Austin Gem and Mineral Society

2017 Yearbook
SECTION 2- SERVICE TO MEMBERS OR GUESTS

General Meetings: Number of meetings 12  Average attendance 60  Guests 4

Programs: Include a separate list of programs (Included in section2)

Board Meetings: Number of meetings 11  Average attendance 12

Officers: Include a separate list of officers, directors and committee chairmen (Included in section 2)

Junior Meetings: Number of meetings 5  Average attendance 5

Adult leader: Thea Eaton

BONUS: Has other junior events other than meetings

Special Group Meetings: Number attending:

Cabbing ___  Tumbling ___  Carving ___  Flint Knapping ___
Faceting ___  Metal-working ___  Beading ___

Mineral Study. 15  Fossil study __  Intarsia __  Jewelry making ___

Other __________

Social Events: Number attending:  Picnic ___  Banquet ___  Holiday Dinner 52

Other: Swap Meeting 25  Show Shed Clean-up 10  Auction 42

Club hosts Show: Yes Dates October 20-22, 2017

Dealers: #33  Demonstrators: #3

Member displays: #6  Junior displays: ___

BONUS: Competitive Displays by members? Yes (Listed in Section 2)
Special Features:  Club Library: Yes

Yearbook committee or Website committee: Yes

Lapidary studio/workshop (supported by and available to members: Yes

Field Trips: Yes  No. of trips in field 2  Other trips _____

Other clubs invited? Yes

Workshops: (beading, lapidary skills, jewelry): Yes (List included in section2)

Club maintains an active Website: Yes

URL  www.austingemandmineral.org

Traveling Club Display (For other club shows, youth groups, schools, etc.): Yes

SECTION 3- PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Bulletin: Yes  Bulletin name: Stone Chipper

Editor's name: Carolyn Perkins

Club Website/Facebook site: Show information posted: Yes

Meeting information posted: Yes

Workshop information posted: Yes

Meeting notices posted in public places: Yes (listed in section 3)

Meeting notices published in local media: ____

Show fliers posted in public places: Yes (listed in section 3)

Show information published in local media: Yes (listed in section 3)

Free or paid ads on TV/radio/web: Meeting notices: Yes

Show information: Yes
SECTION 4- SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL FEDERATIONS, AFMS AND OTHER CLUBS

Members served in Federation as Officers, Committee Chairs or committee members:

Regional federations: ___

AFMS: Yes (listed in section 4)

Members attended a Federation convention or show:

Regional Federation: Yes #5

AFMS: Yes # 1

Members supported Federation scholarships or endowment funds:

AFMS: Scholarship fund: _____  Endowment fund: Yes

Other support for regional federations?

Members gave programs for other clubs: Yes (list included in section 4)

Members attended other club shows, swaps, etc: Yes

Members held joint field trips with other clubs: Yes

Members displayed/demonstrated at other shows: Yes

Club exchanged bulletins with other clubs: Yes

(list included in section 4)

BONUS: Bulletin Editor is a member of Scribe: Yes

BONUS: Members performed as judges for Bulletin Editor’s contest, Competitive displays or Website competitions? (list included in section 4)
SECTION 5-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Members gave talks or demonstrations at local schools: Yes

Members gave talks or demonstrations to local groups: Yes

Members maintained displays at local public sites: ___

Members maintained a booth or an activity at a local event: Yes

Members donated materials to school, college, scouts: Yes

Members active in local affairs: Yes

(All necessary lists are included in Section 5)

SECTION 6- GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS

Members served on government agency committees: ___

Members commented on government agency proposals: Yes

Members contacted congressional representatives regarding legislation affecting access and collecting sites: ___

Members supported access/collecting lobbying organizations like ALAA: ____

Bonus: Club is member of ALAA ____

SECTIONS 7- OVERAL FORMAT AND PRESENTATION

This section evaluates neatness, organization, grammar, spelling, page count restrictions, and overall presentation of materials.

SCORING AND AWARDS

First Place Gold All American- over 100 points
Gold All American Club Award: 90-100
Silver All American Club Award: 80-89
Bronze All American Club Award: 70-79
Honorable Member: Less than 70 points
Section 1

Club Information

Club Name and Address
Date organized
Federation affiliation
Number of members
Meeting Place
Person filling out form
Mission of the club
SECTION 1- CLUB INFORMATION (NO POINTS AWARDED)

Club Name and Address- Austin Gem and Mineral Society

6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, Texas

Date Organized- 1950  Federation Affiliation- SCFMS and AFMS

Number of members:  Adult 137  Honorary/Life 30  Juniors 6

Meeting Place- 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, Texas, 78757

Person filling out form: Name Cathy Brandt

Address: 6 Oak View

City: Round Rock  State: Texas  Zip: 78664

Phone: 512 -388-9759  E-mail: cathybrandt@att.net

Mission or purpose of the club: To promote interest and education in the various earth sciences and other related subjects

*By submitting this entry, permission is granted to AFMS to publish this entry or excerpts of this entry on the official AFMS website if this entry becomes a Gold level winner in the All-American Club Award contest.(Only public information regarding the club as posted on their website will be included.)

___ No, do not publish this entry on the AFMS website. (check box only if you do not give permission)
Section 2
Service to Members
Or Guests

- General Meetings/Programs
- Board Meetings/Officers
- Junior Meetings
- Special Group Meetings
- Social Events
- Club Show
- Special Features
- Yearbook/Website
- Lapidary Studio
- Field Trips
- Workshops
- Club Display
General Meetings:  
Number of meetings 12  
Average attendance 60  
Guests 4

Programs
January - Martin Boozer- Legal and Ethical Rules of Collecting  
February - Laird Fowler- Petrified Wood and Geotourism  
March - Linda McCall- Bureau of Economic Geology’s Bookstore  
April - Jennifer Anderson- Diamonds  
May - Robert Baumgartner- Strange Saga of Agates in the Texas Capital Area  
June - WC Jameson- Search for the Lost Adams’ Diggings  
July - Chelsey Sandacker- Jewelry Making Techniques  
August - Jack Sharp- Crystalline Rock Aquifers in Texas  
September - Bill Ambros- Lunar Mysteries and Wonders  
October - Julie Henning- Earthdate Website  
November - Jeff Paine- Rapid Response to the Texas Coast
**Board Meetings:**

Number of meetings: **11**

Average attendance: **12**

**Officers** (Provide list of officers, directors and committee chairman)

**Officers**

President- Laird Fowler

1st VP- James Mercier  
2nd VP- Kathleen Howard

Treasurer- Craig Brandt  
Secretary- Pauline Denson

**Board Members**

Cindy Murphy  
Gene Healey

Richard Dorsey  
Deborah Johnson

Jan Ozias  
Gary Collins

**Committee Chairs**

Annual Show- Ludie Toles

Education/Classes- Joyce Hrapsky

Lead Librarian- Laird Fowler  
Librarian- Cindy Murphy

Webmaster- Gary Collins

Newsletter Editor- Carolyn Perkins  
Photographer- Joe Perkins

Historian- Cathy Brandt  
Sunshine- Fran Ellis

Membership- Craig Brandt  
Hospitality Chair- Steelman Family

Greeter- Jackie Fisher  
Curator- Betsy Gager
Officers

Laird Fowler - President

James Mercier - Vice President

Kathleen Howard - 2nd Vice President

Pauline Denson - Secretary

Craig Brandt - Treasurer and Membership
Board Members

Jan Ozias

Cindy Murphy

Deborah Johnson

Gary Collins

Richard Dorsey

Gene Heal
Newsletter editor and photographer: Carolyn and Joe Perkins

Wednesday Nights: Gef Fisher, Workshop Manager

Classes: Joyce Hrapsky

Refreshments: Steelman Family

Marilyn Gilbreath greeted by Jackie Fisher
Junior Meetings

Number of Meetings- 5  
Average Attendance- 5

Adult leader-Thea Eaton

**BONUS:** Has other junior events other than meetings

![Purple Fluorite Hunt](image1)

Hunting at Pease Park
Special Group Meetings (Established groups): Number attending:
Cabbing _____ Tumbling _____ Carving _____ Flint Knapping _____
Faceting _____ Metal-working/metalsmith _____ Beading _____
Mineral Study 15  Fossil study_____ Intarsia _____ Jewelry/making____

Part of the Mineral Sig Group

Other: AGMS supports the Austin Paleontology Society by having
them meet in our facility. Some of AGMS members, also, belong
to Paleo

Paleo members John and Emilia
**Social Events:** Number attending-Picnic _____ Banquet ____

Holiday Dinner   52           Other: Swap Meet  25
Show Shed Clean-up 10           Auction 42

**Swap Meet and Luncheon**

Pauline and Jan enjoy visitors at the swap meet.

Dale and Paul check out the display

Ron and Scott share minerals
The BBQ and potluck luncheon was enjoyed by all.

Carolyn and James decide what to see next.
6719 Burnet Lane, Austin Texas
www.AustinGemAndMineral.org

DATE: Saturday 08 April 2017
TIME: 9am to 3pm Setup at 8am

Austin Gem & Mineral Society
2017 ROCK SWAP
Gems, Minerals & Fossils

Head to Austin for an old fashion swap meet
Plenty of rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, petrified wood, agates, fluorescent minerals, crystals, rough rock, gift items, jewelry, beads, tools & equipment, local mineral & fossil specimens.

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING

Club House Tours

Potluck Lunch

KIDS Activities

Demonstrations

CONTACT: 1st VP James Mercier
E-Mail: vpresident1@austingemandmineral.org
Phone: 512-458-9546 (Voicemail ONLY)
April 8, 2017
Swap & Sell Meet

Mark your calendar for APRIL 8, 2017. That is the date for our SWAP & SELL MEET. This is your opportunity to sell and swap your handiwork and items. Again we will have indoor and outdoor spaces available. To secure a space, send a check or money order for $20 to AGMS via 1st Vice-President, James Mercier at jmercier@ieee.org or via mail at:

AGMS Swap
James Mercier, P.E.
518 Academy Drive
Austin, 78704

An outdoor space is 10 ft.² includes 2 six-foot tables. Canopies are the displayer’s responsibility and must fit within the space.

An indoor space is one 6-foot table, two chairs, and access to electricity.

Availabilities of either are based upon first contact, first reserved. But, payment must be received by Friday, March 31 to be reserved. Limit is one table inside or one space outside per person, although multiple people may share one person’s table or booth.
Show Shed Clean-up and Organization

Craig and Dee check out minerals.  Ludie organizes the supplies.

Kathleen cleans the clubhouse.  Craig, James and Ludie discuss the progress.
Laird, what time Monday?

Pauline

On Sun, Aug 6, 2017 at 1:09 PM, Laird Fowler lairdf@earthlink.net [agmslist] <agmslist@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Rockhounds

Thanks to those industrious rockhounds that showed up to help clean the clubhouse & yard. Thanks to Cathy, Craig, James, Kathleen, Gene, Richard and Gary.

Regarding Monday, we could use some help in labeling the bid items for Saturday. I am picking up the Wheel of Fortune from Nature's Treasure in the morning then plan to label items during the afternoon. If you have some time please stop by.

~Laird

-----Original Message-----
From: Laird Fowler
Sent: Aug 3, 2017 1:00 PM
To: agmslist@yahoogroups.com, agmslist@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Remindeer: ClubHouse & Yard Cleanup THIS Saturday

RockHounds

Please join us in sprucing up the clubhouse and yard this Saturday. We'll start about 8:00 and get a jump on the heat and afternoon thunder-showers. This is being pursued ahead of our August Social & Auction the following Saturday.

The fossils have been moved so we'll be able to sweep/mop/buff the meeting room. The yard has had some weed-eating done but more to do as well as trimming along the fences. Bring any tools you have to help.

See you Saturday

~Laird
Auction and Luncheon Social

Jan and Angie prep for lunch.

James, Gene, Ron and Brian auction the items.
Richard, Carolyn, Joe and Jan consider a bid.

Dee is tallying the bids.
6719 Burnet Lane, Austin Texas
www.AustinGemAndMineral.org

DATE: Saturday 12 August 2017
TIME: Pot Luck Picnic @ High Noon
Auction @ 1pm
Set Up @10am
Food Set Up @ 11:30am
Pre-View Items @ 11-1pm

Austin Gem & Mineral Society
Annual Auction & Pot Luck Picnic

OPEN to the PUBLIC
Come Check Us Out!

Head to Austin and Join us for our Annual Auction and Pot Luck Picnic!
Plenty of rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, petrified wood, agates, fluorescent minerals, crystals, rough rock, gift items, jewelry, beads, tools & equipment, local mineral & fossil specimens.

CONTACT: 1st VP James Mercier
E-Mail: vpresident1@austingemandmineral.org
To: agmslist@yahooogroups.com; agmslist@yahooogroups.com

Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2017 3:03 PM

RockHounds

Come Saturday, AGMS will host its annual auction & social. Please make plans to be there. Clubhouse opens at 10:00 am for viewing, lunch at Noon with the bidding wars starting at 1:00 ish.

Once you arrive, sign the bidder sheet, grab the corresponding bidder card and the color dots. Place a color dot on the items you intend to bid on. Any item with no dots or only one dot will be removed. These items will be available for the Gem Capers silent auction.

With over 140 items you are sure to find several items of interest. NOTE: Some items will have a minimum bid; Example: Pietersite slabs. Also, if you have items you want to donate to the Auction, members will be available to process them.

Here is a sampling of items:

> SLABS, slabs, slabs: petrified palm-wood but the star of the slabs is Pietersite: Pietersite is hard to find and in great demand.
> AGMS vests: L, M and a Youth
> One ever elusive AGMS brooch. Letters spelled out in sparkling rhinestones
> 24" slab saw (it is in second shed)
> 6-7" overhand trim saw
> Cleaning/blasting station complete with garnet grit and recovery sieves
> Numerous minerals ranging from TN to fist size; including a box collection of fist sized specimens
> Photo of The Solitario taken by a U-2 plane
> Jewelry pieces including a pendant with Texas garnets and one with New Mexico Pecos Diamonds
> How-To Books: jewelry making, wire wrap
> Two microscopes
> TN sized fossilized Nautilus (2)- well preserved, not limestone
> Hunt localities books

Let's have fun.
**Induction Dinner**

Laird passes the president’s pin to Scott

Richard presents Laird the Patron Award 2017.
Craig presents Jan with Rockhound of the Year 2017.

Dinner and exchange gift enjoyed by all
AGMS HONORS THEIR OWN
Patron Endowment Fund Award

Every year since 1994, Austin Gem and Mineral Society members
who have contributed considerable time and effort in the past
toward making our organization a success are nominated for this
honor.

The Nominee Selection Committee each year is comprised of the
previous three years’ patrons. Traditionally, the third-year
member(s) serves as the chairman or co-chairman of this
committee.

When the new nominee is selected, the name(s) along with a
picture and an article about the person(s) is submitted to the
AGMS-SCFMS representative.

The selection process should be completed by the end of
September so the SCFMS endowment fund award chairman may
process the award certificate in time for presentation at the
December Officers Banquet.

The following guidelines are intended only to be helpful in the
nominee selection process:

- Active member for at least five years (preferably longer), plus
two or more of the following attributes:
  - Served as an officer or board member of the AGMS
    executive committee
  - Served as committee chair as listed in the Stone Chipper
  - Participation in other activities contributing to a well-
    functioning club (such as building maintenance, annual
    show work, teaching classes, special projects, etc.)

Note:
Upon receipt of Patron award, guidelines should be given to new
patron. AGMS secretary forwards information regarding the newly
designated patron to the appropriate SCFMS chair.

The Patron award recipient should not be selected for both Rockhound
of the Year award and Patron award in the same year.

Laird Fowler

William Laird Fowler is a 100% native Texan, born in Austin to
Harry and Margaret Wilson Fowler who were from San Antonio,
where many relatives from both sides of the family still reside. He
spent his first few years of life at the Army Air Force base in Bad
Kreuznach, Germany, where his father was stationed. When the
family returned to the US, they moved around from place to place
within the confines of Texas, Arkansas and Kansas, finally landing
in Corpus Christi, where Laird graduated from high school and
attended Del Mar Junior College. He also worked as a lifeguard
there and as lifeguard and later interpretive ranger at the Padre
Island National Seashore for four summers.

Laird completed his degree in geology at the University of Texas,
then transferred to Texas A&M to earn a degree in parks and
recreation. However, before graduation he was offered a job he
couldn’t refuse with Texas Parks & Wildlife. He worked for the
agency for thirty-five years, ranging from Sea Rim National
Seashore to Palo Duro Canyon. Among other assignments, he
was manager at Brazos Bend State Park for five years, preparing
for its 1984 opening. While stationed in Austin he was charged
with overseeing half of Texas’ state parks. His final position was
in Lubbock, as Regional Director for the Texas Panhandle area.

Laird has always had his priorities straight. His wife, Paula, and
his three sons, Austin, Travis, and Landis come first. While his
boys were young most of his spare time was spent in activities
with them. He was a high school basketball referee for twenty
years and a soccer referee for just as long.

His interest in rocks and rock hunting probably had its roots in
Laird’s childhood, but it blossomed as a result of his visit to
Woodward Ranch while he was working at the Ar mand National
Recreation Area in Del Rio in 1973. He found a beautiful red
Plume Flame Agate. Frank Woodward made a pendant for Paula
out of one part of the stone and Laird became a lapidary, making
a bole tie cabochon out of the other. He has hunted for stones all
ever the state and beyond. His favorite mineral is Fluorite, but
petrified wood also holds a special place in his rock-loving heart.

Laird has won his share of rock and mineral acclaim. He scored
big at the annual show and AFMS convention AGMS hosted in
2015. He received three First Place awards, one for an
educational exhibit and two for mineral exhibits. He also got a
rare rating of 100 for his barrel-shaped cab entry from AFMS.
Additionally, at the Lubbock show the following year he received a
Second Place award from SCFMS/S.C.R.I.B.E. for his article
“2015 Single Cabochon Contest,” that was published in the
StoneChipper.

No stranger to the business end of mineral society membership,
Laird served on the AGMS Board of Directors for two years, as
Head Librarian for one year, and is just finishing his 2-year term
as AGMS President.

As for hobbies, aside from rock-related activities, Laird enjoys
golfing and reading mystery novels. In addition, he and Paula
have made it a habit to travel somewhere every month.

A friend of Laird’s once commented that things just seemed to
come to him. He has always been aware of fortuitous events in
his life and has always been determined that they neither define
nor confine him. He is strongly motivated to “pay it forward.”
Club hosts a Show: Yes - October 20-22, 2017

Dealers: #33

Member Displays #6

Bonus: Competitive Displays by members: Yes

List of members with competitive displays: Cabbing Competition

Pauline Denson  Brian Wetzig
Gene Healy      Laird Fowler

Cabs submitted

Brian won the cab competition
Cabochnon Contest

Rockhounds,

Every year at the Gem Capers, AGMS sponsors a cabochon contest. The focus of the material is RED. Which means you can use any material as long as it has RED in it.

A cabber can enter two cabochons. One in each category:

*Traditional*: the cab must have at least one plane of symmetry: heart, oval, cross, tear-drop, etc.

*FreeForm*: the cab does not have any symmetry planes.

The deadline for submittals will be the September’s General Meeting. Entry forms will be available at the August General Meeting.

Take advantage of the Wednesday workshop nights and the third Saturday workshop and create your prize winning cab.

~Laird
Show Chair- Ludie Toles
Dealer Chair- James Mercier

Treasurer/Head Cashier- Brian
Quest Coordinator- Laird
Show Demonstrators

Craig shows how to facet.  Gary creates a cabochon.

Sarah shows how to wire wrap.
Show Volunteers

Jan’s busy at show opening. Laura shares the Touch Table.

Laura and Robert admire Robert’s collection.
Pauline, Alan and Glen work the Fluorescent Mine.

Show Committee Members:

Dee Fly- Postcards, Dealer Signs, Gem Mine, Grand Prize, Touch Table
Laura Dow-Magazine Advertising
Stretch Young- Bulletins
Laird Fowler- Display Cases
Richard prepares for the Silent Auction.

Sian gets the timer ready for the Silent Auction.

Richard and Debbie set out more items.
Gene and Alisa assemble jewelry for the visitors.

Alisa, Marilyn, Mason, and Robin spin the wheel for prizes.
Laura and Jackie set the timer for the Gem Mine.

Nicole and Cheyenne prepare for the next miners.

Betty and Ludie work the Club Booth.

Eric shares information about Paleontological Society of Austin.
Isabel Noland of Austin Texas was the Grand Prize Winner.
Michelle Wendt of Driftwood won the Friday Grand Prize.

Saturday’s Grand Prize winners.
Special Features:

Club Library: YES

Harriet Strieber Library

Yearbook Committee or Website Committee: YES

Yearbook Committee consists of Craig Brandt, Carolyn Perkins and Cathy Brandt.

Website Committee consists of Gary Collins and Cindy Murphy.

Lapidary studio/workshop (supported and available to club members): YES

All the pictures of the classes that were taught are taken in our clubhouse. We have machines and materials available for cabbing, faceting and jewelry/soldering to our members. We, also, have short and longwave UV lights to identify fluorescence. The workshop is open every Wednesday night and every third Saturday for club members to use the equipment.
Field Trips:  **YES**  
No. of trips in field: 2

Other clubs invited? **YES**  
Other trips (museums, shows) __

**Workshops:** (beading, lapidary skills, jewelry, etc):  **YES**  

Wire Wrap enjoyed by Cindy and Les.
Wire Wrapping Class

A wire wrapping class will be taught by Sally deGraffenried on Monday evening, April 3, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The class will be to wrap a crystal point. There are currently a few open seats. The class fee is $15. Contact me for payment information and a supply list. **Deadline is March 23.**

NOTE: Your 2017 club dues should be updated to enroll in the class. It can be included on the same check as the class fee.

**Sally’s Supply List:**
- one quartz crystal point (or any other stone point), **at least 1 1/2 inches long**
- 21ga. Square craft wire
- 21ga. Half Round craft wire (The craft wire is available at The Bead Stash.)
- A small, not-too-sharp pocket knife (or you may share one of mine)

**Provided:**
Painter’s tape, tools, rulers, sharpie markers

Joyce Hrapsky
classes @saustingemandmineral.org
Field Trips

OH MY GOSH!

You are in luck if you missed the last trip because there is another one scheduled! Field Trip to Eagle Pass Sunday, April 9th!

This is a great trip! Because the rocks have been rolling down the Rio Grande for several million years, you can find just about anything available in Texas to Colorado. One can find colored jaspers, agates, petrified wood, fossils and just plain old pretty rocks. Les and I even found some fire agate!

Meet at the Stripes Station on Veterans Blvd and Spur 210 in Eagle Pass at about 8:00 to 8:15 AM. We will leave for the hunt area at about 8:30 AM after signing the waiver and paying the fee. The goal is to be at the site about 9:00 AM.

It is 230 miles from the clubhouse, plan accordingly. Some people drive down on Saturday and spend the night.

The cost will be $5.00 a person.

KIDS are welcome. With a parent or chaperone.

You need hard hat, safety vest and closed toe shoes/boots. PERIOD

You need to bring spray bottles full of water and buckets. A lot of us use five gallon buckets. Some folks like to beat rocks so you can bring your pick.

Bring food and water for yourself. Lots of water!

Please contact Buck Rodgers at buckrodgers000@yahoo.com if you have questions. Or call him at 210-240-7721 if you are running late Sunday morning!

This is a multi club trip so expect to meet new friends!

Happy Hunting,
Sue
More help! More friends! More Rockhunts!

In addition to the rockhunts I mentioned in my last email, there are now EVEN MORE! Lisa Tirey-Butler has volunteered to lead a hunt at the Stillwell Ranch on Monday, October 16.

And we will have FIVE DAYS of hunts on the Walker Ranch—but not all at once. There will be two days right after the Singleton weekend at the end of October: Monday, October 30 and Tuesday, October 31. And then three days after the Singleton hunts in November: Monday, November 6, Tuesday November 7, and Wednesday, November 8.

For the Stillwell Ranch, you pay only the Stillwell fee of 50 cents per pound for the rock you take. Of course, you could always buy Lisa an ice-cream bar or a new car to say thank you... I don't know yet what time she'll want to start the trip, but if you sign up and provide me with a cell number, I'll make sure you get the message when she decides.

The Walker Ranch hunts will be $75 per day. And, unlike previous Walker hunts we will all go in as a group and leave as a group. If you need to leave early, we'll try to accommodate you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Trip Location</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10/11</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch **</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10/22</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 10/23</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10/24</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10/25</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>South Larremore Ranch</td>
<td>Jean Larremore</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10/26</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10/27</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 10/28</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10/29</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Steve Ivie</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 10/30</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Walker Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10/31</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Walker Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 11/3</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 11/4</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 11/5</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Singleton Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 11/6</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Walker Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11/7</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Walker Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11/8</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Walker Ranch</td>
<td>Teri Smith</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As usual, all trips start at the Antelope Lodge, 2310 W. Highway 90, Alpine. To reserve your place on a trip, email me at agatehunter@sbcglobal.net. Payment for the trip is not due until the morning of the trip. The Singleton Ranch accepts only cash, but the Larremore and Walker Ranches accepts cash or check. The Stillwell Ranch even accepts credit cards! At least one person in your group needs to be a member of the Rollin' Rock Club to go on the trips. Cost is $10 per year for a single membership and $16 for a dual membership, purchasable at the time of the trip.

If no one is signed up for a trip 48 hours before it starts it will be cancelled. So be sure to sign up!

And if you wish to stay at the Antelope Lodge you can make reservations at www.antelopelodge.com or by calling (800) 880-8106.
Club maintains an active Website:  YES

URL: www.austingemandmineral.org

Traveling club display (For other club show, youth groups, schools, etc):  YES

The following can be shared or displayed:

Traveling box of Texas minerals

A “Match the Mineral” Game

Dinosaur Crayon Rubbings

Precious Gems and Minerals

Traveling school kit

Match the Mineral Game
Section 3

Publications and Publicity

Bulletin - Editor

Website/Facebook

Meetings/Show Information
SECTION 3- Publications and Publicity

Bulletin: YES  Bulletin name: Stone Chipper
Editor’s Name- Carolyn Perkins

President’s Notes:

Rockhounds,

With Fall comes SHOW TIME. First and foremost is our SHOW at the Palmer Center, October 20, 21 and 22. Volunteers are still needed to assist with our programming. Watch the agmslist for the sign-up sheet. This year our theme is GEODES. Please bring any geodes you have in your collection to place in the club’s display. A couple of members have loaned their geodes already. We are looking for more.

In addition to our show I hope you had a chance to attend the Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society’s SHOW earlier this month. A small event to be sure but one I always found enjoyable. There are a couple of dealers that aren’t at our show and have quality gems and jewelry.

The other SHOW of note is the Houston Gem & Mineral Society’s Show on the second weekend of November. They will be hosting the South Central Federation meeting this year. Larger than our show, this show will have quality items which will interest rock-hounds of all ages. Check further in the Stone Chipper for dates and location.

Be sure to stop and visit with me at our show. I’ll be at several locations including the Illumination Station. I’ll be interested in what you found. I’ll show you what I found and THANKS in advance for your help during the show’s set-up, presentation and take down.

Laird

THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. (AGMS) is a member in good standing of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies and the American Federation of Mineral Societies. Its editors are also members of SCRIBE. The club address is 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, Texas 78757, and phone (512) 458-9546. The AGMS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Visit our website at www.austingemandmineral.org Contact our webmaster for website updates at webmaster@austingemandmineral.org

PURPOSE
The purpose of the AGMS is to promote interest and education in the various Earth Sciences and other related subjects.

MEETINGS
The society meets at 7:00 p.m. the fourth Thursday of every month except October, which is show set up day. The November meeting will be held on the THIRD Thursday. December is the Officers’ Induction Banquet held on a date to be determined. Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month. Show Committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. All meetings are open to anyone. Society officers are listed on the second page of this publication. Please feel free to contact any of them for information

Dues for 2017:
Annual membership dues are:
Adult-$30.00  Couple-$40.00  Junior--$4.00

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Officers
President—Laird Fowler
president@austingemandmineral.org
1st VP—James Mercier
vpresident1@austingemandmineral.org
2nd VP—Kathleen Howard
vpresident2@austingemandmineral.org
Treasurer—Craig Brandt
treasurer@austingemandmineral.org
Secretary—Pauline Denson
secretary@austingemandmineral.org

Board Members
Cindy Murphy—
murphy61@austingemandmineral.org
Gene Healy—
geneh@austingemandmineral.org
Richard Dorsey—
richard5@austingemandmineral.org
Deborah Johnson—
deborahe@austingemandmineral.org
Jan O'Zias—
jano@austingemandmineral.org
Gary Collins—
collinsgl@austingemandmineral.org

Committee Chairs
Annual Show - Ludy Toles
showchairman@austingemandmineral.org
Education/Classes - Joyce Hrapsky
classes@austingemandmineral.org
Field Trips - Sue Postlethwait and John Curttright
trip@austingemandmineral.org
Librarian - Cynthia Murphy
librarian@austingemandmineral.org
Webmaster – Gary Collins
webmaster@austingemandmineral.org
Building Chair - Open
Curator - Betsy Gager

Federation/Conservation - Josie Middleton
Historian - Cathy Brandt
Hospitality - Angie and Scott Steelman
Membership - Susan Postlethwait
Scholarship - Open
School Programs - Wing Evans
Sunshine - Fran Ellis
Newsletter Editor - Carolyn Perkins
stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org

AGMS Meetings Schedule
Board Meeting—1st Tuesday—7:00 p.m.
Minerals SIG Meeting—2nd Tuesday—7:00 p.m.
Capers Show Planning Meeting—2nd Thursday—7:00 p.m.
General Meeting—4th Thursday—7:00 p.m.

GEM CAPERS
GEODES

October 20, 21 & 22, 2017
Fri & Sat 9 am – 6 pm; Sun 10 am – 5pm
SIGN UP—See AGMS List
General Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2017

Bill Ambrose presented a talk on Lunar Mysteries and Wonders

The meeting was called to order by Laird Fowler, President.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as printed.

Laird announced that forty-one members were present, and welcomed two visitors and two new members.

Laird said that this year’s show theme was geodes, and that we plan to have a case of geodes at the show. He asked that anyone who has geodes loan them for the exhibit. Bring them to the Mineral ID meeting on October 10 or to the Palmer Events Center Thursday afternoon during set up for the show. Various sizes and types are needed.

Magnetic signs for the show, to be placed on cars during show week, can be picked up tonight or at the Mineral ID meeting. The sign-up sheet for volunteers is available at the sign-in desk.

This year’s show pins are for sale for $3.00.

Laird said that there will be a general meeting in October this year, and that Nature’s Treasures has offered to provide refreshments for the meeting.

The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers for a couple of officers and board members. If you would like to get more involved in the club, contact Laird, who is chairing the committee.

Laird said that we have several vacancies in the structure of the club. An editor of The StoneChipper is needed. This is a once-a-month publication. We also need a Building chair to take care of the building and grounds, and a Head Librarian. Contact Laird to volunteer.

Gregory Rhode said that he has a large supply of optical quartz for use in making doublet and triplets. Various sizes are available. Anyone interested can contact him at 503-927-8059.

The drawing was held, there was some show and tell and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes by Pauline Denson

Board Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2017

Present: Laird Fowler (President), Kathleen Howard (2nd V-P), Craig Brandt (Treasurer), and Directors Gary Collins, Richard Dorsey, Gene Healy, Deborah Johnson, Cindy Murphy, Jan Ozias. AGMS member: Cathy Brandt.

September meeting minutes were approved with no further changes.

Board members with an excused absence were Pauline Denson and James Mercier.

Treasurer’s report: Balances as of 9/30/2017 are posted: Fidelity ($35,681), checking account ($6574), and savings ($10,621) totaling $52,868.

The primary business for this regular meeting was a 2018 proposed AGMS budget. The Board reviewed the 2017 budget, line item revenue and expenses to date. Estimated 2018 revenue is $18,933 (using a conservative Show net revenue of $10,000). Estimated expenses are $22,410 including major expenses of building utilities ($8500) and property/liability insurance ($6200) using 2017 actuals. Electricity use has been reduced after replacing outdoor lights with LEDs, caulking, and training more members on the air conditioning.

(continued on page 4)
Kathleen Howard moved and Gary Collins seconded to approve the 2018 budget as developed through Board discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business
A letter to LCRA regarding rock and mineral collection is still pending Laird’s edits to request a meeting to discuss allowable approaches, e.g. permitting an activity as a sponsored group activity rather than as individuals.

Regarding club patches, it was reported that James Mercier received them.

New Business
Laird cannot attend the Nov 10-12 SCFMS meeting at the Houston Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil show in Humble due to a travel obligation, and alternate representatives were suggested.

The Nominating Committee has updated Laird on the need for at least one more nominee for a Director vacancy. Laird also reported vacancies for volunteer StoneChipper Editor, and the Building, and Field Trip Committees chairs.

Information Items
A deferred discussion item is to consider requiring liability insurance for any outside groups that rent the facility for meetings in accord with current approval process.

The parking lot is in need of resealing in the near future so estimates should be sought.

Cathy Brandt updated the board on Rockhound of the Year and steps she took, including identifying that Chip Burnette is the South Central Federation representative to the AFMS. She recommends outlining a communication flow chart to expedite the process in future years.

Richard Dorsay named a website, www.ganoksin.com which has detailed information about lapidary safety.

Craig reported analysis of auction net proceeds from Saturday versus post-meeting Thursday evening auctions and found no differences attributed to timing. He also reported that the domain name (austingemandmineral.org) registration was renewed for three years. The new site (agms-tx.org) if not due for renewal until 2018.

Jan Ozias reported that Education Chair, Joyce Hrapsky, shared that she is getting emails directed to “Interest” and “Request” in addition to Classes on the updated website. For now, Gary will redirect the first two to Laird who will route them to the appropriate person for a reply.

There being no more business, Gene made and Craig seconded a motion to adjourn with unanimous agreement.

Recorder, Jan Ozias

Show Committee Minutes -- September 14, 2017

Minutes: The minutes were submitted.

Treasurer: Brian Wetzig provided the treasurer report for August. He did a wire transfer for the show pins. Next deposit for Palmer will be due October 18th. Brian has been trying to pay for the Gem Capers domain but he is having trouble to get through to the company.

Advertising: After discussing all of the options, it was decided to go with some commercials, news and two live shows – Studio 512 and Rachel Ray.

Cashiers: Les will send his copy of instruction for the cash registers to Dee.

Committee Chairs: Some Committee Chairs still need to complete operating procedures and send them to Pauline.

Credit cards: Need to write up instructions on how to use the tablet with the square.

Fluorescent: Alan indicated that we either need to replace the triple bright or get replacement filter and bulb.

(continued on page 6)
HELP WANTED

Looking for an energetic AGMS member to take over the Youth Day Chair. This chair involves the Quest for Knowledge as well as Friday, Youth Day. I have enjoyed this for the past 10+ years but need to pass this on. I thought it would be nice to be able to train someone this year instead of dumping this on show committee next year.

Duties include: to verify the Quest; pre-register students starting Sept 1st; create Quest maps and set out maps at show; set up Friday Youth Day table; distribute Quest flags; greet students and teachers; take down Friday Youth Day table, and a few other little things.

Time commitment at the show on Friday, from open to about 2pm. Thursday set up takes about an hour. Tear down on Friday afternoon, about 20 minutes.

Please contact Susan @ TexasAgate@ gmail.com or visit with me at a meeting.

Your Very Own Soapbox

Here’s your chance to be heard. And you can even submit your suggestions anonymously. The format and even content of the StoneChipper are getting a little stale. If you have any thoughts for making it better, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Do you have an article you have written or would like to write about rocks or minerals? Better yet, would you like to have the chance to be heard on a monthly basis, via a regular column? Or maybe you have a poem or a photo or drawing, or a funny story you’d like to share. I’m even thinking it doesn’t have to be about mineral matters or rock hunting specifically. It can be about creating or adventuring or a special club member or other person you admire and we should all know about—we’d love to hear from you!

You can put your ideas/articles in the StoneChipper mail bin or email me at stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org

Stone Chipper Advertising

The Stone Chipper can now accept non-political AGMS Board-approved paid advertising. If you are interested in placing an ad or have questions about the process, please contact Stone Chipper editor Carolyn Perkins at stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org.

You can choose from a variety of sizes for your print-ready ad:
- Full Page (7" x 8") ($100 per issue)
- Half Page (7" x 4") ($50 per issue)
- Quarter Page (3 1/2" x 4") ($25 p.i.)
- Business Card (3 1/4 x 2") ($12.50 p.i.)

There is no extra charge for full color, but mail out copies will be black and white only.

Steps to take to enroll in AGMS classes

Classes are open to AGMS members whose memberships are current. The fees are minimal.

1. The first step is to sign up on a waiting list. The notebook is at the front desk during general meetings.
2. If unable to attend a general meeting, you can be added to a waiting list via email to classes@austingemandmineral.org.
3. Write your name and email address in the book CLEARLY. Include your phone number, but more class information and notices are sent to your email address. Phone calls are only in emergencies, i.e., last minute changes, etc.
4. There is not a set schedule for classes. Classes are scheduled when an instructor is available and there are several people on the waiting list.
5. If an instructor is available on certain dates but there are not enough people for a particular class, a notice is posted on the Yahoo List and added to the calendar on the club’s website.

The club depends on its members to teach classes, so we’re always looking for volunteers. If you or someone you know has a special talent and would be willing to teach a class, please email classes@austingemandmineral.org for more information.

Joyce Hrapsky
New the light is $1,200.00 or replacements are a package of 2 filters - $199.25 and the bulb is $588.00 for a total of $787.25. James made a motion to buy a new light, Susan seconded and motion passed.

**Nature’s Treasure:** Ludie will talk to Karen about their truck and loading.

**Postcards:** Dee gave invoices to Brian paying for the two type of postcards.

**Show Pins:** Should have the pins in by the club meeting. They will be for sale for $3.00.

**T-Shirts:** We will not sell the yellow volunteer shirts.

**Yard Signs:** Don’t need to go out until 4:00 on Friday and taken down around 3:00 on Sunday.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43.

*Minutes by Dee Fly*

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**5600 Miles**

**Driving & Silver-Picking**

Text & Photos by Laird Fowler

Many rock hounds are winding up their summer trips. Others are preparing their fall and/or winter trips. For August, I really didn’t have any rockhounding planned. Maybe I would silver-pick (purchase) some specimens from a few shops. Then Life knocked on the door and opportunities opened.

On August 10th, my brother was moving his daughter in San Antonio to Madison, Wisconsin. She snagged a good job opportunity so he rented a trailer to move her things. He decided to drive straight through, spend a couple of nights in Madison then drive straight back non-stop. I volunteered to help drive. So with the trailer packed, my brother Joe, my niece Bridget, her Border Collie Dexter and I loaded into the borrowed truck to begin our trek. Envision a modern version of the Beverly Hillbillies on their moving day.

Fortunately, the trip was uneventful. Frustrating at times as we passed a few signs enticing me to visit some Illinois and Missouri mine tours. We arrived in Madison as expected, unloaded, and helped her set up her apartment. Meanwhile I learned that Austin is Madison’s ‘Sister City’. Both are their state’s capitol, home to their state’s university, hosts numerous artistic and musical events as well as a center of ‘weird’. Exercise is a central component of the town with hills and lakes in and around the town.

Upon closer review I discovered a ROCK SHOP! There are two shops but have the same name: Burnies Rock Shop. One located on a South Congress-like street and one nearer the University of Wisconsin. The SoCo street shop was like an old concept shop: slabs,

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**Ron Guzman**, co-owner, with his wife, Jennifer Clayton, of Fluorescence Minerals and former AGMS member, always showed up at swap meets with new loads of Mexican minerals and a charming smile. Ron passed away in September following surgery. Our love and prayers go out to Jennifer and the rest of his family.

*You will be missed, Ron.*
rough, findings, minerals, books, crystals, etc. They also taught classes. The other shop is more like Nature's Treasures' concept of a holistic presentation. I purchased items from both shops. I picked up a nice metallic black, barrel-like Hematite crystal, a couple of slabs, a hedgehog carved from multi-colored sandstone, a Scheelite that fluoresces a nice white-blue and an inch and a half Fadden Quartz. Not a bad silver-pick trip when I wasn't expecting to find anything on the trip. Joe and I returned on the 14th; 2400 miles round trip.

My next travel was our annual August trip to Mesa, Arizona. Paula (my lovely wife) attends a stitching seminar. She attends the seminar, I play golf, search out rock shops and collecting sites. This year we decided to leave on the 22nd and visit Lubbock. Texas Tech University professor YA Yates sells parts of his collection at an antique mall. Over ten years I have been able to silver pick nice pieces from around the world including Antarctica. This year I discover that the professor had passed away in the spring. Before passing, he sold his collection at his home and at the mall. Alas, another site has faded away.

Traveling west toward Mesa, I decided to stop at the Bingham Rock Shop (New Mexico). I am in the hunt for a nice single, classic light blue Fluorite crystal. The shop was closed for the day. As Charlie Brown would say: AAAAAHHHH! So onward to Mesa with no shops between Bingham and Mesa. We arrived at Mesa without any issues. The next day Paula and a few of her stitching friends asked for a ride to an antique mall. We loaded up and went to the Brass Monkey Antique Mall in Tempe. More of a consignment store instead a mom and pop store. Hundreds of booths and cases; yet lo and behold, three cases had rocks and minerals. Most specimens were common and no interest to me but I did silver pick a ping pong ball size Creedite with Fluorite. The specimen had one nice 5 mm transparent, light blue Fluorite octahedron nestled in the orange-clear Creedite cluster.

The next day I visited the TRC Gallery Rock Shop I had found last year. The owners’ business is primarily an on-line store. Everywhere you look are plastic shoeboxes. Each box represents on-line orders. The shop also contains numerous specimens on display and for sale. The star of the shop is a very nice spread of Tennessee’s Elmwood Mine’s specimens. Back in the garage area sits several buckets of slabs. A few times a year they host an event like our April rock swap. They invite their local customers and prospectors to offer their specimens, jewelry, slabs and rough. But, alas not this weekend. I did however, silver pick a couple of slabs, a stepped, Fluorite octahedron (TN) from the Hardy Mine in Arizona and a fist sized plate of light yellow Fluorite cubes. The cubes fluoresce whiter than blue. Overall, this shop operates on an interesting business model.

With the seminar concluded we head north for Las Vegas. Let's just say the stay was nice, the shows were very good but that's about it. So off to Leadville, Colorado traveling through magnificent scenery of the Redlands. After checking into our motel, we planned our itinerary. After a great breakfast a local café, we visited the National Museum of Mining. Very interesting museum with very nice specimens, informative educational rooms and exhibits plus an enjoyable walk through a life-like mine exhibit. Alas, the gift shop was closed.

We returned to Leadville's main street found the Rock Hut. This rock shop is certainly one of the years-past type of shops: hundreds of
mineral and fossil specimens, rough material, numerous books, a wide range of rock hunting tools. Of special interest was seven racks of thumbnail sized specimens. Most of the specimens were from Colorado. I picked two specimens from the Patch Mine: Quartz & Pyrite. The Patch Mine is reportedly the location where gold was first mined in Colorado. I highly recommend stopping and visiting this shop if you are near Leadville.

We then visited the antiques mall. I found a few mining related equipment and specimens but nothing of any interest. Next, we rode the Leadville train. This recreational themed train takes visitors on a two and half hour high into mountains aligning the Arkansas River valley. There were many splendid views and the conductor was quite entertaining in his narrating. Our next stop was the Tennessee Pass Café where we had good food and live music.

Thus, ended our first day. Unfortunately, it was our last day. I became afflicted with the 'high altitude' illness. We decided to leave early and get to lower elevations instead of the 10,200-ft. elevation of Leadville. We returned home Labor Day, thoroughly enjoyed our trip. Disappointed in some of our stops but delighted with our new discoveries and beautiful scenery. A day or so later I sat down and calculated that from August 10th to Labor Day, I had driven and ridden over 5600 miles. Yes, long days and miles but given the same circumstances I would do it all again. However, I would plan for the Illinois and Missouri mine tours, find shops open and maybe pan a little gold in them dar hills.

Hunts & Events

Annual Shows:

October 14-15
Temple, Tri-City G&MS, Frank W. Mayborn Civic & Convention Center

October 14-15
Fort Worth, Cowtown CMGC, Corporate Employees Recreation Assoc., 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd.

October 20-22
Austin, Austin G&MS, Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.

November 4-5
Round Rock, Paleontological Soc. of Austin, Old Settlers Heritage Assoc., 3300 Palm Valley Blvd.

November 4-5
Odessa, Midland G&MS, Ector Co. Coliseum

November 4-5
Amarillo, Golden Spread G&MS, Amarillo Civic Ctr.

November 10-12
Humble, Houston G&MS, Humble Civic Center,

January 21-22
Fredericksburg, Fredericksburg Rockhounds, Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird Johnson Pk.

January 28, 2018
Tyler, East Texas G&MS, Tyler Rose Garden Ctr.

Courtesy of SCFMS Newsletter
October Meeting Speaker

Mark you calendars! We will have a meeting on the fourth Thursday (Oct. 26) this month, the week following the show. Julie Hemmings’ talk will be on “Raising Science Awareness with the General Public.” Thanks, Kathleen, for providing us with so many great speakers!

Alpine Rockhunts Galore!

Gene Healy’s recent AGMS List post included a complete list of fall hunts with details Teri Smith has announced for Alpine area ranches: South Laremore, Stillwell, Singleton, and Walker. These hunts will be held beginning Friday, October 13. The last hunt is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8.

South Laremore hunts will be held Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 10/13-15, and on Wednesday, Oct. 25. The cost is $50/day.

Stillwell hunt will be on Monday, 10/16. The cost is 50 cents per pound of rocks you keep.

Singleton Ranch hunts will be held Saturday, through Tuesday, 10/21-24; Thursday through Sunday 10/26-29; and Friday through Sunday, 11/3-5. The Cost is $50 per day.

Walker Ranch hunts will be held Monday & Tuesday, 10/30-31 and Monday through Wednesday, 11/6-8. The cost is $75 per day.

All trips start at 8:00 a.m. at the Antelope Lodge, 2310 W. Hwy. 90 in Alpine. (To reserve a room there, call (800) 880-8106 or register online at www.antelopelodge.com) At least one of your group members must have a Rollin’ Rock Club membership ($10 for single, $16 for dual), purchaseable at the time of the trip. Payment for the trip is due until the morning of the trip. Singleton Ranch accepts only cash. Laremore and Walker accept cash or checks. Stillwell even accepts credit cards. To reserve a place on a trip, email Teri Smith at agatehunter@sbcglobal.net

Angie Steelman—
StoneChipper Editor, 2018 and Beyond

I am pleased to announce that Angie Steelman has volunteered to become the next StoneChipper editor.

Angie’s editorial proclivities became apparent back in her high school newspaper days. She says (& this is the official way to determine if you have a staunch inner editor.) “To this day I find it difficult to read something without picking up a red pen and making edits.” We knew Angie was smart, but now we also know she has the editing gene.

The Steelmans, Angie, Scott, and Mary, are the kind of folk who join a club and become active members right away. They have volunteered for Gem Capers and other tasks and are currently managing the Hospitality role so well that we have forgotten how difficult it can be to keep the food conveyor belt running consistently.

Angie said one reason she considered taking on this position was that her 3-year term as secretary for the Austin Amateur Radio Club is coming to a close. (She (KF5ZXI), Scott (KF5ZRZ), and Mary (KG5EXJ) are all three extra-class hams). She has enjoyed being a member of AGMS and has been searching for a way to expand her contribution to the club. Wow!

The Steelmans, Angie with a background in chemistry and Scott with a background in chemical engineering, became members of AGMS “as a way of exploring and sharing our interests in the earth sciences as well as providing an additional resource for homeschooling Mary.” They have proceeded to become mineral collectors, through field trips as well as purchasing, and have even learned cabbage. Angie says she was hooked as soon as she made her first cab. It’s obviously a perfect fit. We are very happy that Angie is poised to become our new StoneChipper Editor!

Carolyn Perkins
Club Website/Facebook:

Show information posted: Yes
Meeting Information posted: Yes
Workshop Information posted: Yes
Meeting notices posted in public places: Yes

Where: Information is in the Stone Chipper, website and monthly calendar. All of these are available to the public.

Meeting notices published in local media: ___

Show fliers posted in public places: Yes
Where: Local stores, libraries and businesses

Show information posted in local media: Yes
Where: Austin Chronicle- Event Calendar
Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau
Austin Family Magazine
Austin Monthly Magazine
Chronicle Newspaper

Free or paid ads on TV/radio/Web: Meeting notices: Yes    Show : Yes
To: agmslist@yahoogroups.com;
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 1:29 PM

This is a reminder that our next AGMS meeting will be on Thursday Nov. 16. Day after tomorrow.

Speaker: Jeff Paine
Title of talk: Rapid Response on the Texas Coast, Acquiring Post-Harvey Lidar and Imaging to Assess Storm Damage and Impact and Monitor Recovery; Tropical Cyclone Harvey.

The speaker will be meeting me at Waterloo about 5pm. Please join us.

Kathleen

Posted by: <clitzbomb2@twc.com>

Reply via web post * Reply to sender * Reply to group * Start a New Topic * Messages in this topic (9)

Have you tried the highest rated email app?
With 4.5 stars in iTunes, the Yahoo Mail app is the highest rated email app on the market. What are you waiting for? Now you can access all your inboxes (Gmail, Outlook, AOL and more) in one place. Never delete an email again with 1000GB of free cloud storage.
Show Flyers, Postcard and Ad

Gem Capers – Oct. 20th, 21st and 22nd, 2017

Elbaite on Smokey Quartz

www.GemCapers.com
Photo – James Elliot

2017 GEM CAPERS
Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show
OCTOBER 20, 21 & 22 2017

Come check out our show!
We have something for everyone!

• Gem Mine • Wheel of Fortune • Jewelry Making
Fluorescent Mineral Display • Clean a Fossil • Touch Table

Over 30 vendors selling gemstones, jewelry, beads,
mineral specimens, fossils, crystals and lapidary equipment

FREE Exhibits and Demonstrations
FREE Quest for knowledge for kids of all ages
Friday Youth Day Sponsored by Silicon Labs
Kids under 12 FREE!

Visit GemCapers.com
HOURLY DOOR PRIZES — GRAND PRIZE EVERYDAY!
Minerals Word Search

The following puzzle has been supplied for the Gem Capers Show to provide stimulus for the kids. You can find the names hidden in the puzzle either diagonally, horizontally, vertically, or backwards. Good luck!

E Z R M A A E D E Y A T L H D E V L S
F T Q E Q R A T L F U J E A Y O T I K Q
K P I U T E A F I R K T N R D L I F H X
F Y X T H A R G I C I B O D R O R D F H
A N Y L E W C O S L S I E O M U O X N
Y N I S T A H T O N A A A H Z I Z E C M
M A K T T A B R E S I E C O I T A T J H
N V U E L R H O I E I T E N E B I Y T
S B I C R C O T C C W R E E C E Y N I O
Z I I K O I E N K O N S P L I M U E N O
J T A D Y F T M T P R V A A T T U R G T
E V O M A G N E S I T E M C E B W S E G
R H O M B O H E D R A L A S Z I R O R O
R E T I H C A L A M B N F H T Z Q H U D
E T I N O S H T I M S M I H P M W S C G
S I D E R I T E A I K K E T G S D N S U
D O O W M L E F K R P R F F E U X S I U
H F R I K N T J Y O I J W T G D D D D T O
U O C N W T S L A T Y H J N T E A X E X
F R W L I K R D E G U I D S K N S U B K

Rocky Show Pins are available for purchase at the AGMS Club booth for only $3.00. For information about AGMS Junior Activities visit our website at http://agms-ns.org/

Juniors Resource Guide

October 20-22, 2017

This year's theme: Geodes

Walking through a cave is as close as you can come to being inside a geode. Jenolan Cave—Blue Mountains of New South Wales, Australia

Sponsored by

USA
OSBORN
COMPRESSION
SILICON LABS

Solve the puzzle and Do the Maze!

Double Puzzle

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<tr>
<td>DOME-BISBYON</td>
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<td>MUSCULAC</td>
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<td>NGOOGOTT</td>
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Unscramble each of the four words. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

Clues

20
40.08
1.32
1.08

Pearl
Emerald
Sapphire
Peridot
Ruby
Aquamarine
Amethyst
Opal
Garnet
Tourmaline

Draw a line from the picture to its mineral name
Ad’s placed in the following periodicals

A.F.M.S. Newsletter
Carolyn Weinberger, Editor
P.O. Box 302
Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
editor@amfed.org

Austin Chronicle - Event Calendar
PO Box 49066
Austin, TX 78765
http://www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/EventSubmission

Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau
301 Congress Ave, Ste 200
Austin, TX 78701
http://www.austintexas.org/now_playing/event_submission

Austin Family Magazine - Event Calendar
PO 7559
Round Rock, TX 78683-7559
http://www.austinfamily.com/index.php

Austin Monthly Magazine
11612 Bee Caves Rd Ste 2-125
Austin, TX 78738
events@austinmonthly.com

Bead & Button
21027 Crossroads Circle
Waukesha, WI 53187
http://bnb.jewelrymakingmagazines.com/events.aspx?page=1

MotorHome Magazine Events, General
2575 Vista Del Mar
Ventura, CA 93001
http://www.motorhomemagazine.com

Mineral News
PO Box 2088
Peekskill, NY 10566-2088
www.mineralnews.com
Mitchell Portnoy, Editor
46 W 63 St #2E
NY, NY 10024
mitchpnych@aol.com

Prehistoric Times Magazine
Michael Fredericks, Editor

145 Bayline Cir
Folsom, CA 95630-8077
pretimes@comcast.net

Rock & Gem Magazine Calendar and web site
290 Maple Court, Ste 232
Ventura, CA 93003-3517
http://www.rockngem.com/showdata-submissions/

Rocks & Minerals - Coming Events
Marie E. Huizing - Editorial Office
5341 Thrasher Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45247
advertisingmaterials@taylorandfrancis.com

Rollin’ Rock Club Newsletter
2835 Grandview Dr.
Grand Prairie, TX 75052-8518
https://sites.google.com/site/rollinrockclub/
jmarkm@flash.net

S.C.F.M.S. Newsletter
Susan Burch, Editor
20427 US Hwy 69
S. Alto, TX 75925
scfmseditor@yahoo.com

Southern Living
P.O. Box 92375
Tampa, FL 33662

Southwest Airlines Spirit Magazine - Event Calendar
Pace Communications, Inc.
2811 McKinney Ave, Suite 350
Dallas, TX 75204

Texas Co-op Power
https://www.texascooppower.com/events/submit

Texas Country Reporter
Events Calendar
P.O. Box 565246
Dallas, TX 75356-5246
www.texascountryreporter.com

Texas Highways - Texas Events Calendar
Box 141009
Austin, TX 78714-1009
On Thursday, August 10, 2017 4:35 PM, sludie123 <sludie123@gmail.com> wrote:

KEYE-

We Are Austin Lifestyle News Program (to air on a M-F on our date of choice)- $650
Instagram campaign- starts at $1500 and is "per click"
Countdown clock on their website (projected 75,000 people to see it)- $750
Home page takeover (everyone who goes to keytv.com sees the KEYE site "wrapped" in Gem Capers info and images for a day or two before the show)- $750
Email blast that reaches 25,000 people- $950

KXAN-
Studio 512 Lifestyle News Program (to air on a M-F on our date of choice)- $750
Facebook Campaign- starts at $1250 and is "per click"
I recommend we do one or both Lifestyle News Programs.

I also recommend we do the Instagram Campaign again- it's hard to do the same thing by self-promoting on Instagram, and the campaign last year was very successful.
Instagram ads work like this- our chosen image scrolls into an unlimited number of targeted user's feeds (we even put a small amount of text on the photo, for example, Austin Gem Show, Palmer Event Center, October 20-22). We don't get charged for number of people who see it, we get charged for number of people who click it.
The rate is high, like $6 per click, but that's because so many people can see it without clicking. We can set a cap per day, so if we want to spend $1500 and we run it for 2 weeks- let's say 15 days- we have $100/day. After 16.6 people click on the image, it stops going in feeds for the day.

KEYE called the campaign very successful because we capped out pretty early each day- around afternoon or so, it would turn off because that many people were interested.
I was concerned about accidental clicks but they can track that too- based on how quickly someone "x's" out of something, Instagram can tell if they didn't mean to click it.
Our accidental rate was really low.

For Facebook, I recommend I personally doing it instead of KXAN. I don't want to devalue what they did- when they run the campaign, it promotes our Facebook from their Facebook and their other digital sources, AND it goes to a targeted selection of people (we went for people who showed interest in geology, jewelry, crafts, DIY hobbies, new age/spiritualism, holistic lifestyle, etc). Also, by KXAN running the campaign, it requires no effort from us and only enhances what we also do...
However, last year, I "boosted" my existing posts (which only goes to "people in the area", not targeted demographic categories) and I think it worked really well.
It does cost money, and I'm requesting a budget of $150-$300 for it. Here's how I boosted last year- I posted a ton of stuff anyway, mainly images I requested from the dealers of what they were bringing.
Then, after I saw how well each post did, I selected the ones that were getting the most natural interest and "boosted" them by paying $10-20 to go to people's feeds who didn't already have a ny contact with an AGMS "liker". I think that's important for finding new people, which enhances all of the diligent reposting our members are doing to their networks.

As for countdown clocks, homepage takeovers, email blasts, I don't have strong feelings on any of that. We did a countdown clock last year and I do think it went well.
I just wanted to take the opportunity to say a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all who spent hours making our event this year a great success!

I was on a pretty steep learning curve but each of you made it possible!

It was really an honor to work with such a great group of folks...again Thank You!

~ Ludie Toles

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Posted by: D Covill <gemcapersshowchair@yahoo.com>

Have you tried the highest rated email app?
With 4.5 stars in iTunes, the Yahoo Mail app is the highest rated email app on the market. What are you waiting for? Now you can access all your inboxes (Gmail, Outlook, AOL and more) in one place. Never delete an email again with 1000GB of free cloud storage.
Section 4
Support for Regional Federations, AFMS and other Clubs

Members serving in Federation
Support for Federation Shows
Scholarships
Support for other Club Shows
Scribe Information
SECTION 4- SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL FEDERATIONS, AFMS AND OTHER CLUBS

Members served in Federation as Officer, Committee Chairs or committee members:

Regional Federation ___

AFMS: YES  Ron Carman- President, American Federation
Uniform Rules Committee
Scholarship Foundation
Nominating Committee

Member attended a Federation convention or show:

Regional Federation:  YES- 5

Josie represented AGMS at the South Central Federation Meeting in Houston-4 other members attended the show.
As President of AFMS and member of AGMS Ron Carman attended the shows.

Members supported Federation scholarships or endowment funds:

AFMS: Scholarship fund: ___  Endowment fund:  YES

Members gave programs to other clubs:  YES

Ron Carman presented program entitled “Exhibiting” to Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society

Members attended other club shows, swaps, etc:  YES
THE 57TH ANNUAL
WACO GEM & MINERAL SHOW

EXTRACO EVENTS CENTER
CREATIVE ARTS BUILDING
4601 Bosque Blvd. WACO, TX

SATURDAY APRIL 29, 9:00 – 6:00
SUNDAY APRIL 30, 10:00 – 5:00

CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES
AGATES
DEMONSTRATIONS
GEMSTONES
DOOR PRIZES
FOSSILS
JEWELRY
RARE MINERALS

ADMISSION: $5.00 / AGES 6 - 12: $1.00
SCOUTS IN UNIFORM GET IN FREE
South Central Federation of Mineral Societies
Minutes of the 73rd Annual Meeting
November 11, 2017
Humble, Texas

The 73rd Annual Meeting of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies was held on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at the Humble Civic Center, Humble, Texas. It was hosted by the Houston Gem and Mineral Society. SCFMS President, Walter Beneze, called the meeting to order promptly at 1:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ellen Sturdevant of Southwest Gem and Mineral Society, followed by the invocation given by Ruth Rolston of Tri-City Gem and Mineral Society. Ron Carman was appointed the meeting Parliamentarian.

Host Club Greeting
Paul Brandes, President of the Houston Gem and Mineral Society welcomed us to Houston, the show and the meeting.

Shiara Trumble called the roll of clubs and there were seventeen (17) clubs represented. A quorum was called by Ron Carman, Parliamentarian. Shiara requested that any club delegates who had not turned in a delegate form signed by their president take one back to their club and get it signed and returned to her as soon as possible.

Clubs present:
- Arlington Gem & Mineral Club
- Austin Gem & Mineral Society
- Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society
- Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society
- Dallas Gem & Mineral Society
- DeRidder Gem & Mineral Society
- East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
- Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club
- Fredericksburg Rockhounds
- Geological Society of San Antonio
- Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society
- Houston Gem & Mineral Society
- Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society
- Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society
- Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas
- Rollin’ Rock Club
- Southwest Gem & Mineral Society
- Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society
- Williamson County Gem & Mineral Club

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of 2016 SCFMS Meeting: Shiara Trumble stated that the minutes of the 2016 meeting were included in the convention packet. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Roger Burford and seconded by Chip Burnett. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Don Shurtz - Report is included in the packet. Don updated the report for income, expenditures, and bank account balance through the end of the current fiscal year and noted that no funds from the Endowment Fund would be required for the 2017 fiscal year. Wayne Sturdevant moved to accept the treasurers report and was seconded by Roger Burford. Motion carried.

Continued on Page 9
Members held joint field trips with other clubs: **YES**

Members displayed/demonstrated at other shows: **YES**

Junior member, Mary, shared her dinosaur outfit at Fossil Fest

Craig demonstrated cabbing at Fossil Fest

James Mercier demonstrated Angle Grinder at the Tulsa Gem and Mineral Show
**Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society**

**Gem - Mineral & Jewelry Show**

*Gems  Fossils  Minerals  Rocks*

*July 8 - 9, 2017*

Tulsa Expo Square - Exchange Center  
21st and Yale

Saturday 9 am - 6 pm  
Sunday 10 am - 5 pm

www.tulsarockandmineralsociety.org

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### 2017 Working Demonstrations

- **Paulino Allande**  
  - Angle Grinder  
  - Miniature Spheres  
  - Wire Jewelry, Bentonville, AR  
  - Wire Jewelry, OMGS  
  - Wire Trees  
  - Work Amber  
  - Genie & Saw  
  - Wire Jewelry  
  - Stone Rosarys  
  - Knapper  
  - Wire Jewelry, OMGS  
  - Angle Grinder  
  - Angle Grinder, Austin, TX  
  - Metal Work, OMGS  
  - Demonstrations Supervisor  
  - Flint Knapper  
  - Faceting  
  - Trim Saw  
  - B & I Cab Machine  
  - Spheres

- **Christopher Bicket**  
- **DeLane Cox**  
- **Teresa Gabrish**  
- **Lilik Hakola**  
- **Diana Hartzmann**  
- **Bob Hicks**  
- **Nancy Hicks**  
- **Trinite Hurd**  
- **Steve Loffer**  
- **John Luna**  
- **Billy McBay**  
- **James Mercer**  
- **Dale Moore**  
- **Wayne Mouser**  
- **Leon Reeder**  
- **Steve Richards**  
- **Ken Siler**  
- **Mark Siler**  
- **Ben Thomas**  
- **Oklahoma Bead Society**

### 2017 Exhibits

#### Competitive

- **Paulino Allande**  
- **Ian Kirk**  
- **Steve Loffer**  
- **Kimberly Perry**  
- **Larry Wagle**  
- **Richard Jaeger**  
- **Donna Loffer**  
- **Emily Perry**  
- **Leon Reeder**  
- **Roberta Wagle**

**Judges:**

- Jay Bowman, Ponca City, OK  
- Ron Carman, San Marcos, TX  
- Paul Otto, Buena Vista, AR  
- Lee Whiteby, Ponca City, OK

#### Educational

- **Roxanna Chamberlin**  
- **Harvey Shell**  
- **Paulino Allande**  
- **Trinite Hurd**  
- **Linda Jaeger**  
- **Paul Otto**  
- **Fluorescent Room**  
- Wayne Mouser  
- Julia Allande  
- Lana Riggs  
- Diana Hartzmann  
- Billie McBay  
- D. W. Correll Museum  
- Oral Roberts University Elsing Museum  
- Roger & Becky Bush

---
Club exchanged bulletins with other clubs: YES

List of Newsletters-

Chips and Chatter, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Society
The Red Stick Rockhound News, Baton Rouge Gem and Mineral Society
The Hounds Tale, Arlington Gem and Mineral Society
The Informer, Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society
Rock ’n’ Rose Newsletter

**BONUS:** Editor is a member of Scribe- YES

**Bonus – members performed at judges**

Ron Carman judged exhibits at the following shows:

- Rocky Mountain Federation Show
- Northwest Federation Show
- Eastern Federation Show/Tulsa Gem and Mineral
- American Federation Mineral Society in California

Wing Evans judged the Masters Faceting Competition for USFG

Craig Brandt, Bob Greenway, Josie Middleton and Diann Hill helped with recording for the Masters Faceting Competition.
Section 5

Community Relations

Talked to local schools/group
Had displays in local sites
Booth at local event
Donated materials
Active in local affairs
Section 5- Community Relations

Members gave talks or demonstrations at local schools: Yes

School Visits
Forest Creek Elementary, Round Rock, Texas

Craig demonstrates faceting to 5th graders.

First graders enjoy fluorescent minerals.
Round Rock Home School

High school students enjoy gems and minerals.
Members gave talks or demonstrations to local groups:

Alan and Paul’s journal presented to the Fluorescent Mineral Society

Members maintained displays at local public sites: ___

Members maintained a booth at local event: YES

Fossil Fest 2017

Visitors enjoyed cabbing, dinosaur rub and show brochures.
Rock Fest

Our Wheel of Fortune was well used at Rock Fest Austin held at Nature’s Treasures.

Members donated materials to school, college, scouts, etc: Yes

Materials handed out during school demonstrations
Nature’s Treasure is having their RockFest Saturday as well. If you can help with the Wheel of Fortune and recruit new members it would help AGMS and our good partner Nature’s Treasures.

~Laird
Dear Carolyn Perkins,
AUSTIN GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY
SCFMS Member:

The Paleontological Society of Austin cordially invites you and your club membership to attend the 27th Annual Fossil Fest held Saturday & Sunday, November 4 & 5, 2017 from 9 am to 5 pm at Old Settlers Association, 3300 Palm Valley Blvd., in Round Rock, TX (intersection of Hwy. 79 & Harrell Pkwy, next to the Dell Diamond). Our show theme, What's in Your Backyard? Dinosaurs! seeks to explore and answer that question by focusing on the geologic history of Texas as told by the rock layers beneath our feet and the fossils they contain.

Activities include:
- Show Spotlight: Dinosaurs!
- Guest Speaker: "Fossils Talk - Hear their Stories"
- Fossil Identifications
- Opportunity to interact one on one with a UT scientist, science educators and knowledgeable PSOA members - hands-on learning & demos and questions & answers
- "Paleo Passport" educational quest to fully explore displays, exhibits and activities
- Hands-on Fossil Touch Table and Microscope
- Educational Exhibits: See what amateur fossil collectors in Texas find
- Start your own fossil collection at the Wheel of Fossils and Fossil Dig Pit
- Fossils / Minerals / Jewelry / Books / Unique Gifts / Toys
- Hourly and Grand Door Prizes

Admission is $3.00 for adults, $2.00 for students and children 5 and under are free. Tickets may be purchased at the Door on the day of the event.

On premise snack bar serving a variety of breakfast items and lunch along with pizza, snacks and beverages. Prices range from $.50 to $5.00.

We would be grateful if you would please forward this announcement to your membership and add to your club’s calendar.

Thank you very much for your support. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Nature's Treasures
4103 North IH-35 Austin, TX 78722 | 512.472.5015
(Northbound Frontage Road between 38 1/2 St & Airport Blvd)

Nature's Treasures
12th Annual Denver Truck Show
October 13-16

FOUR DAYS ONLY!
OCTOBER 13th through 16th

BEST FINDS
New Lg Selection of Crystal Balls to Choose from
New Purple Grape Chalcedony Jewelry

NTrocks.com | CrystalsByNature.com
Members active in local affairs: Yes

Radio Club of Williamson County (Angie is an AGMS member)

2017 Officers
President James Hollan KG5SGR president austinhams.org
Vice President Lew Thompson W5IFQ vice-president austinhams.org
Treasurer Jay Hoffman KA5OST treasurer austinhams.org
Secretary Angie Steelman KF5ZXI secretary austinhams.org

Editor, AARCOVER, website Michael Skurka K5MSK editor austinhams.org
Technical (Repeater Contact) Roy Walker WA5YXD wa5yxd arrl.net ARRL Travis Co.
Emer. Coord. Kerby Spruiell KG5DLD ec austinhams.org
TC ARES PIO Steven Polunsky W5SMP tcares-pio gmail.net

Texas Faceters Guild

Wing, Craig, Cathy and Diane attend a Facetor’s Guild meeting. In addition to being a member of AGMS Wing has won the Australian Faceting Competition an unprecedented three times. He’s, also, a member of the Austin German and Exchange Club.

Senior Activity Groups- Both Jackie and Cathy are active in their local senior clubs- the Merry Mixers, BACA Center, Bastrop Seniors, especially enjoying the Quilting Club and Garden Club.

Cathy volunteers weekly at the Round Rock Public Library. She works at the children’s desk helping to select books and assisting in research. Every year the library invites all volunteers to the Holiday Party. (Invitation below).

Craig has been a member of the Austin Paleontology Society since 1992. Every year the dealer dinner for Fossil Fest is held at his house where he cooks a full BBQ dinner (Member newsletter listed below).
Good afternoon,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment to the library.

Attached is the invitation to the Library's Holiday Potluck. We hope that you can attend.

Wishing you all the best this holiday season,

Virginia Hadley,
RRPL Volunteer Coordinator

Your satisfaction with communications from City of Round Rock is important to us. If you would like to review or change your message preferences with us, please visit our message preferences page by clicking this link:
https://www.volistics.com/ex/syst.dll?ACT=30&KEY=112726&PW=10222830&PN=858466

From: Paleontological Society of Austin [mailto:Paleontological_Society_of_Austi@mail.vresp.com]
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2017 9:18 AM
To: brandtcraig@att.net
Subject: PSoa: Monthly Newsletter is Available!

Hi Craig,

The November 2017 Newsletter has arrived.

You can download it at:
http://www.austinpaleo.org/newsletter.html

Thank you for saving the club money by getting the newsletter in email form!

Membership information:
Type: Family
Renewed: 01/17/17

- If your membership type is other than "Family," "Individual" or "Associate" then ignore the Renewed date.

- If your membership type is "Info" then you signed up at our website and will only get these notices for the next three months unless you become an official paying member
Members of AGMS are also involved with:

Audubon Society
German Club of Austin
Local Choirs
Exchange Club
Section 6
Government Agency
And Legislative Relations

Served on governmental agency committees
Commented on government proposals
Contacted congressional representatives

Section 7
Overall Format
And Presentation
Section 6- Government Agency and Legislative Relations

Members served on governmental agency committees: ___

Members commented on government agency proposals: Yes
   
   Article in newsletter concerning Senior Pass
   
   Stand Up for Science March e-mail

Members contacted congressional representatives regarding legislation affecting access and collecting sites: ___

Members supported access-collecting lobbying organizations like ALAA: ___
Senior Pass Change!

I recently received the following email from Betty Cain, S.C.R.I.B.E Treasurer and Rocky Mountain Federation Vice President—ed.

Please pass the information on to your Clubs and Societies.....

If you do not have one and are 62 or older this is your last chance to get you Senior Pass for just $10.00. Read why below.

American Lands Access Association - “Happy Rockhounding and Enjoy Your Public Lands”

SENIOR PASS PRICE SKYROCKETING

On Tuesday December 6, 2016, in the lame duck session of Congress, the House passed by unanimous consent a bill (HR 4680) that will eliminate the $10 lifetime Senior Pass (formerly Golden Age Pass) which has been available to citizens and permanent residents age 62 and older since 1966.

In the early hours of Saturday morning December 10, in a nearly empty Senate chamber - most members having already left for the holidays - the Senate approved the House bill by unanimous consent. It was signed by President Obama before he left office.

The lifetime pass will track with the price of the annual America the Beautiful Pass. That price is currently $80 but can be changed at any time by the federal land management agencies, without further legislation.

For those who prefer an installment plan, a new “Senior Annual” pass will also be established at a price of $20, good for one year from the date of purchase. Four consecutive Senior Annual passes can be exchanged for a lifetime pass.

While there have been a multitude of bills introduced (and programs authorized) aimed at giving new groups free or reduced-cost access to the public lands - 4th Graders, military families, those with disabilities, veterans, volunteers - it is difficult to understand why Congress has taken this opportunity to reduce a long-standing benefit to seniors. The $20-$35 million in anticipated additional revenue (depending on whose estimate you choose) will make little dent in the Park Service’s claimed maintenance backlog of $12 BILLION.

All of this was done in the guise of celebrating the centennial of the National Park Service, although why making the Parks more expensive to visit constitutes a “celebration” remains a mystery.

BENEFITS

The benefits of the Senior Pass include entrance to all National Parks and Wildlife Refuges that charge entrance fees, for the pass holder and everyone accompanying them in the same vehicle. Where an NPS unit or a Refuge charges a per-person fee, the pass holder can bring in three companions age 16 or older. (Those under age 16 are free anyway.)

The Senior Pass also covers Standard Amenity Fees at most Forest Service, BLM, Bureau of Reclamation, and Army Corps of Engineers sites. In addition, Senior pass holders are entitled to a 50% discount on campground fees for the site they occupy, including any younger friends and family members who accompany them.

You may have heard of the “grandfather” (and grandmother) in for existing pass holders. So if you have attained the age of 62 and have not yet purchased your lifetime Senior Pass, you should do it IMMEDIATELY. Passes are sold at National Parks, Forest Service, BLM and Bureau of Reclamation offices, National Wildlife Refuges, and Army Corps of Engineers recreation sites. Passes can be purchased online at the USGS Store, but online purchases will incur a $10 service charge in addition to the (for now) $10 price of the pass. 

ACT QUICKLY!

The price increase is going to take effect on August 28, 2017. That's well ahead of the previously announced effective date of October 1. So if you are going to attain age 62 before August 28, don't wait - it will cost you eight times more after that date!

As Elvis would sing “It’s Now or Never”.

Editor Again: When I tried to purchase a pass online there was a message that the volume of response was causing a delay. Also, I believe there is an additional charge for online purchase. Army Corp of Engineers sites sell them and I was able to get one at the entrance gate to Cedar Breaks Park at Lake City/Georgetown fairly quickly.
Hello friends! In this day and age we can no longer sit back when science is under attack. That means we have to act with deeds and not just words. Please stand up for science and take action by either showing up at the Capitol on Tuesday morning or calling TX Lege Committee members.

Thanks for taking action!
Suzanne Gallagher

P.S. Please get the word out and forward to those who care about standing up for science!

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Texas Freedom Network <tfn@tfn.org>
Date: Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 3:16 PM
Subject: We told you so: Attack on science at the TX Legislature

Last week, we celebrated facts at the March for Science, but we warned that your #StandUp4Science advocacy couldn’t end with the march.

We told you so.

House Bill 1485 by state Rep. Valoree Swanson, R-Spring, will be considered by a Texas House committee next week. Plain and simple, HB 1485 would allow creationist arguments and climate science denial into public schools.

Rep. Swanson says the bill is about “academic freedom,” but it really is about protecting academic fraud. It would allow public school teachers to introduce junk science into the classroom on topics like evolution and climate change, and school administrators would be powerless to stop it.

Here’s what you can do:

• Come to the Capitol on Tuesday morning and testify against this attack on science
• If you can’t testify, grab your phone and call committee members to tell them you oppose the bill

Click here for committee member contact information, how to register to testify and talking points on this bill.

We have the momentum on science. Help us keep it going to ensure kids in Texas are being taught sound, accurate science.

Best,

Ryan Valentine
Deputy Director
Addendum: Show promoted on website (also on Calendar and dedicated flyer page)
AGMS Show on Facebook.
Website Calendar Page Showing Club Activity

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The Austin Gem and Mineral Society has had another successful year and we look forward to 2018.

We hope you enjoy our yearbook and the memories that we have collected.