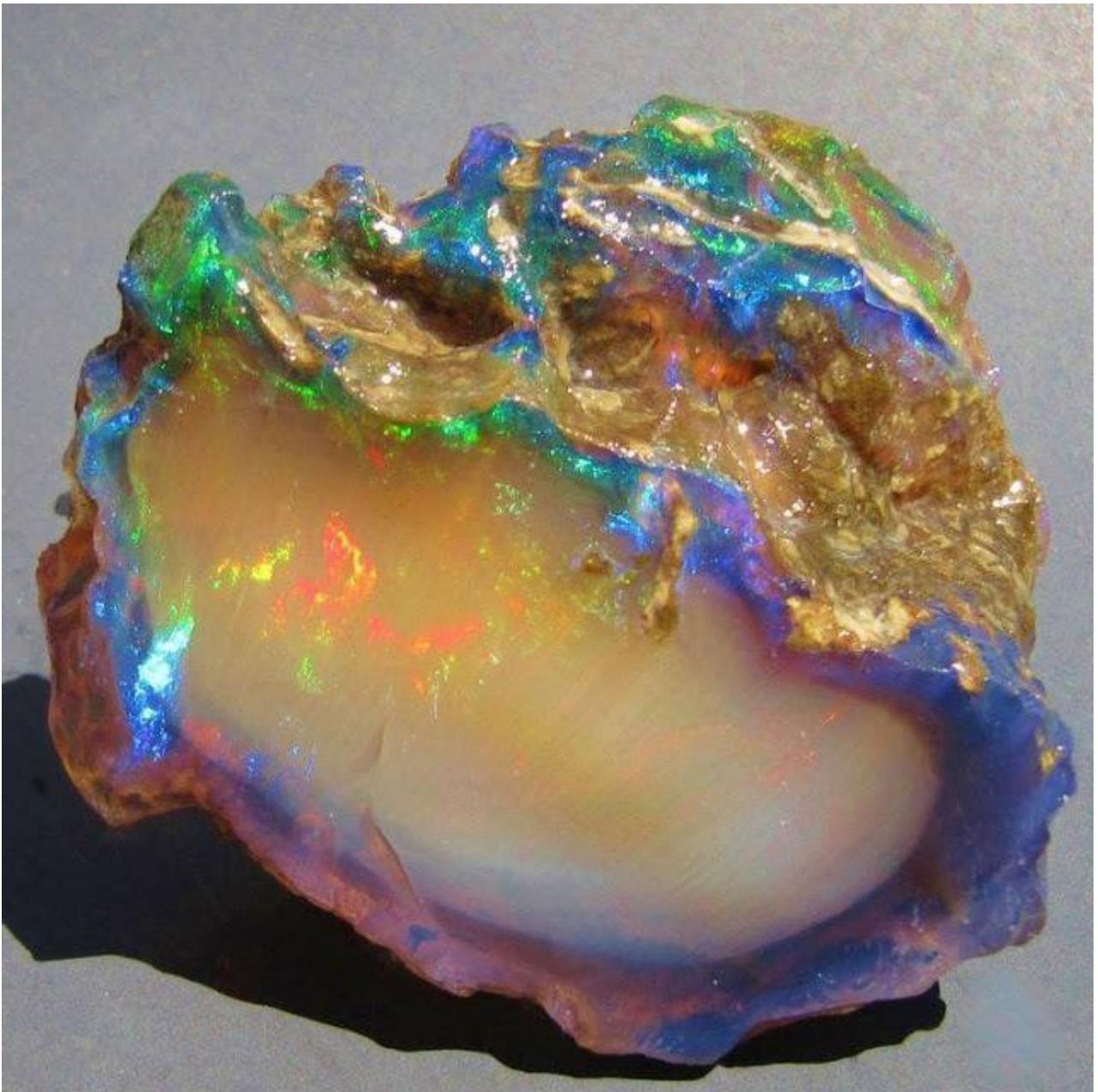


THE ROCK RATTLER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
THE ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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Virgin Valley NV Opalized Petrified Wood

Presidents Message - by Nina Hustus



October is right around the corner. And with October comes a very important time for our gem and mineral club. Nominations for officers and board members. This is a time for all members to think about what they can do to help make this the best club ever. Maybe you are able to serve on the board or even run for an office. So please think of nominations you might want to make or if you want to volunteer your services to the club as a board member or an officer for a year.

I can not believe our reservations are made for the Christmas dinner and auction meeting! This is an event I always look forward to. We have a chance to sit and talk with fellow members, enjoy a good meal together and, hopefully bring home some auction goodies. As usual, the dinner will be held in December, on the first Tuesday of the month, December 4th. This year it will again be held at Country Tavern restaurant, located in the auto mall area off Bert Kouns. So plan to be there.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday Oct 2

Meeting 6:30pm till 7:30 pm

Location for meeting is [Aulds Branch Library 3950 Wayne Ave, Bossier City](#)

Directions: Hwy 71 (Barksdale Blvd) 2.1 miles south of Barksdale West gate, turn left at (McDonalds) onto Shady Grove dr. and go down 7 streets to Wayne Ave. and turn left and follow to Library.

Program : The program will be provided by Bill Eeds and will be on **"Petrified Wood from the Colorado Area."**



Rock of the Month: **"Scary Rocks"** (for Halloween - rocks that are poisonous or have arsenic.) If you have some, please bring for show (no touching)

"Realgar" shown below



© Dakota Matrix

Member Spotlight

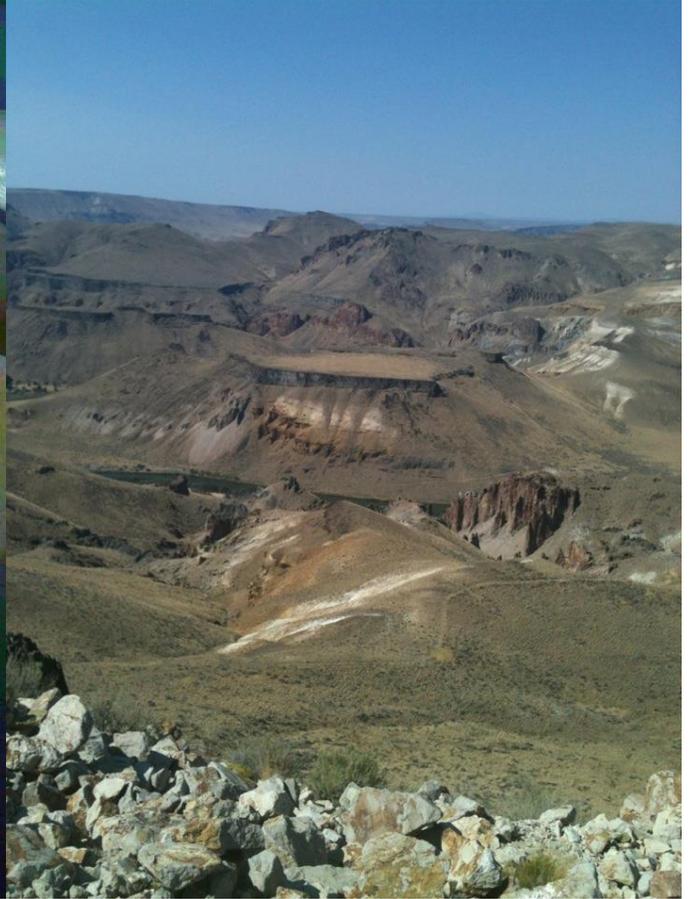


Grant Swanson

1. Where were you born and raised?
I was born in Detroit, Michigan.
2. What started your interest in rocks?
When I began breaking the rocks in two, when I was 5 years old.
3. What was your favorite rock experience, rock adventure?
Watching the quartz crystals sparkle, just after a rain storm at the mine.
4. Other than rockhounding and lapidary what are your other interests?
Music, woodworking and gardening
5. The wisest thing anyone has ever told me was?
Nobody knows you're a fool until you open your mouth and tell them.
6. I am happiest when _____?
I have liberty!

Member Photos

Larry's creations and standing at the Morrisonite location



Jerry Miculek & Michael Clark at the Gun show



Del's Rock collection (just kidding)



Butterfly's and rocks



Shows October

October

12-14—MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd; Fri. 8-6, Sat. 8-6, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission; Dealers from around the country, food, crystals, crystals and more crystals. Free Parking.; contact ChamberDirector, (870)-867 2723; Email: director@mountidachamber.com

13-14—TEMPLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society; Mayborn Civic and Convention Center, 3303 N. Third St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students \$3, children free; vendors with rocks, slabs, minerals, geodes, cabochons, and fine jewelry, demos of wire-wrapping, cabochon making, and gold panning, touch table of large rock specimens, silent auctions, hourly door prizes and grand prize raffles, kids' treasure wheel, grab bags, where to rock hunt in Texas, fluorescent rocks and

minerals, personal displays, cabochon contest; contact (Lols) Ruth Rolston, 106 Ottoway Drive, Temple, TX 76501, (254) 773-1039; Email: lrolston@hotmail.com

19-21—AUSTIN, TEXAS: Annual show; Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$8, seniors \$7, ages 13-18 \$2, ages 12 and under free; Theme: Copper Minerals, 30+ vendors of jewelry, beads, gemstones, minerals, crystals, fossils and spheres, exhibits (touch table of rocks and fossils, members' collections), silent auction, demonstrations of faceting, cabbing, fossil cleaning, and polymer clay, "Youth Education Day" Friday, field trips sponsored by Silicon Labs, Gem Mine, Wheel of Fortune, Jewelry Making, Illumination Station, hourly door prizes, grand prize; contact SabrenaWright, 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; Email: showchariman@austingemandmineral.org; Website: www.agms-tx.org

26-28—GLEN ROSE, TEXAS: Show and sale; Dallas Paleontological Society; Somervell County Expo Center, 202 Bo Biggs Blvd., Apt. 10208; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; free admission; contact MarkRandall, 2200 Uecker Drive, Apt. 10208, Lewisville, TX 75067, (469) 371-5309; Email: markrandall00@sbcglobal.net; Website: dallaspaleo.org

November

9-11—HUMBLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Houston Gem and Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults, Seniors, Children, Scouts; contact Scott Singleton, Show Chairman, 10805 Brooklet, Houston, TX 77099, (281) 530-0942; Email: show@hgms.org; Website: hgms.org

17-18—MESQUITE, TEXAS: Annual show; Dallas Gem & Mineral Society; Rodeo Center Exhibition Hall, 1800 Rodeo Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults, seniors and students \$8, family of 4 \$20, children \$4, Scouts in uniform free; door prizes, grand prize drawing, silent auction, fluorescent display, kids' area, demonstrations of wire wrapping, cabbing, knapping, gold panning, jewelry, slabs, rough, beads; contact DianaCase, PO Box 550395, Dallas, TX 75355, (469) 688-4057; Email: dgmscontracts@yahoo.com; Website: www.dallasgemandmineral.org

INFO

Agate found in the gravels of Louisiana is **no longer the state gemstone.**

Following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill when 665 miles of coastline were affected, the **eastern oyster** *Crassostrea virginica* is a **bivalve mollusk** with a hard **calcium-carbonaceous** shell in **cabochon** form was made the **state gem of Louisiana** in 2011. It is hoped the new gemstone would bring favorable attention to Louisiana's oyster industry that is struggling to rebound after the spill.

The eastern oyster, like all members of the family **Ostreidae**, can make small **pearls** to surround particles that enter the shell. These pearls, however, are insignificant in size and of no value; the **pearl oyster**, from which commercial pearls are harvested, is of a different **family**.



©Jody Diehl

Websites to look at:

Wood close up

<https://depositsmag.com/2018/07/05/images-of-cells-preserved-in-stone/>

LA state gemstone

<https://beachtreasuresandtreasurebeaches.com/tag/lapearlite/>

LA Gemstone Mining

<https://geology.com/gemstones/states/louisiana.shtml>

Kisatchie National forest Collecting

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/kisatchie/recreation/rocks-minerals>

Officers for 2018:

President – Nina Hustus pochance@bellsouth.net 318-464-2870 Shreveport, La

Vice President – Bill Eeds wceeds@me.com 303-859-5821 Springhill, La

Secretary -

Treasurer – John Autry john.autry451@gmail.com (318) 210-9416 Haughton, La

Board Member – Lyn Simms lyncsimms@gmail.com 318-865-2453 Shreveport, La

Board Member - Laura McWilliams laura.mcwilliams@outlook.com 318-212-8294 Doyline, La

Board Member - Tom Stringfellow TomString@aol.com 903-839-6744 Troup, Tx

Others:

Field Trip Coordinator – Tony Thomas

Head Shop Steward – Laura McWilliams

Show Chairman – Del Glasner

Newsletter Editor – Del Glasner

Send in photos of your craftwork or comments via email: lrockclub@gmail.com

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/ArkLaTexGemMineralSociety/>

Website - <http://lrockclub.com/>

Previous Meeting Notes- 9/4/2018 by Kathy Haney

Board Meeting

Board discussed possible show improvements to implement based on experiences from this current year's show. Board agreed to spend money as needed to upgrade-repair electric in shop per advice and information provided by Leland. John and Leland will coordinate to have electrician give club an estimate on making necessary upgrades.

Prayer was provided by Jerry Thomas

Treasures report - John Autry updated club on financial status of club after show.

Class & Demo - Tom Stringfellow provided information on upcoming classes

Shop Update – Laura McWilliams reports that shop has steward assigned and will be open every Saturday until December. Also have coverage on first Thursday of the month. Malcolm may be opening shop on Wednesdays as requested.

Field Trip - Tony is sick, scheduled field trip canceled until further notice.

New Business – Club members reminded of upcoming board and officer nominations at October meeting

Rock of the Month – Labradorite – presentation by Nina Hustus – discussion on how to cut it to capture Labradorescence

Program – The 10 Rarest Gems, presented by Lyn Simms. (An excellent program