Slabs & Cabs

Volume 61

Number 10



Our Prez Says

I always look forward to the Sept. meeting, as it is our first meeting after the summer break. We had a great turn out, and those that came were not disappointed. Linda Simpson gave a presentation on the Summer Kid's Camp. We enjoyed seeing some of the projects the Jr. Rockers made, and also watched as they were awarded the badges that they earned during the week of camp. Jacob White also gave a presentation on the summer camp to earn a Scout award. He did an outstanding job!

Alan Castello will join us for the Oct. meeting and have a presentation on climate induced sea level changes along the gulf coast and why we find certain fossils in this area.

Gold is the color for the October meeting. Bring any gold colored minerals you would like to display on the "It Certainly Is Exquisite, but What the Dickens is It", table.

Also a special prize for the best "Gold" outfit will be given. See you Tuesday Oct. 16th!

Joe

INSIDE

Presidents Message	_Pg 1
Club News and Information	_Pg 2
Birthstone	_Pg 3
Regular Meeting Minutes	_Pg 4
Board Meeting Minutes	_Pg 5
Shop Keys & Rules	_Pg 6
Comming Events	_Pg 7
AFMS	_Pg 8
Kids Corner	_Pg 9
Last Page	_Pg 10

Birthstone - Traditional

October's child is born for wee, And life's vicinitades must know, But lay an opal on her breast, And kope will tall those were to rest. October 2012

2012 Board

President Joe Grimes

Vice-President Jerrold Simpson

Past President Kevin Schleicher

Secretary Gilbert Trejo

Treasurer / Web master *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 Joe Grimes

Historian Frances Martin

Communications Suzy Nick

Door Prizes Michelle Alvarez

Refreshment Hostess Letty Rodriguez

www.gcgms.org

October 2012

Club News & Information

Our first Meeting after the summer had a HUGE turnout, thank you everybody for coming. Linda shared her experience with the Rockcamp, which she led and Joshua White gave a presentation about his experience at the camp. Eight of the kids that enjoyed camp this summer were present to get their much earned badges. They were all very proud!

Donna Grimes won the contest for the 'bluest' outfit. She won a rocksoap, which she gave to one of the children present.





Linda was given a huge rock - which she has been eying at the lapidary shop - for her hard work organizing the camp.





All the 'blue' people

Jerrold and Linda Simpson set up a display at the Teacher Extravaganza on Sept. 25, 2012. The event was held on the USS Lexington and was open to teachers. The Teacher Extravaganza is held to make teachers aware of the opportunities and programs available to schools in the area. The display highlighted five different presentations that the Simpsons could give at schools. They also handed out information about the club.





Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society (GCGMS)

Educational Programs

We provide speakers and presentations to students in public, private and home schools. Topics include:

- Inside & Outside the Earth Types of Rocks and How They Form
- Don't Judge a Rock by its Cover Rocks, Minerals and Crystals
- All that Remains Types of Fossil Formation
- Super-Size That? Ice Age Mammals and Environment
- Food, Makeup, and Other Surprises Rocks and Minerals in Everyday Life

Other topics may be available. Presentations may be done as an assembly or in classroom settings.

Additional Programs

- School group rates for the annual Gem & Mineral Show that is held the first Sat & Sun in March at the fairgrounds in Robstown. Student worksheet for the educational displays is provided.
- Monthly meetings open to public. There is an educational program presented. Meetings are held at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science & History, 1900 North Chaparral, in their Water Garden Room at 6:30 pm on the third Tuesday of the month. No meetings are held June-Aug.
 Classes on creating cabochons, wire wrapped jewelry, and metal working
- Classes on creating cabochons, wire wrapped jewelry, and metal working classes are available for a fee. Classes are held at the Lapidary shop, 3933 Timon Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78402 (on North Beach, across from Villa Del Sol)

Contact

- Linda Simpson lsimp@swbell.net
- Jerrold Simpson jsimpson 1@stx.rr.com
- Visit our website www.gcgms.org

Birthstone for October - Opal

Opal

October Birthstone : Opal Birthstone Color: Multi-colored

October's birthstone treats the eye to an explosion of shimmering colors, not unlike those of a magnificent rainbow following a summer rain. The Opal derives its name from the Latin word "opalus," meaning precious jewel. Prized for its unique ability to refract and reflect specific wavelengths of light, the Opal was called "Cupid Paederos" by the Romans, meaning a child beautiful as love. One legendary explanation for this gemstone's origin is that it fell from heaven in a flash of fiery lightning.

A ncient monarchs treasured Opals, both for their beauty and for their presumed protective powers. They were set into crowns and worn in necklaces to ward off evil and to protect the eyesight. These gemstones



were also ground and ingested for their healing properties and to ward off nightmares.

The Opal dates back to prehistoric times. It is a non-crystallized

silica, which is a mineral found near the earth's surface in areas where ancient geothermal hot springs once existed. As the hot springs dried up, layers of the silica, combined



with water, were deposited into the cracks and cavities of the bedrock, forming Opal. This gemstone actually contains up to 30% water, so it must be protected from heat or harsh chemicals, both of which will cause drying and may lead to cracking and loss of iridescence. Opal must also be guarded from blows, since it is relatively soft and breaks easily.

Most of the world's Opal deposits are found in Southern Australia. Other sources of this gemstone are Brazil, Mexico, Czechoslovakia and Nevada. Quality Opal is very expensive, made more so by the caution that must be exercised in cutting, polishing and setting it into jewelry.

A gift of Opal is symbolic of faithfulness and confidence. And the powerful energy radiating from this fiery gemstone will surely illuminate any occasion!

Alternate Birthstone

n alternate birthstone for A October, Pink Tourmaline has the seemingly magical property of pyroelectricity. Scientifically speaking, this means that when heated, the gem takes on a static electric charge, making it capable of attracting lightweight objects. No wonder this gemstone was revered for its mystical properties centuries ago! Considered the "stone of the muse," it was believed to stimulate the creative process of its wearer. Pink varieties of Tourmaline range in color from pastel pink to ruby red and are mined in Brazil, Afghanistan, Burma, and India. A gift of this stone is symbolic of hope.

source: http://www.about-birthstones.com/octoberbirthstone.html





Regular Meeting 18 September 2012 of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Regular Meeting for **1** 09-18-12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Corpus Christi Museum.

Linda Simpson reviewed the Kids Camp. She went over the activities done by the kids. Jacob White, a participant, gave a power point demonstration on his activities done at the camp.

Linda Simpson awarded the badges earned to the participants of the Rock Camp.

Joe Grimes presented Linda Simpson with a rock specimen as a gift for her work as Kids Rock Camp Coordinator.

Joe Grimes recognized Chester Scotch who was one of the recipients of the scholarship awarded. Mr. Scotch said what the scholarship means to him.

The color for this month was turquoise. Everyone with turquoise colored clothes came to the front. Donna Grimes was judged to have the best turquoise clothes. Donna won a turquoise soap.

Joe Grimes asked if everyone had read the Slabs and Cabs. Suzie Nicks

well. newsletter@gcgms.org

made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Lois Patillo. All voted ave.

Gene Schade was not available so Joe Grimes read the treasurer report he sent. Bill Patillo made a motion to accept the treasurer report, seconded by Hank Swan. All voted aye.

Mark Wolbrink gave the shop report. He said that the shop has been busy. Mark said that there had been a sale of rock at the Lapidary Shop. He said the sale is still on and that club members can come by when the shop is open. Mark asked for recognition of Johnny French for his work in sorting the rocks.

Sylvia Kernen gave the Membership Report. She said there are 128 adult members and 32 junior members and 3 new members. Johnny French made a motion to accept the membership seconded by Bill Patillo. All voted aye.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Jerrold said that he has received vendor contracts with electric payments. He said the down payment has been made to the facility.

Donna Grimes said that there were not any advertisements yet for next year's Rock Show.

There was not any old business from the floor.

Under new business, Joe Grimes said that the nomination Committee must be selected. He said the Presidents selection is Gene Schade, the Board selected Sharon White and we need a committee member selected by the membership. Joe said that the Treasurer office is open and the other positions should be asked if they will continue in their offices. Donna Grimes made a motion to nominate Suzie Nicks to the nominating committee, Suzie accepts. All voted aye. Suzie asked when the committee will meet because she will be out of town until October 12th. She said since Gene is out of the country and so she will meet with present board members to see if they are willing to serve and the other committee members can meet to nominate a candidate.

Ioe Grimes said that he attended the South Central Federation meeting in Jasper. He was elected to be the representative for Region 3.

Jerrold Simpson makes a motion to adjourn at 8:26 pm seconded by Linda Simpson. The motion passed.



to:

Stella Hopkins William Pattillo Sam Smithwick Vicki Nelson Arthur Worley and all members born in October! Please send me your

birthdate information, so you can be mentioned as

Welcome!



A warm welcome goes out to our new members Anne and Ron Holdorf, Tina and Brad Kettinger and Russell Wheeler.

Board Meeting 02 October 2012 of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Board Meeting for 10-02-12 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 6:38 pm. The meeting was held at the Society Lapidary Shop. Those in attendance were Joe Grimes, Donna Grimes, Gene Schade, Mark Wolbrink, Jerrold Simpson, Linda Simpson, Sylvia Kernen and Gilbert Trejo.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. Gene said the shop fees of \$103.50 include rock sales. Miscellaneous expense of \$50.00 is the donation to the federation in the name of Art Worley's wife Joyce. A change of 2011 to 2012 Kids Camp expenses was stated. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the report with change, seconded by Mark Wolbrink. All voted aye.

Gilbert Trejo gave the Secretary Report. He said there were no corrections.

Mark Wolbrink gave the shop report. Mark reviewed the status of the status of the shop saws. Mark said that the saw stops during the cut and the saw blade may need to be stiffer or thicker. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Donna Grimes. All voted aye

Sylvia Kernen gave the membership report. There are 128 adult members, 32 kids and 9 honorary members with 3 new members at the last meeting. Mark Wolbrink made a motion to accept the membership report, seconded by Donna Grimes. All voted aye.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Jerrold said that he has not received any new contracts. Jerrold said that he would contact the other dealers to see if they are going to attend.

Donna Grimes asks about using Sylvia's company to do posters and flyers. Joe Grimes said this can be discussed during new business. Mark Wolbrink made a motion to accept the Show Report and the Show Report Advertising reports, seconded by Sylvia Kernen. All vote aye.

Joe Grimes said we need a field trip chairman.

Under old business, the nominating committee did not have a report.

The logo was presented by Sylvia Kernen and the colors were discussed and new designs with colors were be brought back.

Joe Grimes said that he attended the meeting of the South Central Federation in Jasper was 750 miles away and there were expenses for mileage, food and motels. He said he had receipts over \$400 but only requested reimbursement of \$200. Gene Schade made a motion to reimburse Joe Grimes for his trip to the South Central Federation meeting for \$200, seconded by Mark Wolbrink. All voted aye.

Under new business, Linda Simpson said that a Teachers Extravaganza was held to give information about items teachers may need. Linda had a flyer made to present to teacher about the mission and purpose of the Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society. Linda asked for reimbursement for the \$79 for printing flyers. Donna Grimes made a motion to reimburse Linda Simpson \$79 for printing flyers, seconded by Mark Wolbrink. All voted aye.

Linda Simpson asked about the next kid's camp. Linda suggests that the next kid's camp be a first year camp. She suggests we have late evening lapidary classes for second year kids. Donna Grimes makes a motion to make the next kid's camp a first year camp, seconded by Jerrold Simpson. All voted aye Joe Grimes gave some news from the museum. He was told that we have the meeting room would be available through May of next year. He said that since a private company is taking over running the museum we do not know what will happen by September 2013. Joe Grimes suggests that the club have a meeting with the city to present our point of view on the meeting room. The status of having refreshments was also discussed. We do not know if the managers will allow us to have our own refreshments or be require using their caterers. Joe Grimes said we need to think about our options if we do not have a free meeting room such as using the Lapidary Shop or another site.

Joe Grimes said that if we are going to have the Christmas party at the same place as last year, we need to ask Hank and Mary Lou Swan to request the rec room from the church. The requested meeting date would be December 7th.

Donna Grimes makes a motion to have Sylvia Kernen design the poster and flyers for the next Rock Show, seconded by Mark Wolbrink. All voted aye.

Donna Grimes makes a motion to have Sylvia Kernen print the posters and flyers for the next Rock Show, seconded by Jerrold Simpson. All voted aye.

Gene Schade asks about the next scholarship. Donna Grimes made a motion to have a scholarship application of \$1,000 by December 15th of this year for award by spring, seconded by Jerrold Simpson.

Mark Wolbrink makes a motion to adjourn at 8:28 pm, seconded by Donna Grimes. The motion passed.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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

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.

So you've identified these as teeth. That's a start. Now what could they belong to? Collected from rocks of Eocene age in Pakistan, this fossil skull is from a critter that is the earliest known of its kind. Do you know what it is?

Did you guess correctly?

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



Upcoming Events

October 2012

Oct 6-7 ARLINGTON, TX

55th annual show; Arlington Gem & Mineral Club; 1010 Collins Events Center, at North Collins and Randall Mill Road (across from Cowboys Stadium); Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Jack Spinks, 209 Overlook Dr., Midlothian, TX 76065, (214) 335-9452; e-mail: jlspinks@sbcglobal.net; www.agemclub. com.

Oct 13-14 TEMPLE, TX

Annual show; Tri-Cities Gem & Mineral Society; Mayborn Convention Center; 3303 N. 3rd St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; adults \$2; contact Chip Burnette, (254) 630-3573; e-mail: burnette@aceweb.com; www.tricitygemmineral.org

Oct 13-14 FORT WORTH, TX

3rd annual show; LMRA Rockhound Activity; Lockheed Martin Recreation Assn.; 3400 Bryant Irvin Rd.; Sat. 8-6, Sun. 8-6; contact Donna Pelikan, 421 NW Douglas St., Burleson, TX 76028, (682) 970-8362; e-mail: liznmarie@yahoo.com

Oct 19-21 AUSTIN, TX

Annual show; Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center; 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Susan Postlethwait, 6719 Burnet Ln., Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; e-mail: showchariman@austingemandmineral.org; www.gemcapers.com

Oct 19-21 Victoria, TX

Victoria Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show Victoria Community Center, 2905 E. North St. - Victoria, Texas, show hours: Friday 9 a.m.- 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Adults \$5, Children under 12 - free, with paying adult

Oct 20-21 DENISON, TX

Annual show; Texoma Rockhounds; Senior Center; 531 W. Chestnut; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; contact Rosemary Siems, 91 Country Hill Circle, Sherman, TX 75090, (903) 891-9702; e-mail: ramblingrosetoo@yahoo.com

Oct 26-28 GLEN ROSE, TX

29th "Fossilmania" fossil show; Dallas Paleontological Society and Paleontological Society of Austin; Somervell County Expo Center, north side of hwy 67 at Gibbs Blvd; 8-6 Friday, 9-6 Sat, 9-2 Sun; www.dallaspaleo.org

Nov 3-4 AMARILLO, TX

Annual show; Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society; Amarillo Civic Center; 401 S. Buchanan St., Regency Room, Entrance #4; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Wanda Finley, 9170 FM 1151, Claude, TX 79019, (806) 944-5464; email:finfran@midplains.coop

Nov 3-4 MIDLAND, TX

50th annual show; Midland Gem & Mineral Society; Midland Center; 105 N. Main St., corner of Wall and Main; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Tom Wurster, PO Box 5043, Midland, TX 79704, (432) 682-6258 or (432) 230-2566; email: show@midlandgemandmineral.org; www.midlandgemandmineral.org

Nov 9-11 HUMBLE, TX

Annual show; Houston Gem & Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center; 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$7, seniors and students \$6, children (under 12) free; contact Sigrid Stewart, (281) 530-0942; email: sigrid.stewart@gmail.com; www.hgms.org

AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

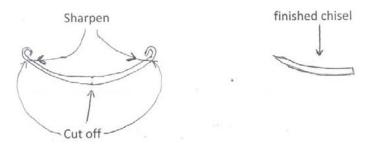


<u>Useful Tool</u>

from the Shawnee Slate October 2007 by Kenneth Sheldon

I have used this tool for busting shale and clay while digging for geodes in Missouri, on quartz and rock while digging for quartz crystals in Arkansas, on rock and clay while digging for Big Diggens Agate in New Mexico, and on hard lime stone digging for Teepee Agate in South Dakota.

It's made from a trailer house axle leaf spring; make sure to use the heavy single spring type. First cut the two eyes off and then cut the spring in half. Sharpen the two ends on the inside of the curve to a low angle.



The spring is heavy enough you can use a small hammer or a large slate hammer. I especially like it because it's wide enough that you can stand on it with one foot and hit a ledge hammer to get it started in a crack.

PLEASE USE SAFETY GLASSES AND GLOVES WHILE USING THIS TOOL!

WANTED:

Newsletter Contributions

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.



EROSION

is the movement of rock pieces from place to place. Erosion can be caused by: wind, rain, running water, waves, gravity, and moving ice.

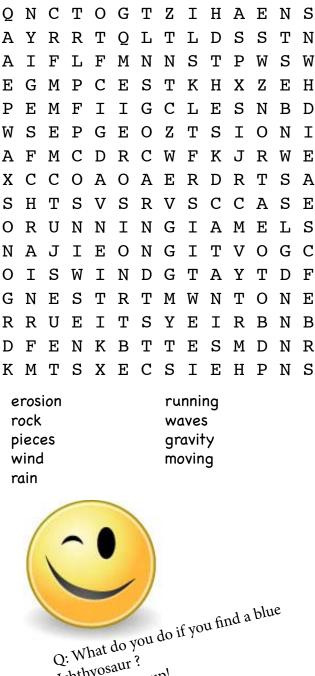
SPELUNKING

People who visit caves for the sport of enjoying the stalactites, stalagmites and other rock and mineral formations that can be found there are known as spelunkers. Visit Spelunking Wonderland to learn more about spelunking.

source: copyright D4K, Idaho Public Television http://idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/season9/rocksminerals/facts. cfm#start



Rock	&	Fossils	Word	Search
NUCK	CX.	1033113	vv uu	Jeurun



Ichthyosaur? A: Cheer him up!



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.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/fossils/inverts
- http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/rocks/index

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

October 2012

MEMBER of	American Federation of Mineralogical Societies	AFMS	South Central Fe of Mineral Societ				
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 sci- ences and the lapidary arts. To encourage study in these subjects through the means of: presenta- tion of public exhibitions, filed trips for exploration, study and collection of specimens, the pres- entations of lectures, illustrated programs, demonstrations and similar programs pertaining to the fields of mineralogy, earth sciences and the lapidary arts.						
Mark your calendars! Ceneral Meeting 16 October 2012 16 October 2012 16 Museum in torm							
16 October 20 at the Museur of Science & 1900 North Corpus Chris 6:30 pm -	History Chaparral ti, Texas 9:00 PM			Next board r 6 November at the Lapida 6:30 pm - 9:0	2012 ary Shop		
6:50 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

Permission is granted to use any article in this publication, provided proper credit is given.