

The Rockytier

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

Monthly Meetings

General Meeting:

Tuesday March 3, 2020. 7 pm at Forrest Heights United Methodist Church, 3007 33rd Street, Lubbock, Texas.

Board Meeting:

Tuesday March 10, 2020. Meeting starts at 7 pm at Forrest Heights United Methodist Church, 3007 33rd Street, Lubbock, Texas.

Everyone is welcome at either meeting!

Good news!

As I said in last month's newsletter, we need property, and we have found one that fits our basic needs. This property is located at 1111 29th Street, it is very close to Avenue L and is convenient to the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. It can be a launching point for the club.

It is a definite investment for us. It is a quarter-acre lot with 2 concrete slabs where we can put a clubhouse and workshop. There is also space for our storage shed and the old MEW (Mobil Educational Workshop) trailer. This area of downtown Lubbock is going through revitalization. It is one street over from the Dream Center and the Talkington Center and about a block from Bean elementary school.

I encourage everyone to visit the site before our next general meeting. If we have enough interest, we need to vote on it, before it is gone. I am encouraging the club to vote on this issue. It is also my intention to have a PowerPoint presentation, and present this in place of the normally scheduled program.

Please attend the March meeting so that your vote counts! Yes, this Super Tuesday may be Lubbock Gem and Mineral's Super Tuesday!

Michael Zink, LGMS President



There were no members listed as having birthdays or anniversary's this month.

Please update your profile on the website if you would like to be recognized.

Upcoming Shows

March

7 - 8 Big Spring, Texas

7 - 8 Robstown, Texas

12 - 15 Deming, NM

14 - 15 San Antonio, Texas

20 - 22 Albuquerque, NM

April

11 - 12 Abilene, Texas

May

23 - 24 Fort Worth, Texas

30 - 31 Lubbock, Texas

February 4, 2020

President Michael Zink called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

The announcement about upcoming shows included Plainview in February Big Spring in March and Abilene in April.

The club is still looking for property to use for a clubhouse, if you know of any that we should look at, please let a board member know.

Mica made a deal with LHUCA for the club to have space at the First Friday Art Trail in April to promote our club. We will have displays, fliers to hand out, and we are asking for club members to donate items to help raise funds. We will accept donations in exchange for those items. If you have a sales tax license and would like to sell some of your work, that will be available for club members as well. We will need volunteers to help set up and run the booth.

Teresa and Mica arranged to give a presentation at Groves Library on May 2nd at 2 pm. They will be demonstrating rockhound hobby related things, if you can help, see Teresa.

The club will be filling the display cases at the Groves and Mahon libraries in April and will be at Groves through May.

Valerie gave an update on Tommy Thompson, a club member who is recovering from cancer surgery. Tommy says he misses participating in club meetings and he hopes to come back soon.

We were reminded to vote on the JALAF and sign in and then took a short break.

There was no rock raffle this month. We had 19 members and one visitor at the meeting.

Show and tell was started with Mark Vining, Charlie Cockrell, Valerie Zink, Teresa Burns, Mica McGuire, Robbie Robinson, Ann Pruske and Daniel Bontempo all having great things to show.

Charlie talked about his favorite stone, spinel. He brought several examples of real and artificial faceted stones.

Mark Smith won both the master and popular vote for experienced jewelry with his bolo tie.

Diane McIntire won the master vote for beginner jewelry with one wire wrapped pendant and the popular vote for another wire wrapped pendant.

For experienced cabochon, Tim McIntire won the master vote and Walt Beneze won the popular vote.

Daniel Bontempo talked about painted rocks. He had many examples of artfully done slabs where the natural colors and patterns were used as background for the painting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

W. Beneze for Sabrina Krieger, Secretary

Robbie Robinson will be teaching Gold panning at the March meeting!

Michael Zink called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

The following members were present; Michael Zink, Walt Beneze, Tim McIntire, Mica McGuire, Yvonne Hoffman, Jennifer Phillips, Mark Smith.

Michael reported that the audit of the books went smoothly; no discrepancies were found.

Michael informed the board that the matter of meeting at the Red Zone was a miscommunication. Charlie went in to talk to the owner and found that he did not know that LGMS was an acronym, and we are free to continue to meet there as long as we don't go over 3 hours. There was considerable discussion about whether we wanted to meet there or consider a new venue. A motion was made by Walt to meet there again starting next month, but to actively look at other possibilities as well. Mica seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Tim reminded us that the annual payment for the use of the church is due. This subject was discussed last month but was tabled so more information could be gathered. After discussion, Yvonne motioned to raise the contribution to \$300, Mica seconded, motion passed.

Michal passed out a couple of maps showing possible club sites, and a list of priorities to discuss. With input from everyone present, the list was sorted into what the board felt should be most important through the least.

Mica said she found a company to make name tags, and they will do it for \$5 each. We need to get a list of members that do not have one but want one.

Walt said he looked into table covers for our club tables at the show and found them expensive. He suggested using table runners instead and showed an example of one that has our logo on it. We can buy 6 of them for about the same price as one full cover. Mica made a motion to buy 6 table runners, Jennifer seconded, motion passed.

Walt told the board that Helen Serras-Herman had written another article about our club, show, and other attractions around Lubbock that will be published in the 2020 South Central States Gem Show Directory (Spring/Summer Edition). They will begin distribution toward the end of April through gem and mineral shows in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

There was a discussion about advertising that covered several opportunities. Mark made a motion to explore spending up to \$150 with Rock & Gem Magazine through their digital platforms. Tim seconded, motion passed.

There was a discussion about the upcoming event we will be doing at the Frist Friday Art trail. There are still some details to work out, but the consensus was that we would do this strictly as the LGMS with member participation only. Mica is confident that we will be able to secure additional dates if we don't have problems with this first one.

Jennifer is going to look into grant writing and available grants.

There was a discussion about doing a booth at the South Plains Fair, but it was agreed that it would be very difficult to get enough volunteers to staff a booth. The fair runs for 9 days, and we would need someone there approximately 10 hours each day.

Walt requested reimbursement for the 500 postcards and 1000 flyers he had made for the club. Mica motioned, and Jennifer seconded to reimburse him.

Michael adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm.

SCFMS 2020 Convention

The 2020 annual SCFMS Convention and show will be held on October 10 & 11, 2020 in conjunction with the 51st gem and mineral show of the Tri-City Gem and Mineral Society at the Mayborn Civic and Convention Center in Temple, Texas.



www.scfms.net

AFMS 2020 Convention

The 2020 annual AFMS Convention and show will be held on October 16th, 17th, and 18th, 2020 in conjunction with the Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society's annual show in Knoxville, TN



www.amfed.org

The Goodness and Beauty of an American Historical Recreational Activity: The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

By Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

The archives of the AFMS Historian Committee are invaluable to the understanding of who we as members of a national organization are, who share a special interest in the enjoyment and study of the Earth Sciences, and the Lapidary Arts and Crafts.

Similar to the adventure of discovering rocks and gems and learning how best to display them, or learning how to grind and polish them to set in jewelry, a historian combs through the files to find the gems of value and inspiration and brings them to the surface for its members.

I think you will remember H.C. Dake of The Mineralogist Magazine from a few historian articles over the years. In the June 1950 magazine he reminded the subscribers about the beginning years of Recreational Rockhounding as the AFMS was preparing for a convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin that year.

Dake referred to the earth science hobby as one of the important byproducts of the depression era. In late 1929 as the black cloud of depression began to hit the nation, people needed something to do to feel useful, something to do to feel constructive to fill their time. They needed something that would add value and meaning to their lives, when all they had known was lost. The earth sciences in so many ways fulfilled those needs, and it was a new boon for America.

But did you know that our heritage of earth science Societies and Federations actually gave to America what no one else did or knew how to create to give at the time, and continues to give? Take the time to think about that over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, and let it sink in. Our value then is as good as gold now as it was then, and is truly an American value.

From the AFMS Newsletter Volume 72, Number 8 - November 2019



Photo: W. Beneze

New Club Contest

In this newsletter, there is an answer to a question that you will find somewhere on our website. Answer the question by taking the poll, and your name will be entered into a drawing. Then, come to the March meeting, and we will randomly select someone from the list of those who answered the question correctly. The winner will win this beautiful dendritic jasper as a door prize.



You do not have to be a member to enter the drawing, but you must be present to win. Watch for a new question every month!

Nearby Gem and Mineral shows

The Hi-Plains Gem and Mineral Show was held in Plainview on February 22 and 23. There were 9 dealers selling everything you would expect to find at a gem and mineral show.

One thing the Hi-Plains club is known for is the display section. Club members are very involved in filing cases to educate the show attendees, and the Wayland Baptist Geology Department had a large display as well.

LGMS members displayed cases at the show in the visiting club category. Congratulations to Walt Beneze, Michael and Valerie Zink, and Ann Pruske for winning first, second, and third place.

If you want to attend a show, your next chance is the Big Spring show on March 7 and 8 at the Howard County Fair Barn. Admission is free. ~W Beneze~

Workshop information

Our club workshop is temporarily located at 2259 34th Street in a building owned by one of our club members. It is available on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 2 pm to 5 pm by appointment. Space is limited, and **we do have a \$5 equipment use fee, so please bring that with you each time as well.**

Equipment use is limited to club-owned equipment only, do not use any of the equipment owned by the McIntires.

We have 3 genies and 2 trim saws set up along with 1 polishing pad and a 14" slab saw. The 24" saw will be set up soon.

Until you have been signed off to use the equipment on your own, showing proper use and safety practices, our shop steward or another member that is qualified will assist you and offer guidance.

The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of the month prior. Send to: walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org

You Can Tell A Rockhound

by Betsy Oberheim, Central Pennsylvania

Rock & Mineral Club

From: *Rock Buster News*, 9/2010

(1st Place – AFMS Poetry)

You can always tell a rockhound
His neck is burned bright red,
A bag at his side, he searches wide,
A baseball hat on his head.

You can tell that he's a rockhound
His car is caked with mud,
It's riding low, cool places to go;
He's got crystals in his blood!

You can always tell a rockhound
There's often a kid by his side,
Staring down and searching the ground
Plucking geodes from banks where
they hide.

He's creating another strong rockhound
As the youngster cries out with glee;
He holds up a stone, and never alone,
A camaraderie binds them you see.

So you can always tell a rockhound;
A teacher, a friend, and a pop.
A love he shares, and no one dares
Tell them ever to slow down or stop.

For once you become a rockhound
It's a love that you need to share
Take a kid along, one hardy and strong
'Cause that bag gets too heavy to bear!

Calling all poets, writers, photographers, and storytellers. Send me your original content to include in the newsletter. Deadline is the 20th of the month prior.
walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org

Painted rocks?

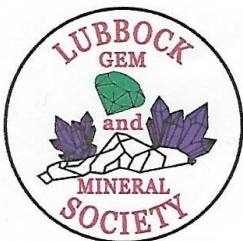
If you missed the meeting last month, you missed a great presentation by Daniel Bontempo. In the past, when someone mentioned painting on rocks, my mind went to one of two places; Petroglyphs, the ancient drawings or carvings on cave walls done by prehistoric people, or the 70's craze of pet rocks.

I had not considered using the patterns and colors in a slab and painting a scene around or into the background. Daniel had more than a dozen examples of painted rocks that he has collected to show us. Look closely at the one on this page, it is hard to tell how much of the background is paint. It is a great use of the natural color in the horizontal layers of the rock. See the photo albums on the website for more pictures.

In March, we will have a special category in the JALAF that you can enter your painted rocks. Use your imagination, and whether you bring a pet rock or something a little more elaborate, I wish you luck. ~W. Beneze~

This picture is a painting on stone by Sly Labato.





2020 JALAF Categories

March: Mother-of-Pearl! (and any formally organics) AND Painted Rocks! We will have a separate Gold-feather category and separate prize for painted rocks. These will be shown off in a group case at the show this year!

April: Picture Jasper!

May: Tigers Eye, Haeks Eye, Tiger Iron, and Petersite

June: Spots, Dots, and Bots! (Any material with Spots/dots or botryoidal texture)

July: Dinosaur Day! (Gem Bone, Coprolite, Fossils) Wear your Dino shirts and Dino Themed Jewlrey.

August: No JALAF! Bring Ice Cream or Ice Cream fixings for the LGMS Ice Cream Social.

September: Rhodocrosite!

October: Howlite and Halite!

November: Glaucophane, Lapis, Sodalite, and Azurite! (Dark Blues)

December: No JALAF! LGMS Chirstmas Dinner and Gift Exchange

Please remember that entries in the JALAF competition must be something YOU found, YOU modified, YOU made jewelry from...
If you bought or inherited it as is, we would love you to show-n-tell the item.

~Teresa Burns~

The LGMS meets at 3007 33rd Street, Lubbock Texas on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Membership is open to all interested parties. Visitors are always welcome! Annual dues are \$20 for Adults, \$10 for Students 16 years and older, \$5 for Students up to age 15, or a Family Membership for \$40.

Exchange editors are free to copy anything of interest from The Rockytier provided credit is given to the author of the article and The Rockytier.

The Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society is a non-profit organization recognized under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as an educational entity. Donations in any form are tax deductible.

The purpose of this society shall be:

- ☐ To bring about a closer association of those persons interested in the earth sciences and lapidary arts.
- ☐ To increase, document and disseminate knowledge about geological materials including rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, historic and modern cultural lithic artifacts.
- ☐ To encourage the study, collecting and display of rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, artifacts, and the performance of lapidary and jewelry arts.
- ☐ To provide guidance, education and information; share ideas and techniques; and assist in the development and refinement of skills through the combined resources, knowledge and experience of the Society's Members.

Elected Officers & Directors who are voting members of the Board of Directors:

President	Michael Zink
Past President	Walter Beneze
Vice President	Mica McGuire
Secretary	Sabrina Krieger
Treasurer	Timothy McIntire
Director (first year)	Yvonne Hoffman
Director (first year)	Jennifer Philips
Director (second year)	Mark Smith
Director (second year)	Lisa Smith

Appointed voting Board Members:

Membership Chair	vacant
Club Workshop Chair	Dave Swartz
Show Chair	Walter Beneze
Newsletter Editor	Walter Beneze
Field Trip Chair	vacant

A Membership Directory w/contact info is on the website. You must be logged in to see it.

The Rockytier March 2020

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

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