

Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society Meeting Minutes, April 16, 2012

President Ben Duggar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The prior month's meeting minutes were approved with one correction, the spelling of Sara Chelette's name.

Committee Reports

Show Committee – A refund was received from the Pasadena Convention Center for an overpayment. Printing has begun and the flyers are being distributed to the dealers.

Community Service – Bookplates have been received. Chairperson Nancy Duggar reported the schools have received the books they ordered.

Library – Chairperson was absent.

Education – Chairperson Ed Tindell gave a short report on the past three field trips to the TXI Quarry in Midlothian, TX.

Field Trips – Chairperson Ed Tindell announced an upcoming field trip to Walker Ranch in Alpine, TX. Another field trip to Midlothian in the fall was discussed. Field trips to Waco Pit and the Wilson Clay Pit in Brownwood were also discussed.

Club Publicity – The upcoming Beading Workshop was discussed. Nineteen have registered so far. The Harbor View Nursing Home requested a bead workshop.

New members and visitors were welcomed and introduced.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Loyce Pennington. A motion was made by Trina Willoughby to approve the report and it was seconded by Nancy Duggar. The report was approved unanimously.

New Business

President Ben Duggar announced the Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show on April 28, 2012.

Old Business

The Show Workday was discussed. Volunteers were requested.

President Ben Duggar asked for the value of the faceting machine that was donated to the club to present the donor with a gift receipt.

David Tjiok reported the water pitcher is missing from the club box located at the park building.

Program

Sondee Weiss, a member of the Texas Rockers, presented the program on the Midlothian Quarry. Sondee explained the area was once an inland sea. It is now made up of limestone and shale with phosphate deposits. She presented a shark tooth she found there with the root and crown in addition to serrations on the side of the tooth. Three cement companies are in the area. The TXI Quarry went into production in the 1960's. She found four different species of sharks and had examples of the teeth found. She also had some fossil clams found in the limestone. Calcite specimens were also discussed and presented. She explained how she cleaned the mud rock using peroxide and found shark teeth. She also had a septarian nodule and pyrite samples found in the quarry.

A break was taken and refreshments were served.

Door prizes were awarded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Brownfield, Secretary



A GEOSCIENTIST IN ANTARCTICA:
Following in Shackleton's footsteps 100 years later

SUSAN R. EATON,

P.Geol., P.Geoph., M.Sc., B.Sc. Hon., B.J. (Journalism) Hon.

POLAR EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

*The International Antarctic Expedition (IAE) 2012 was comprised of 72 people from 22 nations, and included teachers, students, journalists and industry representatives from **Royal Dutch Shell, BP Wind Energy, National Instruments India, Lloyds Register, Coca-Cola, NPower and KPMG**. The IAE 2012 involved an Outward Bound-like leadership course set amidst the harsh backdrop of Antarctica. Participants studied climate change, renewable energy and global sustainability issues. Addressing these weighty global issues, participants collaborated on proactive solutions to take back to their schools, universities, communities, industry associations, companies and governments.*

In 2010, Susan participated — as a geoscientist, journalist and extreme snorkeler — in the Elysium Epic Visual Expedition to Antarctica and South Georgia. Following in Sir Ernest Shackleton's footsteps one hundred years later, she joined 57 of the world's most celebrated image makers, National Geographic Explorers-in-Residence, scientists, scuba divers and educators, to study climate change and ocean change at the Bottom of the World.

During both Antarctic expeditions, Susan emphasized the key role that the disciplines of geology and geophysics play in studying climate change and ocean change in Antarctica and around the world.

On May 21st, Susan will deliver a multi-media presentation, entitled "A Geoscientist in Antarctica: Following in Shackleton's Footsteps One Hundred Years Later."

You can view Susan's 2010 and 2012 dispatches, photos and videos from Antarctica on her website at <http://susanreaton.com/>

An May HAPPY BIRTHDAY

N/A

EMERALD (Greek: smaragdus) it supposedly soothes the eyes, preserves chastity, cures dysentery, prevents epilepsy, drives away evil spirits

May Anniversary includes:

N/A
New Members send me your info

Thinking about paying you 2012 dues., last month left

GOODIE GETTERS...For May

Main Goodies provided by club.

Lapidary Corner (Special request from a new member)**ARE YOU SURE IT'S JADE?**

1. If a chip is knocked off the freshly broken surface, it should not sparkle in the sun. If it does it's not jade.
2. If you can scratch it with a knife-point, it isn't jade.
3. It will be much heavier than a common rock of similar size.
4. Tap the specimen with a hammer. If a moon shaped fracture appears, it is agate or jasper, but not jade.
5. If it is jade, it will have a smooth, waxy, almost greasy look.
6. The only positive test for jade is x-ray analysis and **specific** gravity tests.

(Fr. **Rockounding Rumblings** 1/2002, via **Rocket City Rock & Gems**, 1/2002)

TO GET A BETTER POLISH on material that will undercut, such as sagenite, moss, plume agate and porous woods, etc., try this. First elevate the slice on a small object such as a jar ring. Completely cover the slice with water in a flat pan with some detergent and a shake of Comet cleanser. Boil about 10 minutes, keeping the slide covered at all times. Remove the pan from the heat, leave the slice in the pan until water reaches room temperature

. Go through fine sanding, clean well, and spray with a coat of clear plastic. Let dry, fine sand again lightly with polish.

This 4-step process fills in the porous spots in the material, enabling you to polish the surface. You will end up with a beautiful polished piece. For example, this thin coat over the iron in picture wood eliminates the shiny iron streaks. *from The Glacial Drifter 03/03*

HINTS & TIPS...**ON USING BELL CAPS**
Whiteby **Honer C.**

block You should rough or grind where the bell caps will fit. Be sure to use a good cleanser (not rubbing alcohol). It is better to use denatured alcohol. If you pick up some children's play clay from your local store, you can successfully use it with the bell caps. Push your stone into the clay to hold it straight. Put the glue or epoxy on top of the stone and put the bell cap on it. That way it is easy to clean off and will not be so messy. By roughing the stone with emery cloth you will be able to make the epoxy hold a lot better. Be sure not to touch it with your fingers as they leave a film of fine oil on the material. **GOLDEN SPIKE NEWS 2/99**

PROTECT YOURSELF We are learning that deafness can be attributed to the noise of our lapidary equipment, As we use **facemasks** and goggles to protect our lungs and eyes from dust, so we should use ear plugs to protect our ears from the noise of our grinders and saws. Ed. Note: We also need be aware of the dangers of buffing machines used in our jewelry making. If there is no fan directly connected to the buffer, be certain that the area is well ventilated and that you wear a face mask. Protect your eyes too from flying debris from the buffer and **from** that occasional "slip" and the metal being polished flies off.

Be certain to wash your hands after using buffers, grinders and **polishers** so that bits of the abrasive don't get into your eyes or mouth. Remember...it's always better to err on the side of caution.

from The Glacier Drifter 8/01 via The **Roamin'** Rams 3/97 via **GEM CUTTERS NEWS** 5/01

Field Trips (2012) by Ed Tindell

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.



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

Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society Scholarship Program

Purpose: To fund courses in Geology, Mineralogy, Geophysics or Paleontology at any accredited university or college as part of a course of studies in Earth Sciences. Amount: \$1000.00 each. The number of scholarships will normally be two (2) each year. Additional scholarships may be determined by the Board of Directors based on the funds available. This year's scholarship winners are:

Antonio Rios is a graduate of Pasadena High School. He has spent the last two years at San Jacinto College – Central taking prerequisites for a science degree. Antonio will transfer to the University of Houston – Main Campus in Fall 2012 as a petroleum engineering major. After taking geology courses at San Jac, he has realized that he really likes geology – maybe even as a career. Antonio spends his time studying and working two jobs. He is honored to be considered as a candidate for this scholarship.

Jennie Evelyn Ferguson - Jennie is a graduate of Sam Rayburn High School. She is working toward her AA in Geology at San Jacinto College – Central. Upon completion of her AA degree, she will transfer as a geology major to the University of Houston – Main Campus. Jennie is an avid rock collector and has visited many of the show caves (Natural Bridge Caverns and Wonder World) in the immediate area.

The award will take place at the June or July General meeting

Facts about Gold...

*Researched and presented by Tom Taffel,
member San Francisco GMS*

**Golden Facts:**

Atomic Symbol: AU Melting Point 1,945 degrees F Atomic Number: 79
Boiling Point: 5,371 degrees F Atomic Weight: 196.967 MOH's Scale
of Hardness: 2.5 Gold was formed with the earth's crust, generally in
quartz veins, millions of years ago. It makes up just .001 parts/million
(ppm) of the earth's crust. In the sea it is approximately .004 ppm. Iron
meteorites have been found to contain gold in concentrations as high as
0.7 ppm. Gold is very dense. 1.5 times more dense than lead, 19.3 times
more dense than water. Gold is malleable. An ounce of gold can be
hammered to a thin sheet of at least 100 square feet. In a thin leaf, gold
transmits green light. An ounce of gold can be stretched into a thin wire
more than 5 miles long. A thread drawn from one ton of gold would
stretch to the moon and back. Various industries use 1,750 tons of gold

a year. Dentists use 3 tons a year. Gold is used in computers, weaponry, spacecraft and medicine in the treatment of chronic ulcers and surgery to patch damaged nerves, blood vessels and bones. The electrical conductivity of gold is 71 times that of copper.

Purity of gold:

10 karat gold is 40% pure. Black Hills gold is alloyed with copper.

14 karat gold is 58% pure and 42% alloy, generally silver.

18 karat gold is 75% pure.

24 karat gold is 100% pure and is attainable only through processing and refining.

Natural placer gold, 80-92% pure, is 21-23 karat

77% of all gold recovered is by lode mining and is crushed, processed and refined. 20% of all gold recovered is byproduct of other base metal mining and must be refined. Only 3% of the gold recovered is from natural placer deposits. Less than 1/10 of 1% of gold is found in nugget form. Of this, 10% is selected for jewelry. An average of 80 cubic yards of gravel must be sluiced to find one ounce of placer gold. A one-ounce nugget is as rare a find as a 5 carat diamond. Like snowflakes, no two nuggets are alike. Laboratory Pure Gold is 1.000 Fine. Commercially Fine Gold is .999 Fine. U.S. Gold Coins are .9166 Fine (22 karat).

Annual world production of gold approaches 50 million ounces. Of that,

- ❖ 30 million ounces comes from South Africa
- ❖ 5 million ounces comes from Russia
- ❖ 3.3 million ounces comes from Canada
- ❖ 1.8 million ounces comes from The United States
- ❖ 0.9 million ounces comes from Australia

Gold is 19 times heavier than water. Gold will fall quickly to that bottom of a water course and then tend to stay in that place. Where it falls and how far down stream it will travel is the deciding factor in where to look for gold. Gold being heavier than any other material in the stream will be moving very reluctantly. In doing so, it will generally move in a straight line, following the path of least resistance. When gold does encounter resistance— like a large boulder, it will stop and of course fall to the bottom of the river, or get stuck in a crevice of the boulder as it is falling. The first place to look for gold is out in the middle of the river around boulders. However if that boulder is in fast part of the river, unless the gold piece was big, the gold may have been washed right over or around and on downstream. The ideal spot for a boulder area that would produce gold would be in part of the river where the water slows to almost a stop. A pool of water on either side of the boulder would be a good spot to start a search. The largest gold nugget ever found in Alaska was discovered near Nome. It weighed 155 ounces, was 7" long, 4" wide and 2" thick. According to Alaska's Mineral Industry 1990, major operators produced 231,000 ounces of gold in 1990, down from 297,900 ounces in 1989. Gold was first discovered in Alaska on the Kenai Peninsula in 1848.

From <http://www.sfgms.org/articles/taffelgold.html>

Article downloaded from the May Issue of the RockCollector via March 2012 issue of the Lodestar via Canaveral Moonstone, 4/12

THE LEGEND OF LEAVERITE

Author unknown

Leaverite is the most common of all stones. Some are older than others and many moons old. It generally cannot be used for much because of its ugly nature. These stones are said to be so ugly that only mother earth could love them. They are truly the loneliest stones in the world.

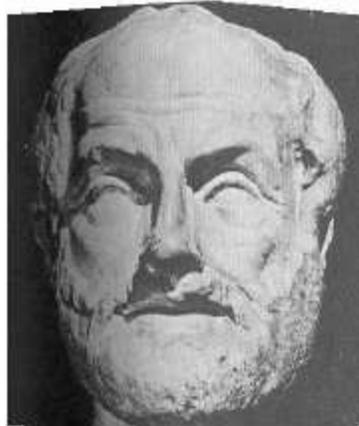
As legend would have it, one day long, long ago, a little boy and his Grandpa were diggin' for gold. Each time the little boy chipped out a stone he would show it to his Grandpa and ask, "Is this gold?" His Grandpa would reply, "Na' that's just an ugly stone. Leave'er right there." Later that day when the boy showed his Grandpa the stones he had found he asked, "Is this gold or is this one of them leav-erite-there's?" From that point on, the little boy and his Grandpa called the lonely stone "Leaverites" for short. Over the years the Leaverites became so lonely that they grew eyes and now they are:



From the May June SCFMS Newsletter

EARLY GEOLOGY

Author unknown



Early speculations of a geologic nature occurred among the Greek natural philosophers and later among the Egyptians, Romans, and European naturalists. Thales, about 600 B.C., believed the earth to be a flat disc floating on water. Anaximander believed the earth to be shaped like a cylinder floating on air. He was the first to make a map of the then-known world.

Xenophon believed that fossils of organic origin are found on dry land that at one time was mingled with the sea.

Herodotus believed that the face of the earth changes based on the fact that fertile soil of Egypt was produced by recurrent flooding of the Nile.

Eratosthenes calculated the circumference of the earth, over-estimating it by about one-seventh. He was from the third century B.C.

Pliny, the Elder, a Roman of the first century A.D., devoted five books of his 37-book "Historia Naturalis" to minerals. He died of asphyxiation when he got too

close to Vesuvius in order to observe the eruption of 79 A.D. George Bauer (a/k/a Agricola) wrote "De re Metallica."

He was a German and considered the father of Geology. Leonardo de Vinci, in an age when fossils were considered freaks of nature, recognized them as the remains of plants and animals.

Niels Steensen (a/k/a Nicolaus Steno), a Danish doctor, published the first outline of a scientific history of the earth in 1667.

So ended the period of early geologists. Modern geology developed in the late eighteenth century.

via RockCollector May 2012 "EL Gambrisino" via Morok Newsletter, 5/12

SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS			
<p>May 26 - 27 FORT WORTH, TX Ft. Worth G&MS Will Rogers Mem. Ctr.</p>	<p>Aug. 11 - 12 BATON ROUGE, LA Baton Rouge G&MS Marriot Ballroom Just off of college Drive</p>	<p>Aug. 18 - 19 BOSSIER CITY, LA Ark-La-Tex G&MS Bossier City Civic Ctr.</p>	<p>Aug. 25 - 26 JASPER, TX SCMFS & Pine Country G&MS Events Ctr.</p>

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.
 May 21, 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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