



# Slabs & Cabs

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Howdy Rockhounds!

Thank you goes out to our shop manager Mark Wolbrink and the many volunteers that spent hours helping sort and label the mineral collection for our club sale on August 10 & 11. Friday evening we had many club members attend and enjoy watermelon. Saturday morning was a little slow but both days everyone found treasures that they wanted for their collections. If you were not able to attend we will continue to offer items to club members for awhile; contact Mark for times.

The Shop will be open on Monday evening and Saturday morning if you would like to help prepare items for the 2013 silent auction. Or you can work on your projects at the shop at that time.

Here's a reminder to mark your calendars for the next general meeting on **September 18, 2012 6:30 – 9:00 pm** at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History 1900 North Chaparral Corpus Christi.

*Joe*

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## Birthstone - Traditional

***Wear a sardonyx or for thee,  
No conjugal felicity;  
The August-born without this stone,  
'Tis said, must live unloved and lone.***



## 2012 Board

- President  
*Joe Grimes*
  - Vice-President  
*Jerrold Simpson*
  - Past President  
*Kevin Schleicher*
  - Secretary  
*Gilbert Trejo*
  - Treasurer / Webmaster  
*Gene Schade*
  - Membership / Newsletter  
*Sylvia Kernen, newsletter@gcgms.org*
  - Education  
*open position*
  - Librarian  
*Linda Simpson*
  - Show / Dealer Chair  
*Jerrold Simpson*
  - Show Publicity  
*Donna Grimes*
  - Shop Coordinator:  
*Mark Wolbrink*
  - Field Trip Coordinator  
*open position*
  - Federation Liaison  
*Linda Simpson*
  - Historian  
*Frances Martin*
  - Communications  
*Suzy Nick*
  - Door Prizes  
*Michelle Alvarez*
  - Refreshment Hostess  
*Letty Rodriguez*
- www.gcgms.org**

## Birthstone for August - Peridot

### Peridot

If fire appears to leap from the vibrant green surface of the Peridot, this may be because this gem is formed as a result of volcanic activity. Many years ago, natives discovered Peridot crystals in the black sands of Hawaii, explaining their presence as tears shed by Pele, the volcano goddess. Throughout history, August's birthstone has been used as a means to connect with nature. Early Egyptian priests drank a stimulating beverage called Soma from cups made of Peridot, believing this practice to draw them closer to Isis, the goddess of nature.

The name Peridot comes from the Arabic word "faridat," meaning gem. Ancient Egyptians called them the "gem of the sun," because of their dazzling brilliance when seen in the desert sun. It was believed that the



Peridot glowed with light even as darkness fell, which is why miners were said to have scouted for these gems during the night, marking their location, and returning in the light of day to retrieve them. Perhaps this legendary mining method is the reason that the Peridot is sometimes called "evening emerald."

Peridot is a mineral named Olivine, which is found in a variety of greens, ranging from light yellowish green to a dark olive. Early mining for this gem was done on Saint John's



Island near Egypt around 1500 BC. The green crystal was considered protective against evil and when set in gold, especially helpful against night terrors. It was ground to powder and used as a remedy for asthma and as a cure for thirst brought on by fever. Today, Peridot is mined in Burma, Norway, Brazil, Australia, Hawaii, the Congo, and in Arizona.

The force of nature is alive within a Peridot, making a gift of this gemstone symbolic of vitality. It signifies strength, both individual and within a relationship, as well as the promise of new growth in years ahead.

**Alternate August Birthstone**  
An alternate birthstone for August, Sardonyx is a type of translucent or opaque quartz with alternating parallel bands of brownish red and white. This stone was worn as a talisman by the Egyptians to protect against infections and evil.

Today it is highly polished and carved into beautiful beads and cameos. Sardonyx is mined in India, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Brazil and Uruguay. A gift of this stone is considered symbolic of happiness within a relationship.

source: <http://www.about-birthstones.com/augustbirthstone.html>

Pictures: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peridot>

## Board Meeting Minutes 07 August 2012 of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Board Meeting for 08-07-12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 6:34 pm. The meeting was held at the Society Lapidary Shop. Those in attendance were Joe Grimes, Donna Grimes, Gene Schade, Mark Wolbrink, Jerrold Simpson, Linda Simpson, Dick Cline, Sylvia Kernen and Gilbert Trejo.

Mark Wolbrink gave the shop report. He said that they have been busier at the shop than last year. Mark presented a suggested price list for the newly purchased rocks. He said these prices are close to dealer prices on the internet. Mark also said that members should be given a discount of 25 to 35 percent on these prices. Mark also recommended two dollars a pound on slabs. Joe Grimes asked for consensus of the board on prices. The consensus is rough rocks sold by the pound. The member discount is 25 percent. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to price rough rock at stated on the sheet, member discount is 25 percent and slabs are 5 dollars a pound with a 25 percent discount to members, seconded by Gene Schade. All voted aye.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. Gene said that he did not have the report with him and he would send it to the Board members by e-mail. He did state that there were only a few expenses last month mostly from Kids Camp.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. She said there are 122 adult members and 32 junior members. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the membership report and the shop report seconded by Linda Simpson. All voted aye.

Gilbert Trejo gave the Secretary Report. He said there were no corrections.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Jerrold said that he has received 5 vendor contracts with electric payments. He said he did have one person who paid with a credit card and he would ask for a copy of the receipt to have a record of payment made. Gene Schade made a motion to accept the report seconded by Mark Wolbrink. All voted aye.

Donna Grimes said that there were not any advertisements yet for next year's Rock Show.

Under old business, Sylvia Kernen presented several proposed new logos. The Board reviewed them and made a consensus on one with some suggestions. Sylvia will work on the suggestions and bring back the logo.

Gene Schade said that he had sent back two checks to people whose kids were on the waiting list for Kids Camp. Linda Simpson said that these kids should be given first slots at the next Kids Camp if they repay and are members.

Gene Schade said that there are four applications for the scholarship. Gene presented copies of their applications and essays. He stated all of them are qualified. The Board goes over the applications and ranks the applicants. The ranking places Chester Scotch and Arthur Orden as first and second. Gene Schade makes a motion to award a scholarship to Chester Scotch and one scholarship to Arthur Orden in the amount of \$1,000 each, seconded by Linda Simpson. All voted aye. Gene Schade made a suggestion that the awardees come by his shop for pictures and presentation of the checks and the pictures be sent to the Caller-Times. Gene made this a motion, seconded by Jerrold Simpson. All voted aye.

Under new business, Dick Cline said

that several clubs have rock sale and swaps and suggested a fall day in October to have such an event.

Joe Grimes said that the next meeting is in September and should be solely on Kids Camp. The presentation of badges and maybe the kids' impressions of the camp will be the focus of the meeting.

Joe Grimes asked that everyone needs to think about where to go to have field trips.

Jerrold Simpson makes a motion to adjourn at 8:36 pm seconded by Sylvia Kernen. The motion passed.

## Lapidary Shop Rules

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1. The lapidary shop equipment may not be used by anyone who has not signed a liability waiver.
2. Shop equipment use flat fee is \$2.00 per hour. Sign in on arrival. Pay Supervisor and sign out before leaving the shop.
3. "Open shop" hours are to be used only by those who have taken the cabochon class or have shown proficiency on the equipment.
4. All children under the age of 17 must be accompanied by an adult trained on the use of the equipment.
5. Supervisor must inspect rock "set-up" prior to anyone starting slab saw.
6. Long hair should be tied back, loose sleeve should be secured, and safety procedures followed.
7. Safety glasses are recommended and are the responsibility of the individual. Some are furnished by the GCGMS, or you may bring your own.
8. The last person to use a piece of equipment before the shop closes is responsible for cleaning that piece of equipment and the work area. This may include tabletop, sponges, aprons, catch trays, etc.
9. Shop Supervisor is the final authority on shop rules and usage.

*Revised May 2009*

## Lapidary Shop Keys

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Lapidary Shop key masters are:

Shop Supervisor:  
Mark Wolbrink 361-991-2495

Jerrold Simpson  
361-851-8788 / Cell - 361-877-3073

Hank Swan 361-993-9861/361-857-2405



Please call one of these when you would like to use the shop. They will not all be available at the same time, and once in a while none of them will be available most of the time at least one of them should be able to work out a time and date the shop could be open for you. Remember the club has a lot of good equipment to use.

Several different classes are being conducted on Monday evening from 6:00 pm to 9:00pm. The shop is open during these times for use of the equipment even if you are not involved in a class.

Shop is also open Saturday 9:00 Until Noon.

## Mystery Fossil



Fossils of this sort of organism are not rare but they receive little fanfare because (1) they tend to be microscopic and (2) they are often difficult or impossible to identify. This one, from the Miocene of Nevada, is particularly well preserved. Do you know what it is?

**Did you guess correctly?**

Source: University of California Museum of Paleontology  
<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/>

## Upcoming Events

### August 2012

25 - 26

#### Jasper, TX

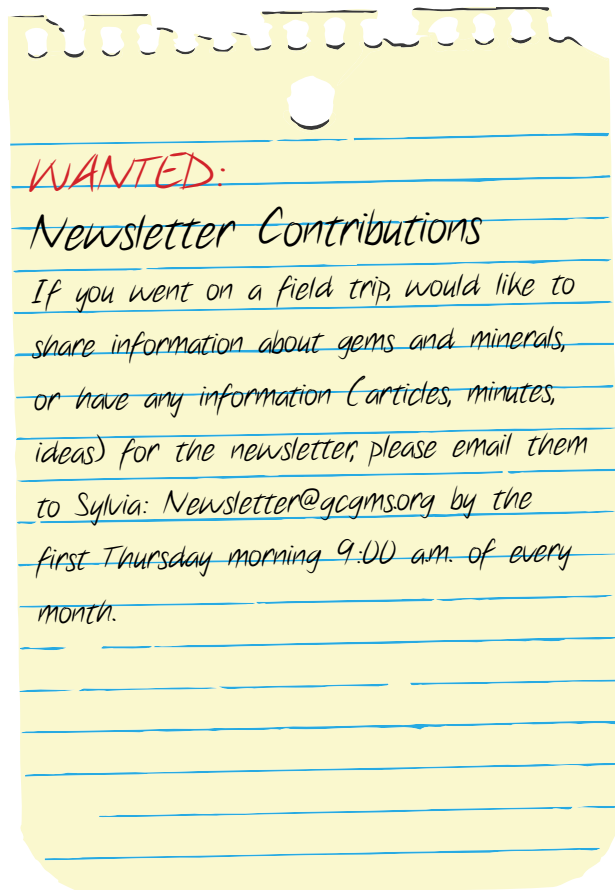
SCFMS annual meeting and Pine Country GMS show; The Event Center, 6258 Highway 190 (5 miles West of Jasper); 9-5 Saturday, 10-5 Sunday; Rolling Rock Club meeting 9 am Sunday. SCFMS Advance Registration Deadline is 7/27/2012. Includes a field trip on Aug 23 for collecting fossil wood, open to any SCFMS-affiliated club. Pre-registration required due to limited number of participants; contact Paul James, (409) 429-7444 or Fred Brown, (936) 661-1024. For flyer, schedule, registration forms, and field trip details go to [www.pinecountrygms.org](http://www.pinecountrygms.org)

### September 2012

29-30

#### MESQUITE, TX

Annual show; Dallas Gem & Mineral Society; Mesquite Exhibition Hall; 1818 Rodeo Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Darrell Harrison, 1808 Tisinger, Dallas, TX 75228; e-mail: [bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net); Web site: [dallasgemandmineral.org](http://dallasgemandmineral.org)



A very happy birthday to:

Jose Barrada  
Irma Caballeno  
Hunter Carver  
Joseph Johnston  
Hunter Paradise  
Mira Smithwick  
Kevin Schleicher  
Dee Ann Schleicher

and all members born in August! Please send me your birthdate information, so you can be mentioned as well. [newsletter@gcgms.org](mailto:newsletter@gcgms.org)

# Kids Corner Rocks

## Rock & Fossils Word Search

S S E E E J E K I F E N L E  
 G I U T S R R E K G C S S T  
 N A M M L T N B T T L P E X  
 E E I N A N M W C C R I M O  
 N E E S T C X X I S T M E H  
 L O F N E T R S T C L S T X  
 Z E A E O A E B E H S Q A L  
 H T X W A C S Q S I F C M R  
 E S C M A R B L E S T C O O  
 L E S Z E Y T N T T Y T R U  
 K I D Y B S G H M R A Q P I  
 A F A I A T H P D B U T H N  
 G L I Q Z A A T I S I E I S  
 E A E W L L D W E S N H C L  
 G G R W E S N E V P A N P M  
 X N D F O V I S W L S O E V

### All about Rocks

How do we classify rocks?

There are 3 main types of rocks depending upon how they were formed in the different layers of the Earth.

They are as we discussed last time:

Igneous

Sedimentary and



#### METAMORPHIC

Metamorphic rock forms when igneous, sedimentary, or other metamorphic rock is changed by heat and pressure.

This type of rock is buried deep within the Earth where it is created from the heat and pressure found there.

Is hard, often contains crystals, may have bands or layers.

Examples: marble, slate, gneiss, schist

marble  
 slate  
 gneiss  
 schist

earth  
 crystals  
 layers  
 metamorphic



Q: What do you say when you meet a two-headed dinosaur?  
 A: Hello, hello!

source: copyright D4K, Idaho Public Television  
<http://idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/season9/rocksminerals/facts.cfm#start>

### Check out some Cool Kids Links



- KidsGeo.com
- Rocksforkids.com
- Earthquakes for kids
- BBC fossils
- BBC walking with beasts
- BBC prehistoric life games and puzzles
- Oxford University Museum about fossils
- Oxford University Museum about rocks

## The First Rock Sale

August 10 & 11 2012

The sale was definitely considered a success by all in attendance. A good time was had by all with very tasty watermelon. Some very good buys were made by members. Here some impressions... Thank you Gene for sharing!



MEMBER of

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, Inc.



**Meeting**

Held the **third Tuesday** of each month at **6:30 pm** at the museum of Science & History, 1900 North Chaparral **September through May**, and at the Lapidary Shop, 3933 Timon Blvd., Corpus Christi TX for **June through August**.

**Membership Fees**

Annual fees: Individuals \$15.00, Couples \$20.00, Junior (under17) \$5.00

**Purpose**

The objective and purpose of the society is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy, the earth sciences and the lapidary arts. To encourage study in these subjects through the means of: presentation of public exhibitions, field trips for exploration, study and collection of specimens, the presentations of lectures, illustrated programs, demonstrations and similar programs pertaining to the fields of mineralogy, earth sciences and the lapidary arts.

**Mark your calendars!**

**WWW** Visit us on our website [www.gcgms.org](http://www.gcgms.org)



we are also on Facebook, come and 'like' us on there as well!

Next board meeting  
4 September 2012  
at the Lapidary Shop  
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Slabs & Cabs  
Sylvia Kernan  
3942 FM 1781  
Rockport TX 78382

Slabs & Cabs Awards



2003 SCFMS  
Small Bulletins 4th place

**PUBLICATION**

- 2002 2nd
- 2001 1st
- 2001-4th place AFMS
- 2000 9th place SCFMS
- 1999-8th place SCFMS
- 1999- 9th place (new editor) AFMS

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