



The Rock Rattler

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December 27, 2011

President's Message

Christmas party at the Catfish King was filled with great food, service that took good care of us and tolerated our Auction. It was nice seeing all of those that took the time out from shopping and family to come. Our auction was fun and we raised \$255.75 towards educating people about our hobby. Now with the New Year on us we can start thinking about our upcoming field trips and the new class demos. Lets also, in the coming year, share rocks and knowledge with some of the school science classes.

Let me know if you would like to donate.

Del Glasner

Next Meeting

When: January 3, 2012
Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: Bossier Parish History Center
2006 Beckett Street
Bossier City, LA 7111
Program: Tanzanite

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A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Future Field Trips

January 13th-15th, 2012

Due to the Hunting season in this area in Texas we have rescheduled this field to Llano.

Length of trip: 2 days (accommodations will be needed, so plan finances accordingly)

A van will be rented to help with transportation concerns

Field Trip Leader: Del Glasner

Location: Llano River and surrounding area

Approx time of travel: 10-11 hrs

Departure time and location: 9 pm on 1/13/2012 from Library

Items to look for: Llanite, chert, flint, pyrite, fossils, pet wood, artifacts, agates, jasper

Children welcome: yes



February 11th, 2012

Length of trip: 1 day

Location: Simpson/Toledo Bend area

Approx time of travel: 3hrs

Departure time and location: 6:00 am from library

Items to look for: palm wood, agate, artifacts, chert

Children welcomed: 12 and over due to rough terrain

March 17th, 2011

Length of trip: 1 day

Location: LaGrange, Tx and surrounding area (antique shop)

Approx time to travel: 6-7hrs

Departure time and location: 5:00 am from library

Items to look for: Agatized wood, agate, artifacts, amazing chert, flint, tektites

Children welcomed: 12 and over due to terrain

April 14th, 2012

Length of trip: 1 day

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

Approx time of travel: 4-5 hrs

Departure time and location: 5:00 am from library

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

Children welcomed: yes

May 5th & 6th, 2012

Length of trip: 2 days (the more participants the cheaper the accommodations)

Location: Georgetown Tx

Approx time of travel: 11 hrs

Departure time and location: 5:00 am from library

Items to look for: Palm wood, agate, chert, jasper, flint, artifacts

Children welcomed: yes

June 16th, 2012

Length of trip: 1 or 2 days

Location: Van Buren/Greenwood Arkansas

Approx time of travel: 6-7hrs

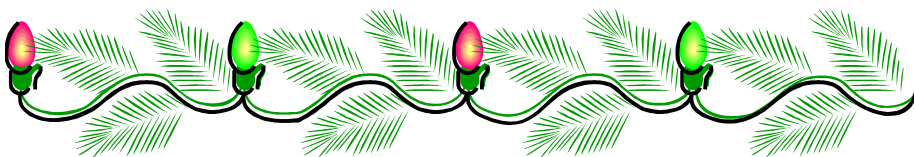
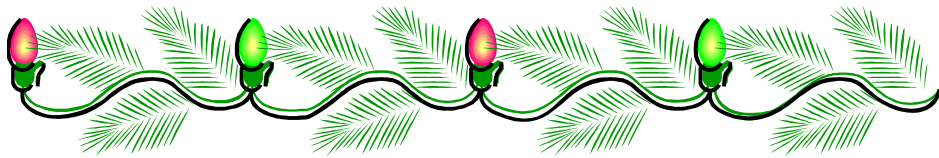
Departure time and location: 6:00 am from library

Items to look for: pet wood, river chert, river jasper, artifacts

Children welcomed: 14 and over due to terrain accommodations will be provided by host if we decide to stay for 2nd day

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

Pictures from our Annual Christmas Party
December 6, 2011
Kattfish King



Upcoming Shows

January 2012

27-29—TYLER, TEXAS: Annual show; East Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Rose Garden Center; 420 Rose Park Dr.; Fri. 9-5; adults \$3, students \$1, Scouts in uniform free; Grand Prize drawings, silent auction, Wheel of Fortune, show cases, 11 dealers, gemstones, jewelry, fossils, minerals, geodes, lapidary demonstrations, Rock Food Table

February 2012

11-12—RICHARDSON, TEXAS: Retail show; Rebekah Wills; Richardson Civic Center; 411 W. Arapaho; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; beads, pearls, findings, tools, books, wire, jewelry making supplies; contact Rebekah Wills, PO Box 494, Gilmer, TX 75644, (903) 734-3335; e-mail: rebekah@thebeadmarket.net; Web site: www.thebeadmarket.net

18-19---GEORGETOWN, TEXAS

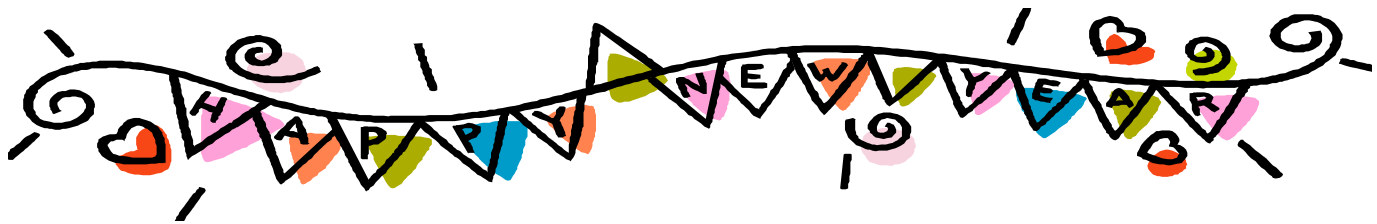
Williamson County Gem & Mineral Society; Community Center; San Gabriel Park; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$2, students \$1, children (under 6) free; Rollin' Rock Club meeting Sun. www.wcgms.org

25-26—PASADENA, TEXAS

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society; Pasadena Convention Center; 7902 Fairmont Pkwy; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$5, students \$1, children (under 12) and all Scouts and leaders in uniform free. Scout merit badge assistance, childrens Gem Mine and activities, displays, fossils, gems, minerals, hourly door prizes, grand prize. www.clgms.org

March 2012

10—BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA: Baton Rouge Recreation Commission; Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center; 10503 N. Oak Hills Pkwy.; Sat. 9-4; adults \$5, children \$4; activities, displays, rocks, gemstones, minerals, fossils, hiking trails, gemstone identification card activity, pyrite "gold" mine, exhibits, dealers, rough and polished mineral specimens, fossils, stone crafts, rock climbing wall, flint-knapping demonstration, geode-



Upcoming Classes Info

There are FOUR changes to our class schedule.....as follows:

- 1.) The date for the SHELL CARVING CLASS with Del has been moved to Saturday, May 12, 2012.
- 2.) The CASTING CLASSES have been totally revised! There will be DEMONSTRATION classes and FREE of charge. On Saturday, 2/11/12, Del and Tom will demonstrate lost wax casting. Starting with a silver casting demo as an orientation, we will then follow with a class on wax model making one week later.

On our Thursday evening shop time, interested students can practice casting and wax model making under the personal guidance of the shop stewards.

The Casting Demo Class scheduled for Saturday, 2/11/12 will be followed by a Wax Model Demo Class on Saturday, 2/18/12. (One week apart and minimal conflict with field trips.)

The Wax Model Demo Class will take a look at ready-made wax model sources, as well as wax carving and assembly. All presentations will be done at the BEGINNER level.

REMEMBER: The demos are free and our shop is equipped and manned. COME SEE.....

- 3.) In March, Saturday, 3/10/12 we will have a demo on Precious Metal Clay (PMC), again NO CHARGE. (A later, two day class will be offered for up to six students; all tools and supplies included for only \$125.00.)
- 4.) Revised Class and Demo Schedules will be available at our next regular meeting.



This pendant and earring set was made by my husband, Tony, for me for Christmas. Apparently, he had been working on this with Del for quite some time. I was very surprised and have gotten a multitude of compliments. I was very surprised. Thanks Del for teaching Tony this beautiful way to display this gorgeous stone. Sharron Thomas

Zelinsky and Company

www.zelinskyandco.com

Upcoming Classes

Location: 2001 East 70th Street, Shreveport, LA

Class: Healing with Crystals, Level 1

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2012

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$45 per person

Instructor: Geraldine Zalinsky

This Hands-On Session is designed to train you in the use of crystals and minerals for healing, growth, and transformation. Crystals and Gemstones have been used by man for thousands of years as powerful healing aids. Crystals as Healing Helpers: Energy is channeled through the body by way of paths and, eventually, culminates in various areas of the body called energy centers (chakras). Everything that is taught can be applied for your own growth as well as for clients, friends, and family. The context of the Level 1 Session holds a space for your continual self-advancement. The Session is taught in an atmosphere that holds the highest potential for each person. We will present the basic principles during this session. The goal is mastery of the applications, and equally important to continue to utilize these principles and practices in your daily life.

Location: 2001 East 70th Street, Shreveport, LA

Class: Gemstone Identification, Part 1

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2012

Time: 9 a.m.

Fee: \$80 per person

Instructors: Bridget Joubert & Jim Marler

- 1) "Gems of the World" display. There will be a 'quiz' to identify the gemstones. Prizes will be awarded (probably some nice Gems) for the most correct answers.
- 2) Gemstone faceting machine and its use. Those that want to try their hand at cutting will be able to assist in the cutting of one of Jim's Gems.
- 3) Three tables will be set up with trays of unlabeled gemstones and there will be ID instruments on each table to assist as you work with the stones.
- 4) There will be lots of reference texts on display and for use in the ID of gems.
- 5) AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP!! COME JOIN THE FUN!!

For registration information contact: Geraldine Zalinsky
Cell (318) 518-1187
Email Geraldine.zelinsky@gmail.com
Website Zelinskyandco.com
Registration deadline: 12/10/11

January Birthstone

Garnet

One glance at the deep red seeds nestled inside of a pomegranate fruit explains why the word "garnet" comes from the Latin word "granatus," meaning "grain" or "seed." This name was given to the garnet because of its close resemblance to the succulent pomegranate seed. But don't bite into a garnet, because at Moh's hardness 6.5 to 7.5, it will definitely damage the teeth!



There are many myths and legends surrounding the garnet. One Biblical legend is that Noah hung this gem on the ark to light his way through the dark and stormy nights of God's wrath. A Greek myth linked to the garnet is the story of the young goddess of sunshine, Persephone, who was abducted by Hades, god of the underworld. Hades eventually released Persephone, but not before he offered her some pomegranate seeds, which guaranteed her return to him.



First mined in Sri Lanka over 2,500 years ago, the garnet is also found in Africa, Australia, India, Russia, South America; and in the United States, in Arizona and Idaho. Although most commonly known as a red gemstone, the garnet comes in a variety of other hues, including muted yellows, vibrant oranges, rosy pinks, lime greens, and violets—a virtual bouquet of colors. This diversity is due to unique combinations of elements within each particular gem, such as iron, calcium, and manganese.



The garnet continues to be the protective gem of journeyers. A gift of garnet is thought to be symbolic of love and the desire for a loved one's safe travel and speedy homecoming. It is January's birthstone, but far from being only a winter gem, the garnet, with its brilliance and multitude of colors, is truly one for any season.

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

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Board of Directors consisting of Officers above and---

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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.