

Midland Gem & Mineral Society**MGMS Newsletter**New "all purpose" e-mail address: mgmstx@gmail.com

Affiliations: South Central & American Federations of Mineralogical Societies

Upcoming Events**GENERAL MEETING:**

Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 pm - Sibley Learning Center at 1307 East Wadley Avenue

BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, March 2 at 7:00 pm - MGMS Shop at 801 North Fort Worth Street**BIG SPRING SHOW:** Saturday and Sunday, March 6 & 7 (see page 2 for details.)**MONDAY NIGHT OPEN****SHOP:** Mondays at 6:30pm to 9:00pm - MGMS Shop at 801 North Fort Worth Street. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.**Class News***Make sure to attend the general meeting to sign up for all the classes that we offer.*

We have several classes in session and others will be starting soon. Presently, Harold Ervin is teaching two Lapidary classes, one on Tuesday and Thursday nights, and the other on Wednesday and Friday nights. A Silver-smith class, taught by Joel Rhodes, should start on February 20. We hope to have other Silver-smith classes running during the summer. David Richardson will teach a Wire Wrap class soon, and Herman Jones will teach a Venetian Bead class in the near future. A big "THANKS" goes out to these fine teachers!

**2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES & SHOP FEES ARE DUE!
FINAL NOTICE**

If you have already paid membership dues for 2010, the word "PAID" (or "Honorary Member") will appear in the box below on copies mailed out to members:



Members who receive their newsletter by e-mail will get an e-mail (or other notice) that they have paid their membership dues for 2010. If the word "PAID" (or "Honorary Member") does not appear in the box of your snail-mailed copy of the newsletter, or you do not receive an e-mail (or other notice) that you have paid your 2010 membership dues...

...THEN YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED...*..and this will be your last newsletter.*

In order to renew your membership and continue receiving the benefits of being a member, **you must pay your membership dues at the upcoming Thursday night February 25 general meeting:**

- ADULT, age 18+ membership: \$25.00
- SPOUSE/Other Adult Family, age 18+: \$15.00
(This includes any relative living at same address)
- STUDENT, ages 12 – 17 membership: \$2.50
- Yearly Shop Use Fee: \$12.00

Can't attend the February 25 meeting? Then mail your membership dues & yearly shop use fees to:

Midland Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 5043
Midland, Texas 79704

Got any questions about renewals, membership dues or yearly shop use fees? Call David Richardson at (432) 362-1912, or send an e-mail with "Dues & Fees" as the subject to: mgmstx@gmail.com or see David at Sibley Center for our Feb. 25 meeting.



Was this woman a victim of Batman's arch-enemy, MR. FREEZE?!



Why is this dinosaur wearing a chandelier on it's head? FIND OUT the answers to these questions at the February 25 general meeting!

February Program**A Tucson Show & Tell**

Bring your favorite purchases from the Tucson shows to the February 25 meeting so we can all experience what Tucson has to offer!

Bring a friend who'd like to see this program to our February 25 general meeting.

Sunshine Corner

By Herman Jones 694-2142 or 520-7313

Perkins Sams of Midland died Sunday, January 3 at the age of 82. Services were held on Thursday, February 7 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland. Mr. Sams had assembled the largest and finest private gem and mineral collection in the world, and the Ann and Perkins Sams Gem and Mineral Collection is now housed in the Museum of Natural Science in Houston, Texas. He will definitely be missed by everyone who knew him. Our deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones.

Nora Roys died Tuesday, February 2 in Midland at the age of 80. A memorial service was held Thursday, February 4 at the Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home's chapel. Nora and her husband, Maurice, were contributing members of our organization for many years. Please remember her two daughters, Sharlet Sizemore of Kerrville and Susan Harley of Midland during this time of bereavement.

Anna Richardson had same-day shoulder surgery in Odessa on Wednesday, February 17. The surgery went well, but rehab and recovery will take about six months.

Bill Waller's cataract surgery on his left eye was successful as was on the right eye. He is in the process of getting glasses and adjusting to them.

Bill Halepeska will not have to return to Houston for check-ups for at least two years. All looks well.

Howie Whiting of Roswell, New Mexico's Chaparral Rockhounds received a report on his colon operation that it is still negative concerning cancer cells (that's good). He is taking radiation treatments once a day for five days for his lung cancer. He will continue this weekly treatment through April. He is feeling fine.

Scholarship Deadline

A reminder that a child or grandchild of a person who is a member of MGMS, such member having been active for the year preceding the child's application, is included in the senior high school students who can apply for Midland Gem & Mineral Society's Scholarship Award. Applications will be available at the MGMS general meetings or contact: Craig or Mary Tellinghuisen at (432) 697-7668. Applications must be postmarked no later than Thursday, March 25, 2010 to: Midland Gem & Mineral Society, P.O. Box 5043, Midland, Texas 79704

Club Liaison News: Big Spring Show...

The Big Spring Prospectors Club has requested ten displays from our members to be placed in their show. Set up will take place there on Friday, March 5. If you can take a display, or have us take it & set it up for you, see Club Liaison **Herman Jones** at the Thursday, February 25 general meeting, or you can call Herman at 432-694-2142 or 432-520-7313, or send an e-mail with "Big Spring Show" as the subject to mgmstx@gmail.com.

BIG SPRING show: 1st weekend, MARCH 6 & 7

Big Spring Prospectors Club 41st annual Show

**Howard County Fair Barn,
Rodeo Grounds, Big Spring,
Texas**

Hours:

Sat. 9 – 5, Sun. 10 – 5.

FREE ADMISSION

Welcome New Members!

Welcome to new members:
**Alynda Best, Carter Conlin,
Phillip Conlin and Whitney
Livingston.** Welcome!

Shop Chairman Report By Harold Ervin

- A great big THANK YOU goes to George Carter Sr. for repairing the 16" saw.
- Monday Night Open Shop will now start at **6:30 pm** and end at 9:00 pm.

Joke of the Month: An ambitious young blonde woman, in need of money, decided to hire herself out as a handyman-type. She began, door to door, canvassing a wealthy neighborhood for work. She went to the front door of the first house and asked the owner if he had any jobs for her to do. "Well, you can paint my porch. How much will you charge?" The blonde said, "How about fifty dollars?" The man agreed and told her that the paint and ladders that she might need were in the garage. A short time later, the blonde came to the door to collect her money. "You're finished already?" he asked. "Yes," the blonde answered, "and I had paint left over, so I gave it two coats." Impressed, the man reached in his pocket for the \$50. "And by the way," the blonde added, "that's not a Porch, it's a Ferrari."

Memorials and Honorariums: You can make a monetary gift in any amount to our organization in honor or in memory of someone for a tax deduction. Please make certain that you designate which fund you want the money to go into: Building Fund, Endowment Fund or General Fund. Call David Richardson 432-362-1912 for details.

WANTED: USED INK AND TONER CARTRIDGES

You help our organization save money each time you donate your used ink and toner cartridges. We accept the following brands of used ink and toner cartridges: **Brother, Canon, Dell, Epson, HP, Kodak, Lexmark and Samsung.** Just bring the used cartridge to any meeting or Monday night open shop. If you have any questions, contact Daniel Jones at 432-694-2142 or 432-520-7313, or send an e-mail with "Ink/Toner Cartridges" as the subject to mgmstx@gmail.com.

Monday Nights are Open Shop Nights!

All members are welcome to stop by our shop at 801 N. Fort Worth on Monday nights to socialize, or to volunteer to work on items for the show, or to work on your own items. Any member who has satisfactorily passed any of the classes is qualified to use any of the equipment and tools he or she has used in the classes. In addition, a qualified member wishing to use shop equipment must pay an annual fee of \$12.00 plus an hourly fee for each piece of equipment used.

"BARGAIN NIGHT" is on Monday nights, with use of ALL equipment (except 24" saw) only \$1.00, from 6:30-9 pm. The Monday night shop supervisor opens the shop by 6:30 pm; with equipment shut-off at 8:50 pm, and clean-up to follow, so as to vacate the shop by 9 pm.

January 28 General Meeting

President Wurster called the meeting to order. David Richardson gave the Treasurer's report. New members Michele Seymour, Mike Burns, and Whitney Livingston were recognized. Club Liaison, Herman Jones, reported that the next show that we would take displays to would be the Big Spring Prospectors Club show, March 6 & 7. Herman also said that we will have a booth with displays at the Scottish/Irish Celtic Fair in Midland on March 12 – 14. Herman Jones gave the Sunshine Chairman report. Anna Richardson had class sign-up sheets available. President Wurster reported that the three lots of land at the Northeast corner of Kansas and Weatherford had been sold and that the money raised from that sale will help us get closer to finishing our new shop building. The members present thanked Herman Jones, Anna Richardson and Linda Whiston for bringing refreshments. After the refreshment break, Emil Beck introduced Tom Rodman, who

presented the program on the Odessa, Texas meteor crater. (*Editor's note: The Odessa, Texas Meteor Crater Museum is open year-round on Tuesdays – Saturdays 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sundays 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. It is closed on Mondays and Christmas. Phone: 432-381-0946. The Meteor Crater Trail is open for self guided tours every day from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free admission. Covered picnic benches. Gift Shop & Visitors Center. Location: From Odessa, go west 5 miles on I-20 to exit 108 [Moss Avenue]. Turn left [south], cross the railroad tracks, follow signs about 2.2 miles to the crater. Lat: 31.7572 Lon:-102.47869*) Winners of the door prizes were Jane Cooley, Lathen Frederick, Michele Seymour and Jeff Cornell. The meeting was then adjourned.

February 2 Board Meeting

President Wurster called the meeting to order. Board members Halepeska and Mayo were absent. Since there were no corrections or additions, the minutes of the January 5 meeting stood approved as published in the newsletter. Treasurer David Richardson read the financial report. Motion was made by Mary Tellinghuisen and seconded by Thomas Bauer to accept the financial report. Motion carried. Herman Jones reported for Building Committee Chairman, Bill Halepeska, that the sewer connection had been made and that they have started on the electrical. Finance Committee Chairman, Tom Wurster, reported that we still have one grant request out which we have not yet heard from the foundation. Tom also reported that we might get a contribution from an individual if everything works out. Vice President Thomas Bauer reported that the program for the February 25 general meeting would be presented by members who attended the 2010 Tucson gem and mineral shows. Mary Tellinghuisen reported that the contract between Midland Center and MGMS has been signed and that our Midland Gem and Mineral Show is scheduled for November 6 & 7, 2010. Herman Jones gave the Sunshine Chairman report. Club Liaison, Herman Jones, asked for displays to be placed in the ten cases at the Big Spring show to be held on March 6 & 7. President Wurster reported that he had asked Johnny Wright to put a rock hunt field trip committee together. Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, Mary Tellinghuisen, reported that application forms have been faxed to all the schools and that we are already getting some applications from the students. Interim Class Chair, Anna Richardson, reported that two Lapidary classes were finishing up and that two more Lapidary

classes will be starting up. Silversmith class should start around February 20. President Wurster reported that Harold Ervin will be assisted by Mark Burgess as Shop Co-Chairs. President Wurster asked Michael Anderson to work with a committee on getting the format of the Monthly Lapidary Challenge ready for this year. There was discussion concerning a junior, non-machine use membership for kids under 12 years of age. There were issues concerning insurance, costs, change of bylaws, etcetera. President Wurster asked Lyn Yater to form a committee to prepare a report to present before the board on the matter. There was discussion concerning a rock, jewelry and supply sale. David Richardson reported that Bill Halepeska does have this on his agenda. There was some discussion concerning having some business cards printed. It was decided to table further discussion on the matter until the March board meeting. Meeting adjourned.

DEADLINE for MARCH

NEWSLETTER submissions-

Sunday, March 14

by 10:00 PM

Please submit via e-mail to

mgmstx@gmail.com

*** * SHOW CALENDAR * ***

March 6 & 7...BIG SPRING, TEXAS

Big Spring Prospectors Club 41st annual show
FREE ADMISSION

Howard County Fair Barn, Rodeo Grounds

Hours: Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 10 - 5.

Contact: Jerald Wilson (432) 263-4662
or Lola Lamb (432) 263-3340

March 11 - 14...DEMING, NEW MEXICO

Deming Gem & Mineral Society's 45th annual
"Rockhound Roundup Gem & Mineral Show."
Southwestern New Mexico Fairgrounds,
Raymond Reed Blvd.

FREE ADMISSION TO THE SHOW

Show hours: Thursday through Sunday, 9 - 5.

GUIDED ROCK HUNT FIELD TRIPS ON

THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, leaving at 8:30am from the show's location to go to many different locations! Materials found: Onyx, agate, *cont.* →

geodes, peridot, rhyolite & travertine. Bring suitable clothing & shoes, lunch, water and tools.

Public is invited on all these rock hunt field trips.

Guided Rock Hunt fee: \$5, Big Diggins trip: \$10

Show Chair: Bud Daily (575) 267-4399

Website: www.dgms.bravehost.com

March 20 & 21...LIVE OAK, TEXAS

Southwest Gem & Mineral Society's "Fiesta of Gems"

Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Road

Hours: Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10 - 4.

Contact: Robert Bowie (830) 935-3373

E-mail: krbotx@gvvc.com

Website: swgemandmineral.org

MORE SHOW LISTINGS AT www.rockngem.com

2010 OFFICERS

President: Tom Wurster

Vice President: Thomas Bauer

Secretary: Francis Foreman

Treasurer: David Richardson

BOARD MEMBERS:

Lyn Yater 2010-2012

Bill Halepeska 2010-2012

Mary Tellinghuisen 2009-2011

Michael Anderson 2009-2011

Anna Richardson 2010

Tommy Mayo 2008-2010



"I'll see you at the February 25 general meeting at the Sibley Center!"

2010 CHAIRS:

Building Committee: Bill Halepeska

Club Liaison: Herman Jones

Communications:

Newsletter Editor: Daniel Jones

Photographers: Sam Stevens & Herman Jones

Field Trips: Johnny Wright

Finance Committee: Tom Wurster

Scholarship: Linda Bryant & Mary Tellinghuisen

Shop Co-Chairs: Harold Ervin & Mark Burgess

Sunshine Chair: Herman Jones

ADVISORY BOARD: Alynda Best, Mike Bradford,

Mary Lou Cassidy, Bob Dawson, Timber Floyd,

Charlie Harris, Frank Hawk, Susie Hitchcock-Hall,

Norm Johnson, Don Judson, Guy McCrary, Dr. Richard Pietila, Kathy Shannon, Charles Spence, and Burr Williams.

Midland Gem & Mineral Society is a non-profit organization recognized under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as an educational entity. No other organization controls or directs its activities. Although membership dues are not tax deductible, donations in any form are tax deductible as outlined by the IRS.

