

THE STONE CHIPPER

THE 627TH MEETING OF THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, **JULY 24TH, 2008, 7:30 P.M.**, AT THE AGMS CLUBHOUSE, 6719 BURNET LANE, AUSTIN, TX. PHONE: (512) 458-9546.



The July program will be announced at the meeting.

**AGMS Annual Show
Gem Capers 2008
Palmer Events Center
NEW Show Dates:
October 24th - 26th.
www.GemCapers.com**

THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

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. Contact our webmaster for website updates at DiannH@austingemandmineral.org.

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 October which is show set up day. There will be a meeting on the **THIRD** Thursday in November. 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 2008

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

President's Message



I hope you all are keeping cool this summer. Our AC went down on us right before vacation, so things can always get worse (what did they do before the days of AC down here?) I just got back from vacation up to New England and New York State. I only expected to visit one or two mineral localities on our trip, and was surprised that we got to visit four. The Newry/Bethel tourmaline area in Maine, Gore Mountain garnet locality NW of Lake George, NY, the Balmat talc mines in upstate New York (great fluorescent minerals), and Herkimer, NY. To give you an idea of how close everything is, we were in Herkimer, NY in the early afternoon the day before we left, drove through and briefly walked around in Stockbridge, MA of Norman Rockwell fame, and finally dropped the rental car off at Boston around 12:30 a.m. the morning we flew home. This doesn't even get into the many rock shops in other places, like one in southern New Hampshire, or Burlington, Vermont. Many places had fluorescent displays, even where they didn't have fluorescent minerals in that area. I just had to adjust my map-reading skills to account for that fact that we were not in Texas anymore, and not every place you wanted to go takes three hours to get to. We covered a good area in two weeks, and it was much cheaper than going overseas. That resulted in more actual minerals and more fun collecting as well. I highly recommend visiting this part of the U.S. for minerals - and I didn't even go to Franklin or the museums in NYC, which would have made it even more incredible. Ahh, to escape the heat, even if for only a little while... The next to the last day the temperature was so cool in the Adirondacks, my brother had to put the heat on for his daughter. It did rain about half the time, but it only kept me from collecting longer in one instance. I will have to have a "Show & Tell" at the next meeting.

I am sure the Flys and others will have at least as exciting tales to tell at our next meeting. Hopefully, I will have gained access for us to collect at two locations by then. I am still experiencing vacation lag, so excuse me if I leave something out. I did come back, unfortunately, to an incident that occurred while I was gone. Please try and be more long suffering with each other and think before you lash out at someone in our society (or anywhere for that matter). Texas' name is supposed to be the word for friendly, so try and keep that in mind. I may have

an excuse, coming down here from near New York City, but short tempers and harsh words are not really ever excused (I am still learning this even in my marriage, but I think I am getting better). If after nearly 27 years of marriage I can now apologize to my wife shortly after saying something harsher than I needed to, and minimize these incidents (we were both born Yankees, what can I say), I would think anyone can do the same. As I think most every Mom has said at some point in her life, "Don't make me come out there!"

So, as the temperature rises, keep a cool head, relax, and have something "on the rocks" before you place a relationship there. Looking forward to getting back into the swing of things and work at helping the show to be a success, as well as exhibiting at the Humble show. See you all at the July meeting, if not on a field trip before then.

~Alan Cherepon, President

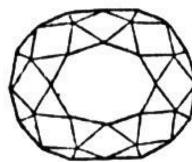


Library News

The Librarians would like to thank each and every club member for their continued patronage of the library. Donations over the past several years have certainly increased our holdings. When doing your summer house cleaning, don't forget to check and see if that magazine or book you are thinking about getting rid of is needed for our collection. The library is particularly interested in building our junior section. Wouldn't it be wonderful for your child to bring a friend to visit the clubhouse and see that there were almost as many junior books as there were regular books?

Please remember that check out is for one month only. No new check outs until all overdue books are turned in. You must be a member in good standing of the AGMS to check out books, (current year dues paid). The reference cabinet is open 30 minutes prior to a general meeting and for a short time after the meeting. If you need something from the reference cabinet at any other time, please contact a librarian for assistance

~Diann Hill, Library co-chair





June 2008 Meeting Minutes

Program: The June program was a presentation by Gail and Jim Spann, who won the Desautel Award for best competitive case of minerals at the 2008 Tuscon show. Gail discussed the differences between collecting by men and women. She and Jim talked about the pleasure and excitement of collecting, and showed a large number of slides of museum-quality specimens from their collection. They told something about the history of most specimens and how they obtained them.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dee Fly, First Vice-President.

Minutes: Ewing Evans moved that the minutes of the May meeting be approved. Susan Postlethwait seconded the motion, and it passed.

Old Business:

Building Repairs: Dee Fly said that Murry Fly will help Robert Morriss repair the main door to the building and that Robert needs at least one more helper. Call Robert if you can help. Dee also said she hopes Robert and helpers will hang the awards case that Ewing Evans made for the club.

December Banquet Volunteer: Dee also said we need several nice people to volunteer to organize the December installation banquet. We need someone to order and pick up the food, someone to set up and decorate, and a crew to clean up after the banquet. Call Dee if you can help.

AFMS Show: The September meeting is the day before the start of the AFMS annual show in Houston, and several members are entering display cases. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Houston club web site.

Junior Chair: Dee announced that we still need a chair for the junior program.

New Business:

Name Badges: Dee Fly reported that the list for name badges and vests had been lost. She passed around a clipboard for people to sign up again.

Photos: Diann Hill has asked for pictures of things members have made for the web site.

Classes: The book to sign up for classes is on the table by the door, and members may sign up and Joyce Hrapsky will contact them about classes.

Air Filters: Air filters will be changed every month after the general meeting.

Sunshine: Anyone with Sunshine information should email Kathleen Howard.

Nominations: Susan Postlethwait said that three new board member candidates are needed and candidates are needed for all officer positions. Anyone interested should contact her.

Show Committee: Susan Postlethwait announced that the committee would pick the Saturday Prize and stuff envelopes with letters to schools at the July meeting. She thanked Ivy Hjernevik for making and donating 32 pairs of earrings for the Wheel of Fortune, Mac Ellis for offering to make 75 to 100 pairs of earrings for the Wheel, and David and Laura Dow for donating the gem-inlaid globe for the grand prize. Susan also said that she will be getting together prizes for Lynn Young to use with the advertisements for the show.

Lynn said that Kirk Root will do TV commercials for the show again and he may sponsor a booth and do demonstrations.

Susan said that the show pins had arrived and that the price before the show is \$2.50, and \$3.00 at the show.

Auction: The August meeting is the annual auction. Anyone wishing to donate items to be auctioned should bring them to the next meeting. Place donations on the table in the back of the faceting room, marking what they are and who donated them. Donations will be acknowledged.

Club Exhibit: Josie Middleton said that since she is putting together six cases to exhibit at the AFMS show for the club on Brazilian minerals, she needs people to loan any minerals they have for the exhibit.

Workshop: Dee Fly said that Gef Fisher is moving and will not be able to open the workshop during July. Anyone who

is interested in doing it, either on Wednesdays or other days and times, should get with Gef for instructions and a key.

Membership: Dee announced that 63 members were present, as well as 4 guests and 1 junior.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

~Pauline Denson, Secretary

Refreshments



JULY: The following persons have volunteered to bring refreshments to the July AGMS Meeting: **Paul Bordovsky, Ivy Hjernevik, Kathleen Howard, and Tommie Potts.**

AUGUST: The following persons have volunteered to bring refreshments to the August AGMS Meeting: **Pauline Denson, Mary Eisenmenger, Zanzea Fajard, and Charlotte Morriss.**



December Holiday Banquet Help Needed!

We're just entering the heat of summer, yet we are trying to plan ahead for the needs of the club. Since there is no one person in charge of refreshments this year, we will need a Chair and assistants to plan the Christmas New Officer Induction Banquet and to set up for dinner on December 11th. The skills involve arranging for a caterer and drinks, notices to include gift exchanges, inviting the scholarship recipients, setting up the rooms with tables and decorations, and securing help to break down afterwards. If you are a party host extraordinaire or have been looking for a way to help out the club that doesn't involve rock and gem skills, then here is your opportunity! Please contact one of the club officers if you'd like to help out.

NOTE: Please send notices of changes of address or to report errors on the mailing list to: **Bob Greenway**, treasurer. To get signed onto the AGMS email list and/or to receive the newsletter via email, please send a note to the editors at StoneChipper@austingemandmineral.org.

Women's Perspective in Collecting and How it Differs From Men's

June Presentation Review
By Laura Dow

Gail Spann, along with her husband Jim, gave an entertaining program and slide show to a packed house at the last AGMS meeting. Gail noted that they have only been interested in minerals for a few years. She was at a Houston museum and saw a wulfenite specimen and she fell in love with its deep orange color. She wrote the name down on a napkin with some eyeliner from her purse. When she got home, she Googled the word and called out to Jim, "Hey honey, you can buy this stuff!" With that, a pair of collectors was born.

This year, Gail and Jim won the 2008 Desautel trophy for best mineral display at the Tucson show in Arizona. Gail used her experience from running an art gallery to help select the fabric color and to arrange the specimens. In order to get more items in, they had multiple tiers of rocks.

In addition to collecting some of the finest mineral specimens around, the Spanns have also studied the rocks and their localities intensely and rapidly became experts in the field. They frequently put up educational displays and have groups come to their home to view and learn. Gail and Jim have found that pairing raw gem material with cut gemstones is a very effective tool and has served to get some rockhound wives much more interested in the hobby – to the delight of their husbands. They are often answering questions such as "who carved it," or "who faceted it," regarding natural crystal faces.

During the program, the crowd was treated to photos of many of the Spanns beautiful specimens. Several of them also came with long and interesting histories as they were purchased from old collections. These tales were nearly as exciting as the stones themselves. Gail and Jim have also had the honor of having several of their specimens grace the cover of various gem and mineral magazines.

We thank Gail and Jim for coming down from Dallas to share some of their specimens with us, and more importantly, their passion for collecting!

Paleo Club News



The program for the July 15th meeting will be a little different, but in a fun way! Five mystery speakers will bring his/her favorite fossil, tell where it was found and if that's still a good site, how it was cleaned or prepared, (if purchased, where and the cost, etc.), and tell how it was identified, classified, etc. (In fact, anything that speaker can think to tell about that fossil taking 5-10 minutes will be appreciated.)

~Diann Strout

A.G.M.S. Calendar

Jul 15 - Paleo Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
 Jul 17 - Show Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Jul 23 - Clubhouse Clean Up (volunteers needed)
 Jul 24 - Club Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
 Aug 05 - Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.



Sunshine
Committee

Please send sunshine news to Kathleen Howard.

Board Minutes Synopsis

May 6, 2008

(not included in May newsletter)

NOTE: These are synopsisized minutes. For full text of board minutes, please contact the club secretary, Pauline Denson.

~Editors

Gef Fisher installed a new plug for the water heater. He has also installed an automatic light over the saw shed. Alan sprayed the weeds in the parking lot with weed killer.

Robert Morriss explained how the door could be fixed at a cost of approximately \$150 if he has help from club members to do the work. Volunteers to help will be requested at the

general meeting. We also need to replace the tile in front of the door when the job is finished.

Tedford had checked the air conditioner and we had been billed for the service call. Andrea suggested that we contract for regular maintenance checks on the air conditioner. Andrea will check with the company she uses to see if they do commercial buildings and what the charge would be.

Andrea Miller said that she has a vinyl repair kit that can be used to repair our ripped chairs. She will try it out on a couple of chairs before the next board meeting

Bob Greenway said he had called the city requesting a garbage can to replace the one that disappeared, but it had not been delivered yet. He will put "AGMS" on it when it arrives.

Diann Hill said that money in the library and workshop kitties had disappeared during the general meeting. She proposed that the club buy three wooden boxes that can be locked and mounted on the wall, for the library, the workshop, and the kitchen. Andrea will get the boxes and locks. Diann also said that the reference section in the library is now kept locked, and that she, Harriett and Andrea had keys. The reference section will be open a half-hour before and after the general meeting if a librarian is available to stay in the library.

Dee Fly said that the show committee had picked four new dealers. Pauline Denson said she had scheduled two more sessions to make items for the Wheel of Fortune, one on May 8th and one on June 12th.

Robert Morriss said he had done an analysis of the cost per hour per student for a cabbng class. Electricity and use of equipment would be around \$1.59, and he is proposing a charge of \$2.00 plus \$1.00 for cost of materials, for a total of \$3.00 per hour per student. Costs for other types of classes would be different due to differences in the cost of materials.

Dee Fly said she would like to see set fees for use of various workshop equipment. Diann said that we need to have a list of people who are certified to use which equipment. It was decided to keep the fee for cabbng equipment at \$2.00 per hour, and for use of the saws in the saw shed at ten cents per square inch.

The Nominations Committee consists of Susan Postlethwait, Andrea Miller, Richard Dorsey and David Wenger.

Board Minutes Synopsis July 1, 2008

The \$8,000 item for scholarships included \$4,000 from last year's budget, which was not used last year. Bob Greenway will bring this up to amend the budget at the general meeting.

Robert Morriss said he has enough volunteers to help with the door replacement and he will schedule the work soon. The tile by the door will be replaced when the door is finished.

Dee Fly purchased filters for the air conditioner. They should be changed every two months. She will post a checklist to keep track of when they were changed.

Still need to paint the wood under the air conditioner on the roof.

Diann will find the lock boxes for the library, workshop, and kitchen; maybe comment boxes will work.

Andrea will work on the torn vinyl on the chairs soon. We now have all three of our garbage cans.

Richard Dorsey said that the roof had leaked again in one place. He will get with the roofer and go up on the roof with him this time.

One of the toilets is shimmed and may need a new wax ring. Diann Hill will take care of this.

There are paint spatters on the woodwork that need to be scraped and there are still some baseboards that need to be placed back where removed from the water damage (faceting and cabbing rooms).

Someone with whom Susan Postlethwait works has asked if the Needlepoint Guild, a quilting organization, can use our meeting room for a three-day quarterly meeting and in exchange they will do the sewing work to update our show banner. The banner would cost around \$850 or people from the club would do the sewing. Robert Morriss said that we need to have a written policy on who we should allow to use the building. Robert moved that we accept their offer to

exchange repair of our banner for a one-time use of the building as long as there is no scheduling conflict. Diann Hill seconded the motion and it passed.

In order to limit access to other areas of the building when outsiders use it, Bob Greenway will put a dead bolt on the inside of the front door, and Kathleen Howard will purchase and install locking door knobs on the doors to the cabbing and faceting rooms.

Volunteers are still needed for the Junior Chair, the Show Chair, and the Building Maintenance Chair. Dee Fly asked the officers and board members to help in asking people if they would consider being a committee chairperson. The Show Chair can be a joint venture.

The new vendors have returned their contracts and have paid; the floor plan is finalized; the Saturday prize will be chosen at the next meeting on July 17th; and most of the Wheel items are done or ready to be ordered.

Betsy advised previously that she will replace the door lock, caulk some holes in the cases and paint the display cases.

Gef Fisher is moving and will not be available for the workshop during the month of July. Richard Dorsey and James Lopez have offered to take care of it some of the Wednesdays in July.

We need volunteers to handle the banquet. Call Dee if you want to volunteer.

Susan was questioning the minutes last month regarding some program thoughts for September and October regarding the show. September was possibly help with any last minute items that need to get done for the show. Susan advised everything is completed and there is no need. October meeting was a round-table discussion and vote on the nominees for next year's board. It is the night of the show move-in and why would people want to go from Palmer Event Center to the clubhouse for a short meeting?

The board indicated that Paul Bordovsky would have a program for the September meeting and we could have a 30 minute short meeting at the clubhouse after the show move-in for voting on officers in October (this has to be done in person). We could have a round table discussion at the November meeting (which will be a week earlier because of

Thanksgiving, November 21st) to find out what the members would like to see the club do in the future; programs, field trips, classes, etc.

The traveling case is finished and that Ewing Evans and Susan Postlethwait will set it up and take it to the first school. Diann Hill will ask Susan if information on the case should be on the web site.

The nominating committee has candidates for three board member positions, president, and first vice-president. Still needed are second vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Joyce Hrapsky asked the Board to develop a written policy on what is considered supplies for classes and what is equipment to be furnished by the club. Robert Morriss said we should also have a contract between the board and the teachers. He will try to put something together.

Diann Hill moved that the board request a club member to appear before the board at the August 5th meeting to discuss the use of club facilities and equipment. Robert Morriss seconded the motion and it passed.

~Pauline Denson, Secretary



SHOP TIPS

When polishing, do not use a saucer, dish, or pan and messy brush to apply the polish. Such methods invite contamination. Instead, use a plastic spray bottle. Put the polishing agent into the bottle, add water and a small stone, or buck shot. The purpose of the stone or buck shot is to agitate and stir up the polishing powder when you shake the bottle. Shake well and squirt the solution on the polishing pad or wheel. No more contamination, no waste of polishing agent, and the polishing agent may be applied exactly where you want it.

~original source not known, from Thunder Bay Gems, others, via The Backbenders Gazette, The Roadrunner 06/08.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have.

~Source not listed, Rain, The Rockytier, 06/08

Local Show Announcements

August 16-17

Bossier City, LA

Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society

<http://larockclub.com>

~www.rockngem.com

Purple Desert Glass

In the old days, glass makers used quantities of beach sand in making their glass, and many impurities such as manganese were included in the final product. The reaction of this metal to the ultraviolet rays of the sun over many years turns the glass purple. The lack of humidity in the desert atmosphere allows 90% of the solar heat to reach the ground during the day.

Placing old clear glass in an aluminum-lined box and exposing it to an ultraviolet light on a 24 hour basis can color the glass much faster. Some of the desert glass sold today has been produced in such a fashion.

~From Glacial Drifter, 11/03, via The Roadrunner, 05/08

What's So Special About Arkansas Quartz Crystals?

Arkansas quartz crystals are regarded as some of the world's finest. The quartz in the Ouachita Mountains contains very little contaminants. Water-clear quartz is the specialty and it is found throughout the mountains. Ron's Mine, the old Coleman mine, is distinguished not only as the largest producer, but also as the purest source for quartz crystal. The uniqueness of this deposit is a result of how the quartz developed. Most quartz has been formed through volcanic activity, where fractures on the earth's crust allowed how silica-laden water based fluids, heated to high temperatures by volcanic activity, to leach into crevices within the earth. As the fluids passed along their route, contaminants were introduced by the various minerals these fluids came in contact with. When the fluids encountered favorable conditions, silica began to be deposited and from that, quartz mineral grew.

“Crystals found in the Ouachita Mountains are thought to have formed in a different and non-volcanic manner. The forces created during the building of the mountains are thought to have “squeezed” water from the underlying unit of shale and sandstone. Because of the depth of the burial of the sandstone and shale (perhaps tens of thousands of feet), and also, as a result of high pressures developed within the sedimentary units during the mountain building process, water was heated to very high temperatures (260 degrees C). This hot water, derived from trapped original sea water, was very different from fluids originating from igneous sources; in particular, it contained fewer dissolved minerals. You can easily see the difference if you compare samples of the crystals. Quartz from Brazil and Chile are both volcanic in origin. Although crystals from either source can be well formed, the difference in clarity is truly noticeable due to different conditions of growth.

~By Jon Erlandson in Gem Cutters News, others, via Glacial Drifter 5-6/02, The Roadrunner 6/08

Show Committee Minutes



Robert Morriss filled in the dealers on the floor plans and he will replace Angela Fowler with Love of Land.

Susan P. advised the show pins came in, will bring them to the general meeting to show and purchase.

Kirk Root has agreed to be one of our sponsors for the TV commercials. He was also interested in sponsoring one of our booths and possibly doing a demonstration. Susan P. will e-mail Lynn about bringing the banners so we can determine if the club members can and will change the dates on all 3 banners. There are going to be a lot of other things going on around Palmer Event Center at the same time as our show. We might need some signs to put on the curbs on all streets around Palmer.

Alan is to contact Ed Gage to see if he will help with the Fluorescent Tunnel. They will start working on it in the next few months. The inside of the cases need to be repainted.

Susan P. asked that we get on line to search for anyone selling tumbled stones at a great price. Susan is trying to get H.E.B. to sponsor the gem mine & maybe get some of their associates to help out at the mine.

Angela Fowler's deposit was returned since we have a replacement. All dealer contracts have been returned but there are some that have not sent in their second half of the booth fee but it is not due until 8-1.

Paul Bordovsky talked to Taco Shack and they will not be sponsoring the food table. Maybe Kirk Root could sponsor them if the other businesses he contacts fall through.

Richard Dorsey is going to call for a work day to repair cases. Still have 3 cases at Georgetown.

We have the Grand Prize courtesy of the Dows; a Gemstone Globe w/stand. We need to pick out the Saturday prize, so everyone bring something for us to view and vote on. If you won't be here bring it before the next meeting.

~Dee Fly, Show Committee Secretary

Show Talk

Had plenty of time for thinking. The weather, the garden, the dogs, the grandkids, the show. This article for the Chipper! Yikes I better get typing!

The next show committee meeting will be a busy one. We will be stuffing envelopes to be mailed out to the schools and we will be choosing the Saturday Grand Prize.

I invite all members to attend the meeting as we choose the Saturday Grand Prize by popular vote. Members are encouraged to bring an item in to be considered. It can be a specimen, jewelry, or any other type of lapidary arts that is suitable for a Saturday Grand Prize. All submitted items will have a number on them to facilitate voting. Simple.

As far as stuffing envelopes, well that depends on how many members show up. The more the faster and the funnier! Really.

I need each chair to attend the meeting (or send an email) and have a complete status report. Please try to include everything.

- What has been accomplished?
- What needs to be done. How long will it take and please come prepared to pick a date from the calendar to get the work completed!

The July meeting will set the tone for our last two show committee meetings. Yes, I said **OUR LAST 2 MEETINGS**, August and September! The show dates are October 24th, 25th and 26th with a move-in date of October 23rd.

I invite the entire membership to come and help us get ready. The show is a big event. The show needs everyone to help and everyone needs to remember how much fun we have at the show.

So don't forget, Thursday, July 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse. Rain or shine or heat wave. The show committee meeting is the place to be!

~Respectfully submitted, Susan Postlethwait, 2008 Show Chair

Missing Husband

Rick was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really angry. She told him - "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in less than 10 seconds, AND IT BETTER BE THERE!!"

The next morning Rick got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, and brought the box back in the house.

She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale. Rick has been missing since Friday. Please pray for him!

~From The Rockytier, 06/08

"I'm against a homogenized society, because I want the cream to rise."

~Robert Frost

The Dinosaurs

By - Professor A.E. Seaman

The dinosaurs are mighty beasts,
Renowned for bulk and strength.
Their necks are measured by the yard,
Their tails had greater lengths.
Their heads were very small, and
All in all they were not wise,
But what they lacked in intellect
They made up for in size.
But while their head held one small brain,
And none too finely wrought,
Their sacrum held a larger one,
And was their seat of thought.
There were ganglia knots along their spine,
Scattered from stem to stem:
While these were only scatter brains,
It gave them a chance to learn.
Such brains were fine for retrospect
For looking o'er the past
For since their forethought was so slight
The poor beasts could not last.
They failed to see the "rocks ahead"
That round them they might steer.
And so they met the fate of all
Whose brains are in the rear.

*~From - B.C. Rockhounder, Spring 2007, via The
Calgary Lapidary Journal, 11/07*



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**

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

2008 Officers

President: Alan Cherepon
First V.P.: Dee Fly
Second V.P.: Paul Bordovsky
Secretary: Pauline Denson
Treasurer: Bob Greenway

Board of Directors

Chip Burnette (1)
Richard Dorsey (1)
Diann Hill (1)
Ron Carman (2)
Robert Morriss (2)
David Wenger (2)

Committee Chairpersons

Annual Show	Susan Postlethwait
Building Chair	James Lopez
Mineral Display Cases	Betsy Gager
Education/Classes	Joyce Hrapsky
Federation/Conservation	Paul Good
2 Field Trip	Ron Carman
Committee:	Chip Burnette
Historian	Ed Gage
Hospitality	AGMS Members
Junior Advisor/Programs	Vacant
Library Co-Chair	Diann Hill
Library Co-Chair	Andrea Miller
Membership	Ron Guzman
Newsletter Editors	David & Laura Dow
Program	Paul Bordovsky
Scholarship	Jeff "Stretch" Young
School Programs	Wing Evans
Sunshine	Kathleen Howard
Workshop	Gef Fisher



July 2008

Editor Awards

2003-1st AFMS New Editors, 1st SCFMS
2004-4th AFMS
2005-2nd AFMS, 1st SCFMS
2006-6th AFMS, 2nd SCFMS
2007-6th AFMS, 1st SCFMS