://sites.google.com/sgams.com/sgams/home>Florida's Fine Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show - 03/27/2026

Start Date: 03/27/2026

End Date: 03/29/2026

Venue: Robarts Arena

Address: 3000 Ringling Blvd

Robarts Arena

Sarasota, FL 34247

Website: <https://www.mineralshowsllc.com/>

CMGS Rock Swap

**March 28, 2026 from 8:30 to 3:30**

Location : Wickham Park pavilion #4 It is on the East side of the North lake next to the restroom building.

Enter Wickham park from the South entrance off Parkway Dr. - Turn right and follow road around the first lake to the 2nd lake (north lake) - Pavilion #4 is on your left about middle of the lakes east side.

No fee to browse/shop/swap. Visitors are welcome

There are 20 picnic tables under the pavilion cover. Dealers pay \$25 fee to sell their stuff. The grass area is open but still \$25.

Tell your friends to come and spend the day looking at rocks, gems, jewelry. Bring families and friends and have a good time in the park. Sail a boat on the lake, relax in the sun, watch the kids play in the play area or play with your dog in the fenced dog park area.

Contact info: Shannon Byrd 321 223 4007 (leave a message if I do not answer as I do not answer phone numbers not preprogrammed in my phone). I will call back asap.

You can also contact me via email at

"ShannonB787@gmail.com".

Panhandle Gem & Mineral Shows - 04/10/2026

Start Date: 04/10/2026

End Date: 04/12/2026

Hours: 10 am until 5 pm

Venue: Central Panhandle Fairgrounds Panama City

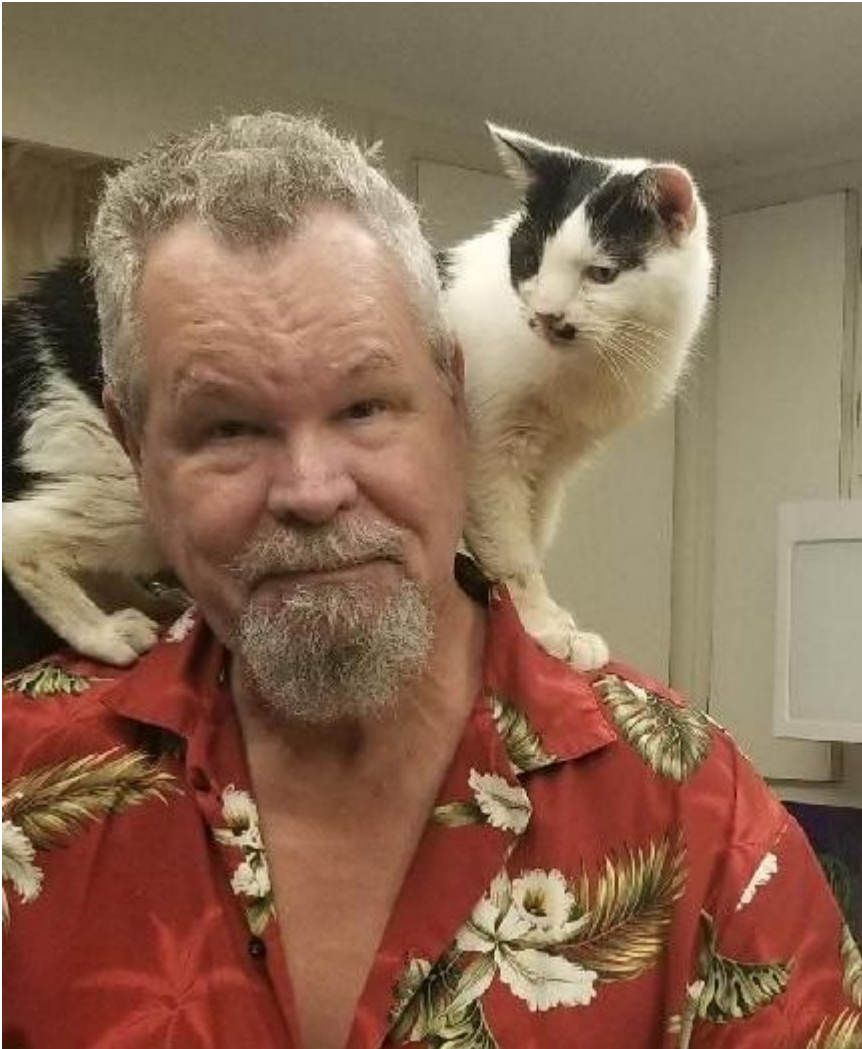
Address: 2230 East 15th Street

Central Panhandle Fairgrounds Panama City

Panama City, FL 32405

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567559250916>[id=61567559250916](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567559250916)

# Pet of the month



This is the new Harr family cat, Remy. Guess how she got her name! Remy is 14 years old and spent her entire life at a cat shelter after biting an electrical cord as a kitten. She fried her right lip, lost half her teeth, half her tongue, and burned a hole in the roof of her mouth. When she eats, she sneezes half her food out the side of her mouth or out her nose. She is an extremely snuggly cat and loves to kibitz in the kitchen.

## Club Donations Needed

Dolly's Picnic donations: Please bring donations to the monthly meeting or (if larger amounts) arrangements can be made to pick them up. Contact Michael McKeon at [memckeon@yahoo.com](mailto:memckeon@yahoo.com)

Items we need for the auctions include:

Rocks of any kind

Crystals / Gems

Beads and beading findings

Craft Items

The following members have completed the classes listed below.

Edward Kinberg and Linda Niederoest passed the Metal Patterning class



## **CMGS Contacts**

**President:** James Hislop (407)797-2391

**Vice President:** Lynn McKinney

**Secretary:** Stepphanie Hopper

**Treasurer:** Candice Walker

**Bulletin Editor:** Shannon Byrd (321) 223-4007

**Membership Chairman:** Sharon Barhorst

**Education Chairman:** Yvonne Alexander

**Corresponding Secretary:** Stephanie Murphy

**Board of Directors 3yr:** Vince DiDio

**Board of Directors 2yr:** Liz Ritter (321) 544-2036

**Board of Directors 1yr:** Wayne Mellish

**Librarian:** Matty Loss

Do you need transportation to the monthly meeting? If so, contact James Hislop to coordinate a ride.

**Bulletin Editor**

Shannon Byrd

2225 Ladner Rd NE

Palm Bay, FL 32907

Email: shannonb787@gmail.com

The Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society meets at 7 pm on the First Wednesday of each month at the Front Street Civic Center, Melbourne, Florida. Visitors are always welcome.

**CANAVERAL MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY**  
255 East Drive  
Melbourne, Florida  
**NEWSLETTER: MOONSTONE**