



The Rock Rattler

www.larockclub.com

larockclub@gmail.com

Volume 41 Number 2
January, 2013

Presidents Message

Last month's program was a bust partly because of the Library WIFI is falling apart. This Month we will make like a Boy Scout and Be Prepared. Y'all come and have some fun with us while we cover Roadside Collecting and Homemade Equipment.

Del Glasner

Next Meeting

When: February 5, 2013
Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Bossier City Library
Historical Building
Bossier City, La
Program: Roadside picking and homemade equipment

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Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society

Minutes of Meeting January 7, 2013

Opening: Del Glasner

Pledge of Allegiance:

Prayer:

Old Business:

- Treasurer's Report
- Dues is due by January 31, 2012
- December Auction update

New Business:

- Del presented numerous items properties that the club may be interested in
- Ideas were given on how to increase membership
- Ideas were discussed on how increase membership in the club

Members in Attendance –Dwain Spillman, Wil House, Nancy Spillman, Larry Maguire, Sue Autry, Edna House, Del Glasner, Bill Bacle, Sharron Thomas, Mary Ann Wiggins, Thomas Stringfellow, David Lowe, Gwynne Lowe, John Autry, Charlie Johns

Membership Application

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

Class Dates



Saturday – Feb 16, 2013 – Lost Wax Casting; Steam Casting. Instructors – Del Glasner and Tom Stringfellow. 1 day class. Fee \$90.

Saturday and Sunday – March 16, 17, 2013 – Chasing and Repousse'. Instructors – Tom Stringfellow and Antony Thomas. 2 day class. Fee \$190.

Saturday – April 20, 2013 – Shell Carving. Instructor – Del Glasner. 1 day class. Fee \$100.

Saturday – June 9, 2013 – Introduction to Flame Worked Beads. Instructor – Tom Stringfellow. 1 day class. Fee \$100.

Saturday and Sunday – July 13, 14, 2013 – Etching. Instructor – Tom Stringfellow. 2 day class. Fee \$140.

tips and tricks

EASIER JUMP RING REMOVAL - December '12

If you are having trouble getting jump rings off a mandrel in order to cut them with your jump ring maker or saw, try this... Rub a bar of soap over the mandrel before coiling your wire around it. The soap will lubricate the mandrel and allow your coil to slide off easily for cutting. This suggestion works especially well for oval, square and other "non-round" jump ring shapes

QUICK VISE JAW PROTECTORS - January '12

For the jewelers out there who are tired of ugly vise "teeth" marks in their work here's a simple and quick fix for your bench vise jaws. Measure your bench vise jaws and cut 2 appropriate lengths of copper or brass sheet that is twice the width of the jaws. Bend each piece of metal over the jaws so that they are now perfect protecting plates for your work. You can use some masking tape to secure the metal plates into place... And POOF the unwanted marks will be gone for good.

BETTER BEZEL MEASURING - December '11

When making a bezel for a stone setting, instead of wrapping the bezel wire around the stone, (which I find awkward) I use masking tape. I wrap a length of the tape around the stone and very carefully slip the stone out and then cut the masking tape, making a rectangle that I can then measure. Not only can you then put the tape on a table (sticky side down) to measure better, but also you can lay the stone on the the tape and get a better idea of the height..

http://www.contenti.com/resources/tips/index.html?utm_source=Contenti+eNewsletter&utm_campaign=63ca7f6ca1-October_eNewsletter_3%2Bstars&utm_medium=email

Upcoming Show Dates

February 23-24, 2013

Jackson, MS – 54th Annual Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show. Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society. MS State Fairgrounds – Trade Mart Building. 1207 Mississippi St. Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5. Adults \$5, students and children \$3. More than 24 dealers, gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, beads, lapidary tools, club demonstrations, cabochon cutting, faceting, flint knapping, junior demonstrations, club exhibits. www.missgems.org

Field Trips for 2013

Anyone planning to attend a field trip must notify field trip coordinator if you will be attending.

If you are unable to attend a field trip but would like something brought back just ask. Arrangements can be made.

February 16, 2013 – Goldonna, LA to search for sharks teeth and petrified wood–Pending an evaluation of the water level and weather conditions.

March 16-17, 2013 – San Antonio, TX for the San Antonio Gem & Mineral Society show. We will also go to Three Rivers, Tx to search for flint and palm wood. See additional information regarding this field trip contained in this newsletter

April 6, 2013 – Magnet Cove, AR to search for smoky quartz

May 25, 2013 – Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Society show

June 8-9, 2013 – Branson Missouri to search for mozarkite and jasper

July 13, 2013 – North Sulfer River, Paris, Tx to search for fossils

August 24, 2013 – Jasper Gem & Mineral Society show

September 7, 2013 – Ron Coleman's Quartz Mine, Hot Springs Village AR.

October 5, 2013 – Arlington Gem & Mineral Society show

Nov 3-4, 2013 – Midland Gem & Mineral Society show

The field list is subject to change based on participation and input from members.

Wonderstone

By C. Kutac

As published in December 1985 edition of *Gems and Minerals*

I have no idea why it's called "wonderstone". Maybe it's because of the wondrous way the bands of soft colors seem to flow across the rock. Actually, wonderstone is banded rhyolite, but that name lacks the flair and doesn't stir the imagination like "wonderstone" does.

In the western United States, wonderstone is fairly common with bands of white, cream, brown and red. Since rhyolite is porous, it can be stained by water solutions that are colored by various minerals. This accounts for the different colors. Such staining in several stages is what causes the band of colors. Mostly wonderstone is found in subtle shades of red, yellow, cream and brown; rarely orange is found.

Usually banded rhyolite is too porous to take a fine polish, but is good for courser work, like paper weights, bookends and spheres. There are a few sites from which the rhyolite is fine enough to take a fair to good polish. One of these is in Madison County, Montana. Thirty-seven miles east of Dillon, along Sweet Water road, is reported to be a large occurrence of wonderstone. Although I've never been there, it's said the stones are found in a variety of colors including brown, red, purplish red, yellow and cream.

Wonderstone is also found near the old mines at Tuscarora, in Elko County and at Little Antelope summit about forty miles west of Ely.

There are several places in Utah to find good banded rhyolite – at quarries near St. George, and along Beaver Dam Wash in Washington County. Three miles east of Salina, turn right and it's another 3 or 4 miles to another good collecting site.

Wonderstone is found on the north-east edge of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. A sharply banded stone, essentially the same in appearance as banded rhyolite, is found near hot springs in the area and is called elixirite – possibly because of the water from the hot springs being looked upon as an elixir. Hard enough to take a polish better than ordinary wonderstone, "elixirite" is patterned in yellowish-orange, yellowish-brown, purplish-brown and brown.



In some other local areas, wonderstone is also called by such picturesque names as "candy rock" or "picture rock". I know that the slabs of wonderstone in my collection are among my favorite specimens. It takes little imagination to see start desert landscapes in the shades of tans and browns. Perhaps that's the wonder of wonderstone – the ability of its varied patterns to fire the imagination.



Invitation to the ...

Fourth annual World Rock Tumbling Contest

The Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society invites you to join us for our fourth annual World Rock Tumbling Contest. This year we will be using Tuledad Canyon Agate. Tuledad Canyon is located on the California Nevada border near Susanville CA. Pictures of the polished rock will be on our web site after January 1st.

Prizes

- First place \$250.00
- Second Place \$100.00
- Third Place \$50.00

For more information
www.FeatherRiverRocks.org
Phone:(530) 877-7324
Email: Tumbling@FeatherRiverRocks.org

This message is your invitation and your application. Print it and fill out the information, make out the check payable to FRLMS and mail to;
Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society or FRLMS
P.O. Box 2645
Oroville, CA. 95965

Entry fee this year will be \$40.00 for continental US residents. This will include shipping material to you.
All others fees will be \$40.00 plus shipping. Please send correct fees and how to ship.

- (3LBS.) of rough will be shipped to you when application & check are approved.
- We will stop accepting applications June 1st, 2013.
- (1/2 LB.) finished rock must be returned with copy of entry form and must be post marked no later than August 15th, 2013.

Name; _____ Phone; _____

Address; _____

Email; _____

Click this line if you're having trouble printing.(A pdf file will open.)

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*****REMINDER*****

You annual dues was due by January 31, 2013
Please help us keep you inform by updating
your information. Complete the membership
application and turn it in with your payment.

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.

Arklatex Gem & Mineral Society
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