



The Rock Rattler

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**THE ARK-LA-TEX
GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

PO BOX 6633
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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

THE ROCK RATTLER

President's Message

Dear Fellow Rockhounds,

Please join us for an educational program at our July 6 meeting on Intarsia. If you have examples of this, bring them so that others might see.

Only six weeks and a few days from the June meeting until our show. I expect all of you will want to donate some of your time helping with the show, if only a few minutes to allow others to visit the show. This will be our time to really shine.

See you all at the July meeting.

Del

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Next Meeting: Tuesday July 6, 2010

Time: 6:30 –8:00 PM

Location: Bossier Parish History Center,
2006 Beckett St.
Bossier City, LA 71111

Program will be: INTRODUCTION TO INTARSIA

Video by Phil Magistro – A good primer on steps involved in creating and building intarsia pieces.

THE ROCK RATTLER

June 1, 2010 Minutes of the General Meeting

Called to Order - President Del Glasner

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag -

Opening Prayer - Al Simms

Treasurer's Report – John Autry

Current Balance: Opening Balance \$28,126.22 in Checking (including \$11,000 to be placed in a CD) Closing Balance \$30,456.01; \$11,492.19 currently in a CD due to mature in August, 2010

Old Business:

Show Report - Cristy Holder

Vendor reservations almost reaching full capacity. Currently 18 to 19 vendors confirmed.

Club tables will be just inside front door to provide better visibility.

Rock Table available by the Adams at no cost except to furnish tables for display.

Charlies Johns will provide flyers and info to news media outlets.

Friday Dinner discussion. Motioned, seconded and passed that we will pick up the BBQ from Podnuh's BBQ and serve ourselves to avoid catering and percentage paid to Civic Center charges.

Motion, seconded and passed that we not invite the woodcarvers back and that space be used to allow other vendors to attend.

Silver Classes – Tom Stringfellow

Reported that there were several attending and that the class was a great success.

Future classes will be scheduled.

Acknowledgements

Al & Lyn provided refreshments; No door prizes this month

New Business

Upcoming classes

Larry Maguire to teach Wire Wrapping Class on June 11 & 12, 2010 at the classroom

Tom Stringfellow will teach an Etching Class on June 25 & 26, 2010 at the classroom

Dwain Spillman will teach a class on Casting. Date TBA

Bill Hart will teach a class on Cabochon Cutting. Date TBA

Field Trips – Richard Kelly is planning a field trip to Northeast Arkansas in the near future. More info TBA.

Bill Hart express a need that the blade on out 24" slab saw needs replacement. Quoted cost estimated from \$175 for an imported blade to \$500 for a segmented blade. A motion, second and passed that we research other blade prices, but that we wanted a quality sintered diamond blade that will last us many years.

Program

After a brief break for refreshments, Richard Kelly presented a program on identification and field trip tips for locating crystals. The program was very informative and interesting.

There were nineteen (19) members in attendance, including two (2) new members.

Motion for Adjournment made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

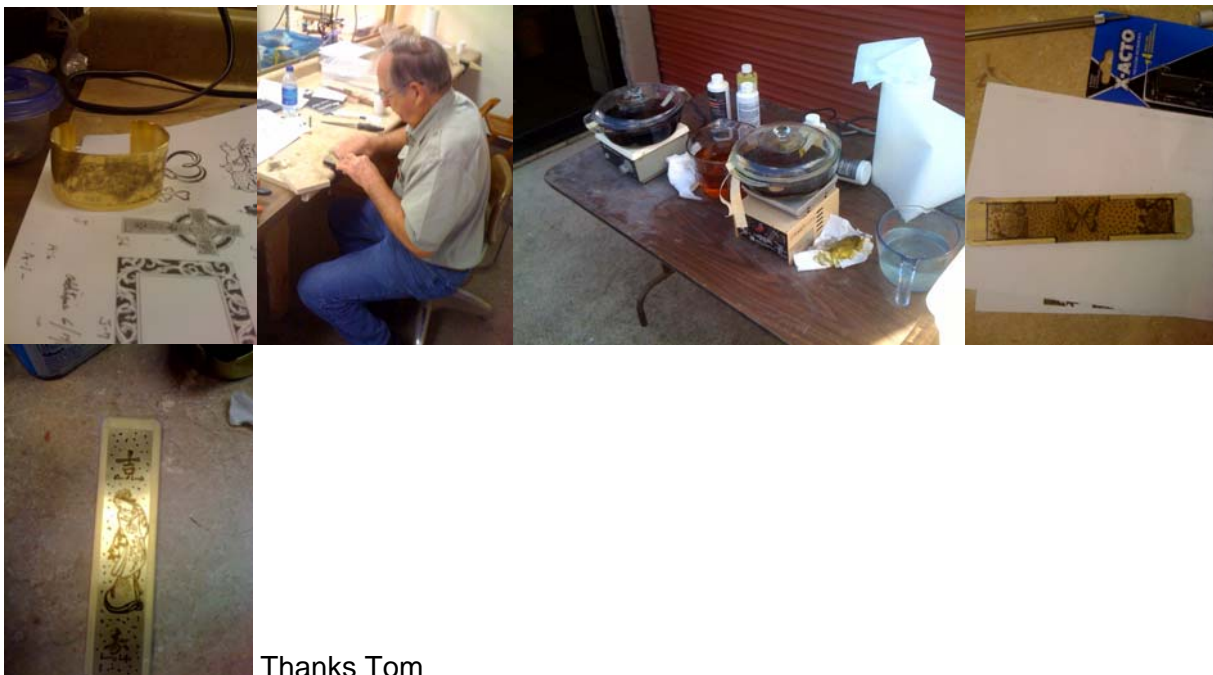
Al Simms, Secretary

THE ROCK RATTLER

Fun CLASS photos June 25

Courtesy of Larv Mauire's cell phone

Tom Stringfellow turned us on to Etching metal in this class. Etched Bracelets were crafted of Nugold and Pendants of Nickel silver. After the class I think all of the supply of PCB etching chemicals were sold out from Radio Shack. Those that did not attend sure missed out on this fun class.



Thanks Tom

UPCOMING CLASSES

Come to the next meeting and let us know what classes you would be interested in or email larockclub@gmail.com

Membership in Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral is required to take a class. All classes are held in our classroom, 1780 E. Bert Kouns #806. The class schedule is subject to change based on expected attendance and instructor availability.

THE ROCK RATTLER

Ten Rarest Gems on Earth (4 of 10)

4. Blue Garnet USD \$1.5 Million/Carat



Garnets are found in many colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, pink and colorless. The rarest of these is the blue garnet, discovered in the late 1990s in Madagascar. It is also found in parts of the United States, Russia and Turkey. It changes color from blue-green in the daylight to purple in incandescent light. The most expensive blue garnet, a 4.2 carat gem, sold in 2003 for \$6.8 Million. BTW, color-change garnets are by far the rarest garnets except uvarovite, which does not come in cuttable sizes. In daylight, their color can be shades of green, beige, brown, gray and rarely blue, to a reddish or purplish/pink color in incandescent light. Because of their color changing quality, this kind of garnet is often mistaken for Alexandrite. However, the color change of these new garnets is often more intense and more dramatic than the color change of top quality Alexandrite which, although frequently disappointing, still sells for many thousands of U.S. dollars per carat. It is expected that blue color-change garnets will match Alexandrite prices or even exceed them as the color change is often better and these garnets are

EDUCATION

Bet You Didn't Know..... Modern Glass Created From Volcano Ash



In many parts of the world still today, glass made from volcanoes, is still used by man. Above is a piece of Mount St. Helens Volcanic ash (1980 eruption), and fused into glass and faceted in to a gemstone ring as seen above.

In earlier times Obsidian was been broken into sharp implements, chipped into decorations, cut (faceted) into early stones, and later melted to form beads, bottles and bowls. Bead and Sphere Cutting in Early India. (From olympicrocks.com)

THE ROCK RATTLER

Up-Coming Shows:

(Nearby)

Aug 21-22--BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA: Show; Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society; Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, students \$1, children 5 and under and Scouts in uniform free; door prizes, youth activities, exhibits, live demonstrations.

AUGUST 28-29
JASPER, TX
Pine Country G&MS
Events Center

For an expanded list of Show Dates go to:
www.rockngem.com

For a list of Knap-ins dates go to:
<http://www.eskimo.com/~knapper/knapins.html>

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".

Membership dues are \$15 per individual or \$20 per couple or \$25 for the whole family!! This gets you the monthly newsletter, class room access, and some of the best people to be around in the world!! Pass on a membership application to someone you know - today!!

ARK-LA-TEX GEM AND MINERAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Renewal? Yes / No Phone #'s _____ E-Mail _____

Membership Option: Individual: _____ Couple: _____ Family: _____

(Check One) \$15.00 \$20.00 \$25.00

Mail to: Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society
PO Box 6633
Bossier City, LA 71111

Or Come to a meeting and pay in person!! on the 1st Tuesday of each month
6:30 pm
Bossier Parish History Center
2006 Beckett St.
Bossier City, LA 71111

THE ROCK RATTLER

2010 OFFICERS:

President	Del Glasner	318-965-1989	dglasner2001@yahoo.com
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Board of Directors consisting of Officers above and:

Past President	Cristy Holder	318-949-6574	cristyholder@bellsouth.net
Member	Bill Hart	318-746-8735	mufasa35@bellsouth.net
Member	Charlie Johns	318-687-4929	cwsejohns@bellsouth.net
Member	Tom Stringfellow	903-839-6744	TomString@aol.com

Appointments and Committees:

Historian	Wil and Edna House	318-949-2008	wilhouse@bellsouth.net
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