

# THE STONE CHIPPER

THE 611<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, **FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2007, 7:30 P.M.**, AT THE AGMS CLUBHOUSE, 6719 BURNET LANE, AUSTIN, TX. PHONE: (512) 458-9546.



The February program will be a talk by club President **Alan Cherepon** on “**Museum Mineral Exhibits.**”

**AGMS Annual Show  
Gem Capers 2007  
Palmer Events Center**  
Show Dates: November 30th,  
December 1st and 2nd 2007.  
[www.AustinGemAndMineral.org](http://www.AustinGemAndMineral.org)

## THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.



All American Club  
Awards  
AFMS Gold &  
Trophy 2002  
AFMS Gold 2003,  
2004  
SCFMS Gold  
2002, 2003, 2004

The 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](http://www.AustinGemAndMineral.org). Contact Craig Brandt for website updates at [cbrandt@austin.rr.com](mailto:cbrandt@austin.rr.com).

### 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 the fourth Thursday of every month except November and December.** November or early December is show month and the meeting, if any, is held after show setup on Thursday before the show. December is the Invocation of Officers meeting held on a date and at a place determined by the officers. Board meetings are called as needed. All members are welcome to attend. Society Officers are listed on the back page of this publication. Please feel free to contact any of them for information.

### DUES FOR 2007

Membership dues are:

\$15.00 annually for an adult    \$20.00 annually for a couple    \$4.00 annually for juniors

### THE STONE CHIPPER

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## President's Message



What a rough beginning of the year it was - busy with the field trip to the uranium mines, then getting sick for the first meeting of my new administration. Now we have termites in the floorboards and who knows where else, and continued leaks in the roof/ceiling. Thank heaven for all the support and good people we have to step up and handle these things as they come at us. It is very fortuitous that **Ed Gage** has a background and expertise in dealing with termites/pesticides in his profession. Little by little, we'll work through these things. **Thanks Ed, Dee, James,** and the rest who continue to pitch in.

Looks like several of our members will be off to Tucson this month to the "Greatest Show on Earth", to borrow the phrase from P.T. Barnum. We should set aside a portion of our February meeting each year during the show and tell time for all those who went, to share with those less fortunate of us who couldn't attend. So let it be written, so let it be done.

By the time of our next meeting, I should have had the uranium field trip, and will try to remember to bring a copy or two of the guidebook and CD that comes with it. There will be some great photos of minerals in regular light and under the UV, which I am sure some of you will want to see, as well as some specimens we collect. So come on out and share what you've been up to lately. See you there (providing I don't have a relapse or worse.)

*~Alan Cherepon, President*

## January 2007 Meeting Minutes



**Program:** Ron and Jennifer Guzman presented a program on mines of northern Mexico, including slides of many of the mining areas and some exquisite examples of minerals they purchased and collected there.

**Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dee Fly, First Vice President, as the President, Alan Cherepon, has the flu.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

### Committee Reports:

**Show:** Show Committee chair Susan Postlethwait reported that the final figures on the 2006 show are not yet available. The first meeting this year resulted in a consensus that we need to do more educational activities at the show. Susan said that new chairpersons are needed for the Wheel of Fortune, the Show Bus, and Transportation. Diann Hill has agreed to be the new chairperson for the Dealer Committee.

**Building:** James Lopez is the new Building chairperson. He reported that the fan on the saw in the shed needs to be replaced.

**Education:** Education Committee Chairperson Nancy Keller said that classes in cabbing, faceting, and wire wrapping are planned starting in February. There will be no sign-up until the classes are scheduled.

**Field Trips:** James Mercier said that the Houston club is planning a field trip to the Walker Ranch at Big Bend, March 14 or 15, to return March 18. Chip Burnette told about the upcoming field trip to the uranium mines at Karnes City February 17. Contact Alan Cherepon to see if there is still space available. Everyone must ride on the bus rather than in personal cars.

**Hospitality:** Kellee Greenway, Hospitality chairperson, said **she would like for someone to take over her job**, as she has been doing it for four years and would like a break. She also asked that members sign up to bring food for the next few meetings.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Bob Greenway announced that he is **collecting donations in honor of George Browne**, which will be going to AFMS in George's name. He also said that the **faceting SIP will meet Thursday, February 15. [Ed. Note - this date is different from the one reported in the January newsletter calendar section.]**

**Library:** Harriet Strieber, co-librarian, said that new members were welcome to check out books, and that they should feel free to ask questions about the library. She said there are some extra catalogues and magazines in the cabbing room that are free to any member. Harriet purchased a new index

for the *Mineralogical Record* with funds available at the end of 2006. She said the library is mostly back in business now.

**Sunshine:** Josie Middleton, Sunshine chairperson, said that no one was sick, as far as she knew, and that Julian and his wife Emily Turner, had their new baby.

**Membership:** Ron Guzman, Membership chairperson, said that there were seventy-eight members present, one junior member, and ten guests.

**Newsletter:** Laura Dow, Newsletter co-chair, said that new members may sign up for the list-bot by e-mailing her at [dow@texas.net](mailto:dow@texas.net).

**Announcement:** Mac Ellis said that he is offering knapping classes at his house each Saturday in February.

~Pauline Denson, Secretary



## Library News

The library is still in the process of sorting out all of the recent donations. We appreciate your patience. PLEASE hold off on donating more items UNTIL the current items are sorted through and shelved (until the table is gone from the middle of the library). We love all the donations, but currently everyone is just flooding the library with them. Committee members are needed (perhaps two), to help decide on future book purchases. Please contact one of the librarians for more details. Happy reading, and keep turning those books in on time so others have a chance to check them out.

~Diann Hill & Harriet Strieber, co-librarians



## Dues are Due!

**Dues for 2007 are now due!** Please pay at the next meeting, or by sending your check and information to the clubhouse, attention the treasurer.

~Editors

## A.G.M.S. Calendar

Wednesdays - Workshop Open 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Feb 15 - Show Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Feb 15 - Faceter SIG Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Feb 20 - Fossil SIG Meeting

Feb 21 - Clubhouse Clean Up (volunteers needed)

Feb 22 - Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Mar 06 - Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Mar 14 - Faceter SIG Meeting, 7:00 p.m.



Our thanks go to the following for their continued support of the A.G.M.S. by printing out the newsletter for us each month:

**Horizon Environmental  
Services, Inc.  
James M. Wiersema, Principal**



**Sunshine  
Committee**

Congratulations to **Julian and Emily Turner** on the birth of their new son and greetings to the youngest rockhound in the AGMS!

Josie Middleton asks that you report sunshine news, both good and bad, to her at the following number: (512) 771-5814.

NOTE: Please send notices of changes of address or to report errors on the mailing list to: **Bob Greenway**, treasurer, at [rgreenway@austin.rr.com](mailto:rgreenway@austin.rr.com). To get signed onto the AGMS email list and/or to receive the newsletter via email, please send a note to the editors at [dow@texas.net](mailto:dow@texas.net).

~The Editors

Something to think about when you drop one of your prized specimens on a concrete floor. Mark Twain made this observation: "Under certain circumstances, profanity provides a measure of relief denied even to prayer."

~submitted by JW Downs



## OPINION CORNER

### Gilding the Lily

By J.W. Downs  
AGMS Club Member



It is hard to improve on Nature, yet we have a strong tendency to take Nature's creations and try to make something else out of them. Obviously this does not apply to opening a geode or cutting and polishing a slab of stone to reveal the beauty of its structure. Agate frequently can be shown to better advantage when its colors are enhanced by judicious dyeing and the color of some crystals can be deepened by heat treating or exposure to radiation. All of this is fair practice to bring out the natural beauty of gems and minerals.

My objection is to the use of Nature's wonderful creations as a vehicle for something "cutesy." Does a metal deer or fisherman placed inside an otherwise beautiful geode or a Buddha glued to a nice piece of jade really improve it? Possibly the worst examples are hand-painted images of Indians (canoes optional) or amply antlered deer heads on otherwise flawless slabs of polished Brazilian agate. It would take a leap of the imagination to say that these items have been improved with the addition of the art work.

This is analogous to young junior high school girls who think that they can improve their looks by applying eyeliner, lipstick and other artifacts of make-up in the belief that it makes them more beautiful. They do not realize that they have already reached a high degree of perfection and that nothing they could add would be an improvement.

Frequently we see an object and immediately think, "What can I make out of it?" Some mineral specimens are pressed in to service as bookends, which, in some cases can be a convenient way of displaying the symmetry of a good stone. This is better than making a wastebasket out of an elephant's foot or a hat rack from a moose head. It can be validly argued that neither the elephant nor the moose had been improved by the taking of its property and that the lives of the hunters probably had not been notably enriched.

An egregious example of improving on Nature was seen in a California store that sold quartz crystals that had been modified to have four sides and a pyramidal top, resembling an obelisk. Someone had taken high quality hexagonal quartz crystals up to six inches in length and modified them because "their vibrations were more powerful in this shape."

The most important part of art is knowing when to quit. Finishing touches on sculptures and paintings have sometimes been disastrous. Examples in music are legion. Upon hearing a Beethoven symphony, one young music student remarked that Beethoven missed a lot of good stopping places. Brevity is the soul of wit. If a beautiful crystal ends its days unadorned in a display cabinet, it is not the worst fate that can befall it. This would be the next best thing to remaining undiscovered *in situ* for future eons.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Rocks, Mineral Specimens and Lapidary Equipment Sale

Dee and Teresa Purkeypile are having their last sale ever in Austin for rough rock, slabs, mineral specimens and lapidary equipment. Rough rock will be priced at \$2/lb, slabs at \$5/lb, variscite \$15/lb, all crystals, mineral and fluorescent specimens are 1/2 off the listed price. They have two Rose ReciproLaps for \$350/ea., one Richardson Ranch Sphere machine and assorted silicon carbide grinder cups for \$400. Please contact Teresa Purkeypile at 339-2264 for more information. One day only, **Saturday, February 24, 2007.** (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).

~Dee Purkeypile, AGMS Club Member

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### Arts & Crafts Website

The website [www.ArtsAndCraftsForSale.com](http://www.ArtsAndCraftsForSale.com) is a place where artists, crafts persons, hobbyists and buyers meet. Sellers can turn their craft or hobby into a small business for a very low cost of \$60 per year and sell up to 40 items at a time. There are no other costs. Go to the site for details.

~John Speck, AGMS Club Member

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"Time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once." *Carl Sagan*

"Midwives Help People Out" *Bumper sticker*

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## Show Talk



Wow, can you believe it is February already! At the February show committee meeting we will be deciding on the theme for the 2007 show and review the dealers. We are also hoping to **fill the following positions: Wheel of Fortune, School Bus, Grand Prize Ticket, Magazine Announcements, Transportation, and Parking.**

I am sure the chair reports will be exciting as everybody has had a chance to review all of the creative suggestions that were brought up at last month's meeting.

The show committee is committed to finding some creative ways to help spark the minds of the kids that come through on Friday. We are looking for ideas that will have a low volunteer overhead, perhaps not heavy in the consumables and yet exciting for the kids. I do believe that you will see an entire new Youth Education Day this year! So come and join the fun and help us help Austin!

Show Committee meeting will be **February 15<sup>th</sup>** (3<sup>rd</sup> Calendar Thursday). We begin promptly at **7 p.m.** at the AGMS club house. Goodies provided.

*~Respectfully submitted, Susan Postlethwait, 2007  
Gem Capers Show Chair*

## Show Committee Minutes Synopsis January 18, 2007

**NOTE:** These are synopsis minutes. For full text of show minutes, please contact the show secretary, Dee Fly.

*~Editors*

Dee Fly volunteered to be the show committee secretary.

Show Treasurer Bob Folsom reported \$32,121.71 in the account with the deposit that Bob Greenway made from the show of \$16,402.06, which is about \$7.50, less that last year. Bob Greenway advised that he made another deposit later from the silent auction of \$450 bringing the total deposits to \$16,852.06.

Bob Greenway reported that attendance was down from last year. Total for 2006 was 4,254 compared to 4,853 for 2005. There were 1,465 from schools in attendance on Friday compared to 2,092 in 2005. There were some school children in on Saturday but they would be included in the overall total.

Agreed that we need to come up with more education items; displays, demonstrations, hands-on, etc.

Discussion items: look into getting a golf cart to take handicapped persons to & fro, talk to city regarding possible violation of ADA. Have rubber mats for cashiers and club booth to stand on all day. Large container for display lights. Sponsorship for the show bulletin – Stretch Young to chair. Discuss theme for 2007 show. Competition for theme article for a prize. Moving touch table to North entrance. Fix the Wheel of Fortune. Come up with more hands-on education activities.

Committee chairpersons needed: Wheel of Fortune, School Bus, Grand Prize Ticket, Magazines, Transportation, and Parking.

*~Dee Fly, Show Committee Secretary*

## Ancient Technologies

After having dug to a depth of 1,000 meters last year, Scottish scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 1,000 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 1,000 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Scots, in the weeks that followed, English scientists dug to a depth of 2,000 meters and shortly after headlines in the UK newspapers read: "English archaeologists have found traces of 2,000 year old copper wire and have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a thousand years earlier than the Scots."

One week later, Texas newspapers reported the following: "After digging as deep as 5,000 meters in West Texas, a joint commission of scientists from Texas A&M and the University of Texas have found absolutely nothing. They have therefore concluded that 5,000 years ago Texas inhabitants were already using wireless."

*~submitted by Larry McCauley, from the internet*

## Those Beautiful Knobby - Bumpy Garden Rocks



By Paul W. Good  
AGMS Club Member

I was born and raised in Greene County, Indiana. My father owned 19 acres there and we grew a lot of vegetables, field corn, and soy beans. We had our own apple trees and we grew a lot of strawberries, blackberries and raspberries.

When I was a youngster, about five years old, my grandfather, father, and brother drove over to Lawrence County, which was next to Greene County, and picked up a pickup truck load of “garden rocks.” They loaded the rocks by hand. The rocks resembled many different things: some like a football, being oblong, others were sphere-like, and some were sort of round and flat. They only brought back the bigger ones. Most of them were from four to nine inches across. They didn’t want to “mess” with the smaller ones under four inches.

They brought them home and divided them between three families who lived within a half mile of each other: Grandpa Good, Uncle Floyd, and my house. All three families made beautiful borders for their flower gardens. As you traveled around the area, you would notice a lot of families used the bumpy garden rocks in their yards.

We moved out of Greene County when I was 17 years old and relocated in northern Indiana. When we sold the farm we left the rocks behind. All the time that we had the “garden rocks”, we did not know that there was some kind of mineral inside.

I became interested in rocks and minerals in about 1967. After attending a program on “Geodes” at the local rock club meeting, it didn’t take me too long to realize that what we knew as those “knobby, bumpy garden rocks” were really geodes. I also learned there could be different kinds of minerals inside the geodes.

Looking in the dictionary, geodes are defined as a sphere-shaped stone, usually at least partially hollow, and often lined inside with sparkling mineral crystals or concentric layers of

minerals. The word geode is derived from the Latin, meaning “earthlike” rounded spheres.

Some of the Indiana geodes are lined with chalcedony with nice quartz inside. Others have hematite, goethite, calcite, and millerite. Of course like other earthlike rounded shapes known as: thundereggs, some of them are solid all the way through. Those may contain milky quartz.

After I realized what we had left on the farm, I returned to Greene County and stopped at the farm. The people who purchased our farm were very friendly and invited us in to see the house. They had added on a couple of rooms to the house and it was interesting to see the old home place.

While I was there I asked them if they remembered the round knobby, bumpy garden rocks that were there when they bought the place. They said yes, “there is one right here and you can have it if you so desire”, but the rest are all gone. They also said their boys had laid one in the fork of the tree and as time went on, the tree grew around the geode.

About the same time, I went to Lawrence County, and my brother took me to a place where we were able to pick up a bucket full of small geodes in a short period of time.

For 36 years my wife and I have been taking displays to schools. One of the displays that I have is named “Nature’s Spheres.” It consists of geodes, thundereggs, occo geode halves and emma eggs. This is one of the students’ favorite displays. We get a lot of comments from the students.

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### What is It?

By Josie Middleton  
AGMS Club Member

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To me, the mineral from the January puzzle is hard to identify just by looking at it. Apatite is either fluor-apatite or chlor-apatite. The fluorine variety is the most common and found more abundantly in the metamorphic rocks. It is also more commonly found in the yellow, yellow-green colour and has been faceted into a gemstone. Enough on this one, let’s try the next.

1. Mineral color range for this is gray, white, or light green.
  2. Elements of this mineral are magnesium, silicon and oxygen.
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3. Its luster is translucent to opaque.
4. It has a micaceous cleavage.
5. An impure mass of this is called soapstone.
6. Has a pearly luster.
7. Hardness of 1.
8. A discredited mineral name is agalmatolite, (that means that name can't be used for that mineral anymore).
9. A hardier cousin of this material is called Serpentine.

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## Local Show Announcements

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**Feb 17-18**

Plainview, TX

Hi Plains Gem & Mineral Society  
jmatlock@texasonline.net

**Feb 24-25**

Pasadena, TX

Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
<http://www.ghg.net/gpenning/annual.htm>

**Mar 3-4**

Big Spring, TX

Big Spring Prospector's Club  
Lola Lamb, 432-263-4662

**Mar 3-4**

Corpus Christi, TX

Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society  
Jerrold Simpson, 361-851-8788

*~From [www.lapidaryjournal.com](http://www.lapidaryjournal.com) calendar*

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## Winter Hunting

By Margaret Good  
AGMS Club Member

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Driving down the highway  
The fog today is dense  
Cannot see the signs to turn  
To go rock hunting makes no sense.  
So January hunting rocks  
Is not an easy thing to do  
Just think ahead, looking at clocks  
Will hunt once more, that is true.



## SHOP TIPS

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Hand lotion cleans grease, a hobbyist says. When sawing rocks or other greasy things he must wash his hands a lot. One day he accidentally used his wife's lotion instead of the soap dispenser, and found that the oil washed off in one application and his hands smelled like lotion instead of ALMAG! He used Jergens extra dry lotion and rinsed in plain water.

*~Author unknown from Stone Age News, 6/02, via  
Quarry Quips, 11/04*

An old salt or pepper shaker can be used to apply grit to a vibra lap. Best results come from using 80-100 grit, 300-400, then 600 grit. Polish on felt or indoor-outdoor carpeting with cerium oxide, tin oxide, or other media.

Try tile polish to bring out the colors and patterns on the faces of cutrocks. Mop and Glo can also be used for higher polish.

*~Above two By Bob Hicks in Shawnee Slate 12/00, via  
The Rockytier 3/01, The Southwest Gem 8/04*

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## Safety First




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## IDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

By Mel Albright  
AFMS Saftey Chair

You pick up a rock that looks promising. You can't quite tell if it's any good. You want to see what's inside. So, you take your rock hammer or another rock and hit it to chip off a piece. ZING, a chip hits your eye. You are now one-eyed.

That great specimen you want is partially buried in the matrix right there! All you have to do is get it loose without breaking it. So, you grab a chisel and a hammer and start chipping. ZING, a chip hits your eye. You are now one-eyed.

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You need to get that rock out of the ground. All it needs is a little prying. You grab a crowbar, point the end at the crack and bang it down to force it into the ground. ZING, a chip hits your eye. You are now one-eyed.

You want some rocks for tumbling. All you have are too big. So, you grab a big one, set it down on the ground, take a hammer and bang away. ZING, a chip hits your eye. You are now one-eyed.

Your piece of slab is too big. It's real time consuming to trim it with your saw. So, you grab a pair of pliers, grab a corner, and pry to break it off. ZING, a chip hits your eye. You are now one-eyed, OR, you score the slab with a glass cutter, line the score over a bench edge, and start tapping to break it. ZING, a chip hits your eye. You are now one-eyed.

You're cleaning a fossil. As you chip away to get matrix off, you lean closer and closer to see that you get it exactly right. Suddenly your hammer slips and bounces. ZING, the hammer hits your eye. You are now one-eyed.

You're gluing with epoxy. You get a little hardener on your hand. You wipe the sweat off your forehead. You get a little hardener in your eye. ZING, you are now one-eyed.

Wild? Exaggerated? Not really. It happens all too often. Plastic safety glasses at WalMart - about \$1. Plastic face shield at WalMart - about \$5. Worth it?

*~From Stone Age News, 10/04*

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## Black Quartz Crystals

By Professor Emeritus, Evelyn Fielder Streng

Usually one thinks of quartz in terms of the clear "rock crystals" or perhaps in the treasured amethyst variety. The rock and mineral handbooks remind one that a variety of colors is possible, ranging to smoky, but not all include BLACK as an option. (Of course there is black chert/flint, quite common in Texas, but the subject here is crystals.)

In 1994 I was at a dramatic exhibit of black quartz crystals on top of Mt. Pilatus near Lucern, Switzerland. One ascends this snow-crowned peak by means of "the world's steepest cog railway" to see the view. Since the view was completely "socked-in" by clouds by the time we got up that far, I had time to get a close look at the rock of the mountain itself, a

(wet) gray limestone with white calcite veins suggesting its marine origin. No surprise, I had found that elsewhere in the Alps, as in Austria.

However, in going to warm up inside the observation tower building, I discovered this wonderful exhibit. Now, the crystals were not from Pilatus (it's limestone, remember), but from deeper in the Central Alps. I will translate and summarize excerpts from the brochure for the "Ausstellung", available only in German. "Much folklore surrounds the appearance of the black quartz and other minerals in the Central Alps. There are said to be mysterious clefts in the rock walls where dwarfs live. Anyone entering those clefts will be stricken with illness but a yearning to see more. On the night of Good Friday, the dwarfs spread out their mineral treasure, glimmering in pale moonlight, while they do a wonderful dance. But woe to a chance observer: he will die before the end of the year!"

The legend may have a kernel of truth. In deep clefts in the granite and gneiss there are mineral treasures like clear quartz, rose quartz, and others, collected and brought to daylight. However, the most coveted of these is the "Morion," the deep translucent black which symbolizes the mystery of night.

Black quartz was already known by the Romans; Pliny the Elder described it in his "Natural History" nearly 2,000 years ago. Georgius Agricola (1494-1551) gave this only black translucent gem the name "Morion." The geologic origin is said to be from the formation of the Alps. As the folding was completed 18 to 20 million years ago, the enormous pressure caused clefts or rifts in the rocks in which crystals grew. There is clear quartz, smoky quartz, occasional amethyst, and the mysterious Morion. Calcite, chlorite, hematite, and rutile are also said to occur.

The greatest mystery of Morion is its black color, though chemically identical with the clear quartz, silicon dioxide. The color is explained by radiation. Deep in the Earth, radioactive isotopes send out their rays over a long period of time, affecting the quartz in the vicinity. There are "Morions" of various tones of color depending on the back-ground radiation. The most important locale is the Aar Massif in the Central Alps, with igneous and metamorphic rocks.

Seeking such crystals in the Alps seems to be quite a hobby. Collectively, the hunters are called "Strahlers." Occasionally

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new clefts with the minerals are found. This becomes more possible as glaciers recede; there must be many mineral treasures still under the ice.

The exhibit was from an important 1986 find by two "Strahlers," Ludwig Eller and Franz Zahn. After weeks of hard work seeking out clefts in the rock they came across an extensive group of the black crystals.

Fortunately, there were a few black crystals available in the Pilatus gift shop! So now there is a little addition to the Silicate display in the Fiedler Memorial Museum at Texas Lutheran College. Yes, BLACK quartz crystals!

*~From Earthworks 10/94, via The Southwest Gem 5/95, Stoney Statements 12/97, The Glacial Drifter 8/00, The Rockytier 10/01, The Roadrunner 1/07*



## A.F.M.S. News

**AFMS /RMFMS  
CONVENTION & SHOW  
HOSTED BY  
CHAPARRAL  
ROCKHOUNDS  
ROSWELL CIVIC  
CENTER, ROSWELL, NM  
JUNE 7 - 10, 2007**



This year's AFMS show and convention will mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization. In addition to the usual events, there will be special surprises to commemorate this occasion.

On Friday afternoon, there will be a seminar on the Minerals of New Mexico moderated by Dr. Virgil Lueth of the New Mexico Bureau of Mines. All of the speakers will be past recipients of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation Honorary Awards. In addition to all of the competitive and non-competitive exhibits associated with RMFMS and AFMS Conventions, there will also be a special display called the "Parade of States."

Field trips are being planned for both during and after the show. These include two trips during the show to hunt for "Pecos Valley Diamonds" and a three-day trip after the show to several sites west of Roswell. There will be more information on these trips later in the spring. If you are interested in attending any of these, please fill out a "Waiver of Liability" form that can be found on the website, and send it in with your registration.

The AFMS 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration dinner will be held on Thursday night, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Cracker Barrel. Don't miss it! The Editors' Breakfast will be held on Saturday morning, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at a cost of \$10.25 per person, and the Awards Banquet is the same night at 7 p.m. at a cost of \$22 per person.

The host hotel this year is Sally Port Inn, 200 N. Main St., Roswell, NM, 505-622-6430. When you make your reservations ask for the "AFMS Show" rate. This will get you a cost of \$78.30 per person (up to 4 per room) that includes breakfast and tax.

For much more information on the show, as well as all the necessary forms, please visit the AFMS website newsletter for February, 2007 at [http://www.amfed.org/news/n2007\\_02.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/news/n2007_02.pdf).

*~excerpted from A.F.M.S. Newsletter, 2/07*



## S.C.F.M.S. News

### 2007 SCFMS OFFICERS

President - Chuck Schuler, Exec. VP - Ike House, Secretary - Ruth Cress, Treasurer - Jonetta Nash, Exec Secretary - Jonathan Moehring, Past President - William Medford.

District Vice Presidents: I N.E. TX - Don Shurtz, II S.E. TX - John Moffitt, III S. TX - Virginia Adian, IV CTL. TX - Mary Muller, V W. TX - Jim Matlock, VI Rollin' Rock Club - Betty Gosewehr, VII Arkansas - Raymond Lynch, VIII Louisiana - Bridget Joubert Marler.

*~excerpted from S.C.F.M.S. Newsletter, 12/06*

**THE STONE CHIPPER**  
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**Address Correction Requested**

# Austin Gem and Mineral Society

For membership information write: **AGMS, 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, TX 78757**

## 2007 Officers

President:	Alan Cherepon	2904 Martin Dr, Cedar Park, TX 78613	(512) 219-1834
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Susan Postlethwait	(1)	(830) 625-9625
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Richard Dorsey	(2)	(512) 331-7146
Diann Hill	(2)	(979) 773-4544

## Committee Chairpersons

Annual Show	Susan Postlethwait	(830) 625-9625
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Federation/Conservation	Paul Good	(512) 268-4555
4 Field Trip	Gene Healy	(512) 459-8295
Committee:	Ron Carman	(512) 754-6687
Workshop & Historian	Ed Gage	(830) 535-4550
Hospitality	Kellee Greenway	(512) 924-0958
Junior Advisor/Programs	Susan Postlethwait	(830) 625-9625
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Library Co-Chair	Diann Hill	(979) 773-4544
Membership	Ron Guzman	(512) 292-9816
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**FEBRUARY  
2007**

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**2003-1st AFMS New Editors, 1st SCFMS**  
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**2005-2nd AFMS, 1st SCFMS**  
**2006-6th AFMS, 2nd SCFMS**