

THE VOICE

VOLUME LXII NUMBER 10 October 2011

NEWSLETTER OF THE EL PASO MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY

P.O. Box 31516, El Paso TX 79931

Membership Dues are due and payable as of December of each year. Dues are \$12.00 for Adults (18 and Over) and \$4.00 for Juniors. Make check out to EPMGS and mail to PO Box 31516 El Paso TX 79931. **Delinquency of over 90 days will result in being removed from the Membership Roster.**

Meetings will be held on the 4th Thursday of every month at The Memorial Senior Center, 1800 Byron, El Paso TX at 6:30 PM. Board Meetings will usually be held a half hour prior to the general meeting

THE VOICE

The Voice is the official bulletin of the Society and is published monthly. All articles must be in the editor's possession no later than the Monday following the monthly meeting. Any articles received after that will not be published until the following month.

E-mail madtex@q.com and mailing address: EPMGS, Editor, PO Box 31516, El Paso TX 79931. Members are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Permission is granted to reprint material from other sources provided that credit is properly cited. Ads are accepted from members for publication at no charge for the sale or exchange of items pertaining to the hobby.

WEBSITE: www.epmgs.com

The El Paso Mineral and Gem Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization. The purpose of this Society shall be to increase and

disseminate knowledge about minerals and other geologic materials; to encourage mineral study, collecting and fashioning as a hobby; to conduct meeting, lectures, displays, field trips, and to sponsor shows for the general edification of the public.

ADDRESS CHANGES

NOTE: Anyone who has a change in mailing address, phone number, etc. please send e-mails to Judy Herd at pyritejudy@sbcglobal.net, or mail to: EPMGS Membership, PO Box 31516, El Paso TX 79931. Thank you.

Tired of black and white pictures? Please provide your email address to the Membership Chair Judy Herd.

General Meeting

Our next general meeting will be **October 27, 2011 at 6:30pm**. This will be an **“Eat’n Meeting”**; members please bring a dish and or desert. We will be having a **“Show and Brag”** session so bring any rock or mineral specimen you’re proud of to show off. That goes for the jewelry makers too, show us what you’ve made. Swap or sales allowed.

Happy Halloween



Tarantula in Organ mnts.

Secretary Report

The EPMGS meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Twenty six members were in attendance. Membership Chair Judy Herd presided over the meeting in the absence of the Pres. & V.P. Minutes, financial and school reports were approved.

Sue Critz announced that the club has a Facebook page. Valerie Provencio advised on Chihuahuan Wildlife festival and the Hueco Tanks festival Oct. 15-16.

Show chair Harry Bruntz advised of the upcoming rock show and that all booths and venders are in place. The club then had a rock auction.

Written by

Secretary Teresa Ziraldo



Happy Halloweiner?

Field Trip



No field trip report at this time



Chryscolla

The copper family of minerals are symbols of the south west to me as much as coyotes, cactus and the Rio Grande. In this wild bunch is the most famous, turquoise, followed by malachite, azurite and

chryscolla. Some of my favorite specimens are the ones that combine each of them, in this article we are going to look at Chryscolla.

Chryscolla (kriso-cola) is from the Greek words “chryso” for gold and “kola” for glue, from a substance that resembled an ancient solder. In today’s world it could also be American slang for the crust that forms on the battery of the person who asks you for a jump after the gem and mineral show parking lot.



**Chryscolla rough from Bisbee
AZ**

Chryscolla is hydrated copper silicate which forms in the oxidation zones of copper ore. It’s a soft mineral, mohs 2.5-3.5 so it’s better used for pendants or earrings. The naturally hardest specimens are the “agatized” or found in quartz deposits that make

prime polishing material. Stabilization treatments also turn the soft stone into great cabbing rough.



Druzy chrysocolla infused in seams

This mineral is commonly confused with turquoise. Chrysocolla is believed to funnel energy, open communication and relieves ulcers and arthritis. More often though it will produce envious glances from on lookers at beautiful stones set in simple silver settings.

Specimens courtesy of Taco Rocks



Real Vs. Faux

Going through a box of costume jewelry at a garage sale one might find “real” bargains. Or going through old family jewelry that’s been passed down might find some “faux” finds. Here are some ways to “Sherlock” your way through bobs and bangles. When looking at prongs on rings see if they are sloppy or bent over the stone irregularly? Good chance it’s a faux and the stone is too. Rings made with expensive metal prongs are straight with round heads and uniform in height. Faux pearls have been around since 1675. Just because they’re an old set does not mean they’re real. A simple way to check for “real or cultured” pearls are your teeth. Rub the largest pearl across your teeth if they’re gritty or slightly sandy feeling they’re real. If they’re smooth they’re probably faux. Another way is to look for a plastic mold line usually found near the hole to the “pearl.” If it has one it’s probably faux.

School information

Call 915-562-4268 for information and to enroll in Lapidary and Jewelry-craft classes. The Instructors are volunteers from the school committee of the Society and are not paid in any way by the Society or the students. If you want to enroll in one of the classes, all you have to do is sign up at the Memorial Park Senior Center which is located at 1800 Byron Street, El Paso TX. It is important that you register early because a minimum of three students is needed for a “Go” with a maximum of six students per class. Sign up well in advance as there are usually waiting lists. Each Class has a \$20 fee plus a Lab Fee and any other material costs. The \$20 fee payment is to be made on the first day of the class to the Senior Center, and the Lab Fee will be paid to your instructor. All other material purchases should be paid for at the time of purchase or delivery.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The meetings are all held at noon in the conference room at the Memorial Park Senior Citizens Center. Anybody who wishes to sit in on any of the meetings is welcome. We recommend that you call Rose Strong at the Center first to make sure that the meeting date has not changed. Her number is 915-562-4268.

Wed Jan 26	Tue Feb 22	Mon Mar 21	Tue Apr 19
Wed May 25	Tue Jun 21	Mon Jul 18	Tue Aug 23
Mon Sep 19	Tue Oct 18	Mon Nov 14	Tue Dec 13

.2011 CLUB OFFICERS

President Liz Kosturakis (915)595-1413	Vice President P.J. Schabacker (575)589-5068
Treasurer Riitta Gillespie (915)821-4273	Secretary Teresa Ziraldo (915)526-9445
Historian Marty Gaugler (915)859-6634	Editor Matt Durning (915)491-3244
Field Trips Sue Critz (915)203-4783	Membership Judy Herd (915)821-7818
3 Year Trustee Tom Smith (915)778-5240	2 Year Trustee Miguel Chrisman (915)740-0301
1 Year Trustee Matt Durning	Show Chair Harry Bruntz (915)345-2415
Assist. Show Chair Jeanette Carrillo (915)533-7153	Webmaster Matt Durning

OCT. 21-23—AUSTIN, TEXAS: Annual show, “Gold”; Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors (60 and over) \$4, students (13-18) \$1, children (6-12) 50 cents; more than 30 dealers, jewelry, beads, gemstones, mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, spheres, lapidary equipment, exhibits, “Rock Food” table, touch table, fluorescent minerals, member collections, silent auction, demonstrations, faceting, cabbing, fossil cleaning, polymer clay, “Youth Education Day” Fri., Gem Mine, Wheel of Fortune, Jewelry Making, door prizes, grand prize; contact Susan Postlethwait, 6719 Burnet Ln., Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; e-mail: showchariman@austingemandmineral.org; Web site: www.gemcapers.com

Nov 5-6—AMARILLO, TEXAS: Annual show; Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society; Amarillo Civic Center-Regency Room, 401 S. Buchanan St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children under 12 free; prehistoric, outer space, down under, precious, unusual, cheaps, artifacts, valuables, jewelry, Indian jewelry, beads, displays; contact Wanda Finley, 9170 FM 1151 Claude, TX 79019, (806) 944-5464; e-mail: finfran@midplains.coop

Nov5-6— MIDLAND, TEXAS: Annual show; Midland Gem & Mineral Society; Midland Center, 105 N. Main St., corner of Wall and Main; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, students (6-18) \$1, children (5 and under) free; dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, silent auction, kids' corner, geode cutting, fluorescent mineral room; contact Tom Wurster, PO Box 5043, Midland, TX 79704, (432) 682-6258 or (432) 230-2566; e-mail: show@midlandgemandmineral.org; Web site: www.midlandgemandmineral.org

Nov11-13—HUMBLE, TEXAS: 58th annual show; Houston Gem & Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$7, seniors and students \$6, children under 12 free; displays, working exhibits, fluorescent mineral exhibit, Rock Food Table, swap area, more than 40 dealers, minerals, fossils, jewelry, slabs, rough, spheres, meteorites, beads, petrified wood slabs; contact Theresa Peek, Houston Gem & Mineral Society, 10805 Brooklet, Houston, TX 77099, (281) 530-0942; e-mail: show@hgms.org; Web site: www.hgms.org

Nov 12-13—LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZONA: 42nd annual show; Lake Havasu City Gem & Mineral Society; LHC Community Center, 100 Park Ave.; mineral and jewelry displays, dealers, demonstrations, educational geological presentations; contact C. Russell, (928) 846-0927

Nov 19-20—PAYSON, ARIZONA: 14th annual show; Payson Rimstones Rock Club; Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center, Bingo Hall, Tonto Apache Reservation; adults \$3, children under 12 free; gems, minerals, fossils, lapidary equipment, education center, spinning wheel, silent auction; contact Margaret Jones, (928) 476-3513 or (928) 970-0857

El Paso Gem & Mineral Show

Dec 2nd, 3rd & 4th 2011

Shop for Christmas

El Maida Auditorium

6331 Alabama, El Paso, TX

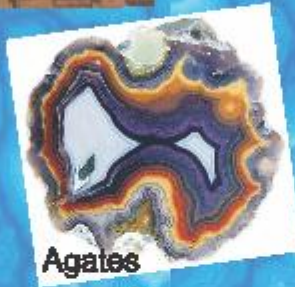


Friday 10-6,
Saturday 10-6,
Sunday 10-5

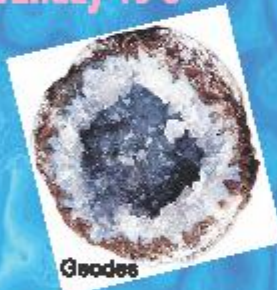


Beads

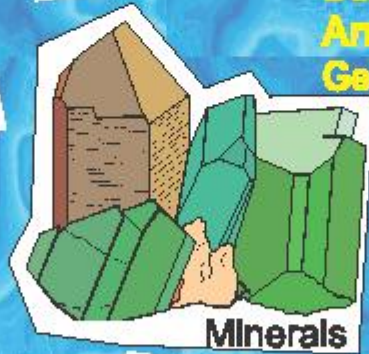
Come wander through the wonderful world of Gems, Beads, Jewelry, Minerals, Fossils & Tools. Demos of Gold Mining, Arrowhead Making and Gem Cutting.



Agates



Geodes



Minerals



Jewelry



Fossils

Silent Auction
Door Prizes
Free Parking



Cut Stones

Admission \$3.00
Seniors & Military \$2.00
Children under 12 Free

For information contact Gem Center USA, 915- 533-7153