



The Rock Rattler

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March, 2013

Presidents Message

We have moved out of our classroom and will be looking in earnest for a place to buy or rent at a lot less cost to save towards our own place. Classes will continue to be available at various locations. You do not have to be a member to take them. So sign up for a class and invite a friend.

Sue Autry is a real trouper; she supervised the move out of the classroom with a great smile even though her medical treatments slowed her down. She has consented to move some of her hobby shop around to allow some Cabochon classes to take place in her shop in Haughton.

Tom is responsible for arranging all the great classes we've had and teaching a few. He is good at coaxing out our hidden talents. We wish him good luck and hope he comes back to us soon. New nickname might be "Timex".

Tony our field Trip Chairman has a Great list of field trips lined up for us. So come to the meetings or read the newsletter about these trips. We encourage carpooling.

Be thinking about entering a display in our upcoming show. Signup sheets will be available for competitive and non-competitive display cases. Because this will be a federation show, judges will be handing out ribbons.

Del Glasner

Next Meeting

When: March 5, 2013
Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: Bossier City Library
 Historical Building
 Bossier City, La
Program: Vertebrate Fossils

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Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society

Minutes of Meeting February 6, 2013

Opening: Del Glasner

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Old Business:

- Treasurer's Report
- Dues is due immediately
- Federation Show update
 - Show Committee Meeting will be 9 am on Feb 23, 2013 at the class room

New Business:

- Purchased a collection of rocks, machines, geodes and other misc items from the family of Charles Hoke
- South Highlands Elementary will have a Show and Tell hosted by Wil House
- The class room and storage facility will be closed as of March 15 to save money to purchase a facility to move into as soon as possible
- Field trip on Feb 16 to Midlothian. Meet at Library at 4:30 am.
- Lavette from Shreve Memorial library would like to invite anyone interested to speak to teens about what AGMS represents.

Members in Attendance – Thomas Caughlin, Clarece Caughlin, Sharron Thomas, Antony Thomas, Del Glasner, John Autry, Sue Autry, Theresa Crawford, Susan Fortenberry, Adriene Abraham, Linda Leedom, Edna House, Dwain Spillman, Wil House, Dave Lowe, Gwynne Lowe, Marjorie Thomas, Jerry Thomas, Leland White, Jeannette White, ME Lee, Cyndee Collins, Keith Tindall, Lyn Simms, Levette Fuller, Bill Stevenson, Milton Bealdroe

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

Class Dates



Saturday and Sunday – March 16, 17, 2013 – Chasing and Repousse'.
Instructors – Tom Stringfellow and Antony Thomas. 2 day Class. Fee \$190.
Due to the health of the instructor and time issues, this class will be rescheduled. At this time Tony is not ready to teach this class by himself.

Saturday – April 20, 2013 – Shell Carving. Instructor – Del Glasner. 1 day Class. Fee \$100.

Saturday – June 9, 2013 – Introduction to Flame Worked Beads. Instructor – Tom Stringfellow. 1 day Class. Fee \$100.

Saturday and Sunday – July 13, 14, 2013 – Etching. Instructor – Tom Stringfellow. 2 day Class. Fee \$140.

tips and tricks

SIMPLE FLUX BRUSH HOLDER - February '13

For those of us who are constantly misplacing our flux brush... Take a 2" length of a plastic drink straw and cut it in half lengthwise. Next, take a hot glue gun and attach the straw trough to the lid of your flux tub. This provides a handy place to park your flux brush while keeping your bench top clean and your flux uncontaminated.

SAWING ON THE DOUBLE - January '13

When you need to saw two or more pieces of metal the exact same shape, place a drop of superglue to the clean surfaces of the metal. Glue the metal pieces together, wait for the glue to set. Trace the pattern onto the top metal and saw out the shape. Do not saw through the glue or your blade may get stuck and break. When sawing is completed, heat the metal with your torch flame and the glue will release.

SOLDER SNIPS ORGANIZER - November '11

To avoid wasting solder, save your extra snipped pieces in a porcelain daisy paint mixing tray with multiple sections. Use a Sharpie to mark each section with the solder type (Hard, Medium, Easy) and keep the snipped pieces in the appropriate section. No more waste, the solder is easy to see, and you can use the extra sections to hold small components. You can even use a section to hold a drop of flux to dip your solder bits in before using them. http://www.contenti.com/resources/tips/index.html?utm_source=Contenti+eNewsletter&utm_campaign=63ca7f6ca1-October_eNewsletter_3%2Bstars&utm_medium=email

Upcoming Show Dates

March

9—*BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA*: Rockin' at the Swamp Festival; Recreation and Parks Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge; Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center; 10503 N. Oak Hills Pkwy.; Sat. 9-4; adults \$5, children \$4; rocks, gemstones, minerals, fossils, gemstone identification card project, pyrite collecting, 10 dealers, gemstone jewelry, stoneware, mineral specimens, rock-related gift items, stone-tool demonstrations, crafts, rock climbing wall, fossil quarry; contact Claire Coco, BSNC, 10503 N. Oak Hills Pkwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 757-8905; e-mail: ccoco@brec.org; Web site: www.brec.org/swamp

16-17—*SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS*: Annual show; Southwest Gem & Mineral Society; San Antonio Event Center; 8111 Meadow Leaf Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, seniors and military \$3, students \$2, children \$1; minerals, fossils, jewelry, gemstones, club exhibits, silent auction, children's games, hourly and grand door prizes; contact Robert Bowie, TX 78133, (210) 287-5233; e-mail: krbotx@gvtc.com; Web site: www.swgemandmineral.org

April

13-14—*ABILENE, TEXAS*: Annual show; Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Abilene Civic Center; N. 6th and Pine St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children \$1.50; contact Linda Walker, PO Box 206, Hawley, TX 79525, (325) 537-4557; e-mail: linewalk@juno.com

20-21—*JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI*: Show and sale; Greater Southern Gem & Jewelry Shows; Mississippi Trade Mart; 1207 Mississippi St., Mississippi Fairgrounds; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, children (under 6) free; dealers, demonstrations, opals, Ethiopian opal, Oregon sunstone, loose and mounted gemstones, minerals, fossils, jewelry, precious stones, rare stones, rough rocks, coins, discounted gold and silver, jewelry repair, stone setting, ring sizing, gold and silver findings, tools, drawings, auctions, kids' and adults' panning, on-site gold and silver buying; contact Stan Bennett, 242 Faith Hill Dr., Ridgeland, MS 39157, (601) 898-0407

May

25-26—*FORT WORTH, TEXAS*: 62nd Annual Show; Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club; Amon Carter Exhibits Bldg., Will Rogers Memorial Center; 3401 W. Lancaster; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors, students and military \$4, children (under 16) free; "Timeless Treasures", more than 25 dealers, exhibits, kids' games, hourly door prizes, grand prize, silent auction; contact Steve Hilliard, PO Box 418, Decatur, TX 76234, (817) 925-5760; e-mail: fwgmc@embarqmail.com; Web site: fortworthgemandmineralclub.org

In Memoriam – Charlotte Harmon

Charlotte Harmon, wife of Keith Harmon, passed away February 26th. Many of us know Keith and Charlotte from local Gem and Mineral Shows, the Rollin' Rock Club, and the SCMFS. The funeral will be held at the Rock Hill Baptist Church between Chandler and Brownsboro Texas on Tuesday, March 5th at 3:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the AFMS Scholarship Fund (c/o Virginia Adian, 109 Katie Ct, Boerne, TX 78006 or the Hospice of East Texas Foundation, 4111 University Blvd, Tyler, TX 75701.

Field Trip Recap Midlothian, Texas February 2013

Members in Attendance: Antony Thomas, John Autry, Larry Maguire, Theresa Crawford.

After arriving right on time, our field trip leader, Roy, met us at the gate. After suiting up we proceeded to the plant. We spent over 4 hours digging for pyrite, mudstone and looked for sharks teeth. We came home with lots of material. Roy graciously has invited us back this year in September. Normally a group is not allowed back until a full year has passed. I think that between our professional attitude, respect for the property and our gift basket presented to Roy made the difference. I was invited to this plant 2 years ago by another club and the landscape between then and now has changed tremendously. The plant has an estimated 55 years of material. So if we are lucky there will be at least 55 more field trips. We are limited to 10 people so please let me know as early as possible for the trip in September.





Pyrite



Mudstone containing calcite



Pyrite





Larry's findings

Field Trips for 2013

Anyone planning to attend a field trip must notify field trip coordinator if 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.

April 6, 2013 – Arkansas for crystals. Updates to follow

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

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

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

August 24, 2013 – Jasper Gem & Mineral Society show

September 2013 – Midlothian Texas. Updates to follow

October 5, 2013 – Arlington Gem & Mineral Society show

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

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

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*****REMINDER*****

You annual dues is due immediately
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.

Arklatex Gem & Mineral Society

PO Box 6633

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