

THE ROCK RATTLER

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THE ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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Presidents Message - by Nina Hustus



Thank you, thank you and thank you to all the members of the club for letting me spend the past year as your president. It was certainly fun and a bit of a challenge. There were so many people who helped me out this year. First and foremost is Lyn Simms. Truly this was a two-president year. She helped me plan meetings and gave so much insight that I can't begin to adequately offer thanks. Thanks to Kathy Haney and Grant Swanson for program help and an abundance of time volunteering at the show. Thanks to Don Gednetz for always having material to bring to our meetings..... The list goes on and on. Thanks to all the members who show up at our meetings – wherever they may be held. Thanks to Del Glasner for his great newsletter and invaluable show planning & organization. Thanks to Tom Stringfellow for his guidance in classes and demos. And to Laura McWilliams for keeping the shop running so efficiently. And of course, thanks to John Autry, who keeps us out of the poor house. This club is definitely an organization being held up by a multitude of people. Thanks to everyone.

NEXT MEETING:

Annual Christmas party and Auction Dec 4th 6:30pm

Address: 823 Brook hollow Dr. Shreveport, La (behind automall on Bert Kouns)



Menu Link

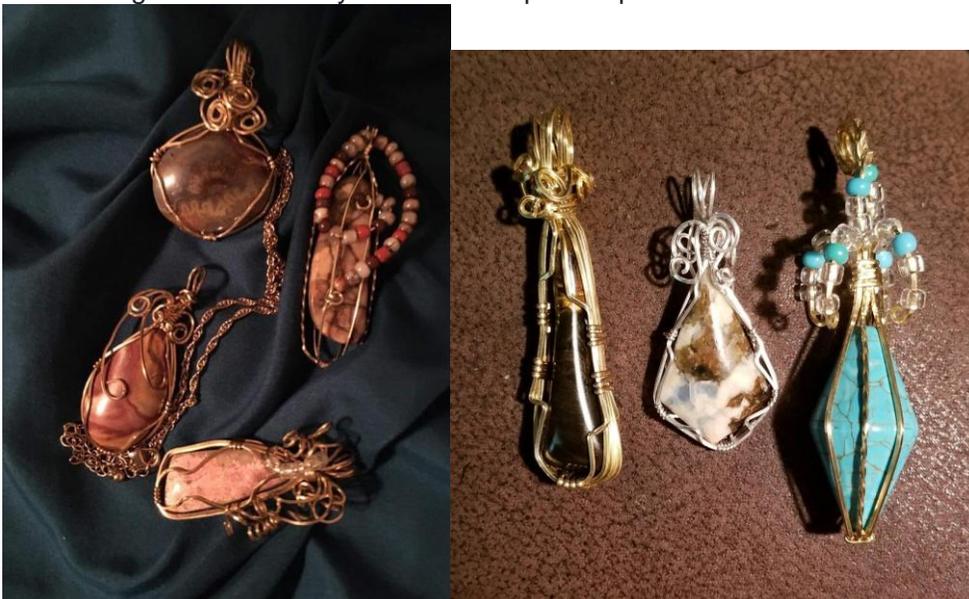
<https://allmenus.com/la/shreveport/284783-country-tavern-barbecue/menu/>

Member Spotlight: Nina Hustus

1. **Where were you born and raised?** I was born in Harrison, NY. About 20 miles north of New York City. It was a great place to grow up.
2. **What started your interest in rocks?** I have always liked collecting rocks but became more interested when I was living in Rapid City, South Dakota. There I became friends with a group of paleontologists and geologists.
3. **What was your favorite rock experience, rock adventure?** My favorite rock adventure, to date, has to be my trip to Quartzsite. I never saw so many different types of rocks in my life. And the prices were amazing. I really want to go back.
4. **Other than rockhounding and lapidary what are your other interests?** Rescuing dogs. And cats. Although, I volunteer at the Humane Society and we are all dogs. LOVE IT!
5. **The wisest thing anyone has ever told me was?** “Just because you believe something, doesn’t mean it is true.” Still working on this one.
6. **I am happiest when _____?** Spending time with Douglas, my dogs and cats and/or working on my rocks.

Member Photos

Tom Stringfellow and Trudy Carr wire wrap class photos.





Member shop photos



Shows

December

8-9—LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA: Annual show; DeRidder Gem and Mineral Society; Leesville Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, 276 HM Stevens Blvd; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults/Seniors-\$2; Children under 12-Free; contact Bridget, (318) 730-7725; Email: bmjoubert@aol.com; Website: <https://rockngemswla.com>

January 2019

25-27—TYLER, TEXAS: Annual show; East Texas Gem and Mineral Show; Tyler, Texas, 420 Rose Park Dr; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5.00, Students \$1.00. Free admission for kids under 12 and scouts in uniform.; Our 23rd Annual Show features outstanding vendors offering gemstones, jewelry, minerals, fossils, wire wrapping, decorator items, geodes, and meteorites. The renowned Rock Food Table will be on display, and attendees can enjoy demonstrations and show cases. Fun for the whole family. ; contact Keith Harmon, Show Chairman, 9116 US Highway 84 West, Rusk, TX 75785; Email: keithharmon19@yahoo.com; Website: etgms.com

February 2019

23-24—JACKSON , MISSISSIPPI: Annual show; Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society ; Mississippi Trade Mart on State Fairgrounds, 1200 Mississippi St; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5:30; Adults \$6, students \$3, scouts and leaders in uniform \$2, and free admission for children 5 and under; More than 25 dealers of gems, fossils, minerals, jewelry, lapidary tools, beads, and more; demonstrations of lapidary art including flint knapping, cabochon cutting, and jewelry making; exhibits and educational opportunities by colleges and state organizations; youth activities; hands-on exploration table; displays by MGMS members of their own collections or lapidary work; hourly door prizes, and a grand prize drawing ; contact Leslie Lane, 176 Tazan Avenue, Florence, MS 39073-8720, (601) 344-8171; Website: <http://missgems.org>

INFO

TIPS from Lapidary Journal Jewelry Artist April 2016 and August 2016

When Resoldering, don't pickle because it leaves a residue. Soak piece in boiling hot water bath to remove flux residue and follow with Dawn detergent using a brass brush to clean solder joint. Dry, re-flux and resolder as required.

Use non-toxic BIC water base Wite-Out correction to block or stop solder flow into unwanted areas.

When using liver of sulfur to darken metal try using a magic marker to block of areas you don't want to darken. Later acetone will remove magic marker.

Don't quench hot metal in pickle. Allow sterling to cool 10-15seconds before quench in cold water to avoid cracking. Repercussions to hot pickle are:

- The mist of steam and fine acid drops the become airborne are inhaled into your nasal cavities and lungs. The tender membranes of your eyes are also exposed.
- The acid mist eats small holes in your clothing.
- The acid rusts and corrodes the bright shiny steel tools in the workshop.

How to work-harden nonferrous metal:

- Rolling in a rolling mill.
- Hammering, usually between steel hammer heads and steel bench plates; using a mallet made of a hard plastic such as delrin may also compress metal over steel.
- Drawing wire through a draw plate.
- Bending or twisting
- Tumblers does not work-harden metal

Websites to look at:

Morrisonite

<http://rarerocksandgems.com/>

K River Campground

<https://kriver.com/>

Field Trip Reports

<http://www.mcrocks.com/page23.html>

Texas Topaz

<http://texas-topaz.com/index.php/rock-hounding/65-rock-hounding-in-mason-county/where-to-go>

Officers for 2019

Send in photos of your craftwork or comments via email: larockclub@gmail.com
Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/ArkLaTexGemMineralSociety/>
Website - <http://larockclub.com/>

Previous Meeting Notes in case you were not listening -



Meeting Agenda November 6, 2018

6:00 Board Meeting – Present were Nina Hustus, Tom Stringfellow, Laura McWilliams, Del Glasner, Lyn Simms, and President-elect Luther Mathis

Follow up on electric repairs – Tom reported that everything in the shop was functioning during last week's class

Moving the monthly meeting to the conference room of the Sleep Inn & Suites on Samford Avenue, Shreveport, was discussed. The fee would be \$150 for each first Tuesday of the month and the room would be ours 5pm-9pm. It was decided that Nina would go ahead and finalize the contract for 11 months beginning in January, 2019.

A theme for our 2019 Gem & Mineral Show was discussed and the theme of "Crystals" would be submitted to the membership for vote in tonight's meeting.

The Board meeting was concluded and the general meeting called to order.

6:30 Opening of Meeting

Flag – Pledge of Allegiance led by Nina Hustus

Prayer – led by Lyn Simms-

Old Business –

Treasurer Report – Deferred as John Autry was working his Haughton polling station

Show Update – Del reported that invitations had been sent to all vendors at the last show, and 4 had already submitted their application and payment.

Nina presented the suggested Show Theme of “Crystals” and, after enthusiastic discussion, this was unanimously chosen. Additional topics discussed were the following suggestions: that a Kid’s Auction be added to the Silent Auction tables, Harmon’s geode-cracking & tables be moved closer to the front of the hall, that a field trip to an Arkansas Crystal Mine be scheduled for the weekend after the show and offered to anyone signing up as a new member during the show, and advertisements to include offers of free admission to anyone named “Crystal” as confirmed by ID.

Class & Demos – Tom reported that the Bracelets class on November 17th still had a few openings and applications were available – these were supplied to those requesting them – class FILLED! Samples of bracelets that could be made were on display on the meeting room tables.

Tom also reported that a silver soldering demonstration will be given at the club studio Saturday, December 8th.

Shop Update – Laura reported that a Shop Steward meeting would be held at the club studio 10am Saturday, November 24th. ALL stewards are to attend.

Field Trip Update – November 10 & 11 is the Houston Gem & Mineral Show in Humble, TX; November 17 & 18 the Dallas Gem & Mineral Show; and December 8 & 9 is the Leesville Gem & Mineral Show

New Business – December 4th is the Christmas Party at Country Tavern, in the Auto Mall off of Bert Kouns, starting at 6pm

Introduce Wm Holland scholarship to members – this Board-approved, \$400 scholarship opportunity was presented and excited discussion ensued. The membership thoroughly approved the idea with details for how members can enter their names in a drawing will be finalized so that entries can begin January 2019, The winner’s name will be drawn at the December 2019 Christmas Party. This scholarship would be applied to the 2020 William Holland room, board, & tuition for the class of the winner’s choice. (Class fees, personal purchases, and transportation to/from Young Harris, GA, and meals enroute will be at the winner’s expense.)

Birthstone of the month for 2019 – volunteers for each month were signed up and Lyn present some of the options for each month. She briefly reviewed a printout of several different birthstone charts provided to the members for their reference.

6:45 Rock of the Month – “rocks I am thankful to have” brought by members that mean something to them and on display on tables in the meeting room.

Show & Tell – Pieces completed in last week’s wire wrap class were also on display on the meeting room tables.

7:00 Program – “Fluorescent Minerals” – A display of “glow-in-the-dark” minerals was presented by Grant Swanson & Michael Clark with assistance by Kathy Haney & Lyn Simms. Grant’s handheld SW & LW UV lamp made the minerals glow with may bright colors!!!

7:30 Door Prizes were awarded by drawing, including a special 20mm round, faceted golden CZ donated by Larry Maguire. THANK YOU, LARRY!!!

7:45 Put chairs away