



Slabs & Cabs

Volume 56 Number 5 May 2012

Our Prez Sez

May 2012

The May 15th General Meeting is our last meeting until the fall meeting on Sept. 18th. Be sure and join us on May 15th for a presentation on ICE AGE MAMMAL FOSSILS.

Jerrold and Linda will be hosting the Kid's Corner Time of Fun.

Summer is a great time to catch up on lapidary work. For shop hours please contact Mark or Jerrold. You can cut, polish, and mount all the exquisite minerals and rocks you have collected. If you don't have material of your own to cut and polish, the club has plenty of material. Some of which we hope will be prepared for the Silent Auction for our 2013 Gem and Mineral Show.

The second annual Owen Hopkins Kids Camp dates are set for June 13-16. Material is being collected and plans are being made for the kids to have an educational and fun time. If you are able to help please contact Linda or Kevin.

Just a reminder the color for May is **Purple**, so bring any purple minerals and gemstones that you would like to display on the "It Certainly is Exquisite Table" and "But What THE Dickens IS It?" items you may have. Also, a special prize for the best "PURPLE" outfit.

2012 Board

- President
Joe Grimes
- Vice-President
Jerrold Simpson
- Past President
Kevin Schleicher
- Secretary
Gilbert Trejo
- Treasurer / Webmaster
Gene Schade,
gene@casadeoro.net
- Membership / Newsletter
Sylvia Kernen,
syltrans@gmail.com
- 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:
Frances Marten
- Communications:
Suzy Nick
- Door Prizes:
Gilbert Rodriguez
- Refreshment Hostess:
Letty Rodriguez

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See you **Tuesday, May 15th**.

Joe

*Who first beholds the light of day
In spring's sweet flowery month of May
And wears an emerald all her life
Shall be a loved and happy wife.*

Club News and Information

Congratulations

Our Winner for last months meeting color contest was **the White Family**. Sharon was dressed as Miss Tiffany's and the boys were blue collar construction workers, very cute ones I might add. They called themselves Tiffany's and co. Thank you all for participating! The White Family received a blue azurite.



Library

Linda is doing a wonderful job getting our Library up to speed. Come and check out some magazines or books about rocks and minerals. The Library is located in the Lapidary Shop.



Web Site

Come and check out our website! Gene and Sylvia worked hard - and are still at it - to make the 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.

Field Trip

We might have a field trip to George West in June. We hope to have more information about the trip at the meeting on the 15th!

Newsletter

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.

Happy Birthday!

A very happy birthday to:

- 2nd Dylan Bailey
- 9th Kathy Simpson
- 17th Trudy D. Williams
- 23rd Sawyer Paradise
- 26th Efrain Franco
- 28th Jerold Simpson



and all members born in May! Please send me your birthdate information, so you can be mentioned as well. newsletter@gcgms.org



May Birthstone

Emerald

info: [Wikipedia](#)

Emerald is a variety of the mineral beryl ($\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$) colored green by trace amounts of chromium and sometimes vanadium. Beryl has a hardness of 7.5–8 on the 10 point Mohs scale of mineral hardness. Most emeralds are highly included, so their toughness (resistance to breakage) is classified as generally poor.

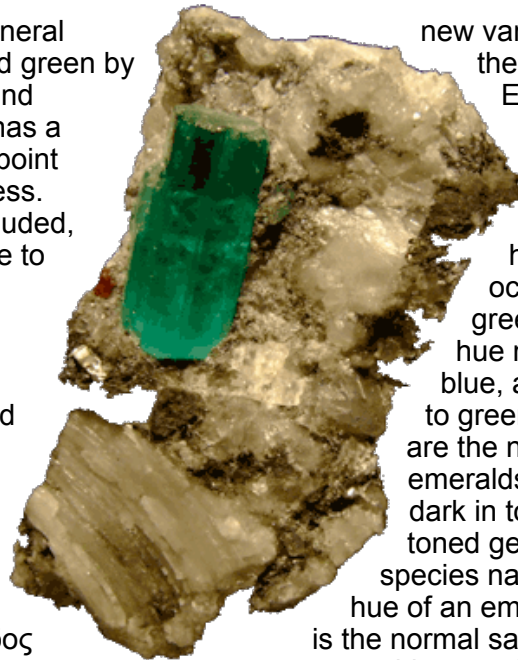
Etymology

The word "Emerald" is derived (via old french: Esmeraude and Middle English: Emeraude), from Vulgar Latin: Esmaralda/ Esmaraldus, a variant of Latin Smaragdus, which originated in Greek: $\sigma\mu\acute{\alpha}\rho\alpha\gamma\delta\omicron\varsigma$ (smaragdos; "green gem"); its original source being either the Hebrew word יִזְמַרְגָּד izmargad meaning "emerald" or "green" or the Sanskrit word मरकत marakata

Cut Emeralds

Emeralds, like all colored gemstones, are graded using four basic parameters – the four Cs of Connoisseurship: Color, Cut, Clarity and Crystal. The last C, crystal is simply used as a synonym that begins with C for transparency or what gemologists call diaphaneity. Before the 20th century, jewelers used the term water as in "a gem of the finest water" to express the combination of two qualities, color and crystal. Normally, in the grading of colored gemstones, color is by far the most important criterion. However, in the grading of emerald, crystal is considered a close second. Both are necessary conditions. A fine emerald must possess not only a pure verdant green hue as described below, but also a high degree of transparency to be considered a top gem.

In the 1960s the American jewelry industry changed the definition of 'emerald' to include the green vanadium-bearing beryl as emerald. As a result, vanadium emeralds purchased as emeralds in the United States are not recognized as such in the UK and Europe. In America, the distinction between traditional emeralds and the



new vanadium kind is often reflected in the use of terms such as 'Colombian Emerald'.

Color

Scientifically speaking, color is divided into three components: hue, saturation and tone. Emeralds occur in hues ranging from yellow-green to blue-green, with the primary hue necessarily being green. Yellow, blue, and red — the hues found adjacent to green on the spectral color wheel — are the normal secondary hues found in emeralds. Only gems that are medium to dark in tone are considered emerald; light-toned gems are known instead by the species name green beryl. In addition, the hue of an emerald must be bright (vivid). Gray is the normal saturation modifier or mask found in emerald; a grayish-green hue is a dull green.

Treatments

Most emeralds are oiled as part of the post lapidary process, in order to improve their clarity. Cedar oil, having a similar refractive index, is often used in this generally accepted practice. Other liquids, including synthetic oils and polymers with refractive indexes close to that of emerald such as Opticon are also used. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission requires the disclosure of this treatment when a treated emerald is sold. The use of oil is traditional and largely accepted by the gem trade. Other treatments, for example the use of green-tinted oil, are not acceptable in the trade.

Emerald Localities

Emeralds are found in other countries, such as Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Russia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tanzania, United States, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In the US, emeralds have been found in Connecticut, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina. In 1998 emeralds were discovered in the Yukon. [For more info click here.](#)

Board Meeting Minutes 01 May 2012

of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Board Meeting for 05-01-12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 6:32 pm. The meeting was held at the Society Lapidary Shop. Those in attendance were Joe Grimes, Donna Grimes, Kevin Schleicher, Gene Schade, Sylvia Kernen, Jerrold Simpson, Linda Simpson and Gilbert Trejo.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. Gene gave the final show report. Jerrold Simpson suggested that we move some funds from checking into the money market account. He suggested \$10,000 to be transferred. Kevin Schleicher made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Jerrold Simpson seconded it. The motion was approved. Kevin Schleicher made a motion to accept the Show Report and Jerrold Simpson seconded it. The motion was approved. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to transfer \$15,000 for the checking account to the money market account and Kevin Schleicher seconded it. The motion was approved.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. There are 118 members, 29 junior members. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the Membership Report, seconded by Kevin Schleicher. The motion was approved.

Joe Grimes gave the shop report because Mark Wolbrink was not present. The report said that Howard Oversby gave a wire wrapping demonstration. There were 10 to 12 people present. The report said that the air conditioning unit needs to be purchased and installed. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the shop report and Kevin Schleicher seconded it. The motion passed.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Jerrold has talked with the County to get the new contract on the building for next year. Jerrold said that when he got this contract he would bring it to the Board for approval. Linda Simpson made a motion to accept the report and Kevin Schleicher seconded it. The motion passed.

Linda Simpson said that there was no new federation business.

Under old business, Kevin Schleicher made a motion to purchase a 24'000 btu air conditioner from Sams and get someone to install it, seconded by Jerrold Simpson. The motion passed.

Joe Grimes talked about the Kids Camp. Joe said we will have a flint knapper for the Rock Camp. The t-shirts for the kids were discussed. Gene Schade will get the invoices of last year's supplier and see if we can get a better price from another vendor. The adult volunteers should contact Linda Simpson to give her their shirt size. Sylvia Kernen said she would send an e-mail to the parents to be at the May meeting for instructions. Linda Simpson said they need another meeting of the Rock Camp committee.

Joe Grimes said the Sluicing Demonstration person has not responded back to his inquiries.

Donna Grimes said that some dealers had not paid their electricity payments to the facility and others who paid were told they must have their receipts or be cut off. She wants to get a copy of the electricity check to the facility to know which dealers had made their electrical payment. Gene Schade made a motion to include electricity payments into our contract and pay a total with the electricity and half of the booth fee up front and Kevin Schleicher seconded it. The motion passed 5 for and 3 against.

Sylvia Kernen made suggestion that a map of the floor with the dealers names be made to have for customers.

Gene Schade said that we have no application for scholarships. Gene went over an e-mail for a professor saying they have notified students about the scholarships. The e-mail asked how many applications were received and how many scholarships given. After discussion, the total of about twelve applications with four scholarships awarded since 2007.

Under new business, Gene Schade said he had been talking to a dealer who wants to sell his collection of rocks. Gene showed pictures of the collection. Gene said that the dealer wanted about \$1,500. Donna Grimes made a motion to offer \$1,500 for the collection and seconded by Linda Simpson. The motion passed. The suggestions for the material are rough material for the show and the silent auction. Linda Simpson said that they had received three free cases with 7 foot by 12 foot display boards which could be used for the show. She showed pictures of the displays. She said that they were so big they had to rent a trailer to bring them back from Austin.

Board meeting continued...

Donna Grimes made a motion to reimburse Linda Simpsons rental of a trailer to bring the display cases and seconded by Joe Grimes. The motion passed.

Jerrold Simpson said we may have a ranch near George West with three different areas for a field trip. The most promising area is a riverbed area. Jerrold said the trip would be the week after Mother's Day around the 19th. A club representative would go up before then to see if the ranch is suitable.

Joe Grimes made a motion that the club makes a donation to the Federation in the name of the late

John Martin. Gene Schade said that we have made donations of \$50.00 for other memorials. Jerrold Simpson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Joe Grimes wants Gilbert Trejo to write a letter nominating Jerrold and Linda Simpson as Rockhound of the Year. Joe Grimes made a motion to nominate Jerrold and Linda Simpson as Rockhound of the Year, seconded by Donna Grimes. The motion passed.

Gene Schade makes a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm seconded by Sylvia Kernen. The motion passed.

General Meeting Minutes 17 April 2012

of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Regular Meeting for 04-17-12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes. The meeting was held at the Corpus Christi Museum.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. Bill Patillo made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report seconded by Kevin Schleicher. The motion passed.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. There are 102 adult members, 24 junior members. There are 18 children signed up for Rock Camp with 4 on a waiting list. Fred Blackmar made a motion to accept the Membership report seconded by Butch Harris. The motion passed.

Mark Wolbrink gave the Shop Report. Mark said there are not problems at the shop. He said there is a small leak and we need to finalize the air

conditioner. He said that several people from the show have expressed interest in taking classes.

Kevin Schleicher talked about the Kids Camp. Kevin said that if the Kids Camp continues to grow, we may - in the future- need to have two camps going on at the same time in different places then exchanging activities. He said if we do this we will need more volunteers.

Under new business, new members and guests were introduced.

Donna Grimes made a motion to adjourn seconded by Kevin Schleicher. The motion passed.

The contest for a blue outfit was won by Sharon, Jacob and Joshua White. They received a blue azurite.

Mystery Fossil



UCMP is very lucky to have this fossil (which is 300 million years old) in its collections! This type of organism is very rarely preserved in the fossil record. Its living descendants have surprisingly complex eyes, though they lack any sort of a centralized nervous system or brain. Yet these organisms can adeptly maneuver around things and sense potentially dangerous situations with their eyes. When they do sense danger, they are remarkably quick in making an escape.

Did you guess correctly?

Kids Corner

Rocks

About Fossils

What are Trilobites?

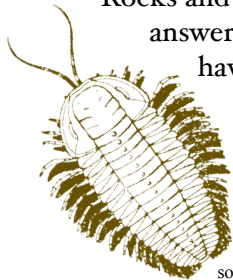
Trilobites inhabited the Earth during the Paleozoic era. They were arthropods (like insects, spiders, and shellfish) who lived in the ocean.



Online Book

The US Geologic Survey

provides an online book called, Fossils, Rocks and Time which can probably answer any more questions you might have.



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

Rock & Fossils Word Search

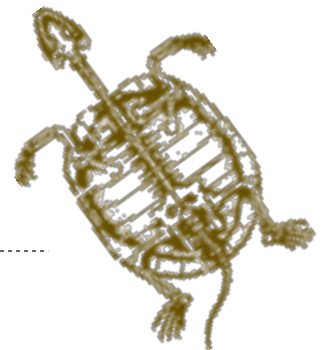
P T P G E I W N S D N E I N
 N S Y U N L H S O V A I I Y
 N B X K E L E M E N T S B D
 R R K I L N L R S O I S I J
 A W C X R S C M Y Y V O O N
 C B K W H T S A E S E S G E
 J J I L I S M G I I F N Y C
 O S E E I C Y C O L S K E G
 M F D U F H Z G L V R A D C
 H S D I C R T R Z E Z N S T
 C E S B L K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

Native elements
 copper
 silver

gold
 graphite
 diamond







Q: What do you call a Stegosaurus with carrots in its ears?
 A: Anything you want, it can't hear you!



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

Coming Events

May 2012

5 - 6

WACO, TX

Waco Gem & Mineral Club Extratco Events Center

26 - 27

FORT WORTH, TX

61st annual show, ; Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club; Will Rogers Memorial Center; 3401 W. Lancaster; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors and students \$4, military in uniform and children (under 16) free; more than 25 dealers, exhibits, kids' games, hourly door prizes, grand prize, silent auction; contact Steve Hilliard, PO Box 418, Decatur, TX 76234, (817) 925-5760; e-mail: fwgmc@embarqmail.com; Web site: frotworthgemandmineralclub.org

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



Safety First

by Bill Klose EFMLS Safety Chairman, February

2000 EFMLS News

The wearing of safety shoes is not only required throughout U.S. industry, mines, quarries, and gravel pits, but is just plain common sense. This point was driven home for me many years ago when a young man on my production team had an eleven hundred pound steel roll from a toilet paper rewriter fall on his foot. The resulting blow caused his safety shoe protective cap to explode and thus expend the momentum from the roll, and produced a nasty looking and painful set of blood blisters and black and blue marks on the top of his foot, but no broken bones or loss of toes.

Today's safety shoes are available for many functions, in many styles, and are quite affordable. In selecting a pair of safety shoes, consider what you will be doing in pursuit of our wonderful hobby. If your passion is the art of the lapidary, slabbing rocks, or the sale or display of rocks, minerals, or fossils, a nice pair of low cut safety shoes with protective tips (steel or nonmetallic), such a sneakers, oxfords, penny loafers, even slip ons, may provide you with the protection you need from a dropped specimen or hand tool. If you attend field trips or walk over rugged terrain, you should consider safety shoes that support the ankles and provide protection from sharp sticks, thorns, stones, abrasion, temperature, moisture, and walking impact. A pair of waterproof boots that lace over the ankles would be ideal for this purpose. Higher lacing boots would be advised for areas



where thorn bushes, cactus, or snakes are found. Full grain leather or waterproof safety shoes will provide moisture protection for normal weather encountered, however for extensive wear in water, such as creeks, beaches, snow, mud, etc., I strongly recommend that overboot or waders be used over the safety shoes. The soles of safety shoes should provide solid grip traction, but not clog or chew up the trail. A properly fitted set of safety shoes with a liner and footbed inside will provide ventilation, insulation from heat or cold, protection from rubbing, and absorption of walking impact, and all day comfort.

The wearing of wool socks (or other materials recommended by the manufacture) in the safety shoes will wick perspiration away and protect the feet from extreme temperatures and disease. Tucking the bottoms of your trousers and shoelaces into the top of the boots will keep insects, stones and other undesirable items from getting up your pant-legs and down into your safety shoes, and will reduce the chance of you tripping over your shoe laces. Please note that general issue army boots do not have protective tips and thus are not safety shoes. Only certain army personnel, like mechanics, are issued safety shoes.

Today safety shoes are available from most shoe stores. Tell your shoe store salesperson what your needs are, and find the style that you like. You may find that you are wearing them everyday for safety.

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 6:00 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.



Volunteering *Call for Volunteers!*

The GCGMS is and always has been run entirely on the good will of volunteers. Our success is based on those volunteers and our future depends on it. Most of our positions require only a little of your time each month, some less than that! Joining the committee is a rewarding experience. We have the following volunteer opportunities available:

- ✓ **Education**
- ✓ **Field Trips**
- ✓ **Membership**

Email any board member for more information.

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
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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