The Pineywoods Rooter

Newsletter of
PINE COUNTRY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
of Deep East Texas

January 2015 *Volume 23 Number 1* *Page 1*

Club Officers

President, Michelle Talcott 936-715-0182
Vice President, Bill Talcott 384-8244
Secretary, Gloria Lamkin 936-637-7836
Treasurer, Linda Lang 489-3505

Membership & Publicity,
Jonetta Nash
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Member News, Michelle Talcott
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Membership

Club Membership is open to all who are interested in the Earth Sciences and the Lapidary arts.

Dues are $24 yearly for families, $18 for single adults and $2 for kids.

Meetings

The regular monthly meeting is held on the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Club Building at 110 N.Zavalla St. in downtown Jasper.

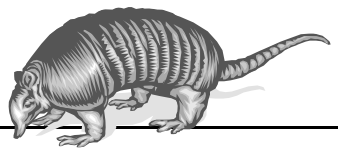
Visitors are invited to attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings.

Club Purpose

Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society was formed for the purpose of encouraging interest and a better understanding of all phases of the Earth Sciences and Lapidary Arts and to promote fellowship and cooperation among members and with other groups with like interests.

Member Club

South Central Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

Wow! 2015! It is hard to believe that we are in a new year already. Time really does fly when you are having fun. It also flies when there is a lot going on. This coming year will probably be no exception. I look forward to serving as the new president of our Pine Country Gem and Mineral Society. There are many things that we can do to promote and build up our club. I will be asking for assistance from many of you as needs arise. We need to make some more progress on our club house to get the workshop functional. The newly formed Junior Rock club is up and going with some very excited students that are eager to learn about rocks and minerals. I hope that each of you will consider taking on a mentoring role to these students and pass on the knowledge to the next generation. I foresee a great year for our club, and look forward to working with each of you.

Michelle Talcott

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 15, 2015
7:00 P.M.
102 Zavalla Street, Jasper, Texas
Program: MAKE A GUESS!

UP-COMING SHOWS &

JANUARY 23-25 TYLER, TEXAS
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
Rose Garden Center 420 S. Rose Park Dr.
keithharmon19@yahoo.com

MARCH 7-8 ROBSTOWN, TEXAS
Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society
Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairground
1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd.

MARCH 7-8 BIG SPRING, TEXAS
Big Spring Prospectors' Club
Howard County Fair Barn
Big Spring Rodeo Grounds

MARCH 21-22 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
Southwest gem & Mineral Society
8111 Meadow Leaf Drive
Robert Bowie krboxt@gvtc.com

APRIL 11-12 ABILENE, TEXAS
CentralTexas Gem & Mineral Society
Abilene Civic Center , North 6th and Pine
rocjclub.txol.net

APRIL 25-26 WACO, TEXAS
Waco Gem & Mineral Club
Extraco Events Center
4601 Bosque Blvd. Creative Arts Building

2015 Officers

President . . . .MichelleTalcott
Vice President . . .Bill Talcott
Secretary . . . .Gloria Lamkin
Treasurer . . . .Linda Lang

Board Appointees

Activity - Field Trips . . . Fred Brown, Paul James
Membership - Publicity . . Jonetta Nash
Web Page . . . Linda Lang
Programs . . Bill Talcott & Others!
Historian . . . Imogene Mitchem
Auction . . . John Nash
Education . . . Janice Herron
Chamber of Commerce...Ann James
Show Chairperson . . .Ann James
Hostess...Donna Ducote
Building Chairman...Bill Talcott

Address Correspondence to:
Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society
P O Box 2513, Jasper TX 75951

CLUB WEB SITE: www.pinecountry-gms.org

THIS LIST WILL BE UP-DATED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

BIRTHDAYS:

Eric Boonstra (Ratliff) 1/15
Nancy Morgan 13/15
Carmon Rike 10/15
Desiree Richard 13/15
Robbie Smith 16/15
Jonetta Nash 25/15

ANNIVERSARIES

Wanda & Steve Hobbs 1/15
Sharon & Charles Kerr 7/15

BIRTHSTONE FOR JANUARY:
GARNET OR ROSE QUARTZ

Notice to Exchange Bulletin Editors:
You may reprint any article in this newsletter in non-commercial club publications, provided that credit is given to the author of the article copied and to the Pineywoods Rooter. Editor

Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society Meeting

Pine Country Gem and Mineral Society Meeting
P. O. Box 2513 – Jasper, Texas –

MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2014

The PCG&MS met on November 20, 2014 at the clubhouse for the regular monthly meeting. There were twenty-eight members attending.

The meeting was called to order by Bill Talcott. The business meeting began with a motion by Ruth Howell and a second by Charles Kerr to accept the minutes as recorded in the bulletin. The motion passed. The Treasurers report was given by Sharon Stalsby with a motion to accept by Charles Kerr and seconded by Ron Ducote, the motion passed.

Committee reports were presented. Paul James/Fred Brown (field trip) nothing planned now but will work on something for spring. Jonetta Nash (membership/publicity) membership dues will be due in January. Ron Ducote, Robbie Smith, and George Wells (programs) nothing planned until January. Imogene Mitchem (historian) is taking many photos. Ann James (Chamber activities) reported many activities for fall. Christmas in The Park (November 29), Parade of Lights, Shop Jasper First, Women's Civic Club bake sale, Tour of Homes, and Community Theater presentation. Ann James (Annual Show) club will donate $100 to youth at Hillcrest Baptist Church for helping set-up for show. The club should hire someone to help set-up and take down the vendors at the show. Bill Talcott (building) suggests that the club hire an electrician to do some work on the back room. Money needs to be spent to get some work done on the back room.

In new business, nominations of officers and two positions on the Board of Directors were presented. Officer nominations were Michelle Talcott, president, Bill Talcott, vice-president, Linda Lang, treasurer, and Gloria Lamkin, secretary. A motion was made by Paul James with a second by Ron Ducote. The motion passed. Board nominations of Jonetta Nash and Ann James were made. A motion was made by Ruth Howell with a second by Joe Griggs. The motion passed. Keith Stephens and Lori Horn were nominated as co-Rock Hounds of the Year with a motion by Ann James and a second by Ruth Howell. The motion passed. In additional new business, the Christmas party will be December 18, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Catholic Church. Everyone should bring rock related gifts for exchange and small extra gifts for Bingo prizes. A scholarship fund of $500.00 should be set up. Also approve $75.00 for supplies for the Historian. A motion was made by Paul James with a second by Sharon Kerr. The motion passed. Winner of the half and half drawing was Jonetta Nash and Donna Ducote won the door prize drawing that was provided by Jonetta Nash.

On a motion by Joe Griggs and seconded by Charles Kerr, the meeting was adjourned.

Attendees at the Meeting: Bill and Linda Talcott, Lonnie and Sharon Stalsby, Paul and Ann James, Carter Talcott, Ron and Donna Ducote, John and Jonetta Nash, Joe Griggs, Maxine Wagner, Fred Brown, Charles and Sharon Kerr, Linda Lang, Fred and Janice Herron, Wayne and Olivia Marsh, Gloria Lamkin, Shari Gunter, Imogene Mitcham, Tom and Ramona Howell, Ruth Howell, and Kimberly Brannon.

Submitted by Michelle Talcott, Secretary

Junior Club Happenings

By Michelle Talcott

At the December meeting of the Junior Rock Club, information was shared about the three general types of rocks. I shared the differences between sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks. I also showed them examples of each. We also discussed the difference between minerals and rocks. As the students work toward earning their Future Rockhounds of America badges, education is a huge portion of the program. The students are very eager and excited to learn what they can about rocks and minerals. We spent time looking at the mineral and rock samples that they brought to show everyone. I encourage them to talk about their samples which strengthen their public speaking skills. I will continue to encourage anyone to stop by the clubhouse and meet some of these young rockhounds.

We will meet the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. The next meeting will be January 6, 2015.

Utah Minerals Scrambled Word Puzzle

from Dennis Chapman

1. Precious yellow metal (lodg) _____
2. Mixed with clay and limestone that harden into a solid with the addition of water, used as a construction material (2 word " rtokcmecne") ____ _____
3. A radioactive chemical element (iumnura) ____ _
4. A loose mixture of small stones, pebbles, and sometimes sand (velgra) _____
5. Used for making bricks, pottery, and tiles (aycl) _____
6. A hard black or dark brown substance found in the earth and burned as fuel (alco) __
7. Used in making brass & nickel (nczi) ____
8. A silver-white metal that rusts rapidly in air, can be easily magnetized (onir) ____
9. Silver-white solid metal that is often alloyed with other metals, esp. iron, to increase their hardness (ednmuomlby) _____
10. Any of numerous mineral, animal, plant, that are viscous, usu. liquid, and greasy (loi) _
11. Loose grains of finely ground rock (ndas) ___ _
12. A sticky brown to black bituminous substance and used for paving, roofing, and waterproofing (alathsp) _____
13. In pure form as a white, ductile, highly lustrous and reflective metal solid (vrisel) ____
14. Used chiefly for preserving and seasoning foods (lats) _____
15. Reddish brown metal (porecp) _
16. Chiefly used in alloys with copper and in aerospace material (ilmulebyr) _____
17. In pure form as a bright white, lustrous, ductile solid metal used in some alloys (admuavin) ___ __
18. Hydrated calcium sulfate, that resembles chalk and is used to make plaster of Paris, plaster and wallboard, and fertilizers (symugp) _____
19. Can be isolated as a divalent ion essential in plant and animal nutrition, or as alight, ductile, silver-white solid that bursts into a bright flame when heated above room temperature, used for flares, fireworks, and the like (ismueamng) ___ __
20. Used primarily in the manufacture of fertilizer (sohapt) __
21. A very dense, malleable bluish gray metal (edal) __

----------Key----------

1. gold
2. cement rock
3. uranium
4. gravel
5. clay
6. coal
7. zinc
8. iron
9. molybdenum
10. oil
11. sand
12. asphalt
13. silver
14. salt
15. copper
16. beryllium
17. vanadium
18. gypsum
19. magnesium
20. potash
21. lead

Junior Club Happenings

By Michelle Talcott

At the January meeting of the Junior Rock Club, I talked to the students about Moh's Scale of hardness. I brought various samples and explained to them how to test the minerals with their fingernail, nail, penny, and glass plate. They were able to put the samples in order from softest to hardest. I also gave each of them their own hand lens that was purchased to some money donated to the Junior Club. It was exciting to hear they received rock related gifts for Christmas.

We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. The next meeting will be February 3, 2015.

SILVER: STUFF YOU DID NOT KNOW

by Jody Dorman, member PCGMS

The earliest silver ornaments and decorations have been found in tombs dating back as far as 4000 BC. and silver coinage appeared not far behind that of gold, around 550 BC. But it is in modern times that silver's physical properties have brought it into its own as A metal. By 1960 the demand for silver for industrial purposes exceeded the total world production. With its superior electrical and thermal conductivity, it finds use in electrical circuits, and it is alloyed with nickel or palladium for use in electrical contacts. As A catalyst, silver has A unique ability to convert ethylene to ethylene oxide, A precursor of many organic compounds. But the largest single use of silver production is in the photographic industries, which uses 60 percent of all silver production. Its use in silverware, ornaments, and jewelry continues to be important, although few countries retain silver coinage. Pure silver is too soft to wear well, so it is alloyed with other metals to increase its durability. Sterling silver is 92.5 percent silver with another metal, usually copper, making up the other 75 percent. The earliest known silver mines of any size were those in Anatolia (Turkey), where it may have been mined as early as 4000 BC. Today the major silver mining areas are in Peru, The US, Canada, Australia, and Russia, but the greatest single producer of silver is probably Mexico, where silver has been mined since about 1500 AD.

Properties
Group : Native; Elements
Crystal System : Cubic
Color : Silver-White
Hardness : 2 1/2 to 3
Specific Gravity : 10.1 - 11.1
Fracture : Hackly
Luster : Metallic
Streak : Silver-White
Transparency : Opaque

Source Smithsonian Rock and Gem Book
Wikipedia

Fossil News - Dinos With Feathers!

by Mazie Soderstadt and Ken Dearborn

China has become the hotbed of early bird and perhaps dinosaur crossover-to-bird fossils. We always have to be a bit careful with the discoveries in the closed east because occasionally specimens are tampered with, but this new find has also been analyzed by American scientists.

An article in 'Nature' magazine reveals a well preserved, 130 million-year-old specimen that was found in north eastern China. The three-foot-long creature has a long reptilian tail, a duck-like head and feathers. The delicate fibers of down covering its body and quill-type feathers on its front appendages left an imprint in the fine grain mud that covered the dromaeosaur and fossilized it.

Dromaeosaur is a small relative of velociraptor and belongs to the theropod family. This adds to the mounting evidence that some dinosaurs, such as the theropods were closely related to modem birds.

From The Del Air Bulletin 6/01
via Golden Spike News 7/01

DINOSAURS — What is Learned From Their Tracks?

by Dee Grover

The tracks of dinosaurs, when associated directly with bones, can exhibit a very large bank of information about the animal that made the tracks. This is especially true if there is a series of tracks that display a walk, a jog, or running activity.

One example that tells us a fascinating tale is located 23 miles north of Moab, Utah. Following the directions provided by BLM to the parking area, we walked up a small hill and looked down into what appeared to be a dry streambed that was topped by a slate looking rock. Imprinted in the rock were 14 or 15 very deep tracks that were probably made by a huge four-footed dinosaur, said by paleontologists to be a *Brontosaurus.*

After about four steps the *Brontosaurus* suddenly made a sharp 90-degree turn and his prints disappeared under the banks of the stream bed. A turn of this magnitude is highly irregular for an animal of his (or her) size. Closer examination of the site reveals a very large theropod track which was made by an *Allosaurus.* The track was aimed at the left shoulder of the *Brontosaurus* at the point when the 90-degree turn was made. it is surmised by me that was the last step taken by the *Allosaurus* as he jumped upon the back of the *Brontosaurus* and had "Baby (giant) Rib Rack" for lunch.

Other tracks that are sited in areas that are completely trampled with hundreds of dinosaur tracks are described as "dinturbation." The proof in that is that some dinosaurs lived in packs. Evidence based mainly on tracks, also backed by bones, shows horned dinosaurs such as *Triceratops, Ankylosaurus,* and *Protoceratops* were gregarious as were herbaceous dinosaurs such as Brontosaurs, Iguanotids, and types of duckbills.

Some measurements can give ballpark figures of length, height, size and speed of the maker of the tracks. The length of the foot times four equals the hip height for smaller dinosaurs. And five and one-half times for larger ones. Length of stride can determine speed of the animal, provided the bone structure of the leg is known. If a step is shorter than four feet while walking and more than four feet while running, the speed will be 5- 10 kilometers per hour. The distance of the midpoints of the manus front) and pes (back) foot strides equals the hip to shoulder measurement and gives a good estimate of the size of the animal.

Some slender, long-legged dinosaurs such as *Coelophysis* could probably attain speeds of 40-4 5 kilometers per hour. Huge dinosaurs such as *Titanasaurus* could probably only move 5 kilometers per hour as he shook the earth in his walk. Speed can be judged by the angulation (angular deflection of the foot from the center line of both feet as they move) of the tracks and the length of the steps and strides. Studying modern animals has helped in this study. Migration has been proved by the discovery of tracks of disabled animals or those with missing digits which have been tracked intermittently for many miles. Probably they were in search of food or traveling to breeding/nesting grounds.

(Dee Grover, and FGMS Ichnoloist, wrote this article for *Lithosphere 6/00,* via THE GLACIAL DRIFTER 1/01) via T-Town Rockhound 11/01

Volcano Yields Gold

Volcanoes ordinarily produce a molten material called magma and a nasty concoction of hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric and other deadly gases. At Galeras, an active volcano in Colombia, gold is being produced. When it's erupting, Galeras also exhales through its vents a pound of gold into the air each day. Furthermore, the volcano formed a vein of quartz containing gold. The high-grade vein yields about eight ounces of gold per ton. Although gold has been found in other volcanoes, Galeras yields about 100 times more gold than any other active volcano. The gold-bearing vein at the base of the 14,000 foot volcano was discovered when a guide showed it to a scientist. A sample of the vein was dated and found to be about 560,000 years old. This suggests Galeras has been expelling gold since it's beginning. The gold is in solution in the volcano's gases and cannot be collected.

Galeras is active — in 1933 it killed nine people, six of them earth scientists, during a deadly eruption. Access has been restricted, but geologists continue to study Galeras because they have the opportunity to see an actual model of gold ores being emplaced in rock.

(Original source unknown via *Rockatier 12 99* via THE GLACIAL DRIFTER 10/00)

Mineral Facts

Did you know that if you can't grow it, it has to be mined or recycled?

Did you know that in Pre-Columbian times, indigenous people in North America mined turquoise, jet, opal, copper, silver, coal, obsidian and other igneous rocks, asbestos, salt, and sodium sulfate, as well as other minerals? Turquoise, jet, opal, copper, and silver were mined mostly for decorative use. Coal was mined for fuel. Obsidian and other igneous rocks were mined to make projectile points, mortars and pestles, grinding stones, stone axes, and other tools. Clay and asbestos were mined to make pottery; salt was used as a preservative and for flavoring; and sodium sulfate was used as a purgative.

Did you know that many of the clear juices, such as apple juice, and the wines that you may drink are filtered through skeletons? The skeletons of diatoms, microscopic single-celled plants that five in fresh or sea water, are extremely intricate and are made of silica. When large numbers of these skeletons are gathered, cleaned and packed together to form a filter, their intricate geometry will trap the very small particles that make juices or wines look cloudy.

Of the 193,000 metric tons of gold discovered to date, 62% is found in just four countries on earth. All the gold discovered thus far would fit in a cube 55 meters on a side.

Over 50% of all the zinc and lead discovered to date has been found in just four countries on earth.

In the average 3,000-pound car there are 139 pounds of aluminum, 28 pounds of copper, and 20 pounds of zinc. Catalytic converters for cars used 660,000 troy ounces of platinum in 1986. Platinum is also used in the synthesis of MTBE, a gasoline additive to replace lead and reduce automobile carbon monoxide emissions.

The mineral barite is used to add weight to oil well drilling mud to keep oil in the drill hole and prevent oil from gushing out of the hole.

Diatoms, microscopic single-celled plants that live in fresh or seawater, have extremely intricate shells made of silica. When large numbers of these shells are deposited, diatomite is formed. When diatomite is cleaned and packed to form a filter, the intricate geometry of the shells will remove impurities as small as 0.1 micron from the water without the use of chemicals. Diatomite can also be used as a non-chemical insecticide, the sharp silica shells cut and shred the insects.

from OreCutts 4/00-via-Chips 5/00
via Golden Spike News 7/00

New Fossil Finds

by Gene Thompson

A 45 million-year-old fossil of a reptile similar to a crocodile has been found during excavations at Eckfeld in the Eifel region of West Germany. The one-meter-long animal strengthens the belief that the Eifel region once had a “hothouse climate”.

In Mexico, 10 peasant farmers walked into an “enchanted cave” in central Mexico in late May. They planned on digging a water channel from the waters of a natural spring to their village. Instead they found huge bones that scientists say are almost certainly those of at least one mammoth. They have since excavated at least 40 pieces, ranging from huge femur bones to teeth.

from Rock Chipper 7/01
via Golden Spike News 8/01

SENIOR CITIZEN

Out bicycling one day with my eight-year-old granddaughter, Carolyn, I got a little wistful. “In ten years,” I said, “you'll want to be with your friends and you won't go walking, biking, and swimming with me like you do now.

Carolyn shrugged. “In ten years
you'll be too old to do all those things anyway.”