



The Rock Rattler

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December, 2012

Presidents Message

Thanks members for having faith in me again to move the club along as president for 2013. Looking forward to better programs and field trips.

It's time again to start paying your 2013 Club Dues. These dues should be paid no later than January 31, 2013. I would like to ask everyone (renewing membership well as new members) to complete a Membership Application so we can accurately update our membership records and the club directory. You will find an application included in this newsletter or you may acquire one.

Wanted

Do you have any interesting rockhounding experience that you would like to share? Have you found a really good specimen in the field? Do you have a favorite gem, mineral, rock or fossil? Are you an expert in lapidary? Have you learned about something related to our hobby that surprised you? If so, why write about it and share it with the rest of the club? You can send the editor a written account of your thoughts by email or through our old fashioned U.S. postal service.

Make sure you attend our Eating Meeting and Auction December 4th at Kelley's at 6:00 PM. Get there early and bring a friend so you can pick out your favorite treasure for the bidding!

Del Glasner

Next Meeting

When: December 4, 2012, Tuesday
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Kelley's
Hwy 80
Haughton, LA
Program: Auction and Dinner

Bring an item for the auction

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Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society

Minutes of Meeting
November 6, 2012

Opening: Del Glasner

Pledge of Allegiance: Patrick Denton

Prayer: Al Simms

Old Business:

- Treasurer's Report
 - Unavailable—treasurer not at meeting
- Dues is due by January 31, 2012
- Rock Sale at Betty's Rock Shop in Longview Texas
- Election of Officers
 - President – Del Glasner
 - Vice President – Larry Maguire
 - Secretary – Sharron Thomas
 - Treasurer – John Autry
- Board Members
 - Lyn Simms
 - Tom Stringfellow
 - Antony Thomas

New Business:

- Ike House gave a short presentation on the South Central Federation of Gem & Mineral Society.
- Next year the Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society will host the SCFMS during our Gem & Mineral Show in August.
- Christmas Party schedule to replace our December meeting. We will meet at Kelley's Place on Hwy 80 in Haughton at 6:00pm. After the meal, there will be an auction to help raise funds for the Society.
- Field Trips
 - None at this time
- Classes
 - Open Shop will be last Saturday in November
- Makers Fair will be November 10 in downtown Shreveport

Program: Video on Kentucky Agate

Members in Attendance – Regan Ryan, Jody Hendricks, Diane Hendricks, Carry Ryan, Tom Stringfellow, Pam White, Al Simms, Nelwyn Gray, Teresa Crawford, Sharron Thomas, Larry Maguire, Edward Bass, Del Glasner, Ike House, Colleen Denton, Patrick Denton, Myrle and Admiral D. Karr



Membership Application

Individual Membership \$15/Year Couple Membership \$20/Year Family Membership \$25/Year
New Member? Yes No Renewal? Yes No

Name _____ (Spouse) _____
Children's Names _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone # _____ (home) _____ (work) _____ (mobile)

E-Mail _____ FB _____
Membership Option (Check One): Individual (\$15) _____ Couple (\$20) _____ Family (\$25): _____

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 at 6:30 on the 1st Tuesday of each month
Bossier Parish History Center, 2006 Beckett St.
Bossier City, LA 71111

Seasons Greetings

Class Info & Updates



December 8, 2012

Open Shop. Bring your holiday projects. Tom will demonstrate WAX MODELING for casting. (Our INTRODUCTION TO THE METAL CLAYS CLASS did not get enough students and was cancelled. If you wish to work on PMC/Metal Clays the tools will be in the shop on the 8th. The two day, Metal Clay Play Days have been shrunk to one day on the 8th.)

January 19, 2013

Basic Beading: Natural Materials Class. Instructor Barbara Clevinger. Cost \$45 includes tools and supplies. This Class was a great success last year; LETS WIN AGAIN! Get your Class fee to Tom Stringfellow, 16856 Cardinal Lane, Troup, TX. 75789.

All Open Shop and Class Dates have been listed on our Facebook page at Arklatex Gem & Mineral Society

federation news

You should have received the most recent newsletter from the South Central Federation newsletter. If you haven't had a chance to read it here some the highlights.....

- ☞ Ark La Tex Gem & Mineral Society will host the annual SCF Show on August 17-18, 2013
- ☞ Show dates for other South Central Federation clubs
 - December 8-9, 2013, DeRidder, La -- DeRidder Gem & Mineral Society, Beaugard Parish Fairgrounds
 - January 19-20, 2013, Fredericksburg, Tx -- Fredericksburg Rockhounds, Lady Bird Johnson Park
 - January 16-18, 2013, Tyler Tx – East Texas Gem & Mineral Society, Rose Garden Center



tips and tricks

A BREAD WINNER! - July '12

Sandwich bread is a great tool for setting up awkward pieces for epoxy work. Just ball up standard white bread to hold odd pieces and use pieces of whole wheat to lay out multiples of a similar piece. As the bread dries, it shrinks leaving no mess between the piece and the epoxy. It is also water soluble. Just be sure your studio does not have ants!

DESIGNING WITH PHOTOCOPIES - May '12

When planning a design using larger stones like agates, jasper and turquoise try photocopying the stones several times to help plan your design. Cut each of the photocopied stones out of the paper so that you can move them into different arrangements. A variety of drawings can then be done using many configurations. This approach makes it easier to compare ideas quickly and it is also a more attractive and accurate record of your designs because the image of the stones can be glued on to each drawing.

CUSTOM BENCH PIN - April '12

Customizing your bench pin can make many tasks easier and save you time. To help hold tubing and wire secure during filing, use a hand file to create two long strip grooves (one small and one large) on one side of the pin. On the other side, create a notch for rings to fit easily in so filing them down is no longer a problem either. This is a simple five minute fix that will save you time in the future.

COTTON SWAB POLISHING POINTS - February '12

Polishing in tight areas is difficult. To make the task easier, make your own polishing points using cotton swabs. Remove the cotton ends, then using an abrasive disc in your flexshaft, narrow the ends to a point. Use one swab to apply a small amount of polishing compound to the area you want to polish, and mount another in your flexshaft handpiece, sticking out about 1". To get a high shine, use a new, dry swab to finish the polishing.

POEMS FROM OUR MEMBERS

I Love Rocks (with apologies to Brak)

Ike House

Here's a lovely poem

About my FAVORITE hobby!

Pyrite, agate, chalcedony

Mica, quartz and antimony

Opal, citrine, gneiss and ruby

I Love Rocks!

I love rocks

Woo, woo, woo

I love rocks

How 'bout you?!!

Diamonds aren't made

From coal pressed flat

Hey, I betcha didn't know that!

When I make cabs

I sit in my own little cloud.

No one comes to visit me

In my lit-tle cloud!

I don't know why.

Maybe it's cause I'm cuttin' malachite.

Because...

I love rocks!

Hey, hey hey

I love rocks, everyday!

Many rocks can phosphoresce.

I Love Rocks

Diggydoo

Weekend Rock Warrior

Susan Fortenberry

Setting out on a Saturday field trip
An excursion to dig in pockets of history
I grab my bucket, shovel & boots and zip
Along on a creek bed with its alluvial stories

What treasure is hiding under the water?
I kick against a rock with my toe
Could this liquid be polishing jasper?
Or, is that a cache of agate down below?

I walk along a jagged cliff with ancient formations
Walls thick with metamorphic layers & hints of
Mineral deposits compressed waiting for investigation
By a modern miner of aboriginal sediment

I weave through fields and trees in woods
Looking for arrowheads dropped by indigenous ghosts
Scanning for Paleolithic fossils as if I could
Account for elements with earth sciences boasts

With my bags full of Jurassic evidence & other specimens
I head back carrying the weight of history
No stone unturned, no quarry forgotten
I soon will be cabbing with lapidary joy

Kindred Spirits

Antony Thomas

Interests and hobbies lead us down paths we would have normally not took
These few years of collecting I could have written a book
Having met some amazing people and heard of such true pioneers
Like Cecil and Betty from Longview their stories lost in the years
While the creator keeps nudging us to just look around
Finding the treasures He has left us upon the ground
Like working with clay He has unlocked my artistic side
Teaching me patience and giving me pride
So to all my new found friends and future ones
We “are” kindred spirits

Upcoming Show Dates

December, 2012

8-9 - DeRidder, Louisiana – Annual Show for DeRidder Gem & Mineral Society. Beauregard Fair Grounds Building. Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4. Adults \$2, Children under 12 free. Military with ID free Sun. Hands on demonstrations, knapping, cabbing, faceting, beading, wire wrapping, rough rock, finished jewelry, silent auction equipment, Louisiana Opal rough, cabs and jewelry.

January, 2013

16-18 - Tyler, Texas – Annual show for East Texas Gem & Mineral Society. Tyler Rose Garden Center. Fri 9-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5. Adults \$3, students \$1, scouts in uniform free. Grand prize drawings, hourly door prizes, silent auction, wheel of fortune, showcases, 11 dealers, gemstones, jewelry, fossils, minerals, geodes, lapidary demonstrations.



Field Trips for 2013

January 12, 2013 – open for suggestion

February 16, 2013 – Goldonna, LA to search for sharks teeth and petrified wood

March 16-17, 2013 – San Antonio, TX for the San Antonio Gem & Mineral Society show. We will also go to Three Rivers, Tx to search for flint and palm wood

April 6, 2013 – Magnet Cove, AR to search for smoky quartz

May 25, 2013 – Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Society show

June 8-9, 2013 – Branson Missouri to search for mozaikite and jasper

July 13, 2013 – North Sulfer River, Paris, Tx to search for fossils

August 24, 2013 – Jasper Gem & Mineral Society show

September 7-8, 2013 – Kentucky for geodes

October 5, 2013 – Arlington Gem & Mineral Society show

Nov 3-4, 2013 – Midland Gem & Mineral Society show

The field list is subject to change based on participation and input from members.

*****REMINDER*****

You annual dues is due by January 31, 2013
Please help us keep you inform by updating
your information. Complete the membership
application and turn it in with your payment.

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.

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