

# THE

# ROCKHOUND'S TALE

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ROCKHOUND NEWS OF THE ARLINGTON GEM AND MINERAL CLUB  
1408 GIBBINS ROAD, ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011  
VOL.58, ISSUE 10, OCTOBER 2008

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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](mailto:webmaster@agemclub.com)

World Wide Web Home Page

<http://www.agemclub.org>

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



#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

**Dale Miller**

The show was a huge success. We are still tabulating the attendance figures and the cost. Not all of the bills have come in yet but it looks good. Several of the dealers told me they doubled their income from last year. They were very pleased at the number of new customers. Here is a letter I received from Bill and Lois Pattillo of the Rock Food Table.

*Lois and I would like to thank you for having us, and the Rock Food Table, be a part of your show this year. We think you had a great show and where did you find so many people who have never seen the Rock Food Table? One of my lead questions is: "have you seen the Rock Food Table before?" A great number of people responded that they had not seen the table before and they showed it by being so amazed at the collection of rocks. We also increased our collection, at the show, with a new peanut, thanks to one of your club members.*

*It makes us feel so good to be able to talk about the table and answer the people's questions. Believe you me; we had a great number of questions from adults and younger ones, too.*

*Again, we thank you for having us and we do believe you had a great show.*

*We also want to thank you for the wonderful and filling, set up supper. Seems as there is nothing left to the imagination. The food was great and the deserts were great. I will have to admit, I ate three different deserts and I'm sure that all the rest were equally as good as the three that I finished my meal on.*

*We look forward to seeing each and every one of you, at another Show this year. We have nine shows to do, to finish up our year. We will be in Atlanta, Georgia, the second weekend in December. Check our web site: [www.rockfoodtable.com](http://www.rockfoodtable.com) and come by the table at one of the shows, on our schedule and visit*

*Bill and Lois Pattillo*

Continued on page 2

## **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS** **(Continued from page 1.)**

Thank you to everyone who worked to make this show bigger and better. I cannot name everyone and it would not be fair to name a few. You know who you are. Just remember the club is nothing without you.

It is almost time to elect new officers for 2009. I will be appointing a nominating committee in October to. If you want to serve on the elected board or know someone you think would make a good officer let someone know. New people have new ideas and help keep the club growing and going.

Dale

## **SHOP SUPERVISORS**

**Dale Miller**

We have a group of hard working members who donate one or two days a month to keep the saw and cab rooms open. We still have room for new shop supervisors. You must have been cutting cabs for at least a year and be able to help others when they have questions about the grinding equipment or the saws. We have an opening for the 2nd and 5th Thursday

We also need someone to take over as lapidary chairperson. This job means you schedule supervisors, make sure the equipment is running and buy supplies.

Please contact me if you can serve in one of these very important positions.

Dale

**OUR ANNUAL AUCTION  
IS THE PROGRAM  
FOR OCTOBER 7 TH  
GENERAL MEETING**

## **ACTIVE PARTICIPANT VOLUNTEERS**

**NOTE: ARE YOU AWARE THAT NO PERSONS ARE PAID IN THIS CLUB ? NOT EVEN INSTRUCTORS ARE PAID FOR THEIR TIME.**

**VOLUNTEER TO BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER PARTICIPANT!!**

## **CLUB OFFICERS**

President	Dale Miller
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres (Operational/Educational Classes)	Emie Stewert
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres (Programs)	Harold Hoskison
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Pres (Field Trips)	Irene Stemple/Brian Bowles
4 <sup>th</sup> Vice Pres (Youth Education Programs)	Tamara Wilkins
Delegate at Large (Omnibudsperson)	Sam Howeth
Past President (Delegate at Large)	Rick Litsinger
Secretary	Tom McCormick
Treasurer - Finance	Paula Truitt
Newsletter (The Hound's Tale) Editor	Mike Hartz
Show Chairperson	Karen Cessna
Membership	Pat Ross

## **STAFF AND CHAIRPERSONS**

Show Dealers Chairperson	Pat Ross
Show Publicity	VACANT
Lapidary Department Chairperson	Dale Miller
Building Chairperson	Ray Badson
Maintenance	VACANT
Grounds Chairperson	Sam Howeth
Library Chairperson	Donna Thomason
Historian Chairperson	Ruth Cress
Jewelry Department Chairperson	Sam Howeth
Hospitality Chairperson	Deborah Hartz
Membership Chairman	Pat Ross
Sunshine	Marge Harrand
Welcome Chairperson	Veronica Murday
Donations Chairman	Rick Litsinger
Long Range Planning	Dale Miller
International Gem and Jewelry Chairperson	Joyce Speed
Telephone calling Chairperson	Lanita askerville
Library Exhibits Coodinator (METROPLEX)	OPEN
Educational Outreach – School Curriculum	Steve and Mary Hilliard
Webmaster	Jeremy Dubhros
Graphic Designer	Darcy Sety

## **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

**Deadline date for ads and articles  
is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

**ARLINGTON GEM AND  
MINERAL CLUB**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**September 7, 2008**

Before the meeting Dale introduced Anna Grace Williams one of the original charter members of the club from 1957. She is probably the last living charter member of the club.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dale Miller at 7:30

**Secretary's Report:** Tom McCormick  
The minutes from the July meeting are both posted on the bulleting board and in the newsletter. There is now a link on the club web site for the club secretary.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paula Truitt  
The report will be posted on the bulletin board Preliminary numbers from the show are \$10 – 11K on the show. \$2,867 on the auction and \$5,000 on registration. The raffle had \$231 and the juniors \$150.

Classes: Emie Stewart:  
Emie Stewart will be teaching a wax carving and casting class for beginning students. There is a signup sheet posted. It starts on September 25 and at 3 hours per class at \$3.00/hr for 9 weeks plus a supply fee of \$20.00 the total at starting is \$101.00.

Faceting will be starting Wed. September 17 and there is a signup sheet.

Carl Wells announced the location of the bulletin and board for the benefit of new members.

**Programs:** Harold Hoskison  
Tonight for September is the annual safety presentation  
October is the club auction

November is member's show and tell  
December is "up in the air" but he is still working on getting Frank's son to come. If not there may be a program with the sphere maker from the show.

Show Cases: - During the break take a look at class examples.

**Field Trips:** Brian Bowles None at this time

Dale mentioned the Mount Ida Chamber of Commerce October competition event. Copy of brochure on bulletin board in the hallway.

**Juniors:** Tamara Wilkins  
Don't have final plans for September yet.  
October will be start of the December project. It will take time to do.

**Sunshine Report:** Marge Harrand  
Sent "Thinking of You" cards to Carl and Becky Downey. Sent get-well cards to Roy Stults and Veronica Murday.

**Delegate at Large** – Sam Howeth  
All quiet  
Sam is resigning as Delegate at Large and next meeting there will be an election for a replacement.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Delegate at Large** – Deborah Hartz  
No report

**Hospitality:** Deborah Hartz  
Need signups for food next month.

Membership: - Pat Ross  
15 new members signed up at the show. Roster is in final stages and let Pat know if there are any changes.  
There will be a booth at the Front Street Festival in Arlington September 17 and we need volunteers.

(Continued on page 4)

**September minutes continued from page 3**

**Newsletter** – Mike Hartz

Mike has requested to keep the articles coming.

Requested any pictures from trip to Justin.

Sam Announcement: Sam has been asked why he is resigning. He is tired and stretch out to far and needs a break and time off.

**Past President:** Rick Litsinger

Donation from Ray Wilkes

Donations from Bob Boyd that were at the show auction.

**Show Report:** Karen Cessna

Good show because of the volunteers. Three special thanks: Alec Gallia, Don Lawrence and John Powell. Comments on show from Delbert Speed as a dealer that things went well and this were the best show he and Joyce have done. The feedback he received from other dealers was also very favorable.

**Old Business:**

**Gas lease:** Dale reports that still working it but had to give priority to the show. Ray Batson is working on the name change and working with the gas companies.

**New Business:**

Frank O'Donley announced breakfast 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 9:00 at Tom's Diner at Cooper and Six I30.

Becky Downey announced they now have 30 glass students and new kiln. If interested in classes contact Becky or Lois McCormick. Please don't open a kiln.

Nancy Leary won the jade carving at the show and spoke to how wonderful it is.

**Guests:**

Stephen Bennett

David and Mrs. Summers

Break: 8:00

**Name Tag/Sign In**

Yolanda Mabry

Rhodonite

Brian Bowles

Bracian Jasper

**Raffle:**

Julia Hartz

Dichoroic Glass

Chuck Hayes

Wire Wrapping

Ray Wilkes

Silver Cleaner

Rodger Coleman

Tiger Eye

Elaine O'Donley

Jasper

Joyce Speed

Mariposite

Chuck Hayes

Earrings

Ray Wilkes

Hawk Eye

\$103 contributed to the club.

**Program:** - Harold Hoskison - Annual Required Safety Training

Business Meeting Adjourned at 8:45

Submitted by:

Tom McCormick

Secretary

**EDITOR'S CORNER**

**Mike Hartz**

Our annual auction is the program for the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. This is a good fundraiser for the club. If you have any lapidary items that you would like to donate all would be welcomed. Make sure to attend this meeting and pick up some good buys while supporting your club at the same time.



## **HOSTESS**

**Deborah Hartz**

Special thanks to Mike and Mumtaz for the extra time they put into preparing for the dealers' dinner and those who brought and help with set-up for the occasion. Thanks to the members for bringing food to the dealers' dinner, and those who served at the dealers' dinner. Many stayed to help with clean up.

This month I have only two who signed up to bring food. Ray & Leslie Wilkes and Alma Ramirez. We need more to help out.

May I encourage each member to take part and bring food to our fellowships before the meetings. There is a list to sign on the table in the kitchen area.

A Note of Concern: It is our club, yours and mine. So everyone needs to help keep things clean. Look around and police the area. Don't expect someone else to do it or wait for someone to do it for you. Let's all take pride in our club and pitch in where the need arises. Many cups, drink cans and etc. are being left around the clubhouse. Make sure your trash is put in the proper place, the waste cans.

Remember cokes and water are \$.50 each and coffee is \$.25 a cup. This allows the club to have drinks available and defray the cost. If you have a class you are welcome to make coffee, but you must also take responsibility to clean the coffee pot and the area for the next class and fellow members who may wish to use it. Thanks for your help!

## **RECEIVE YOUR HOUND'S TALE VIA EMAIL**

Would you like to receive a copy of the Hound's Tale via email? Our president, Dale Miller will email you the newsletter if you will email her your email address. So, if you want to take advantage of this great opportunity to receive the newsletter at your email address send Dale your email address at [Sue Dale Miller <sdalemiller@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:sdalemiller@sbcglobal.net)

## **Future Happenings**

**Dale Miller**

### **Sept. 26 – 28**

The American Federation of Mineral Societies and South Central Federation of Mineral Societies meetings at the Houston Gem and Mineral Show in Humble, Texas

### **October 7**

The Arlington Club Auction, at 7:30

### **October 10 – 12**

International Gem and Jewelry Show at Market Hall in Dallas. The AGMC works the 8Th and 9Th to pay for our booth. Sign up sheets are at the club.

### **Oct. 17, 18 & 19**

Gem show in Victoria, TX

### **Oct. 24, 25 & 26**

Gem show in Austin, TX

### **November 4**

AGMC meeting at the club building 7:30 (fellowship at 7 PM)

### **Dec. 2**

AGMC meeting at the club building 7:30 (fellowship at 7 PM)

### **Dec. 13**

Christmas Party at the Club building.

## ROCK INTELLIGENCE?

**Ruth Riza, M.S.**

Teaching Anthropology in college these days is a challenging job. I was struck by a comment made by a student in class today. "We're smarter than any other generation that has lived!" Hmm, well, yes and no. Here at the Club, we have what is called "rock intelligence" and "rock skill". Some of us are quick to identify types of rocks and minerals, and gemstones with a few years of experience behind us, and a few of us are able to manipulate these gemstones and minerals into beautiful jewelry through skills that we learn through reading, and classes that we take. However, we are hard pressed to say that we are "smarter" than previous generations, especially those that handled the rocks first. Are we able to produce an obsidian blade that would put a surgeons scalpel to shame? Yes, with lots of hard work and concentration. But, very rarely. How many of us could actually start a fire with a flint? Probably very few of us, we have modern conveniences that do that for us.

In a paper by Metin Eren, soon to be published by the Journal of Human Evolution, we see that an experiment has taken place comparing cutting edge blades of Neanderthal tools and homo sapien tools, and it has been concluded that Neanderthal tools were just as efficient as homo sapien tools in cutting edge capacity.

Science Daily reported (Nov 5, 2003) that Michael Rogers, Asst. Professor of Anthropology at Southern Connecticut State University has discovered some stone tool use in Gona, Africa that dates the tools to 2.6 million years ago. Our ancestors had to be smart enough to cultivate and teach the young which stones flaked the best, and made the

sharpest edges, in order to keep themselves fed. I, for one find that a daunting task, I can barely find the keys to my car most days, and my most recent project working stone for a necklace yielded a cracked stone before it got to the necklace.

Recently I ran across an article (Evolutionary Anthropology 11:235-245, 2002) by Panger, Brooks, Richmond and Wood outlining the use of stone tools by early man prior to 2.6 million years ago (MYA) that suggest that hominins used stone tools 5 - 8 MYA and most certainly by 3.2 MYA. New dietary opportunities, such as large mammals, grains and fruits opened new avenues for modified stone tools, and we see some evidence of tool production and manufacture at this early time. The article goes on further to state that we may want to evaluate the ways we study stone tool use within human populations, and how we think about the lifestyles of our ancestors. Are we smarter?

One thing about working with rocks is that it takes us back to our beginnings as a group and reminds us who we are in an intimate way. Once you hold that rock in your hand, it is magical, to say the least. You are also holding eons of history in your hand, you hold evidence of the planets history, of which we are all a part. The story of the earth is the story of us and how we came to be here.

Remember, pottery and metal tools were only introduced about 10,000 years ago, considering the earth is 5.6 billion years old, which is relatively recent. So, are we "smarter" than our ancestors? I'm not so sure of that anymore. As you polish, pick up, look for, and generally wish for that "Las Vegas" find for rock fiends, remember that you follow in the footsteps of those before us, who had true "rock intelligence".

## **AGMC October Class Schedule**

**Emie Stewart**

### **Cab Class**

First Saturday, October 4, 1 – 4 PM  
Instructor: Dale Miller

### **Wax Carving & Casting**

Thursdays, 7 – 10 PM  
Instructor: Emie Stewart

### **Wire Wrapping CLOSED**

Last Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2PM – 5PM  
This is a temporary change for October and November. We will resume our second Saturday class on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 9AM – Noon  
Instructor: Michael Hartz and Bobbi Wilson

### **Chain making & Wire Jewelry OPEN**

2nd Saturday, October 11, 1 – 4 PM  
Instructor: Mary Owren

### **Faceting**

Wednesdays, 7-9 PM  
Instructor: Mike Knuth

### **Glass Fusing: Advanced CLOSED**

Second Sunday, October 12, Noon – 4 PM  
Fourth Saturday, October 25, 9 - Noon  
Instructor: Becky Downey

### **Glass Fusing: Beginners**

First Saturday, October 4, 9 – 1 PM  
Third Saturday, October 18, Noon – 4 PM  
Instructor: Lois McCormick

### **Silversmithing**

#### **Level 101 CLOSED**

Fridays 7 – 10 PM  
Instructor: Emie Stewart

#### **Level 102 CLOSED**

Wednesdays 7 - 10 PM  
Instructor: Harvey McLean

#### **Level 201 CLOSED**

Mondays 7 - 10 PM

#### **Silversmithing Lab OPEN**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, October 18, 9 – Noon

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## **AGMC Tentative November Class Schedule**

**Emie Stewart**

### **Cab Class**

First Saturday, November 1, 1 – 4 PM  
Instructor: Dale Miller

### **Wax Carving & Casting**

Thursdays, 7 – 10 PM  
Instructor: Emie Stewart

### **Wire Wrapping CLOSED**

Last Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> 2=5pm.  
This is a temporary change for October and November. We will resume our second Saturday class on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 9AM – Noon  
Instructor: Michael Hartz and Bobbi Wilson

### **Chain making & Wire Jewelry OPEN**

2nd Saturday, November 8, 1 – 4 PM  
Instructor: Mary Owren

### **Faceting**

Wednesdays, 7-9 PM  
Instructor: Mike Knuth

### **Glass Fusing: Advanced CLOSED**

Second Sunday, November 9, Noon – 4 PM  
Fourth Saturday, November 22, 9 - Noon  
Instructor: Becky Downey

### **Glass Fusing: Beginners FULL**

First Saturday, November 1, 9 – 1 PM  
Third Saturday, November 15, Noon – 4 PM  
Instructor: Lois McCormick and Barbara Poplin

### **Silversmithing**

#### **Level 101 CLOSED**

Fridays 7 – 10 PM  
Instructor: Emie Stewart

#### **Level 102 CLOSED**

Wednesdays 7 - 10 PM  
Instructor: Harvey McLean

#### **Level 201 CLOSED**

Mondays 7 - 10 PM

#### **Silversmithing Lab OPEN**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, November 15, 9 – Noon

# October 2008

## AGMC ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 SILVER SMITHING 102 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM FACETING 7-9 PM	2 SHOP OPEN WAX CARVING & CASTING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	3 SILVER SMITHING 101 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4 SHOP OPEN 9-NOON GLASS FUSING 102 9AM-1PM CABBING CLASS 1-4 PM
5	6 SILVER SMITHING 201 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	7 FELLOWSHIP 7:00PM ANNUAL AUCTION FOLLOWING BUSINESS MEETING AT 7:30 PM	8 SILVER SMITHING 102 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM FACETING 7-9 PM	9 SHOP OPEN WAX CARVING & CASTING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	10 SILVER SMITHING 101 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	11 SHOP OPEN, JUNIORS MEETING, 9-NOON CHAINMAKING & WIRE JEWELRY 1PM-4PM
12 GLASS FUSING 101 NOON-4PM	13 SILVER SMITHING 201 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	14	15 SILVER SMITHING 102 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM FACETING 7-9 PM DEAD LINE FOR THE HOUND'S TALE	16 SHOP OPEN WAX CARVING & CASTING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	17 SILVER SMITHING 101 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	18 SHOP OPEN 9AM-NOON SILVER SMITHING LAB 9AM-NOON GLASS FUSING 102 NOON - 4PM
19	20 SILVER SMITHING 201 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	21 FREE WORK SHOP 7:00PM - 9:00PM	22 SILVER SMITHING 102 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM FACETING 7-9 PM	23 SHOP OPEN WAX CARVING & CASTING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	24 SILVER SMITHING 101 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	25 SHOP OPEN 9AM-NOON GLASS FUSING 101 9AM- NOON
26	27 SILVER SMITHING 201 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	28 WIRE WRAPPING 2PM-5PM BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	29 SILVER SMITHING 102 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM FACETING 7-9 PM	30 SHOP OPEN WAX CARVING & CASTING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	31 SILVER SMITHING 101 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	

### AGMC Instructor Accepted into Juried Art Show

#### **Emie Stewart**

AGMC's very own silversmith Emie Stewart has been accepted into her first juried art show: Huffhines Art Trails in Richardson. Emie studied under Sam Howeth at AGMC for two years, and is now instructing the Friday night silversmithing class and teaching wax carving and casting. Emie previously studied under Don Rommery and the late Robert Tapscott at the Lockheed Martin Rockhounds' club, and Marty Kern and Alan Wilks at the Craft Guild of Dallas.

This year is Huffhines' 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, and it features up to 200 artists and crafts persons that pass the jury review. The show dates are Saturday and Sunday, October 25-26, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. It occurs in Huffhines Park at Plano and Apollo Road in Richardson (MAPSCO 18F). There is also food, music, and fun for the kids. More information can be obtained at [www.huffhinesarttrails.com](http://www.huffhinesarttrails.com). Please come support Emie in her first juried show.

**November Program is Show & Tell**  
At the A.G.M.C.'s November 4th meeting, the program will be Members' Show and Tell about work they have done. Please bring your work to share with the other members. Instructors, please encourage your classes to participate. Thanks!

# November 2008

## AGMC ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 SHOP OPEN 9-NOON GLASS FUSING 102 9AM-1PM CABBING CLASS 1-4 PM
2	3 SILVER SMITHING 201 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4 FELLOWSHIP 7:00PM BUSINESS MEETING AT 7:30 PM	5 SILVER SMITHING 102 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM FACETING 7-9 PM	6 SHOP OPEN WAX CARVING & CASTING 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	7 SILVER SMITHING 101 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	8 SHOP OPEN, JUNIORS MEETING, 9-NOON CHAINMAKING & WIRE JEWELRY 1PM-4PM
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30		<b><u>THE DEADLINE FOR THE HOUNDS TALE IS THE 15TH</u></b>				

### DELEGATE AT LARGE ELECTION

**Dale Miller**

If you attended the September meeting you know Sam Howeth has resigned as Delegate at Large. I announced at that meeting that we would elect someone to take his place. If you want to 'get your feet wet' as a board member, please ask someone to nominate you at the October meeting.

October is when we have the auction so I hope the election can be handled quickly. I have seen some of the material and this is going to be a good auction. If you have something to donate please bring it to the club October 7. Hope to see you all there.

To all of our New Members welcome! We hope you enjoy the club. We are here to help and share our knowledge with you and we would like you to do the same. If you have questions please let someone know and we will try our best to answer or find someone who can answer them. If someone has a problem with something pertaining to club matters tell me and I will try to help.

Deborah Hartz  
Delegate at Large