



The **BACKBENDER'S** **GAZETTE**

The Newsletter of the
Houston Gem & Mineral Society

Volume XLV - No. 9

September 2014



President's Message

by Raymond Kizer

In my opinion, summer is the best time of the year to go on a field trip. The weather is generally more favorable, and you don't have to worry about that pesky snow and ice covering your favorite collecting sites. Field trips can be exciting and fun if you take the time to do the proper preplanning work.

I recently made a long drive up to Michigan to see my parents and to do some work on the house for my dad. I made the 3,000 mile round-trip drive instead of flying so I could make stops along the way, looking for collecting sites I had worked while in college. That was a few years ago now, and you know what—the memory for detail can get a little foggy after 30-some years.



I decided to collect at a road cut known for its quartz-lined geodes just north of Bloomington, Indiana. This was a great place some 30 years ago, with geodes large and small. All had clear quartz linings. Some had saddles of dolomite while others had sprays of goldish Millerite needles. It was a great place, with easy-to-get-at geodes.

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Upcoming Programs

by Paul Brandes

August 26, 2014 An Evening with Joe Budd: Joe Budd is a mineral and jewelry photographer whose work has been featured in such magazines as *Rocks & Minerals* and *The Mineralogical Record*. For this evening's presentation, Joe will talk about some recent projects which will include a great deal of mineral eye candy. He will share some high-end pieces photographed recently and will talk about the latest major project he just wrapped up, the Texas Collectors' 2nd edition for *The Mineralogical Record*. Joe will also share a more artistic project he has been working on—hyper-close-up photos of minerals. Be prepared to see some amazing photos and to learn a little about how such photos come to be.

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Every article published in the BBG is edited for grammar and content. No flaming is allowed.

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Purpose of HGMS

The objectives of this Society are to promote the advancement of the knowledge and practice of the arts and sciences associated with the collecting of rocks, minerals, fossils, artifacts, and their identification and classification; the general lapidary art; the collecting and identification of gemstones; the designing and execution of jewelry or metalcraft; and to provide the opportunity to obtain, exchange, and exhibit specimens and rough or finished materials.

Membership dues are \$40 for an adult membership, \$60 for a couple, \$75 for a family (including all children aged 5-18), \$25 for a youth membership (ages 5-18), and \$500 for an adult life membership. Advertising rates: \$70 for 2 months, ¼ page; \$150 for 6 months, ¼ page.

MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies & South Central Federation of Mineral Societies.

All meetings are held at the Clubhouse which is located at 10805 Brooklet near the intersection of Highway 59 (Southwest Freeway) and Sam Houston Parkway (Beltway 8). See the calendar inside the back page for when the different Sections meet. The General Meeting is the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30. The HGMS Web site address is <http://www.hgms.org>.

President continued from page 1

I made an 80-mile detour to get to the site. I had checked my maps and even looked up the outcrop on Google Earth, so I was confident that I could get to the proper spot. But alas, you can't know everything. As I approached my destination, a flashing arrow directed me off the highway for what amounted to a twenty-mile detour. It seems that they were blasting my target outcrop to widen the road. What bad timing on my part. A week or two later and I would have been in heaven with all fresh rock faces to search. I guess even the best preplanning doesn't guarantee success. But the next guy through that outcrop—boy, is he going to get lucky!

So do your planning and take a chance. Make that summer field trip to your favorite collecting location, whether for fossils, minerals, or just cutting material—it just might be your lucky day.

Upcoming Programs continued from page 1

September 23, 2014: A Woman's Perspective on Mineral Collecting: When Gail Copus Spann discovered the world of minerals a number of years ago, she found herself in a hobby dominated by men and very few women collectors. She also discovered along the way that women have a very different collecting style from men—a style that she explores in this presentation. Along with her husband Jim, they are actively involved in the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas, TX, and are avid fine mineral and gem stone collectors, with a collection rivaling many museums. Their mission in the hobby is to encourage more young people to learn the importance of minerals and to start collecting on their own. This will surely be an evening for the ladies of HGMS (oh, and the men can come too!)

Mineral Section Programs

by Paul Brandes

September 3, 2014: Welcome back! Typically our first regularly scheduled meeting after the summer hiatus, this evening's presentation will be a synopsis of each member's summer mineral collecting adventures. Plenty of time will be available for short presentations, show and tell, and socializing with other members. Attendees are encouraged to bring and display their summer field finds (clean or not) as well as summer purchases. Refreshments will be available.

September 17, 2014: Minerals of New Mexico: The state of New Mexico is famous for its mineral riches. From Kelly Mine smithsonite and Blanchard fluorite to San Pedro gold and the famous mining camps of Lake Valley, White Oaks, and Red River, the Land of Enchantment boasts a number of exciting localities for the mineral collector and mining historian alike. This, the fourth in our series of locality presentations, will be an opportunity for Section members and all HGMS members to gather for an evening of New Mexico geology, minerals, mining locations, and a little history thrown in. All HGMS Members are encouraged to attend and to bring specimens from their collections for show and tell. Members will also be encouraged to share their stories of mineral collecting in New Mexico and of available collecting localities. Refreshments will be provided.

The Miner—High Adventure Diving

by John Anderson

Member of the Houston Gem & Mineral Society

Do you want to get away searching for high adventure? I will tell you about really high adventure in seeing nature and its great undiscovered beauty. But first, I will tell you the story of how I got to this place – from my early discovery of knowing that I just like to be underwater and how it changed throughout my life to my now young age of 82.

I first wanted to dive at 17 when I saw some boys about my age entering the ocean to spearfish in 55°F water during the winter in Southern California. The only equipment they had were swim fins, non-purgeable mask (because they had not been invented yet), and to try to lessen the brisk water—cotton socks, gloves, and long John underwear with trapdoor bottom. Maybe you remember them as a “Union Suit.” Every boy that would head out through the surf always pulled an inner tube with a potato sack attached to hold his catch (and also to hang onto if he started having leg cramps in that cold water). I never was a high-school jock because I had to work all through my high school years, but I knew that when I saw these boys skin diving, I immediately knew that I could do that. I have always loved to fish, so my first desire was to spear a fish with a pole spear because it was the cheapest way to bring food to my parents’ dinner table. You could find other items while diving that were even more desirable, such as abalone and spiny crayfish (which we call lobster). As a side note “spiny crayfish” is not a true lobster for they are a different family. As you advance in your spear fishing skills, you recognize immediately that a pole spear has many limits, such as its length for transport, its difficulty to move around underwater, and the size of fish that you are trying to capture.

I had always admired the undersea beauty, but I never just really studied it because at that time it only served as a medium in which I could collect food and feel the satisfaction of bringing home the bacon. I also loved the challenge of doing something most people would not even try.

Some people, when learning to dive, look for treasure which can also include the collecting of sea shells. California has some great shells that have a tasty reward such as clams and abalone. California is not laden with shipwrecks, so I first settled into the realization that I really just liked being underwater regardless of the water’s clarity. A few years passed while I was free diving. I then entered the US Navy and was introduced to SCUBA. This opened a whole new world in being able to just stay under the great cloak of water. Before the 1950s except for the military, nothing was available to help keep you warm in cold water except “longees.” When commercially sold Aqua Lung started to appear for the public, other recreational diving items also began to appear. Dry suits which were almost like wearing a rubber glove appeared, but you still



had to wear the union suit to try to stay warm. If you had a puncture or a tear in the dry suit while diving, water entered the suit and caused you a big problem, especially when you were trying to get to shore. In 1952, the foam neoprene rubber “Wet Suit” appeared, and later the early BC appeared (which was a joke because it seemed that they were designed more for drowning you than for helping you maintain your correct buoyancy.)

A submersible air pressure gauge—I believe it was called a Seaview gauge—appeared. That let you know what your air pressure was, and you no longer needed to use the J-valve as a help while diving. One of the earliest of dive computers was the Diveomatic, which we jokingly referred to as the “bend-o-matic” because of its unpredictable operation. I should say that Spain, Italy, and France have always had an interest in skin diving, and they probably were responsible for a lot of the early dive equipment that started to appear in the US.

After all of the changes in diving equipment through the years, you now can pick the color for any diving equipment from fins, mask, BC, Skin, and for the people that really need to be in style, you can even get a custom tank color. About 30 years ago, I was spearfishing about 60 miles off of Galveston. I was solo diving on a rig because that was the only way you could dive in the early years. I had on some long underwear that had a very slight red color because of a clothes-washing accident, mismatched colored fins, no BC but a snorkeling vest, and a dive mask that was also of a different color. I really was a sideshow. A cattle dive boat pulled up to the rig that I was diving on, and when they entered the water, they just stopped swimming and looked at me and wondered how could anyone that was SCUBA diving have such a collection of gear. I had no BC and to make things worse, not a single piece of my gear was anyway close to be color coordinated—and the colors actually clashed. At that time, I felt I could probably have charged admission. My wife Lee said she would not go with me on any more diving trips until I changed my underwater dress code.

Back to my story. I still kept putting off looking more closely at my underwater surroundings because even though I had been taking movies and stills for many years, I was still intent on what I was doing and was always in a hurry when diving. All of my diving trips that were not working-type diving making money were usually like this: When you arrive at your dive location, you hurry to get into the ocean so you can take as many pictures as you can because there is only so much daylight left. So you hurry and take pictures and then rest some, and then go out for the night dive and try to take more pictures so you can enjoy them as a movie, picture, or a slideshow after you get home.

With all of the advancement in diving gear, almost anyone can now enjoy an underwater adventure. When most people go on a dive trip—especially overseas to Borneo or to any other exotic area—they schedule it usually for one week because of the cost and job constraints. And with only a week, many people pack in the dives and the photography and the filming. I’m not saying you should give up your underwater filming or photography, but on one of your dives, have you ever just not taken a camera but instead just enjoyed the great feeling of being underwater in a beautiful dive location,

looking closely at the marine life, and noticing how they address each other? Observing the interaction between different fish or any marine animal is a joy in itself. Have you ever just watched a jellyfish drift and noticed how it propels itself through the water, or have you really seen the bouquet of soft corals? And what about the clown fish dodging in and out of the blanket sea anemones with their stinging nematocysts cells in its tentacles? I have even enjoyed watching the “Portuguese man-of-war” (which is a colonial coelenterates) and its somewhat smaller cousin, Pacific man-of-war, found in the Gulf of California. If you are extremely careful to not get stung by them, you can see the other inhabitants that live with them in a symbiotic relationship. For me, the true joy is to slowly and simply look at these amazing creatures of the ocean world and appreciate them without doing anything else. That’s what I call “High Adventure.”

Beading Section—Results of July Meeting



Jason's Prototype



5 Interpretations of Jason's Design



Virginia Garza's necklace ready for the clasp
May-June project

Day Light Section—August Project

Karen Burns Chain Maille Bracelet





Show Postcard Labeling & Pizza Lunch

Saturday,
September 27
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Show Auction & Dinner

Saturday, October 11
6 p.m. Dinner - 7 p.m. Auction

YOUR STUFF IS SOMEONE ELSE'S TREASURE!

Donate items for the 2014 Show Info
Booth and preshow auctions now

We need quality items in any of the following
categories:

- Lapidary tools, rough, slabs, carvings, cabochons, and spheres
- Faceted stones or faceting rough
- Dinosaur related books, models, or toys
- Fossils, mineral specimens, and artifacts

Please place donations in the **PURPLE TUB**
in the main HGMS Meeting Room

General Meeting Minutes for 07-22-2014

by Nancy English, HGMS Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Nancy English at 7:30 p.m.

The Secretary explained that President Ray Kizer was in Michigan, and 1st Vice President Paul Brandes was in Europe. The meeting was attended by 22 regular members, one new member, and three visitors.

The Secretary asked the visitors and new member to stand and be recognized. The new member was Christopher Studer. The visitors were Chris Holloman, Alan McIntosh, and Vicki Huddleston.

Drawing: Bob Wagner won the drawing for the block of blue tiger-eye.

Minutes: Because the BBG has not been received by members yet, Karen Burns moved to postpone approval of the minutes of the June General Meeting. Sigrid Stewart seconded, and the membership passed the motion.

Show-n-Tell: Steve Blyskal showed his recent estate sale finds—fossils from Stone City and Indian fossil necklaces. Chase Jennings presented microfossils in matrix. Bob Bender brought Hawaiian shells and bullets from the islands. Sigrid Stewart showed a rock hammer with a hand-carved handle made by her brother-in-law. Joe Hiernberger asked for a rock to be identified. Steve Blyskal looked at it and said it was opal.

Section Reports

Archeology Section: The next Archeology Section meeting is Thursday, August 7, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be announced.

Beading Section: The next regular Beading Section meeting will be on Saturday, August 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Day Light Section: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. Karen Burns will be teaching how to make a chain maille bracelet using jump rings. Tools will be provided, but if you have your own, please bring them. You will need \$5.00 for jump ring supplies.

Education Committee: Carrie Hart has posted the details for new class offerings on the HGMS Web page and is now making up class lists for those who are interested in learning a new skill or are just brushing up on a skill they haven't used in a while. See the Web page links for more details. Currently we are seeking members interested in forming class groups of five or more students to learn Cabochon Making, Foil Art, and Jewelry Fabrication. These classes will teach the basic skills needed to complete one or more jewelry items during the class. Intermediate classes will follow if there are interested students. All tools and materials will be covered by course fees unless spe-

Get last-minute news about club events by sending a note to Jim Kendall at kendal_ja@yahoo.com

cifically noted. Course Fees must be paid in advance. Contact Carrie Hart for availability, course schedules, and fees. Please e-mail her at classes@hgms.org or carriehart2000@yahoo.com. The Beginning Wire Wrap class will conclude August 4, 2014.

Faceting Section: The next meeting is Wednesday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m. The program is to be announced.

Lapidary Section: The next regular meeting is August 18 at 7:30 p.m. Program to be announced. At the July meeting, Ed Clay demonstrated how to create wire from scrap silver, going from a puddle of melted silver to the rolling mill (annealing the results periodically), and then pulling the results through increasingly smaller draw plate holes—still annealing, but VERY CAREFULLY so as not to melt the wire.

Mineral Section: The next Mineral Section meeting will be on Wednesday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m. Steve Blyskal asked members to sign out the boxes of minerals and to glue the numbers onto each rock, then return the boxes to the club before the next Mineral meeting. The Mineral Section is taking a field trip to see Dallas dealers on August 8–9, 2014. Two weeks later, there will be another field trip to the Dallas Fine Minerals Symposium.

Paleo Section: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19 at 7:30. The program will be announced in an e-mail blast. Bob Bender will be promoting the HGMS Annual Show with an exhibit at The Woodlands Home Schooling program. The Paleo Section will be making the faux fossils for the Show in August.

Show Committee Report: Steve Blyskal reported that the committee still needs chairpersons for the Information Booth, Volunteers, and Publicity. Tony Lucci is repairing the trailers. The trailers need new tires and winches.

Youth Section: The Youth Section recently took a trip to the Mt. Ida area of Arkansas; a report of the trip was given. The Section will meet Saturday, August 2 and again on August 16 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Shop Report: No Report.

BBG Editor and Webmaster: Phyllis George reported that the BBG was awarded second place in the Large Bulletin category at the American Federation of Mineral Societies. Congratulations, Phyllis!!

August General Meeting: The August 25 General Meeting will feature a program called “An Evening with Joe Budd.” Joe Budd is a mineral and jewelry photographer whose work has been featured in such magazines as *Rocks & Minerals* and *The Mineralogical Record*. For this evening’s presentation, Joe will talk about some recent projects which will include a great deal of mineral eye-candy. He will share some high-end pieces photographed recently and will talk about the latest major project he just wrapped up—the Texas Collectors’ 2nd edition for *The Mineralogical Record*. Joe will also share a more artistic project he has been working on—hyperclose-up photos of miner-

als. Be prepared to see some amazing photos and to learn a little about how such photos come to be.

Old Business

In the interest of time, Secretary English asked the members to follow the progress of Old Business items in the June 3 Board meeting minutes as published in the July edition of the BBG. There was no July Board meeting.

New Business

David Hawkins brought to the Club's attention that the coral which had been donated to the club was missing from the large case. All the proceeds from the donations in the case are to be split 50/50 with the donor. Steve Blyskal explained that the Show Committee planned to use it as a door prize at the Show. They were unaware of the agreement with the donor. Secretary English suggested the misunderstanding should be worked out with the President and the Show Committee Chairman. Another member asked when the Paleo scholarship will be awarded. The question was referred to the Paleo Section.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, August 5. The next General Meeting is Tuesday, August 26.

Adjourn: Nancy English entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting and proceed with the program. Karen Burns moved to adjourn the business meeting, and Phyllis George seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the business meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. in order to have the program.

Nancy English asked Steve Blyskal to introduce tonight's program—**A Photographic Tour of Hawaii:** Steve Blyskal and Sigrid Stewart took Society members on a photographic tour of Oahu and the Big Island of Hawaii. They talked about the many volcanoes, waterfalls, lava fields, tall mountains, rain forests, turkeys (really!), and many other interesting facts, and they showed photos featuring pounding surf, breaching whales, and sunsets. And to top it all off, Steve and Sigrid played a very good ukulele duet!

Refreshments: Provided by Nancy English.



Board of Directors Meeting

August 5, 2014

by Nancy English

X	President - Ray Kizer	X	Archeology Rep - Garth Clark
X	1st Vice President - Paul Brandes	X	Beading Rep - Jillynn Hales
X	2nd Vice President - Beverly Mace	X	DayLight Rep - Mary Ann Mitscherling
	Treasurer - Rodney Linehan	X	Faceting Rep - Gary Tober
X	Secretary - Nancy English	X	Lapidary Rep - Phyllis George
	Past President - John Caldyne		Mineral Rep -
			Paleontology Rep - Mike Dawkins

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. with a quorum of nine members present. President Ray Kizer presided over the meeting. Three other non-voting members were also present at the meeting—Carrie Hart, Education; Michelle Marsel, Show Committee; and Tamara Ritchie, Publicity.

President's Comments: Welcome back to all the vacationers including himself. He also shared a note from Sierra and Leslie McCaleb thanking HGMS for our expression of sympathy for the passing of Steve McCaleb.

Approval of Previous Month Board Minutes: Due to the anticipated lack of a quorum for the July Board meeting, the meeting was cancelled. Therefore, Paul Brandes moved and Garth Clark seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June Board Meeting. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Rodney Linehan e-mailed financials to all Board members in advance of the meeting. The President asked for a report on the revenues from the Wire Wrap class that ended Sunday, August 3, 2014. Carrie Hart, Education Chair, reported that the net result was \$450.00.

Office, Committee, and Section Reports

Show Committee: Michele Marsel – The Committee moves into high gear in August. Dealers are being finalized. Michele reviewed high-level floor plan changes. The Show display ad has been submitted to the Houston Chronicle. It will appear in the August 17, 2014, Fall Bazaar section. The Postcard labeling party will be held at 10 a.m. September 27, 2014. The Show Auction and supper is scheduled for 6 p.m. October 11, 2014. The trailer repairs are scheduled for September. After comparing a number of storage units, it was determined that we could not find a less expensive option. The contract was renewed with a two-month bonus for a one-year contract.

Michele gave details of the Show Dealer Committee's decision to decline renewal for one dealer who has not adhered to subletting restrictions for the previous three years. The dealer had requested that the matter be reviewed by the Board. After a brief discussion, Gary Tober proposed a resolution that the HGMS Board of Directors support

the Show Committee in maintaining contractual discipline with dealers. The resolution passed.

Archeology Section: The July program was Genetics in Archeology. The next Archeology Section meeting is Thursday, August 7, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be about the new discovery of a Pre-Clovis center in Big Bend, Texas.

Beading Section: The next regular Beading Section meeting will be on Saturday, August 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Day Light Section: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. Karen Burns will be teaching how to make a chain maille bracelet with jump rings. Tools will be provided, but if you have your own, please bring them. You will need \$5.00 for jump ring supplies. Jim Paras conducted the July meeting. He presented microfossils for the group to find.

Education Committee: Carrie Hart reported that 10 people attended the wire wrapping class that ended Sunday, August 2, 2014. On August 17, 2014, Jim Paras will teach metal foil art. The fee for the one-day class is \$30.00.

Faceting Section: The next meeting is Wednesday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m. The program will include a discussion on how to maintain faceting equipment, getting a good polish, and the use of different wheels. At the July meeting, Patrick demonstrated a homemade viewing apparatus.

Lapidary Section: The next regular meeting is August 18 at 7:30 p.m. Program to be announced. At the July meeting, Ed Clay demonstrated how to anneal wire starting with heating scrap silver into a silver puddle, moving through the rolling mill, and finally through drawplates.

Mineral Section: The next Mineral Section workshop will be on Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. Members will be organizing florescent displays. In July they organized the display boxes for the Show.

Paleo Section: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19 at 7:30. The program will be announced. At the July meeting, Mike Dawkins shared fossils from his recent trip.

Publicity Committee: Tamara Richie – has developed a spreadsheet with 40 publications on it. She is in the process of calling them to identify the free ones. Tamara asked if she could contact this year's HGMS scholarship winner, Ms. Adeene Denton, to get referrals for HGMS participation at social fair type of events. Paul Brandes suggested she contact department heads. Nancy English will send her that list. Michelle Marsel will give Tamara contact information for Teresa Peek to discuss a Facebook site. Tamara has taken many pictures of the display cases and classes that she will use.

Youth Section: The next meeting is on Saturday, August 2 and again on August 16 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Youth members are working on showcase stones for the Show. The stones will be judged individually.

BBG Editor and Webmaster: The deadline to receive articles is August 7, 2014. Phyllis George reported that the Web site listing of HGMS Officers from 1948 to

Present has been updated. Now she is working on recording winners of the various contests over the last two years plus this year. The SCFMS annual show is being held in Baton Rouge on August 8, 9, and 10, 2014. Phyllis will be representing HGMS at the SCFMS Annual Meeting, awarding the SCFMS Web Site Contest certificates and plaque (she is the Chair for that contest), and picking up all the certificates and plaques won by HGMS in the annual SCFMS Bulletin Editors' Contest. Gary Tober moved to provide reimbursement for her hotel stay, and Mary Ann Mitscherling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. **Clubhouse Repairs and upgrades:** The doorbell has been rewired and connected. The front wall of the clubhouse meeting room has been repaired and repainted, making it more suitable for PowerPoint presentations.
2. **Security System:** Garth Clark – The drop in prices of the security systems has not happened as Garth had hoped. Instead, prices are going up and some systems are not even available. Garth committed to selecting a system from sales to be held during the Black Friday season (after Thanksgiving) in the fall.
3. **General Meeting Presentation:** First Vice President Paul Brandes reported that all the General Meeting programs for 2014 have been scheduled. The next General Meeting is on Tuesday, August 26, 2014, at 7:30. Phyllis George will be awarding the plaques and certificates won by HGMS members in the 2014 SCFMS and AFMS Bulletin Editors' Contests. Joe Budd will be presenting his winning art photography and will show us how to photograph our work.

New Business

1. **Parking Lot Swap and Sale:** President Ray Kizer proposes a Saturday 9:00 a.m. until noon parking lot Swap and Sale on August 30, 2014. All Sections are invited to participate and swap. Section tables will be provided free with 50% of sale proceeds going to the Section and the remaining 50% to be divided equally between the Building fund and General fund. Tables for individual sellers will be available at a \$15.00 rental each (to dues paid-up club members only). Funds generated from the rental of members tables will be divided equally between the Building fund and General fund. Members are welcome to bring in jewelry or findings, cutting material, slabs, rocks, hobby magazines or books, used lapidary equipment, and fossils or minerals which can be bought/sold/swapped. This will be an informal event and will be held outside the clubhouse. In the event of bad weather, the Swap will be rescheduled. Setup begins at 7:00 a.m.
2. **Donation Form** – We will develop a form to be filled in for all donations to HGMS. **The form will be shared with the President as soon as the donation is collected.** The donation form will include the date, the donor's name and contact information, whether the donation was part of an estate, the name of the estate holder, the name of the person taking in the donation, a list of the major items in the donation, an approximate value—for used items, and any expectation by the donor of compensation from the sale of the items (up to 50%). Ray Kizer accepted Tamara Ritchie's offer to design a form from Ray's draft. Ray will place forms on

a clipboard in the garage portion of the club along with a pen and instructions to put the finished form into the President's inbox on the door of the office.

3. Beverly Mace announced that the company we order our badges from has been sold. We can no longer get them from there. HGMS was paying \$10.00 per badge. Members that purchased and wore them received 10% discounts at the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Show and Jemco. Nancy English will call her former employer for a catalog. Carrie Hart will research T-shirt companies that do other types of printing.
4. Paul Brandes is going to the annual International Geological Society of America Annual Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from October 19–22. Paul is chairing a session titled "The Great Ideas and Localities in Geology." He will be representing HGMS, and the session will be identified in the abstracts guidebook with his name and affiliation to the Houston Gem and Mineral Society. He will be promoting our club by taking club business cards and HGMS Show postcards.

Adjourn: Paul Brandes moved to adjourn the meeting, and Phyllis George seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Phone Scam in Houston Area

by Sgt Jody Higginbotham

Just a note to pass along to the residents concerning a recent phone scam that has been making the rounds lately.

If you happen to receive a phone call from someone claiming to be a law enforcement officer from a local department (warrant division, fugitive division, etc.) and this person claims that you have a warrant, or that a criminal charge has been placed against you, please be aware that this is a scam. The caller will then advise you that you can take care of this warrant by purchasing a "Green Dot" card (from a Walgreen's or grocery store). Then they call you back to get the number from the card, and you never see the money from that card again. You may even be told to get numerous more cards, and this could get to the point where you are spending several thousands of dollars.

Rest assured, if you DO have a warrant, it will never be "taken care of" over the phone. An open warrant (or criminal charge) requires that you be fingerprinted and that bail be posted on your behalf.

Again, if you receive this type of phone call from someone, DO NOT send any money or give them any personal information over the phone. If you have caller I.D., Please write the number down, and call your local Law Enforcement to report the scam attempt. Ask for a deputy to respond to make a report.

Also, please remember that school is starting again. Take the time to familiarize yourselves with the school zones and with the new rule that cellular phone use in a school zone is against the law. Let's all be safe this school year.

Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon.
<http://www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/>

Silver Solder from Scrap

Sometimes you need a lot of silver solder to complete a piece the way you want. For me, it was when I was trying to join several castings. But silver solder is expensive, so I found a way to make my own from scrap with a little help from a penny.

First step is finding out what's in a solder. A search through the reference books (Tim McCreight or Erhard Brepohl) or a Google search will turn up recipes like:

- * Hard - AG 80%, CU 13%, ZN 7%
- * Medium - AG 70%, CU 20%, ZN 5%
- * Easy - AG 63%, CU 30%, ZN 7%

The silver (AG) and the copper (CU) are easy to come by, but finding some zinc (ZN) has always been my problem—until I found out that our pennies are almost all zinc. According to Wikipedia, a US penny minted after 1982 weighs 2.5 grams and is 97.5% ZN and 2.5% CU. So all I had to do is add a penny to some copper and a pile of silver scrap.

I chose to use Sterling scrap, so I adjusted for the amount of copper in it as well as the amount of copper from the penny. Here's what I used for components of Medium solder:

- * Sterling - 36.90 grams
- * Copper - 9.35
- * Penny - 2.50

Melt the silver and copper first in a melting dish, mix well with a carbon rod or titanium solder pick, add the zinc (penny) last, mix again, and pour into a small mold. The zinc is added last because melting it causes some to vaporize, and the fumes are a safety problem (They're a gray-green color). **Be sure to have good ventilation.**

To check that the solder's melting temperature was correct (medium), I put a sample of the homemade solder on a piece of copper sheet along with known samples of hard, medium, and easy solders. I then heated the plate from the bottom and watched as the easy melted first, the medium melted, the homemade melted, and finally the hard.

Additional notes on converting the ingot to sheet, strip, or wire form: If you have access to a rolling mill, that is the fastest way to proceed. Either roll out the ingot into a sheet and cut strips, or roll it out as wire if your mill has the grooves. If you don't have a mill, all you have to do is forge out the ingot into a rough sheet of the gauge you'd like and then cut thin strips with bench shears. Be sure to anneal the sheet every so often as you forge it.

Spot Sanding Brush

Sometimes you will have a little discoloration or debris to clean from the bottom of a pocket, from an area of coarse-textured surface, or from a small space between two soldered objects. Finding something to get into those close areas is always an effort in creativity.

One tool I have for these special occasions is a glass fiber spot-sanding brush. It's great for cleaning a small area and doesn't leave deep scratches—only a faint satin finish.



There probably are several manufacturers of these pens, but one is the PrepPen Adjustable Sanding Pen selling for US \$7.96 from Amazon. You can see it at

<http://www.amazon.com/Prep-Pen-PrepPen-Adjustable-Sanding/dp/B000J18RT6/>

Free Benchtips E-Book

If you have a Kindle, there are two ways to get a copy of Brad's Bench Tips book for free. Amazon's new Unlimited program lets you download as many e-books as you want, and you can try out the program free for a month. Or if you are already in Amazon's Prime program to get free shipping or to download movies, Prime lets you borrow the book for a month at no cost.

AFMS—Putting Some Rumors to Rest

by Steve Weinberger

*Chair, National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame
from AFMS Newsletter 4/2014*



The National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame is an organization started by June Culp Zeitner to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the fields of mineralogy, lapidary, jewelry, paleontology, and education.

June worked with Mr. Dave Geisler in Murdo, South Dakota, and Dave was and is graciously willing to house the Hall of Fame in his museum, the Pioneer Auto Show (www.pioneerautoshow.com). He has done so for many years without charge. For this, we are most grateful.

Some of you may have been contacted by a relative of June's indicating that he might

buy the collection which was the accumulation of items sent by inductees for exhibit. In addition, numerous rumors about the Hall of Fame have been forwarded to others and appeared in some club bulletins. I'd like to clarify the situation and put these rumors to rest.

Since the Hall of Fame is a separate corporation, no one may purchase, deaccession, sell, give away, etc. anything belonging to the Hall of Fame without the consent of the corporation and its Board of Consultants.

June established the Hall of Fame with a Board of Consultants (a group of people from the various regions of the U.S.) The Board is charged with, among other things, receiving nominations and selecting inductees based on the nominations received. The Board continues to do the work of the Hall of Fame with Maxine Wilson, a friend of June's, administering the secretarial duties until her death two years ago.

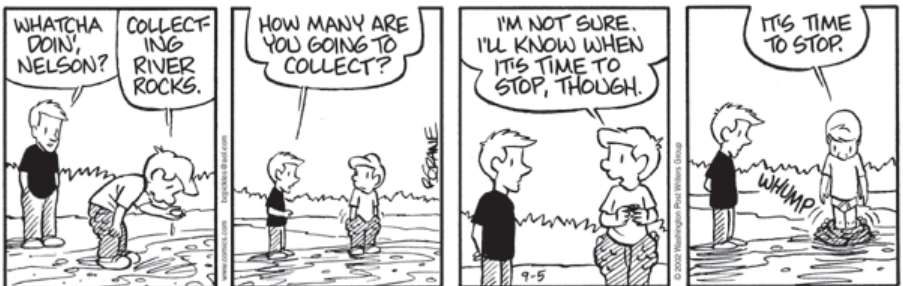
Mr. Geisler, June's relative, and the Board are all on the same page, namely seeing that the Hall of Fame continues and can be exhibited for all to see. To this end, we are all working to do just that.

There was perhaps a misunderstanding on June's relative's part because he thought June's collection, purchased by Mr. Geisler several years ago and housed at the auto museum, were one and the same.

Although the AFMS is not officially connected with the Hall of Fame, the process of nominating individuals has always been closely related in that all regional federation clubs or club members may submit nominations along with substantiating documentation as to why the nominee should be considered. The more information we receive, the easier the selection task is for the Board. You may go to the Hall of Fame Web site www.rockhoundandlapidaryhalloffame.org to get directions, nomination forms, history, a list of inductees, and additional pictures of the Hall of Fame.

I hope that this answers some of the questions that have been raised and puts the rumors about the demise of the Hall of Fame to rest. Should anyone have further questions or concerns, please contact me directly at <cscrystals2@gmail.com>.

Again, I thank Mr. Geisler for his extreme generosity over the years. I also encourage you to visit his Pioneer Auto Show in Murdo, SD. It's right off Interstate 90—when you see the huge green car outside, you are there.



Fossils—Real or Fake?

by Mark Nelson - Pasadena (California) Lapidary Society
from RockhoundRamblings 3/2014

Fossils automatically attract attention. Perhaps it is the marvel that one is seeing the physical representation of a living plant or animal from millennia in the past. As the continents broke off from the original Supercontinent, life forms were carried to all parts of the world. Seabeds are now far above the ocean level. Lush forests are now over a mile high in places like Colorado where mastodon fossils are found today—felled so long ago by climate changes or predators. With our attraction to fossils comes the modern predator—the fossil forger!

Morocco is an abundant source for fossil trilobites, ammonites, orthoceras, starfish, and other extinct species—and there are great fossils from Morocco to be had at shows such as Quartzsite and Tucson!

The fossils are in hard rock, uplifted from the ancient sea floor into mountains in the Moroccan desert. In this uplifting, and in the process of extracting the fossils from the rock, they are often broken. To extract an intact fossil takes about 100 hours of labor, while to create a fossil from fragments takes only about five hours.



The most abundant fossils in this area are trilobites from the Calymenidae family. Fragments are so plentiful that they are not always worth faking the entire fossil. One method of creating a trilobite fossil is to take fragments of various body parts and assemble them to recreate a whole image. In this case, the seams are evident or the glue is made to seem like rock matrix, **as in the photo above left**. If you are knowledgeable, you can tell that some body parts are out of proportion to the others.

Large trilobite fossils in matrix are sometimes made by taking real rock matrix, hollowing out a cavity, and placing a resin trilobite cast into the cavity. In some of these fakes, the outline of the cavity is still present on the matrix (**photo above right**). In others, lines imitating the carving marks on the rock matrix are scratched through the perimeter of the resin cast.

One attractive fossil plate (**rock slab on next page**) that I've seen at shows is an assembly of various species of extinct sea creatures on the same plate. These are usu-



ally fake, as it's nearly unheard of to have different species living together in such close proximity as to be fossilized together after death.

The generally expressed opinion of those experienced in Moroccan fossils is that most of the fabrication involves the trilobite. Fossils of orthoceras and ammonite, typically sold polished, are real.

Sources:

<http://fakefossils.webs.com/fakemoroccanfossils.htm>

<http://www.paleodirect.com/faketrilobites1.htm>

<http://www.fossilmuseum.net/collect/fake-trilobites.htm>

<http://www.ukafh.co.uk/fake-fossils-part-2-moroccan/4563008747>

AFMS Safety Matters—Talk Time

*by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair
from AFMS Newsletter 4/2014*

You've read about it, heard about it, and talked about it. There are laws governing it, and it has a lot of people thinking about it. In our busy traveling hobby, we need to be aware of it because we travel to meetings, travel to club outings, travel to digs and field trips, we travel to shows and rock shops—and back. All that traveling should give us cause to think a great deal about it. Perhaps you have surmised the nature of the “it” mentioned here. The “it” is mobile phone, cell phone use while driving.

We are a traveling society and a traveling hobby. After all, the rocks don't often come to us—we go to them. It is a natural desire to use our travel time to good advantage by keeping in touch with our busy lives. As soon as we divert some of our attention from driving to communication, we officially enter multitasking land.

Many folks feel they are able to multitask along with the best of them. Well, I've read survey after survey, study after study, and it seems as though, even under the best of circumstances, perhaps as many as 2% of drivers exhibit a small bit of multitasking ability. In general, even though some may have some small modicum of ability to multitask, even the best of us are not good enough at it to do so while driving!

Let's mention some modern distractions as we attempt to multitask while driving:

1. Some of us interact with devices during text to speech, and speech to text interfaces—this is a distraction.
2. Talking on a hands-free device, whether in the phone or built into the car, is a distraction.

3. Talking on a hand-held device is a distraction.
4. Texting while driving is a distraction.
5. Listening to an audio book while driving is a distraction.
6. Simply listening to a radio program is a distraction, although not quite on par with the other five distractions listed above.
7. Knitting, reading the newspaper, reading a book, shaving, doing one's nails, cleaning one's eyeglasses are all, yes, you guessed it—distractions. And yes, I personally have witnessed folks doing all of these as they have passed me on the highway.

Any effort at multitasking adds another task onto the already complicated task of driving. Driving is not just a visual activity. Driving also involves how the seat feels as it presses on your body. Driving involves sensing movement cues—pedestrians, moose, vehicles, bikes, and birds, etc. Driving means sensing how the vehicle is handling. Driving keeps us aware of vehicle noises and surrounding noises such as those from emergency vehicles. Driving requires monitoring optical effects—glare and reflections. Our brains are already full of driving needs when we are behind the wheel. Driving with additional distractions is just something we don't do well. As we add distractions—taking our eyes off the road while texting, pressing a speed dial number, focusing on an important conversation, fumbling with a seat adjustor, fussing with the A/C unit buttons—they simply add too much for our brains to handle well.

There are accidents we sometimes see ahead of time—and thus offer us time to process. Seriously—sometimes we will monitor a fast car coming up behind us zipping from lane to lane as it races to save a few seconds time on the commute home. Sometimes we will see a car ahead that is not pulled far-enough into the emergency lane making cars swerve around it—at high speed. Sometimes we will see a line of brake lights ahead of us as we approach a lane (or two or three) of road bottleneck. All these things give us a few moments of precious time to react.

It is often the case however, when the time we have to react is a ½-second, or maybe even a full 1½ seconds. What if that ½ second occurs when we have our eyes down while texting or fumbling with a seat adjustor button? Sometimes that ½-second contains a lifesaving or life risking decision, and it would be nice to think our brains were clearly focused on the driving tasks during the precious small amount of reaction time, wouldn't it?

Another serious consideration to texting and other distractions is that there are altogether too many distracted folks on the road, and so we, as good rockhounds and drivers, need to be ever vigilant and on the watch for such drivers. Certainly, you would not want to pay the price for someone else's distraction.

Because we have a traveling hobby, yet since we still need to be safe and stay in contact, we might ask, what is a person to do and still stay in touch? Some possible solutions—share the driving so that there is a passenger who can be responsible for some of the communicating. Pull over where it can be done legally and safely to stop

and talk. Let the phone do what it was designed to do and take messages—they are very good at that. If you have a field trip caravan, have a designated communicator in each vehicle. You can do this; you can be safe.

Make an effort to be aware of your state's laws on using cell and mobile phones. Know not just your own state's laws, but the laws of the states through which you will be passing. Even if your area permits some cell and mobile phone use while driving, please do so safely and avoid becoming distracted—it's just not worth the horrific price some people have paid for the talking time.

Please be safe—it's an interesting (yet distracting) world out there!

A Ruby of Any Other Color Is Called a Sapphire

by André Mongeon

from *Kitchener-Waterloo G&M Club, the Rockblast, 1/2014*

via *Rocky Mountain Federation News 2/2014*

Ruby and sapphire are the best-known varieties of the mineral corundum (Al_2O_3). Most people do not know that they are essentially the same mineral, differing only in their apparent color. I use the word “apparent” here quite intentionally, for the color of a gemstone may not always be exactly what it appears to be.

The color of most corundum crystals found rarely exhibit the color seen in faceted stones. Crystals are often opaque, cloudy, and weakly colored. They may contain undesirable inclusions or tints of unwanted colors. Many crystals may be made more attractive by heating them. This treatment can clear up the cloudiness found in many crystals—for example, those from Ratnapura, Sri Lanka. A dull, cloudy gray crystal may turn to a beautiful, cornflower-blue sapphire after treatment. The color enhancement is achieved by selectively destroying certain inclusions with heat, while leaving other impurities intact.



Natural ruby and sapphire crystals are often heat-treated, a process usually called an “enhancement.” This is not generally considered deceptive, especially if the buyer is told about it. However over the years, enhancement has come to include some very deceptive things. One such practice is heating faceted stones in various solutions (beryllium compounds, for example) just until the outer millimeter or so melts, taking on some of the solution. The stones are cooled and re-faceted into stones of stunning new (often too intense to be true) colors.

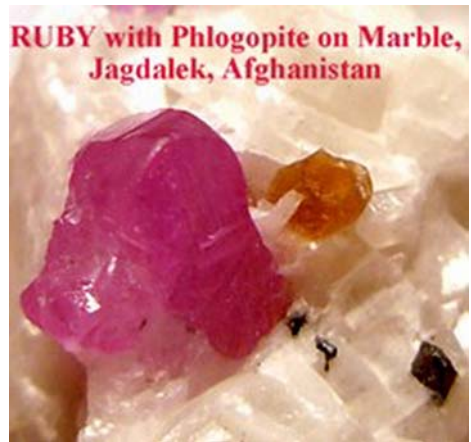
Natural colors of corundum are caused by minute metallic impurities (known as chromophores) in the crystal. The red color of ruby is due to the presence of traces of

chromium, which replaces some of the aluminum in corundum. If iron is also present, rubies can take on an unwanted brown hue. All other colors of corundum are termed sapphire. Pure corundum (seldom found) is colorless, as it lacks any chromophores. Corundum can (and often does) contain more than one chromophore. Heat treatment can selectively destroy some of them, which allows the ones remaining to impart a more desired color.

Rubies with lower amounts of chromium will blend into pink sapphire. The exact shade at which ruby becomes a pink sapphire is rather subjective, but many sellers tend to pass off strong pinks as rubies. Blue sapphire is caused by a mixture of iron and titanium impurities. Heat treatment can make some crystals turn blue, but many turn so dark that they appear almost black. These darker stones are often passed off as blue, but that is usually a stretch. Violet and orange sapphires can both be colored by vanadium. Dominance of iron imparts a yellow color. Green sapphires can have a mix of iron, titanium, and vanadium, but this is not very common. Under a microscope, a green sapphire is often revealed to be composed of alternating bands of blue and yellow sapphire, and thus only appears green. Uniform green coloration can indicate a synthetically produced sapphire—a process perfected over a century ago.



One other interesting inclusion in corundum is that of needle-like rutile crystals. Smaller amounts can impart a “silky” quality to the stone. Larger amounts, oriented in three directions, can result in a stone that displays asterism. These are usually cut into cabochons and are called “star rubies” or “star sapphires.” Unfortunately these are also synthetically produced, with the very best (sharp and distinct) asterism, usually indicating that it is man-made. Most natural star corundum has a more smudgy-looking star, increasing in price as the quality increases.



Synthetics usually provide stones with nice eye-appeal at a low price, but be careful that they are not passed off as amazing natural stones. You must also keep in mind that natural stones can be enhanced, making it possible for cheap, second-class gems to be passed off as far better than they really are.

Jasper or Agate? A Simple Distinction

by Dave Olson

*from Rockhound Rambling, others, via Glacial Drifter 4/2014
and The Roadrunner 6/2014*

Jasper and agate are the rocks we hobbyists deal with most often in pursuit of our goals as lapidaries and collectors. Do we really understand the difference between the two? Often confusion arises when attempting to describe a specimen as either a jasper or an agate. In the following notes, I will attempt to clear up some of the nomenclature fog that often shrouds our ability to communicate accurately.

To begin with, both jasper and agate are composed of extremely fine interlocking quartz crystals called cryptocrystalline quartz. As such, they are both members of the fine-grained quartz family referred to as chalcedony. Chalcedony occurs throughout the world in beds, bands, nodules, geodes, botryoidal masses, as a replacement of fossils, wood tissue, and other minerals, and as a cementing material. It is deposited from silica-rich waters, often carrying other mineral impurities.

The presence of these mineral impurities stains the micro-quartz grains and produces the wide variety of colored patterns, banding effects, and inclusions that differentiate the basic “gem” forms of cryptocrystalline quartz, jasper, and agate from ordinary drab chalcedony.

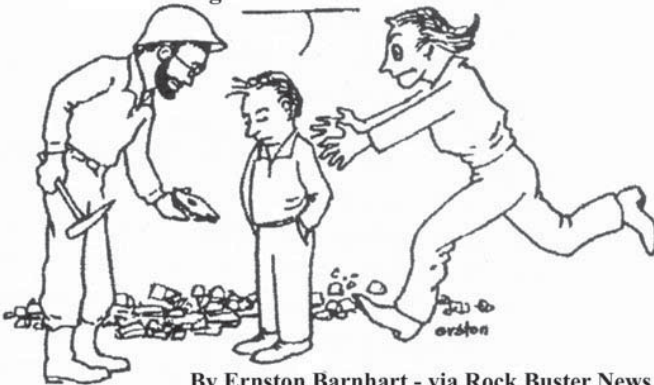
Okay—so what about the differences? In general, AGATE is a TRANSPARENT TO TRANSLUCENT form of CHALCEDONY in which the coloration takes the form of regular bands, rings, clouds, wispy inclusions, or distinct groups. Agate containing straight or concentric bands is referred to as fortification agate. Moss agate contains delicate wispy or lacy inclusions of coloring minerals—often the green mineral—which penetrated cracks in the silica gel matrix prior to hardening. Now they remain as fine picture-like images. Agates are usually named by employing the geographical area where it is found with a descriptive adjective, i.e. Friday Ranch Plume Agate.

JASPER, on the other hand, can be somewhat translucent but is most often OPAQUE. The coloration of jasper is usually much darker than that of agate and is totally random with respect to distribution and pattern. Finely divided hematite gives the color to reddish jaspers and another iron mineral, goethite, is responsible for yellows and brown. Chloite and nickel-minerals contribute to green coloration. As with agate, jasper comes in many colors and displays almost an infinite variety of patterns. Because of these properties, it is an extremely versatile material for cabs, scenic “pictures” to be framed, and other functional and decorative purposes. It is truly the bread and butter “gem” of our hobby.

*From MWFMS Bulletin Editor News 1/84
via Golden Spike News 9/00*



**So What's The Big Deal?
We Got Lots Of Things Like That
Running Around Our Kitchen**



**By Ernston Barnhart - via Rock Buster News 3/01
via Golden Spike News 8/01**

Show Time 2014

October 3-5	Austin, TX	Austin Gem & Mineral Society Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. showchairman@austingemandmineral.org www.gemcapers.com
October 4-5	Stafford, TX	The Bead Market Stafford Centre, 10505 Cash Rd. rebekah@thebeadmarket.net www.thebeadmarket.net
October 10-12	Metairie, LA	Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana Best Western Plus Landmark Hotel 2610 Severn Ave.; gemshow2014@gmail.com
October 10-12	Mount Ida, AR	World Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Montgomery County Fairgrounds Fairgrounds Rd. director@mtidachamber.com www.mtidachamber.com
October 11-12	Temple, TX	Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society Mayborn Civic and Convention Center 3303 N. 3rd St.; Chip Burnette burnette@aceweb.com www.tricitygemmineral.org
October 17-19	Victoria, TX	Victoria Gem & Mineral Society Community Center, 2905 East North St.
November 1-2	Amarillo, TX	Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society Amarillo Civic Center, 400 S. Buchanan St. Wanda Finley, finfran@midplains.coop
November 1-2	Midland, TX	Midland Gem & Mineral Society Midland Center
November 7-9	Humble, TX	Houston Gem & Mineral Society Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy. 5 miles east of Bush Intercontinental Airport 1 mile east of Hwy. 59 www.hgms.org; show@hgms.org
November 15-16	Round Rock, TX	Paleontological Society of Austin Old Settlers Park, Hwy 29 E showchair@austinpaleo.org
November 22-23	Mesquite, TX	Dallas Gem & Mineral Society Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall, 1800 Rodeo Dr. mark_a_hall@yahoo.com www.DallasGemAndMineral.org

2014		September					2014
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 Labor Day	2 7:30 Board Meeting	3 7:30 Mineral Section 10-3 Shop open	4 7:30 Archeology Section	5	6 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 Youth Section	
7 10-4 Shop Open	8 1:00 Day Light Section	9 7:30 Show Committee	10 6:30 Faceting Section 10-3 Shop Open	11	12	13 10-5 Shop Open	
14 10-4 Shop Open	15 7:30 Lapidary Section	16 7:30 Paleo Section	17 7:30 Mineral Section 10-3 Shop open	18	19	20 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 Youth Section 1:30 Beading Section	
21 10-4 Shop Open	22	23 7:30 General Meeting	24 10-3 Shop open	25	26	27 10 a.m. Show Postcard labeling party 10-5 Shop Open	
28 10-4 Shop Open	29	30					
2014		October					2014
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 7:30 Mineral Section 10-3 Shop open	2 7:30 Archeology Section	3	4 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 Youth Section	
5 10-4 Shop Open	6	7 7:30 Board Meeting	8 6:30 Faceting Section 10-3 Shop Open	9	10	11 10-5 Shop Open 6 p.m. Show Auction & Supper	
12 10-4 Shop Open	13 1:00 Day Light Section	14 7:30 Show Committee	15 7:30 Mineral Section 10-3 Shop open	16	17	18 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 Youth Section 1:30 Beading Section	
19 10-4 Shop Open	20 7:30 Lapidary Section	21 7:30 Paleo Section	22 10-3 Shop open	23	24	25 10-5 Shop Open	
26 10-4 Shop Open	27	28 7:30 General Meeting	29 10-3 Shop open	30	31 Halloween		

The BACKBENDER'S GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the
Houston Gem & Mineral Society

10805 BROOKLET

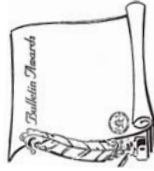
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77099

(281) 530-0942



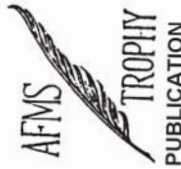
SCFMS

- 1998 - 1st (Large)
- 2000 - 1st (Large)
- 2003 - 1st (Large)
- 2005 - 1st (Large)
- 2006 - 2012 - 1st (Large)
- 2013 - 1st (Large)
- 2014 - 1st (Large)



AFMS

- 1998 - 2nd (Large)
- 2004 - 3rd (Large)
- 2007 - 1st (Large)
- 2010 - 2nd (Large)
- 2012 - 3rd (Large)
- 2013 - 3rd (Large)
- 2014 - 2nd (Large)



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