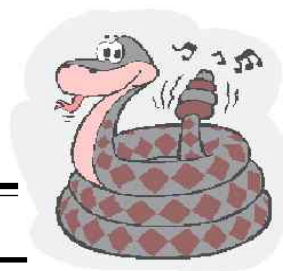


# The Rock Rattler



Volume 30, Number 2

March 2005



## Club Officers 2003-2004

**President** James Hendrix  
**Vice-Pres** Dwain Spillman  
**Secretary** Pam Hendrix  
**Treasurer** Bill Hart

## Board of Directors

Oakley Davis (1)  
Mary West (2)  
John Quade (3)  
and all club officers

## Show Chairman

Charlie Johns

## Dealer Chariman

Dwain Spillman

## Club Website

[www.geocities.com/  
arklatexgemandmineralclub](http://www.geocities.com/arklatexgemandmineralclub)

## Rock Rattler Editor

Lisa Reddick  
P.O. Box 103  
Grand Cane, LA 71032  
[thorella@cmaaccess.com](mailto:thorella@cmaaccess.com)

The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society meets at 6.30 pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Bossier Parish Historical Center, Bossier Parish Library, 2206 Beckett St., Bossier City, LA 71111  
New members and guests are encouraged and welcomed!

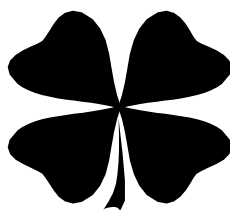
## THE POETRY ISSUE

### Where

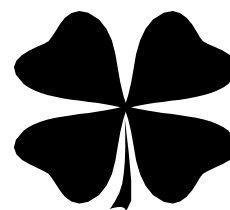
by Lee Beasley

Where O where has my little rock gone?  
Where O where can it be?  
I was told a rock is so all alone  
Just waiting for someone like me.

So love it  
And thank God for it!!



Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day



The March meeting will be held at  
Fire Mountain on Airline Drive  
in Bossier in front of Lowes at 6:00 pm!

**PLEASE ATTEND!**

## CONNECTIONS: Links and Websites

AFMS Website:

[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

SCFMS Website:

[www.scfms.net](http://www.scfms.net)

Interesting site and message board

[www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com)

Super earth science news

[www.eurekalert.org](http://www.eurekalert.org)



## Happenings...

March 5-6  
Big Spring, TX  
Big Spring Prospectors Club  
Howard County Fair Barn

March 12-13  
Corpus Christi, TX  
Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society  
Bayfront Plaza Convention Center

April 1-3  
San Antonio, TX  
Southwest Gem and Mineral Society  
Morris Activity Center

April 24-25  
Lubbock, TX  
Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society  
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

---

## February Meeting Minutes

### Pam Hendrix, Secretary

Pledge at 7:00 pm and prayer by Wil. A field trip was planned to Sulfur River to look for fossils and shells on Saturday, March 19th. We will leave the History Center at 7:00 am.

Ike asked everyone to write a 5 minute poem to be published in the newsletter. Some may even win an award at the yearly contest. He also made us read these out loud. Some of us had a really good laugh.

The judges for March 5-6th science fair are Bill Hart, Joe and Lee Beasley and James Hendrix.

George and Linda Maldon were the Amethyst Cathedral winners at last year's show. Now they are new members. George also donated an Australian opal necklace for one of our Grand Prizes for our 2005 show.

We voted to reserve the "food table" for the next 2 years. We would like to find another display for our 2006 show in addition to it if anyone can think of one.

John Quade found a website called gold/corp. It has some really cool specimens for sale. Some mixed gold with other minerals.

Yesterday was not too early to start planning next year's show. We need ideas. Cash Point RV trailer park is a little farther away from the rail road tracks.

David Howard donated a really nice sign with a stand for the club to use at our show or for club members to use. Door prize winners were: Dwain, Ike, John, Wil, Linda, Micah, Bill and Charlie.

## President's Message

Well, at our last meeting we set up our first field trip of the year. We are going to the Sulfur River in Texas. It is about 3-3 1/2 hours away. We will meet at the Historical Center at 7 am on Saturday, March 19th. We will be looking for fossils, big sea shells, bones, shark teeth and any other fossil that pops up. Maybe some flint and whatever else we can find. It may be muddy so bring water for drinking and washing hands. Bring boots, a hand shovel and a hand garden claw, buckets and something to eat. We will stop and eat somewhere. We usually stay 3 or 4 hours and then go back into town.

Our next meeting is at Fire Mountain on Airline Drive in front of Lowes at 6:00 pm. They have a separate space for us and are expecting around 35 people. For all you can eat buffet at \$12.77 per person isn't bad. It includes drink, tax and tip. We hope to see more of you show up for the eating out meeting in March.

Mr. John Marler and his wife Bridgette came from Alexandria to give us a very nice show in November. I have asked them to return for our April meeting and am waiting for their reply. He says they have a very nice slide show for us. I hope to know their answer by our next meeting.

Until next month, may God bless you in your travels and daily lives.

James C. Hendrix  
President



Are tectonic plates dishwasher safe?  
-- Herb Caen, S.F. Chronicle, 8/12/93

Cause and Effect

by Charlie Johns

There once was a rockhound named Dave  
 Who kept hauling rocks from his cave  
 From ceiling to floor  
 He kept taking more  
 But gravity won, he is no more.

I Collect Rocks

by Linda Mauldin

I collect rocks. I keep them in a box.  
 Some I found as I walked on a trail.  
 Some I even received in the mail.

Some I discovered as I explored in the woods.

No matter where I go  
 Or have been,  
 The most wonderful memories I have of my  
 adventures  
 Are somehow related to looking for rocks  
 Wherever I could

Gravel Rocks

by Robin House

In the gravel I would play  
 On a pretty and hot summer day.  
 I'd look for rocks of different shape.  
 I'd look for rocks I'd call first rate.  
 In oatmeal buckets I'd place my treasure.  
 Their earthly value I could not measure.  
 Into the house I'd bring my haul.  
 I showed my treasure to one and all.  
 Over the years the buckets grew.  
 I even filled a shoe box or two.  
 As I grew up my collection was kept  
 Under the bed where we rarely swept.  
 And then after being married a year or two  
 My momma said she didn't know what to do.  
 So I asked her to explain what the problem was  
 And she said all my rocks that were collecting  
 fuzz!  
 So I set a date to get my rock treasure  
 And remembered my collection that gave me  
 such pleasure.

Never Did I Think

by Joe Beasley

Never did I think  
 That I could write  
 A poem that looked  
 Like a rock.

Rocks can be of many descriptions.

Some are pretty rocks.  
 Some are skip rocks.  
 Some are rabbit rocks!  
 Some are leaverites.  
 Some will really make a buck.  
 Some will require a lot of buck to be pretty.  
 Some are a girl's best friend, and  
 Some come between friends.

If I only knew what to do  
 With some rocks I have.

SAVE ALL OF THEM

Rocks

by Cindi Adams

R is for Rhodochrosite.  
 O is for Opal.  
 C is for Carborundum.  
 K is for I'm just Krazy for Rocks like Kryptonite.  
 S is for the show we like to go to

If Rocks Could Talk

by Edna House

with apologies to the  
 TV show "If Walls Could Talk"

If rocks could talk what would they say?  
 "Don't take me to your home today  
 I like it here. I like to rest. In my hole it's like a  
 nest.  
 Characteristically I'm round, smooth and porous.  
 Being wet is cool and not odorous.  
 By the lake in my hole I want to stay  
 Being dried out is not my forte'."

More poetry in next month's Rock Rattler

**A very important question:**

**How do you become a rockhound?**

Buy a large bag of marbles and carry it with you whenever you go looking for rocks. Every time you pick up a rock and put it in your pocket, take out one of the marbles from the bag and throw it over your left shoulder. Any time you see one of your marbles, pick it up along with the rock nearest to it--the rock goes in your pocket, the marble into the marble bag. When you have finally lost all of your marbles, you are a rockhound.

from Kuban's K-Paleo Place(humor section) at paleo.cc/kpaleo/fun-marb.htm

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 proper credit given. Articles with no byline are by the editor.

The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit 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 Road, 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 flintknapping (the art of flaking stone tools such as arrowheads). The monthly meetings (including programs of interest to rockhounds), information from the Rock Rattler, and jewelry making classes through Bossier Parish Community College complete the educational objectives of the club.

Meeting Snacks 2005:

March 1	Eating Out
April 5	Pam Hendrix
May 3	Rob Short
June 7	Edna House
July 5	John Quade
August 2	Oakley Davis
September 6	Jack and Cindy Adams
October 4	Cookout
November 1	David Howard
December 6	Christmas Dinner

Meeting Door Prizes 2005:

March 1	Dwain Spillman
April 5	Oakley Davis
May 3	Jack and Cindy Adams
June 7	Edna House
July 5	Volunteer Needed
August 2	James Hendrix
September 6	John Quade
October 4/Nov 1	Volunteer Needed
December 6	Annual Auction

**Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society  
Application For Membership**

Individual \_\_\_ \$15/year      Family \_\_\_ \$25/year  
 Subscription to Rock Rattler only \_\_\_ \$5/year

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

May we send you the Rock Rattler via e-mail only?  
 circle one YES NO

Lapidary Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Ark-La-Tex G&MS; c/o Bill Hart, Treasurer  
 1610 Success Street, Bossier City, LA 71112