

THE ROCK RATTLER

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THE ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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Presidents Message

Hope everyone is doing ok. The heat is on, so if your out rockhounding, hydrate and be smart. Don't forget to bring your examples of a show pin for this year's show and remember the theme this year is Dinosaurs. Tom is back so let's play at the shop Saturdays 10-6ish and I'm there 1st/3rd Thursdays 5:30-7:30. Our saw shop still needs insulation put up, AC units installed, so please come and help. Our show is only a couple months away so think about where you want to work. See you at the meeting

Minutes for 5/2/17

- Called to order by Antony Thomas with prayer and salute to flag
- John gave financial statement
- Del has requested that we locate more dealers. Suggested members make contact with people as we go to shows.
- Show theme will be dinosaurs. Tony asked everyone to submit a design for the show pin. A dinosaur needs to be included in the design
- May field trip to Texas ranches has been cancelled. Will reschedule to October.
- Need help at shop to break down shelves, going through material and to install insulation in saw shop.
- Tom gave update on classes. Chasing and Reposse on May 27, 28. Fee is \$125. Metal Clay class on July 15, 16. Fee is \$165.
- Tom will be at shop from 9-6 on Sat.
- Tony will be at shop 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 5:30-7:30
- Presentation was on Intro to Geocaching

NEXT MEETING: June 6th !!

Historical Center

Location:

2206 Beckett Street (318) 746-7717

Bossier City , LA 71111

See map: [Google Maps](#)

Gathering 5:30pm Board meeting 6:00pm Meeting starts 6:30pm

Refreshments by: Sarah Wallace

Door Prizes by : Sue Autry

Program : Meteorites – How to Identify

Upcoming Classes :

**INTRODUCTION TO METAL CLAYS – July 15 & 16 Fee
\$165**



Class fees must be paid at least 14 Days before classes.
For information call 903-839-6744 and make checks payable to:
Tom Stringfellow
168 address 16856 Cardinal Lane
Troup, Tx 75789

Shows

Aug. 19-20

BOSSIER CITY, LA – The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society will host their 43rd Annual Gem and Mineral Show, , at Bossier Civic Center in Bossier City. Hours of operation are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 19 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 20. Admission is \$4 daily. Admission is free for children under 6 years of age. Parking is free at Bossier Civic Center and refreshments will be available for purchase. Vendors at the show will be selling custom and unique jewelry, gems and minerals including amethysts, emeralds, jade, pearls, fossils and more. Educational programs will include: exhibits by society members; demonstrations on how to convert a rough mineral into a piece of wearable or displayable jewelry or art; making cabochons from rough slabs; a step-by-step guide to the process of faceting; how-to instruction on the use of equipment; presentations on “knapping,” the ancient art of arrow-head making, and more. There will be a kids’ scavenger hunt on Saturday with prizes for the first 60 participants. Door prizes will be awarded hourly throughout the event.

For more information, visit the Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society website at www.larockclub.com or call Del Glasner, show chairman, at (318) 517-7372.

November 10-12 Humble, TX South Central Federation of Mineral Society’s Annual Show hosted by The Houston Gem and Mineral Society

Field Trip: North Sulphur River, East of Dallas Texas (**Water level permitting**)
Sat .June 10 distance 180 Miles 3hrs, Carpool leaving at Bossier Central Library parking lot at 7:00am. Trip Leader Del Glasner 318-517-7372
10:00am Arrival

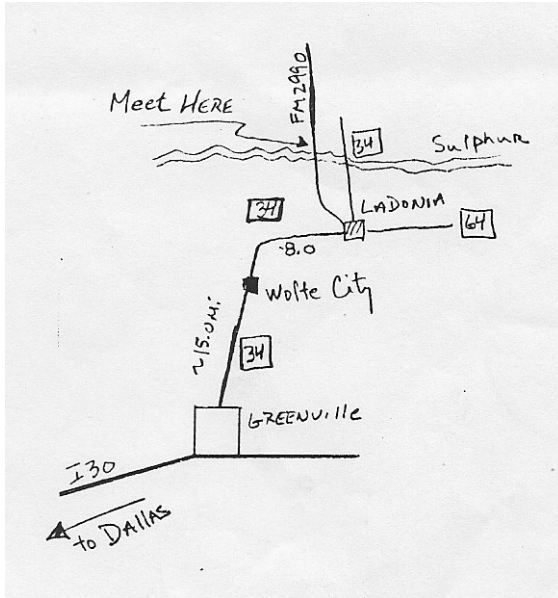
Stop 1-North of Ladonia where FM 2990 crosses the North Sulphur River. Another stop may be possible.

(Park on North west side of bridge and walk down) Most of the time is it dry or with little water but pull up the water gauge on-line and check. Hard bottom but beware of flash floods. Where shoes you do not mind getting wet and a hat. Bring drinking water.

It consists of artificial outcrops made by a WPA project that cut a real channel for the Peace River. The rock is upper Cretaceous, the Ozan Member of the Taylor formation. It contains mosasaur vertebra and teeth, shark teeth, and parts from many fish including a huge, big-toothed fish named *Xiphactinus*

Ref material : Fossil Sharks and Rays from the Cretaceous of Texas

By Bruce J. Welton, Phd, Roger F. Farish



Check this website for the river level for the **North Sulphur** River

<http://water.weather...1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1>

This river **gauge** is at the Hwy 24 bridge area.

Map

Tips:

Opal Gemstone Jewelry Care and Cleaning

Opals are delicate gemstones. Their most significant weakness has to do with their water content. If an opal is allowed to dry, it will crack and fade. If you live in a very dry climate, or keep them in a dehumidified room, some precautions are necessary. Keeping them in a tight plastic bag, with a damp piece of cotton or fabric will prevent dehydration. Because of their water content, opals are also highly sensitive to sudden changes in temperature.



Being somewhat soft, opals scratch easily. It is important to realize that a large component of ordinary dust is quartz at 7 (Mohs scale) in hardness. At 5.5 to 6 in hardness, simply wiping the dust off an opal will gradually reduce its polish. The solution is to clean your opals using a soft cloth and only mild soap or detergent if needed. Do not use harsh chemical or cleaners and avoid ultrasonic cleaners and steamers. Always remove opal jewelry before engaging in vigorous physical activity.

INFO : Arklatex Volcanoes - Jackson Volcano is an **extinct volcano** 2900 feet (884 meters) beneath the city of **Jackson, Mississippi**, under the **Mississippi Coliseum**. The uplifted terrain around the volcano forms the **Jackson Dome**, an area of dense rock clearly noticeable in local gravity measurements.^[1] E.W. Hilgard published his theory



of an [anticline](#) beneath Jackson in 1860 due to his observations of surface strata.^[2]
^[3]The dome contains relatively pure carbon dioxide which is used in oil production in Gulf Coast oil fields.^[4] The [noble gas](#) data suggests mantle origins with a date of 70 million years for the Jackson Dome [intrusion](#).^[5] Geologists have evidence of repeated uplifts accompanied by dike intrusions and volcanic extrusions, erosion, and sedimentation with one coral reef having developed during a submergence. Much of the oil at the crest of the dome volatilized during a late uplift, but oil production wells numbered over a hundred in 1934.^[6] Jackson Volcano is believed to have been extinct for at least 66 million years.^[7] A hypothesis states that the Jackson Volcano and related igneous activity in Mississippi were a result of the [North America Plate's](#) passage over the [Bermuda hotspot](#) 66 million years ago.^[8] Alternatively, the volcanism may have been part of a worldwide eruption driven by [superplumes](#), similar to the conditions that created the [Deccan Traps](#) and the [Siberian Traps](#).^[1]
Pilot Knob is the eroded core of an [extinct volcano](#) located 8 miles (13 km) south of central [Austin, Texas](#), near [Austin-Bergstrom International Airport](#) and [McKinney Falls State Park](#).^[1]

Kilbourne Hole is a [maar](#) volcanic crater, located 30 miles (48 km) west of the [Franklin Mountains](#) of [El Paso, Texas](#), in the [Potrillo volcanic field](#) of [Doña Ana County, New Mexico](#). Another maar, Hunt's Hole, lies just two miles south of Kilbourne Hole. These holes are rare examples of volcanic action without a mountainous rim.

The theory of maar formation is that rising magma super-heats water-saturated earth, far enough below the surface that a high pressure can be contained. At some point, the pressure is too much, and a steam explosion occurs, throwing the earth out in a catastrophic event.^[1] [Country rocks](#) are fragmented and expelled in the atmosphere (together with fragments of the [magma](#)), eventually creating a deep crater, the bottom of which sits below the pre-eruptive ground surface.

Estimates of the age of the crater vary from about 24,000 to about 80,000 years.^{[2][3][4]}

The volcanic features around El Paso and vicinity are part of the [Potrillo volcanic field](#), in the [Rio Grande rift](#), which extends northward into [Colorado](#).^{edit}

- Latitude/Longitude:  [31°58'19"N 106°57'53"W](#)Coordinates:  [31°58'19"N 106°57'53"W](#)
- Elevation: 4,239 feet (1,292 m)
- Crater diameter: 1.5x2.1 miles (2.4x3.4 km)
- Depth: 443 feet (135 m)

The hole is over a mile wide, and over 300 feet (91 m) deep, with crumbling [basalt](#) cliffs all around except at the southwest corner. The basalt cliffs resemble the cliffs of the [Devils Postpile National Monument](#) near [Yosemite National Park](#), with the characteristic reddish purple hexagonal columns, except that they are not as tall. The cliffs are about 40 feet (12 m) high. [Lava](#) chunks exist in abundance. The basalt column fragments are each larger than a person.

Hunt's Hole is a little smaller, with basalt cliffs only at the northeast and southeast sides of the crater. Layers of ashfall and crumbling [sediment](#) also rise about 40 feet (12 m) high, on the south rim of the crater. This ashfall section on the south rim will not support a person's weight; it is safer to stay on the basalt cliffs and the sand dunes. Sand dunes have collected on the east sides of the both craters, rising about 100 feet (30 m) above the desert floor.

A dry lakebed lies on the floor of each crater.

Green [peridot](#) crystals occur in the lava.

[Apollo astronauts](#) trained in these craters in 1969.

Further north is the Murfreesboro, Arkansas Volcano. And then, there's a buried volcano at the *mouth of the Mississippi River* called the Door Point Volcano.

Member Photos

Field Trip to Sweet Surrender Mine, Arkansas







Larry's Craft



Tony's Craft



Lynn's Craft



Websites to look at:

- **[Petrified Forest National Park](#)** near Holbrook, Arizona
- **[Petrified Palm Deposits](#)** in the Catahoula Formation of Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi
- **[Ginkgo Petrified Forest](#)** near Wanapum Reservoir, Washington
- **[The Petrified Forest](#)** near Calistoga, California
- **[Mississippi Petrified Forest](#)** near Flora, Mississippi
- **[The Gilboa Fossils](#)** near Gilboa, New York
- **[Florissant Fossil Beds](#)** near Florissant, Colorado
- **[Gallatin Petrified Forest](#)** near Yellowstone, Wyoming
- **[Escalante Petrified Forest State Park](#)** near Escalante, Utah
- **[Petrified Wood Park](#)** in Lemmon, South Dakota (a rock sculpture park - some made of local petrified wood)

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