



THE **661ST** MEETING OF THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, **JULY 28th, 2011, 7:00 P.M.**, AT THE AGMS CLUBHOUSE, **6719 BURNET LANE, AUSTIN, TX.** PHONE: (512)458-9546.

July Program:
To be announced.

THE STONE CHAPER
JULY 2011 VOLUME 50.7



President – Robert Morriss 512-267-2078
president@austingemandmineral.org



1st VP – Richard Dorsey
vpresident1@austingemandmineral.org



2nd VP – Paul Bordovsky
vpresident2@austingemandmineral.org



Secretary – Marilyn Gilbreath
secretary@austingemandmineral.org



Treasurer – Ewing Evans
treasurer@austingemandmineral.org



Board Member– Terry Barry
terryb@austingemandmineral.org



Board Member– Amy Dalton
amyd@austingemandmineral.org



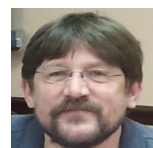
Board Member– Joyce Hrapsky
joyceh@austingemandmineral.org



Board Member – Louis Lee
louisl@austingemandmineral.org



Board Member– David Wenger
davidw@austingemandmineral.org



Board Member–Jeff “Stretch” Young
stretchy@austingemandmineral.org

AGMS MOTTO: EACH ONE TEACH ONE

2011 AGMS Committee Heads



Annual Show - Susan Postlethwait showchairman@austingemandmineral.org

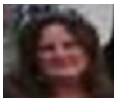
Education/Classes - Joyce Hrapky classes@austingemandmineral.org

Field Trips - Ed Gage trip@austingemandmineral.org

Junior Advisor - Jackie Fisher juniors@austingemandmineral.org

Librarians - Andrea Miller , Diann Hill, Terry Barry

Librarian@austingemandmineral.org



Newsletter Editor - Diann Hill stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org

Building Chair - Bob Greenway

Display Cases - Jackie Fisher

Federation/Conservation - Paul Good

Historian - *Vacant*

Hospitality - Tonya Berry

Membership -Pauline Denson

Scholarship - Stretch Young

School Programs - Wing Evans

Sergeant-at-Arms - Jackie Fisher

Sunshine - Ron Guzman

I like rock hounding because.....it's amazing to discover the creation which is our world.
Chip B.

***** **Table of Contents** *****

<i>A Special Thanks</i>	<i>Page 6</i>	<i>Gem Capers Work Day</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Article - Is it _? Oh, no it's not.</i>	<i>Page 7</i>	<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>Chipper Chatter</i>	<i>Page 5</i>	<i>Presidents Message</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Club Information</i>	<i>Back Cover</i>		

Presidential Message



Greetings, fellow AGMS members,

Here we are entering the summer doldrums, when most of us are thinking about “school’s out” vacations, etc. and I am no exception. However, I want to direct your attention to one of our members that has, and is, going the extra mile for AGMS and its members. If you recall, last month I mentioned a member that needed help, due to physical problems and, frankly, old age. One member, only one member, contacted me and offered to help. That member is Richard Dorsey, who also serves on the Board and sometimes opens the shop on Wednesdays. Richard will be contacting our old (in several ways) member and arranging to go up and work with him if the two can adequately communicate. I have tried to play this role, and my poor hearing will not let me do this job. I am so grateful to Richard for stepping forward and taking on this job, and want everyone to know how he is working for AGMS and its members. When you next see Richard, everyone please give him a tip of the hat and a “well done”.

See you all at the July general meeting, when I’ll bore you with tales from my Alaska cruise with my granddaughters.

Robert Morriss,
Current President, AGMS



Just a reminder there was not a Board of Directors meeting in July, there wasn’t anything that needed immediate attention. This way, the Board did their part to conserve energy and reduce the A/C electric bill. Hope to see you all at the July general membership meeting.



GEM CAPERS WORK DAY

Saturday, July 16th there will be a work day at the clubhouse. The targets are the display cases for the show, 2 untidy trailers, and a shed that need to be reorganized. Time is from 7:00 a.m. until around 12.00 p.m. (noon.)

AGMS General Meeting , June 23, 2011 Minutes
submitted by
Marilyn Gilbreath, Secretary

Program: At 7:05 p.m. Paul Bordovsky introduced George P. Hansen, a developmental scientist and author of Trilobites of Black Cat Mountain, who narrated slides of beautifully-prepared trilobite specimens from this Oklahoma site. George also brought life-size and enlarged casts of some of the finds and invited all to view his website, www.blackcatmountain.com, for additional photos and items of interest.

Meeting: At 8:22 p.m., President Robert Morriss welcomed the visitors. Attendance: 48 members, 8 visitors and 1 junior.

Door Prizes and Winners: Pauline Denson assisted Robert Morriss in handing out door prizes which included half of a Baker Geode, a sample from the uranium mine trip and a fossilized clam. Thank you, donors. The winners: Susan Van Rosenberg, Karen Travis, Alan Cherepon, Dennis Miller, Terry Barry and Monica Brown.

Committee Reports:

Show: Sue Postlethwait reminded that our 50th annual show is just four months away and asked for volunteers to help with all aspects. Workdays will be scheduled for such tasks as making up the prizes for several of the club booths. The Show Committee will hold their regular monthly meeting on the 3rd Thursday (July 21st) and all members are welcome to attend. At this meeting, the committee will pick the show pin design and the Saturday grand prize. Members are invited to submit a gold-themed prize item (pyrite, maybe) and if chosen, the item will be purchased from you for the show. Helping with the show is good get-to-know-you time for members. Proceeds from Gem Capers are put to many uses---among those: annual club expenses, classes and scholarships.

Hospitality: Tonya Barry urged members to sign up to bring refreshments for July---she has only one on the list at present.

Announcements:

Display Fixtures: Kellee Greenway, who works for Wallpapers to Go in Northcross Mall, said the store is moving to a smaller space in the mall and is selling shelving and display cases at good prices.

Large Plastic Jars: If you have a use for some heavy white plastic jars (large, the size of institutional mayonnaise jars), Dennis Gans has a bunch to give away. The jars previously held a powdered food supplement. Show and Tell:

Jackie Fisher invited interested members to view her geodes in the fluorescent room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Chipper Chatter

Happy Anniversary to all of you who celebrate this month.

The following members celebrate *birthdays* in June and July:

Tony DiRico - 7/5
Jackie Fisher - 7/21
Mindy Waters - 7/21

Pauline Denson - 8/14
Les Postlethwait - 8/21
Sian Schilnab - 8/28

Let us help you celebrate your birthday by listing it in *The Stone Chipper*. Please e-mail the editor at stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org, with your birth month and day so it can be added to the list. Or, sign the clipboard located at the greeters table, at the next general meeting.

The following Board Members pictures are still needed: Terry Barry, Marilyn Gilbreath and David Wenger. Please email your picture to stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org, so club members can put a face with your name.



I like rock hounding because.....you never know if the next rock you pick up is going to be the best rock you ever found. Ivy H.



Upcoming Classes

Please be sure and sign up (in the notebook) for the upcoming classes. See Joyce Hrapsky for more details.



I like rock hounding because.....you're not just passing through a place--you've conected--by dig-
ging in it's dirt hoping to find a treasure. Marilyn G.

I like rock hounding because.....it makes me realize how incredible our planet was and still is.
Georges D.



A Special Thanks

The Austin Gem and Mineral Society would like to thank Jim and JoAnn Wiersema @ Horizon Environmental Services, for their continued support of the club by printing *The Stone Chipper* each month.



DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE on the next quarterly drawing! You can qualify by simply submitting an article for publication to stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org



Invite a friend to join AGMS, have them fill out the form below and return to Wing Evans, Treasurer .

AUSTIN GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
Membership Application

Name: _____
Spouse's Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Day phone: _____ Evening phone: _____
Cell phone: _____



Please send change of address notices, or to report errors on the mailing list to: Wing Evans, Treasurer, e-mail treasurer@austingemandmineral.org.

If you're not on the AGMSList on YAHOO, or receiving the newsletter via e-mail, please send a note to the editor at StoneChipper@austingemandmineral.org.



I like rock hounding because.....I found something as hard as my head. Glenn G.



Is it ____, Oh, no it's not
by Diann Hill

Rock collecting stories have been around for as long as fishing stories have been. You know the one that 'got away', or 'this rock was so huge I couldn't dig it out'. Like the striped bass that often sat stuffed on your mantle; rocks also played a vital role in growing up. Who hasn't tried to skip a rock on the water at a lake or a pond? The rock was there, you were there, there was water, and seemed like the thing to do right? What makes a good skipping rock? Ask ten different folk and you will get ten different answers. Large, small, flat, rounded, everyone has their own personal idea about that particular rock and what properties best fit it for the job. The same could be said for rock hounding. Rock hounding is a terrific family activity. Everyone seems to have their own special place to go rock hounding, and their own specific reasons for going. Whether you like fossils, gems, crystals or flint, the great outdoors has a place for each to be found. Perhaps it is simply a means to get out of the house and connect with nature. Rock formations are as beautiful as they are unique. Be it the granite of Granite Shoals or the mighty caverns underground, each one has its own distinct character. Diving along the countryside how many of you have said, "wait a minute, I think I saw a neat rock, pull over". To the side of the road you go, out of the car and the trek begins, usually until someone finds something that was worth stopping for. How do you tell a rock hound? By the way they always walk with at least one eye on the ground. There's no sense in telling a rock hound to hurry up, it's only going to happen on their time table, that's like telling water to boil, NOW! Only after every micro inch has been turned over at least twice and then double checked to make sure something wasn't overlooked, will it be time to leave the area. And, if someone has faintly heard that there might even possibly be a slight chance that "X" will be in that particular area, well you just might as well pack a lunch and if you aren't a hunter bring a good book. Because, my friend, you are gonna be there a while. Collecting is the relatively inexpensive part; after all, you can't just let that gorgeous rock you found just sit on the shelf in its natural state. What does the inside look like? Will it polish? How would a cabochon look out of that new rock, a Bolo, ring or pendent? But that is in itself another chapter of the addiction.

I like rock hounding because ...the rocks tell stories about history, which often include pictures in the stone; I am after all, my Mothers' daughter.

Address Correction Requested



THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

StoneChipper@austingemandmineral.org

(512) 458-9546
AUSTIN TEXAS 78757
6719 BURNET LANE
Diann Hill, Editor

The Stone Chipper



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. The November meeting will be held on the THIRD Thursday. December is the Officers' Induction Banquet held on a date to be determined. Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month. Show committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. All members are open to anyone. Society officers are listed on the front page of this publication. Please feel free to contact any of them for information.



DUES FOR 2011

Membership dues are:

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



THE STONE CHIPPER

The Stone Chipper is the official publication of the Austin Gem and Mineral Society. It is published monthly in Austin, Texas. Minutes of Board Meetings are available upon request. **Note:** Clip art images are under Copyright 2011 by the AGMS and its licensors. All rights reserved. Unless otherwise noted, text items in *The Stone Chipper* may be reproduced in other nonprofit publications as long as proper credit is given to the author and *The Stone Chipper*. All authors who make submissions to this newsletter are presumed to agree with this policy.