



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

VOLUME 38 APRIL 2012 NUMBER 4

	<p>NEXT MEETING: April 16, 2012 TIME: 7:30 PM LOCATION: CLEAR LAKE PARK BUILDING 5001 NASA ROAD ONE SEABROOK, TEXAS</p>
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The PROGRAM FOR April...

The program will be: Sondee Weiss will talk to us about the history of specimens found during the last three weekend trips to Midlothian.

SHOW and TELL

Share a report of our latest field trip or your own special dig. Bring in your prize specimens and educate us. Bring us your rockhounding finds and let us see how you did.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE		Stoney Statements Spotlight	Fm Program Chair
March Minutes	2	<p>Stoney Statements spotlights Field trips – Weather is warming and its time to dig! Get your hammer and let's travel.</p>	CLGMS workshops are scheduled as follows:
Tips for preparing a display case	2		Saturday, April 21, 2012, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Beginner Beading Workshop
	3		Sunday, June 17, 2012, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Cabochon Workshop
Birthdays/Anniversaries	4		Saturday, October 13, 2012, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Beginning Wire Wrap Workshop
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**** Happiness isn't something you experience; it's something you remember. **** Oscar Levant

Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society Meeting Minutes, March 19, 2012

President Ben Duggar called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no corrections to the February Meeting Minutes.

Committee Reports

Show Update – Much work is needed for the show next year; i.e. information table handouts, tickets, table cloths. Display cases need to be repaired/replaced. Dealer signs need to be repaired. We discussed scheduling a workday for the repairs and purchasing new display cases. The Gem Mine façade also needs repair. Printing for the information table handouts and printing tickets was also discussed. The Swap Table was also discussed. Dealer signs need to be redone; and we need to determine a better way to attach them. Attendance was 1,800 – 1,850 and is considered average. Raising the entrance fee was suggested and discussed. Filming a You Tube video to promote the show was discussed; a 30 second promo. Acquiring more table coverings was requested.

At the show, a gentleman donated a faceting machine to the club and a silver furnace. Ed Tindell reported another donation was made by Amy Mohler of Houston, TX. She presented the club with a rock and specimen collection, including jade, tourmaline, etc. A fossil fish kit was donated and presented to Nancy Duggar, chairperson community service, for use with the club's school donations.

The Rolling Rock Club donated the proceeds of their auction to the club's scholarships.

There was no Treasurer's Report due to the absence of Treasurer Loyce Pennington.

Community Service – Chairperson Nancy Duggar reported she needs more booklets. Checks and rock kits were distributed to the remaining schools.

Library – Chairperson absent.

Historian – Chairperson David Tjiok reported he has thank you pictures.

Club Publicity – Chairperson Anna Brownfield reported she and Sarah Shelette ordered the supplies for the beading workshop. Al Pennington indicated he will provide the printing of the club pamphlets and membership applications for use at the workshop. Adding the workshops to Meetup.com was discussed.

Field Trips – Chairperson Ed Tindell announced the three upcoming field trips to the TXI Quarry in Midlothian, TX. Texas Rocker field trips were also discussed. In April, Teri Smith will lead a field trip to Walker Ranch, in Alpine, TX.

New Business

CLGMS decals for hard hats, etc. were discussed for club members only. Official CLGMS membership cards with SCFMS insurance policy on back.

Membership – Nothing to report

A ten minute refreshment break was taken and door prizes were awarded.

Audit Committee

Bill Robinette audited the Treasurer's books for year 2011 and the books agree with the bank accounts.

Program - Yosemite Park, the world's most spectacular valley

Yankee Indian hunters discovered the park while rounding up Indians to place them on reservations. The park is a great place for recreation and a pilgrimage for spiritual renewal. It is 1,170 square miles in California. There are two rivers, 429 lakes and five major waterfalls. 100 million ton glaciers sculpted the granite. The sequoias defy change and time. The park is the home for a myriad of wild life; squirrels, raccoons, hawks, deer and more. The first human hunters lived 4,000 years ago. They were the hunters and gatherers. They pounded black oak acorns into mush which was a staple for them. In 1833, a party of trappers led by Joseph Walker came upon the valley. 15 years later, gold was discovered in the Sierra Nevada. The Mariposa Indian War drove the Indians to reservations. In 1855, a magazine publisher, led sightseers and named the valley, Yosemite Valley. Olmsted promoted the idea of Yosemite as a park. Yosemite Falls is the highest in the United States and the second highest in the world. There are 1,400 different types of plants, 80 mammals, and 230 bird species. The 300 foot sequoia does not die of old age. In 1864, Yosemite Valley was preserved for public use and recreation. Logging and mining homesteads continued in the area. John Muehr was Yosemite's greatest protector. He was part naturalist,

part scientist and part spiritualist. He explored Yosemite on foot. He invited Ralph Waldo Emerson to the park. In 1890, Yosemite National Park was created. The U.S. Cavalry came in and managed the park. President Theodore Roosevelt spent time in the park with Muehr.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Brownfield, Secretary

Tips for Preparing a Display Case

SHOWMANSHIP: Good showmanship is the ability of the exhibitor to use the material, lighting arrangement, placing and labeling to create a display which will be educational and will attract and hold the interest of the viewer.

CLEANLINESS: Do not display a dusty or finger-printed specimen or case. Material that cannot be polished should be as clean as possible with the emphasis on the perfection and rarity of the article. This would include fossils, artifacts, and shells, etc. with correct nomenclature and, if rare, a brief historic information to make it more interesting to the layman. Be neat, display with no lint, dust or foreign objects to distract the viewer's observation.

LIGHTING: Good lighting is essential to gem displays. Scenic agate slabs are best viewed with a light behind them. Spotlights are suitable for large spectacular pieces, but in most cases tube lights directly above or inside each case are best. Check for shadows and do not use mirrors.

BACKGROUND: Make your case as inconspicuous as possible, devoting time to risers and background to keep the eye focused on the subject of the display. Riser stands and any form of simulation should be unobtrusive.

1. Use light gray, beige, or pastel material with displays of variety.
2. Use velvet for real fine jewelry.
3. Use dark color material with discretion. It is sometimes suitable if all one color of specimens are being displayed.
4. Do not use satin as it reflects too much light.
5. Do not use patterned material. It distracts from the display.
6. Do not gather, pleat, or ruffle the background material.

Black velvet is perfect for a polished slab of rhodochrosite or a beautiful gem. Black jade would be lost on it. Whites are choice backgrounds for rich color such as carnelian.

Softer tints such as blue are excellent for chalcedony or rose quartz. White would not compliment rutiled quartz, moonstone or mild opal.

A piece of silvery driftwood against a seablue drop to set off a collection of beach agates would be effective. **RISERS:** Styrofoam is suitable for background risers and is useful in creating split levels. All Styrofoam risers should be covered.

ARRANGEMENT. Good arrangement has balance, good proportion, pleasing color harmony, rhythm, design, and suitable background.

Fine gems or specimens scattered hit or miss detract from one another because they make your eyes jump. The eye is trained to read in a straight line or to follow a curved, graceful line. Specimens can be arranged in geometric patterns, curves, ovals, or any pleasing design, so long as they are uncluttered and uncomplicated. *From Owyhee Gem 1/95, via Magic Valley Gem News, 3/12*

An APRIL HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Roy Kelly	2
Dan Harry	25

Diamond (innocence).
In an ancient ritual in India, the wealthy sprinkled tiny diamonds over the heads of infants to keep them pure and virtuous.

APRIL Anniversary includes:

Dick & Mary-Ruth Rathjen	12
Verlin Fox	20

Running low on material – new members let us know your anniversary date

Thinking about paying you 2012 dues., only one more month left

GOODIE GETTERS...For April



Main Goodies provided by club.

Lapidary Corner (Special request from a new member)**Shop News**

Several months ago, Dennis Morris gave a special workshop on bezel setting and one of our Members took notice. These Lapis cabs are well on their way to being earrings.

Lapis Lazuli is imported primarily from Afghanistan, though it occurs in other places. It is the source of blue pigment ultramarine blue.



It is composed of the minerals lazulite,

(NaCa)8(AlSiO4

)6(S,SO4,Cl)1-2. calcite and pyrite and often sodalite. It is classified as a feldspathoid silicate and is often found in association with marble. Material from Chile may have a mottled intense blue and white appearance. Both calcite and pyrite show up in these cabs. The material is only about 5.5 in hardness.

Chalcedony is cryptocrystalline quartz with a hardness of between 6.5 and 7. It can often be found as nodules in volcanic rock. It may be colored by various minerals. Crazy Lace is a classic Mexican material, the other cab is Madagascar material. One of our newer members got a beautiful polish on these ovals!

Helpful Tips...from Little Gems.**Vol 1 Issue 1, June 2008**

These hints are gathered from the bulletins and web sites of other clubs. You should use them with caution, as some may not be tried and true. The RockCollector 4/2012

- Tarnish is caused by sulfur gases in the air. Chalk is a natural absorber of sulfur, so place sticks of chalk (blackboard chalk) in your cases, jewelry boxes, jewelry drawer or just around your jewelry. From Rockpile Legend Co., www.rocks4u.com/lapidaryhint.htm Via Blue Agate News 01/08
- Another use for chalk...Wipe over your jewelers file with a piece of chalk. The chalk will keep the file from clogging and you can blow it off. If you toss a piece of chalk or charcoal in your tool box, it will keep your tools rust free. Source: Rock City Rocks and Gems 8/04 and Rocky tales 10/2005
- Toothpaste??. Tooth paste with fluoride formula has the unique characteristic of penetrating stone ceramics, brick or terra cotta and flushing dirt to the surface and then it can be washed with water. It was used to restore Etruscan vases by New York's most famous art and antique restorer. Source: Rocky Mountain Federation News 9/2005 and Quarry Quips 7/2005
- Montana agate: The plumes and patterns form along seams, so cut perpendicular or parallel to lines to get the best picture. Source: Pegmatite 04/2004

Tarnish remover: A pinch of baking soda rubbed on silver takes off tarnish. Source: Pegmatite 04/2004

When saving recently cut rocks or other greasy jobs, instead of using soap try Jergen's Extra Dry lotion and then rinse in plain water. The oil will wash off in one application and your hands will smell like lotion instead of smelling like strong soap.

Source: Rocky Tales 09/2004

Field Trips (2012) by Ed Tindell**Subject:** Midlothian Field Trips 04/07/12

Hi All –

This is just an update on who's going and who's not!

We had a blast on the 3/31/12 field trip! See attached photos. You can see more photos and text at www.meetup.com in the Texas Rockers group.

I HAVE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION FROM TXI THAT OUR NEXT TWO FIELD TRIPS WILL BE FROM 9AM-11AM INSTEAD OF FROM 10AM-12PM.

WE CAN STAY UNTIL 1230PM SO WE WILL BE COLLECTING FROM 9AM-1230PM!!!

WE WILL MEET AT THE WHATABURGER AT 8AM INSTEAD OF 9AM.

IF YOU ARE A "MAYBE" ON A TRIP LISTED BELOW PLEASE CONFIRM A.S.A.P.

I WILL BE STAYING AT THE AMERICAN BEST VALUE INN FRIDAY EVENING. Cell # 281-415-7164 LET'S GET TOGETHER FOR DINNER!

Some of you may get this update twice; sorry!

I have set up field trips to the TXI quarry for 4/7, 9 AM-1230 PM.

Rain Dates: none

Since we are combining two groups on these trips and not all attendees belong to www.meetup.com the attendance shown in the Texas Rockers is not correct.

Below is the correct current attendance The people going on each trip are listed further below in this email.

4/7 - 17 attending, 6 maybes, 2 open spots! This trip is GO!

MSHA rules apply: hard hat, safety glasses, closed toed shoes, long pants

What to bring: hammer, bucket, packing material for delicate specimens, drinks, snacks

What to look for: fossils, pyrite, calcite, etc.

No children, pets or cameras.

This trip is free and you can keep everything you find.

Each trip is **limited to 10 - 25 people** but if we go over a few I don't think they will notice.

Plan to double up in cars as they do count cars!

Meeting Place: Whataburger in town located at 1320 E Highway 287, Midlothian, TX 76065, 972-775-2323. **See attached map.**

Meeting Time: 9AM



Thanks,
Ed Tindell 2012 CLGMS Field Trip Coordinator
a.k.a. "The Official Cat Herder"

Hi All –

There are two Walker Ranch field trip weekends coming up: March 23, 24, 25, and April 19, 20, 21, 22. The April trip is on the same weekend as the Alpine Agate Festival (gem show). Because of this we've expanded the April hunt to 4 days. Your \$150 fee will let you hunt any 3 of the 4 days. That way you can take a day off to see the show, or hunt for the first three days and go home on Sunday so you can be at work on Monday.

The fee is the usual \$75 per person per day, with the third day free. So \$150 per person gets you three days of hunting for red plume agate, black plume agate, flower garden agate, all colors of moss agates, quartz crystals including citrine, smoky quartz and amethyst, and the clear, yellow labradorite.

To register for this hunt, first reply to this email or email me at agatehunter@sbcglobal.net. Then send half of the fee for your party, in a check made out to Bryan Crumpton, to me, Teri Smith, at 509 N. 8th Street, Alpine, TX. 79830.

The only other requirement is that you must be a member of the Rollin' Rock Club, which you can join while you're here, or you must get your local club to declare the field trip to be an "official" field trip. This is so that the insurance offered by the SCFMS which covers the landowner in case we damage something is in force. If your club doesn't have that insurance, then you need to join the RRC. It's \$10 single or \$16 dual membership per year, and it can be paid at the time of the first field trip.

Summer Days: The Geology of Lakefront Property By Heath Shive

As summer looms ahead, the season of beaches begins! But enjoy it while you can. To a geologist, beaches are very temporary things. Any beach you find today didn't exist fifteen thousand years ago. During that time, the peak of the last glacial cycle, sea level was at least ninety meters (three hundred feet) lower than it is today. That would put the Ice Age beaches miles farther out to sea! There was no such thing as an English Channel, a Bering Strait, or even the Great Lakes (as we know them today).

Going to the lake this summer? Most likely, that lake didn't exist during the last Ice Age. Most lakes in the Midwest are "kettle lakes", lakes created by great chunks of retreating glaciers that broke off and melted in place. Some glacial lakes were truly enormous! Glacial Lake Wisconsin was born when the Green Bay Lobe (a glacial lobe over present-day Green Bay) created a dam on the Wisconsin River. Glacial moraines north and south of the Baraboo Hills sealed in the rising waters. Glacial Lake Wisconsin would eventually grow as large as the Great Salt Lake. A glacial dam in Montana would create the legendary Lake Missoula. Lake Missoula at its peak covered two thousand square miles and contained over five hundred cubic miles of water (half the volume of modern Lake Michigan). However, glacial dams are made of ice. Since ice has only nine-tenths of water's density, rising water levels will create a buoyant force that tries to lift an ice dam (like how ice cubes float in your ice tea).

When that happens, glacial lakes will empty violently! When the dam broke on Lake Missoula, over five hundred cubic miles of water suddenly raced to the ocean. This created the eerie landscape known as the Channeled Scablands of the Columbia Plateau. When the southern moraine collapsed, the explosive draining of Glacial Lake Wisconsin carved out the Wisconsin Dells, which today are a major tourist attraction.

Some Ice Age lakes were created by changes in climate. Lake Bonneville was a lake that covered over twenty thousand square miles (almost as big as Lake Michigan) and stretched from Idaho through Utah. Lake Lahontan in Nevada's Great Basin Range grew to cover 8570 square miles (bigger than Lake Ontario's 7540 square miles). Both Bonneville and Lahontan were over nine hundred feet deep, deeper than any Great Lake except Lake Superior.

What created these monsters? It was Ice Age weather! The jet stream is a zone of high-velocity wind that carries moist air from the Pacific into the American Northwest and Canada. This wind pattern strongly influences the humid climate in coastal Washington and Oregon, making it quite different from the arid Southwest. But during the Ice Age, the fierce cold of the continental ice sheet split the jet stream and established a strong region of high pressure, called an anticyclone. This anticyclone drove part of the jet stream north and the other part south, a deflection of as much as three degrees of latitude. This detour brought the moisture-laden jet stream into the arid Great Basin, which created huge pluvial lakes. But with the ice sheet's retreat, precipitation decreased. Lakes Bonneville and Lahontan slowly shriveled up. The Great Salt Lake (and its little sister, Utah Lake) is all that remains of the mighty Bonneville. Tiny Lake Walker in Nevada is all that remains of Lahontan. Beaches may come and go, but these processes take thousands of years. In the eye of geology, that's a blink. Maybe it's all relative. After all, doesn't every summer go by in a blink too?

Sources for Summer Days Article by Heath Shive: via The Trilobite 4/2012

Alt, David. Glacial Lake Missoula and its Humongous Floods. Missoula, MT: Mountain, 2001.

Dott, Richard H., and John W. Attig. Roadside Geology of Wisconsin. Missoula, MT: Mountain, 2004.

Orndorff, Richard L., Robert W. Wieder, and Harry F. Filkorn:

Geology Underfoot in Central Nevada. Missoula, MT: Mountain, 2001.

Orndorff, Richard L., Robert W. Wieder, and David G. Futey:

Geology Underfoot in Southern Utah. Missoula, MT: Mountain, 2006.

Heath is a member of Indiana's Three Rivers Gem and Mineral Society

Uranium shortage predicted by 2016

arizona geology.blogspot.com/2012 Tuesday, January 24, 2012 The world produced 118 million pounds of uranium in 2010 but consumed 190 million pounds. The deficit is made up from Cold War era supplies and conversion of Soviet nuclear weapons. But according to story on mineweb.com Mineweb.com, Thomas Drolet, the president of Drolet & Associates Energy Services, predicted during a presentation at Cambridge House’s Vancouver Resource Investment conference, that a uranium shortage will hit the world by 2016. He assumes that at least 30 of Japan’s 50 idled nuclear reactors will be brought back on line to meet power demands.

The story on mineweb says the supply crunch is widely expected to begin by next year. Arizona is increasingly recognized by the mining industry as having some of the richest deposits in the nation, hosted in hundreds or even thousands of breccia pipes across the northern part of the state. The recent 20 year ban on exploration and mining imposed by the Secretary of Interior on a million acres of federal lands took out some of the highest concentrations of breccia pipes in the region. However, Tucson-based Liberty Star Uranium noted in a letter to investors that the federal ban could increase the value of remaining uranium properties in the region by further restricting supply.

Uranium is obtained from uranium ores such as pitchblende, uraninite (UO₂), carnotite (K₂(UO₂)₂VO₄·1-3H₂O) and autunite (Ca(UO₂)₂(PO₄)₂·10H₂O) as well as from phosphate rock (Ca₃(PO₄)₂), lignite (brown coal) and monazite sand ((Ce, La, Th, Nd, Y)PO₄). Since there is little demand for uranium metal, uranium is usually sold in the form of sodium diuranate (Na₂U₂O₇·6H₂O), also known as yellow cake, or triuranium octoxide (U₃O₈). Since it is naturally radioactive, uranium, usually in the form of uranium dioxide (UO₂), is most commonly used in the nuclear power industry to generate electricity. Naturally occurring uranium consists of three isotopes: uranium-234, uranium-235 and uranium-238. Although all three isotopes are radioactive, only uranium-235 is a fissionable material that can be used for nuclear power.

When a fissionable material is struck by a neutron, its nucleus can release energy by splitting into smaller fragments. If some of the fragments are other neutrons, they can strike other atoms and cause them to split as well. A fissionable material, such as uranium-235, is a material capable of producing enough free neutrons to sustain a nuclear chain reaction. Only 0.7204% of naturally occurring uranium is uranium-235. This is too low a concentration to sustain a nuclear chain reaction without the help of a material known as a moderator. A moderator is a material that can slow down a neutron without absorbing it. Slow neutrons are more likely to react with uranium-235 and reactors using natural uranium can be made using graphite or heavy water as a moderator. Methods also exist for concentrating uranium-235. Once the levels of uranium-235 have been increased to about 3%, normal water can be used as a moderator.

From The trilobite 4/2012

SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS			
Apr. 14 - 15 ABILENE, TX Central TX G&MS Abilene Civic Ctr. North 6th & Pine	Apr. 20 - 22 ALPINE, TX Chihuahu al Desert G&MS Alpine Civic Ctr. Hwy 90 W. & 13th St. N		

STONEY STATEMENTS
 Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc
 PO BOX 891533
 Houston, Texas 77289

(Postage)

Meeting 3rd Monday of the Month – 7:30 P.M.
 April 16, 2012, Clear Lake Park Building
 5001 NASA Road One, Seabrook, Texas



Member of:

Next Annual Show
 February Feb 23-24, 2013
 Pasadena Convention Center



CLGMS is on the Web:
<http://www.clgms.org>

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc

MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

PURPOSE: To promote education and popular interest in the various earth sciences; in particular in those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the earth sciences of minerals, fossils and their associated fields

2012 OFFICERS:	President	Ben Duggar	
	Vice President	Bob Brock	281-338-2252
	Secretary	Annabel Brownfield	
	Treasurer	Loyce Pennington	281 481-1591
	Program Director	Trina Willoughby	
	Board of Directors:	Trina Willoughby	Jim Wines
		Ed Tindell	David Tjiok
	Newsletter Editor	Al Pennington	281 481-1591
Annual Show 2012.....	Al Pennington	Library.....	Lester Gary
Const & bylaws.....	Dick Rathjen	Membership.....	Mike Flannigan
Community Benefits.....	Nancy Duggar	Publisher.....	Mike Flannigan
Historian.....	David Tjiok	Refreshments.....	David Tjiok

Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2012: Adult \$10:00, \$5.00 per additional adult at same address, Junior \$5.00, \$2.50 per member with adult at same address, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289

Granvil A. "Al" Pennington, Editor 2012 – 11326 Sagetrail Houston, TX 77089-4418

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