



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 1st Tuesday of each month at the:
Bossier Parish History Center, 2006 Beckett St. Bossier City, LA 71111

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President's Message

Dear Fellow Rockhounds,

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 May 3, 2011

Time: 6:30 –9:00 PM

Location: To Be Announced

(Possibly Ryan' s Steakhouse)

Because of the temp closure of the Historical

Center for AC repairs

Bossier City, LA

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November 2, 2010
Minutes of the General Meeting

Called to Order - President Del Glasner

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Opening Prayer

Old Business:

- Bill Hart reported three \$25 donations from Arklatex G&M to the Special Awards BPCCLouisiana Region I Science and Engineering Fair.. A motion was made and members voted to increase next years donations to three \$50. Brenden Pumphrey suggested adding a plaque (The money will be gone soon but the plaque will last a long time.)

New Business

- Rita and Max Curran Of Minden and Brenda Foggin of Shreveport applied for membership in Ark-La-Tex Gem and mineral Society.
- Club Brochure was updated by Geraldine Zelinsky for reprinting.
- Field Trip to Mineral Wells cancelled due to lack of interest.
- Show and Tell had number of items. Lawson Pumphrey presented new items added to his collection. Del presented some of him Sulfur River Dino teeth finds.
- Tom Stringfellow has offered to open the classroom every Sat/Sun in May to those wanting to come by and get a free preview of the classes he can offer. Contact Tom at 954-584-2454 (cell)
- Contracts have been mailed out to our Aug show dealers.

Program

Del Glasner presented a slide show of the giant crystal cave in Mexico.

Door prizes drawing was held and prizes collected.

Motion for Adjournment made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Del Glasner

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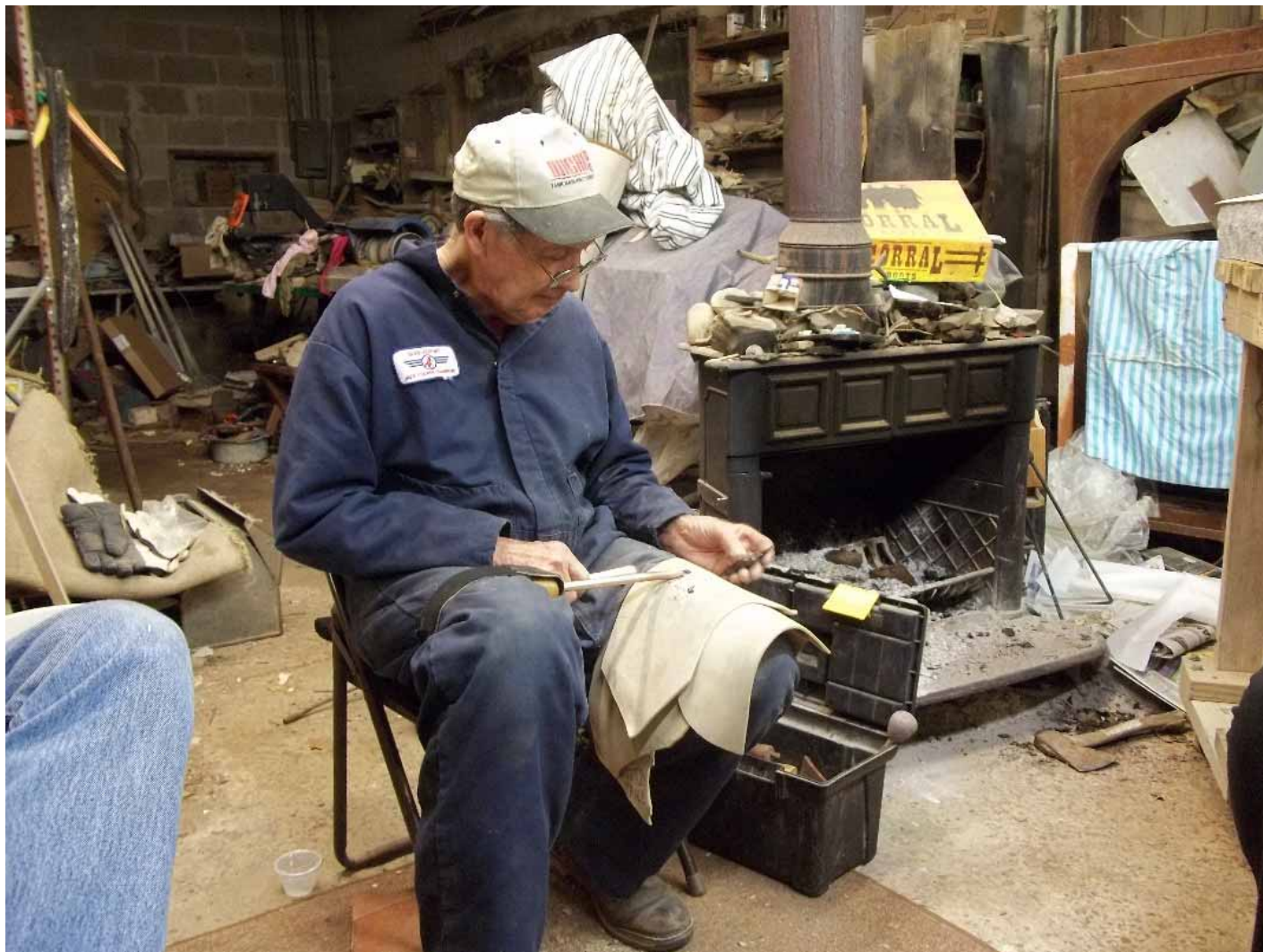
Gilmer Rockshop Trip



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Leo Teaches Flint Knapping



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Field Trip Photos



Boudreaux
Looking for
Arrowheads



Antony
Looking for
Palm Wood



Del's
Fossil Dino
Teeth Site

Up-Coming Shows:

(Nearby)

MAY

21-22—MURFREESBORO, ARKANSAS: Retail show; Crater of Diamonds State Park; Diamond Discovery Center, 209 State Park Rd.; Sat. 8:30-4:30, Sun. 8:30-4:30; free admission; wire wrapping demonstrations, rock and mineral identification, diamond hunting (adults \$7, children \$4); contact Margi Jenks, 209 State Park Rd., Murfreesboro, AR 71958, (870) 285-3116; e-mail: margaret.jenks@arkansas.gov; Web site:

www.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com

Aug

20-21—BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA: Annual show; Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society; Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, students \$1, children under 6 free; door prizes, youth activities, demonstrations, exhibits; contact Charles Johns, 9314 Overlook Dr., Shreveport, LA 71118, (318) 687-4929; e-mail: cwsejohns@bellsouth.net; Web site:

www.larockclub.com

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Helpful Hints



Getting More Slabs

By President Lee Adams

I am a lapidary (a person who cuts and polishes stones for jewelry work). I need to cut each rock into slabs (like slicing a loaf of bread) from 1/8 inch to as thick as needed for the jewelry piece I'm working on. This requires a minimum of 1 inch of each stone to be held in the saw vice and therefore this 1-inch heel becomes too thin to be cut into usable slabs. Because it is very desirable to save and use sometimes expensive material, I began looking for a way I could salvage all the stone. I needed an adhesive that could be used to glue the heel of the rock to a wood block, and that block would in turn be clamped in the vice thus making the complete rock useable for slicing.



A loose heel and a glued one.
Photo by Dick Shields

something that would hold tight because **any** and **I MEAN ANY** movement of the stone during the slicing process **can and will ruin a very expensive blade or tear up a good saw** (experience is a hard teacher). It also has to hold during the cutting process where oil and other types of media are used as a lubricant and coolant. If you find the word flexible anywhere on the adhesive tube put it back on the shelf: flexible is a disaster here. I also needed an adhesive that would release the stone from the wood block with reasonable ease, because frequently the last piece still glued to the block is the best one.

I currently use **F-26**, by Leech Adhesives. It is a premium quality waterproof construction adhesive, that has proven to be the best one of all (at least for my purposes). It is also oil proof. The tube is red and yellow in color. I apply the adhesive to either the rock or the block but not both. Press them together hard enough to get a good complete film of coverage over all (I want to see adhesive all the way around the stone). I then let the rock rest on top of the block for at least 24 hours, often more, I cut a rock the other day that I had glued to the block four years ago. I purchase the F-26 from my local True Value Hardware store. You can also get it from Dick or Bess Shields at the Boerne Rock Shop. Try to avoid putting the glue on an oily block. I reuse old used building lumber but sand one side lightly to remove anything the adhesive may not stick to.

To remove the last narrow piece of material place the block stone side up under a 150 watt heat lamp screwed into a mechanics hooded lamp. The stone is raised to within 1 inch of the bulb, or so that the hood covers the stone and part of the block. It takes from 20 minutes to an hour to get the stone hot enough to remove. When it is hot enough you can slide a putty knife between the stone and block with a little effort. A safety note here, use a very thick leather glove or other form of heat protection to hold the hot block/rock during the scraping process. Scrape all the adhesive from the rock you can while it is still hot then toss it into a clean water bath for a couple of days. Now you can use elbow grease (it doesn't take much), or any of the adhesive-eating chemicals on the market these days. There are adhesives out there with properties similar to F-26, but get **harder** with heat: avoid them.

I have had the rock and wood separate during the sawing process. An analysis of the problem has revealed some of the following reasons. Sawing before the adhesive has had time to set completely, sawing a very large rock on the high-speed setting and having the rock get too hot inside the saw. After making 5 or 6 cuts through a rock I try to let the stone cool for an hour before starting the saw again.

—Lee Adams

From the Fredericksburg Rockhounds 10/2010

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Member Tom Stringfellow 903-839-6744 TomString@aol.com

Member Lyn Simms 318-865-2453 lynsimms@gmail.com

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1780 E. Bert Kouns Suite #806
Shreveport, La
(Just east of Hwy 1)

Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society Website larockclub.com

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