

THE

ROCKHOUND'S TALE

ROCKHOUND NEWS OF THE ARLINGTON GEM AND MINERAL CLUB
1408 GIBBINS ROAD, ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011
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ARLINGTON GEM AND MINERAL CLUB
MEMBER OF



SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION OF
MINERAL SOCIETIES



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

CLUB PURPOSE: To encourage the study of earth sciences, lapidary arts and other related fields, and to enjoy good fellowship with those who share like interests

CONTACTS

webmaster@agemclub.com

World Wide Web Home Page

<http://www.agemclub.org>

Business meeting and program 1st Tuesday 7:30PM
AGMC Board Meeting Last Tuesday 7:00PM



PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Elaine O'Donley

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

We had two wonderful shows in the past two months, that brought in 28 new members at last count, making us a total of 300+ strong. Many people from the AKS SHOW waited to become members in order to take advantage of the discount offered at our main event of the year - "THE TEXAS TREASURES" SHOW. Club Participation was very much appreciated. Thanks to all members who worked the show and Dealers' Dinner. We received many compliments from the Dealers regarding the dinner, and most dealers were satisfied with the show. New members along with our more established members helped to make this annual event a success. SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO HAROLD HOSKISON AND KAREN CESSNA. BOTH MEMBERS HAVE TAKEN OVER THE SHOW CHAIR POSITION A NUMBER OF TIMES AND HAVE TAKEN SMALLER BUT IMPORTANT ROLES OTHER TIMES. THIS IS THE LAST YEAR FOR BOTH WITH THEIR FINAL SUCCESSFUL SHOW. Competitions were well attended, and congratulations are in order to those who participated. For you newbies, basically you are competing against yourselves in this Club Competition. The judges' remarks reflect the areas to work on to advance your skills. We hope to see even more members compete next year, as there are 3 levels to test your abilities -Novice, Intermediate and Master. The results of the AGMC CLUB COMPETITION can be found in the pages of this newsletter. Again, CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL COMPETITORS!!!!!!

INTERGEM SHOW is the last show for this year. Set-up at Market Hall is Wed, Sept 29, at 2:00p.m...Thurs, Sept 30... will be a continuation of set-up in the morning, usually around 9:00 or until finished, unless otherwise stated by the Coordinator. By set-up we mean: Drape Tables for the Vendors at the INTERGEM show. In exchange we receive free tables for our Club Demonstrations and Individual Sales. The more people come to help on Wed, the less to be done on Thursday. Show times are: Friday, Oct 1, 12 - 6... Sat. Oct 2, 10 - 6... and Sun, Oct 3, 11 - 5... Everyone attending the show remember to wear your AGMC Badge. Many dealers will give you a price break if they are aware you are an AGMC MEMBER. .

Continued - see Presidents Address , pg. 2.

Presidents Address, continued from pg. 1

THE LOGO CONTEST IS NOW CLOSED.

THIS MONTHS PROGRAM WILL BE THE AGMC AUCTION PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO USE THE MOSQUE PARKING LOT CLOSEST TO OUR BUILDING. PARKING IMMEDIATELY AROUND THE AGMC CLUBHOUSE IS RESERVED FOR HANDICAP PARKING, 1ST TIME VISITORS, AND GUEST SPEAKERS DURING THE GENERAL MEETINGS. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE will be looking for members to fill vacant spots on the board. IF YOU ARE ASKED to take on a position, REMEMBER YOU ARE BEING ASKED TO ASSIST IN GUIDING AGMC INTO THE FUTURE. If anyone would like to take on a Board position that's already filled, you can be nominated from the floor prior to the election in December.

UPCOMING MEETINGS WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT

NOVEMBER: The Nominating committee presents their recommendations of Officers for 2011

Teacher/Supervisor Appreciation

DECEMBER: Voting on the Officers of the Board for 2011

DECEMBER XM AS PARTY: INSTALLING THE NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2011

PLEASE MAKE AN EXTRA EFFORT TO BE HERE FOR THESE VERY IMPORTANT MEETINGS

Elaine O'Donley ancora imparo

Local Area Club Meetings

Deborah Hartz

Dallas Club meets 3rd Tuesday, 7-9pm @ 10205 Plano Rd.

Ft. Worth Club meets 4th Tuesdays, 7pm meet & greet @ 3545 Bryan Ave.

Oak Cliff Club meets 4th Tuesday @7:30-9:30pm @ Renaissance Hospital Of Dallas

Pleasant oaks Club meets 1st Thursday, 7:30-9pm @Garland Women's Activities Building 713 Austin, Garland

JOIN NOW!!!

THE FIRST TUESDAY CAB AND LUNCH
BUNCH CLUB MEETS AT THE CLUB
HOUSE 9:00 AM 12:00 PM FIRST
TUESDAY EACH MONTH THEN ON TO
LUNCH!!!

CONTACT PERSON FRANK O'DONLEY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ELECTED OFFICERS (Voting Positions)

President	Elaine O'Donley
Secretary	Tom McCormick
Treasurer - Finance	Stephen Bennett
1 st Vice Pres (Operational/Educational Classes)	Emie Stewart
2 nd Vice Pres (Programs)	Steven Williams
3 rd Vice Pres (Field Trips)	Sue Poarch
4 th Vice Pres (Youth Education Programs)	Alma Ramirez
Delegate at Large (Omnibusperson)	Ray Wilkes

APPOINTED POSITIONS (Voting Positions)

Past President (Delegate at Large)	Dale Miller
Newsletter (The Hound's Tale) Editor	Mike Hartz
Show Chairperson	Harold Hoskison
Lapidary Department Chairperson	Don Lawrence
Membership Chairperson	Karen Cessna

APPOINTED POSITIONS (Non-Voting Positions)

Library Chairperson	Susan Hale
Historian Chairperson	Beth Spinks
Building Chairperson	Mike Armstrong
Show Dealers Chairperson	Harold Hoskison
Show Publicity	Karen Cessna
Grounds Chairperson	VACANT
Grounds assistant	VACANT
Hospitality Chairperson	VACANT
Welcome Chairperson	Veronica Murday
International Gem and Jewelry Chairperson	Joyce Speed
Telephone calling Chairperson	Elaine Berry
Jewelry Department Chairperson	Emie Stewart
Library Exhibits Coordinator (METROPLEX)	Alma Ramirez
Educational Outreach – School Curriculum	Steve and Mary Hilliard
Sunshine	Marge Harrant
Webmaster	Jeremy Dubhros
Graphic Designer	Darcy Sety
Donations Chairman	Dale Miller
Long Range Planning	Elaine O'Donley

THE HOUND'S TALE

Published monthly by the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club.

ADS AND ARTICLES

Lapidary related ads and articles from members of AGMC are welcomed. They will be placed on a space available basis, first in first out. Include your name and contact information.

Send ads and articles to Mike and Deborah Hartz at our web site <http://www.agemclub.org>, click on "CONTACTS" (upper right), then, on the next page click on "Hound's Tale Editor" (bottom center)

**Deadline date for ads and articles
is the 15th of the month.**



**ARLINGTON GEM
AND
MINERAL CLUB**
General Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2010

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Elaine O'Donley at 7:33 pm.

Secretary's Report: Tom McCormick
The minutes from last month are posted in the Hound's Tale and on the board.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Bennett
Steve reported on the account balances. He also reported on the show gate receipts and stated there is more income yet to be received and costs to be resolved.

Classes: Emie Stewart:
Emie reported on the current classes and workshops. The listings of classes and workshops are on the board and in the monthly Hound's Tale and the calendar on the club web site. Emie made some specific class announcements. Leslye Wilkes is back and her classes will resume on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7 – 9:00 pm.

Programs: Steve Williams
Tonight is a video presentation from the South Central Federation on petrified wood. October's program will be a rock auction.

Field Trips: Sue Poarch
September 25th is the trip to Vetro Glass in Grapevine for a chance to make a glass holiday ornament. It will be held in groups going from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the order participants sign in at Vetro. The cost per ornament is \$25.00. Anyone can just watch the process for free. October 2 & 3 is a gem show in Idabelle, Oklahoma. If you interested contact Sue. (that is also the dates of Intergem in Dallas.) Trying for October for The Arkanstone. The 2nd Saturday in November will be the trip to the new Mineral Wells fossil park.

Juniors – Alma Ramirez
We had a good turnout for the show. Next juniors meeting will be copper and annealing. The juniors meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Going to Mineral Wells in November December will do a holiday present.

Delegate at Large – Ray Wilkes
Come to Ray if you have any issues, questions or problems.

Sunshine Report: Marge Harrand
Get Well Cards: Bob Poarch Martha Noah
Bill Miller Elizabeth Peters (2) illness & surgery
Sympathy Cards: The Downey Family Bob Boyd
Thinking of You: Bobbi Wilson

Newsletter – Mike Hartz (agmceditor@yahoo.com or the link on the AGMC Web Page)

Not present

Kathy Lawrence is going to assume as AGMC Editor for 2011 replacing Mike. Please keep the articles coming. Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month.

Show Report: Harold Hoskison
For next month Harold has 2 cordless mikes to donate.

He reported on the show income.
The convention center said we had more cars admitted for parking than last year.
Harold did an exit poll of visitors and they said we were a lot of fun and they enjoyed the show. A majority came because they received the flyer cards. The second was the Star Telegram advertisement. We are thinking we had about 1000 to 1100 people attend the show.

Next year Jack Spinks is the Show Chairman, James York will assist, and Joyce Speed is the Dealer Chairman with Dale Miller assisting. Next year everyone will have to pay for parking.

Hospitality – Deborah Hartz

Not Present

Donna Sommers is tonight's hostess.

Membership: Karen Cessna

We had 28 new members join at the show. Karen read a list of the winners. Also read a list of prize winners. Both lists were sent to the Newsletter Editor with the minutes.

Visitors:

Charles & Linda May Tracy Bassett
Tom Beatty Theren Boster – new member
Jose L. Santos Susan Bedell – new member
Vicki McCoy Linden Blackman – new member
Paulette Starlin Jose A. Martinez – new member
Niki Beatty Linda Clark – new member
Vivian Palachek Ann Abate – new member
Ingrid Bloffens-Lantz – new member
Randall N. Lantz – new member
Bob & Sherry Shelton

Joined September 7, 2010: Stephanie Welke

Past President: Dale Miller

Dale is nominated/elected as 5th Vice President of the AFMS and will be representing the South Central Federation.

Cont. see PAST PRESIDENT page 4

PAST PRESIDENT continued from page 3.

Lots of Donations:

Cash donation for the Dealer's Dinner

Porta Lab was donated

Bar of silver for the show prize

Two trim saws

2 boxes of slabs – one donated at the show, another tonight by same people.

3 boulder opal cabs donated- 2 auctioned at the show, the other for the club auction.

2 boxes of earrings (73 pair)

Vial of opal

2 arbor cabbings unit

A hand turned wooden bowl

Lapidary: Don Lawrence

Next Saturday will be the 2nd Saturday Early Risers shop from 7:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Faceting special class on the 3rd Thursday. The 16th this month.

New members invited to a club tour at break.

Building Manager: Mike Armstrong Not present.

Old Business:

Please leave the close in parking at the club for the handicapped and those needing special assistance. We can use the Mosque parking.

New Business:

In order to keep the monthly meetings from taking too long please submit new items for the agenda via email to the President before the meetings.

The Pixie cabbings machine seems to have "walked off" from the cabbings room. The replacement cost for that machine is about \$1400.00. It has been gone 30 days or more and an Arlington Police report is going to be filed. Karen Cessna made a motion to replace it with a used one in good condition from Keith Harmon for around \$850.00. The motion was amendment after discussion and a decision was made to have the President appoint someone to inspect the machine before committing to buy. The question was called and the motion passed.

The Nominating Committee reported that the members of the committee are Emie Stewart, chairman; Ray Wilkes and Karen Cessna are co-members. In November they will present a recommended slate. Two voting members are not returning to their positions so we will need nominations for replacements. They are Tom McCormick, Secretary and Alma Ramirez, Juniors. Barbara Mahoney suggested we have a labeling party. There are many items and sorting in the garage that need to be identified and marked. Elaine will talk to Mike Armstrong about it. Elaine mentioned that any club equipment with a serial number needs to be

listed so we have records. Barbara is going to check with the Arlington PD about an ID program.

Announcements:

Intergem – Joyce Speed is the Coordinator. Sign up sheets are here tonight. The setup is on September 29 & 30. Show dates are October 1 – 3. We rely on volunteers to help with setup to be able to get our club space. Member's main function is to promote the club. Those who demonstrate may sell some of their own work, but the primary function is to demonstrate what the club does.

North Park has invited the club to participate in their 45th anniversary. It would take 2 volunteers and it is held during INTERGEM. Contact Elaine if you are interested.

There is a show in November at Southfork Ranch called the "Show of Integrity" if anyone is interested contact Elaine.

September 25th and 26th is the Gold and Gem Rendezvous. Details are posted on the bulletin board. The Logo contest competition is now closed and the submissions will be reviewed by the board.

Break

Drawings/Raffle:

Name Badge/Sign In: Steve Bennett Tom Beatty

Raffle:

Susan Hale Karen Babcock Susan Hale

Frank O'Donley Don Lawrence

Program:

SCF Video on Petrified Wood.

The Business Meeting Adjourned at approximately 9:05 pm.

Submitted by:

Tom McCormick

Secretary AGMC

UP COMING SHOWS

Deborah Hartz

October 9-10, Temple, TX, Tri-City G&MS, Mayborn Civic Center

October 15-17, Victoria, TX, Victoria G&MS, Community Center, 2905 East North St.

October 22-24, Austin, TX, Austin G&MS, Palmer Event Center

OCTOBER 29-31, Glen Rose, TX, Paleo. Soc. of Austin, Somervell Expo Center Hwy 67

LAPIDARY SUPERVISOR

Don Lawrence

[Need a little help on 10/16/2010 - 3rd Saturday \(9:00am – Noon\)](#)

Lapidary Supervisor Calendar for October 2010

10/2/2010 - 1st Saturday – Dale Miller
(9:00am – Noon)

10/5/2010 - 1st Tuesday- Frank O'Donley
(9:00am - Noon)

10/7/2010 - 1st Thursday - Jeremy Dubhros
(7:30pm - 9:30pm)

10/9/2010 - 2nd Saturday – Don Lawrence
(7:00 - Noon)

10/14/2010 - 2nd Thursday – Barbara Maloney (7:00pm - 9:00pm)

10/16/2010 - 3rd Saturday - [TBA](#) (9:00am – Noon)

10/19/2010 - 3rd Tuesday – ([Free Tuesday](#))
Bob Boyd (7:00pm - 9:00pm)

10/21/2010 - 3rd Thursday – Jack Spinks
(7:00pm - 9:00pm)

10/23/2010 - 4th Saturday Don Lawrence
(7:00 - Noon)

10/28/2010 - 4th Thursday Frank O'Donley
(7:00pm - 9:00pm)

10/23/2010 - 5th Saturday Donald Whitney
(9:00 - Noon)

CLASS REPORT

Emie Stewart

Special Workshops: In October, Jack Spinks will be teaching Introduction to Silversmithing on Monday nights, October 4 – 11, from 6:30 to 10:30 PM. On Sunday, October 10, John Alexander will be teaching how to make a hammered bracelet with conchos, from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. Please check the class bulletin board for signup sheets at the club meeting the month before the class is scheduled. If you are interested in teaching a class, please contact Emie Stewart at schueler@flash.net. For every hour you teach, you get one Arlie Buck, redeemable for classes and/or lapidary time.

New Glass Class: Beginning on October 23, Sue Poarch will teach an advanced glass class covering slumping and other techniques. The class meets on the 2nd Sunday and 4th Saturday of each month, from 1:00 – 5:00 PM. The sign up sheet was posted at the September meeting.

New Cabbing Class: Ray Wilkes will teach an additional beginning cabbing class on the 1st Saturday of each month, beginning on October 2, from 1 – 4 PM. Sign up sheet will be posted the month before the class.

Silversmithing Class Changes: A new advanced silversmithing class will be offered on Friday nights, beginning approximately at the end of October. The class is open to those who are currently in the intermediate classes. You can notify Emie Stewart via email at schueler@flash.net if you want to be in the advanced class. In addition, two new beginning silversmithing classes will be offered, one on Monday night and one on Wednesday, beginning in November and December, respectively. Sign up will be the month before the class begins.

Thank You: Many thanks to those folks who continually step up and offer to teach. While other clubs are dying on the vine, AGMC continues to experience robust growth, due primarily to active members just like you. Thank you for the generous gift of your time and talent.

No Shows: If you sign up for a class and are unable to attend, you must let the instructor know before the class date so that they can offer your slot to someone on the waiting list. Failure to do so may cause you to be listed as a “no show.” Club policy is that no-shows will be wait-listed for future classes at the instructor’s discretion.

DONATIONS

Dale Miller

In the last few weeks we have had several donations to the club.

Buddy Ferguson - a portion of the money he made when he sold silver at the club meeting.

Frank Krystinik - a vial of opal for the silent auction at the show.

Mike and Deborah Hartz - about 70 pair of ear studs for the auction. Some will be at the Oct. sale.

Mack Criddell - 3 boulder opal cabs. 2 were sold at the show and one will be at the live auction.

Eric Holmes - Cash to pay for meat for the Dealers Dinner.

Ron Miller - A PortaLab. This will be used by the club to teach gem ID.

Joanna Barr - 2 trim saws.

Carl and Nova Wells - 2 boxes of slabs. Some went to the Cabochon Class, the rest to the auctions.

Joyce and Delbert Speed - A binder of all Walton Wright's hand outs for the Wood Symposium he taught at AGMC June 2001

Barbara Maloney - A hand-turned wooden bowl

Ray Batson - A Grinding unit for cutting Cabochons.

Anonymous - A 7.8 Troy oz bar of .999 silver as a raffle item at the show.

RECIPE

Dale Miller

NEVER FAIL PIE CRUST

4 C. sifted flour
1 1/2 t. salt (I use 2 t)
1 1/2 C Crisco (Butter flavored)

Stir salt into flour, cut in Crisco.

1 egg
5 T. cold water
1 T vinegar

Lightly beaten, than sprinkled over flour mixture.

Makes 3 8" single crust pies. Will keep refrigerated for 2 weeks. Will freeze.

Basic Cream Pie (makes 1)

2 egg yokes (I use more, up to 6)
3/4 C sugar - with 2 T flour or corn starch added (I use flour)
2 C milk

In a sauce pan beat eggs with a whisk, add a little milk, then add sugar mixture and the rest of the milk.

Keep stirring with whisk while pudding cooks. It should simmer until it thickens. Remember it will continue to thicken as it cools. Remove from heat, add 1/2 stick butter and 1 t. vanilla. Pour into pre-cooked pie crust. When cool top with Whipped Cream.

For chocolate pie add 2 heaping T. Cocoa to sugar/flour mix before adding to milk.

For coconut add 1/2 of a small bag of shredded coconut to mix after cooking pudding.

For pineapple pie add canned (not frozen) pineapple.

About The Show Competition

Karan Cessna

Although it was not announced in advance of the show we awarded showcase awards this year. And the winners were:

First Place – Alec Gallia for his showcase of Varicite, Rhodinite and other slabs. The judge stated he liked the beauty of this case.

Second Place – Alec Gallia for his replica diamonds – The judge stated the workmanship was outstanding.

Third Place – Emie Stewart for her display of silversmithing methods. The judge stated it was the most educational case.

All of the showcases were extraordinary and I thank each of you for participating and hope you will do so again next year.

And the winners (which was everyone who participated) for Cabochons, Chainmaking, Faceting, Silversmithing, and Wire Wrapping were:

Cabochons:

First Place Novice– Beth Spinks score of 99
Second Place Novice–Tie Travis Houston and Donald Whitney score of 92
Third Place Novice- Rebecca Robertson score of 54
First Place Advanced – Jack Spinks score of 88

Chainmaking:

First Place Novice–Beth Spinks score of 95
Second Place Novice–Tie Susan Hale and Eric Keller score of 90
Third Place Novice-Patsy Davilla score of 75

Faceting:

First Place – Novice –Dudley Barnes score of 93
First Place – Advanced –Eric Holm score of 84.5

Silversmithing:

First Place Novice–Denise Lands score of 85
Second Place Novice –Viktoria Zent score of 82
Third Place Novice–Beth Spinks score of 64
First Place Advanced – Jack Spinks score of 81

Wire Wrapping:

First Place Novice– Debby Kirsch score of 90
Second Place Novice –Rebecca Robertson score of 75

Congratulations to all the winners. And a big AGMC thanks to the judges – Dale Miller, Denise Lands, Errol Faith, Rick Litsinger, Mike Hartz and Keith Harmon.

Who Won the Prizes?

The grand prize which was pink granite from Austin in the shape of Texas with a (pedilite check with Alec) sphere resting on top was won by John Blackstone of Hurst.

The raffle prizes were:

Donated bar of silver won by Mark Rich (a new member).

Pyrite rose donated by Steven Williams won by Beth Spinks, club member.

Multi-stone bracelet donated by David Cordova won by Leslye Wilkes, club member.

Silver bracelet w/blue stones donated by David Cordova won by Leslye Wilkes, club member.

Champagne pearl ring donated by David Cordova won by Eric Sands of Ft. Worth.

Tahitian pearl ring donated by David Cordova won by Deana Whitney, club member.

AGMC CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Emie Stewart

All classes are offered at the AGMC clubhouse at 1408 Gibbons Road, Arlington, Texas, depending upon instructor availability. Not every class is offered during the year. All classes have a \$3/hour building maintenance fee, plus any class-specific costs such as tools, materials, and supply fees. Only current members may take classes. Students are responsible for the purchase of all supplies and tools necessary for the class. Members must take the beginning cabochon cutting class before being allowed to use the lapidary equipment.

Sign up sheets are posted on the clubhouse bulletin board the month before the class begins. Classes are also listed in the club newsletter the month before they begin. The newsletter is available via email, snail mail, and the website. Due to space limitations and to ensure adequate one-on-one instruction, classes are usually limited to 10 students. At the instructor's discretion, a no-show may be waitlisted for future classes. A no-show is defined as someone who signs up for a class but fails to show up, thus taking someone else's spot.

Workshops are also subject to the preceding policies. For more information and a schedule of classes and workshops, visit www.agemclub.org.

On-going classes:

Beginning cabochon cutting: this is a 3 hour class during which students learn the basics of roughing out, shaping, and polishing a cabochon, along with how to operate the lapidary equipment. This class is required before a new member can use the lapidary equipment. It is offered monthly.

Chain making and wire jewelry: this class meets once a month for three hours. Students learn how to make various types of chains, and other wire jewelry. Students may come and go, as they are interested.

Faceting: this class meets once a week, from September through May, for two hours each week. Students learn the four basic cuts: step, round brilliant, Texas star, and emerald. 5 club machines are available for use, or students may bring their own. There is usually a long waiting list for the club machines.

Glass fusing and slumping: there are two classes: an all beginners and an advanced class. The all beginners' class is a 12-week class. It meets twice a month, for 4 hours each time, including firing time. Students learn about the types of glass and how to cut it; how to use the equipment; inclusions; metals and punches; grinding; sand blasting; sawing; etching;

and wire wrapping. Students can expect to pay up to \$30 for tools, plus approximately \$20 for starting glass. Students may purchase dichroic glass for about \$30 per pound.

The advanced class includes slumping and other techniques. It meets twice a month, for 4 hours each time. Students provide their own tools and glass.

Silversmithing: this curriculum is divided into beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes, with each being a prerequisite for the next. There are usually separate Monday, Wednesday, and Friday night classes that meet once a week, depending upon instructor availability. Each class lasts approximately 6-8 months, for a total course duration of up to 24 months. Depending upon the quality of tools and the market price and amount of silver you buy, expect to pay at least \$350 for tools and about \$100 for silver for the beginning class, plus their class fee. Subsequent courses will require additional tools and, of course, additional silver.

Beginning topics include learning the use of the hand tools; how to solder; an all-metal pendant; a pendant with a bezel-set cabochon; a triangle wire bracelet; a wire bracelet with a bezel-set cabochon; and a ring with a step-bezel.

Intermediate topics include making a faceted stone ring; scrolling; Etruscan chain; special settings/shapes; reticulation; rivets; making steel stamps; overlay/appliqué; and spin bail.

Advanced topics include surface treatments; hollow beads; forging hollow tubes and specula; hinges; Fold forming; and clasps.

Wax carving and casting: this is a 12-week class that meets once a week. It is offered several times a year. Students learn to lay out and carve their ring designs in wax. Students have the opportunity to carve two rings, and then cast them using the lost wax method of casting. Students learn the casting process, how to prepare their wax models for casting, and how to finish their castings. Cuttlebone casting and Broom straw casting are also taught as a way to use up left over silver. Depending upon the quality and type of tools purchased, students can expect to pay up to \$100 for tools. The size of their models determines the amount of sterling casting grain required, but a minimum is ½ troy ounce, at market price. There is a supply fee of \$20 to cover the cost of burnout, plus waxes and other consumables.

Continued, see CLASSES PAGE 8

CLASSES continued from page 7

Wire wrapping: The wire wrapping class meets once a month on the third Tuesday. Information about projects, tools, and materials is available from the instructor, Leslie Wilkes, at mariomom@aol.com.

Special Workshops:

In addition, AGMC offers occasional workshops in special topics, depending upon instructor availability. Workshops offered in 2010 included slab saw; beading around a cabochon; Viking knit weave; mold making; mokume gane; hasing and repousse; advanced lapidary materials; wire bracelets; filigree; and etching. Workshops are announced and posted at the club the month before they are scheduled to begin, and are subject to the policies set forth above.

NEWEST COLLECTION OF EVIDENCE OF HOMO SAPIEN AND NEANDETHAL CO- MINGLING: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?

Ruth Riza, M .S.

When I first started teaching Anthropology in the spring of 2004 at the community college, I felt it was a daunting task. But, as with all new things, I threw myself completely into it and became engrossed in it.

I was constantly drawing cross-comparisons between modern Homo Sapiens and what is known of our ancestors, Homo Neanderthals. In short, I was fascinated to the point of looking up material to present to my students, and inquiring why the Anthropological texts left out any references to the culture called Neanderthal. Cross comparisons such as: In what ways do modern Homo Sapiens differ from Homo Neanderthals, specifically? Such as DNA comparisons, brain organization comparisons, physical structural bone comparisons and cultural/tribadistic comparisons.

Six years ago, there was some data, but it was quite scant, and I found myself running from computer to computer in search of print facilities that would accommodate the latest tables of statistical data comparisons of DNA between Homo sapiens and Homo neanderthals. Then studied them furiously, and made some un-founded (according to data) assumptions to a skeptical but interested Anthropology class,-- that in fact, Homo sapiens and Homo neanderthals were either dating, or borrowing each others clothes, based on one study of prehistoric

lice DNA, years of observations of all species, and some scattered work by the Max-Planick Institute (6),an institute that has been interested in this for some time. And had helped produce a video on this topic.

So what does this have to do with me and my "human-ness"? you might ask yourself. A lot according to the data. This "Neanderthalness", or carrying 1-4% of Neanderthal genes, may contribute a great deal to our own behavior and bone structure. This may be the difference in cognition, taking risks, and engaging in innovative behavior.

Though many students of human evolution have lately begun to look favorably on the distinctive hominoid called Homo Neanderthalensis other people still regard them as no more than a strange variant of our own species. The differences between the two represents far more than a simple matter of taxonomic hair-splitting.

Homo Sapien is a distinct species, of a completely individualized historical entity. Because of this, neanderthals now demand that we analyze and understand them, and more about their culture on their own terms. If we see "them" as mere and minor contributors of ourselves, and our behavior we are almost obliged to dismiss Neanderthal's as little more than an evolutionary phenomena, a minor appendage to the history of Homo Sapien (1.)

And, they were not. We, as Homo Sapiens have yet to prove that we are the hardy species that they were, surviving a number of ice ages, and continuing their

evolutionary line for 250,000 years. Whereas, Homo Sapien, in our present form, has only been around 40-60,000 years. Even in their clunky physical form, Homo Neanderthal managed a culture and life that still astounds us today.

So far, the team of scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany has identified about 100 genes that have contributed to the evolution of modern humans since the two species split between Homo Neanderthals and Homo Sapiens 600,000 years ago. The nature of these genes in question seems to be involved in cognitive functions, and others in bone structure. (2.) Archaeologists also have been debating for years whether the fossil record shows evidence of individuals with mixed features.

Anthropologist, including myself, have long speculated that early humans intermingled with Neanderthals, but this latest study provides the strongest evidence so far. It suggests that such

encounters took place in the fertile crescent region of the middle east. This was the first region to thaw out after the most recent ice age, and the home of the world's first farmers. Several excavations in this region have revealed shelters with plaster walls that are 13,000 years old. This knowledge of how to fire limestone in pits for several days and hold it at certain temperatures had to be handed down from somewhere.

Small pioneering groups of modern humans began leaving Africa 80,000 years ago, naturally following the herds, that were seeking food in regions not drought saturated. The drought in Africa that was on-setting was quite severe, and herds naturally migrated to the middle east for more food. These groups of Homo sapiens, following the herds reached lands that were occupied by Neanderthals, and the two groups lived side by side until the Neanderthals "died out" 30,000 years ago. (3.)

So, how might those genes affect us today? It may be that our Neanderthal genes are behind virtually all human progress. This new DNA data reveals that many of us are carrying between 1-4% of Neanderthal genes. And not only that, but evidence is mounting that when those genes are activated in you, they can cause you to become incredibly resourceful, pioneering, creative, and in some cases, utterly out of control.(4)

The two species co-mingling, dominates the science headlines, but comes as no surprise to Anthropologists and Sociologists, who believe that co-mingling among all species drives life on the planet. It still leaves us wondering about the Neanderthals themselves. We now have a rough draft of the operating instructions for the kind of human that has been gone from the planet some 28,000 years. This culture had it's own way of life and living from bead factories in pre-modern Germany to hunting rituals. It's wonderful to know what really makes us "human" and some of us very unique.

Sources: 1) PNAS, PubMed Central, Journal List, June 22, 1999 Hominids and hybrids: The place of Neanderthals in human evolution, Tattersall, Schwartz. 2) The New York Times, May 6, 2010, Signs of Neanderthals Mating with Humans, Nicholas Wade. 3) Neanderthals live on in the DNA of humans, The [Guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk), Ian Sample, Science correspondent, May 6, 2010. 4) Garret LoPorto, posted September 11,2010, Suprising way your Neanderthal Genes may affect you. 5) Project Guttenberg, 9/2010. 6) Nature, 11/16/06/doi:10.1038/Nature 5336: Analysis of one million base pairs of Neanderthal DNA, Green,

Krause, Ptak, Briggs, Ronan, Simons, Du, Egholm, Rothberg, Paunovic, Paabo. Max-Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Deutscher Platz 6, D-04103, Leipzig, Germany. Also references to The Scientific American, November 8, 1999, The Latest Neanderthal, Alan Hall.

YOU CAN WIN.....IN 2010

From SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION OF MINERAL SOCIETIES, INC., SCFMS NEWSLETTER 02 JULY - AUGUST, 2010

The DeRIDDER AND FOSSIL CLUB OF SOUTHWEST LA and EAST TEXAS and THE SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION MINERAL SOCIETIES invites you to:

A Worldclass Gem, Jewelry, Rock and Min. Show awaits you at the Exhibit Hall, located at the Beauregard Parish Fairgrounds, Hwy 171 North, DeRidder, LA.

Quartz crystal clusters, Moraccan fossils, amethyst geodes and ammonites are featured from around the world.

For the really serious collector, fine and varied selection of Old and New World lithic artifacts will be available. Displays give you an array of jewelry, gems and rocks that would rival King Solomon's mine.

\$2.00 Donation - Children under 12 Admitted free
DECEMBER 11 & 12, 2010

Saturday (the 11th): 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday (the 12th): 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

DOOR PRIZES - SPECIAL DRAWING SUNDAY
AT 3 p.m.

SCIENTIFIC FUN
FLOURESCENT ROCKS
FOOD CONCESSION
AIR CONDITIONED BUILDING

AGMC ANNUAL AUCTION IS CLUB MEETING NIGHT OCTOBER 5, 2010 AFTER THE MEETING

October 2010

AGMC CALANDER OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	SHOP OPEN 9am-noon GLASS FUSING BEGINNERS NOON-4PM CAB CLASS 1-4PM
3	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM INTRODUCTION TO SILVER SMITHING 6:30-10:30PM	SHOP OPEN 9AM-noon FELLOWSHIP 7:00PM BUSINESS MEETING AT 7:30 PM	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon-4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	SHOP OPEN 7:30pm-9:30pm WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	SHOP OPEN 7am-noon JUNIORS 9 AM-NOON
Hammered w/Conchos 2-5 PM SLUMPING & OTHER TECHNIQUES 1-5PM NO CLASS TODAY	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM INTRODUCTION TO SILVER SMITHING 6:30-10:30PM	CAB CLASS 7-10 PM	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon-4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	SHOP OPEN 7-9PM WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	SHOP OPEN 9am-noon GLASS FUSING BEGINNERS NOON-4PM SILVERSMITHING LAB 9AM - NOON
17	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM	FREE WORK SHOP 7PM-9PM WIRE WRAPPING BEGINNER 7-9PM	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon 4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	SHOP OPEN 7-9PM CHAIN MAKING & WIRE JEWELRY 7 - 9 PM WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	SHOP OPEN 7am-noon Cab Class 1-4 PM SLUMPING & OTHER TECHNIQUES 1-5pm FIRST CLASS
24	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM	BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon-4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	SHOP OPEN 7-9PM WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	SHOP OPEN 9am-noon
31	THE DEADLINE FOR THE HOUNDS TALE IS THE 15TH					

AGMC October Class Schedule
Emie Stewart

Special Workshops:
Hammered Bracelet with Conchos
Sunday, October 10, 2 – 5 PM
Instructor: John Alexander

Introduction to Silversmithing
Monday, October 4, 11, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
Instructor: Jack Spinks

*NEW CLASS: Advanced Glass:
Slumping & Other Techniques
2nd Sunday, October 10, 1- 5 PM
NO class October 10
4th Saturday, October 23, 1 – 5 PM
First Class
Instructor: Sue Poarch

Cab Class
1st Saturday, October 2, 1 – 4 PM
Instructor: Ray Wilkes
2nd Tues., October 12, 7 – 10 PM
Instructor: Stephen Bennett
4th Saturday, October 23, 1 – 4 PM
Instructor: Barbara Maloney

Wax Carving & Casting--
CLOSED
Thursdays, beginning September 23, 7 – 10 PM
Instructor: Emie Stewart

Wire Wrapping: Beginner
3rd Tuesday, October 19, 7 – 9 PM
Instructor: Leslye Wilkes

Chainmaking & Wire Jewelry
OPEN *New date and Time*
3rd Thursday, October 21, 7 – 9 PM
Instructor: Beth Spinks

Faceting
Wednesdays, 7 – 9 PM
Instructor: Mike Knuth/Elaine O'Donley

Wednesdays, 4 – 6 PM
Instructor: Elaine O'Donley

Glass Fusing: Beginning
Wednesdays, Noon – 4 PM
Instructor: Karen Cessna

Glass Fusing: Beginners
1st Sat., October 2, Noon - 4 PM
3rd Sat., October 16, Noon - 4 PM
Instructor: Lois McCormick

Silversmithing
Intermediate Silversmithing
CLOSED
Mondays, 7 - 10 PM
Instructor: Alma Ramirez

Intermediate Silversmithing
CLOSED
Wednesdays, 7 – 10 PM
Instructor: Rotating

Advanced Silversmithing
CLOSED
Fridays, 7 – 10 PM
Instructor: Emie Stewart

Silversmithing Lab
3rd Saturday, October 16, 9 – noon
Instructor: Rotating

November 2010

TENTATIVE AGMC CALANDER OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 SHOP OPEN 9AM-noon FELLOWSHIP 7:00PM BUSINESS MEETING AT 7:30 PM	2 INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon-4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	3 SHOP OPEN 7-9PM WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	4 ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	5 SHOP OPEN 9am-noon GLASS FUSING BEGINNERS NOON-4PM CAB CLASS 1-4PM
7	8 BEGINNING SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM	9 SHOP OPEN 9AM-noon CAB CLASS 7-10 PM	10 INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon-4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	11 SHOP OPEN 7pm-9pm WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	12 ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	13 SHOP OPEN 7am-noon JUNIORS 9 AM-NOON
14 SLUMPING & OTHER TECHNIQUES 1-5PM	15 BEGINNING SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM	16 FREE WORK SHOP 7PM-9PM WIRE WRAPPING BEGINNER 7-9PM	17 INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon- 4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	18 SHOP OPEN 7-9PM CHAIN MAKING & WIRE JEWELRY 7 -9 PM WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	19 ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	20 SHOP OPEN 9am-noon GLASS FUSING BEGINNERS NOON-4PM SILVERSMITHING LAB 9AM - NOON
21	22 BEGINNING SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM	23	24 INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon 4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	25 THANKSGIVING DAY	26 ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	27 SHOP OPEN 7am-noon
28	29 BEGINNING SILVER SMITHING 7-10 PM	30 BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	INTERMEDIATE SILVER SMITHING 7-10PM Glass Fusing Beginners Noon-4PM Faceting 4-6 PM & 7-9PM	SHOP OPEN 7-9PM WAX CARVING & CASTING 7 - 10PM	ADVANCED SILVER SMITHING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	SHOP OPEN 9am-noon
THE DEADLINE FOR THE HOUNDS TALE IS THE 15TH						

AGMC Tentative November Class Schedule

Emie Stewart

Special Workshops: TBD

Cab Class:

1st Sat., November 6, 1 - 4 PM

Instructor: Ray Wilkes

Cab Class:

2nd Tuesday, Nov. 9, 7 - 10 PM

Instructor: Stephen Bennett

Cab Class:

4th Saturday, November 27, 1 - 4
PM May be cancelled for

Thanksgiving

Instructor: Barbara Maloney

Wax Carving & Casting CLOSED

Thursdays, 7 - 10 PM

Instructor: Emie Stewart

Advanced Glass: Slumping &
Other Techniques

2nd Sun., November 14, 1- 5 PM

4th Saturday, November 27, 1 - 5
PM Cancelled for Thanksgiving

Wire Wrapping: Beginner
CLOSED

3rd Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7 - 9 PM

Instructor: Leslye Wilkes

Chainmaking & Wire Jewelry
OPEN *New Date and Time*

3rd Thursday, Nov. 18, 7 - 9 PM

Instructor: Beth Spinks

Faceting

Wednesdays, 7 - 9 PM

Instructor: Mike Knuth/Elaine
O'Donley

Wednesdays, 4 - 6 PM

Instructor: Elaine O'Donley

Glass Fusing: Beginning

Wednesdays, Noon - 4 PM

Instructor: Karen Cessna

Glass Fusing: Beginners

1st Sat., Nov. 6, Noon - 4 PM

3rd Sat., Nov. 20, Noon - 4 PM

Instructor: Lois McCormick

Silversmithing

Beginning Silversmithing

CLOSED

Mondays, 7 - 10 PM, beginning
November 1

Instructor: Alma Ramirez

Intermediate Silversmithing

CLOSED

Wednesdays, 7 - 10 PM

Instructor: Rotating

Advanced Silversmithing

CLOSED

Fridays, 7 - 10 PM

Instructor: Emie Stewart

Silversmithing Lab

3rd Saturday, November 20

Instructor: Rotating