



# *The* **BACKBENDER'S GAZETTE**

**The Newsletter of the  
Houston Gem & Mineral Society**

**Volume XLVII - No. 01**

**January 2016**



## **President's Message**

*by Paul Brandes*

**H**ello, Houston Gem and Mineral Society, and welcome (almost) to 2016! I always ask myself at the beginning of every New Year "where did the past year go"? As I am getting older, time seems to be flying by faster and faster, and while I wonder what I could have done better the previous year, I look forward to the beginning of a new year and all it has to offer. As your First Vice-President the past two years, I look back on the experience with great fondness and am confident that your new First Vice-President, Sigrid Stewart, will carry on the fine tradition of bringing you another year of informative and fun presentations. I also want to thank our outgoing President, Ray Kizer, for carrying the torch the past two years. During his watch, the Society has grown in membership and many new additions, and much needed improvements to the Clubhouse have been completed.



I also want to thank all the members involved with putting on the 2015 Gem and Mineral Show. This show, one of the largest in Texas, would not be possible without a dedicated group of individuals who are so passionate and care about their volunteer efforts to ensure that this show is a success. In fact, as I am writing this President's Message, preparations are beginning for the 2016 Gem and Mineral Show, now back at its regular November date

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*Continued on page 2*

## **Upcoming General Meeting Programs**

*by Sigrid Stewart*

*HGMS 1st VP*

**J**anuary 26, 2016: Dr. Garth Clark will present a talk on "The Evolution of Genetics and Archaeology." Genetics and DNA analysis has played a vital part in tracing the origin of human populations and the domestication of various animal species by humans.

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*Every article published in the BBG is edited for grammar and content. No flaming is allowed.*

**Articles now are due on the 15th day of the month before the date on the BBG issue.**

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*Copy is due for the February 2016 issue by Friday, January 15, 2015.*

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### Purpose of HGMS

The objectives of this Society are to promote the advancement of the knowledge and practice of the arts and sciences associated with the collecting of rocks, minerals, fossils, artifacts, and their identification and classification; the general lapidary art; the collecting and identification of gemstones; the designing and execution of jewelry or metalcraft; and to provide the opportunity to obtain, exchange, and exhibit specimens and rough or finished materials.

Membership dues are \$40 for an adult membership, \$60 for a couple, \$75 for a family (including all children aged 5-18), \$25 for a youth membership (ages 5-18), and \$500 for an adult life membership. Advertising rates: \$70 for 2 months, ¼ page; \$150 for 6 months, ¼ page.

MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies & South Central Federation of Mineral Societies.

All meetings are held at the Clubhouse which is located at 10805 Brooklet near the intersection of Highway 59 (Southwest Freeway) and Sam Houston Parkway (Beltway 8). See the calendar inside the back page for when the different Sections meet. The General Meeting is the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30. The HGMS Web site address is <http://www.hgms.org>.

(November 11–13, 2016). I would encourage new and “experienced” members alike who are interested in lending whatever talents you have to step up and make yourself available for the 2016 Show. You will be glad you did.

As your new President (something I am still getting used to), I wanted to take a little time and briefly introduce myself since I am not sure how many members actually know who I am. I was born in Michigan and grew up on the shores of Lake Superior in the Keweenaw Peninsula. Being from the “Copper Country” where native copper mining was king for so many years, I suppose I was destined to become interested in minerals and geology. I hold degrees in geology with minors in history and mining from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and Michigan Technological University. During and after my graduate studies at Michigan Tech, I worked in mineral exploration that allowed me to travel to some unique and desolate places around the world. Currently, I work as a Technical Specialist in Environmental Compliance for the State of Texas. I am also very active with the Geological Society of America (GSA) and the Geological Association of Canada (GAC), as well as a lifetime member of the Quincy Mine Hoist Association in Upper Michigan.

One last thing before I go. We currently have eight Sections (Archeology, Beading, Day Light, Gemstones and Faceting, Lapidary and Silversmithing, Mineral, Paleontology, and Youth); each brings something to the Society every day. I encourage all members, whether you associate yourself with a Section or not, to visit the other groups and talk with their members. Every month, each Section has a fun project and very informative meetings, so whether it is creating a new piece of jewelry, learning about the latest fossil discovery, or finding out what mineral specimen you have, there truly is something for everyone at HGMS. During the month of January, I plan to visit each Section—not only to introduce myself, but also to ask about their needs and learn who they are and what they do—a New Year’s resolution of sorts. I hope this can be one of your resolutions as well.

That is all for now.  
See you next month!



## A surprise—fluorescent jewelry—Sodalite/Hackmanite

by Neal Immega

Member of the Houston Gem & Mineral Society

**F**irst - stop reading this in the paper BBG and move to the online version from the Web site (<http://www.hgms.org/BBG/Jan16.pdf>) so you can see the colors. Black and white is not adequate for this article.

This stone is for a piece of jewelry I am making for my wife. I found, much to my surprise, that it has marvelous orange fluorescence. First, I will tell you what you are seeing, and then how I happened on this material.



I will use the abbreviation UV for ultraviolet light.

**Top Picture:** natural light. Blue sodalite (hackmanite) crystals in a feldspar matrix.

**Middle Picture:** natural light after the specimen was exposed to 5 minutes of a 6-watt short wave UV lamp. See how the blue has become purple? The color change like this is called "tenebrescence."

**Lower Picture:** long wave UV (365 angstrom): bright orange fluorescence. Compare the photos, and you will see that the best blue color does not always show the best color change or the brightest long wave UV fluorescence.



This rock is from a quarry at Mont Saint-Hilaire, Quebec, Canada which is famous for the hundreds of minerals found in the pegmatites there. Some show a temporary color change, tenebrescence, after exposure to short wave UV. I am not sure how my source, DJMinerals, got this material because the Mindat reference below says that the quarry does not allow collecting.

**Tenebrescence:** the mineral is colored by short wave UV and then fades when exposed to white light. A common use for this phenomena is in phototropic sunglasses where the UV in sunlight changes the silver chloride crystals in the glass to opaque silver and chlorine (which gradually combine again to become transparent silver chloride). I cannot find any references to what unstable compounds are created in the sodalite.

### Doing well by doing good

As you probably know, HGMS's Mineral Section produces many kits each

year for the education outreach activities, which use up quantities of the common minerals. About ten years ago, I collected hundreds of pieces of barite while sitting in a prospect pit near Hatch, New Mexico. This is now used up, and we need a resupply. To restock, I bought barite from DJMinerals (see below) and included some other items just for fun, including sodalite. The material I received has blue crystals in a white matrix, just perfect to make into jewelry for my mineralogist wife.

The next step in this chain is the UV light. Chase Jennings showed fossil detection with UV at a Paleo Section meeting. Long Wave UV is particularly good at showing glue on repaired/reconstructed/fake fossils, so I bought a light for that purpose. I just happened to flash it on the sodalite cab and was surprised at the orange fluorescence. Minerals do not commonly fluoresce under long wave UV. I wondered where the sodalite came from, located my sales slip, and found that it showed Mont Saint-Hilaire. Sodalite from there sometimes shows tenebrescence. This material goes by the name Hackmanite.

**Tenebrescence again**—Ages ago, I attended a marvelous Mineral Section talk by Aaron Reeve, who showed among other things, sodalite from Greenland with tenebrescence. I thought that was so marvelous that I tried to buy some. It is collected during the summers in Greenland by looking for it with a UV light under a black tarp (because there are 24 hours of sun in the summer). Naturally the dealer wants \$\$\$ and after all that, he did not have any!

It turns out that Mont Saint-Hilaire pegmatites are very similar to ones in Greenland, and a lot closer!

Now I have found a source from a bulk rock dealer for a few dollars/pound that shows fluorescence and tenebrescence on a rock that is beautiful enough to cab.

So, you really can do well by doing good. Who would have thought that of me?

### References:

Mindat reference : <http://www.mindat.org/loc-599.html>

Nice article: <http://www.gemselect.com/other-info/hackmanite.php>

mineral supply : <http://www.djminerals.com/>

These people supply inexpensive minerals but are not email friendly. They are slow.

**Long Wave light: HQRP High Power 3W LED UV Flashlight 365nm from Amazon.com, about \$40**



December 2015 HGMS Holiday Party  
Photos by Steve Blyskal  
Velociraptor photo by John Mitscherling at 2015 Show







## Auction to Benefit the Fund for *Rocks and Minerals* Donation

by Steve Blyskal

For many years, Art Smith donated \$1000 each year to *Rocks and Minerals* magazine. His donation was for the "Color Fund" for their "Connoisseur's Choice" column to enable the images used in the column to be printed in color. This column appears in each of the six issues of the magazine each year. This donation was acknowledged twice in each issue as coming from the Houston Gem and Mineral Society, giving us recognition on a national level. When Art passed away six years ago, I decided we should try to continue this donation as a way to honor Art, who did so much for the club over the 40 years he was a member (see the obituary in the BBG, January 2010, p. 8–12. (<http://www.hgms.org/BBG/Jan10.pdf>)). I organized an auction, and we got some wonderful donations from all parts of the club including minerals, fossils, cutting rough, and jewelry. With these donations, the auction raised a fund of **\$4400**, which helped us make the donation to *Rocks and Minerals* magazine over the past **5 years**.

Now it is time to stage another auction to see if we can keep Art's memory alive and promote the club in the national arena. The auction will be scheduled on a Saturday evening in a weekend in March, with a date to be determined later and announced in the February BBG and by email blast. What we will need to make this a success are donations, so we hope you will be generous when you look at your collections and business stocks. Remember when you bought that fine new specimen? It probably replaced an older specimen that you can now donate.

The Mineral Section is taking the lead on this auction and will provide organization. I will do the auctioneering with some assistance. Please direct any questions about donations to me.

Steve Blyskal, Mineral Study Section

### Is it Hard or Tough?

*from Mineral Mite, June 2000; via The Conglomerate 10/2015*

The terms "hardness" and "toughness" are sometimes confused when comparing qualities of gemstones, and there is a great deal of difference. Diamond is by far and away the hardest, for it will scratch, cut, or polish any other stone.

But for toughness (resistance to chipping and breaking), jade has it beat by a country mile. A diamond will easily cut and scratch jade, but a jade hammer can crush diamond to powder. The cross-matted structure of jade makes it almost impossible to break. Never fear if you accidentally drop a solid jade cabochon on cement. If it breaks, better check it, it's probably not jade.

The Chinese used jade as an anvil just as we use steel; sometimes the same anvil was used for several generations. Jade, used for axes and hammer-like tools centuries ago, was a practical, useful, and highly valued material.

## Archaeology Section

by Nancy Engelhardt-Moore

On behalf of the Section, I would like to give a big thank you to Nancy Fisher and Phyllis George for their assistance in promoting the Section's December 3 talk. Their efforts were greatly appreciated! On Saturday, October 17, the Section participated for the first time in the annual International Archaeology Day at the HMNS. This gave the Section some good exposure. Jon Hart, Bob Moore, Garth Clark, and I manned the booth and showed off spectacular artifacts to those interested (See photos below).

**December 3, 2015:** Garth Clark, the Section Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. There was a short discussion on future talks, and the upcoming HGMS Holiday Party and Auction was promoted (December 12). As of January 1, 2016, the new Section Chair will be Bob Moore, and Garth Clark will be the new Vice Chair. The evening's talk had a great turnout. Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout, the HMNS Curator of Anthropology presented "***Out of the Amazon: Material, Culture, Myth and the reality in Amazonia.***" Dirk spoke about pre-historic Amazonia and the complicated human migration into the Americas that included land, sea, and coastal routes. He talked about the early struggles of immigrants dealing with unusual plants and animals, and how they adapted to the new world. Initially Pre-Columbians were semi-nomadic and used the slash and burn methods for clearing forests and vegetation. Later in Bolivia, there is evidence of a sophisticated method of agriculture that involved creating canals around raised fields that was extremely efficient, allowing for 2–3 crops per season. The canals were also used for transport. During the rainy season, portions of the canals were modified to be fish traps by adding fences to entrap fish when floods receded. Dating shows these methods were used as far back as 400 BC, up to the 1600s, and ended with the arrival of Europeans. Garth pointed out that some areas in the New World have been dated back 30,000 years, but more field evidence is needed to confirm the older dates. Following Q & A, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**January 7, 2016:** Bob Moore, the Section Chair, will give a talk on "***Greco-Roman Medicine.***" He will give an overview on the development of medi-



cine including early Egyptian medicine up through sophisticated Roman medicine practiced by Claudius Galenus "Galen" in the old Greek City, Pergamum, located in present-day Turkey. Galen was a prodigious author, and he wrote some 80 different medical treatises. For over a thousand years after his death, Galen and his prodigious accomplishments were considered the gospel truth—the ultimate authority on all matters medical. Come and learn about medicine in the ancient world and how Galen's accomplishments influenced the history of medicine for over 1,000 years!

### General Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2015

by Nancy English, HGMS Secretary

**T**he meeting was called to order by President Ray Kizer at 7:30 p.m. He thanked everyone for coming to the November 24, 2015 General Meeting. The meeting was attended by 28 regular members and two visitors.

President Kizer asked the visitors to stand and be recognized. The visitors, David Broyles and Dan Crawford, learned about HGMS on the Internet.

**Drawing:** Sigrid Stewart won the drawing for the thin, polished agate slab. Nancy Fischer won a thick agate slab with an unusual turritella shape in it.

**Minutes:** Karen Burns moved to approve the minutes of the October General Meeting as published in the December BBG. Joan Riley seconded, and the motion passed.

**Bulletin Contest Awards:** Phyllis George read a Christmas card letter to HGMS from Diane Dare, a past AFMS judge for Bulletins and Advanced Adult Articles. Then Phyllis announced and distributed Certificates and awards for the HGMS members entered in the SCFMS and AMFS Bulletin Editors' Contests. (The list of entries can be found on page 7 in the December 2015 BBG. <http://www.hgms.org/BBG/Dec15.pdf>)

**New Officers:** In accordance with the HGMS Bylaws, the membership present voted on the 2016 slate of HGMS officers at the November General meeting. The new officers are: President – Paul Brandes, Vice President - Sigrid Stewart, Second Vice President – Beverly Mace, Treasurer – Rodney Linehan, Secretary – Nancy English. Nancy Fischer moved to accept the new slate of officers for 2016. Margo Bedman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Show 'n Tell:** Steve Blyskal and Sigrid Stewart went to the Midland Gem and Mineral Show while on a visit to Sigrid's dad. Steve showed a polished slab of Bruneau Jasper from Idaho he had gotten from the dealer Stone Crystals. Sigrid brought some nice slabs she had picked out from those put out for sale by the Midland club lapidary members. Sigrid had a good time renewing acquaintances with many of the club members who remembered her

from her years with that club. Steve photographed a very nice, comprehensive turquoise locality collection on display and offered the photos to anyone in need of turquoise locality id. Several members indicated they wanted copies.

### Section Reports

**Show Committee Final Report:** Scott Singleton reported that this year 5,218 adults and children attended the three-day event. The net profit of \$28,400 is \$10,000 more than was earned by the shows during the past two years.

**Archeology Section:** The next Archeology Section meeting is **Thursday December 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout will talk about the priceless pieces in the collection of the new Amazon Special Exhibit that opened October 23 at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Pieces include ceremonial objects, masks, and body costumes.

**Beading Section:** The Beading Section Christmas Party is **December 12, 2015** at 1:30. Beading party food can be brought as early as 11:00 a.m. The HGMS Holiday party is that same evening, and Beading members will help set up for the club's Holiday Party after their meeting.

**Day Light Section:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. **Holiday Lunch:** Preparations for the 1–3 p.m. Day Light Holiday Party will begin at 11:00 a.m. Members can bring their pot luck containers until 1 p.m., when the eating will begin. Pot Luck selections should be noted by last name initial: A - F should bring Salads and Appetizers; G - M should bring Side Dishes, e.g., green beans, broccoli with cheese sauce, sweet potatoes, rice, quinoa; N - Z should bring Desserts. Turkey will be provided by the Section.

**Gemstones and Faceting Section:** The Holiday party and gift exchange is Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

**Lapidary and Silversmithing Section:** There will be NO meeting on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, January 18, 2015.

**Mineral Section:** The next regular meeting is **Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** The program will be presented by **Steve Steinke** on **Wulfenites of the West:** Why is Arizona such a hot spot for wulfenite? What are the geologic conditions that formed the famous wulfenite localities in the western USA? Have you ever wanted to climb down to the 270' level of the Red Cloud Mine and open up a pocket of red wulfenite? Steve Steinke will be taking us on a road trip to not only Red Cloud, but also to the Rowley Mine, Silver Bill/Defiance and other wulfenite localities in the West. Steve also will have specimens from these mines to show attendees. Refreshments will be provided.

**NO meeting December 16.** The Mineral Section Christmas Party will take place at a private residence **Saturday, December 19, 2015.**

The next meeting is **Wednesday, January 6, 2015** at 7:30. Program to be announced.

**Paleo Section:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be announced.

**Youth Section:** The Holiday Party is scheduled for December 5, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. There will not be a December 19, 2015 meeting.

### **New Business**

1. **Trade Show: January 30, 2016:** Posters are on walls and doors of the club. Social Media advertising resulted in selling all indoor booths. Some outdoor booths are still available.
2. **Joan Riley** asked for donations of clothing, blankets, and sleeping bags for the homeless. Put bags of donations under the table inside the meeting hall door. She will pick them up when she is at the club.
3. **The next Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.**
4. **The HGMS Holiday party is December 12, 2015. Dinner starts at 6 p.m.** Please bring donations for the auction to the club a few days before the party so we have time to label them and to set up the auction list. If you bring items the night of the party, come at 5:00 to give us time to log them. The potluck dinner starts at 6:00 p.m., and the Auction starts at 7:00 following the dinner. The Club will provide the meat. **The food will be coordinated by Nancy English.** Please let her know what you are bringing by emailing her at [nancyjodi@aol.com](mailto:nancyjodi@aol.com).
5. **December 22: NO General Meeting**

### **Old Business**

In the interest of time, President Kizer asked the members to follow the progress of Old Business items in the November Board meeting minutes and October General meeting minutes as published in the December edition of the BBG.

**Adjourn:** Paul Brandes moved to adjourn the business meeting, and Steve Blyskal seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

President Ray Kizer called on Vice President Paul Brandes to introduce our speaker for the General meeting: **The program was on** American Corundum Deposits, and was presented by Will Heierman.

**Refreshments:** Provided by Nancy English.



## Board of Director's Meeting

December 1, 2015

by Ray Kizer/Nancy English

X	President - Ray Kizer	X	Archeology Rep - Garth Clark
X	1st Vice President - Paul Brandes	X	Beading Rep - Diane Sisson
X	2nd Vice President - Beverly Mace	X	Daylight Rep - Mary Ann Mitscherling
	Treasurer - Rodney Linehan	X	Faceting Rep - Gary Tober
	Secretary - Nancy English	X	Lapidary Rep - Phyllis George
		X	Mineral Rep - Mike Sommers
		X	Paleontology Rep - Mike Dawkins

**Call to Order:** President Ray Kizer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. A quorum was present. Three non-voting members attended the meeting: Scott Singleton and Autumn Breese, Web page Designers; and Carrie Hart, Education.

**President's Comments:** President Ray Kizer thanked everyone for attending his final Board meeting as presiding President, and he offered his congratulations to Paul Brandes, President Elect 2016, for volunteering to take control of the Board meetings next year. He also thanked Board members for helping manage the club's business for the two years he was President.

**Approval of Previous Month's Board Minutes:** Gary Tober moved and Beverly Mace seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2015 Board Meeting as published in the December 2015 BBG. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rodney Linehan emailed financials to all Board members in advance of the meeting. A quick review showed that the club is financially sound, and had a great year due to increased show revenues.

### Office, Committee, and Section Reports

**Archeology Section:** The next Archeology Section meeting is **December 3, 2015**. Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout will talk about the priceless pieces in the collection of the new Amazon Special Exhibit that opened October 23, 2015 at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Pieces include ceremonial objects, masks, and body costumes.

**Beading Section:** The next regular Beading Section meeting will be on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. for the **Beading Section Christmas Party**. **Food for the Beading party may be brought at 11:00 a.m. NOTICE! Same day as HGMS Christmas party. After the Beading Party, the Beading Section will help set up the HGMS evening Holiday party.**

**Day Light Section:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. **Holiday Lunch:** Preparations for the

1–3 p.m. Day Light Holiday Party will begin at 11:00 a.m. Members can bring their potluck containers until 1 p.m., when the eating will begin. Potluck selections should be noted by last name initial: A - F should bring Salads and Appetizers; G - M should bring Side Dishes; N - Z should bring Desserts. Turkey will be provided by the Section.

**Education:** Please contact Carrie at [carriehart2000@yahoo.com](mailto:carriehart2000@yahoo.com) to reserve your class space or request classes. Carrie announced that a jewelry fabrication class is in the planning stage for either January or February next year.

**Gemstones and Faceting Section:** The next regular meeting is Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. The program will be the Holiday Party and small gift exchange. The Faceting Section will provide the meat dish, and everyone is asked to bring some type of side dish. **Note:** we will have a voluntary gift exchange of \$15 to \$20 range, and no gag gifts. Please bring a gift to receive a gift.

**Lapidary and Silversmithing Section:** There will not be a meeting on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be January 18, 2016.

**Mineral Section:** The next regular meeting is **Wednesday, December 2, 2015** at 7:30 p.m. The program will be **Steve Steinke – Wulfenites of the West:** Why is Arizona such a hot spot for wulfenite? What are the geologic conditions that formed the famous wulfenite localities in the western USA? Have you ever wanted to climb down to the 270' level of the Red Cloud Mine and open up a pocket of red wulfenite? Now is your chance! Steve Steinke will be taking us on a road trip to not only Red Cloud, but also to the Rowley Mine, Silver Bill/Defiance, and other wulfenite localities in the West. Steve will also have specimens from these mines to show attendees. Refreshments will be provided.

No “official” meeting on **Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** The Mineral Section Christmas Party will take the place of this meeting.

**Paleo Section:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be announced. The Section's recent field trip to the former TXI cement quarry in Midlothian, Texas was attended by 23 members. The find of the day was a 2-inch Mosasaur tooth uncovered by Rick Lewandowski.

**Youth Section:** The Holiday Party is scheduled for December 5, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. There will be no December 19, 2015 meeting.

**BBG Editor and Webmaster:** Phyllis George reported that the deadline to receive articles for the January 2016 BBG is December 15, 2015.

### Old Business

1. **Club House Repairs / upgrades:** Further investigation revealed that the

doorbell needs to be rewired in order to ring in the meeting room.

2. **Security System:** Garth Clark is ready to set up remote viewing. No smoke detectors are compatible with our system. Ray Kizer found that waterproof housings for our current cameras are not available, and the best course of action is to purchase two waterproof cameras for outside use. We will retain the current cameras as spares should they be needed.
3. **Web Site update:** Autumn Breese presented the Web Site update. Autumn showed images of the new format for the Web site pages and explained the new look and capabilities of the redesigned programming. A Demo version was released to the Board and Sections to review for spelling errors, major problems, and omissions. December 27, 2015 is the Deadline for changes to the initial version of the site. After that the Web site will go live, hopefully in January. This initial release is Phase 1 of a multi-phase reworking of the Web site. It will contain basic information about the club as a whole and on the various functions of our Sections. In-depth club history, archives, and other functions such as e-commerce will be added in later phases.
4. **Elected 2016 Officers:** President: Paul Brandes, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Sigrid Stewart, Second Vice President: Beverly Mace, Treasurer: Rodney Linehan, Secretary: Nancy English. The Nominating Committee and BOD continue to look for a 2016 Show Committee Chair.
5. **Trade Shows: January 30, 2016** kicks off the first Trade Show of 2016. We discussed making sure that someone is the designated backup for Chase Jennings for the January 30 trade show. Also, both Chase and his backup should have at least a temporary key to the clubhouse.

### New Business

1. **The next Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, January 5, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.**
2. **Christmas party: December 12, 2015. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m.** Pat Hilbold will be cooking two turkeys at the club on December 12. Please bring donations for the auction to the club a few days before the party so we have time to label them and to set up the auction list. If you bring items the night of the party, come at 5:00 to give us time to log them. The potluck dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. The Auction starts at 7:00. The Club will provide the meat. **The food will be coordinated by Nancy English.** Please let her know what you are bringing: nancyjodi@aol.com.
3. NO General Meeting on December 22, 2015
4. **Imminent Loss of HGMS Internet Access:** We need to look for an alternate Wi-Fi service for the club. TechSoup is the non-profit source for the two hotspot Wi-Fi units Phyllis George purchased and that we have been

using for over two years. MobileBeacon, the service providing the service contract for the units, recently contracted with Sprint for them to provide the service, but now Sprint plans to discontinue our current WiMAX Internet service and transition us to a faster (LTE) Internet service on or around November 6, 2015. So far, no Sprint LTE-enabled devices have been donated to TechSoup for nonprofit use. When all of the supporting WiMAX towers in our area are decommissioned, the two Wi-Fi hotspots HGMS has been using will become nonfunctional. The Board discussed the continuation of the service and is in favor of looking for the most economical way to provide Internet access. The Board will address suggestions and options for a new carrier during their next meeting.

**New information:** MobileBeacon sued Sprint to halt their imminent shut-down of the WiMAX towers. On November 5, nonprofits won a preliminary injunction keeping them connected to the Internet.

- 5. Rescheduling of the Mineral field trip to the Texas Hill country:** The annual HGMS Fall Field Trip to the Hill Country had to be canceled in November due to a death in the tour guide's family. Paul Brandes reported the he has been able to reschedule the field trip for January 16–17 (MLK Weekend). The rescheduled trip will include a visit to Emerald Ridge on Saturday, January 16; and to the Badu Hill Pegmatite on Sunday, January 17. The method of booking a visit/paying has changed. For those who signed up and paid in November, you don't have to do anything except show up on the morning of January 16 in Mason. For any new folks who want to attend one or both trips, you must send Paul Brandes an email at [eclogite@pasty.com](mailto:eclogite@pasty.com) by January 3, 2016 to get on the list to go. Include your name and the names of any guests you bring. The maximum number of people who can attend each trip is 30. Currently, there are 16 people signed up for Emerald Ridge on Saturday and five for Sunday now going to Badu Hill so there is still plenty of room. The tour guide has requested that any new people attending bring \$30 cash for each trip (\$60 if you plan to do both days) as he has no way to handle credit cards at this time. Again, for the people that already registered and paid in November, you are good to go.

**Adjourn:** Gary Tober moved to adjourn the meeting, and Paul Brandes seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.



## AFMS President's Message

*by Matt Charsky, AFMS President  
from AFMS Newsletter 12/2015*

**O**n my way up the Presidential ladder, I learned a lot about how the AFMS functions. As I performed my duties in each position, I saw three primary areas of importance—membership, contact, and participation.

### Membership:

AFMS and Regional Federations rely heavily on the funds generated from membership dues. Recent years, except for 2015, have shown a slight decrease in the portion of membership dues that comes to AFMS, but the decrease does not represent a significant change. In fact in 2015, most Regional Federations increased membership—is this a one year blip? I hope not, so I would like to reward the Regional Federation that increases its membership the most from one year to the next. Let's call it a "friendly competition" that gives one Federation bragging rights for one year. All that has to be done is to compare membership numbers for two consecutive years (2014 and 2015), and the highest difference is the winner. I volunteer to do it for the first year and share the results in early 2016.

### Contact:

AFMS is set up to encourage contact among all the Regional Federations. The AFMS Officers and Committee Chairs may initially take the lead, but the Regional Representatives need to be players also. So let's have some contact throughout 2016 by all Committees, but especially on those that have a combined AFMS/Regional Federation focus. Each AFMS officer has tasks and duties that might be accomplished a little easier with some contact. As President, I will start the ball rolling by contacting the AFMS Regional Vice-Presidents, AFMS Committee Chairs, and the Presidents of each of the Federations throughout 2016.

I would like the AFMS Regional Vice-Presidents who have responsibilities with several AFMS Committee Chairs to contact these chairs and find out how that particular Committee is functioning during 2016—good and bad. You do not have to wait until the 2016 AFMS Convention in July to contact the Committee Chairs.

### Participation:

AFMS has numerous programs and competitions for the benefit of Regional Federations. For example, we have Informational Programs like **American Lands Access Association** (ALAA), Legislation and Conservation, Judges Training Seminar, Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editor (SCRIBE), and Safety. We also have rewarding programs like Club Rockhounds of the



Year, Junior Activity Badge Program, Program Competition, and Inter-Regional Field Trips. In addition, we have Competitive Programs like Bulletin Editors Advisory Contest (BEAC), Web Site Contest, and All American Club. Hopefully, none of these programs is a surprise to any of you. My point is that AFMS spends resources on these programs (i.e., people, time, and money), so let's continue to support all of them. These programs are part of who we are, so please participate. If you can do one activity this year, please try to contribute to our Endowment Fund. With our next convention scheduled for July, the time frame for donations will be limited. We have a new Endowment Fund Chair for 2016, Cheryl Neary, and she is a real gem.

Finally, there is nothing like having face-to-face contacts between AFMS and Regional Federations, so try to attend AFMS and Regional conventions and Regional Board meetings if you can. If you cannot be there in person, email your ideas and suggestions to the existing officers. We need to hear from the membership. So as I travel to each Regional Convention in 2016, show me what you do to further the hobby, and maybe it will become part of one of my monthly messages.

As the holidays approach, be thankful for your hobby and for the people in the hobby that make it fun and educational.

'Til next issue, Matt

### **Bench Tips**

*by Brad Smith*

*"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon. [www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com)*

### **DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING**

**S**ometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth. One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough.

You can set the depth either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling to the correct depth, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.

Note that a little extra tape left free on the end will blow away debris from the drilling.



### **CUTTING A BOLT**

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's often difficult to get

**Get last-minute news about club events by sending a note to Jim Kendall at [kendal\\_ja@yahoo.com](mailto:kendal_ja@yahoo.com)**

the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult it is to restore any distorted threads. The problem is easily solved with the use of a nut. Here's how I do it:

First, screw a nut onto the bolt before cutting it. Grip the bolt by the threaded section that is to be sawed off. Then saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.



Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt will straighten out any damage that sawing and filing did to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece that will be thrown away.

### **Turritella Agate—The Name Is False!**

*from Gem Cutters News 2/2003, via Rock Buster News 11/2014, via Rock Collector 5/2015, via Stoney Statements 5/2015, via Gritty Greetings 6/2015*

**T**urritella agate is found in Sweetwater County, Wyoming and around Superior and Wamsutter, Wyoming, too. The little snail that inhabited the shell lived in the Eocene about 40 million years ago. These fossils were not laid down in a sea, but in a fresh-water lake. The shell is highly silicified, more so than the brown matrix from which they can be etched. Whoever named this agate only knew that the sea snail *Turritella* had a high spiral shell. He jumped right in with this name without bothering to check the species out. The name has stuck, causing many people to be misled. These fossils are not even in the *Turritella* family; the true name is ***Oxyterma genera***. A few years ago, this species was known as *Goniobasis genera*, but further research caused the additional name change. You better check your collection right now and perhaps bring your identification up-to-date with the correct name on the beautiful little gastropod. *Editor's Note: To those of you who bought Turritella agate at our Holiday Party Auction in December, you now know what you REALLY have. :o)*



## 10 Most Deadly Rocks and Minerals

by Jim Karstell March 7, 2013

from Red Stick Rockhound News 11/2015

We often wonder if the Earth beneath our feet could swallow us up. The truth is more insidious. Drop that rock you just picked up . . . you could get poisoned. This list details the ten most toxic and potentially deadly minerals that crystalize in the Earth's rocks, presenting a dangerously deceptive array of stony beauty. These rocks don't have to be thrown to hurt you.

**1) Cinnabar:** Cinnabar (mercury sulfide) is the single most toxic mineral to handle on Earth. The name of the crystal means dragons blood, and it is the main ore of mercury. Forming near volcanos and sulfur deposits, the bright red crystals signal danger of the worst kind. Cinnabar may release pure mercury if disturbed or heated, causing tremors, loss of sensation and death. In the Middle Ages and late 1700s, being sent to work in Spanish mines containing cinnabar formations was widely considered a death sentence. Cinnabar was widely used in Chinese history for ornamental food dishes, and intricate carvings were created from chunks of it, sometimes at the expense of the artisans. Even more incredibly, some ancient medical practitioners believed cinnabar held healing powers, and prescribed it for certain conditions.



**2) Orpiment:** The only thing worse than arsenic itself could be a rock made from arsenic and sulfur. The lethal and chemically reactive orpiment crystals are found growing below the surface in mineral formations, often near hydrothermal vents. The colors are seductive, but holding the crystals in your hands may release carcinogenic, neurotoxic arsenic powder. Like cinnabar, the Chinese made extensive use of this mineral, but to far more terrifying ends. Arrows would be rubbed on crushed samples of these stones and then launched to poison the enemy in a rather fancy way to throw a rock. Orpiment is known to give off a strong garlic smell due to its arsenic content, and may crumble into dangerous powder when exposed to light. The mineral was used as a primary component of ochre paint, and likely poisoned many of the artists who used it.

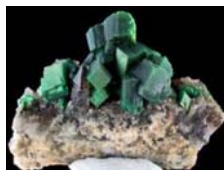


**3) Stibnite:** Stibnite is antimony sulfide, but it looks like silver. For that reason, the huge, shining metallic crystals of this unstable compound were once fashioned into magnificent eating utensils. But the sword shaped crystals bore the powers of death to those who used them. Stibnite's antimony-laced crystals killed a number of people before it became known that use of the mineral was causing food poisoning of the worst kind. Even in collections, stibnite samples should be



handled with great caution to avoid poisoning. Hand washing is advisable after any contact. Mines near Oksaku in Japan have produced the best stibnite crystals in the world, measuring up to a foot in length. Many stibnite samples have the appearance of a miniature steeple.

**4) Torbernite** Torbernite is the mineral from hell. The prism shaped green crystals form as secondary deposits in granitic rocks, and are composed of uranium. Formed through a complex reaction between phosphorous, copper, water, and uranium, the stunning crystal displays have seduced many mineral collectors into taking a sample for a shelf collection. If the uranium decay from a pocket-sized Chernobyl were not enough, lethal radon gas capable of causing lung cancer slowly releases from these hot rocks. This is one crystal to leave alone. Torbernite can occur in granite, so your stone countertop just might contain traces of torbernite. The bright green crystal blooms were used by prospectors as indicators of uranium deposits.



**5) Arsenopyrite:** Arsenopyrite is fool's gold, but with a difference. One would not just be a fool to mistake it for gold. Equally foolish would be a decision to pick up this mineral on a hike at a quarry, and proceed to use your hands to put trail mix in your mouth. Arsenopyrite is arsenic iron sulfide, which is the same type of mineral as pyrite (fool's gold, iron sulfide), but with a heavy addition of arsenic. If one attempts to heat or in any way alter the mineral, a strong garlic odor of arsenic will be produced as lethally toxic, corrosive and carcinogenic vapors are released. Just handling the mineral brings one into contact with unstable sulfuric arsenic salts. Interestingly, arsenopyrite may be identified by striking a specimen with a hammer. The powerful garlic odor of arsenic can be briefly detected as the sparks fly.



**6) Asbestos Chrysotile and Amphibolite:** Asbestos is not a manmade product, but one of most terrifying minerals on the planet. Where other minerals act as toxins through their chemistry and sicken victims of accidental poisoning, Asbestos conducts full scale mechanical sabotage on the human lung. Asbestos is a fully natural category of minerals composed of silica-the most abundant of Earth's hard elements, iron, sodium, and oxygen. Asbestos deposits consist of aggregates of thousands of tiny, fibrous crystals that can become airborne and lodged in the human lung. Carcinogenic effects occur through persistent irritation of the lung tissues, leading to scarring. Asbestos formations can also be uncovered among any set of silica rocks, warranting caution when exploring. Strangely, natural weathering leads to natural distribution of asbestos in Earth's atmosphere. As a result, many humans carry some asbestos fibers in their lungs.



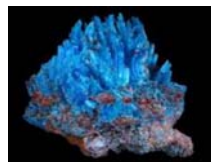
**7) Galena:** Galena is the principle ore of lead, and forms glistening silver cubes with almost unnaturally perfect shapes. Although lead is normally extremely flexible, the sulfur content of galena makes it extraordinarily brittle and reactive to chemical treatment. Galena is capable of taking an equally heavy toll on workers and amateur researchers who are exposed to it. Contact with specimens may lead to lead dust exposure, while workers in mines face a high risk of poisoning from contact with the mineral and the deadly dusts released through production. Once extracted, the lead content from this mineral poses environmental and health threats during treatment and extraction. Galena has a cubic fracture, and if hit with a hammer, the crystal will shatter into multiple smaller replicas of its original shape.



**8) Hutchinsonite—Thallium:** Thallium is the dark twin of lead. This thick, greasy metal is similar in atomic mass but even more deadly. Thallium is a rare metal that appears in highly toxic compounds consisting of rather strange combinations of elements. The effects of thallium exposure are even more peculiar, and include loss of hair, serious illness through skin contact, and in many cases, death. Hutchinsonite is a hazardous but dramatic mixture of thallium, lead, and arsenic. The three poisonous metals form a lethal mineral cocktail that should be handled only with great caution. Hutchinsonite was named after John Hutchinson, a prominent mineralogist from Cambridge University. The mineral is found in mountainous regions of Europe, most frequently in ore deposits.



**9) Chalcantite:** Seductive blue chalcantite crystals are composed of copper, combined with sulfur and other elements, and water. This arrangement turns copper, which is required by the body but toxic in excess quantities, into an extremely bio-available crystal. In another words, the copper becomes water soluble, and it may be assimilated in great quantities by any plant or animal, rapidly weakening it and then killing it by shutting down body processes. Chalcantite should never be tasted by amateur scientists for salt content, or an extremely serious overdose of copper could result. Just releasing crystals of the blue mineral has killed entire ponds of algae, and posed great environmental threats. Because of the incredible beauty and rarity of chalcantite, an enterprise dedicated to growing artificial crystals and passing them off as genuine specimens for sale has developed within the geological community.



**10) Coloradoite:** Coloradoite is a recently discovered crystalline mineral originating in magma veins. The mineral is a mercury telluride compound formed when mercury fuses with tellurium, another extremely toxic and rare metal. Coloradoite therefore poses a doubly toxic threat





to anyone daring to handle it. The combination of the two elements poses the risk of serious poisoning if carelessly handled. If heated or chemically altered, deadly vapor and dust is released by this strange mineral. Interestingly, the mineral may be mined for its tellurium content. Tellurium minerals may combine with gold, but were previously not recognized. In a strange twist of fate, the streets of Kalgoorlie in Australia were mined in a bizarre gold rush after the realization that gold-bearing tellurides had been used to fill potholes.

<http://hibiscusmooncrystalacademy.com/resources/toxic-crystals-stones/#sthash.q9YAe1DC.dpuf>

### **T'was the Month after Christmas**

*A Christmas Poem by Author Unknown*

**T**'was the month after Christmas, and all through the house  
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.  
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste  
All the holiday parties had gone to my waist.  
When I got on the scales, there arose such a number!  
When I walked to the store—less a walk than a lumber.

I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared;  
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared.  
The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese  
And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt  
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt  
I said to myself, as only I can  
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man."

So—away with the last of the sour cream dip,  
Get rid of the fruitcake, every cracker and chip.  
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished  
Till all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie—not even a lick,  
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.  
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,  
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore  
But isn't that what January is for?  
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot,  
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!

### **Clean a Copper Cuff Jewelry in 60 Seconds!**

*Courtesy of Ria at [www.elfenhardd.co.uk](http://www.elfenhardd.co.uk) via [www.handmadeology.com/how-to-clean-copper-jewelry-in-60-seconds/](http://www.handmadeology.com/how-to-clean-copper-jewelry-in-60-seconds/)  
via Rockhound Ramblings 12/2015*

**I**n a glass or ceramic bowl, put enough Lemon Juice to cover half of your item, and about a tablespoon of salt. It's not an exact science, I even left the seeds in! I dipped the cuff half-in, half-out at first (to see the before and after), but you can literally sit back and watch the copper clean itself in front of you. Leave it in the mixture of lemon juice and salt for about 30–60 seconds. A beautiful, shiny, copper cuff, all done! All you have to do now is rinse and dry with a soft cotton towel or paper towels. Polish it with some beeswax or renaissance wax, if you want to protect it for a little longer.

### **Truths About Growing Old**

*source unknown*

- There is always a lot to be thankful for if you take the time to look. For example, I'm sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.
- Laughing helps. It's like jogging on the inside.
- Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.
- My mind not only wanders; sometimes it leaves completely.
- If you can remain calm, you don't have all the facts.
- You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoes and wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- Insanity is my only means of relaxation.
- Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- Every time I think about exercise, I lie down 'til the thought goes away.
- It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- Now that I've got my head together, my body fell apart.
- Time may be a great healer, but it's also a lousy beautician.
- Age doesn't always bring wisdom; sometimes age comes alone.
- It's bad to suppress laughter; it goes back down and spreads to your hips.
- Freedom of the press means no-iron clothes.
- Seen it all, done it all, can't remember most of it.

## Show Time 2016

January 16-17	Fredericksburg, TX	Fredericksburg Rockhounds Lady Bird Johnson Park, HWY 16 So. gedeonjim1@gmail.com fredericksburgrockhounds.org
January 22-24	Tyler, TX	East Texas Gem & Mineral Society Tyler Rose Center; 420 Rose Park Drive Keith Harmon, Hwy 84 west, Rusk, TX 75785 whizgnat@netzero.net
Jan. 30-Feb. 14	Tucson, AZ	Tucson AZ Gem & Mineral Shows Multiple shows occurring simultaneously at more than 40 sites across Tucson tucsongemandmineralshows.net/
February 11-14	Tucson, AZ	Tucson Gem & Mineral Society SMG-Tucson Convention Center tgms@tgms.org; <a href="http://www.tgms.org">http://www.tgms.org</a>
February 20-21	Georgetown, TX	Williamson County Gem and Mineral Society Community Center, San Gabriel Park wcgms.org
March 5-6	Robstown, TX	Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Richard M Borchard Regional Fairgrounds 1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd., Exhibit Hall A rockcamp_speaker@outlook.com; <a href="http://www.gcgms.org">www.gcgms.org</a>
April 30-May 1	Waco, TX	Waco Gem & Mineral Club Extraco Events Center; 4601 Bosque Blvd <a href="http://www.wacogemandmineral.org">www.wacogemandmineral.org</a> <a href="mailto:showchair@wacogemandmineral.org">showchair@wacogemandmineral.org</a>
May 7-8	Lubbock, TX	Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society Lubbock Memorial Civic Center 1501 Mac Davis Lane <a href="mailto:walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org">walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org</a> <a href="http://www.lubbockgemandmineral.org">www.lubbockgemandmineral.org</a>
September 10-18	Denver, CO	Multiple shows and locations Eons Expos, Denver Coliseum, 4600 Humboldt St 250 dealers in Denver Coliseum plus 100 tents <a href="http://www.ColiseumShow.com">http://www.ColiseumShow.com</a>
November 11-13	Humble, TX	Houston Gem & Mineral Society Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy. 5 miles east of Bush Intercontinental Airport 1 mile east of Hwy. 59 <a href="http://www.hgms.org">www.hgms.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:showchair@hgms.org">showchair@hgms.org</a>

2016		January					2016
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1 New Year's Day	2 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 Youth Section	
3 10-4 Shop Open	4	5 7:30 Board Meeting	6 10-3 Shop Open 1:00-3:00 Day Light Section 7:30--Mineral Section	7 7:30 Archeology Section	8	9 10-5 Shop Open	
10 10-4 Shop Open	11	12 NO Show Committee	13 10-3 Shop Open 6:30 Gemstones & Faceting Section	14	15	16 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 a.m. Youth Section 1:30 Beading Section	
17 10-4 Shop Open	18 7:30 Lapidary Section	19 7:30 Paleo Section	20 10-3 Shop Open 7:30 Mineral Section	21	22	23 10-5 Shop Open	
24 10-4 Shop Open 10-4 Shop Open 31	25	26 7:30 General Meeting	27 10-3 Shop Open	28	29	30	

2016		February					2016
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2 7:30 Board Meeting	3 10-3 Shop Open 1:00-3:00 Day Light Section 7:30--Mineral Section	4 7:30 Archeology Section	5	6 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 Youth Section	
7 10-4 Shop Open	8	9 NO Show Committee	10 10-3 Shop Open 6:30 Gemstones & Faceting Section	11	12	13 10-5 Shop Open	
14 10-4 Shop Open Valentine's Day	15 7:30 Lapidary Section President's Day	16 7:30 Paleo Section	17 10-3 Shop Open 7:30 Mineral Section	18	19	20 10-5 Shop Open 10-12 a.m. Youth Section 1:30 Beading Section	
21 10-4 Shop Open	22	23 7:30 General Meeting	24 10-3 Shop Open	25	26	27 10-5 Shop Open	
28 10-4 Shop Open	29						

# The **BACKBENDER'S** **GAZETTE**

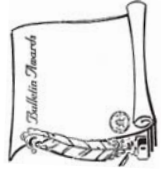
*The Newsletter of the*  
**Houston Gem & Mineral Society**

10805 BROOKLET  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77099  
(281) 530-0942



## SCFMS

1998 - 1st (Large)  
2000 - 1st (Large)  
2003 - 1st (Large)  
2005 - 1st (Large)  
2006 — 2012 - 1st (Large)  
2013 - 1st (Large)  
2014 - 1st (Large)



## AFMS

1998 - 2nd (Large)  
2004 - 3rd (Large)  
2007 - 1st (Large)  
2010 - 2nd (Large)  
2012 - 3rd (Large)  
2013 - 3rd (Large)  
2014 - 2nd (Large)



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