

Volume 54, Issue 09, Sept. 2007

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Mascot of the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club is an affiliate of



South Central Federation of Mineral Societies



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sept—Tape from SCFM

October—Live Auction

November—Charles Finley



Rockhound Club News of the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club
1408 Gibbins Road, Arlington, Texas 76011

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club
in Conjunction with the South Central Federation
proudly presents

The Golden Anniversary Show celebrating our 50th Show

DISCOVER NATURE'S INNER BEAUTY

featuring Jewelry, Beads, Gems, Minerals, & Fossils

September 1-2, 2007

Saturday 10AM - 6PM
Sunday 10AM - 5PM
(Sunday half off with Saturday ticket)

Tools
Hourly Door Prizes
Kids' Korner Activities

Rolling Rock Club meets at 8AM on Sunday

www.tses.com

Arlington Convention Center

Arlington Gem and Mineral Club
1408 Gibbins Road
Arlington, TX 76011
817 277-2286

ADMISSION:
\$6.00 Adults (at the door*)
\$3.00 Children (6-12)
(Sunday half off with Saturday ticket stub)
Free for Scouts in uniform

*\$5.00 Advanced Tickets call Club to request
Only one discount per person per day

LOCATION
Arlington Convention Center
1200 Ballpark Way
Arlington, TX 76011
\$7 parking



Club Notes *by Dale Miller, member*

September Program
Tape from the SCFM

October Program
Our annual Live Auction

November Program
Charles Finley

Just a Thought from your President for June

by Rick Litsinger, President AGMC

. At the time of this writing we have just two weeks before the show. Karen had done a great job in putting the show together and Rick Kupkie getting the dealer spaces filled. Joyce Speed is organizing the SCFMS meetings and Dale Miller is getting the Rolling Rock Club rolling as well. Now all we need is our club members to volunteer to help at the show as well as to talk up the show with friends, neighbors and co-workers. Remember, the show pays our taxes.

The new flooring has been installed in the entrance way and the "break room." My wife, Robin, and I removed the old carpet tiles, cleaned the floor and put down the new flooring. It took three days to do all the work but I think it will make the

area easier to maintain.

Sam Howeth and Ray Batson have been sweating hard trying to keep the grounds looking nice. Ray is our new building manager and will need help keeping our wonderful clubhouse in top shape.

Pat Ross has volunteered to take over the membership duties as well as secretary. I appreciate her stepping up to the place to take over this most important position.

The election committee will be formed at the August board meeting. It is a little early but there are going to be several board positions including president, secretary, treasurer and programs that will need to be filled for next year. So when asked to serve your club in an official

capacity please give it your strongest consideration.

"Leadership is practiced not so much in words as in attitude and in actions." Harold S. Geneen

Just a thought
Rick Litsinger
President, AGMC



SOME PEOPLE ARE LIKE POTATOES

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their hands. They are called "**Dick Tators.**"

Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with others work. They are called "**Comment Tators.**"

Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. It's too hot, too cold, too sour, or too sweet. They are called "**Agie Tators.**"

There are those who say they will, but don't. Never around to actually help. Call them "**Hezzie Tators.**"

Some put on a front and pretend to be someone they're not. "**Ima Tators.**"

Then there are those who love to do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They bring real sunshine into the live of others. They are called "**Sweet Tators!**"

Author Unknown via Rock-N-Rose 12/2000

AGMC September Class Schedule

By Pat Vaughan

Chainmaking OPEN

2nd Saturday, September 8, 9 AM - Noon
Instructor: Mary Owren

Faceting

Wednesdays, 7-9 PM
Beginning September 12
Instructors: Frank Krystinik/Mike Knuth

Glass Fusing & Enameling CLOSED

Sunday, September 9, Noon - 4 PM
Saturday, September 22, 9 AM - 1 PM
Instructor: Becky Downey

Metal Clay

Saturday, September 29, 10 AM - 2 PM
Instructor: Colleen Fitzpatrick

Silversmithing

Instructors: Sam Howeth/Rick Litsinger

Level 102 CLOSED
Mondays 7-10 PM

Level 201 OPEN
Wednesdays, 7-10 PM
Open to those that have completed 103

Level 301 OPEN
Fridays 7-10 PM
Open to those that have completed 202

Silversmithing Lab OPEN
3rd Saturday, September 15, 8 AM - Noon

Wax Carving Lab
Thursdays 7-9 PM

There will be no Cab Class in September.

SEPTEMBER 2007 AGMC Classes and Meeting Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 50th Anniversary Show Arlington Convention Center 10:00am – 6:00pm
2 50th Anniversary Show Arlington Conv.Center 10:00am – 5:00pm	3 Silversmithing 102 FULL 7 - 10 pm	4 **Regular Meeting** 7:30 PM	5 Silversmithing 201 Open 7 - 10 pm	6 ** Lab Open ~ Wax Carving Lab Open 7pm – 9pm	7 Silversmithing 301 Open 7 - 10 pm	8 ** Lab Open 9am-Noon ~ **Chainmaking Open 9 am – noon
9 Glass Fusing & Enameling FULL Noon – 4p	10 Silversmithing 102 FULL 7 - 10 pm	11	12 Faceting Open 7-9 pm ~ Silversmithing 201 Open 7 - 10 pm	13 ** Lab Open ~ Wax Carving Lab Open 7pm – 9pm	14 Silversmithing 301 Open 7 - 10 pm **DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER	15 Silversmithing Lab Open 8a – Noon ~ ** Lab Open 9am-Noon
16	17 Silversmithing 102 FULL 7 - 10 pm	18 Free Tuesday 7-9p for Members	19 Faceting Open 7-9 pm ~ Silversmithing 201 Open 7 - 10 pm	20 ** Lab Open ~ Wax Carving Lab Open 7pm – 9pm	21 Silversmithing 301 Open 7 - 10 pm	22 ** Lab Open 9am-Noon ~ Glass Fusing & Enameling FULL 9am – 1pm
23	24 Silversmithing 102 FULL 7 - 10 pm	25	26 Faceting Open 7-9 pm ~ Silversmithing 201 Open 7 - 10 pm	27 ** Lab Open ~ Wax Carving Lab Open 7pm – 9pm	28 Silversmithing 301 Open 7 - 10 pm	29 ** Lab Open 9am-Noon ~ Metal Clay Open 10am – 2 pm
30						

AMETHYST By Jereme Dubhros

Amethyst gets its name from the Greek "amethystos" meaning sober or "not intoxicated", appropriate as the ability to protect the owner not only from strong drink but other toxins is a theme that occurs time and again with the legends concerning this stone. Amethyst is actually the purple variety of quartz, caused by impurities such as manganese. In addition to preventing poisoning, the amethyst in myth possesses a lesser known property, that being the ability to quell passions and cure madness. It is this calming effect that provides the merchant with shrewd business sense and restores a soldier's courage. This trait is also most probably what earned the amethyst a place on the finger of catholic bishops and the title "Bishop's Stone".

A beautiful Greek legend tells how the stone gained these properties, it goes as follows:

Dionysus was annoyed at some slight he had received from a mortal, and vowed that the next mortal he came across would be torn apart by tigers. As it happens, he came across Amethyst, a maiden pure of form and spirit, on her way to the temple of Diana. When the tigers set upon Amethyst she cried out to Diana for help. Hearing this Diana spared Amethyst from a most horrible fate by turning her to pure rock crystal. Upon seeing this miracle Dionysus poured a libation upon the frozen statue of Amethyst turning it purple, and swore that whoever bore her likeness would forever be free from his wrath. Dionysus is the god of debauchery, wine, and mad revelry so it is from the darker aspects of these things that Amethyst is said to protect from.

- Colors: Purple, from pale lilac to almost black
- Region: Brazil and Russia are prime deposits, though it is found worldwide.
- Composition: SiO₂, Quartz family.
- Hardness: 7



AGMC Hound's Tale Advertising Rates

Size	Dimensions	Members		Non-members	
		6 months	1 month	6 months	1 month
Full page	9.5" x 7.75"	\$120	\$25	\$240	\$50
Half page (v)	9.5" x 3.75"	\$72	\$15	\$144	\$30
Half page (h)	4.625" x 7.75"	\$72	\$15	\$144	\$30
Qtr page (v)	4.625" x 3.75"	\$48	\$10	\$96	\$20
Qtr page (h)	2.375" x 7.75"	\$48	\$10	\$96	\$20
Biz Card (v)	2" x 3.5"	\$30	\$6.25	\$60	\$12.50
Biz Card (h)	3.5" x 2"	\$30	\$6.25	\$60	\$12.50

All ads are subject to approval by the AGMC executive board. Layout of the ad is included in price as long as all ad content is included with the initial request. Digital artwork must be included with the initial request or the ad will be created as text only. Ad requests must be received by the 2nd Thursday of each month for the following month's newsletter by email at: editor@agemclub.com. Make payable to **Arlington Gem & Mineral Club**. Send payments to:

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club
P.O. Box 986
Arlington, TX 76004

For any questions regarding layout, please contact Paula Truitt at: editor@agemclub.com.
For any questions regarding appropriate content, please contact Rick Litsinger at: Rockdoctor76016@aol.com.

Dr. Vernon Bryant, a former member of the Oak Cliff Gem and Mineral Club and a dear friend of mine, was an ardent rockhound and over the years became a noted collector of beautiful specimens.

The following introductory page was taken from his booklet of articles written about his experience and adventures as a rockhound.

Other articles will be included later in The Hound's Tail Newsletter.

Alec Gallia

**MEMORIES OF A
ROCKHOUND**
*Greatfully submitted by
Alec Gallia*

INTRODUCTION

These papers were written more or less by accident. The program chairman of one of the local gem and mineral clubs asked me to write an article about petrified wood for the club bulletin. Since the subject was much too big for one article we decided that I would write a series of articles, each article about one species of wood. As time passed I was surprised to learn I enjoyed writing the articles, primarily because the memories connected with collecting the material were so pleasant.

Since several members of the gem and mineral club assured me they enjoyed reading the articles I continued writing them, eventually relating stories of rock collecting of material other than petrified wood. Recalling these events and friends and places of long ago has been stimulating for me. I can only hope the readers have had some pleasure from my efforts.

These papers could just as well have been titled "Fifty Years of Rocking", because this year (1992) represents fifty years since I picked up my first "keeper" out of Crowfoot Creek in southern Oregon.

Vernon M. Bryant

TEQUILA ON THE ROCKS
By Vernon M. Bryant

Sometimes a field trip does not turn out as planned. It may take an unexpected turn for the better or worse, usually the latter. Since this story puts me in a bad light I question the advisability of continuing it. However, I will continue because I know my readers are my friends, and they are a forgiving lot.

The trip started well enough. May plans were to fly from Dallas to Medford,

Oregon, and spend two weeks with a rockhound friend hunting, cutting, and polishing rocks. However, I had met Eddie Lindberg and he had assured me that anytime I came to Deming, New Mexico, he would take me to the thunder-egg and agate beds. I had seen some of these eggs, and also some of the blue and red agate, and they were so beautiful I longed to go to the locations. Therefore, I changed my plans. My new plans were to stop over in El Paso, take a bus to Deming and go rock hunting, then return to El Paso and continue the flight to Oregon.

The time between my arrival in El Paso and the bus leaving for Deming was short, and as I entered the bus the only empty seat was beside what appeared to be a very friendly Mexican American. I gladly took the seat next to him and opened a magazine to read. However, he would have none of that, and started a conversation immediately. He then reached inside a paper bag and took out a bottle of tequila.

"Have a drink," he offered, holding the bottle in front of me. I was dumbfounded at the idea. I had never tasted tequila, and the idea of drinking any alcoholic beverage on the bus was beyond my imagination.

"I can't do that," I replied. "They would kick us off the bus."

"No way," he countered. "I do it all the time. Nobody minds. Come on. You'll like it."

With that I slowly reconsidered, and change my mind. I figured I was on vacation in a part of the country where nobody knew me, and if we were kicked off the bus it would be just an inconvenience, not the end of the world. So I took a swig of the hot, awful stuff, and we continued on our way, the jolliest bus ride I ever had.

He told me he was the janitor of Mesilla Public School, that the school was opening the following week, and he had come to El Paso with his wife that morning to buy school clothes for the children.

Their routine was for her to buy clothing and he to go over to Juarez and buy tequila.

"Where is your wife now?" I

asked.

"Oh, I don't know. She may still be shopping, or she may be at home. I never see her again once we get here. We always come together, but never go back together."

The bus trip ended all too soon, with my new acquaintance getting off at Mesilla, and with me going on to Deming.

At that time Eddie Lindberg's shop was near an old hotel. After registering at the hotel I went to the shop, and we agreed to leave early the next morning for the thunder-egg beds.

We did get an early start, and with some moderately strenuous digging we uncovered several eggs up to ten inches in diameter.

We then went to the agate location. At the time there was a very famous rockhound in Deming by the name of Chale' Adams, who appeared to be Indian. Anyway, she happened to be at the agate beds, and did not hesitate to tell us how she found so much good agate. She informed us that the first thing she did was to get down on her knees and ask God to tell her where to dig, and she assured us He almost always pointed out a good place. Since I did not feel that I had such a good working relationship with God, and since I had just recently misbehaved on the bus, I did not use this method. Anyway, I felt that this problem was too trivial to ask God for help. As it turned out I found a couple of very nice pieces of agate anyway.

On returning to Deming we cut some of my eggs, with pleasant results, showing the typical pink and lavender colors characteristic of eggs found in the early days. The two agates had the usual rich red and blue colors, and were excellent quality.

We then packed my treasures in boxes, and I took them with me to the airport in El Paso. On reaching Oregon I polished the best of the specimens, and some of them will be on display at the next meeting.

Please look for more stories from Dr Bryant in upcoming issues.

Club Mission:

The objectives of the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club shall be to educate the public in the study of the earth sciences, lapidary arts, designer jewelry and all related fields.

Yearly Enrollment**recommended donation:**

Initial Adult Enrollment	\$35.00 (includes \$5.00 badge)
Adult Renewals	\$30.00 per calendar year
Junior Members	\$3.50 per calendar year

Activities take place at:
Arlington Gem and Mineral Club
1408 Gibbins Road, Arlington, TX 76011
Phone 817-277-2286

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 986
Arlington, TX 76004

E-mail Address:
editor@agemclub.com or
webmaster@agemclub.com

World Wide Web Home Page:
<http://www.agemclub.com>

Business Meeting on 1st Tuesday at 7:30 PM
Board Meeting on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 PM.

The Hound's Tale

Published monthly by the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club.

Permission To Reprint

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Lapidary-related ads and articles from Members of AGMC are welcomed. They will be placed on a space-available basis, first in first out. Any articles may be edited for space and content. Non-enrollees ads are accepted after student ads. You must include your name and contact information.

Arlington Gem and Mineral Club
(formerly Texas School of Earth Sciences)

P.O. Box 986
Arlington, TX 76004

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www.agemclub.com

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