



Slabs & Cabs

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June 2012

Howdy Rockhounds!

Summer time is in full force with temperatures near 100 degrees. As you plan your rock hunting field trips this summer the sun is strongest between 10 am and 4 pm so remember to use sunscreen, wear a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses. Remember you can sunburn even on a cloudy day. If children are going with you on average, they get 3 times the UV exposure than adults. Monitor your activities and drink plenty of water to remain hydrated. Your cell phone may not work where you will be collecting if you need to call for help so let someone not going on the trip know your itinerary.

Thank you to all the club members that helped move the rock and mineral collection we acquired to the shop. If you want to help with sorting the rocks and minerals there's plenty of work yet to be done. The A/C units at the shop have been replaced and it's nice and cool so contact the shop foreman to help with the sorting.

Have a safe summer!

Joe

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Birthstone - Traditional

*Who comes with summer to this earth,
And owes to June her hour of birth,
With ring of agate on her hand
Can health, wealth, and long life command.*



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 June - Pearl, Alexandrite, Moonstone

June counts three gems as birthstones, Pearl, Alexandrite, and Moonstone.

Pearl

Historically, pearls have been used as an adornment for centuries. They were one of the favorite gem materials of the Roman Empire; later in Tudor England, the 1500s were known as the pearl age. Pearls are unique as they are the only gems from living sea creatures and require no faceting or polishing to reveal their natural beauty. In the early 1900s, the first successful commercial culturing of round saltwater pearls began. Since the 1920s, cultured pearls have almost completely replaced natural pearls in the market.



Alexandrite

A relatively modern gem, Alexandrite, was first discovered in Russia in 1831 during the reign of its namesake, Czar Alexander II, and is an extremely rare chrysoberyl with chameleon-like qualities. Its color is a lovely green in both daylight and fluorescent light; it changes color to a purplish red in incandescent light. Due to its rarity, some jewellers stock synthetic versions of this enchanting gemstone. (Synthetic gemstones are man-made alternatives to the natural material, possessing the same physical, optical, and chemical properties as the natural gemstone.)



Moonstone

The third birthstone for June is the Moonstone. It was given its name by the Roman natural historian Pliny, who wrote that moonstone's appearance altered with the phases of the moon — a belief that held until well after the sixteenth century. A phenomenal gemstone, moonstones show a floating play of light (called adularescence) and sometimes show either a multirayed star or a cat's eye. Considered a sacred stone in India, moonstones often are displayed on a background of yellow (a sacred color) and are believed to encapsulate within the stone a spirit whose purpose is to bring good fortune. Part of the family of minerals called feldspar, moonstone occurs in many igneous and metamorphic rocks and comes in a variety of colors such as green, blue, peach, and champagne. The most prized moonstones are from Sri Lanka; India, Australia, the United States, Myanmar, and Madagascar are also sources.

source: American Gem Society <http://www.americangemsociety.org/june-birthstones>



Club News and Information

Congratulations!

Our monthly meeting color contest winner for the month of May was Sue Ryland she received a purple fluorite.



Thank You Thank You!

A great big *Thank You* is going out to Mrs. Dinah Bowman. She is the artist behind the wonderful ice age poster hanging in just about every school in the area. She agreed to do a presentation on Ice Age mammals it was very interesting and informative!



Purple Contestants

Board Meeting Minutes 05 June 2012 of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Board Meeting for 06/05/12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 6:41 pm.

The meeting was held at the Society Lapidary Shop. Those in attendance were Joe Grimes, Donna Grimes, Gene Schade, Mark Wolbrink, Sylvia Kernen, Jerrold Simpson, Linda Simpson, Suzie Hicks, Kevin Schleicher and Gilbert Trejo.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. Mark Wolbrink made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Donna Grimes seconded it. The motion was approved.

Mark Wolbrink gave the shop report. He said that there has been more activity at the shop mostly from new members. Mark stated that some of the newly purchased rock has been moved. Mark said that more rock will be picked up tomorrow and Friday. Jerrold Simpson made a motion, seconded by Donna Grimes to accept the report. All voted aye.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. There are 118 adult members, 30 junior members. Kevin Schleicher made a motion to accept the Membership Report seconded by Mark Wolbrink. The motion was approved.

Gilbert Trejo read the minutes. Gilbert said that he was not present at the last regular meeting. Jerrold Simpson said he had taken notes and would e-mail them to Gilbert. Jerrold reviewed the notes he had taken. Kevin Schleicher made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Mark Wolbrink. All voted aye.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Jerrold said he had sent some copies of the new contract for the building to board members he had on his e-mail. Joe Grimes said that we would table this item until all board members had the contract.

Donna Grimes said there was no Show Publicity Report until fall.

Linda Simpson said there was no Federation news at this time.

Under old business, Joe Grimes said that one A/C is in and one needs to be installed. Mark Wolbrink said that he expects the second A/C to be installed Friday. Mark asked about the approval for the second A/C. Joe Grimes said the Board Members were polled online and had approved the purchase.

Linda Simpson talked about the Kids Camp. Linda said she had received all the forms for the permission to enter the quarry for the field trip except for the Johnson kids. She stated that any adult volunteers needed to fill out the forms. Linda said there will be plenty of activities for the kids so that one extra hour per day is needed. She said she has contacted the parents of the participants and they all agreed.

Linda Simpson asked that the shop not be opened to club members during Kids Camp to allow the kids to do their activities.

Sylvia Kernen presented a new logo for the club. There had been no other logos presented. Joe Grimes asked that the logo be shrunk and colorized and brought back to the Board at the next meeting for review and presentation to the entire club.

Joe Grimes said he has not heard back from the sluice box demonstrator.

Gene Schade said he talked to a geology professor and he said they were having trouble getting applications for scholarships also. Gene said our current scholarship applications are due on August 1st for review by the Board. Gene asked if scholarships could be made to graduate students instead of just undergraduate students. He said there is time to publicize this change by the

date scholarships are due. Gene Schade made a motion to allow scholarships to be available to undergraduate and graduate students, the motion was seconded by Jerrold Simpson. The motion passed.

The matter of requests for membership lists was discussed. Jerrold Simpson said he uses membership lists to find people. Sylvia Kernen said that not everyone should be given a list. Donna Grimes asked if a survey could be done to see who does and does not want their member information given out. Suzie Hicks asked who would keep track of who did or did not want information let out. The general discussion was that no members' information such as phone numbers, addresses, or e-mail addresses should be given out without their permission. Gene Schade made a motion to prepare a roster of adult members, not on the internet, and will be available on request by members, the motion was seconded by Jerrold Simpson. All voted aye.

Under new business, Joe Grimes asked what we were going to do with the rock the club purchased. Joe asked the Board Members to think up a plan that would allow all club members to fairly use these items and bring it back to the Board.

Gene Schade stated that Case De Oro is getting out of the magazine business. He asked if the club wanted extra magazines and a magazine rack. Jerrold Simpson said that as Club Historian he would be delighted with the offer and if a value could be placed in these items a receipt would be given for a write off.

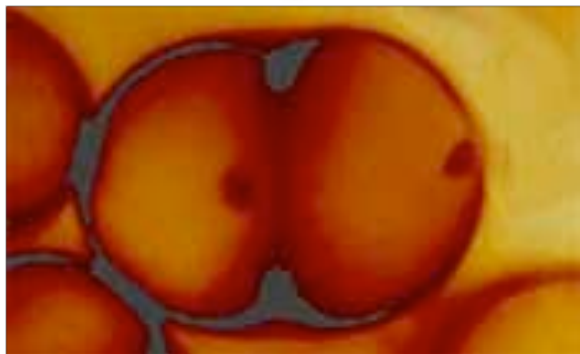
Jerrold Simpson makes a motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm seconded by Sylvia Kernen. The motion passed.

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

Mystery Fossil



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 6:00 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.

These may look like the shifty eyes of some cartoon character but they're not eyes at all. In fact, eyes had not yet evolved at the time these organisms lived, about one billion years ago. What do you think these can be?

Did you guess correctly?

Source: <http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/historyoflife/mysteries/mystery6/mystery6.html>

Upcoming Events

June 2012

- 2 - 3** **Stafford, TX**
Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Show Rebekah Wills, rebekah@thebeadmarket.net www.thebeadmarket.net

August 2012

- 11 - 12** **Baton Rouge, LA**
Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society Marriott Hotel; 5500 Hilton Ave., off I-10
Diana Martin, (225) 931-7543, cajunladi@cox.net
- 11 - 12** **Jasper, TX**
August 25-26 Jasper, TX SCFMS & Pine Country Gem & Mineral Soc. The Event Center;
6258 Hwy. 190 W Lonnie Stalsby, (409) 382-5314



Kids Corner Rocks

Rock & Fossils Word Search

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

All about Rocks

We'll begin with a look at the structure of the earth because that is where all rocks come from. They have been on Earth for almost 4 billion years. Geologists record time with the Geologic Time Table.



The Earth has 3 layers: the crust, the mantle and the core (which is subdivided into the outer and inner core.) Each layer is unique and you can find the interesting details of the layers at:

Learning About the Structure of the Earth

sulfides
 sphalerite
 chalcopyrite
 galena

pyrite
 halides
 halite
 fluorite



Q: What do you call a dinosaur that never gives up?
 A: Try-Try-Try-ceratops!

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

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



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

Slabs & Cabs
Sylvia Kernan
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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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