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The Red Stick Rockhound News

The Baton Rouge Gem and Mineral Society

Baton Rouge, LA.



There has been so much tragedy in the U.S. this past month that you start to wonder if there is any good left in this world. Then, I look at my beautiful grandchildren and think "these are the people that can change the world". I realize that with each incident instead of fretting that the world will soon end, I try to look at the beauty and the good that comes out of these tragedies. Ray, started a Florescent Mineral collection and when I (you) look at it without a light I think that this is just ugly rocks , but they turn bright, colorful, brilliant and beautiful when the right light hits them. So is life, when you look out there and see the "ugly rocks" that surround us don't despair; in the right light there is still beauty and good in our world. If you don't believe me, just watch and listen to a child as they play.

by Cheryl Duplechain



OUR PURPOSE

The Baton Rouge Gem and Mineral Society is organized for charitable and educational purposes to promote interest in the various earth sciences, in particular those hobbies dealing in the art of cutting and polishing gemstones, the science of gems, minerals and metal crafts, as well as their related fields.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2013 CONVENTION

Just a little more than three months from now, delegates and officers will be gathering in Bossier City (Shreveport) for the SCFMS Convention. Last year it was hosted by the Pine County Gem & Mineral Society in Jasper Texas. I had a great time there and learned lots about the federation and how it is run. They really did a great job putting it all together. Several of the members had told me how they approached it. And the main thought process by all was: They just felt it was the thing to do and they were not going to let the fact that they were a smaller club deter them from thinking big. That can do attitude paid off with a great Convention and Gem Show.

At this year's show I will be paying close attention on what they do because next year (2014) the convention will be hosted by us. Lots of preparation is needed to pull something of that size off. We have already signed the contract with the Marriott for next year's convention and Gem Show. They will both take place at the same time. It should attract lots of people from the federation clubs. The Federation spans Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas.

This year's Convention in Bossier City will be the next weekend after our August Gem Show. I know lots of us will be a little worn out from the show but it certainly would be nice if several can go. We all need to see how the convention is run for us to be better prepared for 2014. Maybe it will be just the break you need! Getting away for a weekend and admiring all the things at the vendor's booths is a win win thing.

All of the Convention activities can be attended by anyone. The Newsletter Editors Breakfast is lots of fun to attend and this year we will have someone from our club receive an award. Then in the afternoon the Actual business of the Federation takes place. Later that evening is the Banquet. A great time to dress up and eat a meal while further activities are done. So, with that said I urge all that can attend, to give it some thought and start planning a weekend vacation on the weekend of August 17th in Bossier City.

Ray

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MAY BIRTHDAYS

Sasha Wiggs.....5/7

Charlotte Sehon.....5/8

Richard Hodom.....5/15

Calvin Wiggs.....5/7

Birthstone: Emerald

The word "emerald" is actually a variant from the Greek word "smaragdus," meaning "green stone"...completely ideal for a gemstone which is, actually, the green type of the mineral beryl. Emerald usually brings out the inner beauty of a person like energetic character, beautiful smile, regenerative symbol and much more.



MEETING MINUTES
FOR MAY by Norma Travis

Meeting called to order by Ray Duplechain.

Minutes read by Norma Travis approved by Glenn G., seconded by Joe Samrow.

New members: Crystal Vavasfseur, Dusty Ransome. Guests. Linda Ransome, Jay Whittington, Virginia and William Guffy

No Federation Report.

Committee Reports;

No Publicity, Newsletter, or Show Report.

Field trip to Jasper Texas not yet set up.

June 29th trip planned to Bogue Chitto State Park for rockhounding. There are cabins and RV sites available. Contact Rena & Scott McMickens

Education committee met with project to display Gems and Minerals in local libraries. Members asked to bring items to Jones Creek Library Sunday 04/28/13 at 2:00PM Signup sheet passed around.

Hospitality committee head Ken Edds, thanked everyone for bringing refreshments.

Thanks to Robin Coulter for starting Youth Group.

Old Business-

New brochures are in. We need to order Pet Rock Cards-Motion made by Claire Coco, Seconded by Charles Ray. 1000 cards agreed on

Marie Ray is giving her trip to William Holland School to Bill Smith. Recipients are expected to give report upon return from class.

Road trip to Destrehan, Astronomy Day and Earth Day were all successful and well attended.

New Business- Our meeting room has not been ready for us on several occasions. Discussion on alternate places- Public libraries, First Presbyterian Church Volunteers to check out alternate places

Charles, Ken, Jan, Ray, Chris, Norma.

Norma Travis to send sympathy card to Mr. John Hudson for loss of his wife.

Next meeting, May 28th.

Presentation on faceting by Ray & Jimmy

Crystal to show Ammonite and Malamanine.

Meeting adjourned

Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Duplechain

Member of S.C.R.I.B.E.

Special Congress Representing

Involved Bulletin Editors



CLUB NEWS

Next Meeting: May 28, 2013
Marriott Hotel @ 7:00 pm

Catherine Rouchon is selling raffle tickets for the AFMS Endowment Raffle Committee. There are many prizes, including lapidary equipment. See Catherine for your tickets.

This month's program will be given by Claire Coco

Field Trip to Jasper for Petrified Wood is still in the scheduling stages.

SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION CONVENTION NEWS

ANNUAL SHOW

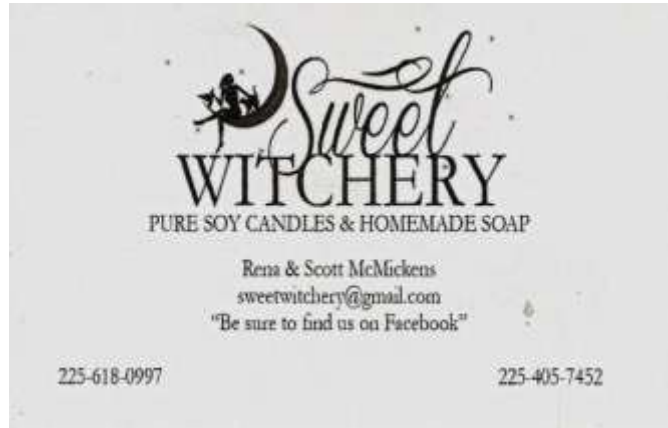
The ARK-LA-TEX Gem and Mineral Society, Bossier City, LA, will host the SCFC Show in 2013, to be held on August 17-18, 2013. So, mark your calendar and plan to be there for that show. We can get an idea as to what we will need to do when we sponsor the SCFC in 2014.

Diana Martin Jewelry

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Did you Know that Agate was used by ancient Egyptians as Talismans in the shape of cylinder seals, ring stones, cameos, and vessels. Agate was thought to protect against storms and lightning, also to quench the wearers thirst, and bestow the power of oratory.



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Gems by Ray

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Supplies furnished
6 week course
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Let's Remember
Our Troops and
Their families
that are serving
our country

Welcome new Members
Barry & Ellen Meyer,
Crystal Vavafseur,
Dusty Ransome



I HAD A BLAST!

I want to share with you something I did for a friend and will do again for a stranger. I spent a little less than an hour April 25th with a group of kids (about a dozen) at a BREC after school care center. I brought along my book If Rocks Could Sing, sort of told it to the kids rather than reading it, and asked each of them to choose a rock from several I had brought. Each of the children was asked to look at the rock from every angle. I asked who saw a horse, a pig, a sock, etc. Each one in turn was very excited to have seen the image I knew was there. They were given “google eyes” to put on it to make the image more distinct and an organza, draw string bag to store that rock and others as they find them.

Then we went outside to the driveway where they did the same thing, only this time they each had a map of the United States. They will spend the next few weeks trying to fill the teacher’s master map with rocks shaped like the states, hopefully learning the states as they do so.

The children ranged in age from about 3 years to twelve; they live in poverty and with danger every day. I have to say the littlest ones did wander, but the others were very excited to see something they actually had access to and could do on their own. Even the big, tough twelve year old boys couldn’t help but smile when they saw the images, and they, too, wanted the “google eyes” for their specimens.

Something so simple can do so much. I had a blast.

Cherie Schofield

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Warren Travis

Warren Travis has been a part of the Baton Rouge Gem and Mineral Society for about 4 years and is a past Board Member.

As a child he discovered rocks as most do, in the creeks, roads and yards. He had the desire to learn more about the rocks he found and wanted to go out and discover the types of rocks that were out in the world. Within the last eight years he has had the desire to learn faceting and cabbings. Warren has a talent to make cabachons really shine. He and Norma and Sancho go on trips to mines to dig whatever they can find. Although he enjoys the road trips, he likes to look in driveways for those rocks/stones that somehow have made their way down to Louisiana. He enjoys collecting rocks on all of his travels.

Warren is an active member of our club and is always willing to help out in all areas. He is quick to volunteer whenever needed. Get to know Warren, if you don’t already. He is always willing to talk rocks. Thank you Warren for all you do in the club.

PICTURES FROM ASTRONOMY DAY, EARTH DAY , LIBRARY EXHIBIT & WOOLAWN
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR



Astronomy Day



Earth Day



Jones Creek Library



Earth Day



Earth Day



Woodlawn Science Fair