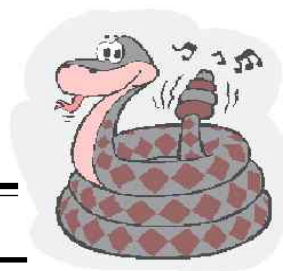


The Rock Rattler



Volume 30, Number 5

May 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
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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!

Paleontological Resources Preservation Senate Bill is a concern for Rockhounds

US Senate bill S-236, the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, was introduced February 2, 2005, and seeks to manage the collection of fossils and other paleontological property from Federal lands and establish penalties, both civil and criminal, for activities in violation of it and other ordinances. Permits would also be required for resources collected from Federal lands with a few exceptions.

This bill is very similar to S-546/HR-2416 which was introduced in 2003 and passed the Senate but failed in the
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Rockhounding film has begun limited screening

Director Todd Kent and producer Devin Dennie of Explorer Multimedia have completed their documentary "Rockhounds: The Movie" and have begun to screen it at film festivals, rock shows and rockhound gatherings around the U.S.

The film, which features Mt. Ida crystal digging, Oklahoma barite rose hunters and University of Oklahoma geology labs along with the Houston G & MS show, had been long anticipated.

A trailer of the film and short "making of" video may be viewed at: www.savvycenter.com/explorer/rockhounds/rhmvideos.htm.

JOIN US FOR A MINERAL MOVIE NIGHT!

Rhodochrosite:

Red Treasure
of the Rockies

At our next meeting
a video presentation kindly
loaned by Mr. Oakley Davis
featuring the
Sweet Home Mine in Colorado

President's Message

Hello folks! Well where to begin? Let's start at our last field trip. We went to the Sulphur River looking for fossils, sea shells, shark teeth and bones. The river was down very low, just a small creek in some places. You could walk for miles in the river bed. There were so many fossils, we were walking all over them and we were able to high grade them.

There were seven of us that went. We saw only one snake on this trip and very little mud.

The river bank was 40 feet down, standing down in the river bed looking up. The first 6-8 feet is top soil and sand. Under that is 3-4 feet of fossil sea shells. This is the part we were looking for. Under that was 8-12 feet of hard gray clay type stuff. Under that was 2-3 feet of protruding rocks that stuck out up to 3 feet all up and down both banks as far as you could see under the gray layer. Some of these rocks had broken off and were down in the river bed where they are broken open. There are sulphur crystal formations from the protruding rock layer and the water streaming over them was yellow from the sulfur in the rock.

Under that was a red hard-packed layer of clay all the way down to the river bed. All of this makes it hard and dangerous to climb out just about everywhere. In some places the banks are very steep with big loose soil overhangs.

It was a good trip. We got a lot of fossils and rocks with sulphur. Trying to get 5 gallon buckets of rocks up the bank is a big job.

With Jim and Bridget Marler speaking on color of gems and glass, our last meeting was a good one with lots of members present.

The next field trip is to Sweet Surrender mine. The last time we went we got buckets of crystals. This trip will be my third time and each time has been good. We will meet at the Historical Center at 6:00 am on April 30th. Until next time God Bless.

James Hendrix, President

April Meeting Minutes

Pam Hendrix, Secretary

We pledged at 7:00 with Wil House saying our prayer. The treasury report was given by Bill Hart and the club's CD's were discussed. He received a letter from the IRS requesting both our gross and net worth. A motion was passed to allow our treasurer to obtain a copy of the club's banks statement from the bank's website each month instead of receiving a paper copy of the statement. Sci-Port sent a "thank you" note for our Christmas donation.

A field trip was scheduled to Arkansas on April 30 to look for crystals. We will meet at 6:00 am at the Bossier Parish Historical Center on that day.

Judy Cameron was our guest and we hope she decides to join the club.

We had a wonderful presentation by James and Bridget Marler about how to determine what minerals make the glass the color that it is. It was a really interesting meeting. James said he can return another time with a different show for us.

Twenty six members and guests were present.

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

Meeting Snacks 2005:

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:

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

Meet the Tate Family

You may have heard of the Tate Family. Members of this family attend every group.

There is Dic Tate who wants to run everything.

Ro Tate tries to change things --- whether they need it or not.

Agi Tate stirs up trouble whenever possible. She gets a helping hand from her brother, Irri Tate.

Devas Tate loves to interrupt whatever is happening.

And Poten Tate wants to be the big shot.

When new ideas are suggested, Hesi Tate and Vegi Tate are quick to say why they will not possibly work.

Imi Tate would rather copy others than try something new.

But it's Facili Tate, Cogi Tate and Medi Tate who always save the day and get everyone pulling together.

From the internet, author unknown, date unknown
www.c4cvct.com/kym/humor/tate.htm

Some Rocks by Pam Hendrix

Some rocks R red.

Some rocks R blue.

My rocks R a multi-color hue.

Some rocks can be

As small as a pea.

Some rocks R rough.

Some rocks R smooth.

And there R some rocks that

Can never be moved.

Some rocks R rare.

Some rocks you can spare.

Some rocks R boulders.

Some rocks can be

Carried on your shoulders.

Some rocks people can see every day.

Some rocks haven't seen the light of day.

Happenings...

April 30-May1

Lubbock, TX

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

1501 6th St. and Ave Q

May 14-15

Waco, TX

Waco Gem and Mineral Club

Heart of Texas Fair Complex

4601 Bosque Blvd.

May 28-29

Forth Worth, TX

Forth Worth Gem and Mineral Society

Will Rogers Memorial Center

Lapidary Hint

Anyone who works with flat silver in making jewelry discovers that sooner or later, every scratch in the metal has to be removed. Common transparent contact paper from the dime store (the sticky kind with the removable backing) is the answer. Place on each side of the silver sheet for protection. What is more, it accepts and holds on permanent ink pen lines and will not pull loose when you are sawing through it.

from The Geode (12/89) author unknown via MWF Newsletter (3/05)

Club Members Bring Earth Day Display to Bossier Parish Fifth Grade Students

The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society had a booth at the 1st annual Earth Day put on by the City and Parish of Bossier. It was held Friday April 22 at the Knights of Columbus building on Highway 80. There were 200 5th grade students in attendance from Bossier Parish Schools. Both Charlie and Shirley Johns and Bill Hart set up a display of rocks, finished stones and tumbled stones.

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).

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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.

Paleontological continued from page 1

house.

The legislation passed through the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources without amendment and is slated for action on the Senate floor. Concern lies in the fact that the bill may be pushed through with only a voice vote which means without the opportunity to provide testimony or any input from commercial or amateur collectors.

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and local Federations have urged its members to alert your Senators to avert the voice vote and to allow interested parties to testify in committee and hopefully block the passage of this bill.

A copy of this bill may be obtained at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/C?c109:./temp/~c109VgNf5e>. Further information is available at: www.amfed.org/sfms/Senate_Bill_263.html.



"Must you always bring the biggest one you can find?"

via Golden Spike News 10/00