



Slabs & Cabs

Volume 53

Number 2

February 2012

Our Prez Sez

Howdy Rockhounds! I hope you are looking forward to our 50th Anniversary Gem and Mineral Show, March 3rd and 4th, 2012.

Hopefully you have volunteered to work on one of the committees and help make our 50th Anniversary Show of the Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society the best show we have produced.

Thanks Jerrold and Linda for the January program "A Journey through the Rock Cycle." Everyone had a great time.

Jerrold will present "The History of the Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society" for our February program.

Mark Wolbrink will host our kids' corner time of fun.

Bring your orange gemstones and minerals for the display on the "It Certainly Is Exquisite Table"—and any "BUT WHAT THE DICKENS IS IT" items that you might have. Also there will be a special prize for the best "ORANGE" outfit.

Come and join us for the general meeting February 21st, I am looking forward to seeing you.

Joe

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The February-born shall find
Sincerity and peace of mind,
Freedom from passion and
from care,
If they an amethyst will wear.



source:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birthstones>

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:
[John Anderson](#)

Federation Liaison:
[Linda Simpson](#)

Historian:
open position

Communications:
[Suzy Nick](#)

Door Prizes:
[Gilbert Rodriguez](#)

Refreshment Hostess:
[Letty Rodriguez](#)

Next Board Meeting
6 March 2012 6:30pm - 9pm
at the Lapidary Shop

Club News and Information



Happy Birthday!

A very happy birthday to members born in February!

Please send me your birthdate information, so you can be mentioned as well.
syltrans@gmail.com

Welcome!

A warm welcome goes out to our new members:
Ray, Mary and their daughter Rosaline Juarez!



January Meeting Highlights

Congratulations to Linda Simpson!

President Joe Grimes presenting an Apophyllite/Stilbite mineral specimen to Linda Simpson.

Linda won the best red outfit contest announced in the January Slabs and Cabs. She wore red pants, shirt, jewelry and even red shoes.



Kid's Corner

The kids enjoyed an activity teaching them to identify some of the rocks and minerals. They loved rumaging through the rock bin. They were even allowed to take a couple of samples home for their collection.



Journey through the Rock Cycle Game

by Linda Simpson

The rock cycle is an illustration that explains how the three types of rocks are related to each other, and how processes change from one type to another over time. The original concept of the rock cycle is usually attributed to James Hutton, considered to be the father of geology. The rock cycle was a part of Hutton's Theory of Uniformitarianism.

The Journey through the Rock Cycle was presented. The game simulated the journey that an igneous, metamorphic, or sedimentary rock may take through the rock cycle. The game consisted of six stations where the rock could begin its journey. A metamorphic rock could begin in the soil. Igneous rocks could begin in a volcano or in mountains. Sedimentary rocks could begin in the Earth's interior, the ocean, or a river.

Participants chose a station to start at and rolled a cube. Depending to which side faced up, participants found that there were many processes





that work on rocks such as weathering, heat, pressure, compaction, erosion, deposition, sedimentation, cooling, and melting. The cube also directed which station the rock would go to next. Participants found that a rock doesn't go through the cycle in a specific order. It was not uncommon for a rock to spend multiple turns at one station such as in Earth's interior or in a mountain.

Not everyone ended up as the same type of rock they were when they started. Often there is a misconception that rocks travel a specific path through the rock cycle. This simulation made it clearer that there were many paths and processes in the rock cycle. In real life, a rock may spend thousands or millions of years in one location or take a long time to make one change.

Thank you!

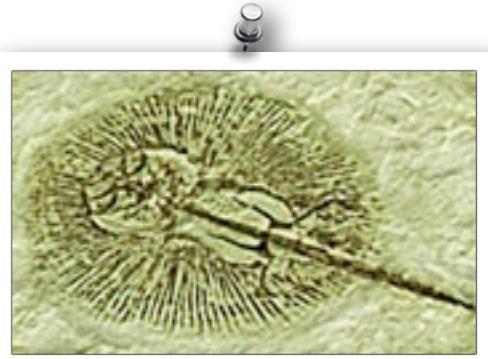
Thank you to DeeAnn Schleicher for bringing the HUGE box of seeds to the meeting. We are all going to have wonderful gardens this year ☺.



Men in red



Mystery Fossil



Do you suppose that this organism could be some sort of prehistoric roadkill, flattened as it is? No, this organism was arranged this way in life and its descendants still exist today. This specimen dates from the upper Cretaceous Period. What can it be?

Did you guess correctly?

source: www.ucmp.berkeley.edu

Club History

compiled by Jerrold Simpson

"The Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society was organized on Feb. 17, 1953 by Mr. A. L. Mooney for the purpose of exchanging ideas and information about gems, minerals and the lapidary arts. Eleven people attended the first meeting. Temporary officers elected were: Mr. Rex Hardaway, President; Mr. A.L. Mooney, Vice-President; Mrs. H.R. Gingrich, Secetary; Mr. G.T. Malherbe and Mr. C.C. Miller, Program Committee. This meeting was also attended by the following: Mrs. C.B. Weil, Mr. Joe M. Gier, Mrs. A.L. Mooney, Mr. M.H. Ivey, Mr. B.S. Brown, jr., Mrs. Rex Hardaway and Mr. Richard Cline.

The first formal meeting was held March 1953. The temporary officers were made permanent. The Board of Directors were elected. They were Mr. M.H. Ivey, R.E. Gault, Joe Gier, and C.C. Miller. 27 people paid their membership dues and were accepted at this meeting.

Charter members of the Society are as follows:

Mr & Mrs. C. J. Malherbe	Mr. & Mrs. H. R. Gingrich
Mr. J. D. Haffner	Mr. Joe Gier
Frisco Roberts	Blanche Roberts
E. J. Jones	R. E. Gault
Mr. & Mrs. A. I. Mooney	Mary Simon
Mr. & Mrs. M. H. Ivey	H. E. Maskey
Mr. & Mrs R. W. (Dick) Cline	John Maskey
John Groom	Joe Maskey
Mr. & Mrs. Rex Hardaway	Harry Maskey
Mrs. Nellie Heebner	C. C. Miller "

An article taken from the Slabs & Cabs, August, 1985: "How to tell a geologist from a mineralogist: A geologist picks up a specimen by it's crystals and raves over the matrix; a mineralogist picks up a specimen by the matrix and wishes there were more crystals."

In 1972 the Society won the All American Federation trophy and award for service to our community. The Society won the award again in 1992.

A poem from the April 1992 Slabs & Cabs:

"If my head were made of agate
and my feet were made of jade.
If my teeth were made of onyx
and they were gold inlaid.
If my neck were made of ivory
and my eyes were made of pearls.
I'll bet I would be the idol of
all you rockhound girls: J.G. "

CLUB HISTORY

CONTINUED

The Society's first barbecue was held May 1969 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs Harry Maskeye.

The GCGMS was incorporated as a non-profit organization in September 13, 1978.

Taken from a 1972 Slabs & Cabs: "A tumbling trick from Pick & Shovel - As a thickening agent in each step of tumbling, try adding 2 packs of Knox Gelatin. It keeps grits in suspension and working. In the final polish it acts as a cushion and prevents scratching."

Written by editor of Slabs & Cabs Emelie Masske. She put it at the end of the news letter: "This poem is a disgrace - It's only here to fillup space, it's short and rather solemn, but it does fill this column."

*If you kiss an amethyst it
might turn into a diamond*

by Gene Schade



Kids Corner

Rocks

About Fossils

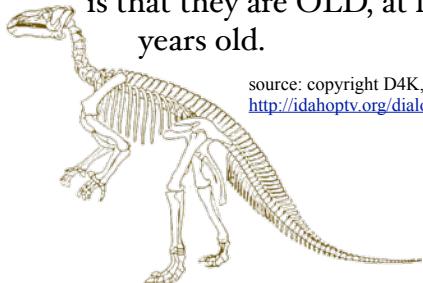
There Are Two Kinds of Fossils

Body Fossils - include the remains of organisms that were once living.

Usually only the hard parts of animals like shells and teeth and bones become fossilized. However, feathers, fur, and skin have also been found.

Trace Fossils - are the signs that organisms were once present. Trace fossils can be tracks, footprints, trails, burrows, eggs, nests, leaf impressions, and feces.

One thing all fossils have in common is that they are OLD, at least 10,000 years old.



source: copyright D4K, Idaho Public Television
<http://idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/season6/fossils/facts.cfm>

Fossil Word Search

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

amber	species
casts	sediment
cretaceous	strata
impressions	paleontology
matrix	



Q: Is it true that a dinosaur won't attack if you hold a tree branch?
A: That depends on how fast you carry it!



CHECK OUT SOME COOL KIDS LINKS



- KidsGeo.com
- Rocksforkids.com
- [KidsHabitat](http://KidsHabitat.com)

- [BBC fossils](#)
- [BBC walking with beasts](#)
- [BBC prehistoric life games and puzzles](#)

Amethyst

The violet to purple amethyst is the most important and best known gem variety of quartz and has been used for lapidary works since ancient times. Today most amethyst comes from Brazil and Uruguay. Before these resources were discovered, most amethyst was mined in Sri Lanka, India, Germany (Idar-Oberstein region), and the Ural Mountains (Murinska gem region) in Russia.

The name refers to its alleged ability to protect its owner from the negative effects of alcohol consumption, namely "methy", the Greek expression for being drunk, and "a-methy-stos" would translate to "one that does not get drunk"^[1]. This association probably came up because of the color of red wine is sometimes similar to that of amethyst.

SPECIFIC PROPERTIES

Amethyst is a very special quartz. Although it occurs in many different rocks in many different forms, most amethysts share certain basic properties, not just the color.

The color can vary from a pale pinkish violet to a dark blue-violet, with shades of red, and sometimes gray. Very often the color is unevenly distributed or even patchy, and is most intense at the tips of the crystals. Amethyst shows a weak dichroism, with the color changing from gray-violet to purple.

Amethyst owes its color to high energy radiation, e.g. gamma rays from radioactive sources ([Berthelot, 1906](#)) and the presence of iron built into its crystal lattice ([Holden, 1925](#)). The irradiation causes iron Fe(+3) atoms which probably replace the silicon in the center of the SiO₄ tetrahedra to lose another electron and form Fe(+4), an unusual oxidation state of iron ([Lehmann and Moore, 1966](#)). Note that the colorizing iron and its precursor is probably not present in the lattice as ideal ions (Fe³⁺ and Fe⁴⁺), but in part bound covalently to oxygen to form a FeO₄ group. The electron released from the iron by irradiation is probably taken up by another ion, but there are different models on how exactly the Fe(+4) color center is stabilized. According to

source: <http://www.quartzpage.de/amethyst.html>

a theory of Lehmann et. al., 1973, the electron released from the Fe³⁺ to form Fe⁴⁺ is captured by another Fe³⁺ elsewhere in the lattice which gets reduced to a Fe²⁺, so the color center would be a pair of [FeO₄]₂₊/Fe²⁺ formed in this reaction:



However, other mechanisms including the role of other ions in the charge compensation have been proposed and the details of the nature and formation of amethyst color centers are still a matter of debate. For a review of the different recent theories, see [Rossman, 1994](#), early theories have been discussed by [Holden, 1925](#).

Note: Do not expose an amethyst to direct sunlight for a long time. Very likely it will pale out by the ultraviolet radiation. Some amethyst pales out really quickly and some very slowly, but you can't tell in advance. Even the intense sunlight behind the window in your living room might do some damage, although the ultraviolet components are mostly filtered out by the window glass. This is actually true for all quartz varieties whose color is irradiation-induced (smoky quartz, citrine, pink quartz). In the summer I often cover my showcases with a black cloth.

The color is usually concentrated at the rhombohedral faces, and sometimes is more intense under the r-faces (belonging to the positive rhombohedron) than the z-faces, giving the crystal's tip a pinwheel like appearance when viewed from the top, as can be seen at the specimen of unknown origin to the right.

Sometimes the color is concentrated in zones parallel to crystal faces, giving them a phantom-like appearance. This is due to changes in environmental conditions during growth, namely fluctuations of the iron content and temperature of the solutions the crystals grew in. The picture to the right is a detailed view of crystals from Amatitlan, Guerrero, Mexico, showing multiple "phantoms". You can see that both crystals show a similar color pattern: going down from the tip the distance between the 5 main color patches is "short - long - very short - long". So the pattern



[click for Large Version](#)

reflects environmental changes acting on both crystals simultaneously.

In addition, the left crystal has a diamond shaped negative crystal (a bubble formed like a crystal) with its borders parallel to the color zones. You can see another bubble of similar shape at the right crystal, although a bit out of focus. Both are placed at the same position relative to the color pattern and this might be another effect of changing environmental conditions during growth.

Amethyst can occur in various crystal habits and growth patterns. Some of them seem to be typical for amethyst: Amethyst from druses in volcanic rocks is short-prismatic, the prism faces often do not develop at all. At many locations in igneous and highly metamorphosed rocks (e.g. in the Alps), amethyst grows as scepters on top of rock crystals or smoky quartz. While there are nice examples of relatively elongated amethyst crystals, I've so far not seen or heard of amethyst that formed as needle quartz. Needle quartz grows quickly and that might either inhibit the correct incorporation of iron into the crystal lattice or lead to an inclusion of impurities that suppress the formation of color centers.

As the color of amethyst is caused by iron-based color centers, iron minerals are often companions of amethyst. Of those two, goethite (FeOOH) and hematite (Fe_2O_3) frequently occur as inclusions.

The crystal form of amethyst (determined by the types of crystal faces that appear on a crystal) is usually rather "boring": you will probably never find any accessory crystal faces on it. Amethyst crystals are usually simply made up of the prism and the rhombohedra. Especially in amethyst from geodes in volcanic rocks the r-rhombohedron is very prominent, giving the crystals a trigonal appearance.

The likely reason for the simplicity of its crystal form is that most amethyst crystals are heavily twinned in a specific way, called polysynthetical twinning. The crystals are twinned according to the Brazil law, with the left- and right-handed



[click for large version](#)

parts of the crystals organized in a layered manner [1]. You can visualize the structure on thin slabs of amethyst with polarized light, or you can etch out the pattern on the rhombohedral faces using hydrogen fluoride[2]. Sometimes you can see that pattern directly on crystal faces, as in the detailed view of an amethyst from Uruguay to the right. Note that the "fingerprint" is visible only on the larger r faces, and not on the z faces. Some authors have even suggested to name any quartz with such a twinning pattern amethyst, no matter what its color might be.

So we might speculate that either

- the traces of iron in amethyst have a much greater influence on growth and crystal structure than the traces of aluminum have in smoky quartz, which does not suffer any restrictions in terms of crystal habit, form, and twinning, - or the environmental conditions that allow iron to be built into the crystal lattice also lead to a specific twinning pattern and also do not allow accessory crystal faces to form.

Currently I would favor the second explanation.

Artificially grown amethyst does not show a polysynthetical twinning, unless it is grown on top of an accordingly twinned crystal. And there are amethysts which do show accessory faces, lack polysynthetical Brazil law twinning and even seem to be untwinned altogether in some cases. So the presence of iron alone does not suffice for the twinning to occur.

A very remarkable exception from the "rule of simple crystal forms" is the amethyst found in the Brandberg/Goboboseb area in Namibia, where bipyramidal s-faces and steep rhombohedral faces frequently occur on amethysts. The image shows a small amethyst cluster from a pegmatite or miarole pocket grown on a feldspar-quartz matrix that was found in the vicinity of the Brandberg. One can see two elongated s-faces in the center of the group and a diamond-shaped s-face on a small crystal to the right. This was the first amethyst specimen I got with s-faces on it. The crystals contain numerous inclusions of red and black hematite.

The Namibian locations appear to be the only places where amethyst with accessory faces is found frequently. Rykart reported a single find of amethyst showing s-faces at the Ahrntal, Southern Tyrol, Italy (Rykart, 1995). Mexican amethyst from the Las Vegas area very rarely shows flat rhombohedral faces that separate r- and z-faces (Lieber and Frenzel, 1990).

Coming Events

February 2012

18 - 19

GEORGETOWN, TX

Annual show; Williamson County Gem & Mineral Society; Community Center; San Gabriel Park; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$2, students \$1, children (under 6) free; Rollin' Rock Club meeting Sun.; contact Wanda Reynolds, 2100 Magazine St., Austin, TX 78727, (512) 461-0084; e-mail: dragon.reynolds@hotmail.com; Web site: www.wcgms.org

25 - 26

PASADENA, TX

Annual show; Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society; Pasadena Convention Center; 7902 Fairmont Pkwy.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students \$1, children (under 12) and all Scouts and leaders in uniform free; contact Ben Duggar, 2109 Laughing Gull Ln., League City, TX 77573, (281) 316-6710; e-mail: sailduggar@verizon.net; Web site: www.clgms.org

March 2012

3 - 4

ROBSTOWN, TX:

50th annual show; Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society; Richard Borchard Regional Fairgrounds; 1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd., US 77 and Hwy. 44; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 (2-day pass), children (12 and under) free, Scouts in uniform free; contact Jerrold Simpson, P.O. Box 7786, Corpus Christi, TX 78467-7786, (361) 877-3073; e-mail: jsimpson1@stx.rr.com; Web site: www.gcgms.org

8 - 11

DEMING, NEW MEXICO:

47th annual show and sale; Deming Gem & Mineral Society; SWNM Fairgrounds; Raymond Reed Blvd.; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; more than 100 dealers; contact Maurice Crawford, 713 W. Spruce PMB 726, Deming, NM 88031, (575) 546-0056; e-mail: mauryjudy@yahoo.com; Web site: dgms.bravehost.com

17 - 18

LIVE OAK (SAN ANTONIO), TX:

Annual show; San Antonio Gem & Mineral Society; Live Oak Civic Center; 8101 Pat Booker Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, seniors and military \$3, students (with ID) \$2, children (5-12) \$1, under 5 free; contact Robert Bowie; e-mail: krbotx@gvtc.com; Web site: swgemandmineral.org

17 January 2012 General Meeting Minutes

of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Regular Meeting for 01-17-12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 7:02 pm. The meeting was held at the Corpus Christi Museum. Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. There are 46 adult members, 10 junior members.

There was no Federation report.

Mark Wolbrink gave the shop report. He said the machines are running fine. He asked if anyone has polishing skills to assist in order to finish projects. He went over the time the shop is open.

Linda Simpson gave the education report. She is presenting a program call the Rock Cycle in schools. She will visit 19 schools.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. He said this is the 50th anniversary show. He said there will be over 20 vendors and 5 or 6 still need contracts. Jerrold said there will be sign-up sheets in the back for jobs at the Rock Show. Linda Simpson went over the various activities and said that you can sign up for a specific day or just for several hours.

Donna Grimes said that the Rock Show will be on Channel 3 Early Show, in the newspaper and KOUL 93.8 radio. Donna has posters and pre-sale tickets for \$4.00 each and if you get 10 you get ten complementary tickets.

Fred Blackmar made a motion to accept minutes as presented and Suzie Nicks seconded. All vote aye.

Butch Harris made a motion to accept the treasurers' report as presented and Linda Grimes seconded. All voted aye.

Under old business, the Rock Camp was discussed. Kevin Schleicher stated he wanted to have a meeting with the committee at the shop around six. The Rock Camp will be around June. He said that we should meet to have the dates by the Rock Show. The camp will have four days from 9am to 1pm. He would like to meet before the end of the month.

Jerrold discusses a dealer who is sick and need to sell inventory. He has a sign-in sheet to contact him.

Kevin Schleicher makes a motion to adjourn at 8:19 pm seconded by Butch Harris. The motion passed.

07 February 2012 Board Meeting Minutes

of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Board Meeting for 02-07-12 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, Kevin Schleicher, Sylvia Kernen, Jerrold Simpson, Linda Simpson and Gilbert Trejo.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. He stated that the shop rental and utilities had been paid for the year. Kevin Schleicher made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Donna Grimes seconded it. The motion was approved.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. There are 48 adult members, 10 junior members. Sylvia said these are the paid members and all members total to 103 until the membership ends at the end of March.

Mark Wolbrink gave the shop report. He said a city representative had been by to take pictures of the

building. Mark showed him the defective lights and asked for more asphalt for the driveway. He said that there was more activity in January. Hank Swan will conduct silver smithing classes starting tomorrow. Mark stated that the some of the donated machines were now working and they hoped to get the rest working and sell at the show. Joe Grimes reads letter from the City on the lease of the building and as all items need and confirmed to been sent except for the Certificate of Insurance which Jerrold Simpson handed it to him. The Certificate will be mailed to the City by the Secretary. A motion was made by Jerrold Simpson to accept the shop report and Jerrold Simpson seconded it. The motion was approved.

Kevin Schleicher made a motion to accept the minutes as presented in the Slabs and Cabs and Jerrold Simpson seconded it. The motion carried.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

07 FEBRUARY 2012 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Several dealers need to be contacted to get contacts and funds. We should have 22 dealers. Jerrold goes over sign in sheets to see if we will have enough people to do the jobs. Jerrold and Linda Simpson would go to the storage unit to inspect the items need and see if everything is in good shape. Donna Grimes has flyers and presented the newspaper ad and the ad in Texas Coop. Donna said that the Show will be on Channel 3 Early Show. Donna asked if we could give the vendors comp tickets to give out. After discussion, Jerrold made a motion to give each vendor 10 complementary tickets and flyers and Mark seconded it. The motion carried.

Joe Grimes asked on the Education Report if any scholarship applications had been received. Gene said we have not received any applications. He stated that some years we did not have applications.

Linda Simpson gave the Federation News. Linda stated that the Federation is asking for volunteers for various projects. The Federation also asked for a donation of a quality item for a raffle. Linda also stated that the Federation Representative asked for a table at the show to sell raffle tickets. Jerrold Simpson made a motion that the club donates an agate rock sphere to the Federation as a raffle item and seconded by Donna Grimes. The motion carried. A motion was made by Linda Simpson to let the Federation set up a table to sell raffle tickets as long as it is clear that this is a Federation raffle and not prizes given at this show and Jerrold Simpson seconded it. The motion carried.

Under old business, an audit was discussed. Joe Grimes asked the status of the year-end audit. Gene Schade said that he was working on a plan to do a monthly audit. He said that if a monthly audit is done then a year-end audit will be a simple job of reviewing the monthly audits. Gene stated that the bank is redoing their statements so when that is done the review can be done. Jerrold Simpson reads the section from the by-laws on audits and the manner in doing an audit is discussed.

CONTINUED

The Rock Camp was discussed. Joe Grimes asked Kevin Schleicher the status of the Rock Camp. Kevin stated he wanted to have a meeting on February 16th. Donna Grimes said that we should meet earlier and proposed that a committee meet on Thursday to get activities for the camp and present these ideas to Kevin. The key items were the date of the camp and activities for the brochure to be ready for the Rock Show.

Linda Simpson asked if a members table can be set up at the Rock Show for members to allow members to sell their items. Discussion stated that vendors have resented members selling items in competition with them and do we charge the members for the table.

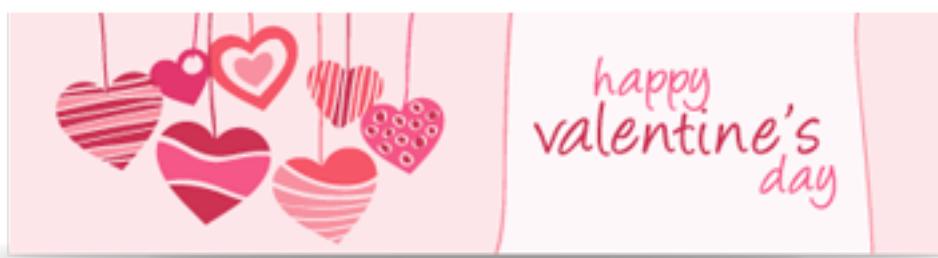
Donna Grimes suggested that member items could be sold at the silent auction. The items would be set out with a different color ticket with the members name on the back and their minimum bid on the front. Gene Schade made a motion to let club members sell no more than five items at the silent auction and 25% of the item sale would go back to the club and seconded by Kevin Schleicher. After discussion on the amount coming back to the club the item was denied. A motion was made by Donna Grimes to let club members sell no more than five items at the silent auction and 10% of the item sale come back to the club and seconded by Jerrold Simpson. The item carried.

Jerrold Simpson reviewed the schedule for the silver smithing class.

Under new business, Joe Grimes asked about the Kids Corner for the next meeting. Mark Wolbrink Wolbrink volunteered. Joe Grimes stated the color for next meeting is orange.

Gene Schade stated that we need a new logo. It was agreed by Joe Grimes but he stated this could wait until after the Rock show.

Kevin Schleicher makes a motion to adjourn at 8:19 pm seconded by Jerrold Simpson. The motion passed.



AFMS Land Use Policy

from the AFMS February Newsletter 2012

1. Adherence to the AFMS Code of Ethics assures compliance with most statutes and regulations governing collecting on public lands and encourages respect for private property rights and the environment. Clubs are urged to read the AFMS Code of Ethics in at least one meeting every year, to publish the Code frequently in the club newsletter, and to compel compliance on club field trips.
2. Individuals and clubs are urged to write their elected representatives and land use management agency supervisors regarding issues of rule making, legislation and enforcement affecting field collecting of minerals and fossils.
3. Individuals and clubs are urged to join and support activities of the American Lands Access Association (ALAA), a sister organization with responsibility for advancing the interests of earth science amateurs with legislatures and land use management agencies.
4. The AFMS will receive a report from ALAA at its annual meeting.
5. The AFMS endorses the principle of multiple use of public lands as a guarantee of continuing recreational opportunities.
6. Wilderness and monument designations are inconsistent with the principle of multiple use. In view of the vast amount of public land already designated as wilderness and monuments, future such designations should be minimal, taking into account the increased demand for recreational opportunities, including rockhounding, created by a growing population.
7. In furtherance of the principle of multiple use, the AFMS believes that laws, regulations and rules established by relevant governmental authorities should be designed to allow freest possible access to all public lands, coupled with minimal restrictions on the recreational collection of minerals, fossils, gemstone materials and other naturally occurring materials.
8. A right to collect minerals and fossils on public lands should be protected by statute.
9. The AFMS urges its members to work with any or all government authorities to achieve a good working relationship in order to improve the "Public Image" of recreational collectors.

The AFMS Land Use Policy was adopted at the AFMS Annual Meeting at Port Townsend, WA., July 17, 2002



Shop Rules

LAPIDARY SHOP RULES

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



Come and check out the new website! Gene and Sylvia worked hard - and are still at it - to make the new site look nice and have the information our members and potential members need and want. It is a work in progress and if you have any input you would like to share let Gene Schade know.

Newsletter Submissions

If you went on a field trip, would like to share information about gems and minerals, or have any information (articles, minutes, ideas) for the newsletter, please email them to Sylvia: Newsletter@gcgms.org by the first Thursday morning 9:00 a.m. of every month.

LAPIDARY SHOP KEYS

Those with keys to the Lapidary Shop are:

Shop Supervisor:
Mark Wolbrink 361-991-2495



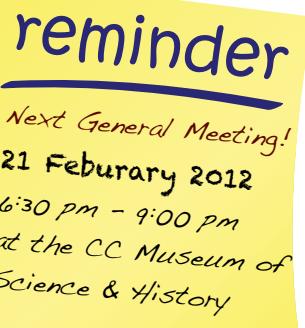
Jerrold Simpson 361-851-8788,
Cell - 361-877-3073

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.



**MEMBER of**

**American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies**

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

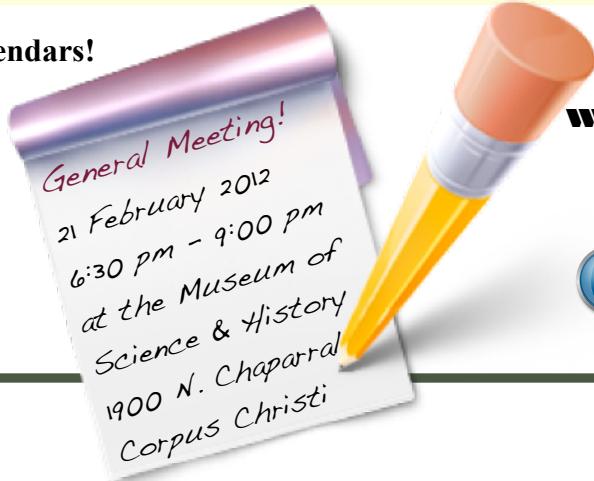
Individual \$15.00 Couples \$20.00 Junior (under17) \$5.00

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.



**South Central Federation
of Mineral Societies, Inc.**

Mark your Calendars!

www

Visit us on our website

www.gcgms.org



we are also on [Facebook](#), come and 'like' us on there as well!

Slabs & Cabs
Sylvia Kernen
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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