



# The Rock Rattler

VOLUME: 35

NO. 08

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

**THE ARK-LA-TEX  
GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

PO BOX 6633  
BOSSIER CITY, LA. 71171-6633



The Rock Rattler is a monthly publication of the Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society located in Bossier City/Shreveport, Louisiana. The society is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) and the South Central Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SCFMS). Permission is given to reproduce this document all or in part with the proper credit given. Articles with no byline are by the editor.

The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society is a nonprofit educational organization devoted to promoting interest in the various earth sciences, particularly the art of lapidaries and their related fields. Informational speeches presented at area schools and the presentation of awards and cash prizes at the Public School Earth Science Fair are two of the ways the society achieves its goals. Another contribution to the community is the annual show, held at the Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd, in Bossier City. This "Jewelry, Gem, & Mineral Show" functions as a fund raiser for our group and a venue for the demonstrations of gold and silver casting, jewelry making, bead stringing, faceting, cabochon making, and flint knapping (the art of flaking stone tools such as arrowheads). The monthly meetings included programs of interest to rock hounds, information from the Rock Rattler, and jewelry making classes complete the educational objectives of the club.

From:  
ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL  
BOX 6633  
BOSSIER CITY, LA 7117-6633

The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society meets at 6:30 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at the:  
Bossier Parish History Center, 2006 Beckett St. Bossier City, LA 71111

# THE ROCK RATTLER

## President's Message

Dear Fellow Rockhounds,

Please join us for an educational program at our Sept 7 meeting on Cameos. If you have examples of this, bring them so that others might see.

See you all at the Sept meeting.

Del

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**Next Meeting:** Tuesday July 6, 2010

Time: 6:30 –8:00 PM

Location: Bossier Parish History Center,  
2006 Beckett St.  
Bossier City, LA 71111

**Program will be:** Cameo creation using mussel shells

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# THE ROCK RATTLER

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August 3, 2010  
Minutes of the General Meeting

**Called to Order** - President Del Glasner

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** – Dwayne Spillman

**Opening Prayer** - Al Simms

**Treasurer's Report** – John Autry

- Current Balance: \$29,513.00 in Checking (including \$11,000 to be placed in a CD)
- \$11, 492.19 currently in a CD due to mature in August, 2010

**Old Business:**

- Show Report - Cristy Holder
  - Vendor reservations almost reaching full capacity. Only one vendor space available.
  - Fifty (50) people have indicated that they will join us for the Friday Dinner.
  - Help is still needed for Friday setup. Charlie, John and Boudreaux will load up supplies from classroom and bring them to the Civic Center.
  - Digital billboard ads are to run the week before and through Sunday of the Gem Show. There will be six (6) different graphics shown on the two billboards.
  - Del encouraged all that have the blue Club vest to wear them to the show.
  - Postcards are addressed, stamped and ready for mailing next week.

**New Business**

- Discussion of making a \$1,000.00 donation to William Holland School of Lapidary Arts to help with the renovation of Sparks Lodge. All \$1,000.00 donations will be given one free week of classes. Discussion of using this free week to reward one of our members for participation in a contest. General discussion decided that this proposal is to be placed on hold until more interest is expressed.
- Acknowledgements
  - Al & Lyn provided door prizes this month

**Program**

After a brief break for refreshments, Del Glasner attempted to project a slide presentation on photographing gems and minerals, but unfortunately the projector did not cooperate.

There were fourteen (14) members in attendance.

Motion for Adjournment made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Simms, Secretary

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# THE ROCK RATTLER

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## News

### Heat treating stones for knapping or to enhance their color?

This is from an interesting exchange recently on the Yahoo Rockhounds email list:  
"There are some heat treating recipes on my site. These are for knapping but are known to deepen the color of agate as well.

[http://orerockon.com/Heat\\_treating.htm](http://orerockon.com/Heat_treating.htm)

Tim Fisher

Ore-ROCK-On!

Email address at <http://OreRockOn.com> "

It is a good site, but I found the reply for one list member priceless....

"I seem to recall ... burying with sand, 500 degrees, washing carefully to remove oil, and cooling slowly. Good luck. My one attempt to heat-treat turned worthless agate into worthlesser agate. You may say "'Worthlesser' isn't a word", but that's because you didn't see the agate."

### Also from the internet....

For those of you who have not discovered this "gem" yet, I cannot recommend this book more highly! If you are into determinative mineralogy, it is a "must have".

It was just published by Min Rec, is 260+ pages, covers chemical techniques, optical techniques, the lot... Has appendices on how to build your own Specific Gravity balance, Polarizing Microscope, Dichroscope, Spindle Stage, 2 different flavors of Goniometers, and more. Comes with a CD of useful software like Min Search and others.

Mineral Identification: A Practical Guide for the Amateur Mineralogist

by Donald B. Peck <http://www.minrec.org/bookdetail.asp?id=48>

This is one of the best new books I've seen in years....Did I mention I really like it???? :-)

Regards, Tom Corson

From The Nov 2007 ROCKHOUND

Official publication of the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

### Considering a Stone Knife Handle

Check out the knife handles on this website:

[http://www.jayfisher.com/gemstone\\_knife\\_handles.htm](http://www.jayfisher.com/gemstone_knife_handles.htm)

# THE ROCK RATTLER

## Ten Rarest Gems on Earth ( 2 of 10)

### 2. Red Diamonds USD \$2-2.5 Million/Carat



With only 1 in every 10,000 diamond carats being colored, finding a large colored diamond is almost unheard of. Colorless diamonds are made of 100% carbon. For a diamond to be naturally colored it must come in contact with another mineral which reacts to the carbon producing a colored hue in the diamond - a process that is extremely rare. Approximately 20 % of colorless diamond carats found are gem quality. Of that percentage 1 out of every 10,000 carats is naturally colored. Only a very few red diamonds are ever found, and few people have seen even one treated red diamond. The gem is described as a purplish red, so it is not a pure red, crimson, vermilion, or scarlet. Nevertheless, for its size, it is one of the most expensive diamonds ever. The Argyle Mine in Australia produces a small number of red diamonds. The largest and finest of these are auctioned every year or two, and sell for millions of dollars. Currently it is believed that there are thirty-five flawless red diamonds known and most weigh under a carat. The largest is the Moussaieff Red (above right picture) at 5.11 carats, found by a Brazilian farmer.

## Hints And Tips

### Eliminating Flats by Ted Robles

A while back, someone was saying that he was having problems with getting “flats” on his cabs, that there was insufficient “give” in his wheels, and it didn’t seem to make any difference no matter how much pressure he applied. That was his first mistake. Diamond and corundum are two different animals; relatively speaking, about the same difference as between quartz and chalk. If you “lean into” a diamond wheel, you will get lousy results (flats, etc.) on your stone, and your wheels will wear out long before their time. On diamond, you try to do your cutting (and everything else) by almost not touching the wheel. Use essentially no force. Don’t “grind” the stone, let the diamond wear it away, but keep it spinning. The technique is simply to use the whole face of the wheel, and keep your cab moving. Any time you stop, you just bought a “flat”. Can’t help it! It’s the same principle as sharpening a knife on an emery wheel. If you don’t want notches in your blade, you keep it moving. Do almost all of your cutting on the coarsest wheel you have. If you leave any flats on the pre-form, you’re going to have them on the final piece...can’t help it. **The RockCollector 2/08 via Stoney Statements From The Pineywoods**

Rooter May 2009♦

# THE ROCK RATTLER

## Up-Coming Shows:

(Nearby)

AUGUST 28-29  
JASPER, TX  
Pine Country G&MS  
Events Center

Sept. 10-12 Lincoln, MO Rock  
Swap and Craft Show. Call  
660-547-0001. Mozarkite.

Sept. 11 Indian Nations Artifact  
and Mineral Show - 8 AM to 5  
PM, Mabee Center (south  
entrance), 81st and Lewis,  
Tulsa, OK. Adults - \$3, Under  
12 - Free, Contacts:  
Harvey Shell - 918-284-8216  
or Bill Breckinridge - 918-  
366-3567

Sept. 11-12 The Northwest  
Arkansas Gem & Mineral  
Society swap  
meet. No charge to set up.  
Saturday, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m.- 5p.m.  
Auction on Saturday. Lanette  
Taylor 479-621-5121 or  
hulagrub@aol.com Dave  
Lieninger.

Sept. 17-19 Enid Gem and  
Mineral Society Annual Show  
at Oakwood Mall, Enid.  
Contact  
Billy Wood,  
baronladislaus@att.net or  
Leon and Mary Walters, 580-  
237-1177.

For an expanded list of  
Show Dates go to:  
[www.rockngem.com](http://www.rockngem.com)

For a list of Knap-ins dates  
go to:  
<http://www.eskimo.com/~knapper/knapins.html>

**Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society Website [larockclub.com](http://larockclub.com)  
Updates:**

See the Rock Rattler Downloads page for a new group of downloads  
called "Download How To Do It Plans".

Membership dues are \$15 per individual or \$20 per couple or \$25 for the  
whole family!! This gets you the monthly newsletter, class room access, and  
some of the best people to be around in the world!! Pass on a membership  
application to someone you know - today!!

### ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal? Yes / No Phone #'s \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

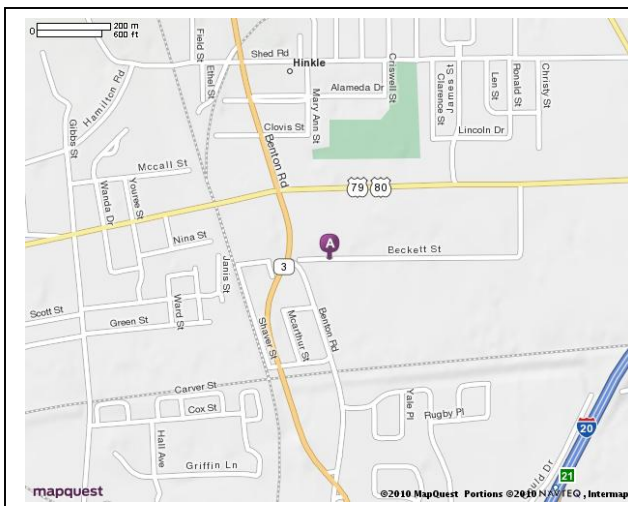
Membership Option: Individual: \_\_\_\_\_ Couple: \_\_\_\_\_ Family: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check One) \$15.00 \$20.00 \$25.00

Mail to: Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society  
PO Box 6633  
Bossier City, LA 71111

Or Come to a meeting and pay in person!! on the 1st Tuesday of each month  
6:30 pm

Bossier Parish History Center  
2006 Beckett St.  
Bossier City, LA 71111



Our  
meeting  
location  
is at "A"  
on the  
map

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# THE ROCK RATTLER

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2010 OFFICERS:

President	Del Glasner	318-965-1989	<a href="mailto:dglasner2001@yahoo.com">dglasner2001@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	Pam Frederick		
Secretary	Al Simms	318-865-2453	<a href="mailto:asimmsjr@gmail.com">asimmsjr@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	John Autry	318-934-3319	<a href="mailto:jdouglasa@hotmail.com">jdouglasa@hotmail.com</a>

Board of Directors consisting of Officers above and:

Past President	Cristy Holder	318-949-6574	<a href="mailto:cristyholder@bellsouth.net">cristyholder@bellsouth.net</a>
Member	Bill Hart	318-746-8735	<a href="mailto:mufasa35@bellsouth.net">mufasa35@bellsouth.net</a>
Member	Charlie Johns	318-687-4929	<a href="mailto:cwsejohns@bellsouth.net">cwsejohns@bellsouth.net</a>
Member	Tom Stringfellow	903-839-6744	<a href="mailto:TomString@aol.com">TomString@aol.com</a>

Appointments and Committees:

Historian	Wil and Edna House	318-949-2008	<a href="mailto:wilhouse@bellsouth.net">wilhouse@bellsouth.net</a>
Show Chairman	Charlie Johns	318-687-4929	<a href="mailto:cwsejohns@bellsouth.net">cwsejohns@bellsouth.net</a>
Assit.Show Chairman	Bill Hart	318-746-8735	<a href="mailto:mufasa35@bellsouth.net">mufasa35@bellsouth.net</a>
Dealer Chairman	Cristy Holder	318-949-6574	<a href="mailto:cristyholder@bellsouth.net">cristyholder@bellsouth.net</a>
Show Mailing	Lyn Simms	318-865-2453	<a href="mailto:lynsimms@gmail.com">lynsimms@gmail.com</a>
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Publicity	Lee Boudreaux	318-741-0074	
Field Trip	Richard Kelley	318-747-2073	