



# The Rock Rattler

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November 18, 2011

## President's Message

Members,

I have enjoyed working with all of you this year as your president. Your wish was that I preside as president once again and will gladly do so with your help and support. This year, 2011, we have had more classes and field trips than ever before. Next year we will have better programs than ever before with a few classes and field trips sprinkled in.

Others of you and I have worked to educate the young ones about our hobby and we need to do more along those lines. Recently, I had to opportunity to visit with four different Mansfield elementary school classes and discuss Minerals, Fossils and Rock types. The best part was being able to pass around the rocks that they have learned about from their science teachers so they could feel them and identify some of them from what they have learned. That's something they cannot do with books. One of the students brought a rock for me to identify that he found on the playground. It was cement. Our Science teachers need some examples of the rocks they are teaching about to pass around to the students. Maybe this is something we could put together for these Louisiana schools. Look forward to your input on this.

Thanks again for allowing me to serve.

Del Glasner

## Welcome 2012 Officers

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Del Glasner  
Larry Maguire  
Al Simms  
John Autry

## Next Meeting

When: December 6, 2011  
Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Where: Katfish King  
2712 Village Lane  
Bossier City  
Agenda: Dinner and Auction  
Bring something to donate to our  
auction.

## Inside this Issue

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## Minutes from November 1, 2011 Meeting

**Opening:** Del Glasner

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Antony Thomas

**Prayer:** Al Simms

### **Old Business:**

- Treasurer's Report – John Autry
  - o Checking Account and CD is great shape. (Specific amounts withheld from published newsletter)
- Report of classroom purchases
  - o Coffee pot now available
  - o Refrigerator still available, but not in classroom yet
  - o Pixie has been ordered and awaiting deliver which should be within the week.
- Rocks for Kids
  - o Mixed tumbled rock purchase has been made – 40lbs for \$100.00
  - o Pyrite – box of approximately 20 lbs
- Report on Arts Council building – no progress as of yet
- Newsletter Editor position has been accepted by Sharron Thomas
- Field Trip Report – 3 members attended trip to Crater of Diamonds in Arkansas

### **New Business:**

- Classes
  - o Chain Male – November 12, 2011
  - o Framework Beads – CANCELLED
  - o Beading – November 19, 2011 w/ Edna House
  - o Knapping – October 8, 2011 with Wil House
  - o Casting Classes scheduled for February
- Motion made to purchase eight (8) padded wheels for grinder/polishers in the class room. Motion, second and passed with opposition. Del to follow up on the purchase.
- Motion made to purchase additional ALTG&M Flyers as we are almost out. Motion, seconded and passed.
- Election of Officers for 2012
  - o Treasurer – John Autry, without opposition
  - o Secretary – Al Simms, without opposition
  - o Vice President – Larry Maguire, without opposition
  - o President – Del Glasner elected by majority vote
- December Christmas Meeting – December 6, 2011, 6:30pm at Catfish King on Village Drive, Bossier City. Our usual auction will be held. Please bring auction items.

## Future Field Trips

### **January 7th & 8th 2012**

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

Location: Llano River and surrounding area

Approx time of travel: 10-11 hrs

Departure time and location: 6:00am 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

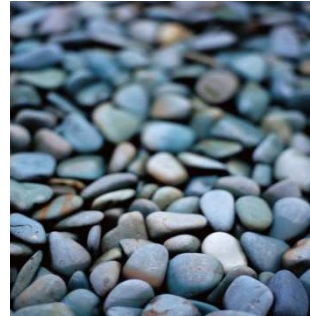
Location: Simpson/Toledo Bend area

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

*If anyone has an idea of where they would like to do a field trip or are looking for a specific type of item, please let me know so I can do some research and see if there is a close location that we can arrange.*

*All suggestions will be taken seriously.*

*Antony Thomas  
Field Trip Coordinator*

*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*

## Upcoming Shows

December, 2011

There are no upcoming shows in our area for December. If you are interested in shows across the US, go to <http://www.rockngem.com/showdates/>

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

## Upcoming Classes

December 10, 11, 2011

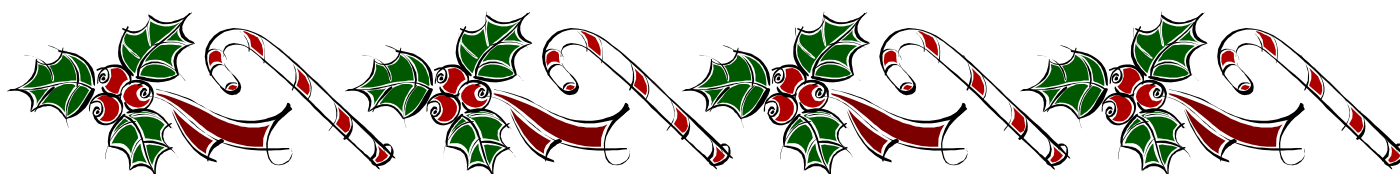
Stone Setting: Intermediate Metalsmithing

Learn prong setting, tube setting, gypsy setting, fancy bezel setting and more. We will work in silver. You must be able to solder efficiently to take this class. All tools and supplies included, \$200.00. Taught by Tom Stringfellow.

February 2012

Lost Wax Casting and Wax Model Making Class

If interested contact Tom Stringfellow for more information.



### **COROLLARY TO MURPHY'S LAW:**

If it turns out that a mineral you collected and finally identified turns out to be interesting or rare, either the site where you collected this unique specimen will no longer be open to collecting or it will be buried under a landslide...

### **Poets Corner**

In your mind and all around  
Throughout all time can sometimes be found  
Rivers and creeks and upon the ground  
From sea to sea it knows no bounds  
God has blessed me, I am a Rockhound

*Written by Antony Thomas*

# Zelinsky and Company

www.zelinskyandco.com

## Upcoming Classes

*Location:* 2001 East 70<sup>th</sup> 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.

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*Location:* 2001 East 70<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Geraldine.zelinsky@gmail.com)  
Website [Zelinskyandco.com](http://Zelinskyandco.com)  
**Registration deadline: 12/10/11**

# Pictures from the Beading Class on November 19



# December Birthstone

## Blue Topaz

As cool and inviting as a blue lake on a blistering summer day, **December's birthstone** is derived from the Sanskrit word "tapas," meaning fire. This is because



**Blue Topaz** was considered by ancient civilizations to have cooling properties. Not only was it believed to cool boiling water when thrown into the pot, but to calm hot tempers as well! This gemstone was credited with many other healing powers, among them the ability to cure insanity, asthma, weak vision and insomnia. The Blue Topaz was even thought to have magical properties in its ability to make its wearer invisible in a threatening situation.

Blue Topaz is the hardest of the silicate minerals. While pure Topaz is colorless, minor changes of elements within the stone result in a variety of other colors, such as blue, pale green, red, yellow and pink.

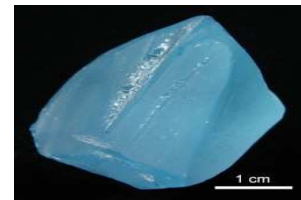


The blue hue is created when Topaz is heated, whether the heat source is natural or engineered by man. The three shades of Blue Topaz are Sky, Swiss and London Blue. The latter is the deepest blue and is often used as a less expensive substitute for Sapphire.



Topaz is found primarily in Brazil, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Pakistan, China, and the United States.

A gift of Blue Topaz is symbolic of love and fidelity. Luckily, this cool blue gemstone has no legendary power to put out the burning flame of love!



### References

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

<http://www.lhconklin.com/NewgalleryIII/bluetopaz.htm>

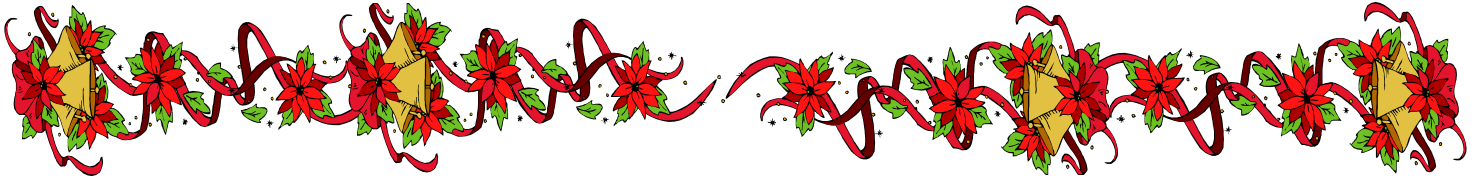
<http://www.prettyrock.com/php/product-detail.php?item=155.55ct%20Blue%20Topaz%20-%20Hand%20Select%20Gem%20Rough>

<http://www.jsg.utexas.edu/education/undergraduate/honors-program/honors-research-projects/blue-topaz/>

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](mailto:adslthomas@gmail.com)



### ArkLaTex Gem & Mineral Society 2011 Officers

President	Del Glasner	318-965-1989 Cell 318-517-7372	<a href="mailto:dglasner2001@yahoo.com">dglasner2001@yahoo.com</a>
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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.