



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

VOLUME 43

MARCH 2017

NUMBER 3



NEXT MEETING: April 17, 2017
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Clear Lake Park Building
 5001 Nasa Parkway
 Seabrook, Texas

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

April Meeting	1-2	<u>APRIL MONTHLY MEETING</u> Martian meteorites and the evolution of Mars
Monthly Meeting Minutes Board Meeting Minutes	2-4	 <p>The program will be presented by Thomas Lapen, Professor in the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department at the University of Houston. He will discuss insights into the duration of igneous activity and the nature of magma sources in Mars from analyses of shergottite meteorites – mafic to ultramafic igneous rocks from Mars’ crust. This presentation will summarize some of the recent discoveries about Mars made from the study of Martian meteorites and will discuss some future research directions. This will be a talk for a general audience. Visitors are always welcomed.</p>
Martian Meteorite Bench Tips	4-5	
Chalcedony	6-9	
Upcoming Shows	9	

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 20, 2017 MONTHLY MEETING



Meeting Minutes

again next year

.

.

Ideas for next year

- Facebook advertising may be useful and cost a few hundred dollars
- Do some volunteer training
- Get 'The Square' up and running so we can take credit cards
- Have someone outside directing traffic to the ticket window
- Have a chain on posts in front of the locked doors
- Maybe more signs to direct ticket traffic
- The purchase of magnetic signs to promote the show next year was approved. Trina will order these. We will also look into signs to put on corners and advertising in general.

Other items discussed

John gave a report from the Pasadena library carnival where he represented the club. April 1st is the spring fest at Bay Area Monastery School. Vince is heading up a gem mine and other volunteer are asked to join him for this event.

The event at the San Jacinto monument is April 22nd. Eddie will be representing the club. Others are welcome to volunteer. Volunteers may be able to get a parking pass but you need to talk to Eddie for this.

Vince has programs lined up into this summer, so make sure to join us for some awesome presentations!

Eddie brought up getting a social marketer involved to market us on Facebook. He will look into a quote for this and see what someone would do to help grow our club.

We talked about trying to put together some workshops. Charlie will check his calendar to see about a date for silversmithing.

Next month's field trip has moved to April 29th. There are a number of people interested. Hopefully we can talk carpooling next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Trina Willoughby, for Pam Dudley, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2017, BOARD MEETING



Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. Vincent gave a report on the Armand Bayou Montessori School's Spring Festival. He took the rocks and screens from the gem mine for the children to experience. The school sold tickets for 50 cents and 203 tickets were collected by Vince and his helpers. All the money was a donation to the school. A good time was had by all. Thank you Vince for heading that up and to the members who helped you.

ATTENTION: We need three members to volunteer to be on the budget committee. We need to get the budget done so that college scholarships can be awarded.

May 1st is the deadline for scholarship applications. So far there are two applicants. Raul would like to award the scholarships at the June general meeting.

April 22nd is the San Jacinto Monument reenactment. Eddie Dove is in charge of a display representing and promoting our club. You are welcome to give him a hand. John Caldine will also have a table there. He will be lecturing and doing some demonstrations.

We will have a professor from U of H at our April 17th general meeting. He will be talking about Martian meteorites.

Updating needs to be done on the club's website. It has been requested that the newest club meeting minutes be posted there. Currently they stop at 2013. We think we have a volunteer!

John Caldine has volunteered to bring refreshments to the April meeting.

John suggested holding a small rock show this summer. We could rent the room where we have our meetings. We will give you our thoughts on this and ask for your opinions. It could be a good way to get our presence out there.

At our September general meeting, Pam (me) would like to conduct a "School of Rock".

There will be several tables set up with different activities to do at each one. You will rotate from table to table. Look out... I will be looking for talented people to help me out with this.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Dudley, Secretary

MARTIAN METEORITE

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A Martian meteorite is a rock that formed on the planet Mars and was then ejected from Mars by the impact of an asteroid or comet, and finally landed on the Earth. Of over 61,000 meteorites that have been found on Earth, 132 were identified as Martian as of 3 March 2014. These meteorites are thought to be from Mars because they have elemental and isotopic compositions that are similar to rocks and atmosphere gases analyzed by spacecraft on Mars. On October 17, 2013, NASA reported, based on analysis of argon in the Martian atmosphere by the Mars Curiosity rover, that certain meteorites found on Earth thought to be from Mars were indeed from Mars.

The term does not refer to meteorites found on Mars, such as Heat Shield Rock.



On January 3, 2013, NASA reported that a meteorite, named *NWA 7034* (nicknamed "Black Beauty"), found in 2011 in the Sahara desert, was determined to be from Mars and found to contain ten times the water of other Mars meteorites found on Earth. The meteorite was determined to have formed 2.1 billion years ago during the Amazonian geologic period on Mars.

BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH



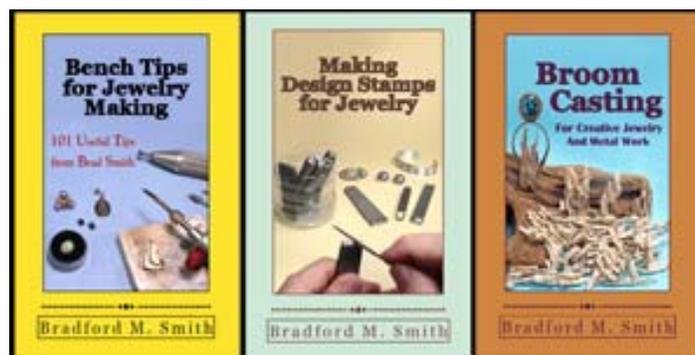
BEZEL PROBLEMS —When bezel setting a cab that has rather sharp corners, have you ever had problems pushing the metal down at the corners? It's a common problem often causing a wrinkle in your bezel and a grimace on your face. In order for a bezel to capture the stone, the top edge of the bezel must be compressed and become shorter to lay down onto the stone. With a round or oval stone this naturally happens as you push and burnish the bezel. But when setting a stone with corners, the tendency is to push the long sides of the bezel down first. No compression occurs along

the sides, and all excess metal is left at the corners. Compressing everything there is difficult. Often the only way to remove the extra metal at the corner is to make a saw cut and fold the two sides in to touch. If you want a smooth bezel all around the corners, the simple solution is to set the corners of the bezel first. Then push in and burnish the sides. In this way the necessary compression is distributed along the length of all sides and not forced to occur at the corners. With the corners set first, the top edge of the bezel can easily be compressed along the sides.



CHEAPER & BETTER PICKLE —Most jewelers use a granular pickle mixed with water. The active ingredient is sodium bisulfate. This can be purchased from local stores as a common pool chemical used for adjusting the acidity of the water. It's sold under various names, so be sure to check the list of active ingredients for a brand that is 95% or more sodium bisulfate. An added benefit is that the pool chemical is more pure in form than what is sold for jewelry use and does not cause the brown grime often found floating on the top of the pot.

See all Brad's jewelry books at [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



CHALCEDONY

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Chalcedony (pronunciation: /kæl'sɛdəni/) is a cryptocrystalline form of silica, composed of very fine intergrowths of quartz and moganite. These are both silica minerals, but they differ in that quartz has a trigonal crystal structure, while moganite is monoclinic. Chalcedony's standard chemical structure (based on the chemical structure of quartz) is SiO₂ (silicon dioxide).

Chalcedony has a waxy luster, and may be semitransparent or translucent. It can assume a wide range of colors, but those most commonly seen are white to gray, grayish-blue or a shade of brown ranging from pale to nearly black. The color of chalcedony sold commercially is often enhanced by dyeing or heating.

The name *chalcedony* comes from the Latin *chalcedonius* (alternatively spelled *calchedonius*). The name appears in Pliny the Elder's *Naturalis Historia* as a term for a translucent kind of Jaspis. The name is probably derived from the town Chalcedon in Asia Minor. The Greek word *khalkedon* (χαλκηδών) also appears in the Book of Revelation (Apc 21,19). It is a hapax legomenon (the term for a word found nowhere else) so it is hard to tell whether the precious gem mentioned in the Bible is the same mineral known by this name today.

Varieties

Chalcedony occurs in a wide range of varieties. Many semi-precious gemstones are in fact forms of chalcedony. The more notable varieties of chalcedony are as follows:



Agate is a variety of chalcedony characterized by either transparency or color patterns, such as multi-colored curved or angular banding. Opaque varieties are sometimes referred to as jasper. Fire agate shows iridescent phenomena on a brown background; iris agate shows exceptional iridescence when light (especially pinpointed

light) is shone through the stone. Landscape agate is chalcedony with a number of different mineral impurities making the stone resemble landscapes.



Aventurine is a form of quartz, characterised by its translucency and the presence of platy mineral inclusions that give a shimmering or glistening effect termed aventurescence. Chrome-bearing fuchsite (a variety of muscovite mica) is the classic inclusion, and gives a silvery green or blue sheen. Oranges and browns are attributed to hematite or goethite.



Carnelian (also spelled cornelian) is a clear-to-translucent reddish-brown variety of chalcedony. Its hue may vary from a pale orange, to an intense almost-black coloration. Similar to carnelian is sard, which is brown rather than red.



Chrysoprase (also spelled chrysoprase) is a green variety of chalcedony, which has been colored by nickel oxide. (The darker varieties of chrysoprase are also referred to as prase. However, the term prase is also used to describe green quartz, and to a certain extent is a color-descriptor, rather than a rigorously defined mineral variety.)

Blue-colored chalcedony is sometimes referred to as "blue chrysoprase" if the color is sufficiently rich, though it derives its color from the presence of copper and is largely unrelated to nickel-bearing chrysoprase.



Heliotrope is a green variety of chalcedony, containing red inclusions of iron oxide that resemble drops of blood, giving heliotrope its alternative name of bloodstone. In a similar variety, the spots are yellow instead, known as plasma.



Moss agate contains green filament-like inclusions, giving it the superficial appearance of moss or blue cheese. There is also tree agate which is similar to moss agate except it is solid white with green filaments whereas moss agate usually has a transparent background, so the "moss" appears in 3D. It is not a true form of agate, as it lacks agate's defining feature of concentric banding.



Mtorolite is a green variety of chalcedony, which has been colored by chromium. Also known as chrome chalcedony, it is principally found in Zimbabwe.

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.
 Clear Lake Park Building
 5001 NASA Parkway, Seabrook, Texas



Member of:

Next Annual Show
 February 25-26, 2017
 Pasadena Convention Center

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



American Federation of Mineral Societies

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

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.

2015 OFFICERS:	President	Raul Montelongo	832-341-0416
	Vice President	David Tjiok	281-423-4802
	Secretary	Pam Dudley	713-815-0275
	Treasurer	Jerry Newberry	281-286-6869
	Program Director	Vince Barrows	
	Board of Directors:	Shannon Oliver	Jim Edwards
		Mary Wells	John Caldyne
	Newsletter Editor	Annabel Brownfield	

Annual Show 2016	Sara Chelette	Library	Vacant
Constitution & Bylaws.....	Sara Chelette	Membership.....	Victoria Faulkner
Community Benefits.....	Vacant	WWW System Admin.....	Mike Flannigan
Historian.....	David Tjiok	Refreshments.....	Doug Dann
Publicity.....	Eddie Dove	Education/Field Trips.....	Annabel Brownfield

Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2017: Adult \$15:00, \$5.00 per additional adult at same address, Junior \$5.00, \$5.00 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

Permission to use material originating in this newsletter is freely given providing credit is given author and Stoney Statements except if the article requires authorization (©RA). Permission may be obtained by E-mailing Editor.