



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

VOLUME 47

September 2021

NUMBER 9



NEXT MEETING:

TUESDAY

Date: **September 21, 2021**

TIME: **7:00 p.m.**

LOCATION: League City Library
100 W Walker St,
League City, Tx 77573

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MINUTES OF THE August CLGMS GENERAL MEETING (8/17/2021)

Guest Speaker: Misty Paul spoke about her Mix-Media resin art. She included how she started and where her artwork can be seen and purchased.

John: Spoke about what the dealers liked about the show. The dealers really liked the fact that our members were there to help them out with whatever they needed. He thanked everyone who helped with the show.

Cindy: Mentioned that our Promotional signs needs to be remade. Also, publicity reached about 30,300 people and we sold \$414.00 for tickets on Eventbrite, which was a significant increase.

Morgan: Guesstimate around 1,500 people attended the show over the two-day period, which is slightly lower than previous year. It was understandable due to summer vacations and the Tax-free Saturday.

Spring show dates: February 26-27

Things to add to next show: Getting a Greeter to be at the front doors to better direct traffic flow and to answer questions that they might have. Also having more food choices than what we had with Papa Yolks.

MINUTES OF THE September CLGMS BOARD MEETING (9/7/2021)

Charlie: The Geenie cabochon machine is working but needs 3 new diamond wheels. We might check with the library if we can use the room for a workshop.

Sandy: Show reports – A suggestion to have a three days show, but rejected by the Board.

David: Needs to pick up the grand prize for picture for the new postcard/flyers.

We also discussed about the Christmas party (Dec 21, 2021) on the location and what type of food.

September and October presenters.

Our next show will be February 26-27, 2022.

REMINDER:

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

September Presenter:

Bio:

Dr. Georgina Kramer - received a Bachelor of Science in Geology and Geophysics from the University of Hawaii in 2000. The University of Notre Dame awarded her a Doctor of Philosophy in Planetary Science in 2007. She was a member of the Moon Mineralogy Mapper Science Team, which was the first instrument to unambiguously detect water on the Moon and map its global variations. She is currently a member of the Lyman-Alpha Mapping Project (LAMP) on the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter.

Dr. Kramer uses remote sensing satellite data to study the composition, structure, and evolution of various rocky planetary bodies, although her expertise is the Moon. She has a background in petrology and geochemistry, rooted in laboratory analysis of terrestrial, lunar, and meteoritic samples, and using these analyses to model their origin and evolution.

Presentation Abstract

The Moon - you've seen it, you know it, but do you know it well enough?
What is it? What's it made of? What is it doing there? Is it watching you? (Yes)
Who's visited the Moon? Who lives on the Moon? Wouldn't you like to live there, too?

Come to the Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society's meeting on Tuesday, September 21. Get to know your closest (celestial) neighbor, and how to invest in your future retirement home on Terra Luna.

October Presenter:

Kim Christiansen: Topic – TBA.

Please check out our Facebook page: **Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society.**

<https://www.facebook.com/clgms/>

Field Trips Announcement

We had a quite successful field trip to Texas City Dike for shark's teeth dig on **Wednesday, August 18 at 5:30 pm.**

We found a few shark's teeth.

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

Fall 2021 Wildacres Fall Gathering

The Speaker-in-Residence for the Fall 2021 session of the EFMLS Wildacres Workshop is Wolfgang Mueller. Wolfgang is a retired geologist, mineral collector and a very active lapidary. He has rockhounded in many places around the country, and is famous for his hand-cut spheres and eggs, as well as rare gem material cabochons and one-of-a-kind beads.

His talks will range from mineral collecting to lapidary. He has a wealth of knowledge. He just received a top prize best-of-class award at the 2019 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show for his self-collected wulfenite specimen exhibited in a competitive case exhibit.

He will be accompanied by his wife Diana, who is also a lapidary and jewelry artist, and together they are the lapidary and jewelry forces behind their company DiWolf, exhibiting in several gem & mineral shows.

For more information see: <https://wildacres.org/fall-gathering-2021/>

Louisiana Gemstones Mining

Geology.com – Hobart M. King

Gemstones in Louisiana?

Louisiana is a state whose surface geology is dominated by sediments and sedimentary rocks. There are no outcrops of metamorphic rocks, none of igneous rocks, and the state is not at all known to be a great place to find minerals.

In spite of that, Louisiana has been the source of a few gemstones - notably, its petrified plants, a small occurrence of very unique opal, and even the reported find of an 18.2-carat gem-quality diamond.

Louisiana "Palm Wood"

The most widely known Louisiana gem material is the Oligocene-age "petrified wood" that is found in the Catahoula Formation, a sedimentary rock unit that was deposited on the alluvial plains and in the coastal swamps of the Oligocene Gulf Coast.

At that time, the coastline was about 100 miles farther inland than it is today. Sediments shed, mainly from the uplift of the Rocky Mountains, have since built the coastline seaward to its current position.

Most specimens are a palm of the genus *Palmoxylon*, which has been named as the state fossil of Louisiana. *Palmoxylon* did not produce a true "wood" composed of cellulose and lignin. Instead it was a plant that looked similar to a modern palm tree with a trunk made up of parenchyma, a fibrous support material that surrounded hollow tubes of the plant's vascular structure known as xylem and phloem. These tubes transported water, nutrients, wastes, and other materials through the plant. [1]

When the palm died, it had an opportunity to be preserved as a fossil if it was quickly covered by water and sediments that would protect it from oxidation and destructive organisms. Ground water flowing through the sediments carried dissolved silica that sometimes precipitated within the hollow xylem and phloem to preserve them. The silica would also replace the fibrous parenchyma. This infilling and replacement of the plant structures with solid silica produced the fossil known as "petrified palm."

Today, fossilized palm trunks and fragments are found at many locations in Louisiana, Texas, and Mississippi, where the Catahoula Formation is exposed at the surface. Pieces of this material that are completely and uniformly silicified are often of high enough quality to be cut, polished, and used as the dome-shaped gems known as cabochons. It is also used to make small sculptures, spheres, book ends, and other ornamental objects.

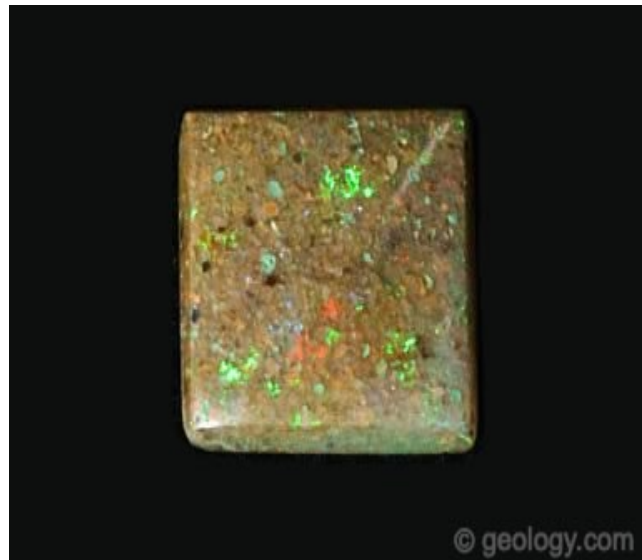
When the material is cut along the length of a palm trunk, the tubes of the vascular structure often have an appearance that resembles wood grain. When it is cut

perpendicular to the palm trunk, the tubes of the vascular structure often display as an array of "dots." Cabochons cut from wood slices sawn in these orientations are shown in the photos on this page.



Louisiana palm fossils can be colorful. They typically range in color from white to honey brown or from chocolate brown to black. Red, orange, and pink colors are also found. The material is usually a chalcedony, but some occurrences of opalized palm are known.

"Petrified palm" is an attractive material that represents a time in the geologic history of Louisiana. It is also attractive enough and abundant enough to be widely known, and for those reasons it was named as Louisiana's state fossil.



Louisiana Opal

Small amounts of a material called "Louisiana Opal" or "Louisiana Sand Opal" have been mined from the Catahoula Formation near Leesville, Vernon Parish, Louisiana. If you examine this material closely, you will find that it is a sandstone in which the sand grains are bound together by a cement of clear precious opal.

When this sandstone is completely cemented, solid, and unweathered, it is stable enough to be slabbed, cut into cabochons, and polished to a bright finish. When a polished cabochon is played in incident light, the interstitial opal can produce small patches of play-of-color.

The material is not spectacular in appearance, but it is a genuine precious opal. It is a novelty gem that is enjoyed by local people and gemstone collectors. Small amounts of this material were produced in the late 1980s and early 1990s. It is no longer produced, and rough material is difficult to find.

In addition to cabochons, lapidarists have used Louisiana Opal to produce spheres and other objects. Most of the material has a brown base color like the 20mm x 20mm cabochon shown in the photo above. It also occurs with a gray to black base color. The play-of-color is much easier to see in specimens with the darker base colors.

Opalized Palm

Much of the "petrified palm" found in the Catahoula Formation, as described on this page, has actually been opalized rather than agatized. Some of this common opal exhibits a "grain" that is a preservation of the palm's vascular structure. It can be easily identified as opal because its Mohs Hardness is 5.5 to 6, compared to the Mohs Hardness of 7 that would identify it as chalcedony. The opalized specimens polish as nicely as the agatized specimens, but the polished surface has a more "waxy" luster compared to the "vitreous" luster of agatized material.

The Mounce Diamond

In 1969 a boy playing in his yard in the community of Princeton, Louisiana found an interesting crystal. His family suspected that it was a diamond, so his father showed it to several jewelers in the city of Shreveport. His father was eventually directed to C. E. Mounce, a jeweler with gemological training. Mounce identified the item as an 18.2-carat diamond crystal in the form of a modified octahedron and purchased it from the boy's father.

Mounce later sent the crystal to a New York City diamantaire who cut the crystal into 3 faceted stones: a 3.47-carat oval, a 2.27-carat marquis, and a 2.75-carat heart shape. The geological source of the diamond remains unknown, and no nearby diamond deposits have ever been discovered. [3] It was likely an alluvial diamond.

Rock Hound Estate Sale

25 plus years collection:

Minerals, quartz, Morocco fossils, crystals, geodes, antique jade trees, petrified wood, rough, lapidary/faceting equipment, jewelry, fossils, roadside geology books, and lots of tools.

Very Reasonable Prices!

Photos available upon Request

Please email for Appointment:

jcbc194@yahoo.com

Examples:

Lapis
Turquoise rough
Amethyst cathedral geodes
Morocco orthoceras & ammonite composite plates
Malachite
Antique jade trees
Morocco fish fossil plates
Arkansas quartz crystals
Amononites
Agate bookends
Variety of different rocks

Collection too large to list all...

SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS

Sept: Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society 10/25-26/2021 Sat: 10 am – 6 pm Sun: 10 am – 5 pm Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. 1501 Mac Davis Ln. Lubbock, TX	Oct: Tri-City (Temple, TX) 10/22-23/21 G&MS of LA (New Orleans, LA) 10/9-10/21 Austin (Austin, TX) 10/22-24/21 Cowtown-CERA (Ft Worth, TX)	Nov Golden Spread Gem, Mineral and Treasure Nov 6 and 7, 2021 (Amarillo, TX) Paleontological Society(Austin, TX) 11/06-07/21 Midland (Midland, TX) Houston Gem and Mineral Society. Humble Civic Center 11/12-14/21 Dallas (Dallas, TX) 11/20-21/21	Dec: DeRidder (Leeville, LA)

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 26-27, 2022

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.

2021 OFFICERS:	President	John Caldyne	832-282-4270
	Vice President	Cynthia McGowan	281-546-2662
	Secretary	Christina Rankin	281-723-5408
	Treasurer	Morgan Davies	281-224-2444
	Program Director	VACANT	
	Board of Directors:	Sandra Christiansen	Jerry Newberry
		Jim Edwards	Jim Hawkins
		Donna Nelson	
	Newsletter Editor	Sara Tanner	
		David Tjiok	

Annual Show 2021	Sandra Christiansen	Membership.....	David Tjiok
Constitution & Bylaws.....	Sara Tanner	WWW System Admin..	Mike Flannigan
Community Benefits.....	Charlie Timme	Refreshments.....	John Caldyne
Historian.....	David Tjiok	Education/Field Trips.....	Annabel Brownfield
Publicity.....	Annabel Brownfield		
Facebook.....	Cynthia McGowan		

Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2021: Adult \$15:00, \$5.00 per additional adult at same address, Junior \$5.00, \$5.00 per member with adult at same address, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289