



THE INFORMER

Email information or requests to:  
Ctgms50@gmail.com

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From the Front Desk— President —Betty Scarborough



**President's Thought's**

Well another month has come and gone already. The last meeting was a very lively affair – but interesting also. We all can have our voices heard and accepted for what they are, as long as we are all civil and allow our neighbor to also voice their voice. I like the exchange of opinions and it is sometimes very entertaining.

The show is fast approaching and the club is abuzz with anticipation. We all need to give Sallie all the help we can as she has the most difficult job of all.

Hopefully everyone has something to donate to the Silent Auction (my personal pet project- thanks to Carlos) It is our most profitable section of the show since all the profits are free- no overhead – we don't have to shell out a cent for them Side note – PLEASE if you expect us to get a specific price for a donated item please mark it as such – we try our best not to offend anyone by underselling it but we are also only human.

I would also like to encourage everyone to think about classes they would like to have held- Wire wrapping has already been suggested – and we are trying to encourage a teacher for it- Richard has volunteered to try faceting – we are trying to figure out logistics since it would have to be individual instruction and we don't want to wear out anyone or our welcome.

If anyone has a talent they are willing to share we would welcome any and all input.

Finally – hopefully everyone will get plenty of rest since we have a very long week-end coming up and we want it to be a very successful show for us and our gracious vendors who keep returning to help us with our goals.

Hopefully everyone is staying warm with our last cold snap. See you next month.

HAPPY EASTER  
JOHN 3:16

As most of you know, Lisa Mayfield is closing her "Alamo Rock 'n Jewelry" shop on Buffalo Gap Road. We will surely miss having a place to purchase rocks and related items. She plans to remain a member and maybe we can persuade her to teach some classes. It seems to me that we are having a difficult time getting willing teachers now days. (myself included in this category). Below is her email announcing the closing.

Gary

It is with a heavy heart that I send this email. After 58 years in business, Alamo Rock'n Jewelry, formerly Alamo Rock Shop, will be closing its doors in May. I will continue to sell at shows but only in the local area and will not be carrying grits, equipment or other supplies. Starting March 4th, the following sales discounts will apply:

Jewelry: 25% off

Beads: 50% off

Rocks and Minerals: 50% off

Tools and Supplies: 20-50% off

I am also selling furniture and store fixtures. Please stop by for prices.

Thank you all so much for your business and most especially for your friendship. This has been a most enjoyable ride.

Lisa Mayfield  
Alamo Rock'n Jewelry  
4102 Buffalo Gap Rd, Suite R  
Abilene, TX 79605  
(325) 232-8527 alamorocknjewelry.com

<b>Lisa Mayfield</b>	<b>Helen Pfeiffer</b>
<i>Alamo Rock 'n Jewelry</i>	
alamoroc@texas.net	
www.alamorocknjewelry.com	
<b>Tues-Fri 10-6</b>	<b>Sat 10-5</b>
<b>4102 Buffalo Gap Rd., Ste R</b>	<b>325.232.8527</b>
<b>Abilene, TX 79605</b>	<b>fax: 325.232.8529</b>

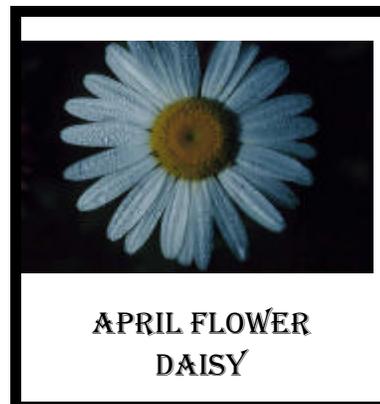
### Stillwell Ranch Trip

Lou David Allen, Roger Taylor, Logan Cravens and I enjoyed our trip to Stillwell Ranch and "points in between". We found a few good rocks and "nearly froze" Friday night in the tent. Lou David is talking about a return trip soon. We are hoping to go to different locations near where we have been before. Tim

### Summary of Life

#### GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats..
- 2) When your Mum is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato..
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandmas lap..





Minutes of CTGMS meeting held Monday, March 1, 2010

President Betty Scarborough called the meeting to order. Approximately 32 members were in attendance. After the pledge of allegiance

and prayer, the secretary read the minutes of the February 2, 2010, meeting. The treasurer presented the financial report. Both reports were accepted.

#### Old Business:

Last year, the membership approved for an audit to be conducted. Carlos and Don reported: Club books are in good shape. The question was presented about the Certificate of Deposit interest. The CD maturity date is July 2010. It was suggested that the interest be rolled over instead of put into the general fund. This was approved.

Carlos suggested that each member donate one item to the silent auction at the Show. This suggestion was supported by other members present. No vote was required on this.

#### New Business:

There was discussion about sand art for the Show. It was decided to continue the children's sand art at the Show; but for members to create sand art in frames to be provided, and for these to be sold in the Silent Auction. Only a few adult sand art was created at the Show last year. Carlos will bring the

sand to the Club, and members can make the sand art for the Silent Auction.

No guests were present. New members were not present, but are James Jacobsen and Danjel Watson.

Joyce sent a card to Charles Roberts, who has a broken hand. She will send a card to Lou David, who has been ill but is doing better.

#### Reports from Committee Chairs:

Show: Sallie Lightfoot said that the Club needs every member at the Show Saturday and Sunday, April 10-11. The Monday night after this month's meeting, every one who can needs to be at the Club to address and stamp cards about the Show that will go to past attendees.

Scholarship: Joan Wilks said that this year's scholarship recipient has been found: Heather Faulkner, a Senior at Hardin-Simmons University, who is studying geology.

Shop: Tim Walker said that everything in the shop is working well. He also said that everyone needs to read the workshop rules.

Refreshments for Next Meeting: Helen Patterson, Nell Gee, and Ricky Alaniz.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Secretary, Grace Hoy*

## The Shop Report — Foreman - Tim Walker

As always, what ever you work on at the shop, clean up after yourself. Don't leave it for the next person. Report anything you think needs repairs. We don't want anyone getting hurt. Everything is working fine.



# the 2010 GEM & MINERAL JEWELRY SHOW

Well, the Show is upon us!! The dates are April 10 & 11, 2010.

We need EVERYONE to be at the Civic Center both days helping with the show. There will always be something each one can do—relieve members at stations so they can rest, get something to eat, or shop, just to name one. This is our money raiser for the year, and we need everyone participating.

We ALL need to help with the lunch on Friday noon and the Dealer Dinner Friday evening. For the lunch, we need soup and crackers and sandwiches—this helps the dealers as they are setting up their booths so they will not have to go out for lunch. Please, please let me know if you can help with this. The Dealer Dinner is the time we sit down with the dealers and our scholarship recipient; we can get to know them better as we visit with them. For the Dealer Dinner, each member needs to bring two large food items—any combination of meat, vegetables, salads, breads, and desserts. The club will furnish the coffee and tea. Please have your food at the Civic Center by 6:30pm; we will begin eating at 7:00pm.

There will be an advertisement on KRBC and KTAB TV stations and in the Abilene Reporter News and the March Madness on the Internet. We mailed out 1200 cards to previous attendees. There are flyers or cards that you can give to your family and friends. There are tickets you can purchase for \$2.50 each to give to anyone you would like—ask for the amount you would like to buy, put your name on the back. If they attend the show, they will turn in their ticket for a regular ticket. Then after the show, we will check the tickets received; if your name is on the back, you will be asked to pay for them then.

I sent an advertisement to every magazine I know about—Lapidary Journal, Rock & Gem, Texas Highways, Texas Country Reporter, Texas Events Calendar, Earth Calendar, Craftmaster News, Abilene Visitors.com, & Webmaster @lasr.com.

I need someone to take flyers to radio stations and motels.

We have invited four clubs to bring displays. At this time only one, Midland has responded. We need everyone to display things they have made. The club has display cases for you to use or you can use your own. Please see Charles Lightfoot if you will need a club case to see if one is available.

We can still use some more children door prizes. The dealers provide the door prizes for the adults; but we need to provide for the children. Any rock, small geode, small belt buckle, small jewelry, etc, that a child would like will be accepted.

We can always use items for the Silent Auction—nice rocks, tools, jewelry, books, etc. We need polished rocks for the Wheel of Fortune.

If you make any observations, have any ideas or suggestions, please let me know personally. It may be something I have thought of and addressed; but I am willing to accept any suggestions.

Sallie Lightfoot  
Show Chairman



Someone went to a lot of trouble and expense on this one-of-a-kind mailbox



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Heather Falkner, CTGMS 2010 Scholar.

Heather is a Geology Major and Biology Minor at Hardin Simmons University. She is a senior and will complete her course work at HSU in May 2010.

Heather plans to attend graduate school and pursue studies in Geology and Paleontology. She has applied to South Dakota School of Mines. She comes recommended for this award by Dr. Mark Ouimette, Professor and Head of Geological Sciences at HSU.

Heather will receive this award and scholarship check of \$500. at the Dealers Dinner on Friday evening, April 9. Please meet and congratulate Heather as our deserving 2010 Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society's scholar.

By: Scholarship Chairman JoAn Wilks,



**FUN HUNT**  
On Saturday, March 6, 2010, I was invited to go on a hunt. It was one I had looked forward to for a year. It was not a rock or deer hunt. It was a rattlesnake hunt. We have three members of our church who hunt

snakes. Jason and his wife Kristie and Jason's mother Cinda. Cinda came by my house about 7:45am, picked me up, and we headed to Roscoe. We were all to meet at the 7/11 store. We arrived first. In a short time

Dillan Conley, a young man from Texas Tech, showed up. We then went to the home of Cinda's parents. Then there were 8 of us; we went to a ranch in the Roscoe area. I did not meet the ranch owner, but He gave us all the snakes we wanted. We caught 24 snakes. We did leave him a few for breeding stock.

They had a rule-no lunch before we catch a snake. They let me catch the first one; I said, "Lunch today." The rattlesnakes are taken to the Sweetwater Rattlesnake Roundup.

We got a bear out of one hole. Well, it was not a bear; it was only a raccoon, but it sure looked like a bear coming out of that hole.

I had a very enjoyable time. I am looking forward to next year.

This took place on March 6. On March 13 the same group, without me, went to a different ranch and caught 52-one was over 5 feet long.

Jason is a new dentist in town. If you have a problem with your fangs, he can take care of you.

By: Charlie Lightfoot

**off the mark** by Mark Parisi www.offthemark.com





**Editor's Notes:**

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If you have a story or a news item please email it to me at [ctgms50@gmail.com](mailto:ctgms50@gmail.com)

Send it in email or as a Microsoft Word document attachment. Remember to get it to me by the 20th of the month.

Many thanks to Bob and Helen Patterson for picking up the newsletter each month.

In case you haven't guessed, It's Showtime...

That reminded me that we haven't performed the modifications to the storage container we purchased last year. The plan was to have a walk in door installed and shelves to place our "stuff" on when we hauled it back from the Show. I decided to make some phone calls and sent out an email blast to have a work day to make the necessary modifications. We also needed to mow the grass and move some stuff around in the Club House.

Tony Steel agreed to bring his welding and cutting equipment. Bob Patterson graciously donated the necessary steel to build the framework for the shelves. That is a huge savings to the Club. I went to Mueller Supply on Hwy. 18 to purchase the door, and swung by Bob's house with my trailer to pickup the donated steel and delivered these items to the Club House Wednesday afternoon.

Thursday morning, beginning at 8:00 am we began showing up and got to work. The weather turned out cold and windy, but that didn't slow us down. Tony cut the opening for the door. It took about an hour to grind the base for the threshold and we installed the 4 foot walk through door. After some good sandwiches provided by Bob and Helen, we designed and manufactured the shelves and installed them. I will pickup and cut the plywood to put on these frames and bring with me Monday evening.

There were 9 good workers that showed up to help: Tony Steele, Bob Patterson, Walt Scarborough, Charlie Lightfoot, Jim Owens, Tim Walker, Don Brenholtz, Carlos Talley, and myself ( hope I didn't miss anyone).

We had a good time and got a lot accomplished. I think a good film for funniest videos could have been made. At times we were like the 3 stooges (make that 9). We had as many opinions as there were members. We also had plenty



**BIRTHDAYS**

Bill Patrick	8th
Lillian Sims	8th
Harryette Patrick	9th
Jeffrey Swapp	9th
Errol Rutledge	16th
Dave Vargo	17th
Harry Dhans	25th

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Norma Ann & Charley Harrison	20th
Lisa & David Mayfield	27th

**SYMPATHY**



Dave Vargo- His mother passed away in Detroit

Lou David Allen- After all this family has been through, his daughter's house burned down.

Charles Roberts- broken hand after a fall

of "quality control inspectors" to keep us going in the right direction. At times we looked like government workers... one working with several watching....Hey...It took all of us and we got it done!

The next order of business is to get electricity and lights in our new storage building.

I bet these guys refuse any future phone calls from me!!!!



# Upcoming Shows

**APRIL**

16-18--ALPINE, TEXAS: Show, "Wonders from our desert and beyond"; Chihuahuan Desert Gem & Mineral Club; Kokernot Lodge, Rte. 223 bypass; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 11-5; free admission; Kids' Corner, door prize, dealer demonstrations, video "What's Hot in Tucson"; contact Mary Brogan, P.O. Box 1111, Alpine, TX 79831, (432) 837-3824; e-mail: marybrogan@rocketmail.com; Web site: [www.agates123.com/cdgmcc/](http://www.agates123.com/cdgmcc/)

17--NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS: Annual swap; Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society; Burns Park, Elder Johnson Pavilion, I-49 Exit 150, Military Dr.; Sat. 8-5; free admission; bring your own table or tailgate; contact Pat Kissire, 4900 Sparks Rd., Little Rock, AR 72210, (501) 821-2346; e-mail: [pkissire@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pkissire@sbcglobal.net); Web site: [www.centralarrockhound.org](http://www.centralarrockhound.org)

24-25--WACO, TEXAS: 50th annual show; Waco Gem & Mineral Club; TSTC Industrial Trade Center; Sat. 10-5:30, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 (both days), students \$1; contact Kay Coleman, 118 County Rd. 540, Fairfield, TX 75840, (903) 389-8311

30-2--HOUSTON, TEXAS: 2nd annual show, "Houston Fine Mineral Show"; FineMineralShow; Embassy Suites Hotel, near The Galleria; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; more than 50 dealers; contact Dave Waisman, P.O. Box 8543, Spokane, WA 99203; Web site: [www.finemineralshow.com](http://www.finemineralshow.com)

**MAY**

1-2--LUBBOCK, TEXAS: Show; Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society; Lubbock Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Ln.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, students (6-12) \$2, children under 6 free with adult; door prizes, children's "Spinning Wheel", demonstrations, sphere making, wire wrapping, silent auction, club displays, dealers, beads, jewelry, minerals, carvings, rough and polished rocks; contact Archie Scott, 2709 Belvedere Rd., Levelland, TX 79336, (806) 894-1584; e-mail: [archie.scott73@yahoo.com](mailto:archie.scott73@yahoo.com); Web site: <http://lmgstx.org>

14-16--ENID, OKLAHOMA: Annual swap; Enid Gem & Mineral Society; Oakwood Mall, 4125 W. Owen K. Garriott Rd.; silent auction, kids' area, lapidary work, rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry; Fri. 10-8, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 12-5; contact Stan Nowak, (580) 484-2785; e-mail: [snowak48@yahoo.com](mailto:snowak48@yahoo.com)

20--ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO: Show, "Rings & Things BeadTour"; Rings & Things; MCM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul NE; Thu. 12-4; free admission; gemstones, bead strands, wholesale prices, findings, stringing supplies; contact Dave Robertson, (800) 366-2156; e-mail: [d Robertson@rings-things.com](mailto:d Robertson@rings-things.com); Web site: [www.rings-things.com](http://www.rings-things.com)

29-30--FORT WORTH, TEXAS: 59th annual show, "Fabulous Fossils"; Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club; Will Rogers Memorial Center, Amon G. Carter Exhibit Bldg., 3401 W. Lancaster; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors \$4, children under 12 free; 30 dealers, kids' games, hourly door prizes, grand prize, silent auction, exhibits; contact Steve Hilliard, P.O. Box 418, Decatur, TX 76234; (817) 925-5760; e-mail: [fwgmc@embarqmail.com](mailto:fwgmc@embarqmail.com); Web site: [www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org](http://www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org)

**NEWS LETTERS FROM OTHER CLUBS ON THEIR WEBSITE**

FREDRICKSBURG, TX <http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org>

ARLINGTON, TX [www.agemclub.com](http://www.agemclub.com)

DALLAS, TX [www.dallasgemandmineral.org](http://www.dallasgemandmineral.org)

MIDLAND, TX [www.mgms-tx.com](http://www.mgms-tx.com)

PO Box 7343  
Abilene, TX 79608-7343

Editor: Gary Hudson  
Email: ctgms50@yahoo.com

**We are on the web:  
www.txol.net/rockclub**



**OFFICERS 2010**

President .....	Betty Scarborough	325 572-4716
Past President .....	Bob Patterson	325 698-8648
Vice President .....	Linda Hollowell	325 537-4557
Secretary .....	Grace Hoy	325 698-5482
Treasurer .....	Errol Rutledge	325 672-7505
Corresp Sec .....	Joyce Talley	325 692-0063

**Committees/Chairpersons**

Show .....	Sallie Lightfoot
Field Trips .....	Tony & Judy Steele
Classes .....	Charlie Lightfoot
Nominating .....	James Grant
Programs .....	
Shop .....	Tim Walker
Club House and Grounds.....	Charlie Lightfoot
Dealers for show .....	Tony & Judy Steele
Budget .....	Errol Rutledge
Scholarship .....	JoAn Wilks
Show Demonstrations .....	Jerry Davis
Silversmithing Classes .....	Jerry Davis
News letter Editor .....	Gary Hudson
Web Master.....	Jerry Davis

**GEMSTONE OF THE  
MONTH OPAL**

Opal takes its name from the Latin word Upala meaning precious stone. The Roman scholar Pliny described opal as ringhaving the fire of carbuncle (a deep red garnet) and the brilliance of amethyst with the green color of emerald. The Romans believed opal was the symbol of hope and purity. They called it cupid paederos (child as beautiful as love) and thought the wearer safe from disease.

The Arabs believed that opals fell from heaven in flashes of lightning. Ancient Greeks also believed the opal had the power of giving foresight and the light of prophecy to their owners. Cleopatra is said to have worn an opal to attract the attention of Mark Anthony.

Aborigines believe they have lived in Australia since the beginning of all creation. This culture has produced many myths and legends about opals over this span of time and the Aborigines believe the opal has a spiritual value. They believe the opal represents something an ancestor left behind as a sign of his or her presence. The Wangkumara people have a legend which tells how their people gained fire from opal stones, with the assistance of a Muda - a Creator who switches from human form to pelican.

This story is preserved in a book of Aboriginal legends, titled 'The Opal that Turned into Fire', compiled by Janet Mathews and published by Magabala Books. This legend recounts how the Wangkumara people decided to send a pelican (Muda) to explore the Northern Territory, so he could return and tell them what was there. The pelican set off with all the fish and water he would need for the journey stored in the pouch beneath his beak. After flying a while the pelican felt ill and landed on top of a hill that the Wangkumara later named Bildimini. While resting the pelican observed the ground beneath him and was amazed by its magnificent array of colors.

Although he did not know it, what he saw was opal. The pelican was so curious he began to peck at the colored stones with his beak. Suddenly, a spark flew out and lit the dry grass nearby. The flames rose and spread slowly across the plains approaching a group of Wangkumara who were camping near Cooper's Creek. The people were able to use the fire to cook their meat and fish for the first time, and



Opal Collage  
Opal Ring



were grateful for this new gift.

Another legend tells how an earlier Muda, also in pelican form, created Cooper's Creek for the Wangkumara and filled it with fish. Wounded by a spear, this Muda died on the hill that would be called Bildimini. His blood and the water in his pouch flowed down the hillside, soaking into the earth and hardening into opal and gold.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of rocks, minerals and fossils. We offer field trips and provide educational opportunities and instruction to members in a variety of areas related to the Lapidary Arts and Jewelry making. We also award a scholarship to a student enrolled at a local college in a field closely related to geology. We provide educational displays related to this hobby at shows of a similar interest. — Jerry



Proudly Presents

# THE 2010 GEM & MINERAL JEWELRY SHOW

(PETRIFIED WOOD, LAPIS, AMETHYST, AGATE, TURQUOISE, OPAL, DINOSAUR BONE, etc)

**Saturday, April 10, 2009**  
**10 A M to 6 P M**

**Sunday, April 11, 2009**  
**10 A M to 5 P M**

## Abilene Civic Center

Downtown Abilene, N 6<sup>th</sup> & Pine

- \* Fossils
- \* Jewelry
- \* Gems
- \* Minerals
- \* Jewelry Making
- \* Fluorescent Display
- \* Demonstrations - Lapidary, Silversmithing, Wire Craft, Carving, Faceting, Beading
- \* Glass Bead Making
- \* Exhibits
- \* Lapidary Supplies
- \* Beads
- \* Crafts
- \* Gifts...all prices

+ **SILENT AUCTION** + **WHEEL OF FORTUNE**  
 + **GEODES** - to purchase and have opened + **"SAND" ART**

Hourly door prizes for adult...Hourly door prizes for children

**GRAND PRIZE - \$100**

**"Everyone is Welcome"**

Profits help support the CTGMS Educational Scholarships

**ADMISSION:**

- |                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Adults             | \$3                               |
| Children           | \$1.50 (6 to 12)                  |
| Children under six | free when accompanied by an adult |
| Scouts in uniform  | free when accompanied by an adult |



50¢

off adult ticket

Valid at the 2010 Gem & Mineral Show  
Abilene, Texas

**Note: RRC meets Sunday at 9 am  
at the Civic Center**

**Check us out: [www.txol.net-rockclub](http://www.txol.net-rockclub)**