



# Slabs & Cabs

Volume 64

Number 01

January 2013

Howdy Rockhounds,

Happy New Year to all of the members of the Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society!

As I reflect on 2012, I think of the success of the "Owen Hopkins" kid's camp, and I appreciate all of the preparation and planning that made it successful.

In 2012 we had our 50th Gem and Mineral Show which was a great success. Again many hours of work went into making it a success, it was well attended and a good time was had by all. Many thanks goes out to those with a vision many years ago; to establish the Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society, and then begin having Gem and Mineral Shows. Through our annual Gem and Mineral Show we reach new people and have the opportunity to acquaint them with the Treasures of the Earth.

As I anticipate 2013, I look forward to the Kid's Camp, the Gem and Mineral Show, (which is just around the corner) and getting to know each member better. I wish you and your family a Blessed New Year.

The first meeting for 2013 will be held Jan. 15th. Bring your favorite "Brown" mineral to display on the, "It Certainly is Exquisite, but what the dickens is it?" table. Also there will be a prize for the best brown outfit.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 15th!

*Joe*

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**Birthstone - Traditional**  
 By her who in January is born  
 No gem save garnets should be worn;  
 They will ensure her constancy,  
 True friendship, and fidelity.

## 2012/13 Board

President  
*Joe Grimes*

Vice-President  
*Jerrold Simpson*

Past President  
*Kevin Schleicher*

Secretary  
*Gilbert Trejo*

Treasurer  
*Hank Swan*

Membership / Web master  
*Gene Schade*

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  
*Joe Grimes*

Historian  
*open position*

Communications  
*Suzy Nick*

Door Prizes  
*Michelle Alvarez*

Refreshment Hostess  
*Letty Rodriguez*

[www.gcgms.org](http://www.gcgms.org)

## Club News & Information



### Happy Birthday

to: Karen Day Elisabeth Longo  
 Gilbert Rodriguez Letty Rodriguez  
 Dee Schade Jacob White

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

### MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2013

Membership dues for 2013 are due in January 2013. We have 4 types of memberships and they are as follows:

1. Single \$ 15.00
2. Spousal \$ 20.00
3. Junior \$ 5.00  
(this is for any member from the age of 6 - 17)
4. Honorary, does not pay dues

*If dues are not paid by the time of the show you will forfeit your membership*



### Press Release

Chester Scotch of Rockport and Riaz Hossain Khan of Corpus Christi have been selected to receive \$1,000 scholarships awarded by the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society. The society since 2006 has offered scholarships to students at Texas A&M Corpus Christi (TAMUCC) and Texas A&M Kingsville who are enrolled in earth science programs. Scotch's Bachelor of Science Magna cum laude is from TAMUCC where he is a Master of Science candidate with a major in Hydrogeology-Environmental Science. Khan completed undergraduate and post graduate work at the University of Dhaka, and lectured at the Patuakhali Science and Technology University, both in Bangladesh. He is a first year Doctoral student in the TAMUCC Coastal and Marine System Science Program.



**Riaz Hossain Kahn**

the science of minerals, fossils, and their associated fields. This is managed through internal programs as well as scholarships. The society also established and has completed the second year of the Owen Hopkins Memorial Kid's Rock Camp. The camp continues Owen's longtime passion to educate our youth and stimulate their interest in minerals and fossils. Primary society funding is derived from the gem and mineral show that has been conducted annually for the past 50 years. Membership in the society is open to individuals of all ages.



**Chester Scotch**

Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies.

The purpose of the society is to promote popular interest and education in the various earth sciences, in particular those dealing with the art of lapidaries and

## Birthstone for January

### Garnet

Chemistry:  $\text{Ca}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$ , calcium aluminum

silicateSubclass: Nesosilicates

Class:SilicatesGroup: Garnets

### History of the Garnet

There are many different myths about the origins of garnet. One such myth suggests that the garnet originated with Persephone, the Greek goddess of sunshine. Persephone was captured by Hades, the god of the underworld. Before Hades released Persephone, he wanted to guarantee her return, so he gave her some pomegranate seeds. The word garnet comes from the Latin "granatus," which means seed. The next time you eat a pomegranate, you will notice the seeds' resemblance to garnet.



### Science of garnet

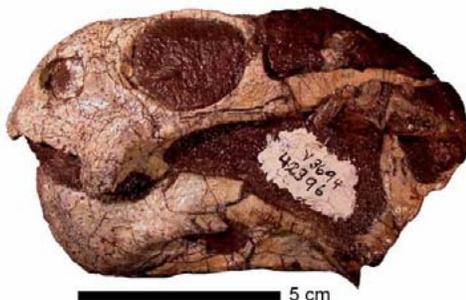
Garnet is actually a group of six different stones: grossular (red to orange colors), almandine (red), pyrope (red and pink), spessartite (green-brown), andradite (brown to black), and uvarovite (emerald green). Garnets can be found in metamorphic rocks and sometimes in granites and volcanic rocks. These special minerals form deep underground, enduring extreme temperatures and pressures. For this reason, geologists may use garnets to study the temperature and pressure of the surrounding rock. Garnets belong to the isometric crystal class, which produces symmetrical, cube-based crystals.



An alternate birthstone for January is clear rose-quartz. Quartz is a very hard, durable, and transparent mineral and is the most abundant semi-precious stone.



### Mystery Fossil



If you're thinking that this is a turtle skull, think again. This critter represents a group of animals that was very successful during the Permian but was gone by the end of the Triassic. Note the short tusk protruding from the upper jaw...

Did you guess correctly?

<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/historyoflife/mysteries/mystery42/mystery42.html>

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

## Board Meeting 03 January 2013

### *of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society*

The Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Board meeting was held Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013. Joe Grimes, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. Eight members of the board were present.

Mark Wolbrink, Shop Foreman, indicated the water is still off to the shop; however the leak in the pipe near the building is repaired. He has called the city twice this past week and has had no response. Mark reported that the 60 grit wheel for the flat lap is worn out. The board approved funds for a new grinding wheel for the flat lap. Hank Swan made a motion to accept the shop report, Kevin Schleicher seconded. The motion was passed by the board.

The treasures report was presented by Gene Shade for the last time in his tenure. All show expenses have been paid to date. A motion was made by Mark Wolbrink and seconded by Kevin Schleicher, to accept the treasurer report. The motion was passed by the board.

Gene has been treasurer for five years. He handed the job over to Henry (Hank) Swan at the board meeting. Welcome back to the board Hank.

Our secretary, Gilbert Trejo, was absent so there was no report. The board did accept the minutes as printed in the Slabs & Cabs.

The 2013 show report was presented by Jerrold Simpson and Donna Grimes. Jerrold indicated we have contracts form 20 dealers

and have 4 more committed. He is working with some additional dealers. We only need two or three more.

Donna indicated the advertising was going well. The fliers and posters are printed and she has them if anyone needs any. The pre-sale tickets are printed and Donna has those if anyone needs them. Hank Swan made a motion to accept the show report and Donna Grimes seconded. The motion was approved.

Gene Shade our new membership chairman presented the membership report. We now have 130 adult members, 34 junior and 9 honorary members. 31 adults and 13 juniors have paid their dues for 2013. Gene asks that everyone pay their dues by the 2013 show so he will not have to drop people from the membership list. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the membership report and Hank Swan seconded. The motion was approved.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Jerrold indicated the sign up list for working the show, will be out for the January meeting. The sign up sheet for display cases will also be available.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The board received three scholarship applications for the 2013 scholarship. One of the applications was not complete. The other two applications were

reviewed by the board. Both applicants are graduate students. Both of them were awarded \$1,000.00 Scholarships.

Chester G. Scotch of Rockport, TX was awarded his third scholarship by the board. Chester is working on his Master's Degree at Texas A&M, Corpus Christi. His major is Hydrology and he has a 4.0 grade point average.

The second recipient is Raiz Hossain Khan of Uttar Damodya, Thana District, and Shariatpur, Bangladesh. Raiz is attending Texas A&M, Corpus Christi. He is working on his doctorate degree and has a 4.0 grade point average. He is majoring in Coastal and Marine System Science.

Web master, Gene Schade, reported there are 4 commercial links on our website. The board voted to have the commercial links removed. Gene will take care of that.

Our next general meeting will be held January 15, 2013. The show is upon us. Everybody please attend the meeting and sign up for "duty" jobs at our upcoming show.

Joe Grimes made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jerrold Simpson seconded it. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted by Jerrold Simpson for Gilbert Trejo.

## 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*

## Lapidary Shop Keys

Lapidary Shop key masters are:

Shop Supervisor:  
Mark Wolbrink 361-991-2495

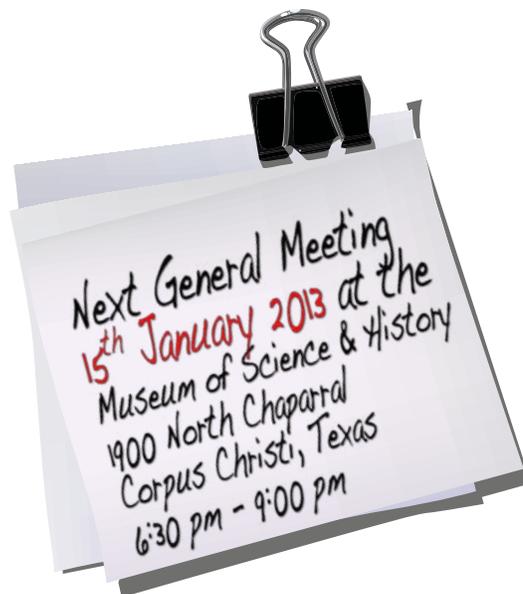
Jerrold Simpson  
361-851-8788 / Cell - 361-877-3073

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 6:00pm 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.



## Shop News!

Remember, if you are interested in lapidary classes such as cabochon making or wire wrapping ask Mark, Jerrold or Hank. They are always happy to teach you.

Shop Supervisor: Mark Wolbrink 361-991-2495

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

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

## Upcoming Events

### January 2013

**Jan 19-20 FREDERICKSBURG, TX**

Annual show; Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park; Pioneer Pavilion, 1601 S. Hwy. 16; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; hourly door prizes, fossils, geodes, exotic minerals, meteorites, gems, jewelry, findings, "mystery" rock identification; contact Jeff or Brenda Smith, 208 Castle Pines Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028; e-mail: jeffbrenda@ktc.com; Web site: fredericksburgrockhounds.org

**Jan 25-27 TYLER, TX**

Annual show; East Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Tyler Rose Garden Center; 420 Rose Park Dr.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, students \$1, Scouts in uniform free; contact Keith Harmon, 8316 Oxford Dr., Tyler, TX 75703, (903) 581-4068; e-mail: keithharmon19@yahoo.com

### February 2013

**Feb 16-17 PLAINVIEW, TX**

Annual show; Hi Plains Gem & Mineral Society; Ollie Liner Center; 2000 South Columbia, Business I-27 South; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children \$1; silent auction, kids' wheel, geode cutting, demonstrations, hourly door prizes, grand prize; contact Josephine Macha, 2298 FM 788, Plainview, TX 79072, (806) 293-8572; e-mail: josefcmacha@aol.com

**Feb 16-17 GEORGETOWN, TX:** 43rd show; Williams County Gem & Mineral Society; Community Center; San Gabriel Park, 445 E. Morrow St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; adults \$3, students (6-15) \$2, children (under 6) free; silent auction; contact Wanda Reynolds, 2100 Magazine St., Austin, TX 78727, (512) 461-0084; e-mail: dragon.reynolds@hotmail.com; Web site: www.wcgms.org

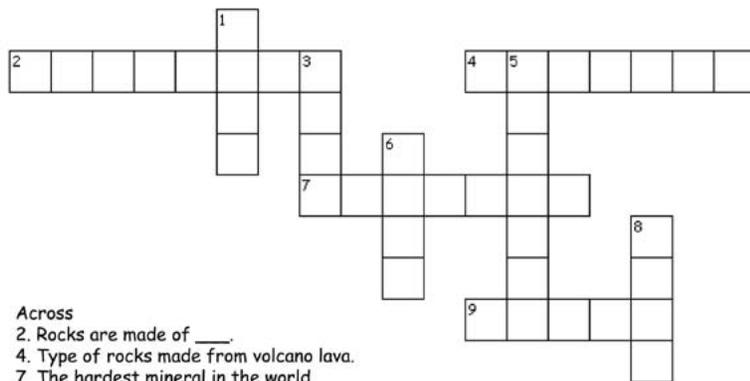
**Feb 23-24 PASADENA, TX:** Annual show, Clear Lake GMS, Pasadena Convention Center, 7902 Fairmont Parkway (southeast of the Houston Metro area, 2.5 miles east of Beltway 8); \$5 for adults (good for both days of the show), \$1 for students ages 12 -17 and children are Free; includes a special program for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts; www.clgms.org

### March 2013

**Mar 2-3 ROBSTOWN, TX:** Annual show; Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society; Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds; 1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd., intersection of IH-37 and Hwy. 77; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 (two-day pass), children (under 12) with adult and Scouts in uniform free; dealers, jewellery, minerals, fossils, meteorites, kids' wheel, Rock Food Table; contact Jerrold Simpson, PO Box 60781, Corpus Christi, TX 78466, (361) 877-3073; e-mail: jsimpson1@stx.rr.com; Web site: www.gcgms.org

# Kids Corner Rocks

## Crossword Puzzle Rocks and Minerals

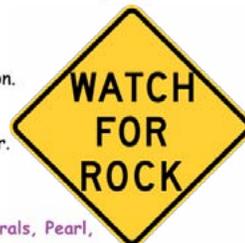


Across

- 2. Rocks are made of \_\_\_\_.
- 4. Type of rocks made from volcano lava.
- 7. The hardest mineral in the world.
- 9. June birthstone.

Down

- 1. Melted rock that comes out of a volcano during and eruption.
- 3. Small quartz grains found on the beach.
- 5. Igneous rock often used for counter tops.
- 6. Large open areas in limestone rock worn away by rain water.
- 8. The halite mineral is also known as \_\_\_\_.



Choose From: **Igneous, Diamond, Quartz, Cave, Lava, Minerals, Pearl, Granite, Sand, Salt**

### THE EARTH'S CRUST

The whole earth is made of rocks & minerals. Inside the earth there is a liquid core of molten rock and on the outside there is a hard crust. If you compare the earth to an egg, the shell on an egg is like the crust on the earth. The crust is made up of rocks and minerals. Much of the crust is covered by water, sand, soil and ice.

If you dig deep enough, you will always hit rocks.

Below the loose layer of soil, sand & crumbled rocks found on Earth is bedrock, which is a solid rock.

- **The Crust** makes up less than 1% of the Earth's mass (0.4%) It is made of oxygen, magnesium aluminium, silicon calcium, sodium potassium, iron. There are 8 elements that make up 99% of the Earth's crust. The continents are about 35 km thick and the ocean floors are about 7 km thick.
- **The Mantle** is the solid casing of the Earth and is about 2900 km thick. It makes up about 70% of the Earth's mass (68.1%). It is made up of silicon, oxygen, aluminium and iron.
- **The Core** is mainly made of iron and nickel and makes up about 30% of the Earth's mass (31.5%). The Outer Core is 2200 km thick and is liquid and the Inner core is 1270 km thick and is solid.

source: <http://www.rocksforkids.com/RFK/howrocks.html>

The word dinosaur comes from the Greek language and means 'terrible lizard'. The word was coined by English paleontologist Richard Owen in 1842 and was meant to refer to Dinosaurs impressive size rather than their scary appearance.



### Check out some Cool Kids Links

- <http://www.kidsgeo.com>
- <http://www.rocksforkids.com>
- <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/kids/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/fossils>
- <http://www.abc.net.au/beasts/fossilfun/>
- [http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/prehistoric\\_life/games/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/prehistoric_life/games/)
- <http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/fossils/inverts>
- <http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/rocks/index>

**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**.

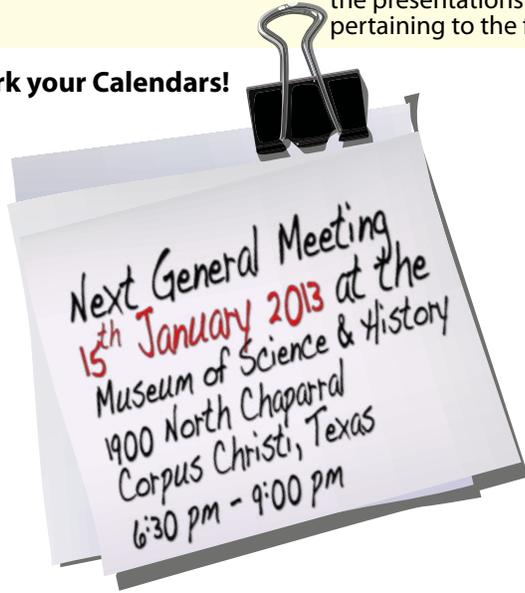
**Membership Fees**

**Annual fees: Individuals \$15.00, Couples \$20.00, Junior (under 17) \$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  
5 February 2013  
at the Lapidary Shop  
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

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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