

The Rockytier

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

Monthly Meetings

General Meeting:

Watch our website and Facebook page to find out when our next meeting will be.

Board Meeting:

Watch our website and Facebook page to find out when our next meeting will be.

Everyone is welcome at either meeting!



Upcoming Shows

May

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

These shows are still on the calendar, but they may get canceled. Be sure to confirm before going.

Message from the President

Hi everyone. Missing you.

Looking forward to the time we can gather again as a club. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.

Daniel has been looking into Zoom meetings. We will let everyone know when we have something definite about doing some.

So hopefully we will see each other again soon, either in person or virtually.

I am trying to keep positive about our having our 60th show this year at the end of May. But I am not sure that will happen. Let's all think positively that this Stay At Home order will be lifted soon and life will return to some semblance of normal.

Stay healthy.

Michael

Since we did not have a general meeting or a board meeting in April, there are no notes to include in this issue.

Keep up to date by checking our website, and our Facebook page.

If you have not joined our Facebook group yet, why not do it today!

May JALAF



Tiger's eye rough & cabochon

Tiger's eye is the common name for a variety of quartz, which is chatoyant because of subparallel intergrowth of quartz crystals and altered amphibole fibers that mostly turned into limonite. It is usually amber to brown colored. Hawk's eye is a blue/grey color, with the same composition, and Bull's eye is red tiger's eye that can be natural, but is more often produced with heat treatment.

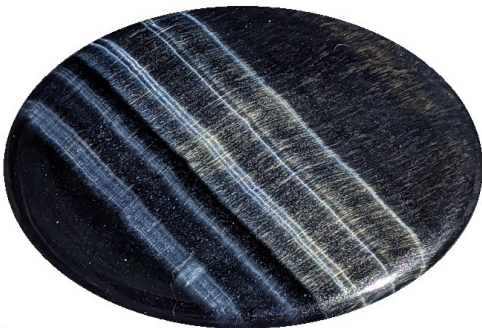
Marra Mamba is a rarer type of Tigers eye and can have natural red, blue, gold, and green all in the same stone.

Tiger Iron is a banded rock consisting of Jasper, Hematite and Tiger's eye.

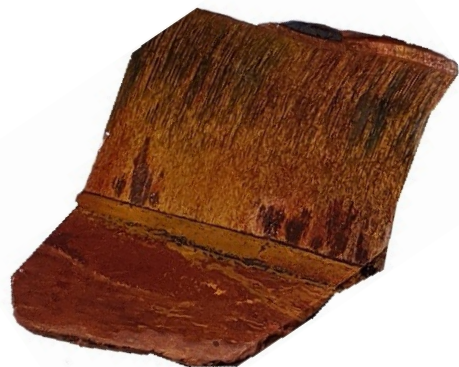
Pietersite is chalcedony with embedded fibers of amphibole minerals with varying degrees of alteration. Blue-gray, brown and yellow colors. The fibers cause chatoyancy similar to that seen in tiger's eye.

(info from www.mindat.com)

Photo's - W. Benezé



Hawk's eye



Bull's eye



Tiger iron



Marra Mamba



Pietersite

Safety First.

The amphibole fibers that mostly turned into limonite in this variety of rock are also known as asbestos.

Notice the phrase, mostly turned into limonite? There are some precautionary steps that you should take when working with these stones.

First off, like any other cutting, grinding, or polishing on rocks, never work them dry. Some rock dust contains silicates, and asbestos fibers are just as dangerous.

Personally, when I work with this material, I wear a dust mask in addition to keeping the flow of water abundant. When finished, clean your machine and workspace so there is no water containing dust that can dry out and become airborne. Better safe than sorry.

To properly cut any of the stones in the Tiger's eye family into slabs that can later be formed into cabochons, the saw must be oriented so that the fibers are parallel to the cut. If the rough is cut across the fibers, the cab will not have any chatoyance.

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

Lapidary not Rapidity

Whether you do Lapidary Work or purchase items produced by lapidaries', you will often see jewelry that is not well done. This jewelry frequently suffers from a lack of attention and has obviously not received care when being fabricated because the crafts-person was in a hurry and did not concentrate on his task.

A careful evaluation of a piece of jewelry may show soldered joints that do not fit closely together or demonstrate a poor soldering technique. Sometimes the piece may show that it has been overheated or too much solder or the wrong solder has been used. At times we may see an item of jewelry that shows that too little solder may have been used but this is not often the case.

Why do crafts persons not do their very best all of the time? I really do not know the answer to this question but will offer the following suggestions. Some people have not received proper training. They often think that making jewelry is really not complicated and they have not asked for help or do not know where to go to get training.

This is a sad situation because I believe that in every state in this great nation there is one or more Gem and Mineral Clubs or Lapidary Schools. These clubs and schools have knowledgeable members who can advise where to find instruction or, in many cases, can even provide instruction them-selves. Most of us involved in the hobby of lapidary truly want to see our hobby grow and prosper and will go out of our way to help beginners.

In addition to the quality and appearance factors, getting in too big a hurry has a lot of safety ramifications. Just a casual visit to a lapidary class will often show just how careless some people can be. We have seen students and teachers set their workbench on fire. We have seen personnel lose control of their workpiece while buffing or polishing which can definitely cause injury to the piece or the operator. There is the potential for cuts, bruises, and eye injuries and infrequently a broken finger. We all need to slow down, concentrate on our work, and be safe.

Don Monroe & Linda Behr SFMS Safety Chairs from Lodestar, September 2010 via the AFMS Newsletter, Vol. 64 No. 2

Many of us enjoy our rockhounding as a hobby. Today as in yesteryear, hobbies can be lucrative businesses, especially in our retirement years. Here is a word of advice back in 1942 shortly after the depression and during World War II. I believe this continues to hold true today!

This article is taken from THE MINERALOGIST, April 1942, Volume 10, No. 4: SECURITY IN HOBBY, edited by H. C. Dake.

Fortunate is the person with a hobby, especially one which is both practical as well as interesting. Everyone should have two occupations from a standpoint of economic security if for no other reason. Your occupation or your job may be secure today, but who can see into the future?

Consider the money spent on fine minerals, as an investment, they are not a "luxury".

Changing economic conditions, accident, or loss of health may be one of the numerous reasons which may force an individual to change in occupation. How often have we seen a hobby become a lucrative vocation for an individual forced to make a change. The one-job man is at a distinct disadvantage in our complicated system of civilization. Provide yourself with a by-pass should your main economic highway be blocked.

Some activity in the earth sciences as a hobby will do much to add to your general happiness, and perchance someday it may really prove valuable. Few persons take up a hobby with the idea of it becoming a regular occupation, but in times of stress, or some unforeseen accident, a hobby may prove invaluable.

If history repeats itself, it will later be shown that investments made in fine mineral specimens, and choice cut gems, in times of affluence will prove a boon in times of financial stress. Consider the money spent on fine minerals, as an investment, they are not a "luxury". We know too well the history of many "gilt edge" bonds, and security considered as sound. Alas, even money values have been known to depreciate.

Northwest Newsletter Vol. 60 no. 2

In this newsletter, there is an answer to a question that you will find on our website. Answer the question, and your name will be entered into a drawing. Then, come to the next meeting, and we will randomly select someone from the list of those who answered the question correctly. The winner will receive a door prize. You do not have to be a member to enter the drawing, but you must be present to win.

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 May 2020

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

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