



THE ROCK RATTLER



2005-2006 Club Officers

President Edna House
949-9765

Vice-pres. John Autry
390-9200

Secretary Gail George

Treasurer Bill Hart
746-8735

Board of Directors

Joe Beasley (1)

John Quade (2)

Ike House (3)

Plus all Club Officers

Show Chairman

Bill Hart

Charlie Johns (Co-chair)

Dealer Chairman

Joe Beasley

Rock Rattler Editor

Wilford House
200 Liberty Hill Dr.
Haughton, La. 71037
wihouse@bellsouth.net

The Ark-La-tex Gem and Mineral Society meets at 6:30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Bossier Parish History Center, 2006 Beckett St Bossier City, La. 71111

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings - I would like to try to relate to you what a fun filled, and interesting meeting we had at our July 3 meeting. Upon arriving at the History Center, we found the building locked up, and no one there to open it. After about 15 people arrived, Ike backed his truck up to a median, and we had sandwiches, cokes, coffee, and all kinds of deserts on the tailgate of his truck - shades of an LSU football game. Some of us even chanted "LSU - LSU - LSU" to, the surprise of some other people in the parking lot. Joe and Lee Beasley drove down to Shoneys and secured the meeting room. We all converged on Shoneys for more food and a great meeting.

At the meeting we heard that The Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society "dominated" the awards for poetry in the SCFMS poetry section of articles submitted. These awards will be presented at the SCFMS Editors breakfast on Saturday morning.

We have mailed out a letter with details about the SCFMS Editors breakfast and the awards banquet on Saturday evening. I hope all of you can come. It will be on the Saturday of the show, the 19th of August.

Final planning for the show, on the 19th and 20th are being made. Please plan to attend the August meeting, and volunteer to help. The Ark-La-Tex show is two fun filled days of fellowship and rewarding service that we offer the Shreveport and Bossier City area.

We need to have a Board of Directors meeting prior to the club meeting, so all Board members plan on arrivinb at 6:00 PM so we can take care of a little business.

I hope to see all of you at the August meeting, and especially at the show.

Rock on - Edna

Why is the third hand on the watch called a 'second hand?'
Why is it that night falls yet day breaks?
Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
Does killing time damage eternity?
Do people in Australia call the rest of the world 'up over?'
How come wrong numbers are never busy?

From Lapidarian 1-04, via Chaisto-Hi-Lites

In a few days, all cellphone numbers will be released to the general public. If you are not interested in receiving calls on your cell phone, you must register your number with the "Do Not Call" registry. You may do this by calling 888-382-1222, or online at:

www.donotcall.gov

PEBBLE TALK

I would like to open this column with an introduction.

My name is Cheri Stewart, and a member of this club for almost a year, along with my husband, Garry. I joined to encourage Garry to find something to do with himself after his retirement from nursing.

I have two grown children, three stepchildren (one of whom is a member), and one grandchild. My job experience is from years of teaching and childcare in some form.

I have loads of hobbies and interests, so if you want more information about that, just ask me. My interests are in art and writing. Therefore, if you do not want anything written about you, you just might find one of my poems or drawings here.

I would like to learn wire wrapping and/or silver-smithing from club members. For an offer to teach me or to let me know what you are doing that is rock related you can call me at:

318 - 965-0342.

Starting next month will be highlighting a person or family and what they are doing, so that we can all get to know everyone a little better.

Cheri Stewart

Editors Note: Pebble Talk was placed in the Rock Rattler for a number of years, and was the vehicle by which the activities, inerests, and other interesting member and club tid-bits were made known to all the Club members. It has been suspended for some time, and Cheri has graciously accepted the task of reinstituting it. Be prepared for her call, and if you don't get one fairly early in the month, call her with any information that you would like for her to include in the bulletin.

CALIFORNIA ROCKHOUND SITES

OPAL MOUNTAIN / BLACK MOUNTAIN 5 miles north of Fossil Bed Road, via dirt road.	Jasper nodules, opal.
MULE CANYON 3 miles north of Yermo.	Agate, borax, celestite, jasper, olivine, petrified wood, satin spar, silver, travertine.
ALVORD MINE 7 miles north of Manix, via dirt road.	Agate, calcite, chalcedony, jasper, pyrite.
PISGAH CRATER 1 mile south of Interstate 40, off Historic Route 66.	Lava, volcanic bombs.
CADY MOUNTAINS 6 miles north of Pisgah, via dirt road.	Agate, chalcedony, geodes, jasper.
AFTON CANYON 1 mile southeast of Afton, off ramp via dirt road.	Agate, calcite, chalcedony, jasper, nodules.
BROADWELL DRY LAKE 6 miles north of Ludlow, via Crucero Road; west to hilly area.	Banded agate, moss agate, geodes, jasper, onyx.
HALLORAN SPRING Turquoise Mountain, north of Halloran Springs. BLM bulletin, via Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society	Azurite, turquoise.

While we in Louisiana find ourselves in a rock and mineral "challenged" area, I felt that you might find the above of interest, as to what SOME Rockhounds have easy access to. And who knows, you might just find yourself in the area sometimes, and looking for a site to collect at. ED.

July 2006 Minutes

The library was closed despite their assurances to the contrary from the previous month’s meeting. The meeting was moved to Shoney’s on Old Minden Road, so we were a little late getting started.

Wil spoke concerning the Editor’s Breakfast and the Awards Banquet. If you would like tickets, please contact Wil. Ike encouraged Club attendance of the breakfast for Editor’s awards.

Edna indicated Ike has been nominated to become the American Federation of Mineral Societies Executive Vice President.

Joe Beasley had been contacted by a new vendor, and had a presentation book showing how the booth would appear. We have had one vendor drop out. One of the new vendor’s displays has pottery. Joe asked for the Club’s opinion – some objections were raised. Joe took an action item to call this vendor and ask if he would be willing to leave his pottery at home, or at the very least, display only a few items and possibly take orders.

- 1 The Club will get 25% of the silent auction proceeds. **Please bring any items for the silent auction to the next meeting.**
- 2 The work schedule for the Show and food requirements for the Dealer’s Dinner were passed around – If you have not signed up please see Gail.
- 3 Joe will help Wil cook the brisket.
- 4 Pins and mugs will be sold. Club membership voted to order 100 pins.
- 5 Yard signs will be updated at the next meeting. The dates will be changed to read “Next Weekend.”
- 6 We are looking for a volunteer to make coffee for the meetings for 2006-2007.
- 7 A committee was appointed to slate officers for the upcoming year. The committee members are Joe Beasley, Dwain Spillman and Bill Hart.
- 8 Cheri Stewart will be calling folks to remind them of meetings. Cheri will be writing a membership information column in the Rock Rattler called “Pebble Talk”.
- 9 Dwight has made some modifications for ease of use of our web site. A reminder – If you have a collection, or pictures of your finds and/or work e-mail them to Dwight and he will post them in the galleries.

There is the Baton Rouge Show August 12-13 at the Fraternal Order of Police building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail George

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EXERCISE FOR SENIORS: Get ready for spring activities!

This is for older people. (Younger people try it at their own risk.) This is working well for me. For those of us getting along in years, here is a little secret for building your arm and shoulder muscles. You might want to adopt this program.

Three days a week: begin by standing straight, with a 5-lb. potato sack in each hand. Extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute. Relax. After a few weeks, move up to a 10-lb. potato sack , and then 50-lb. potato sacks, and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb.potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight out for more than a full minute

After you feel confident at that level, start putting a couple of potatoes in the bags.

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 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 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 flint-knapping (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.

UPCOMING SHOWS

AUGUST:

- 12-13 Texas School of Earth Sciences - Arlington, Tx.
- 12-13 Baton Rouge Gem and Mineral Show
- 19-20 Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral - Bossier City, La.

SEPTEMBER:

- 2-4 Arlington Gem and Mineral - Arlington, Tx
- 15-17 Mozarkite Society of Lincoln - Lincoln, Mo.
- 22-24 Houston Gem and Mineral - Humble, Tx.
- 30-Oct 1 Texoma Rockhounds - Denison, Tx.
- 30-Oct 1 Pleasant Oaks Club - Farmers Branch, Tx.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED: AGATE, BLOODSTONE, JASPER OR ANY OTHER EXOTIC STONE SLABS SUITABLE FOR FLINT KNAPPING. DIG THROUGH YOUR OLD SLAB BOX, AND CONTACT ME AT "wihouse@bellsouth.net" or call me at 318-949-9765 Wil House

For Sale

8" Combination (Beacon Star) Grinder, Sander, Pre-Polish, Polish (4 Wheel): 3 Speed Gem Maker - Some Spare Wheels \$300.00: -Tumbling/ Flat Lap Grit, 60/90, 120/220, 500/600 All for \$2.00/lb. - Usually sells for \$3.75 to \$5.50 per pound. Tumbler - \$50.00 Joe A. Beasley, 318-949-0552 Email: leebeas@softdisk.com

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

- FEBRUARY-----JOHNAUTRY
- APRIL-----DON TALBOT
- MAY-----DAVID HOWARD
- JUNE-----THE STEWARTS
- JULY-----IKE HOUSE
- AUGUST----
- SEPTEMBER---PAM HENDRIX
- NOVEMBER---

Note: March, October and December are special meetings, and "normal" refreshments will not be provided. Volunteers for open months are requested

DOOR PRIZES TO BE PROVIDED BY:

Door prizes for the months of August, September, October, and November are needed. Please sign up. Ed

ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Individual Membership \$15.00 per year
- Couple Membership \$20.00 per year
- Family Membership \$25.00 per year

Mail to:
Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society
P.O. Box 6633
Bossier City, La. 71111

Name(s).....

Address.....

Renewal?.....Phone(s).....Email.....

Membership option (check one) Individual:..... Couple:..... Family:.....