



THE **660TH** MEETING OF THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, **JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, 7:00 P.M.**, AT THE AGMS CLUBHOUSE, **6719 BURNET LANE, AUSTIN, TX.** PHONE: (512)458-9546.

June Program:  
To be announced.

**THE STONE CHIPPER**  
JUNE 2011 VOLUME 50.6



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Board Member– Amy Dalton  
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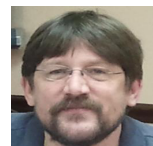
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Board Member–Jeff “Stretch” Young  
[stretchy@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:stretchy@austingemandmineral.org)

AGMS MOTTO: EACH ONE TEACH ONE

### 2011 AGMS Committee Heads



Annual Show - Susan Postlethwait [showchairman@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:showchairman@austingemandmineral.org)

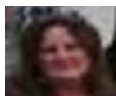
Education/Classes - Joyce Hrapsky [classes@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:classes@austingemandmineral.org)

Field Trips - Ed Gage [trip@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:trip@austingemandmineral.org)

Junior Advisor - Jackie Fisher [juniors@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:juniors@austingemandmineral.org)

Librarians - Andrea Miller , Diann Hill, Terry Barry

[Librarian@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:Librarian@austingemandmineral.org)



Newsletter Editor - Diann Hill [stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org)

Building Chair - Bob Greenway

Display Cases - Jackie Fisher

Federation/Conservation - Paul Good

Historian - *Vacant*

Hospitality - Tonya Berry

Membership -Pauline Denison

Scholarship - Stretch Young

School Programs - Wing Evans

Sergeant-at-Arms - Jackie Fisher

Sunshine - Ron Guzman

### \*\*\*\*\* Upcoming Classes \*\*\*\*\*

Please be sure and sign up (in the notebook) for the upcoming classes. See Joyce Hrapsky for more details.

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## Presidential Message

Greetings, AGMS members,

Little to report or discuss this month, so I'll try to put a couple of bees in your collective bonnet about future going ons.

I want to stress to our newer members the importance of making our October "Gem Capers" show a success. Our Society needs about \$22,000 per year to do what we do for each other and the community around us. The big majority comes from the profits we earn by producing Gem Capers. I want each member to consider how they can help with this production. This coming show will be organized in such a way that we can use help from people that can only direct and guide, so some of you "little old ladies", male or female, will be needed. We never have all the help we need on Sunday night, but we manage to get every thing done by about 9 PM, so you early risers can help and still get to sleep at a decent hour. Questions about helping? See Susan Postlethwait for answers.

I have recently had a request for help from one of our long-time members who is trying to continue his lapidary work despite physical problems. He would like to have someone visit with him from time to time and act as eyes for him, as his are failing. This member has a great deal of experience to share with someone new to the hobby, and I think a good deed here would provide rich rewards to the person that extends a helping hand. I have been there and done that several times, but I now have a remodeling project at home, cabbng classes and "made for me" travel plans that are going to eat up the rest of summer and most of the fall for me. I need someone else to step up and help here. This member lives in northwest Travis county, so someone in that quadrant would be best. Contact me if you can help.

I want to apologize to those persons that had committed to the cabbng class scheduled for June-July. Joyce had no more than gotten enough members committed to a class than I was presented with the opportunity to take a cruise with my two granddaughters, and there was a time conflict. Well, the granddaughters won. I think most of you will understand my choice. Classes will be rescheduled for late July-all of August, and I will be available for more classes in August-September, so get your name on the list.

Robert Morriss,  
Current President, AGMS



### Library News

Did you know that the library is open anytime there is a librarian in the building? If you find it locked, please ask one of the librarians to open the door for you. Did you find a new book you think would be an asset to the AGMS Library? Drop an email to [librarian@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:librarian@austingemandmineral.org) and let us know.

AGMS Board Meeting, June 7th, 2011  
Minutes submitted by  
Marilyn Gilbreath, Secretary

AGMS Board Meeting Minutes Synopsis

The AGMS Board met on June 7, 2011, to conduct club business. Below is a listing of the highlights of this meeting; a complete set of minutes is available upon request.

Attendees: Five officers, three board members and one general club member.

Treasurer's Report: Wing Evans reported the May ending balance. He also said the information for filing Form 990 had been delivered to the CPA.

Minutes: The May minutes were accepted as printed.

Old Business

Bylaws Revisions: No report.

Offer of Gift of Land - Discussion: Ron Carman, who offered to donate 20 acres of land near Terlingua to the club, brought two maps showing its Brewster County location and the tax valuation information. Ron bought the land in 1972 and does not have current knowledge of roads or access to the property. He said there is calcite on the property, but he does not know if there is agate.

Wing Evans suggested sending an emissary in November to visit, take photos and report. Robert Morriss tabled the issue until the October meeting.

New Business

Code "Keys" to the Building - Discussion: Robert Morriss asked if there was a need to set limits on the number of code "keys" issued. It was concluded that no changes were needed at this time.

Budget Expenses: Wing Evans alerted the Board that two budget items were over half or near half of the budgeted amounts. Hospitality and Utilities. It was suggested that members be encouraged to donate supplies. Recently, the air conditioner froze and after repairs, it required several days of running 24 hours a day to thaw it. Wing Evans said members who use the building should adjust the thermostat upon leaving to 80 degrees.

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AGMS General Meeting Minutes  
May 26, 2011

**Program:** At 7:05 PM Paul Bordovsky presented Jim and Gail Spann of Rockwall, TX, who have collected over 4,500 mineral specimens and share their mutual interest through displays at shows, talks to groups, photos, magazines, home tours and postings on such websites as mindat.org. The Spanns narrated *Spanning the Globe in Search of Fine Minerals*, a slideshow featuring some of their spectacular Chinese minerals including a large rhodochrosite they named the "Wutang Princess".

**Meeting:** At 8:23 PM, President Robert Morriss welcomed the visitors.

**Attendance:** 62 members, 10 visitors and 2 juniors.

**Minutes:** The April minutes were approved as printed in *The Stone Chipper*.

**Committee Reports:**

**Newsletter:** Diann Hill asked that you notify her if you didn't get the newsletter this month. Before the meeting, Diann had announced two incentives for reading *The Stone Chipper* through. Ron Carman was the first to come up to Diann and identify the intentionally misspelled word winning a piece of petrified wood for his keen eye. For telling Diann they read the newsletter, two juniors, Eric and Matthew, won tiger eye donated by Charles McCoy.

**Green Club Vests:** Diann Hill said that if enough people were interested in ordering vests, she would get more information.

**Library:** Harriet Strieber said that by the end of the year, she needs to step back after 23 years working in the library. She made an appeal for someone to become a librarian or helper in order to keep the library more available than it is at present. She would like for the person to make a commitment of a couple of years. Duties include such tasks as cataloging and ordering magazines.

**Sunshine:** Diann Hill said that Josie Middleton slipped and twisted her ankle.

**Show:** Sue Postlethwait reported that they had a wonderful time at the 50th show celebration picnic and auction. For the upcoming Gem Capers, there will be six new dealers featuring minerals, jewelry and wire wrap. Sue said the show desperately needs an advertising person to get ads on TV and that Lynn Young has a packet of publicity information to help you get started. All members are invited to attend the show meetings which meet at 7:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

**Door Prizes and Winners:**

Pauline Denson assisted Robert Morriss in awarding 4 slabs and 3 small mineral specimens as door prizes to Betty Lee, Dick Nelson, Grace Folsom, Tony Pulliam, Brian Wetzig, Lloyd Lamere and Mac Ellis.

**Show and Tell:**

Gene Healy wanted help and opinions on whether his find, which looks like a jaw with teeth, is a fossil or only a "pseudo-fossil"

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AGMS General Meeting Minutes  
May 26, 2011  
Continued

only a "pseudo-fossil".

Tony Pulliam brought his "Uruguay Geode" displayed on a stand. Tony has had good experiences giving away rocks at schools. He also has amassed a garage collection that he is willing to show.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.



**A Special Thanks**



The Austin Gem and Mineral Society would like to thank Jim and JoAnn Wiersema @ Horizon Environmental Services, for their continued support of the club by printing *The Stone Chipper* each month.



DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE on the next quarterly drawing! You can qualify by simply submitting an article for publication to [stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org)



Invite a friend to join AGMS, have them fill out the form below and return to Wing Evans, Treasurer .

AUSTIN GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ Single \$15.00, \_\_\_\_\_ Couple \$20.00, \_\_\_\_\_ Juniors \$4.00;





## Chipper Chatter

*Happy Anniversary* to all of you who celebrate this month.

The following members celebrate *birthdays* in June and July:

Jennifer Guzman - 6/7

Gef Fisher - 6/12

Joe Perkins - 6/21

Ed Gage - 6/24

Kellee Greenway - 6/24

Bob Greenway - 6/25

Marilyn Bowerts - 6/26

Tony DiRico - 7/5

Jackie Fisher - 7/21

Mindy Waters - 7/21

Linda Lamere is recovering from recent foot surgery. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Let us help you celebrate your birthday by listing it in *The Stone Chipper*. Please e-mail the editor at [stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org), with your birth month and day so it can be added to the list. Or sign the clipboard, located at the greeters table, at the next general meeting.

The following Board Members pictures are still needed: Terry Barry, Marilyn Gilbreath and David Wenger. Please email your picture to [stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:stonechipper@austingemandmineral.org), so club members can put a face with your name.



### *The AGMS Kitchen*

Please remember your AGMS kitchen as you shop for groceries, and paper goods. As our club continues to grow the number of paper plates, cups, and napkins used for after meeting refreshments continues to grow also. While this is a budgeted item, every little bit helps. Won't you pick up an extra package of flatware, napkins, plates or cups on your next trip to the grocery store? Any size or style will be greatly appreciated.

Don't forget, your Mother doesn't live at the clubhouse, which means we are all responsible for taking out the trash, putting things back where we found them and cleaning the bathroom. In the past it has always been one or two people who repeatedly do this chore. How about a few more hands every now and then? There is nothing more embarrassing than to have a prospective club member at a meeting who steps into the bathroom and finds a trash can overflowing onto the floor. Yes this is a picture of an AGMS bathroom trash can. On a more personal note, if you need to lift the seat, PLEASE do so.





## Gem Capers News

Show Committee Meeting  
May 19, 2011

The Show Committee meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes for April were presented for review, and then submitted with corrections.

Diann submitted checks from dealers to Susan.

Seven dealers have dropped from our show for various reasons. Thirteen dealers have paid in full, eleven have paid half of the fees and a few are in the mail. Diann brought the new dealer applications to vote on, after extensive reviewing and discussing, replacement dealers were selected.

|                     |                  |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Texas Silver Stones | Crystals Springs | Magpie Gemstones |
| None Such Minerals  | Moonvine Designs | Wild Gems        |
| Cathy Crane         |                  |                  |

Still need someone to contact TV stations to get the T.V. ad and banners. Laura Dow has sent Susan a list of the magazines that she has sent the show information.

Susan will send Brian an email about the flyers.

Robert will re-work the floor plan after we receive that new dealer contracts and payment, to know what size to make their booths.

Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, the motion passed and meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.



### Quotable Quotes:

Confucius often say,  
"No one ever go there, because it always too crowded!"

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go.  
Abraham Lincoln





Please send change of address notices, or to report errors on the mailing list to: Wing Evans, Treasurer.

If you're not on the AGMSList on YAHOO, or receiving the newsletter via e-mail, please send a note to the editor at [StoneChipper@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:StoneChipper@austingemandmineral.org).



## Shop Talk

Did you know that the AGMS work room is open anytime the building is open, except during the monthly meeting? Please make sure that you have been tested out on any equipment prior to using. Contact Gef Fisher or Richard Dorsey via email at [shop@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:shop@austingemandmineral.org) for more information.

Using the the correct equipment for your project not only prevents costly equipment repairs and downtime, it might just prevent an unfortunate and serious injury to your person. When in doubt please ask the shop manger for assistance or guidance, and follow their instructions.

The following comes from From the Hounds Howl 2011

**TOOTHPICKS** – The round, stronger toothpicks have a multitude of uses on the jewelry bench. I use them for mixing epoxy resin, for applying paste solder, with Zam for polishing in tight spots, and with a bit of beeswax for picking up and positioning small stones. They're particularly good for testing the fit of a small faceted stone in a prong or tube set finding.

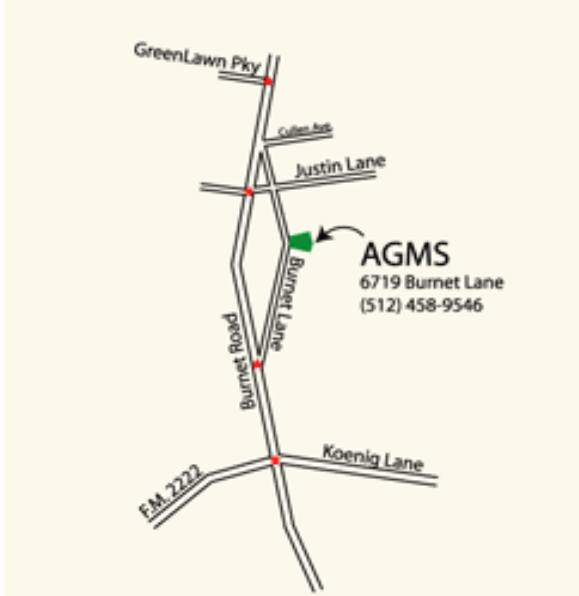
**PUMICE WHEELS** – Pumice wheels are good for touching up a bezel after you've set the stone. The hardness is about 6 on the Moh's scale, less hard than quartz, so it shouldn't scratch any of your jaspers. However, I'd avoid or be real careful of using pumice near the softer stones like turquoise, amber, howelite, etc. If you're unsure that a wheel is pumice, test it with a piece of glass. Glass is about 5 ½ on the Mohs scale. If it doesn't scratch glass, it shouldn't scratch quartz. -- More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at [groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips)/[facebook.com/ BenchTips](http://facebook.com/BenchTips)

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## The Stone Chipper

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### Address Correction Requested

#### THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

The AGMS is a member in good standing of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies and the American Federation of Mineral Societies. Its editors are also members of SCRIBE. The club address is 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, Texas 78757, and phone (512)458-9546. **The AGMS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.** Visit our website at [www.AustinGemAndMineral.org](http://www.AustinGemAndMineral.org). Contact our webmaster for website updates at [DiannH@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:DiannH@austingemandmineral.org).



#### PURPOSE

The purpose of the AGMS is to promote interest and education in the various Earth Sciences and other related subjects.

#### MEETINGS

**The Society meets the fourth Thursday of every month except October** which is show set up day. The November meeting will be held on the THIRD Thursday. December is the Officers' Induction Banquet held on a date to be determined. Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month. Show committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. All members are welcome to attend. Society officers are listed on the second page of this publication. Please feel free to contact any of them for information.

#### DUES FOR 2011

Membership dues are:

\$15.00 annually for an adult    \$20.00 annually for a couple    \$4.00 annually for juniors

#### THE STONE CHIPPER

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