



December 2020

Volume 31, Issue 12

# The Rockytier



Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

## Monthly Meetings

### Christmas Social

Tuesday December 1st, 2020. 6 pm at Forrest Heights United Methodist Church, 3007 33rd Street, Lubbock, Texas.

### Board Meeting:

There will not be a board meeting in December.

## Upcoming Shows

### January 2021

22 - 24 Tyler, Texas

### February 2021

26 - 27 Plainview, Texas

### September 2021

25 - 26 Lubbock, Texas

## Message from the President

Woo Hoo. 2020 is almost over. This has been a year that will be remembered for a very long time. This is my last President's Message as I end my current role. I am excited to move into the Past President role. I will still be an active member, have no fear.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming the 2021 Board. Let's all help them make next year a wonderful exciting year for the club. Maybe the year we find a home.

At the November Board meeting, we decided to continue with our plan for a Christmas Party on December 1st. The party will start at 6 PM, so please come earlier to help set up if you can. This year the game will be different, so bring an unwrapped gift, \$10 - \$15 in value, preferably rock related. There will also be a grand prize for the game.

The club is providing the ham and turkey. Please bring a side dish. We will be posting a sign-up on the club website soon. Looking forward to seeing you at the party. If you can't make it to the party, I look forward to seeing you in 2021. Michael Zink



A rockhounds wish list:

- \*A gift membership in a gem & mineral club.
- \*Rock & mineral magazine subscriptions.
- \*Rock & mineral books for identification.
- \*Field guides for collecting.
- \*Topographical maps.
- \*A field trip to collect rocks, fossils or minerals.
- \*Tools for rockhounding.
- \*Rocks, of course!

Website: [www.LubbockGemAndMineral.org](http://www.LubbockGemAndMineral.org)

Facebook: [@LubbockGemAndMineral](https://www.facebook.com/@LubbockGemAndMineral)

Elections were held at the November meeting, with the following results:

President - Valerie Zink  
Vice President - Mica McGuire  
Secretary - Sabrina Krieger  
Treasurer - Walter Beneze  
Director - Mark Vining  
Director - Lisa Smith

There are many vacant positions in our club committees. Look over the following list and let Valerie know where you would like to help. Her email is [valerie.n.zink@gmail.com](mailto:valerie.n.zink@gmail.com), and you can find her home and cell phone numbers on our website.

The Audit Committee shall audit the financial transactions and records of the Society (including an inventory of fixed assets) in January.

The Field Trip Committee shall plan, locate places, and conduct field trips.

The Awards Committee shall consider the recognition of deserving members.

The Membership Chairperson shall offer assistance to new members.

The Constitution and By Laws Committee shall present any recommended changes to the Constitution or ByLaws to the Board of Directors when changes are recommended.

The Entertainment Committee shall arrange and handle all entertainment activities for the Society.

The Historian shall compile and maintain the history of the Society.

The Club Workshop Chairperson shall have responsibility for the overall supervision of the club workshop and the associated storage building(s) and has the authority to revoke the privilege to use these facilities.

The Club Workshop Committee shall maintain a record of Members using the club workshop and the status of their liability waivers. This committee shall also service and maintain the equipment at the workshop.

The Newsletter Editor shall prepare, publish, and distribute a society newsletter.

The Nominating Committee, appointed in September, will seek members willing to run for office and make recommendations to the Board.

The Photographer shall record, pictorially, events of the Society. The Photographer may collect photographs from other members giving them credit.

The Program Committee, under the direction of the Vice President, shall provide for a minimum of ten programs for the Society's monthly meetings.

The Publicity Committee shall obtain publicity for Society activities.

The Show Committee shall assist the show chairman with the management of the annual show.

The WebMaster shall maintain the Society website with current information.

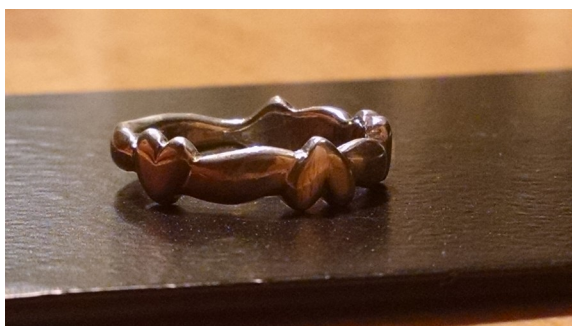
## What the heck is metal clay?

You may have seen references to it elsewhere, or seen my classes on the schedule and wondered this yourself. What is metal clay, and why do I care? Well, let me tell you! Metal clay is a wonderful material, relatively new on the metalsmithing scene. It is comprised of fine particles of metal, mixed with a non-toxic binder material that creates a clay-like consistency, and can be formed into just about anything. Once dry, the clay is fired with a handheld butane torch or in a kiln. As the material heats, the binder burns away, forming a solid piece of metal.

Initially, fine silver clay (99.9% pure) was the only type available, but now you can get fine silver, sterling silver, gold, copper, several shades of bronze, brass, iron and steel. It is sold in multiple forms, as well, including lump clay, powder (just add water!), sheet and in a syringe. It can be textured, sculpted or pressed into a mold while wet and carved when dry. After firing, it can also be soldered to other pieces. Metal clay can even be fired with certain types of stones, gemstones or cubic zirconia that can handle higher temperatures. The possibilities are endless!

Metal clay is so much fun to play with! There is a lot of information available online on websites like [metalclayguru.com](http://metalclayguru.com) or [pmcconnection.com](http://pmcconnection.com). Just google "metal clay," and check out all the images to get some inspiration!

by Stephanie Bair from DGMS Rok-Tok 2/17/20



When I saw the article above, I thought I would show a couple of pictures of a ring I made a few years ago. It is PMC Silver, and it was a fun project. I think I will get back into it in the future, when I have more time for it.

Walt Beneze

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

Click on the Giving Tuesday link below. You will be taken to a fundraiser for our Building and Education Fund where you can share it to on your Facebook feed.

Help us reach our goal to buy property for a clubhouse, workshop, and museum!





[www.scfms.net](http://www.scfms.net)



[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

The Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society is a member of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, one of seven Regional Organizations that make up the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

The South Central Federation of Mineral Societies has about 40 clubs with 3800 members in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

The American Federation has about 700 clubs and more than 50,000 members in the United States.

## THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

(Rockhound Style with Apologies) by Edna F. Pauli, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house,  
Not a creature was stirring, there wasn't room for a mouse  
With geodes and nodules under table and chair,  
A wee little mouse couldn't squeeze in anywhere.  
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
As visions of fossil fish swam through their heads.  
And Mother, dreaming of Opal and me of a lap.  
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.  
When out in the street there arose such a clatter,  
I jumped out of bed, mad as a hatter!  
Just as our clock tolled its 3:00 a.m. chime,  
I opened the door and took a long look.  
The sight that I saw there would make quite a book.  
For parking in front with a roar and a squeak,  
Was dear old St. Nick in a well-loaded jeep.  
He paused just a moment to check his long list,  
And make double certain no one would be missed.  
There's agate, onyx, turquoise, and rhodonite,  
Carnelian, crystal, sapphire, and malachite.  
He named every stone I ever had heard,  
And my heart was so happy it sang like a bird.  
For rocks to a rockhound are really a must,  
Right next to that stuff labeled, "In God We Trust."  
It took quite a while to do this little chore,  
But as soon as he'd finished, he came straight for our door!  
And I can't understand, though I've honestly tried,  
But before I could turn, he was right there inside.  
He spoke not a word but went straight to his work.  
And I stood there and watched though I felt like a "jerk."  
For he knew what I wanted more than I did myself.  
And was wise beyond reason, this right jolly old elf.  
The gifts he had brought were trips for next year,  
And the making of new friends from far and near.  
The singing of old songs around campfires bright,  
And being with the gang every rock meeting night.  
He picked up his pack and prepared to depart,  
And I gave him my thanks from the bottom of my heart.  
For friendship we know is a wonderful gem,  
And the principal key to "Peace Among Men."  
He sprang to his jeep, and stepped on the gas,  
And left 'mid the snowflakes which sparkled like glass.  
But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight,  
"Happy Christmas, Rockhounds, and to all a Good Night!"

Reprinted from the 12/1996 Rockhound Record, via the AFMS Newsletter, 12/1998 - 1/1998

Red and pink minerals stand out and draw attention because the human eye is especially sensitive to these colors. Here are some rules of thumb about red minerals: 99 times out of 100, a deep red, transparent mineral is a garnet, and 99 times out of 100, a red or orange sedimentary rock owes its color to microscopic grains of the iron oxide minerals hematite and goethite. A transparent mineral that's pale red is a clear mineral that owes its color to impurities. The same is true of all clear, red gemstones (like rubies).

Consider the color of a reddish mineral carefully, in good lighting. Red grades into yellow, gold, and brown. While a mineral may show a red highlight, that should not determine the overall color. Also, ascertain the mineral's luster on a fresh surface, as well as its hardness. And figure out the rock type igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic to the best of your ability.

Alden, Andrew. "How to Identify 10 Red and Pink Minerals." ThoughtCo, Aug. 29, 2020, [thoughtco.com/red-and-pink-minerals-1440941](https://www.thoughtco.com/red-and-pink-minerals-1440941)

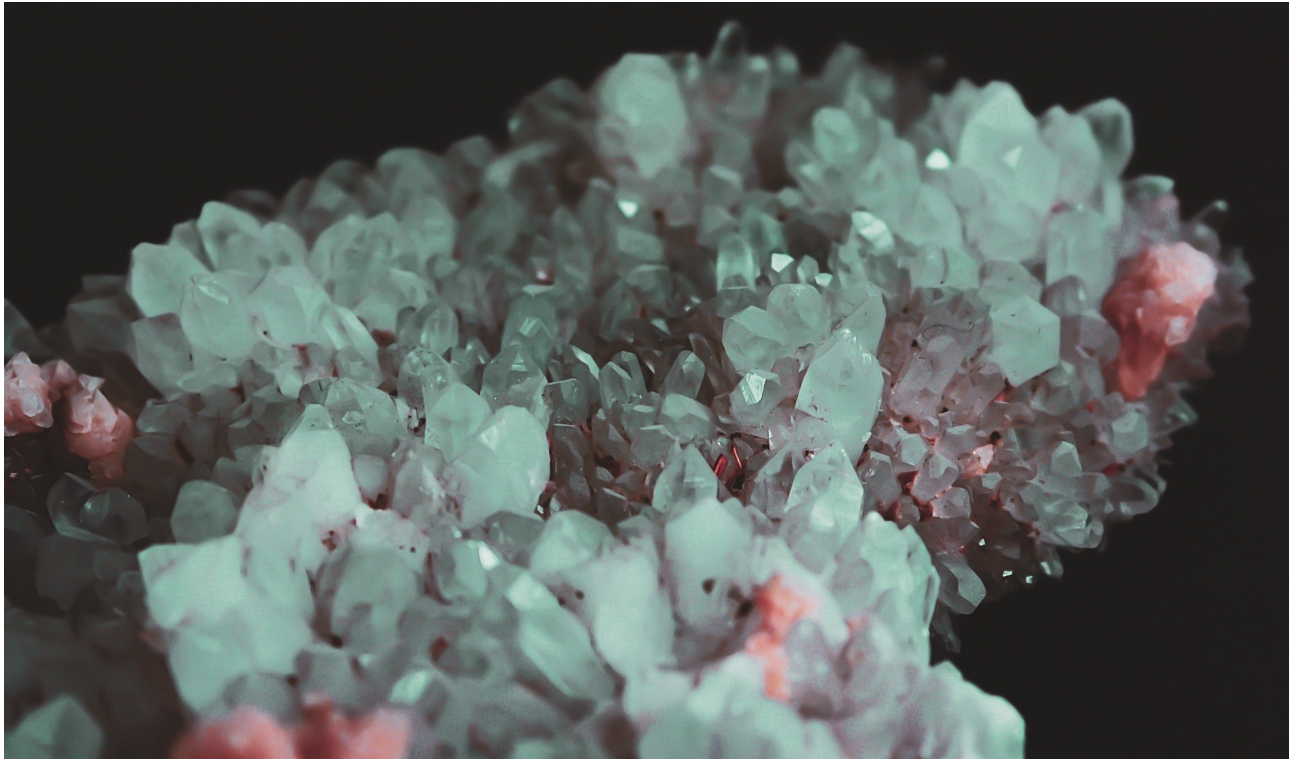


Photo by [Dids](#) from [Pexels](#)

Green and greenish rocks get their color from minerals that contain iron or chromium and sometimes manganese. The most widespread green mineral, chlorite is rarely present by itself. In microscopic form, it gives a dull olive-green color to a wide range of metamorphic rocks from slate and phyllite to schist.

Actinolite is a shiny medium-green silicate mineral with long, thin crystals. You will find it in metamorphic rocks such as marble or greenstone. Its greenish color is derived from iron. Jade is a type of actinolite. A related mineral that contains little or no iron is called tremolite.

Epidote is common in medium-grade metamorphic rocks as well as igneous rocks that have undergone alteration. It ranges in color from yellow green to green-black to black, depending on its iron content. Epidote is occasionally used as a gemstone.

Several other minerals are also typically green, but they aren't widespread and are quite distinctive. These include diopside, fuchsite, uvarovite, and variscite. You're more likely to find them in rock shops than in the field.

Alden, Andrew. "9 Common Green Rocks and Minerals." ThoughtCo, Aug. 28, 2020, [thoughtco.com/green-minerals-examples-1440940](https://www.thoughtco.com/green-minerals-examples-1440940)



Michael's election day suit



Jenny's blue dendrite pendant

## General Meeting notes

November 3, 2020

Michael Zink called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There were 16 members and 2 guests present.

The nominations for election were presented, with one member volunteering to run for the director position and no challenges to the other positions. Ballots were cast and the nominating committee's recommended candidates were elected.

Scott gave a presentation on Sodalite & Glaucophane. Deep blue stones that are very similar.

The JALAF winners this month were:

Jenny Philips for jewelry (popular and master vote), Teresa Burns cabochon won the popular vote, and Michael Zink won the Master vote for his lapis cabochon. The stone color for the January JALAF is Ice.

There will be a grand prize for the Christmas party "rock bingo" game, everyone please bring an unwrapped \$10 - \$15 rock-related gift. Please sign up on the website for what side dish you plan to bring.

Mica had a video by Dan Herd, prospector, about the equipment he uses to sift sand and gravel to find valuable stones.

Michael talked about the shed and the trailer that the club has stored on his land, and said he would give the club until the end of 2021 to find another place for them.

The club can now receive funds from Facebook fundraisers, so if you would like to help, you can host a fundraiser on your page and Facebook will send the money to us.

Sabrina made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sabrina Krieger, Secretary



Scott's Glaucophane & Sodalite cabs

## Board Meeting Notes

November 10, 2020

Michael Zink called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There were 9 board members and 1 regular member present.

Tim read the financial report.

Sabrina read the minutes of the last board meeting. Mark motioned to accept as read, Tim seconded, motion passed.

There was a discussion about where to look for a cargo trailer and how big it should be. The idea is to have one big enough to store all of our show setup in it, so it can be hauled to the civic center and unloaded. This will save us a step and a lot of time.

Michael gave a report on the Midland club's "show". It was very small, due to being at their clubhouse, and had just a few dealers.

There was some discussion about our Christmas dinner. We will start at 6 pm.

Houston is doing a virtual show on the 14th of November, not sure what it will look like. Check it out if you have time.

Teresa was wanting someone else to take over the JALAF, Micheal indicated he was interested and will call Teresa.

Sabrina made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sabrina Krieger, Secretary



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# Happy New Year!

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*Another fresh new year is here ...Another year to live! To banish worry, doubt, and fear, to love and laugh and give! This bright new year is given me to live each day with zest...To daily grow and try to be my highest and my best! I have the opportunity once more to right some wrongs, to pray for peace, to plant a tree, and sing more joyful songs!*

William Arthur Ward

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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. Any content in this newsletter not attributed to someone else is from the editor.

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. December 2020

### Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society

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