



# The Rock Rattler

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## President's Message

Hello members!

It is hard to believe that it's August already and the club show is less than two weeks away. I don't know about you but I am pumped up and ready for the best show yet. We are working hard on our club work shop and putting together lists, mailing out post cards, getting supplies together and making plans for the show. If you have not volunteered for a spot in the show please do so now. We need everyone to get involved, it is your club and your show, so show us what you've got and let's let everyone know we are great and really love rocks. See you on Tuesday and bring something you collected or something you made or are working on.

Share, share and keep sharing.

Larry

## Next Meeting

When: August 5, 2014  
Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
Where: Bossier City Library  
Historical Building  
Bossier City, La  
Program:  
Refreshments:  
Door Prizes: Larry Maguire

## Minutes of Meeting

July 2, 2014

Opening: Larry Maguire

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer: Larry Maguire

### **Business Discussed:**

- Building Update
  - Work day 7/12/14 @ 8 am
- Treasury Report given by John Autry
- August 16, 17 Show Update by Del
  - 33 dealers have paid
  - Sign up form passed for volunteers
  - Will feed dealers, Friday evening at 6 pm
    - Volunteers will bring deserts
- 28 members attending meeting

New Members: Walt and Vicky Davis

## *Shop Update*

We would like to thank the few that have contributed their time, expertise and hard work in the renovation on our new saw shop and classroom....but there is still a ways to go. These buildings belong to the club and we need more members to participate in the renovation. The next scheduled work day is August 9th. Keep in mind anytime you have to give is appreciated. Get with John, Del or Tony if you want to work on a day other than the scheduled days.

Once our new facilities are open there will be new safety and equipment usage procedures established, so be patient and remember the building and equipment is for future members to use as well.

# *tips and tricks*

## Lubricating a saw blade.

This is a very simple tip but it is important. We normally use beeswax to lubricate a saw blade. In the old days, they used ear wax!! Anyway, the wax should be applied to the BACK of the blade...not the front. Why? Because if it is applied to the front, it will fill the teeth and on the first draw through the metal it will collect swarf (the fine metal dust resulting from the cutting) and fill the teeth. Then it will dull the teeth and reduce their cutting efficiency. Instead, simply apply the wax to the rear of the blade. In this way, friction melts the wax and evenly spreads it on the blade as needed to keep it lubricated and clean.

## *Field Trips for 2014*

**Anyone planning to attend a field trip must notify field trip coordinator that you will be attending.**  
If you are unable to attend a field trip but would like something brought back just ask. Arrangements can be made.

**August 23, 24**--Jasper, Tx - Petrified Wood. You should have received an email from the Jasper coordinator of this trip.

**September 6.** Phantom Mine at Wegner Mine. Mt Ida AR. To reserve your spot to go, pay at August meeting. We have to have at least 10 people confirmed to go. Cost is \$30 per person

**October**- Open—if you have an idea give info to field trip coordinator

## *Class Schedule Update*

Tom is working on class ideas and schedule. If any member has any ideas for classes they would like to attend, please contact tom. Keep in mind if you suggest a class you should attend the class too.

# Upcoming Show Dates

## August

9-10—BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA: 50th Anniversary Show; Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society; Marriott Hotel; 5500 Hilton Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children \$3; demonstrations, cabbing, faceting, wire wrapping, door prizes, silent auctions, Scouts and educational groups welcome; contact Diana Martin, (225) 931-7543; e-mail: [Cajunladi@cox.net](mailto:Cajunladi@cox.net); Web site: [www.brgemandmineral.org](http://www.brgemandmineral.org)

23-24—JASPER, TEXAS: Annual show; Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society; The Event Center; 6258 State Hwy. 190W, 5 miles west of Jasper; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, students and children free; lapidary demonstrations, exhibits, dealers, gems, jewelry, rough rock, hourly door prizes, silent auction, raffle, kids' activities, mining sluice, spinning wheel; contact Jonetta Nash, 737 FM 254 South, Jasper, TX 75951, (409) 384-3974; e-mail: [jonetta.nash@yahoo.com](mailto:jonetta.nash@yahoo.com)

## October

4-5—JACKSONVILLE, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Central Arkansas Gem Mineral and Geology Society; Jacksonville Community Center; 5 Municipal Dr.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; 25 dealers, rocks, minerals, fossils, lapidary material, jewelry, beads, displays, demonstrations, kids' dig, door prizes; contact Tom Sharp, 14705 Chambery Dr., Little Rock, AR 72211, (501) 379-8653; e-mail: [thom61847@yahoo.com](mailto:thom61847@yahoo.com); Web site: [www.centralarrockhound.org](http://www.centralarrockhound.org)

10-12—METAIRIE, LOUISIANA: Annual show; Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana; Best Western Plus Landmark Hotel; 2601 Severn Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, students \$3, children (under 12) free; exhibits, demonstrations, fluorescent mineral room, door prizes, grand prize; contact Levette Carlos, (504) 214-3205; e-mail: [gemshow2014@gmail.com](mailto:gemshow2014@gmail.com)

10-12—MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: Annual World Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Contest; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Fairgrounds Rd.; Fri. 7-3, Sat. 9-3, Sun. 2-3; adults \$85; dig quartz crystals, keep all you find, win a prize; contact Sherrie Ellison, Hwy. 270W, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; e-mail: [director@mtidachamber.com](mailto:director@mtidachamber.com); Web site: [www.mtidachamber.com](http://www.mtidachamber.com)

10-12—MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: 30th Annual Quartz, Quiltz and Craftz Show; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Fairgrounds Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; dealers, quartz crystals, minerals, jewelry, quilts, crafts; contact Sherrie Ellison, Hwy. 270W, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; e-mail: [director@mtidachamber.com](mailto:director@mtidachamber.com); Web site: [www.mtidachamber.com](http://www.mtidachamber.com)

## November

7-9—HUMBLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Houston Gem & Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center; 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$8, seniors and students \$7, children (10 and under) free; Kids Daze Fri., fluorescent exhibit, lapidary demonstrations, swap area special kids' area, Dino Dig, Youth Section; contact Michele Marsel, Houston Gem & Mineral Society, 10805 Brooklet, Houston, TX 77099, (281) 530-0942; e-mail: [show@hgms.org](mailto:show@hgms.org); Web site: [www.hgms.org](http://www.hgms.org)

## *Father, Son Kickstarting Mineralogy*

We're trying again on Kickstarter to raise awareness for mineralogy and mineral collecting! Please note, we're not selling anything. But we do need your help, chatter and support to get this project rolling! We're creating free downloadable educational content for kids and educators and we're trying to get a more formative television show going about mineral collecting! Please, if you value mineral collecting, you won't have to put in much effort at all to help out a bunch! It's as easy as forwarding a link, reviewing the project, "Liking" us on Facebook and "Re-Tweeting" our content on Twitter. Simple!

Kickstarter.com is a crowd funding website, where projects are submitted and approved by the staff to get a much needed funding boost from people all over the world. Well our project "Minerals or Bust!" was approved and we launched it on the Fourth of July! Now we need your support! We have specific goals, aims and budgets listed on the project website, so please take a minute to look it over. Two years ago we launched a project that failed to get the funding we needed, but we're not ones to roll over and give up! So we regrouped and created a bigger, better project!

Sadly, Mineral collecting is an interest that is dying out and we want desperately to breathe some new life into this great past time. There are practically no young faces at swap meets, in local clubs and at conferences and if we don't do something fun and entertaining to grab some new interest now we'll lose an entire branch of scientific study. Every year notices circulate about friends and colleagues who made great strides in mineralogy who've passed away. Their collections and research materials disappear, sometimes just into the dumpster! Oh, what a true shame that is!

But that's where we can help! There's no better bunch to put a comical spin on some educational awareness about minerals right now than a goofball father/son team with an extensive mineralogy background. Over the years we've been members of the Nittany Mineralogical Society, Kyana Geological Society, the Georgia Mineral Society, the Coon Creek Non-Meetings in Arkansas, the Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society, Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society, Friends of Mineralogy Midwest, FM Southeast, the Northern California Mineralogical Association and Southern California FM! Our project deadline is August 28th, 2014. Please help us Kickstart an entertaining and informative series about gems, minerals and mineralogy!

Our project on Kickstarter.com: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/jbarwood/minerals-or-bust-season-one-episode-one>

"Like" our Facebook.com page with additional news/info: <https://www.facebook.com/Minerals3DHD>

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MineralsOrBust>

Website coming soon: <http://www.mineralsorbust.com>

All support, be it a "Tweet", a "Like" or just good word of mouth, is greatly appreciated!

# MORE PICS FROM John, Del and Tony's OREGON TRIP











## 2014 Officers and Board Members

| Position               | Name           | Contact #      | Email Address  |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| President              | Larry Maguire  | (318) 284-3544 | <a href="mailto:oldhd68@gmail.com">oldhd68@gmail.com</a>             |
| V. President           | Antony Thomas  | (318) 518-0907 | <a href="mailto:adslthomas@gmail.com">adslthomas@gmail.com</a>       |
| Secretary              | Sharron Thomas | (318) 423-2130 | <a href="mailto:adslthomas@gmail.com">adslthomas@gmail.com</a>       |
| Treasurer              | John Autry     | (318) 210-9416 | <a href="mailto:john.autry451@gmail.com">john.autry451@gmail.com</a> |
| Board Member           | Edna House     | (318) 949-9765 | <a href="mailto:edna.house@gmail.com">edna.house@gmail.com</a>       |
| Board Member           | Nina Hustus    | (318) 219-9136 | <a href="mailto:pochance@bellsouth.net">pochance@bellsouth.net</a>   |
| Board Member           | Lyn Simms      | (318) 347-8621 | <a href="mailto:lynsimms@gmail.com">lynsimms@gmail.com</a>           |
| Field Trip Coordinator | Antony Thomas  | (319) 518-0907 | <a href="mailto:adslthomas@gmail.com">adslthomas@gmail.com</a>       |

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.

**Arklatex Gem & Mineral Society**  
**PO Box 6633**  
**Bossier City, LA 71171-6633**