



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

VOLUME 50

November 2024

NUMBER 11



NEXT MEETING: **Tuesday, November 19, 2024**

TIME:
LOCATION:

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

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MINUTES OF THE October CLGMS GENERAL MEETING

Our First Annual CLGMS Picnic on November 9th from 10-1pm at Walter Hall Park 807 State Hwy. 3 N League City, TX 77573. Food will be provided and events for the kids and a “Rock Swap” for all to participate in.

Our Tool Room will be ready for use after we check out all our tools to make sure that they are working.

Pins have been ordered and the colors of our feathers will be yellow and blue.

The Houston Gem and Mineral Society will have their show November 8-10 at Humble Civic Center from 9-6pm and Sunday 10-5pm.

This will be Bitter Root’s last show in Houston, they will be selling off their stock during the show.

Our Christmas dinner will be on December 10th at 6pm at Kelly’s on 518 in League City. There will be a set menu and the club will cover the dinner all members and family are welcome to come.

The November Speaker will be Christina Rankin: Labradorite myth and legend, also some of her labradorite jewelry will be for sell. She will also speak about the birthstones of the month.

MINUTES OF THE November CLGMS BOARD MEETING.

Pins and postcards are in for our show in February.

Six feathers in different colors will be ordered and more “A” frame signs for the show.

Jason’s Deli will be catering for the picnic, and it will be great.

John and Christina will be at the Houston Gem & Mineral Show this weekend.

Monica is asking for a camera stand, mic, iPad, and backpack to carry all in for our meetings.

Our old computers will be used for teaching kids at Gem Mine to help identify the gems they find.

Jeff Mills, one of our Board members, has resigned. He will be moving to Wisconsin to start a new opportunity. We are wishing him good luck with the new endeavor.
We are looking to fill his replacement. (Spencer Pearson?)

Lori Westerman has resigned as the refreshment personnel due to personal reasons. We are looking for her replacement.

Field Trips Announcement

Please check your email. The Fall Rockhunt to Alpine, TX had been distributed last month.

If you have a good location for our club field trip – please contact:

annabel.brownfield@gmail.com or call/text: 281-486-1866.

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

Christina will give presentations on Labradorite and birthstone of the month.

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

Our next show will be February 22-23, 2025.

November Birthstones: Topaz and Citrine

Meaning, Symbolism, and History of Topaz and Citrine

The Old Farmer's Almanac. Tim Goodwin

Topaz

Topaz's Color

Pure topaz is colorless and, for many years, was confused for diamonds. But topaz also occurs in a range of colors: orange, pink, red, violet, blue, green, and most commonly, yellow and brown. The gem is allochromatic, meaning it receives its color from impurity elements—or defects—in its crystal structure.

- The presence of chromium causes pink, red, and violet.
- Imperfections at the atomic level led to yellow and brown colors.
- Blue topaz results from treating colorless topaz through irradiation or heat.

Imperial topaz, a reddish- or pinkish-orange gem, is one of the rarest forms of the gem and, therefore, the most expensive.

Mystic topaz is achieved by treating the colorless version of the gem through chemical vapor, creating a metallic rainbow inside the stone that can change colors in the light.

Topaz Meanings, Symbolism, and Folklore

- The origin of the gem's name is believed by some to come from the Sanskrit tapas or tapaz, meaning "fire." Others date its name origin to the Greek topazios, the name for a small island in the Red Sea.
- Given its yellow color, some thought that topaz had the ability to attract gold.
- The ancient Greeks believed that topaz gave them strength.
- Other beliefs range from attracting love to creating invisibility.

- During the Renaissance, it was thought that wearing a topaz amulet on your left arm would protect the wearer from dark magic.
- African shamans believed the gem to be sacred, using it during healing rituals.
- In India, wearing topaz above the heart was thought to guarantee a long life, beauty, and intelligence.
- There was a time when topaz was used to treat arthritis, improve digestion, and help with weight loss.
- If kept in the home, some thought that it could protect against accidents and fires; under a pillow, it could prevent nightmares.

Where Does Topaz Come From?

Topaz is formed during the final stages of igneous rock crystallization. It typically occurs in granite rock and lava flow.

Russia's Ural Mountains were a leading source of Imperial topaz in the 19th century. For more than two centuries, Minas Gerais, a state in Brazil, has been one of the most important sources for high-quality topaz in a range of colors. Pakistan, specifically Katlang in the northwestern region, produces pink topaz. Other sources include Nigeria, Madagascar, Mexico, and California, Colorado, and Utah in the United States.

Topaz in History

- For hundreds of years, the topaz has been confused for other stones like diamonds, peridots, quartz, and citrine (keep reading for more on this other November birthstone).
- It was once thought that all yellow and brown gemstones were topaz and that all topaz was yellow or brown.
- A transparent topaz weighing close to 600 pounds was found in Minas Gerais, Brazil.
- In addition to topaz being a November birthstone, blue topaz is given for a fourth wedding anniversary, while imperial topaz is gifted for a 23rd anniversary.
- Blue topaz is the state gemstone of Texas, adopted in 1969, which is the same year that Utah named the topaz as its state gemstone. Topaz Mountain is located in Fillmore, Utah.
- Alfred Hitchcock directed "Topaz," a spy thriller, in 1969.

Topaz in Jewelry

Despite its 8 Mohs Hardness rating, special care is required to avoid chipping and cracking this gemstone. Use warm, soapy water and avoid high heat or sudden temperature changes, as it may cause gems to break internally.

However, topaz is considered durable and, therefore, suitable for many jewelry options, including necklaces, rings, and earrings.



Various Topaz Color and Cut

Citrine

Citrine's Color

A variety of quartz, natural citrine is transparent yellow to brownish orange. It is rare to find the stone in nature, and many citrine gems found in the jewelry market are the result of heat-treating amethyst and smoky quartz.

Traces of iron in the citrine structure give the stone a yellow-to-orange color.

Citrine Meanings, Symbolism, and Folklore ·

Citrine is thought to come from the French citron, meaning “lemon.”

- Often mistaken for topaz, citrine was thought to hold the same powers, including the ability to soothe tempers and bring calm to those who possessed it.
- It was once believed to bring about prosperity and unimaginable success to those who wore it.
- In ancient times, citrine was used to protect against snake venom, evil thoughts, and heartache.
- Some believed the gem could carry the power and energy of the Sun.
- Citrine has long been thought to have physical healing powers, gained by wearing the gem.

Where Does Citrine Come From?

Found within a large freshwater wetland in Bolivia, the Anahí Mine is an important source of natural citrine. It also produces a crystal that is a combination of citrine and amethyst. When the gem includes both purple (amethyst) and yellow/brownish orange (citrine) colors, it is known as ametrine.

Other sources of citrine include Brazil, Spain, Madagascar, and U.S locations such as Colorado, North Carolina, and California. Amethyst that is heat treated to citrine colors is found in Brazil.

Citrine in History

- Before citrine and topaz were determined to be different minerals, citrine was referred to as gold topaz, Spanish topaz, or Madeira topaz.

- Egyptians used citrine as talismans, while ancient Greeks would carve images into the stones.
- Roman priests used citrine for rings.
- During the Victorian era, citrine was a popular choice for Scottish jewelry.
- In the 18th century, mineralogists realized that amethyst could be heat treated to produce the yellow hues of citrine.
- In modern times, most of the citrine is the result of heat treatment to amethyst, the February birthstone.
- In addition to being one of the November birthstones, citrine is also given for the 13th wedding anniversary.

Citrine in Jewelry

With a 7.0 Mohs Hardness rating, citrine is durable and suitable for everyday wear. The gem should be cleaned using warm, soapy water. Any cleaning process that includes high heat can cause citrine to crack.

Citrine's color has become a jewelry alternative for topaz and yellow sapphire. It is popular in rings, bracelets, earrings, and necklaces.



Citrine

A GUIDE TO USING CRYSTALS

Taken from the 2/2016 "The Hounds Tale", Arlington TX Rock club newsletter.

(disclaimer: This article is not necessarily the opinion of the club or it's executive committee, however it may be of benefit to some of the membership who have certain beliefs regarding crystals and their abilities. It is not meant to offend, and is only submitted as an article of interest as well as in the fairness of diversity)

Even if you are not new to the metaphysical world but are new to using crystals, my hope is that you will find this article of use. Never hold a crystal "hard". Always touch them gently and with respect. Even when I went digging for Clear Quartz Crystal in Arkansas a few years ago, where crystal

cuts are notorious, I was only cut twice, I believe, because of the way that I hold them. Quartz cuts, btw, heal very fast and very well, because of the energy of the crystal.

Crystals are kind enough to share their energy with us. They are an incredible gift that we can use to better ourselves, better those around us, heal ourselves, heal others, etc. Personally, my journey started with three wonderful Clear Quartz Crystals that I ordered from a site on the Internet many years ago.

Any time you pick a crystal for yourself, only hold one crystal at a time. Holding more than one crystal will not allow you to find the energy of the crystal that is yours. Usually your hand of choice (i.e., your right hand if you are right-handed) is the proper hand to hold a crystal in. Walk around for a bit--with the shop owner's permission, of course. Get used to the energy emitting from the crystal. Use your instinct, and you will always know which one is "yours". I can also easily see a crystal's energy in a photograph, and many people can do this with a little practice. I don't have a visual of the crystal(s) energy, but I do sense the energy.

When you are picking a crystal "live", pick what appeals to you. I generally just let my hand find what it wants, and, almost without exception, I have picked the right one. Trust your instincts, and let your hand go where it will.

Work with your crystals often. Touching them is important, especially if you want their help to heal you. Use your crystals during meditation (my very favorite use!), have them handy in your purse or pocket to use when you are away from home, etc. My favorite way to work with the crystals is to wear them as jewelry so that they are constantly touching your skin. I rarely fall asleep without a crystal in each hand! There are so many ways to work with crystals!

If you believe in the crystals, they will do their work faster. Your focus and intent are also helpful. When you meditate or wear the crystals, ask for what you want. Be very clear and ask for help. Say, "Please help heal my broken heart" every time you use the crystals.

You may or may not feel the energy of the crystals while you are touching them or wearing them. Some people are more sensitive to crystal energy than others are, but it has been my experience that most people can develop sensitivity to crystal energy.

You may just wake up one day feeling as though a burden has been lifted from you. When change comes to you gradually, sometimes you do not notice that you do, indeed, feel better!

If you are like me, you will have favorite crystals at any given moment in time, and they do change every now and then. All crystals should be cleansed every so often, but the ones we use every day should probably be cleansed and recharged every week or so. If you don't use the crystal every day, once a month would perhaps be more appropriate. Satin Spar Selenite is my favorite tool of choice for this. You only need to leave the crystal(s) on the Selenite for five minutes, but they don't mind having more time on the Selenite! For more information, please go here:

<https://www.metaphysicalrealm1.com/xcart/home.php?cat=1579>

Deborah Burton

MetaphysicalRealm1.com <https://www.metaphysicalrealm1.com>

SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS

Houston Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show November 8-10 2024 Humble Civic Center http://www.hgms.org	Dallas Gem and Mineral Show; 11/ 23-24 /2024 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Mesquite Conv Center; 1700 Rodeo Dr, Mesa, TX; Adult - \$8; Kids up to 12 - \$4; Family of 4 - \$20. https://www.dallasgemandmineral.org/	51st Annual Gem & Mineral Show. – Hosted by the Gem and Mineral Society of Louisiana. December 21- 23, 2024 Alario Center 2000 Segnette Blvd. Westwego, LA 70094. www.gmsofla.org	44th Annual Mid-Winter Rock Swap. Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. Sunday, January 19, 2025 11 am – 5 pm Lincoln Firefighters Reception Hall. 241 Victory Lane Lincoln, NE 68505
50th Annual Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Show. February 22 – 23, 2025 Sat-10-6, Sun 10-5 Pasadena Convention Center. 7902 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX 77507			

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
February 22-23, 2025
Pasadena Convention Center

CLGMS is on the Web:

<http://www.clgms.org>

FACEBOOK: CLEAR LAKE GEM AND
MINERAL SOCIETY.



American
Federation of
Mineral Societies

South 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.

2024 OFFICERS:	President	Cynthia McGowan	281-546-2662
	Vice President	David Tjiok	832-423-4802
	Secretary	Christina Rankin	281-723-5408
	Treasurer	Monica Duran	281-705-7875
	Program Director	Christina Rankin	
	Board of Directors:	Sandra Christiansen	Jim Hawkins
		Donna Nelson	John Caldyne
	Newsletter Editor	Vacant	
		David Tjiok	

Annual Show 2024	Sandra Christiansen	Membership.....	Mike Flannigan
Constitution & Bylaws.....	Jim Hawkins	WWW System Admin..	Mike Flannigan
Community Benefits.....	Charlie Timme	Refreshments.....	Vacant.
Historian.....	David Tjiok	Education/Field Trips.....	Annabel Brownfield
Publicity.....	Annabel Brownfield		Casey Renner
Facebook.....	Cynthia McGowan		

Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2024: Adult \$15:00, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289