



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

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NUMBER 4



**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

**TIME: 7:00 p.m.**  
**LOCATION: Helen Hall Library**  
**100 W Walker St.**  
**League City, Tx 77573**

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MINUTES OF THE March CLGMS GENERAL MEETING

Awesome presentation by Shalina Warrior (Geologist, owner of Truth Minerals - [TruthMinerals.com](https://www.truthminerals.com)). We learned on how to spot modifications, fakes, altered and color-treated crystals/minerals.

And be sure to follow Truth Minerals on

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/truth\\_minerals/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/truth_minerals/?hl=en)

Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/pg/Truth-Minerals-112894203924052/posts/>

or send Shalina an email: [shalina@truthminerals.com](mailto:shalina@truthminerals.com) or call: 281-900-9467

Election of new officers and board members for the 2022 fiscal year.

Treasury and show reports.

MINUTES OF THE April CLGMS BOARD MEETING.

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society Board Meeting at Panera Bread on 4/5/2022.

We announced our new officers and board members.

Dues are due during the meeting. Single adult members are \$15, family members \$20 and members 70 years and older are free (members need to vote).

Start up of a Community Group for getting more connections will speak to Charlie.

John will speak to the Head Librarian to see if we can get a class on their calendar.

Cindy will speak to Morgan about the budget and to see how much we can afford in getting our own rental place.

Extend the due date for scholarships to July 1st.

Charlie will continue to get the school library grants – up to Junior highs.

Christina will rewrite the letter being sent out and give a new one to the board meeting.

Attendance tickets need to be added to the master list and will be sorted by CESI

Need to get more vests in larger sizes (XL, XXL and XXXL).

James will start looking for places to go on field trips.

Directory of members might be coming soon.

CLGMS Gem dig in the Fall, more news will be coming about this.

Meetings will soon be stream-lined with an agenda handed out (?).

**Our next show will be March 18-19, 2023.**

Please check out our Facebook page: [Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society](#)

### **Field Trips Announcement**

Currently – no field trips are scheduled.

Our new field trip leader – James Brittenham will start looking on locations and dates.

If you have a good location for our club field trip – please contact:  
[annabel.brownfield@gmail.com](mailto:annabel.brownfield@gmail.com) or call/text: 281-486-1866.

Upcoming events - We are looking forward to the following programs.

Shalina Warrior will help us identify any of yours unknown rocks, minerals and gemstones. Please bring them to our April general meeting. She will help identifying them so you will have a peace of mind that you are owning something that you really know what they are.

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## **Rocks & Gems From Texas (Continued)**

### **Agate**

Gemstone of the Big Bend

**By Paul Graybeal**

West Texas is famous for its wide variety of unique, beautiful agates and jaspers. Some types are highly prized by collectors world wide. 35 ~ 60 million years ago, volcanic activity in the Big Bend produced the environment for our beautiful gemstones to form. Cryptocrystalline quartz crystallizing as nodules inside gas pockets, (or in cracks to form vein type agate), can have inclusions of iron oxides such as goethite, hematite to form delicate plumes, moss and bouquet patterns of different colors. With no color or patterns it is chalcedony, solid colors can be jaspers, flint, chert. Agates you can see through a cut slice, translucent or transparent, with

bands or inclusions. Agate and chalcedony is widespread throughout this volcanic region, but only a small amount is of lapidary interest. Agate, jaspers have been found south of Sierra Blanca, Van Horn, most of the igneous Big Bend, as well as the agate that was carried down river to form alluvial deposits from Mexico and New Mexico.

Texas has no public lands to collect on, so there is still a lot to explore if permission can be obtained. Most areas opened to public in the past, the surface has been stripped clean.

There are several types of agate besides famous red plume found in the Cottonwood Springs Basalt. (Woodward, Walker Ranches). Black and brown plume with banding being the most common lapidary grade. Often some black/red plumes, surrounded in colored banding. Banded agate is common in West Texas agate, South of Alpine it is usually white, nearly clear, but bands can be shades of red, purple or pink, often surrounding a plume. Yellow plume can be found here, typically with much euhedral quartz making it difficult to cut. There is orbicular agate found south of Alpine (called peanut agate by Frank Woodward). Pat McMahan refers to pisolites/oolites in his description. Mostly it a solid orange color inside the orbs, but this agate/jasper can also be formed of independent orbs of different colored bands, plumes in other orbs in the same stone. This type is often difficult to cut in cab, not all the orbs are cemented together, and some orbs may contain small geodes. Nice rare specimens!

Most of the lapidary grade agate found South of Alpine is found in biscuit shaped nodules with a dark red skin. Think of gas bubble in lava. Most are pea size to typical biscuit, potato or football size becoming extremely rare. All types of agate found in this lava flow can be found in these biscuits. About 10% of the biscuits will have a gemstone quality to them, or only 10% of the stone will have something worth cutting. It is a rare stone that is full red/black plume, gem grade orbicular, colored bands, combinations within the same space, collector/museum quality.

Many of the biscuits did not fill the entire gas pocket, and had space to crystallize in a shape with bubbles, or botryoidal crystal habit (most agate with this type has plume under the bubbles here). Most biscuit agates here have some euhedral quartz (sugar) inside them, and some open up to become true geodes. Flower garden agate is formed in cracks in the host rock, making it a vein type formation. Usually orange and red, made up of small dense microscopic plumes is found on the Walker/Woodward border, (agate hill). I think this type should be considered a jasper as you cannot see through it, and I have seen other locations such as in Mexico and Arizona that have similar deposits of the orange and red flower garden patterns.

East of Alpine is the Pruitt formation, [Elephant Mt.](#), [Mt. Ord](#), Frog Mt. Richie Ranch, Carver agate field (Rock & Gem August-2017 #47) A snake like crack in the Mts. East of Alpine are exposing some unique agate. Crosses HWY 90 to go near Ft. Davis. Private property. I bought a lifetime collection from long time rancher, I promised not to say where. Some nice large moss agate nodules yet to be cut, rare metallic sagenite pseudomorphs, lots of banded agate (iris), mixes not yet described, or

named. Much large colorful nodules of moss agate like found around San Carlos, Mexico.

Marfa agate was made famous by Andy Burgard in the 1940s, an article in lapidary journal describing pastel colors in "bouquet" patterns now most sought after by savvy agate collectors. Marfa is host to huge agate fields, found in the lava around the Chinita Mts are large solid white or cloud like clear agates, (chalcedony). This is the Peatan Basalt formation.

Few agate beds seem to contain much of the colored material known as "bouquet" or other types of cutting material. Found in isolated pockets are the gem grade agates. Most common in lapidary grade is a black plume or black and yellow plume agate, and white or blue fortification. Often times calcite is included. The bouquet pattern is usually on the bottom, but can form on the entire surface and point towards the center in small clusters. Some secondary crystallization appears as water lines or onyx (layered agate used for cameos) inside banded hollows. A lot of this agate is still egg shell, a thin coating of agate lining the gas pocket, hollow. Tube type agate looking like stalactites inside some of the hollow or eggshell nodules can be found, as well as angelwing, rare crystal forms.

Another famous location of agate in the Big Bend is Needle Peak, south of Terlingua. Beautiful pseudomorphs after aragonite have been found here. Famous for yellow sagenite crystals in a green moss agate called pompom or thistle agate. Again there are many grades of agate, and some nice agate replacement in wood and bone in the area.

Balmorhea is famous for their blue banded agate, often with black plumes. The skin is usually black with a white patina on the surface. Some % will be iris. Onyx or water marks can be found. It appears to be fairly wide spread in northwest of the Davis Mountains, most seem to be naturally tumbled. The Davis mountains has little agate I'm aware of, but does have a lot of chalcedony roses.

There are many theories about agate formation. Some suggest a silicon gel, or silicon dissolved as a colloidal solution which saturates the host rock. Quartz is water soluble at high temperatures, so as it cools It forms inside veins, gas pockets, or can replace other minerals as pseudomorphs, fossils such as wood, bone and coral. No one theory explains all types of agate.

SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS			
<b>April:</b> <b>Central TX (Abilene, TX)</b>  <b>Chihuahuan Desert (Alpine, TX)</b>	<b>May:</b> <b>Waco (Waco, TX)</b>  <b>*Tyler Gem &amp; Mineral</b>  <b>Ft. Worth (Ft Worth, TX).</b>	<b>June:</b>  <b>Arlington (Arlington, TX)</b>	<b>July:</b>  <b>None.</b>
<b>Aug:</b> <b>Baton Rouge (Baton Rouge, LA)</b>  <b>Ark-La-Tex (Bossier City, LA)</b>  <b>Pine Country (Jasper, TX)</b>	<b>Sept:</b>  <b>Lubbock (Lubbock, TX)</b>	<b>Oct:</b> <b>Tri-City (Temple, TX)</b>  <b>G&amp;MS of LA (New Orleans, LA)</b>  <b>Austin (Austin, TX) 10/22-24/21</b>  <b>Cowtown-CERA (Ft Worth, TX)</b>	<b>Nov</b> <b>Golden Spread (Amarillo, TX)</b>  <b>Paleontological Society(Austin, TX)</b>  <b>Midland (Midland, TX)</b>  <b>Houston (Houston, TX)</b>  <b>Dallas (Dallas, TX)</b>
<b>Dec:</b>  <b>DeRidder (Leeville, LA)</b>			
STONEY STATEMENTS Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc  PO BOX 891533 Houston, Texas 77289			

Meeting 3rd Tuesday of the Month

**7:00 P.M.**

League City Library

100 W Walker St, League City, TX 77573



## Member of

**Next Annual Show**

March 18-19, 2023

Pasadena Convention Center

CLGMS is on the Web:

<http://www.clgms.org>FACEBOOK: CLEAR LAKE GEM AND  
MINERAL SOCIETY.American  
Federation of  
Mineral SocietiesSouth Central  
Federation of Mineral  
Societies**Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc**

MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

PURPOSE: To promote education and popular interest in the various earth sciences; in particular in those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the earth sciences of minerals, fossils and their associated fields.

2022 OFFICERS:	President	Cynthia McGowan	281-546-2662
	Vice President	David Tjiok	832-423-4802
	Secretary	Christina Rankin	281-723-5408
	Treasurer	Morgan Davies	281-224-2444
	Program Director	VACANT	
	Board of Directors:	Sandra Christiansen	John Caldyne
		Jim Edwards	Jim Hawkins
	Newsletter Editor	Donna Nelson	
		David Tjiok	

Annual Show 2023 .....	Sandra Christiansen	Membership.....	Mike Flannigan
Constitution & Bylaws.....	Jim Hawkins	WWW System Admin..	Mike Flannigan
Community Benefits.....	Charlie Timme	Refreshments.....	James Brittenham
Historian.....	David Tjiok	Education/Field Trips.....	Annabel Brownfield/
Publicity.....	Annabel Brownfield		James Brittenham
Facebook.....	Cynthia McGowan		

Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2022: Adult \$15:00, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289