SLABS & CABS

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1817
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78403-1817

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Volume 48 Number 11 November 2009

Next Meetings
Christmas Party
4 December 2009
Baptist Church
6:0 PM– 9: PM

General meeting
15 November 2009
Watergarden Room
Corpus Christi
Museum of Science & History
1900 No. chaparral
Corpus Christi, Texas
6:30 PM

Membership Fees for 2010

Membership dues for 2010 are due in January 2010
We have 4 types of memberships and they are as follows:
Single $ 15.00
Spousal $ 20.00
Junior $ 5.00
This is for any member from the age of 6-17 years Of age
Honorary
Dona Grimes, Membership chair lady

In Memory of Bill Bluntzer

Oct.1, 1923,- Sept.11, 2009
Bill passed away at his home after a long struggle with complications from a broken hip. He was the "Outstanding Rock Hound of the year in 2008". He enjoyed participating in the field trips, bidding on the silent auction at our monthly meetings, and always brought a big Bucket of polished rocks to be used at the Kids Wheel at our Gem and Mineral Show each year. He was especially proud of serving his country As a P-38 Pilot in the 9th Photo Reconnaissance Squadron in WW11. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal. Our condolences go out to his wife, Rusty and family. He will truly be missed.

INSIDE

We are on-line
www.gcgms.org
Thanks to Chris Davis of Spurfire and Owen Hopkins For getting us back up and running! Take a look.

Minutes of the October Meeting of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

Held 10/20/09 at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History.
Suzy called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Membership – Donna Grimes reported that there are 119 members, 88 regular, 8 honorary, and 23 junior
Minutes – September regular meeting and Board Meeting minutes were approved upon motion by Kyle Hinkle, second by Art Worley.
Treasurer's report – Given by Gene Schade, Kyle Hinkle moved to approve, second by Jerrold Simpson, motion approved.
Shop report – Dick Cline stated that everything is working in the shop. More people need to come out. Dick is working on the display cases.
Fieldtrip report –Mike McCraw said we need ideas for field trips. January 3 was suggested as a date for the club to visit Dr. Simpson's collection. Mrs. Simpson has generously offered to host the visit. Wright Gravel pit was suggested as a possibility for a field trip. Jerrold Simpson announced that a fossil jawbone he found at Harbor Island was from a prehistoric rabbit 10-20,000 years old, and the only one found in the area.

Education Report-none.

Show report – Jerrold Simpson reported that 20 dealers have signed up. All members are encouraged to assemble displays for next years show. Cases will be available. Donna will handle publicity.

Federation Report – no report

Old Business – The proposed amendment to the bylaws, Article III, §6, to extend the number of consecutive terms an officer may serve from two to five years was approved.

New Business – The nomination committee presented the list of proposed officers for next year. They include Kevin Schleicher, President, Kyle Hinkle, Vice-President, Suzy Nick, Secretary, and Gene Schade, Treasurer. After a motion by Jerrold Simpson, second by Dick Cline, the club voted and the officers were elected.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Art Worley and Dick Cline for their dedication and service to the club.
Motion to Adjourn by Art Worley, second by Kyle Hinkle. Approved.

Raffle Winners-Hunter Paradise won cut Agate, Kevin Schleicher won Agate slab, both donated by Art Worley.

Auction –Brought in $57.00 dollars
Aventurine pendant from Dick Cline-won by Suzy Nick
2. Mystery bag, which later was revealed to contain Honey Calcite and a $5.00 bill, donated by Joe and Donna Grimes won by Dee Schade

Program Highlights
Program-Joe and Donna Grimes presented a program on Utah's Arches National Park.

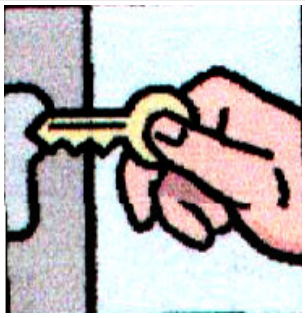
Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Schleicher
Secretary GCGMS 2009

Jasper Agua Fria
Brewster County
Texas
Specimen & Photo by

GCGMS 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 accom panied 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



Those with keys to the Lapidary Shop are
Mike McCraw—361-993-6425
Jerrold Simpson—361-851-8788
Cell - 361-877-3073
Hank Swan—361-993-9861/361-857-2405
Richard Cline—361-853-8084
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 9:00 PM. 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.

A TRIBUTE TO A REAL AMERICAN HERO, BILL BLUNTZER
Contributor Unknown

Another American Veteran died today,
A piece of American history gone Away.

A real American Hero of World War II, Whom Most of the world never new.

I heard him speak of airplanes he might have flown,
The storied P 38 or the mighty Corse Air, which is not known.

As with most of the generation that served our nation,
He came home to a life of dreams and anticipation.

He worked hard every day for his family as most veterans do,

Just as he fought hard for the freedom of me and you.

I only knew him in his waning years when he spoke softly of petrified wood and apache tears.

He was gentle and kind with a glint in his eye that told a rascal once lived within this guy.

With a red headed sprite of a wife,
Bill lived in Texas all his life.

He carried the name of a small south Texas town,
Our world will be dimmer knowing the glimmer of Bill Bluntzer will no longer be around.

Well that's not exactly true of those of us who knew him, we will always remember his wit, his smile, his easy way He was a gem.

November Birthstone Topaz

Compiled by Roger K. Pabian, Research Geologist, Emeritus
School of Natural Resources, UNL

Topaz, the birthstone for November, may have derived its name from the Island of Topazios in the Red Sea but some authorities think the name may have come from the Sanskrit word "topas" that means "fire." I personally favor the former explanation as topaz is known for the very soft colors that most finished stones display.

Topaz is an orthorhombic fluosilicate of aluminum and it comes in many colors including pink, blue, lavender, yellow, orange, orange-yellow, brownish yellow, yellow-brown, red, and colorless to mention a few. Topaz crystals may become quite large and finished gems weighing several thousands of carats are seen in many museum collections. Visitors to the 1974 National Gem and Mineral Show in Lincoln, Nebraska saw a 144,000 carats (63 pounds) crystal of golden-brown topaz from Brazil. It was exhibited in a bushel basket.

Topaz has many lower priced imitators that include synthetic corundum and synthetic spinel as well as citrine quartz; the latter often sold under the misleading name of "Brazilian Topaz." More recently, colorless quartz crystals that are coated with a monomolecular layer of gold have been substituted for blue topaz. These stones have been sold under several trade names such as Aqua-Aura™.

Topaz is fairly hard but its use is somewhat restricted by the perfect basal cleavage along the basal pinacoidal (crystal face that intersects a single crystal axis) crystal face. The facetor must be sure that no facets of a stone are parallel to this face or the faceting machine will simply tear away thin layers of topaz cleavages.

Topaz has a specific gravity of about 3.50 to 3.57. Light shades (pink, yellow, etc.) usually occupy the lower range and darker shades (blues) usually occupy the higher range, as do colorless stones. Many of the blue topazes are derived from colorless stones that have been heat-treated so that is one reason why colorless stones have a higher specific gravity.

Continued on Page 6

Topaz Crystals. Two large crystals are from Brazil. The small one is from Utah.

Faceted topaz and topaz crystals (crystals are two on the left side). These are probably from Brazil.

Coming Events November 2009

November 2009

13-15 - HUMBLE, TX: Houston G&M Society 56th Annual Show; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults $7, Seniors & Students $6, Children under 12 free; displays, gems, minerals, fossils, fluorescent rocks display; demonstrations, jewelry making, beading, lapidary, children's activities, Scout Merit badge program, famous "Dino Dig", jewelry, minerals, fossils; contact Patty Scott, 14906 Summerland Circle, Cypress, TX 77429, (281) 373-1578; e-mail: nigels_mom@sbcglobal.net;
Website: www.hgms.org

13-15 - TULSA, OK: Retail and wholesale show; Bead Renaissance Shows; Expo Square, Exchange Ctr, 4145 E 21st St; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Free admission; bead artists, dealers, ancient, vintage, contemporary and designer beads, jewelry, tools, books; contact J&J Promotions LLC, PO Box 420, Williamsburg, NM 87942, (575) 894-1293; e-mail: beadshow@aol.com; Website: www.beadshow.com

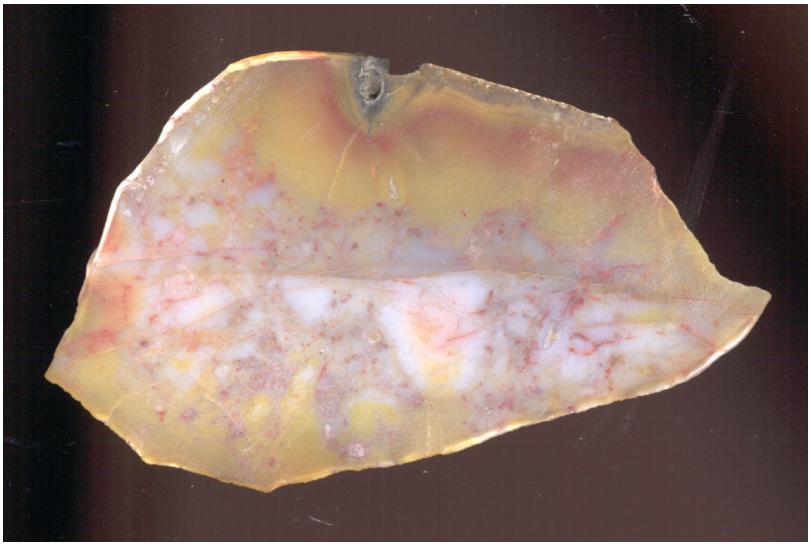
13-15 - HOUSTON, TX: Houston G&M Society Presents 56th Annual HGMS Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5 Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, TX, 5 miles east of Bush International Airport, 1 mile east of Hwy 59

21-22 – MESQUITE, TX: Dallas G&M Society presents 52nd Annual Dallas Gem & Mineral Show: The World of Rocks; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; 1818 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, TX; contact Darrell Harrison, PO Box 742033, Dallas, TX 75374-2033; email: Bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.dallasgemandmineralshow.com

November 21–22—West Palm Beach, FL. Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. 43rd Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show. Americraft Expo Ctr., 9067 Southern Blvd. Info.—Barbara Ringhiser, 561/588-5458, or bar5678@aol.com, or Ellen Jean, 931/372-8236, or ellenjean24@aol.com, or www.gemandmineral.cc.

November 27–29—Mobile, AL. Mobile Rock and Gem Society. 15th Annual Show. Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds, Cody Rd. and Zeigler Blvd. Info.—Jerry Shirey, 251/786-4777, or rockhoundjs@aol.com.

November 28–29—San Francisco, CA. The Great San Francisco Crystal Fair. Fort Mason Cntr., Building A, Laguna & Marina Blvd. Info.—Jerry Tomilson, 415/383-7837, or sfxtl@earthlink.net, or www.crystalfair.com.



Petrified Wood Agua Fria
Brewster County Texas
Specimen & Photo by Art

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The refractive index (the numerical measure of how much the stone bends and slows a beam of light) of topaz ranges from about 1.610 to about 1.617 in colorless and blue to about 1.630 to about 1.637 in yellow and brown stones. The fairly low refractive index and the fairly high specific gravity are an unusual characteristic as refractive index usually varies upward with the specific gravity. The anomalous, low refractive index of topaz may be due to the presence of the very large fluoride ion in the crystal lattice.

Topaz has been found in granitic pegmatite (coarsely crystalline hydrothermal deposits) and in cavities in rhyolitic welded ash flow tuffs. Topaz is almost always found in the form of large, well-developed crystals. Massive topaz is practically unknown. Most gem topaz is mined directly from the host rock or from nearby sediment derived from the host rock. Because of its poor toughness, topaz is rarely found in gravel deposits that have been removed any distance from the source area.

Topaz is usually easily separated from its imitators by refractive index---few materials fall into this range, except tourmaline which is so strongly doubly refractive that one will observe doubled back facets when looking through the table of the stone with a small magnifier (about 6 to 10 power). Topaz rarely comes in the same shades as tourmaline either.

Inclusions in topaz may include actinolite crystals and labyrinth-like fluid-filled hollows that contain materials such as salt water and crude oil as well as various gasses such as Carbon Dioxide. Most gem topaz that reaches the United States has been found in Brazil where it is mined from deeply weathered pegmatites. It is recovered by washing away the silt and clay particles from the weathered host rock and screening for the larger particles. Sri Lanka in the Indian Ocean and the Ural Mountains in Russia were important Old World sources and Scotland and Ireland were lesser sources for these stones. In North America, Mexico has been an important topaz source and California, Colorado, Utah, Maine, and New Hampshire have also produced topaz.

Minutes of the October 2009 Board Meeting of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

Held 10/06/09 at the Corpus Christi Main Library. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Board members in attendance were Gene Schade, Dick Cline, Suzy Nick, Kevin Schleicher, and Donna Grimes. Member Joe Grimes also present.

Membership report – Donna Grimes-1 new member for a total of 119 members, 88 regular, 8 honorary and 23 junior.

Minutes –Gene Schade moved to approve September regular and board meeting minutes and Dick Cline seconded. Approved

Treasurer report –Gene Schade gave treasurers report. Donna Grimes moved to approve and Suzy Nick seconded, Treasurer's report approved.

Shop report – Dick Cline reported that he is working on the display cases and more people need to use the shop.

Fieldtrip report – Rusty's neighbor, Mrs. Simpson, has invited the club to view Dr. Simpson's world class mineral collection. A date will be selected.

Show report –Gene Schade said 18 dealers have signed up.

Education – none

Federation – The club will send a $50.00 donation in memory of Bill Bluntzer. Motion by Gene Schade, second by Suzy Nick, approved.

Old Business -- none

New Business – Joe Grimes announce he and Donna Grimes will do program at October meeting. The Christmas party was discussed.

Motion to adjourn by Gene Schade, second by Syzy Nick, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Schleicher,
Secretary GCGMS 2008-2009

What is a Fossil? Various Sources Too Many to Mention Here

What is a fossil? Simply put, a fossil is the remains or evidence of any creature or plant that once lived on the Earth.

Now let's look at the long answer.

There are quite a few fossil classification systems in use today, but my favorite is the one used by Peter Larson and Kristin Donnan in their book, *Bones Rock!* They group them into two categories:

Type I-the remains of the dead animal or plant or the imprint left from the remains.

Type I includes:

Bones, **Teeth**, **skin impressions, hair, the hardened shell of an ancient invertebrate** (an animal without a backbone like a trilobite or an ammonite, or the **impression of an animal or plant**, even if the actual parts are missing.

Type II
Something that was made by the animal while it was living that has hardened into stone. These are called **trace fossils.**
Type II includes: **Footprints, Burrows coprolite, or animal poop**

So now you have one short and one long answer to the question: "What is a Fossil?" Let's build on that.

Type I fossils can be the actual thing that it once was, like a piece of bone or hair or feather. More often the bone material is replaced by different minerals contained in the liquid of the sediments that buried it. What was once bone is now some sort of crystal.

This process also takes place with shells, exoskeletons and wood. If the spaces in the bone are filled with liquid minerals which later harden it is called **permineralization.**

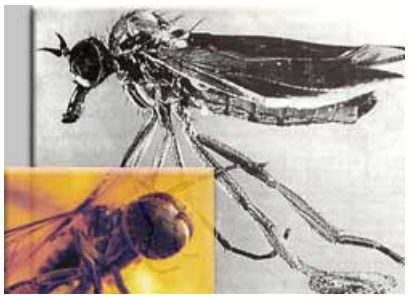
Sometimes the organic material is dissolved by the mineral-laden water. The process happens so slowly that each cell is dissolved and replaced by a particular liquid mineral before it hardens. This is called **petrification**. In petrification, every detail down to the cellular level is duplicated in the minerals.

Type I can also be **molds or casts** of the original animal or plant part. If the original organism decays, leaving an imprint and an empty space, it is called an exterior mold or simply a mold. If a space in the structure is filled with minerals and then the original animal or plant part dissolves, it is called a cast.

The question: "What is a fossil?" has a simple answer. But as you can see it can be more complicated than that.

PRESERVATION IN AMBER

Amber comes from resin, a thick sticky liquid which often traps insects and other organisms when it seeps from tree bark. The resin dries, hardens, with the insect preserved inside, often with incredible detail.



Insects trapped in Amber are preserved with the finest details though most of the organic material will decompose over time.

Amber comes from resin, a thick sticky liquid which often traps insects and other organisms when it seeps from tree bark. The resin dries, hardens, with the insect preserved inside, often with incredible detail. The majority of such specimen are mere carbonized films while sometimes the organism has been discovered with original bio-chemicals intact. Such molecules can be extracted and sequenced for

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study. However, the degraded composition of the material makes it impossible to ever reconstruct an entire organism. Taphonomy has increased in popularity over the last decades. It's importance is gaining insight into the preserved fossil record. From the time an organism dies, many things can happen before it becomes covered, such as decay, trampling, broken, fed upon, and the more information scientists can reconstruct about the creature, the more accurate the hypothesis.
First in the process of reconstruction, is determining what type of fossilization took place. The majority of fossils have been altered from their original shape and texture which presents the paleontologist with a challenging task in making a determination on the appearance of the original specimen. In rare occurences, an organism became fossilized with original tissue still intact. For instance, in the Siberian Tundra, some Wooly Mammoths were discovered thawing with freeze-dried soft tissue and food remains in their digestive tract. Some of them so well preserved, the thirty thousand yr. old meat could be eaten without adverse effect. Another example is of a Wooly Rhinoceros found fossilized in an oil seep in Poland, the specimen was pickled which prevented decay. Though such cases are rare, when they do occur they preserve physical traits such as texture, color and diet.

More than 1000 bog mummies have been found. Most around 2000 years old. Often their bones are dissolved, while the skin has been transformed into leather, with tremendous lifelike detail. Many bear signs of a violent death, slit throats, strangulation or hanging. Many scholars believe they were sacrificed to (sun-agricultural related) fertility gods.

Images (some alterations required for Web) and Notes, Adapted from National Geographic Video, Mummies: Voices of the Dead

Many shells from the Pleistocene age contain unaltered composition, which includes the mother of pearl coating, (the shiny coat lining the interior surface of the shell.) Some Cretaceous ammonite fossils contain this layer, but most fossils that date older, lack the original aragonite.

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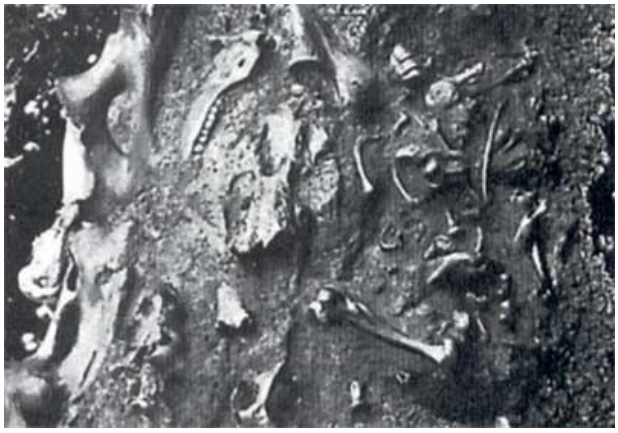

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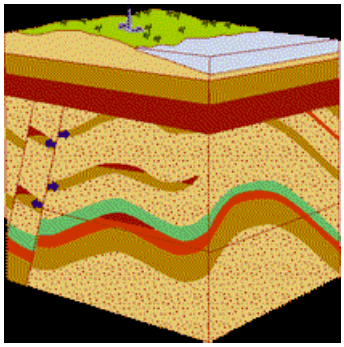
Formation

Going back to the earlier days of Earth, the plants and animals that lived then eventually died and decomposed. The majority of these life forms were phytoplankton and zooplankton. When these ancient ocean dwellers died, they accumulated on the bottom of a seabed; this is how a good portion of our fossil fuel reserves began. The actual transformation process of these prehistoric creatures is not known, but scientists do know that the pressure, heat, and a great deal of time go into the making of fossil fuels.

Geologists are fairly certain that the beds of organic remains mixed with silt and mud to form layers. Over time, mineral sedimentation formed on top of the organisms, effectively entombing them in rock. As this occurred, pressure and temperature increased. These conditions, and possibly other unknown factors, caused organic material to break down into the simpler form of hydrocarbons: chains of carbon and hydrogen ranging from simple configuration to complex compounds. Another affect of extreme pressure is that the oil and gas which are various mixtures of hydrocarbons, migrate upwards to the surface. Exactly when in the conversion process and the nature of this migration is not known and is subject to conjecture. Oil and gas are found in the ground, not freely drifting up through the earth. This is because the hydrocarbons come across rock formations that they are unable to penetrate. Complex rock structures that effectively trap gas and oil are formed by tectonic plate activity, the same forces that shift continents. The most common formation that accomplishes this is called an anticline, a dome or arched layer of rock that is impermeable by oil and gas. Underneath this barrier, a reservoir builds up. An oil reservoir is not some vast underground lake, but rather a seemingly solid layer of rock that is porous. Oil fields have been found almost everywhere on the planet.



These fields always contain some gas, but this natural gas, methane, does not take nearly as long to form. Natural gas is also found in independent deposits within the ground as well as from others sources too. Methane is a common gas found in swamps and is also the byproduct of animals' digestive system. Incidentally, Methane is also a greenhouse gas. Coal is formed in a similar to the other fossil fuels, though it goes through a different process, coalification. Coal is made of decomposed plant matter in conditions of high temperature and pressure, though it takes a relatively shorter amount of time to form. Coal is not a uniform substance either, it's composition varies from deposit to deposit. Factors that cause this deviation are the types of original plant matter, and the extent the plant matter decomposed. There are over 1200 distinguishable types of coal. Coal begins as peat, a mass of dead and decomposing plant matter. Peat itself has been used as fuel in the past, as an alternative to wood. Next, the peat becomes lignite, a brownish rock that contains recognizable plant matter and has a relatively low heating value. Lignite is the halfway point from peat to coal. The next phase is subbituminous. A shade of dull black, showing very little plant matter, this type of coal has a less than ideal heating value. Bituminous coal is jet black, very dense, and brittle. This type of coal has high heating value. The main point of this is that all of these fossil fuels are made of hydrocarbons. It may come as a surprise that these two elements, hydrogen and carbon, can create many, many different compounds with unique characteristics. What makes hydrocarbons valuable to our society is the stored energy stored within them. This energy is contained in the atomic bonds. The original source of this energy is all the solar energy the prehistoric organisms trapped in their bodies eons ago. How do we make use of this bond energy then? We burn them.

Aragonite Psuedomorph Agate Both From Sierra Aguja Brewster County Texas Specimens and Photos by

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Forty thousand year old bones pickled in tar, retain the original composition, but are black and scent of petroleum. These were found fossilized in the Rancho La Brea tar pits. Enough of the original material remains for scientists to extract DNA for comparative studies with living relatives.
Photo by Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, California.

2000 years ago the Celts and their kin believed the bogs of Northern Europe were entrance to the realm of the gods. Bogs are filled with a natural enbalming fluid, acidic water, low in oxygen and rich with tannins (the same chemicals used to cure leather). Over time dead vegetation turns into peat,

NATURAL METHODS OF FOSSILIZATION

- Permineralization Bone, especially marrow and wood both contains pores and cavities. After soft material decays, the harder material is left. If it becomes buried, it may become permeated in calcium deposits from groundwater. Calcium carbonate or silica settles into the bone or wood, cementing it and turning to rock. Unlike Replacement (below), new material settles into hard remains, but no original material is removed. Fossil logs from the *Petrified Forest in Arizona* were permineralized by silica, while other petrified wood and bone specimens are fossilized by carbonate. This process can be so thorough, even details of cell structure remain intact.

- Recrystallization Some shells are made of aragonite and other unstable materials which sometimes reverts to a form of calcium carbonate, or *calcite*. In some cases, the calcite may recrystallize into larger crystals, preserving the original shape, but under a microscope the alteration in original texture becomes apparent.

- Dissolution and Replacement Sediments of bone or shell may be exposed to water, which will cause a decay of the original material. When a fossil dissolves, its original shape will be preserved in a void by the surrounding sediments. This internal filling is known as *steinkern*, German for "stone cast". The void sometimes is replaced with sediments, which mimmicks the shape of the original fossil. This method of fossilization is identified when a fossil is comprised of minerals that are clearly not the original.

Carbonization Fossils may also be preserved as thin films of carbon in such environment as sandstone or shale. When an organism dies, its soft tissue decays leaving a residue of carbon, a dark film which preserves the outline of the organism. This method is common with plant fossils, though there are examples of carbonized animal fossils.

The majority of such specimen are mere carbonized films while sometimes the organism has been discovered with original bio-chemicals intact. Such molecules can be extracted and sequenced for study. However, the degraded composition of the material makes it impossible to ever reconstruct an entire organism.

Laguna Agate Mexico Photo and Agate by Art Worley

Malachite with Azurite

Minutes of the November 2009 Board Meeting of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

Held 11/03/09 at the Corpus Christi Main Library. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Board members in attendance were Gene Schade, Jerrold Simpson, Dick Cline, Suzy Nick, and Kevin Schleicher. Member Kyle Hinkle was also present.

Membership report – 119 members, 88 regular, 8 honorary and 23 junior.

Minutes –Jerrold Simpson moved to approve October regular and board meeting minutes and Gene Schade seconded. Approved

Treasurer report –Gene Schade gave treasurers report. Jerrold Simpson moved to approve and Dick Cline seconded, Treasurer's report approved.

Shop report – Dick Cline and Jerrold Simpson have been glueing and repairing the display cases. Dick Cline has been polishing specimens for the show.

Fieldtrip report – Jerrold Simpson stated that we could join some field trips with other clubs.

Show report –Jerrold Simpson said 20 dealers have signed up. The Trammells are doing flintknapping. It was agreed that the club should have volunteer members doing demonstrations.

Education – none

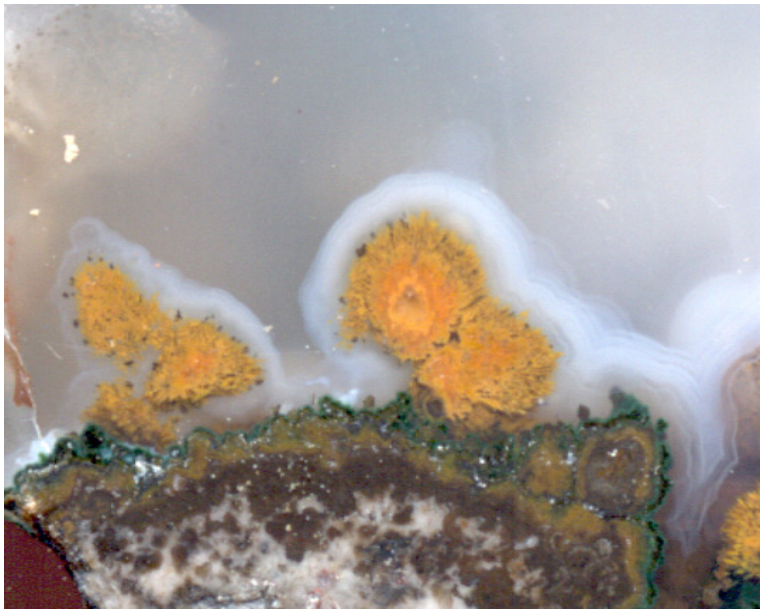
Federation – none

Old Business – The Christmas Party will be at the Baptist Church on Ocean Drive on December 4, from 6-9 p.m.

New Business – Kyle Hinkle was appointed as vice-president by Suzy Nick. After a motion by Kevin Schleicher and second by Jerrold Simpson, the appointment was ratified by the board. Gene moved to appoint the entire board as the scholarship committee. Second by Kevin Schleicher, motion passed.

Motion to adjourn by Dick Cline, second by Kyle Hinkle, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Schleicher,
Secretary GCGMS 2008-2009



Green Moss Pom Pom Agate
Sierra Aguja
Brewster County Texas
Specimen & Photo by
Art Worley

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1817, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78403-1817

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

Individual $15.00 Couples $20.00 Junior (under 17) $5.00

2009 Officers

President: Suzy Nick
Vice President: Kyle Hinkle
Past President: Mike McGraw
Secretary: Kevin Schleicher
Treasurer: Gene Schade
gene@casadeoro.net

Board Appointees

Membership: Donna Grimes
Education: Owen Hopkins
Librarian: Linda Simpson
Audit: Gene Schade
Show Chair: Jerrold Simpson
Show Chair: Jerrold Simpson
Shop coordinator: Richard Cline
Field Trip Coordinator: Mike McCraw

Standing Committies

Shop coordinator: Richard Cline
Field Trip Coordinator: Mike McCraw
Membership chairperson: Donna Grimes
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