



Slabs & Cabs

Volume 69

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June 2013

Prez Says June 2013

Howdy Rockhounds!

If your family is like ours we always looked forward to summer, when we could take a family vacation and make memories together. Most of our summer trips were going to Montana to visit Donnas' family. We would explore many places looking for rocks, making a fun adventure of each outing.

This week 26 Jr. Rockers are having a great time making memories. They meet at the shop at 9a.m. or 2 p.m. for a fun filled busy day! And they didn't have to drive hundreds of miles to learn of the world of minerals and fossils.

Linda again has put hours, too many to count into making the camp a fun hands on, learning adventure for these kids. They are earning badges while they have fun, working on projects and collecting rocks.

A big Thank you goes out to Linda for all the planning, gathering and collecting she had done through the year to make these 2 camps a success! We do not have our normal meetings in June, July or August, but we would like to invite you to join us June 20th, at the shop for a fun evening of Hot Dogs and Rock Swap!

Hot dogs, chips and water will be provided, if you want something different to drink, bring your own non alcoholic drink. We look forward to seeing you!

See you at the shop Thursday evening at 6:30!

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.

2013 Board

President
Joe Grimes

Vice-President
Jerrold Simpson

Past President
Kevin Schleicher

Secretary
Gilbert Trejo

Treasurer
Gene Schade

Membership / Web master
Gene Schade

Newsletter
Sylvia Kernen, newsletter@gcgms.org

Education
open position

Librarian
Linda Simpson

Show / Dealer Chair
Jerrold Simpson

Show Publicity
Donna Grimes

Shop Coordinator
Mark Wolbrink

Field Trip Coordinator
open position

Federation Liaison
Joe Grimes

Historian
open position

Communications
Suzy Nick

Door Prizes
Michelle Alvarez

Refreshment Hostess
Theresa Cline

www.gcgms.org

Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society
P.O. Box 60781
Corpus Christi, TX 78466

Club News & Information



to: Juan Carlos Chappa Melanie Hollenshead
Tina and Brad Kettinger Eric Yandell

and all members born in June! Please send me your birthdate information. newsletter@gcgms.org

Guest Speaker

Our Guest Speaker at the last meeting before our summer break was Jacob White. He told us all about his experiences at the Gem and Mineral Society, the camps he has attended combined with the Boy Scouts badges

he has earned by collecting and working on Rocks and Fossils. He showed us all his badges and a belt associated with the Gem and Mineral Society and the Boy Scouts of America. It was a great little presentation by our junior member. To top it all off all of our current and former Boy Scouts members got together for a group picture.



General Meeting Minutes May 16th 2013

of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Regular Meeting for 5/16/2013 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 6:56pm. The meeting was held at the Bridge Club 4234 Weber.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer Report. Gene gave the expenses and income for the month. Gene said loss for the month was \$360. Gene gave the balances of bank accounts. Bill Patillo made a motion seconded by Johnny French to accept the Treasurer's Report. All voted aye.

Gilbert Trejo gave the Secretary Report. Gilbert said there were no changes from the Cabs and Slabs. Mary Lou Swan made a motion seconded by Butch Harris to accept the Secretary's Report. All voted aye.

Gene Schade gave the Membership Report. Gene said there are 110 adult members and 28 junior members and 8 honorary members. Norma Trejo made a motion seconded by Johnny French to accept the Membership Report. All voted aye.

Mark Wolbrink gave the Shop Report. Mark said the primary lab work has been getting ready for Kids Rock Camp. Mark said all the machines are in good working order. Mark said to call for a tour or a class. Sylvia Kernen made a motion seconded by Fred Blackmar to accept the Shop Report. All voted aye.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Show Report. Jerrold said that

there was not any news on the Rock Show. Donna Grimes is collecting digital pictures to use in new ads. Donna said that the data base for prior attendees to the Rock Show will be gone over.

Linda Simpson gave the Education and Kid Camp Report. Linda said that both Kids Camps are full and there is a waiting list. Linda said that they could use people to act as helpers. Linda said that she will make presentation to home-schoolers and presentations each week in summer.

Under old business, Joe Grimes said the T-shirts voted on the last meeting are in.

Joe Grimes asked if you have any contacts for a field trip for a day trip.

Under new business, Joe Grimes asked that if any members have an idea on how to increase attendance to bring the idea to the Board Members.

Joe Grimes stated that at the September meeting a Nominating Committee will be appointed. Joe asks anyone interested to contact a Board Member if they want to serve.

Hank Swan makes a motion to adjourn seconded by Norma Trejo. The motion passed.

Board Meeting Minutes June 6th, 2013

of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

The GCGMS Board Meeting for 06-06-13 was called to order by President Joe Grimes at 6:39 pm. The meeting was held at the Society Lapidary Shop. Those in attendance were Joe Grimes, Donna Grimes, Gene Schade, Jerrold Simpson, Linda Simpson, Sylvia Kernen, Hank Swan and Gilbert Trejo.

Gene Schade gave the Treasurer's Report. Gene goes over the month's expense and show expenses. Linda Simpson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Sylvia Kernen seconded it. All voted aye.

Gene Schade gave the Membership Report. The Membership List was emailed to the Board. Gene said there are 112 adult members and 33 junior members and 8 honorary members. Gene went over the new members. Jerrold Simpson made a motion to accept the Membership Report and Gilbert Trejo seconded it. All voted aye.

Gilbert Trejo said there are not any minutes at this time.

Mark Wolbrink was not at the meeting to give the Shop Report. Jerrold Simpson said the machines are all working fine. Donna Grimes asked if there is enough paper towels for the Rock Camp. Jerrold said there is not and we need to get some and water for the Campers. Joe Grimes said that they will get water bottles.

Jerrold Simpson gave the Rock Show Report. Jerrold said there is nothing to report at this time.

Linda Simpson gave the Education Report and Kids Camp. Linda said that she is getting the material ready for each day. Linda asked if the notice that classes and work at the Lab will be suspended for the week of Kids Camp can be put on facebook or e-mail notice. Linda said two kids have withdrawn from Kids Camp but the people on the waiting list were contacted and Kids Camp is full.

Under old business, Joe Grimes asked about the replacement cart. Jerrold Simpson went over several options from \$250 to \$329. Jerrold said they are all steel and will carry 2000 pounds. Joe Grimes stated what they use a modified hand truck that is less expensive. Jerrold said those trucks can not carry the weight and do not have the size needed. Jerrold said he will continue to look at other carts and bring the information in later.

Joe Grimes asked about the flyers for the next Rock

Show. Gene said he will get together with Sylvia and bring some samples back to the Board.

Joe Grimes said that there were not any member suggestions to increase attendance but the longer notice of the meeting got more attendance. There was a suggestion of getting a suggestion box for the meetings. No action was taken.

Under new business, Joe Grimes asked what to do for the next meeting. Gilbert Trejo made a motion to have a Hot Dog Social and Rock Swap Meet at the June 20th meeting, seconded by Sylvia Kernen. The Club will provide hot dogs, water and chips. The member will provide their own rocks to swap.

Joe Grimes asked Sylvia Kernen when she will be out of the county in August. Sylvia said she and her family will be out two weeks in the middle of August. Joe said he is asking because the August newsletter is very important to give notice of the September meeting. Sylvia said that if she gets everything done except the minutes someone can put that together and send out the newsletter. Sylvia feel this can be done on time.

Hank Swan asks what the Board wants for the future of the lab shop. Joe Grimes said his policy is to increase people at the shop. Hank said the system of getting supplies with Board approval takes a long time. Joe said that for consumable supplies, the Shop Manager should be able to order them.

Jerrold Simpson made a motion to adjourn at 8:14 pm seconded by Sylvia Kernen. All voted aye.

Birthstone for June - Moonstone

Moonstone

Chemistry: Na Ca (Al, Si)AlSi₂O₈, sodium calcium aluminum silicate

Subclass: Tectosilicates

Class: Silicates

Group: Feldspars



History of emerald

Moonstone is a form of the mineral oligoclase feldspar. Moonstone's name comes from the fact that its shiny iridescent and refractive properties resemble the glowing moon. Moonstone (also called sunstone) can be blue-white or peach in color. Ancient peoples believed that the stone had mystical properties and could help with spiritual awareness. Some even believed that wearing this stone could cause invisibility for the wearer.

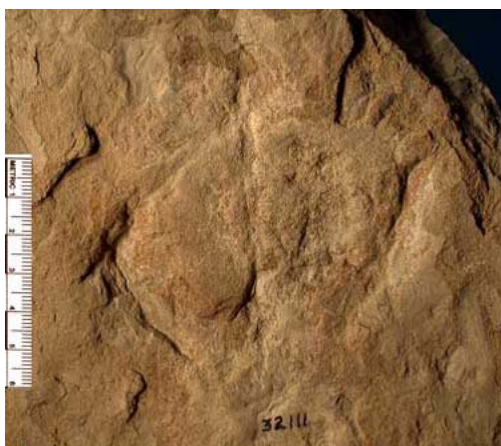
Science of moonstone

The strange light-refractive qualities of moonstone are caused by lamellar intergrowths inside the crystal. These structures form from layers caused by chemicals responding to hot and cold temperatures differently. When light enters the stone, it is bounced back and forth between these layers before it exits as the glowing moon-like effect we see.

source: http://www.burkemuseum.org/geology/birthstones_jun



Mystery Fossil



If you said "This is a rock," you'd be right, but this is more than just your everyday rock. Better click on the image to get an enlarged view of this month's Mystery Fossil. There is some symmetry to it...what do you think it is?

<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/historyoflife/mysteries/mystery48/mystery48.html>

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

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 361-813-1844



Please call one of these when you would like to use the shop. They will not all be available at the same time, and once in a while none of them will be available most of the time at least one of them should be able to work out a time and date the shop could be open for you. Remember the club has a lot of good equipment to use.

Several different classes are being conducted on Monday evening from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. The shop is open during these times for use of the equipment even if you are not involved in a class. Shop is also open Saturday 9:00 Until Noon.



Shop News!

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

Shop Supervisor: Mark Wolbrink 361-991-2495

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

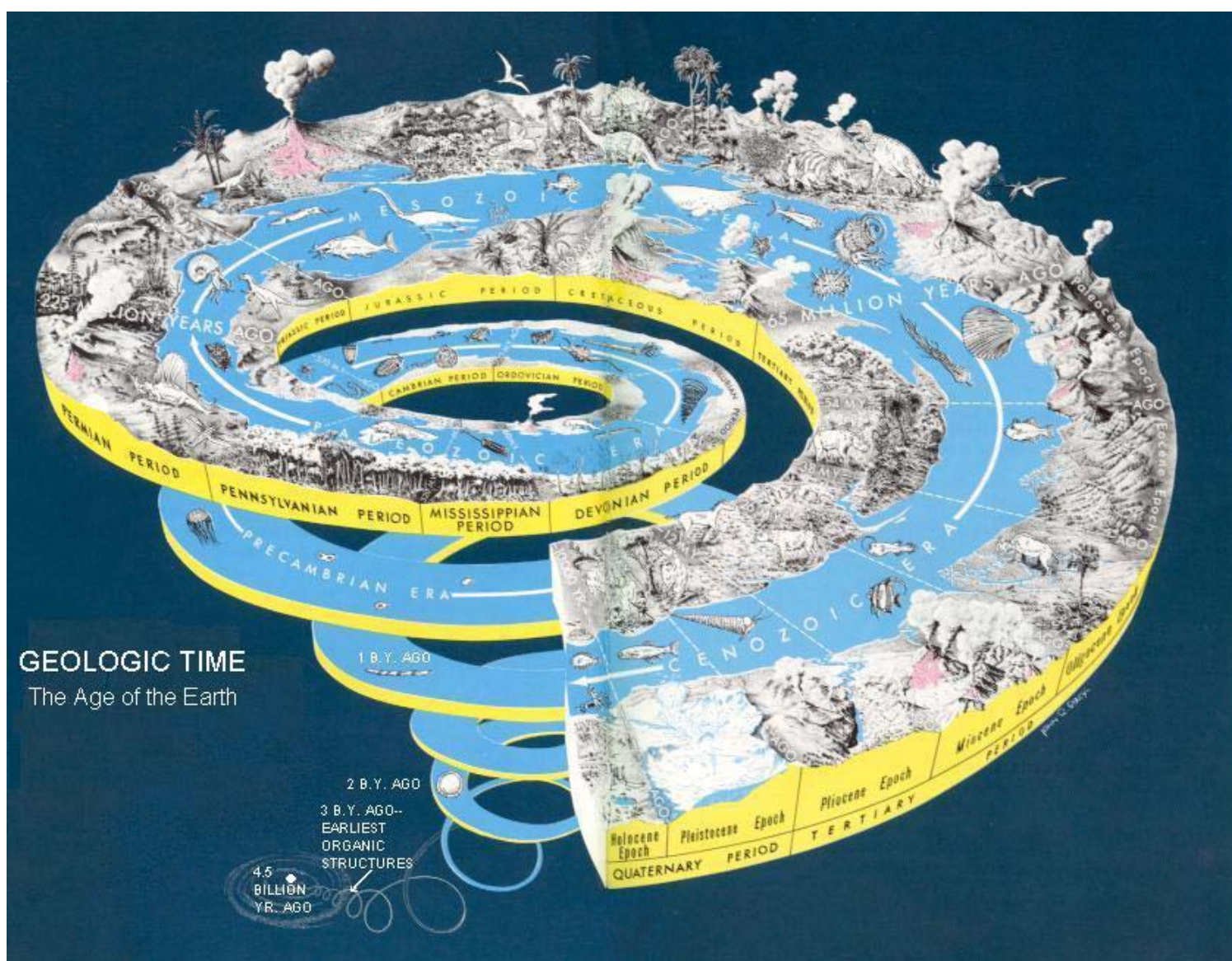
Hank Swan 361-813-1844

Upcoming Events

August 2013

AUG 17-18 BOSSIER CITY, LA: SCFMS FEDERATION SHOW, sponsored by the Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society; Bossier Parish Convention Center, 620 Benton Road; \$4 daily admission; free parking, including RV overnight (no sewer hookups); <www.scfms.net>, <www.larockclub.com>

AUG 24-25 JASPER, TX: 19TH ANNUAL SHOW; Pine Country Gem Mineral Society; The Event Center; 6258 Hwy. 190W, five miles west of Jasper; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, free, students and children free; includes petrified wood field trip; contact Ann James, 2738 FM 92 S., Woodville, TX 75979, (409) 429-7444; e-mail: earthscache3@yahoo.com; <www.pinecountrygms.org>



source: <http://library.ndsu.edu/exhibits/text/greatplains/fig05.jpg>

Kids Corner Rocks

Treating Rocks & Minerals

Making the colour of rocks "pop"

Many rocks & minerals look better when they are wet. That is because the colours are richer. Unfortunately rocks dry out too quickly. There are several ways to get that effect for a longer time period:

- put rocks in a bottle with water & put a lid on them
- cut & polish rocks using lapidary equipment
- spray varnish the rock surface - this effects how it feels - often feels like plastic
- when calcite is "dinged" so that there are pale scratches on the surface, mineral oil (Baby Oil) will make the scratches less noticeable.

Someone told us that a dealer told them to spray the rock with WD 40 and then let the rain wash off the excess. We tried that with a piece of sodalite as you can see in this picture. Several applications are needed.

source: <http://www.rocksforkids.com/RFK/Treating%20Rocks%20&%20Minerals.htm>

Make Your Own Fossil

What you'll need:

Plasticine
2 paper cups
An object that you would like to use as the fossilized impression
Plaster of paris
Water

Instructions:

Flatten a ball of plasticine until it is about 2 cm thick while making sure the top is smooth. Put the plasticine inside a paper cup with the smooth side facing up. Carefully press the object you want to fossilize into the plasticine until it is partially buried. Carefully remove the object from the plasticine. An impression of the object should be left behind. Pour half a cup of plaster of paris into the other paper cup. Add a quarter cup of water to the plaster and stir until the mixture is smooth. Leave it for around two minutes. When the mixture has thickened pour it on top of the plasticine in the other cup. Leave the mixture until the plaster has dried (leave it for 24hrs if you want to be sure). When the plaster has fully dried, tear away the sides of the paper cup and take out the plasticine and plaster. Keep it in a warm dry place and enjoy your very own fossil.

What's happening?

Fossils are extremely useful records of the past. In your case you left behind an impression of an object you own but fossils found by scientists around the world can date back to the time of dinosaurs. These fossils allow paleontologists (the name of scientists who study these types of fossils) to study what life might have been like millions of years ago. Fossils such as the one you made can leave delicate patterns and a surprising amount of detail.

source: <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/projects/fossilcast.html>



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>

AFMS Land Use Policy

From the AFMS website

1. I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
2. I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
3. I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
4. I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
5. I will cause no wilful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.
6. I will leave all gates as found.
7. I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
8. I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
9. I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
10. I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
11. I will cause no wilful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
15. 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.
16. I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
17. 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.



Happy
Father's
Day

MEMBER of

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, Inc.



Meeting

Held the **third Thursday** each month at **6:30 pm** 4234 Weber Rd. in Corpus Christi September through May, and at the Lapidary Shop, 3933 Timon Blvd., Corpus Christi TX for **June through August**.

Membership Fees

Annual fees: **Individuals \$15.00, Couples \$20.00, Junior (under 17) \$5.00**

Purpose

The objective and purpose of the society is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy, the earth sciences and the lapidary arts. To encourage study in these subjects through the means of: presentation of public exhibitions, field trips for exploration, study and collection of specimens, the presentations of lectures, illustrated programs, demonstrations and similar programs pertaining to the fields of mineralogy, earth sciences and the lapidary arts.

Mark your Calendars!



WWW

Visit us on our website www.gcgms.org



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

Next board meeting
4 July 2013 at the
Lapidary Shop
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Slabs & Cabs
Sylvia Kernen
3942 FM 1781
Rockport TX 78382

Slabs & Cabs Awards



2003 SCFMS
Small Bulletins 4th place

PUBLICATION

2002 2nd
2001 1st
2001-4th place AFMS
2000 9th place SCFMS
1999-8th place SCFMS
1999- 9th place (new editor) AFMS

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