

THE ROCK RATTLER

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THE ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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Presidents Message - by Nina Hustus



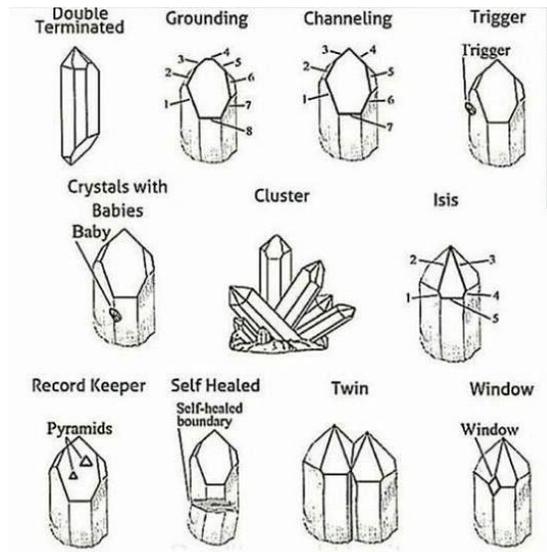
Our February 6th club meeting was a wonderful one! Thank you everyone who came. We had lots of new visitors and some new members, interesting programs and some great door prizes. Hopefully, you were able to make it. Our March meeting will be about rock identification and some of the free resources available. I am hoping the club members will come prepared to share their favorite web sites, face book pages or books that they rely on to provide rock identification. We will share with each other how we learned about rocks, where they come from, how they can be used in lapidary.....I look forward to seeing everyone March 6th (at the H L Aulds meeting room, 3950 Wayne Ave., Bossier City LA) and sharing our great love of gems and minerals.Thank you.

Minutes for 2/6/18 - by Secretary Lauren Brown (Wish her Good luck on the website contest)



Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Club Meeting Notes 02.06.18

- High School LA Regional Science Fair needs Judges
 - March 2 at BPCC
 - Grades 4 – 12
 - 5 Parishes in NW LA
 - Provide \$300 total - \$100 per division
- Board Meeting
 - Sun 18 @ 1:30pm
 - Johnny's Pizza
- Show Update - Del Glasner
 - Paid deposit for Civic Center for show
 - Bud (cabbing demo) & Bridget (Jim's wife) confirmed
 - 11 dealers confirmed so far
 - Couple of cancellations from last year
 - Usually have around 33 total
 - Will open to individuals in March for new dealers
- Class Info - Tom Stringfellow
 - Reticulation demonstration two weeks ago – Tom has copies of handouts
 - Classes have been revised
 - 7 people confirmed for wire wrap. Let Tom know if you want another one.
 - Sign-up now for stone setting (flush, tube, prong)
 - 4 students from beading class did a great job and brought work
 - Upcoming Feb 24 granulation demo
- Shop Updates - Laura McWilliams
 - Thanks to Lynn for cleaning cab machines and trim saw!
 - Thanks to John for heater
 - Thanks to Del for fixing pipes
 - Jan – oil added to large saw
 - Can someone help move oil to smaller containers to use more easily
 - Need new board for cabbing machine
 - Need dop wax – Tom will order
 - Be careful about mud – someone got stuck
- Welcome back Susanne! We are glad you are doing better.
- Rock of the month - Rose Quartz - Kathy Haney
 - About Rose Quartz by Potamic Bead Company - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mfkuiGkNQs>
- Types of Quartz Crystals Presentation - Bill Eeds



NEXT MEETING: "New Location"

Tuesday March 6 Meeting 6:30pm till 7:30 pm

Location for March meeting is **Shady Grove Library** (Aulds room) [3950 Wayne Ave, Bossier City](http://www.bossiercityla.gov/3950-Wayne-Ave-Bossier-City)
 Directions: Hwy 71 (Barksdale Blvd) 2.1 miles south of Barksdale West gate, turn left onto Shady Grove dr. and go down 7 streets to Wayne Ave. and turn left and follow to Library.

(Note: Library rules do not allow \$ to be collected in Library)



Program : – Gemological Institute of America, Inc.

Brought to you by the big burrito eater - VP Bill Eads



Member Spotlight:

Lyn Simms

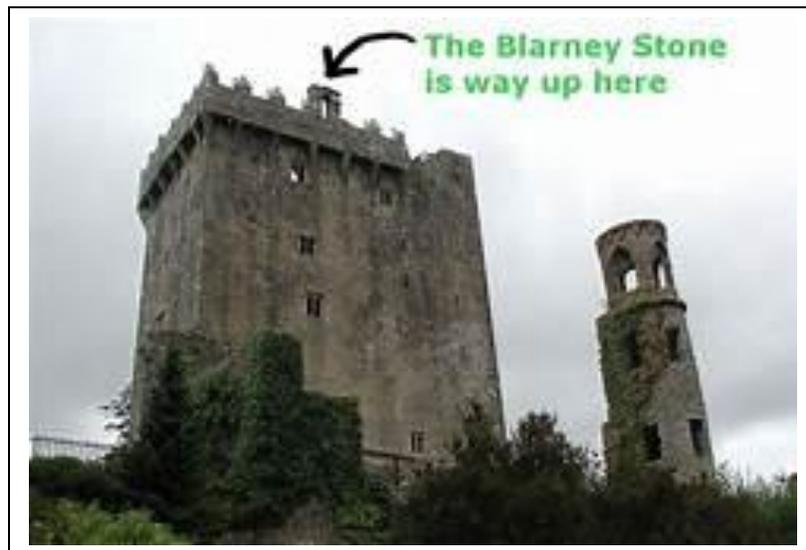


Member Profile Questions & Answers

1. ***Where were you born and raised?*** I was born and raised, to the age of 16, in Joliet, IL. My mother was a strong, stoic, German/French/English woman born in the Oklahoma Territory. My father was Swedish/ Norwegian raised in Wisconsin and Chicago.
2. ***What started your interest in rocks?*** Our Grandson Michael. He was always picking up rocks during our family motorcycle trips. We were active in motorcycle ministry and would ride all over Louisiana to attend and conduct Sunday services. Michael would pick up rocks and ask me, "Neena, is this one pretty?" And I started to find that some really were pretty! We soon found the Gem Show and joined the club. We began to learn about the, "joy of polishing rocks." Club member Bill Hart was my first teacher, and he infected me with his love of opals!
3. ***What was your favorite rock experience, rock adventure?*** This is a hard one to answer. Going to Quartzsite in January 2017 was so very exciting, but the long drive to/from. William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, GA! OH MY YES!!!! Five trips (2009, 2010, 2011, 2016 & 2017) to take opal cutting classes 4 times, cabochon class once, wire wrap once, and intarsia class once – LOVING EVERY SINGLE CLASS! Yep. Those were my favorite rock experiences, including the side trips to area mines, restaurants, and beautiful mountain sights.
4. ***Other than rockhounding and lapidary what are your other interests?*** Singing in my church choir, going on choir mission trips, occasional bus trips with my church Seniors groups, and watching TV shows on the History Channel and PBS.
5. ***The wisest thing anyone has ever told me was?*** No matter what, even if everyone else deserts you, Jesus never will.
6. ***I am happiest when ?*** Singing at church with AL.

Rock of the Month: - Kissing the Blarney Stone & rocks of Ireland

The **Blarney Stone** (Irish: *Cloch na Blarnan*) is a block of **Carboniferous limestone**^[1] built into the battlements of **Blarney Castle**, **Blarney**, about 8 kilometres (5 miles) from **Cork, Ireland**. According to legend, kissing the stone endows the kisser with *the gift of the gab* (great **eloquence** or skill at **flattery**). The stone was set into a tower of the castle in 1446. The castle is a popular tourist site in Ireland, attracting visitors from all over the world to kiss the stone and tour the castle and its gardens.



You have to lean over backwards to kiss it and don't fall.
Heellpp !



Someone said

"The only emeralds I found in Ireland was the emerald green eyes of some redheaded ladies"

Ireland rocks on the Web:

[http://www.johnbetts-
fineminerals.com/jhbnyc/mineralmuseum/gallery2.php?init=&loc=Ireland](http://www.johnbetts-fineminerals.com/jhbnyc/mineralmuseum/gallery2.php?init=&loc=Ireland)

Upcoming Classes & Demonstrations

Demos Sat. Feb 24 1:00 pm Argentium Silver and Granulation



Demos Sat. April 28 1:00 pm *Filigree Jewelry*



Demos Sat. May 26 1:00 pm Enameling



Link:

<http://larockclub.com/workshop/>

Classes:



Wire Wrapping

\$25 ~ 1 day ~ March 31, 2018

Instructor: Tom Stringfellow

Quick, Easy, Inexpensive; NO soldering needed. We will work in "NuGold" (Red Brass). Our first pieces will be pendants. Basic methods will be stressed. Further embellishment will be individual. Two excellent texts will be available and are recommended: [Wire Wrap](#) by Chandler & Ritchey and [Wirework](#) by Armstrong. All tools and supplies included. 4 - 6 students.



Stone Setting

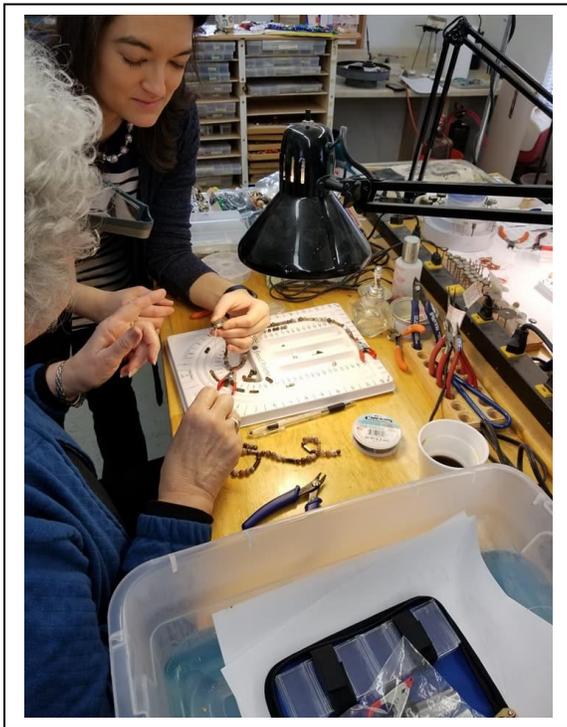
\$165 ~ 2 days ~ April 14 & 15, 2018

Instructor: Tom Stringfellow

Starting with prong set, we will initiate our adventures into stone setting! Then tube set, and finally flush set! We will not be making a piece, but learning how we can add faceted stones to your future work. All tools and supplies are included. Bring your binocular magnifying glasses, if you have them.

Member Photos

Bead Class





What happened to the one on the left ? Looks like it ate a green persimmon.



Shows

May -South Central Federation Show

5-6—LUBBOCK, TEXAS: Show and sale; Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society, Lubbock Memorial Civic Center; 1501 Mac Davis Lane; Sat. 10-06, Sun. 10-05; Adults \$4, Seniors \$3, Students \$2, Children Free; 60th Anniversary show; This

year the Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society is Hosting the South Central Federation Convention (SCFMS). Vendors with Jewelry, Loose Stones, Rough, Cabs, Slabs, Geodes, Beads, Gemstones, Mineral Specimens, Crystals, Fossils, Spheres, and Lapidary Tools. Hourly door prizes. Drawings for two grand prizes, one for Kids and one for Adults. Numerous display cases and large rocks in our "rocks you can touch" area! Our kid's area will have games and grab bags, and we will feature our new fluorescent tent with rocks that "glow in the dark". Proceeds support the LGMS (501(c)(3) organization), and scholarships in the Earth Sciences at Texas Tech.; contact Walt Beneze, PO Box 6371, Lubbock, TX 79493; e-mail: walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org; Web site: www.lubbockgemandmineral.org

26-27—FORT WORTH, TEXAS: Annual show; Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club, Will Rogers Memorial Center; 3401 West Lancaster; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Seniors/Students \$4, Children 16 and under free; Gem, mineral, fossil, bead & jewelry shop ; contact Janice Craddock, PO Box 123975, Fort Worth, TX 76116; e-mail: fwgmc.info@gmail.com; Web site: www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org

Aug

18-19—BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA: Annual show; Arklatex Gem & mineral Society, Bossier City Civic center; 620 Benton Rd, 2009 Chelsy Dr; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Admission \$4., Students free w/ I.D., Children free under 6 yrs; 44th annual show. Custom and unique Jewelry, Beads, Gems and Minerals, Fossils, 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. Educational exhibits, Free parking and refreshments will be available for purchase. ; contact Del Glasner, P.O. Box 6633, Bossier City, LA 71171-6633, 318-517-7372; e-mail: larockclub@gmail.com; Web site: larockclub.com

INFO :

Working with Bruneau Jasper ?

Bruneau jasper can be overheated in the sanding process causing "burned" areas. These areas can be removed by sanding them very carefully and lightly, using lots of water and taking precautions to avoid overheating them again. One of the results of the burned areas is the development of minute pits which have to be carefully sanded out of stone.

(Via: glacial Drifter and others)

QUARTZ JEWELRY STONES

By the Late Okley Davis June 2006

Quartz (silicon oxide) is one of the most common compounds. Overall, about 12 % of the earth's volume is quartz. It can be found in the obvious crystalline form, such as individual rock crystals, in almost every conceivable color, and weighing from a few carats to several hundred pounds. Clusters of individual crystals are also common. The crystals are hexagonal in shape, and have a hardness of 7 (which will scratch window glass). Some are so brilliant they may be mistaken as diamonds, (passed as real diamonds), or given such names as "Arkansas Diamonds", "Herkimer Diamonds", "Pecos Diamonds", etc.. In addition to the obvious crystalline forms, there are many microcrystalline forms, including agate, jasper, onyx, carnelian, chrysoprase, flint, chert, and many others. Let us look at a few of the common (mostly crystalline) types.

The most popular, and most expensive (though still costing around \$10 per carat for the better grades) are Amethyst, Citrine, and

Ametrine. Amethyst is the most popular and would be very expensive were it not so widely found. It is found in many places including Nambia, Brazil, Bolivia, and Russia. It takes on its lavender through purple color from manganese. The darker colors are the most desirable (and expensive), and are normally faceted. Lighter colored amethyst is often seen in the so called " cathedrals" or carved or cabbed. It is the state stone of South Carolina. In ancient times Amethyst was thought to quicken the wit, protect soldiers in battle, guard against contagious diseases, and bring peace of mind to wearers. Religious leaders believed it controlled evil thoughts and aided in ones spiritual development.

Citrine takes on its yellow to golden color from the presence of organic matter. Some natural Citrine is available, but is very expensive in over 10 carat sizes. Most citrine on the market is heat treated amethyst, or smoky quartz.

Ametrine is half Amethyst, and half Citrine. One side of the stone will be Amethyst in color; the other side is Citrine. It is found only in one mine in Bolivia. Though Amethyst, Citrine, and Ametrine are priced about the same, Ametrine might be the best investment because it is available from only one source.

Almost all of the remaining types for significant jewelry applications are much more reasonably priced than the big three, and are commonly used. In other applications - the crystalline forms especially - in wire wrapping. A good price for most crystalline forms would be \$ 1.50 per carat. The non-crystalline forms vary in price by both the size of the cab and the material. Chrysoprase will be the most expensive. Rare forms of quartz, such as gold quartz, picture quartz, etc. may cost hundreds of dollars per stone. In all, you can probably find 40 or more types identified by the name "quartz".

Rose quartz gets its coloration from small amounts of titanium. The ancients believed it promoted gentle healing. Dreaming about Rose quartz was supposed to announce the arrival of one's true love. Depending upon the grade, Rose quartz can be found faceted, cabbed, carved, or even as just plain "yard rocks".

Smoky quartz contains small amounts of organic material. It is sometimes confused as Smoky Topaz. Heat treated may be like heat treated Amethyst or Citrine.

Rutilated quartz contains titanium dioxide. The rutiles appear as random small needles in the faceted or cabbed stone. Golden needles (or sometimes fan like inclusions) are the most common. Other variations include red or silver colored needles. Tourmalinated quartz contains inclusions of various shapes of sodium aluminum borosilicate. Cats eye quartz, like other cats eye gems, contains asbestos fibers. The cats eyes appear in a milky colored microcrystalline form of quartz. Finished stones will be in cabochon form . Strawberry quartz stones will also be in cabochon form. It, too, will be a milky microcrystalline type, with tiny black or red inclusions that look like strawberries.

Chrysoprase - another form of microcrystalline form of quartz - gets its color from small amounts of nickel in the stone.
Quality

Chrysoprase is pale lemon-yellow in color, and is translucent to almost transparent. It makes a very attractive cab for pendants, bracelets, etc. It also makes attractive carvings. The best quality Tanzanian rough is costly - about \$100 per pound. A variant of the usual coloration is lemon chrysoprase: lemon in color, non-translucent, and containing surface inclusions.

Rock crystal quartz - the common colorless quartz - is attractive in itself, in either single crystals or cluster forms. Smaller crystals (for example the Herkimers) may be mounted in jewelry as is. Larger crystals are attractive in their native state, or mounted on unlighted or lighted stands. Books are available on the so designated metaphysical properties of quartz crystals. Quartz nodules may be sliced into slabs and epoxied onto thin slices of opal or other stones. The composite slab is then finished by using normal capping techniques. Prefinished cabs, in standard sizes, are also available.

A bit of trivia to conclude this paper. There are 12 stones of the zodiac; all but one are some form of quartz. Of the 12 recognized birth stones only one (Amethyst, for February) is quartz.

Louisiana Trivia

Louisiana State history began in 1528 when the area was settled by the Spanish from the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Louisiana was admitted into the Union on April 30, 1812 becoming the 18th state to join the Union.

The largest alligator ever recorded was found in Louisiana and measured 19 feet 2 inches

Louisiana is very wet it gets the average of 62.7 inches of rainfall per year!!

The Louisiana purchase was in 1803 from the French under the dictatorship of Napoleon Bonaparte for 15 million dollars.

Elevation ranges from 8 feet below to 535 above with an average elevation of 98 feet above sea level.

Why was Louisiana purchased ? Jefferson needed the New Orleans port for the people of the western frontier to transfer their products down the Mississippi River. Originally he offered to buy just New Orleans, but Napoleon offered all of the Louisiana Territory (in part to frustrate the designs of the British, who had taken Canada from France). The 1803 Louisiana Purchase nearly doubled the size of the US, and opened the way for westward expansion.

Websites to look at:

Meteorite Home Test

<http://meteorite-identification.com/streak.html>

Rockhounding Arkansas

<http://rockhoundingar.com/locations.php>

Officers for 2018:

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Show Chairman – Del Glasner

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