



The Rock Rattler

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May, 2012

President's Message

Not everything goes as planned. On a recent trip to scout out a possible field trip location, yours truly hiked a mile to the location but hiked 3 or 4 miles to find the way back. Just remember that a field trip with me may not be for faint of heart as Tony can testify. I am looking forward to a field trip to Mineral Wells, TX where you can collect on the side of the road and not get lost in the woods.

Del Glasner

Next Meeting

When: May 1, 2012, Tuesday
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: Bossier Parish Library
2600 Beckett
Bossier City, LA 71111
Program: Tumbling

FYI---for those of you that have not been to the classroom in a while. Come by and check out the changes. It is coming along nicely!!

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If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and want to have it emailed to you, email Sharron at adslthomas@gmail.com

Future Field Trips

May 5th, 2012

Length of trip: 1 day

Location: Ron Coleman's mine near Hot Springs Village Arkansas

Approx time of travel: 5-6 hrs

Departure time and location: 5:00 am from library

Items to look for: Quartz crystals, smoky quartz, phantom quartz

Children welcomed: yes

September 2012

Location: Open for suggestion

Disclaimer: Club and host are not responsible for injuries, items lost or stolen. So be on your toes, be patient and aware of your surroundings

Membership

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

Minutes For March 6, 2012 Meeting

Opening: Del Glasner

Pledge of Allegiance: Tom Stringfellow

Prayer: Al Simms

Old Business:

- Treasurer's Report – John Autry
 - Checking Account and CD is great shape. (Specific amounts withheld from published newsletter)
- Show Report – Charlie Johns
 - Discussion on availability of digital billboards.
 - Ad to run in Shreveport Times Prevue on Friday before the Gem Show
 - 12 out of the 24 invited dealers have returned their reservations for the show.
 - Civic Center Deposit has been made
 - Notice has been sent to Rock & Gem Magazine

New Business:

- Classes
 - May 12 – Carving Class, Saturday \$100.00 registration fee
 - May 19 – PMC Makeup Class, \$125.00 registration fee
- Motion made by Tom, seconded by Al to purchase a Paragon SC-2 Kiln with accessories for the classroom. Current kiln is not programmable which creates problems with firing PMC products. Motion passed
- Field Trip
 - To Little Rock Swap Meet on April 14, 2012. Meet at the Bossier History Library.

Program:

Larry Maguire discussed different techniques of faceting and showed several faceted stones. Also gave information about faceting terminology.

Adjournment:

Upcoming CLASS Info

May 12, Saturday: Shell Carving Class with Del. There is still room for a student or two. Only \$100.

THIS is a rare opportunity! In all my years taking classes, I never had the opportunity to learn shell carving, cameo-making, etc. DON'T MISS THIS!!! It should be GREAT fun.

May 19 & 20, Saturday & Sunday: Introduction To The Metal Clays with Tom. Still room for one student.

Only \$125 for the two day class.

June 2 & 3, Saturday & Sunday: Metal Clay Play Day !!! 9-5 Saturday, 10-5 Sunday. We'll try out our new programmable kiln!! Tom will bring his stamps plus new ones he recently added. There will be a supply of Fast Fire Bronze Clay and PMC+ available for sale at cost. You may also order what you want from Metal Clay Supply.com, RioGrande.com, or Cool Tolls.com. NO charge, except the usual \$5 shop fee, daily. YES, visitors ARE welcome.

May Birthstone: Emerald

Spring is a time of new growth and rebirth. And the intense brilliant green of the Emerald, May's birthstone, is as refreshing to the eyes as a spring garden after a rain. Within its depths are often tiny fractures or inclusions, which the French call "jardin," or garden, because of their resemblance to foliage. The Egyptians were known to engrave Emeralds with the symbol for foliage to represent eternal youth, and to bury these jewels with their dead. The ancient Romans associated this gemstone with fertility and rebirth, and dedicated it to Venus, the goddess of love and beauty.

The Ancient Egyptians mined Emeralds in the eastern desert region 2,000 years before Cleopatra's birth, braving extreme heat, scorpions and snakes to search for the beautiful crystals. During Cleopatra's reign, she claimed the Emerald mines as her own, as this was her favorite gem. She often wore lavish Emerald jewelry, and it is said that she bestowed visiting dignitaries with large Emeralds carved with her likeness when they departed Egypt.



In the sixteenth century, the Spanish Conquistadors were amazed to find the native people wearing Emeralds larger and more magnificent than any they had ever seen. Although the natives attempted to hide their Emerald mines, the Spaniards soon discovered and conquered most of them. But it took twenty years before they found the abundant mining operation held by the Muzo Indians, and another thirty years to overtake this aggressive tribe. The Muzo mine was in the area known today as Colombia, and it remains the source of the most prized Emerald specimens. Other sources of Emeralds are Brazil, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Madagascar, Nigeria, and Russia.



The Emerald is a member of the beryl family of minerals. The green crystals grow slowly within metamorphic rocks and are restricted in size by the rock, making large Emeralds rare and costly. Although this gemstone is relatively hard and durable, it must be protected from blows because the inclusions found within make it susceptible to breaking.

Some people believe that wearing an Emerald brings wisdom, growth, and patience. And as any couple in a long-term relationship would agree, all of these qualities are essential for a successful and lasting love. This may explain why a gift of Emerald for an anniversary -- or anytime -- is considered symbolic of love and fidelity.

<http://www.about-birthstones.com/maybirthstone.html>

http://www.google.com/imgres?hl=en&sa=X&biw=990&bih=624&tbn=isch&prmd=imvns&tbnid=dydR8nqD4IC_BM:&imgrefurl=http://earthsky.org/earth/may-birthstone-emerald&docid=JwAMjdu6m89q-M&imgurl=http://earthsky.org/wp-content/gallery/may-birthstones/05_may_birthstone1.jpg&w=432&h=600&ei=GIWdTG6HND-IV2wWU3bCgDw&zoom=1&iact=rc&dur=172&sig=113368220921413237903&page=1&tbnh=133&tbnw=98&start=0&ndsp=16&ved=1t:429,r:5,s:0,i:81&tx=56&ty=24

<http://earthsky.org/earth/may-birthstone-emerald>

<http://urbanjewelers.biz/may-birthstone>

Upcoming Shows

May

4-6 --- Fort Smith, AR--- Wholesale and retail show ; Phoenix Expo Trade & Event Center, 4600 Towson Ave. Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Adults \$7, Children (11 and under) free. Jewelry, gems, beads, crystals, silver, rocks, minerals. www.gemfaire.com

26-27 --- Fort Worth, TX--- 61st annual show, "Nature's Treasures", Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club; Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 W. Lancaster; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$5, seniors and students \$4; military in uniform and children (under 16) free.
www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org

June/July

29-1 --- Grapevine, TX--- Wholesale and retail show; EGI Shows; Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St.; Fri 11-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5, free admission; beads, silver jewelry, minerals, fine jewelry

The rock shop is open on Thursdays for all members to work independently on their personal projects.

Please call Del or Tony to make sure one of them will be in attendance.

If you would like to submit material to be included in the monthly newsletter, please email information to Sharron at adslthomas@gmail.com

ArkLaTex Gem & Mineral Society 2012 Officers

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Arklatex Gem & Mineral Society

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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.