

THE ROCK RATTLER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this year will be the best yet. New members...old members, keep the good times coming. Keep in mind Membership dues for 2017 are due now. They are \$15 per individual or \$20 per couple or \$25 for the whole family!! This gets you continued monthly newsletter, class room/shop access, field trips and some of the best people to be around in the world!!

** We hope you will want to stay with the group and enjoy the fellowship we have!!!!

If you are unsure if you have paid or not, just e-mail one of the board members... we will be happy to look it up!!

December Party

Everyone started to gather at Hope Community Church of God dinning hall at 6:00 but we waited to start eating until 6:30+ and begin with a prayer.

The food was great and the fellowship was fun. There was a lot of visiting and catching up. Some of us only see each other once a month.

The number of auction items were originally intended to be limited to only 15 But a few extra items sneaked in. We raised money in the neighborhood of \$ 300.00 from our auction. We will decide next meeting what we will do with it. 47 people that attended left full and happy. If you were unable to attend, we MISSED you!!



Arklatex Gem & Mineral Party/auction Dec 6, 2016

Classroom/Shop

Special thanks go out to Tom Stringfellow who has traveled back and forth from Tyler numerous Saturdays to donate his time teaching this year. The last couple of Saturdays some of our members with his help were able to create wire wrapped stone gifts in time for Christmas. Tom recommends the following books on wire wrapping. Wirework by Dale Cougar Armstrong, and Jewery Studio Wire Wrapping by Linda Chandler & Christine Ritchey.

Upcoming Classes

Chainmalle' – Jan 14 & 15 fee \$85

Introduction to the Metal Clays – Feb 18 & 19 fee \$165

Chasing & Repousse' – April 15 & 16 fee \$100

Information

Volcano Yields Gold

Volcanoes ordinarily produce a molten material called magma and a nasty concoction of hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric and other deadly gases. At Galeras, an active volcano in Colombia, gold is being produced. When it's erupting, Galeras also exhales through its vents a pound of gold into the air each day. Furthermore, the volcano formed a vein of quartz containing gold. The high-grade vein yields about eight ounces of gold per ton. Although gold has been found in other volcanoes, Galeras yields about 100 times more gold than any other active volcano.

The gold-bearing vein at the base of the 14,000 foot volcano was discovered when a guide showed it to a scientist. A sample of the vein was dated and found to be about 560,000 years old. This suggests Galeras has been expelling gold since it's beginning. The gold is in solution in the volcano's gases and cannot be collected.

Galeras is active — in 1933 it killed nine people, six of them earth scientists, during a deadly eruption. Access has been restricted, but geologists continue to study Galeras because they have the opportunity to see an actual model of gold ores being emplaced in rock.

(Original source unknown via *Rockatier 12 99* via
THE GLACIAL DRIFTER 10/00)
Via T-Town Rockhounds 10/01

Member Crafts



Dragon with Shark Teeth claws and teeth created by member Sarah Wallace

Fossil Class Field Trip



John Autry



Malcolm Moore



Lauren Brown



Mineral Wells roadcut