

The Rockytier



Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

Monthly Meetings

General Meeting:

Tuesday April 7, 2020. 7:00 pm at Forrest Heights United Methodist Church, 3007 33rd Street, Lubbock, Texas.

Board Meeting:

Tuesday April 14, 2020. 6:00 pm dinner, 7:00 pm meeting starts at The Red Zone Café, 3602 Slide Rd, Lubbock, Texas.

Everyone is welcome at either meeting!

Upcoming Shows

April

11 - 12 Abilene, Texas

May

23 - 24 Fort Worth, Texas
30 - 31 Lubbock, Texas

Message from the President

Hello. March has been an exciting and productive month for us. We have found a couple of properties for the club, but have as yet, not found the right one.

- We are looking for a property that can:
- Be in a relatively safe area and have direct access to utilities
- Accommodate, first and foremost storage, a space for our shed and a storage area for our rocks
- Accommodate a workshop, space where we can set up our equipment and work on projects and teach new members.
- Accommodate a clubhouse, this may be more than we can expect at this time
- Accommodate a club museum, this is almost guaranteed to be more than we can expect at this time
- Have adequate parking
- Be in an area zoned for industrial or commercial that would allow our club the storage space that we desperately need
- Within our price range of no more than \$20,000 if it is just land
- Up to \$40,000 if it has a usable building on the property

Please keep looking, this is a project that needs the entire club's help!

And if you have any rich friends, we are not above taking monetary or property donations.

In April we are putting up displays in the Mahon Library downtown to (continued on pg 4)

General Meeting Notes

March 3, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Michael Zink.

Michael showed the club his new name tag and stated that this is the one that will be ordered for new members. If current members want one they can purchase it at Amazon.

Michael talked about the criteria the board is using to look for a property.

- *It must have or be easily connected to utilities.
- *It must be low priced.
- *It needs to be zoned commercial.
- *It needs to have parking.
- *It should be centrally located.
- *It should have good visibility.
- *It should be in a safe neighborhood.
- *It could be in the county but that is not a preference.

There was a discussion about a property on 29th Street. There were several good things about it, and some not so good things.

Robbie Robinson presented a talk about gold panning and sluicing and showed some of his equipment used to find gold. He said the bigger the sluice box the better, but there are restrictions for hobbyists. He also said that when looking for a place to pan gold, black sand is a good indicator of gold in the river.

JALAF

Scott Baxley won the master and the popular vote in the cabochon category.

Diane McIntire won master and the popular vote for a wire wrapped pendant.

Ann Prosky won the master and the popular vote in the beginners category.

In the painted rocks category, Tim and Diane McIntire won the master vote for their mouse rock, and Molly Broun won the popular vote for her painted tree.

The JALAF for April is picture jasper.

Teresa Burns announced the July meeting as Club Picture day. Please wear a club dinosaur t-shirt and anything else you have that is dino related.

We had 20 members signed in and 5 guests, there was no door prize or rock raffle this month.

The Big Spring prospectors club is having their show on the 7th and 8th, it is free to get in and usually is a good show.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Sabrina Krieger, Secretary

*The First Friday Art Trail has been cancelled
for the month of April.*

Board Meeting Notes

March 10, 2020

Michael Zink called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

There were 8 board members and 5 general members present.

Sabrina Kreiger read the minutes of the February meeting. Tim McIntire made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Mica McGuire seconded. Motion passed.

Tim read the Treasurers report.

Michael said he would be taking scrap metal to the recycler on Saturday, March 14th, if anyone had more it should be dropped off before that.

Daniel Bontempo noted that we should scrap the old saw motor from the 24" saw as well.

Walt Beneze reported that he had purchased the Rock & Gem Social Media ad campaign that he talked about at the last meeting. They will be running our ad's on their Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts during the first week of May.

Susan Gillette contacted the club via the Facebook page to see if there is any interest in having a table at an upcoming Earth Day Festival.

Valerie Zink said that she had booked the club on look around Lubbock and Trends and Freinds, but has not heard back from the Noon Notebook yet.

Teresa Burns asked about ordering the awards for the show. It was agreed to use the same company and style as last year.

There was a discussion about using the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America program or something similar as a curriculum for kids in the club. There also was a discussion about having a separate project day to bring more kids into the club. The discussion was tabled because we do not currently have anyone willing to lead the kid's group.

Mica discussed the first Friday Art Trail and some of the things needed to set up and run successfully. She will send a message to the membership through the website forum.

Tim will be seeing his CPA this weekend and will discuss the club's liability when selling or accepting donations for items made by club members and donated to the club. This discussion also included the possibility of club members selling items at the FFAT. Yvonne Hoffman made a motion that if club members sell anything, the club will receive a 20% commission, Sabrina seconded. Motion passed.

Walt said that Brian Owens sent an email suggesting that a grant committee be formed and that he is willing to be on the committee, but not to be in charge. Scott Baxley volunteered to head up the committee.

Sabrina motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Sabrina Krieger, Secretary

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

(Presidents message continued)

advertise our club and our upcoming show. We need 12 small displays and at least two large ones for showing off our collections. We will put up our displays on April 1st during library hours. Please coordinate with Walt Beneze if you can.

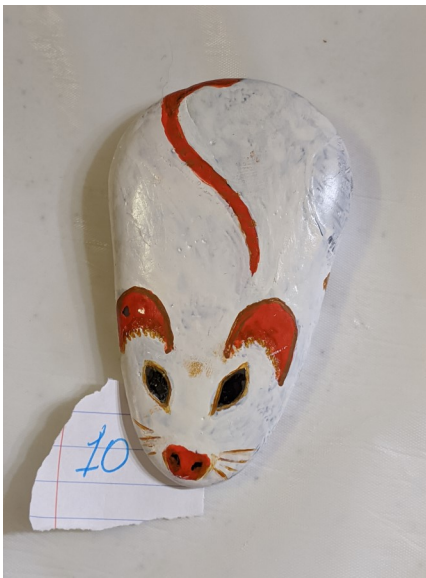
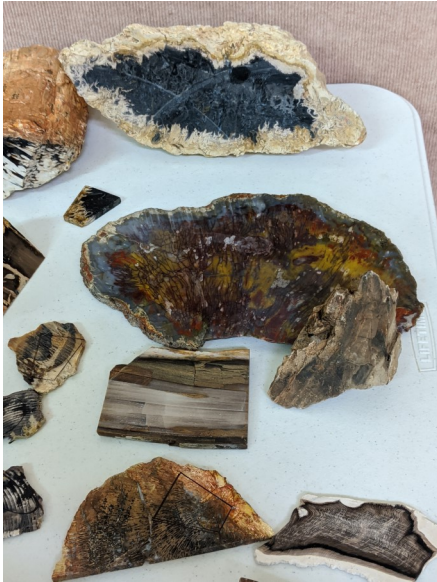
May will be upon us before you know it. Our show is May 30th and 31st at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. This is our 60th show. Let's make it the best one ever. We will have sign-up sheets online on the club website and at the next two regular meetings for people to volunteer to help. Please don't think "I can't volunteer because I am too new, I don't know enough about rocks", etc. Trust me we have something for everyone to do. It is only through the volunteer efforts of the club members that our show is successful year after year. In other words, **We all** need to put forth our best efforts, our club is depending on us.

Our club is 100% volunteers and every one of you is an important part of the club. We love, I love hearing all of the exciting ideas club members bring to the club. But once we have your idea, we need someone to come up with a plan and implement it. Because we are all busy with our lives in and out of the club, if you bring an idea but aren't willing to spearhead its implementation, don't be disappointed if it doesn't happen, or doesn't happen quickly. Not long after I joined the club, Walt was president and I told him I thought we should sell T-Shirts. He said great idea, what is your plan. I put together a plan and this year will make our 6th year of selling items at the show, with my wife and myself being the primary people running the sales table. (We also roped Tim McIntire into helping at the table) Daniel Bontempo came up with the idea of doing a fluorescent tent at the show. He spearheaded and ran with the idea. We now have an awesome fluorescent display that outshines (pun intended) the other local club displays. So know we are open to ideas, but you will need to either be the driving force, or share your passion with someone else who can be the driving force.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Michael T. Zink
President

At this moment, our show is still scheduled, but that may change - check the website and Facebook page to keep informed.



Just a couple of pictures of the March meeting, show & tell, painted rock competition, & gold panning demonstration & program. Pictures by W. Beneze



A Mineral

*A mineral is a wondrous thing,
At least it is to me,
For in its ordered structure,
Lies a world of mystery.*

*The secrets that it has withheld,
For countless ages past,
And clung to most tenaciously,
Are being learned at last.*

*Each year using new techniques,
Or with a new device,
We make our knowledge more
complete,
Our data more precise.*

*But let us not in trying to solve,
A mineral mystery,
Forget that minerals are a part,
Of natural history.*

*Nor in our quest for more detail,
When probing an unknown,
Forget that every mineral,
Has a beauty of its own.*

*With progress in technology,
Each year see new machines,
That try to copy nature,
By sophisticated means.*

*But for all those modern methods,
We cannot yet compete,
With the world of ordered beauty,
That lies beneath our feet.*

*Author unknown
Via Wasatch Gem Society
Website 3/20
Via Rockhound Record, 9/84
Via Rockhound Gazette, 3/06*

The JALAF for April is picture jasper



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

The LGMS is a 501c(3) Educational Organization and can provide you with a tax write off for your donation! Like all non-profits, we rely on the generosity of people that contribute time and money to help promote our cause.

If you don't have time for meetings, but would like to contribute, we accept monetary donations, rock and mineral collections, tools and equipment, and even your collected "yard rock".

We also have an Endowment fund at Texas Tech that provides for a scholarship to students in the field of geology and earth sciences; Donations can be designated to that fund.

We have a building fund that will help us acquire a permanent place to hold meetings, house our workshop, and establish a museum of rocks and minerals. If you have a building or land that could help us reach this goal, please contact us today.

Quick text list

I don't know about you, but for a quick reminder about an upcoming appointment, a text is the best way for me to get it. Club Express, the platform that we use for our website, has recently added text messaging as a means of communication for club to member announcements. The down side is that it is only one-way communication.

On a recent field trip to Rusk, Texas, most of the folks that went exchanged cell phone numbers and formed a group text so we could ask questions and respond to others in the group. If you are interested in a similar group for the club at large, please send me an email (walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org) with the phone number that you want me to enter so you can be included.

This group is open to LGMS members only.

Amazing Scientific Discovery

Nearly every mineral collector can give the chemical formula for quartz without even looking it up in a book. Quartz is Silicon Dioxide (SiO_2). HOWEVER, recent studies with the most sensitive scientific equipment have revealed that this is not true. Quartz is, as the ancient Roman scientist, Pliny the Elder, claimed, petrified Dihydrogen Oxide (H_2O). Do you recognize that chemical formula? Dihydrogen Oxide is . . . WATER! Scientists around the world are stunned, and embarrassed, to learn that quartz is indeed water that has frozen so hard for so long that it became stone. (Simple proof of this fact can be made if you touch a quartz crystal on the hottest summer day, you will instantly feel that it is cool to the touch.)

Publishing companies around the world are scrambling to reprint their field books and textbooks with this new information. College professors are offering extra lectures to clear up this confusion with their students. Mineral collectors around the world are making new labels for all their quartz specimens.

This new information teaches us three things:

1. Science is always growing and developing, and new discoveries can happen at any time.
2. Scientists must always be ready to work with new information, even if that information completely changes our understanding of the world around us. And
3. Don't believe everything you see in writing. April fools!!!!

From Mini Miners Monthly, Vol. 12 No. 4, April 2020

I'm Just a Volunteer

By Kinney Polve, East Texas Gem & Mineral Society

Those of you that know me, know that I have volunteered to serve in many different positions, serving the needs of our local club. As a volunteer, we may not always be the most popular person, and sometimes it may seem that we may be too popular. Non-profits depend on volunteers. Some of us still have full-time jobs, while others may work part-time or may be re-tired. In this article, I want to stress the importance of volunteering.

Without members willing to donate some of their time to serve the needs of the organization, eventually, the organization doesn't function as designed or even fails to accomplish its purpose. This can even happen when we have enough volunteers. You may be complexed on how this is even possible, failing even though we have plenty of volunteers? The adage, "I'm only a volunteer" or "They're only a volunteer", is where the problem begins. This saying comes up regularly when it comes to non-profits. Somehow it seems that there is a different standard required of a volunteer than required of someone who is paid to do a job. When you volunteer to fill a needed position, they need someone to perform the duties of that position, not most or part of the duties. Many of the volunteers that serve in these positions tend to take such an approach, some may even hold the position just for the title. This is when the organization fails to operate as designed. When people hold an office and make little effort to do the duties of that office, and they look at it as I'm only a volunteer.

This happens at all levels, whether it's locally, regionally, or on a national level. It may be because we don't want to have an office with a vacancy, so we coerced someone to take the office. It may be a case where someone had performed great in the past but has now become complacent toward their position. They may continue to accept the nomination for the office, but it would be no different than having a vacancy in that office. This wouldn't happen if qualified members would answer the call to fill these offices. It could just be a result of the person not knowing the duties of their office, so they can't perform them.

Most volunteer positions require very little time to perform their duties. There may be certain times of the month or year that the job load is heavier and require you to devote more time, but it is important to dedicate the extra time. When we have one member serving in several different positions, their schedule may get overloaded and they may even become burned out. When this happens, they seem to completely leave all positions, instead of stepping back from a few to relieve the load. Some of us realize more than others what is needed to keep our organization growing.

Also, thinking somehow a retired member's time is less valuable than someone with a full-time job. I know by personal experience that retired people seem to have less spare time available than people that have a full-time job, simply because there is more of a demand for their time. Most of us don't think beyond our local club, but we should. Just like us, the SCFMS and the AFMS need members to serve as officers and chair people. There are some that look at their office as I'm only a volunteer, and how much better would it be if we had members that knew the importance of the offices, and they filled those offices and did the job? I don't want you to misunderstand, we have many great volunteers fulfilling their duties, and I want to commend them. But understand that there is no place for the adage "I'm only a volunteer." There's no such thing as only a volunteer, so get out there and volunteer.

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 April 2020

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

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