



# The Rock Rattler

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**THE ARK-LA-TEX  
GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

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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.

From:  
ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL  
BOX 6633  
BOSSIER CITY, LA 7117-6633

The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society meets at 6:30 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at the:  
Bossier Parish History Center, 2006 Beckett St. Bossier City, LA 71111

# THE ROCK RATTLER

## President's Message

Dear Fellow Rockhounds,

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Please bring some Auction Donations to the Dec 7 meeting.

See you all at the Dec party. This will be our last meeting until Jan 4, 2011.

Dec meeting - we have reservations at Kelly's Place in Haughton for the December 7th Meeting and Christmas Party 6:30 pm

Our current slate of club officers and a new V.P. and board member have been requested to continue to serve this club for another year.

We hope to have some interesting programs at our meetings this coming year. We would like you to volunteer to make a 15 minute presentation of some aspect of your lapidary interest.

If you have an idea for a program, please let our new V.P. Duane Spillman know.

Each member has something to contribute to the club, and I am asking for volunteers to be responsible for the following committees:

Field trips, Membership, Education, Hospitality/Arrangements, Junior member Activities, Annual show, Publicity. Study Groups.

Del Glasner

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**Next Meeting:** Tuesday Dec 7, 2010

**Time:** 6:30 –9:00 PM

**Location:** Bossier Parish History Center,  
2006 Beckett St.  
Bossier City, LA 71111

**Program will be:** PMC (Precious metal clay) Jewelry making. If you have a example, bring it along.

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# THE ROCK RATTLER

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November 2, 2010  
Minutes of the General Meeting

**Called to Order** - President Del Glasner

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** – Charlie Johns

**Opening Prayer** - Al Simms

**Old Business:**

- Upcoming Classes
  - Wire Wrapping – Larry Maguire – Will be scheduled in early December (probably after the December meeting.
  - Silversmithing Class – Tom will not be available until after the holidays, Del has scheduled a class for November 27, 2010
  - Crystal Study Group – Geraldine Zelinsky, will schedule after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.
- Field Trip to Arkansas
  - Reported that all attended had a great time and found quite a few specimens on quartz crystals. Some members brought examples for display.

**New Business**

- Guest/new members Dianne Hendrix and husband
- Election of Officers
  - President – Del Glasner (Unopposed)
  - Vice President – Duane Spillman (Elected)
  - Secretary – Al Simms (Unopposed)
  - Treasurer – John Autry (Unopposed)
  - New Board Member – Lyn Simms (Elected)
- Next meeting, December 7<sup>th</sup> – Annual Christmas Party at Kelly's Place on Hwy 80 in Houghton at 6:30pm. We are scheduled for the private room.
- It was announced that long-time member, Jean Bauldree has passed away. Al will send card.
- It was decided during the Board Meeting prior to the Business Meeting that effective the first of the year a contribution of \$20.00 will be requested from those members that desire the newsletter to be mailed to them.
- South Central Federation of Mineralogy Society show to be held in conjunction with the DeRidder Show, December 11&12, 2010.

**Program**

Del presented a video on Rhodochrosite as found in the Sweet Home Mine near Alma, Colorado.

Motion for Adjournment made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Simms, Secretary

# THE ROCK RATTLER

## Christmas Party

I'd like to remind everyone about the Christmas Party !!! The dinner will be **Tuesday, 7 December at 6:30PM at Kelly's Place Seafood Restaurant** . 2950 Highway 80 E., Haughton, LA. All you can eat seafood buffet with catfish, fried and boiled shrimp, frog legs, stuffed crab, fried chicken. \$14.50 including drink and dessert. We need to let the restaurant know how many to expect so let me know how many you plan to bring . Bring your donation for a auction

Look forward to seeing you all there. Del Glasner 318-965-1989 or email [larockclub@gmail.com](mailto:larockclub@gmail.com)



# THE ROCK RATTLER

## EDUCATION

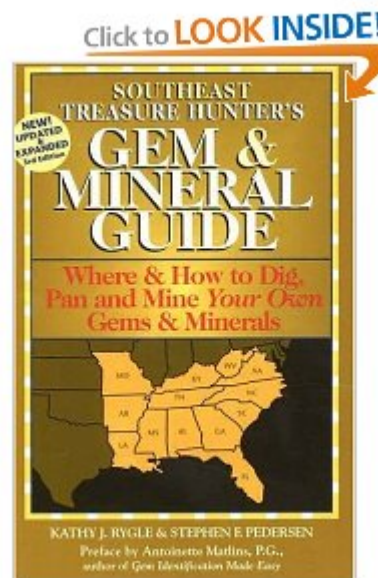
Try making a doublet of obsidian (translucent gray or black) and abalone. Use clear epoxy to glue the two pieces together, making sure the colorful side of the abalone is next to the obsidian. Grind off the bottom of the abalone to about 2 mm thick, which will be the bottom. Cut the doublet like you would a cabochon. Sand with 600 grit paper and polish with oxide on felt. The result will look like black opal.  
via Rocky Rose (The Backbenders Gazette, Houston

**Detecting Fractures:** A good way to tell how solid a slab is, heat it in hot water. The surface will dry immediately when removed from the water, but the fractures will still be filled with water and show up clearly. They can be marked with a pencil and used to orient your slab.

Little Gem1980 / Ghost Sheet 2010.

## BOOK NEWS

**Southeast Treasure Hunters Gem and Mineral Guide - Updated 3rd Edition.** The Southeast Volume includes: Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Each regional volume in the four-book Treasure Hunters Gem and Mineral Guide series offers state by state details on more than 250 gems and minerals that the United States has to offer, and the very affordable "fee dig" sites where they can be found. 177 pages ( Rygle and Pedersen )



## CLASSES to create Christmas Gifts

Sign-up is underway for Sat. November 27, 9:00am-4:00pm when we will have a Beginning Silversmithing Class. **Email – [larockclub@gmail.com](mailto:larockclub@gmail.com) if you would like to take this class by Nov 19.**

Description of the class as follows:

**Beginning Jewelry Making I:**

*One class, six hours.*

Beginning soldering and use of the metalsmith's torch. Familiarization and use of the flex shaft. We will make a bezel set stone jewelry piece in sterling silver. Materials

Cost: \$60.00 (Silver, Solder, a selected cabbed stone, or one of yours).

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## Find Photos



Del Glasner



Larry Maquire

## Up-Coming Shows:

(Nearby)

November 20 & 21<sup>st</sup>  
Dallas Gem and Mineral  
Society, starting at 10am till  
6pm on Saturday.  
Resistol Arena Exhibition  
Hall I-635 & Military Pkwy  
(Exit 4)  
Mesquite, Texas

Dec 11 & 12  
DeRidder, La  
Gem, Mineral & Fossil  
Show at the Exhibit Hall,  
located at the Beauregard  
Parish Fairgrounds,  
Hwy 171 North  
\$2.00 Donation - Children  
under 12 Admitted free  
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Jan 15-16, 2011  
FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS "Hill  
Country Gem & Mineral Show"  
Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird  
Johnson Municipal Park; Sat.  
9-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission

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## Year 2010 in Photos



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Treasurer John Autry 318-934-3319 [jdouglasa@hotmail.com](mailto:jdouglasa@hotmail.com)

Board of Directors consisting of Officers above and:

Member Bill Hart 318-746-8735 [mufasa35@bellsouth.net](mailto:mufasa35@bellsouth.net)

Member Tom Stringfellow 903-839-6744 [TomString@aol.com](mailto:TomString@aol.com)

Member Lyn Simms 318-865-2453 [lynsimms@gmail.com](mailto:lynsimms@gmail.com)

Classroom Location: University Storage  
1780 E. Bert Kouns Suite #806  
Shreveport, La  
(Just east of Hwy 1)

**Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society Website** [larockclub.com](http://larockclub.com)

**Updates:** See the Rock Rattler Downloads page for a new group of downloads called "Download How To Do It Plans".