

ROCK-N-ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



PAGE 1

VOLUME 44

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 4

APRIL 2018

Upcoming Shows

APRIL 28-29, 2018
WACO G&M CLUB
EXTRACO EVENT
CENTER
WACO, TX

MAY 5-6
LUBBOCK G&M SOCIETY
SCFMS CONVENTION
LUBBOCK MEMORIAL
CIVIC CENTER
LUBBOCK, TX

MAY 26-27, 2018
FORT WORTH G&MS
WILL ROGERS
MEMORIAL CENTER
FORT WORTH, TX

JUNE 30-JULY 1, 2018
ARLINGTON G&MS
GRAPEVINE
CONVENTION CENTER
GRAPEVINE, TX

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow rockhounds! The clubhouse is coming along, and we still need volunteers (you) to help work on the building. There is painting and setting up the rooms to be done still. For the next meeting, instead of the regular program where we have a single presenter or speaker, we will have a show and tell. What I am asking the members to do is to bring a sample or samples of either minerals, fossils, or lapidary projects that they have collected or made to share with the other club members. This will be an excellent opportunity for everyone to learn more about the interests of the other club members and to learn more about different club-related topics. I want to remind everyone that we have a booth at the Makers Faire on April 28th at the Discovery Science Place in Tyler. We still need volunteers to help the kids make rock critters and do quick-wire wrapping pendants for the visitors to our booth. Don't worry we will show you how if you don't know how.

Fred Mahaffey

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

We need some volunteers to help with Friday School Day for next year's show. I have noticed that there are a few of our members who would be perfect for the job. They're very knowledgeable in the home school area, but I would rather they volunteer on their own. The task will involve working with Carolyn Davis and other members, making contacts and scheduling children for next year's show. You will be working as a group on this task. She would like to meet in June at the clubhouse and discuss the best ways to accomplish this goal. To keep from overloading and overwhelming any of our members, I suggest several members volunteer. Call Carolyn Davis at (214) 212-0421 if you think you can help, or if you would like more information.

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on April 2, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 6:50 PM by President Fred Mahaffey. We had nine new members present and all introduced themselves. Fred made a motion to approve the minutes as written in the Newsletter. Penny Hawkins made the motion and Randy Harmon seconded. The motion passed. Fred gave the Treasury report as Colleen Hayes was absent.

Announcements:

- Keith Harmon is having his first rock sale of the year on April 7 beginning at 9AM.
- Maker's Faire: There is a sign-up sheet at the back to help out April 28th.
- Lapidary Group: Terry Roberts gave the report. See the article in this Newsletter.
- Mineral Group: This meeting was cancelled for the month.
- Fossil group: No report as David Russ was absent.
- Field Trips: No report as Kelly Ford was absent, but this month's field trip is to Graves Mtn. in Georgia. A few people commented on the trip to Mason, TX and the trip for Selenite. Fred requested help as Kelly needs time off for personal business. Someone needs to be in charge and able to go on the trips.
- Newsletter: Need pictures for this month.

There was no Old or New business.

After drawing of door prize tickets there was a short refreshment break prior to the program on Fluorite presented by Richard Armstrong.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2018.

Submitted by
Julia Toombs, Secretary



The Editor's Poem

By Kinney Polve

The newsletter is a representation, of our club.
The one communication, members have grown to love.
Each month it comes out, with something new.
Always so anticipated, I can't wait to view.

It builds a strong club, and holding it together like glue.
What makes it so great, are contributions from you.
There's club information, and the meeting times of groups.
There are articles and features, to give the latest scoops.

There's field trip information, and a whole lot more.
Just about anything, you may be looking for.
There may be a poem, if one was submitted.
Along with some updates, all tightly knitted.

By reading the pages, our members grow.
And that's a positive thing, as you all know.
You need to contribute, and that is why.
So, when the editor asks you, don't be shy.

There's always a need for, educational things.
If you write an article, just think what it brings.
All of your knowledge, you keep trapped inside.
Send it in, and let it be someone's guide.

Tell us about a field trip, that you may have took.
It's always a good thing, like reading a good book.
Original articles, are certainly the best.
And please no plagiarism, that I detest.

Worth a thousand words, a picture is nice.
And a nice caption, will really add some spice.
Your knowledge about fossils, could be put to good use.
There's so much that's needed, go ahead and let loose.

If you know a good joke, send it to me.
I can always use it, to bring a little glee.
Sharing your expertise, is always great.
Writing down a great tip, will help to educate.

Your article is needed, so the need is there.
Send in your contribution, so the pages aren't bare.
I've given some suggestions, so now you know.
Put your fingers to the keyboard, and help us grow.

April - May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Field Trip
22	23 Fossil Group Meeting 6:30 PM	24	25	26	27 Field Trip Grave's Mountain 27-29	28 Tyler Makers Faire
29	30	May 1	2	3	4	5 SCFMS Convention
6	7 Monthly Meeting 6:45 PM	8 Mineral Group Meeting 6:00 PM	9	10	11	12 Lapidary Meeting 2:00 PM
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Field Trip Ladonia Fossil Park

SUB-GROUPS

Sub-groups are formed to help our members grow in specific areas of interests. We currently have three sub-groups that meet monthly.

- **Lapidary/Jewelry Group** – Meets on the second Saturday of each month, except December and January. The meeting time is 2:00 PM. This group's meeting is all about lapidary (anything to do with cutting and polishing rocks) and jewelry making. All the members gather to share their knowledge in these areas, and topics are set up by the group leader and the members. Terry Roberts leads this group, and if you wish to have your name added to the email list, his contact information is on the last page of the newsletter.
- **Mineral Group** – Meets every second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. This group is all about minerals, how to identify them, geology and the locations they can be found. Members bring examples of the different minerals, and they share their knowledge. Topics are decided on by the group leader and the members. Charles Creekmur heads up the group. If you are interested in learning more about minerals, get your name on the email list for this group by contacting Charles Creekmur - calcite65@gmail.com.
- **Fossil Group** – Meets every third Monday of the month at 6:30 PM. If fossils are your thing, or you just want to learn a little more about fossils, this would be the group for you. Topics about fossils, locations where they can be found, and geological time periods are all discussed in this group. David Russ heads up the group, and if you would like to have your name added to the email list, contact David Russ - dbruss50@gmail.com.

MINERALOGICAL GROUP

Eight members were in attendance for the April mineral sub-group meeting. Due to a failure of hardware, the planned program on fluorite was postponed. Instead a discussion of the goals the group wanted to achieve and the type of programs they wanted presented was substituted. Many brought specimens other than fluorite, and we had discussions about them, and checked their items for fluorescence under the UV light that was set up. Meanwhile, the fluorite program is scheduled for next month's meeting.

Charles Creekmur

The Dallas Mineral Collecting Symposium

Coming up on August 24-26, 2018

The symposium speakers will be:

Alain Martaud - French Fluorite Mines and Mining

Dr. Eloise Gaillou - European Treasures in the French Museums

Peter Lyckberg - Kongsberg – King of Silver Mines

Bob Jones - Around the World in 80 Years

Dr. Robert Bowell - Cornwall: Mining and History

Dr. Andreas Stucki - Swiss and Alpine Treasures

Dr. Renato Pagano - Italian Sulfurs and Sulfur Mining

Michael Rumsey - European Mineral Collecting – Sport of Nobility and Royalty

For more information can be found at <https://www.dallassymposium.org/>.

LAPIDARY GROUP

Nine members of the Lapidary/Jewelry Group met at the Clubhouse on Saturday, April 14 at 2:00 PM. Several members brought some rocks and crystals to show the group and even offered some of them to the members. Terry also brought some slabs given to him by a friend to share with the members who may never get a chance to acquire examples of Queensland Agate, Island Agate, El Fondo Agate, Mexican Crazy Lace Agate, and Laguna Agate from Australia, Sumatra, Argentina, and Mexico. Several members were delighted with the slabs they selected. Terry also showed the group several new cabs that he made since the last meeting.

The highlight of the meeting was the class on how to make a "Tree of Life" pendant taught by Kinney Polve. He graciously furnished all materials needed to make a tree of life pendant to the group and did a really great job in teaching us how to make the pendant. As expected, several members excelled in making a great pendant on their very first try and will undoubtedly go on to improve their skills. I invite them to bring any new creations to future L/J Group meetings to show the group and give the rest of us encouragement in improving our skills.

The next meeting of the L/J Group will be held at the ETGMS clubhouse on Saturday, May 12 starting at 2:00 PM.

Terry Roberts - terry.roberts45@yahoo.com




BACK TO SCHOOL
**ETGMS
CLASSES**


Above pendants wrapped at one of our classes. Below is an arrowhead knapped by Kinney Polve.



A few of our new members ask about the classes offered to ETGMS members. For those of you that may not know, we currently offer five classes: Cabochon Making, Basic Wire Wrapping, Beginners Silver, Advanced Beginners Silver and Knapping. I'm almost ready to schedule the first Knapping class. Classes are open to all members who are 14 and older. Junior members who are under the age of 14 may be eligible and will be decided by the instructor. You can put your name on the list at our regular monthly meeting or contact Terry Roberts or me. Silversmithing classes will be held at my workshop located south of Henderson until we get a silversmithing workshop set up at the clubhouse.

Cabochon Making is a half day class that covers machine operation and safety. You will learn the proper techniques to cut your own cabochon.

Basic Wire Wrapping is a half-day class. There currently is no fee for the class or materials. Class size is limited to a maximum of eight people. The class covers wire types and hardness's and technique. By the end of the class, you should have a good understanding of the process and a wire wrapped pendant, handmade by yourself.

Beginners Silversmithing is an all-day class. There is currently only a \$25.00 fee to cover materials. Class size is limited to a maximum of two people. In this class, students will be making a pendant and learning about metals, solder types, torches, and the soldering process. The student should have the basic knowledge to silversmith on their own at completion, and a sterling silver pendant handmade by you.

Advanced Beginners Silversmithing is an all-day class. There is currently only a \$25.00 fee to cover materials. Class size is limited to a maximum of two people. In this class, students will be making a ring, and reinforcing techniques learned in the basic class, along with learning additional metal working skill and soldering techniques. The student should have a more advanced knowledge to silversmith on their own at completion and a sterling silver ring handmade by you.

Knapping is a half-day class. There is currently only a \$10.00 fee to cover knapping tools and materials. Class size is limited to a maximum of eight people. This class will teach you the basic knowledge and skills needed to make arrowheads and knife blades. At completion you should have a knapped arrowhead.



Projects completed in the silversmith classes. Above are pendant by Marcia Graham and Lynn Metcalf. Below is a ring by Marcia Graham.



WIRE WRAPPING CLASS

We held a wire wrapping class at the clubhouse on April 14th. We had three members taking the class with Terry Roberts and me instructing. We covered types of wire, work hardening and the cause, also the tools required. A tutorial handout was provided. Of course everyone had to put their own special flare on the final piece.

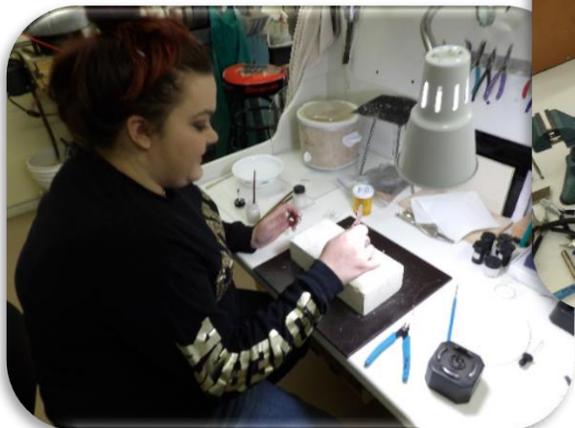
Kinney Polve



SILVERSMITHING CLASSES

I held silversmithing classes on three days this month to fit the schedules of four of our members. Sherry Reutlinger, Lisa Clemens, and Stephanie Mahaffey completed the beginners class, and Fred Mahaffey completed the advanced beginners class. They all had an enjoyable day in class, and some of the member that were taking the beginners class were eager to sign up for the advanced class. They all did a wonderful job with their newly acquired skills. Look at all the smiling faces.

Kinney Polve



CULBHOUSE UPDATE

The scheduled workday to install the partition wall to section off an office/display space was March 24. Being that I couldn't attend on the 24th, due to an out of town trip, a few of us got together on the 17th to get the project started. The wall is in place and needs a finish coat on the drywall. Then it will be ready for some paint and trim. I want to thank the members that have donated their time to get the project this far along. I also want to stress the importance of our members being involved in getting the clubhouse completed so it can be used by our members. It is vital that those of you that have the knowledge get involved in the work, even if you are just there to oversee it. When it isn't done properly, it costs extra time and money to the club. Many of the members want these workshops available for them to use but aren't stepping up to be a part of the process. What will eventually happen is the project will drag on and the few doing the work will get tired, and the project won't get completed. I've see it happen in other clubs. Then the ones that have stood back and watched will ask why haven't we finished it? So, let me answer the question before you ask; it will be because you didn't help. Yes, there are other things that you would rather do than driving to the clubhouse, and spending your time working. I know, because I feel the same way, and I could be doing something else. I've been whining for the past few months about more of our members stepping up and filling the needs of the club to take the load off some of the members that are overloaded so they don't get burnt out. I've realized that I have come to the point

that I will have to step away from some of the areas that I'm currently involved in with the club. It didn't have to happen. We have members that could have taken over some of the duties. I keep saying, "This isn't my club; it's your club." ETGMS isn't operated by just a few members but by the total membership. Everyone should make a conscious effort to take care of the needs of the organization. When something needs to be done, do it. I shouldn't come in to set up for a meeting and find the trash can in the restroom overflowing, because someone didn't empty it. Volunteering is seeing a need and feeling that need. I shouldn't need to take more time to tell our members every little thing that needs to be done or take care of these things that should have been done. This just takes up more of my time. Let's not make our volunteers spend extra time trying to get volunteers to meet our needs. When we let you know we need someone, don't wait to see if somebody else is willing to do the job so you don't have to. I think that is more than enough on that subject.

Dillon Folmar found some more displays for the office. His grandfather had some he was willing to donate. We now have a cabbing machine for the clubhouse lapidary shop. It was purchased at Keith Harmon's biyearly sale. The roofing crew are taking care of the job of replacing the screws on the roof. That will be one more planned repair out of the way. We corrected the problem with the A/C unit. Everything seems to be moving right along.

Kinney Polve



ROCK HUNTING HEADQUARTERS

sponsor two annual rock and swap meetings a year. The first one in April, that we are scheduled to attend, is when it is cooler.

APRIL FIELD TRIP

The April field trip will be to Grave's Mountain in Lincolnton, Georgia, April 27th – 29th. The main materials to be collected will be Rutile, Kyanite, Lazulite and Iridescent Hematite. While the owner of Grave's Mountain allows rockhounding year around, they

PHOTOS FROM THE MARCH FIELD TRIP

By Sarah Miller

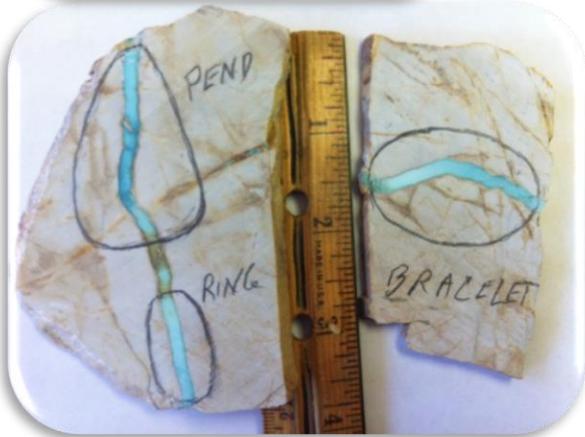


Ribbon Turquoise

by Marcia Graham



Turquoise is one of my favorite stones used in jewelry. At the rock show I noticed one of our guests wearing an unusual pendant. When I asked her about it, she said her husband had made it for her. I met him a few minutes later, and he agreed to cut some cabs for me. This is natural, untreated ribbon turquoise and came from the Royston Mine in Nevada. I took what I had learned from Kinney's silversmithing classes and went to work on this set of jewelry. Untreated turquoise can be fragile, and I actually chipped the stone when trying to set it in the bracelet. To cover the chip, I added the leaves. There was also a flaw in my silversmithing efforts on the ring, so it is also covered by a leaf. Just like in the Garden of Eden, leaves are a great way to cover your sins.



A Trip to Arkansas for Quartz

By Fred Mahaffey

I had the privilege to join some rockhound friends from around the country on a trip up to Mt. Ida, Arkansas earlier in March. Our main goal was to go back to the Wegner Phantom Mine to see if we could finish what we had started last year, and to see if we could rescue a few nicer quartz specimens that we might have missed the first time. Due to the recent rains, the area we intended to hunt was a very deep pond. It turned out that the mine owner had also gone in after our last visit and dug out most of what we were hoping to collect. However, they had brought a lot more tailings up in the tailings pile areas. This was a good thing because we were still able to collect some nice pieces. The trip also had a bonus hunt to a local quarry for



Fred's prize Quartz specimen from the Wegner Mine.

Continued on page 10.

Wavellite, where a local collector (who was a friend of one of the members in our group) showed us where we should be digging to find the better pieces. I was very fortunate to not only find some nice

specimens of Wavellite, but also an extremely nice piece of planerite as well. The rain actually helped us find the Wavellite because it made the green Wavellite stand out vividly against the host rocks.



Just think! If a few more members had just submitted items for the newsletter.

If I don't get 'em,
I can't print 'em.

Cab of the Month



Here are some cabs I completed over the last month. The first picture (*top left*) shows three Queensland agates, that can also be referred to as Waterline Agates due to the straight, parallel bands in the lower-half of each cabochon. The second picture (*top right*) shows a Moctezuma Agate from Mexico in the upper left corner which contains druzy quartz in the center. An unidentified agate in the upper right corner. Also in the lower right corner of the picture is possibly a Laguna Agate. The third picture (*bottom right.*) shows an El Fondo Agate from Argentina in the middle upper part of the picture and two unknown blue agates with druzy quartz in the middle of the cabs on each side. The last picture (*bottom left*) shows an unknown banded agate that displays the phenomenon known as parallax that

creates a rippling effect in the cabochon when light is transmitted through it. The rippling effect is caused by many bands too small to be seen without a powerful microscope that bend the light. I believe that if I had ground the cab to only a couple of millimeters in thickness, the cab would have created an iris effect where transmitted light is diffracted similar to that seen in a diffraction grating.



Terry Roberts

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society Show & SCFMS Convention

May 5th 2018, 10am - 6pm

May 6th 2018, 10am - 5pm

Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

1501 Mac Davis Lane

Lubbock, Texas

TYLER MAKERS FAIRE

We are still in need of volunteers to help out in our booth on April 28th at this event. The only requirements are; you would like to enjoy the day and have fun. Those of us that volunteer every year always have a great time. Signup to help put a smile on a child's face and have a great time while you do it. Contact Fred Mahaffey to be added to the list of volunteers.



NEWSLETTER CONTENT: Please send any original info or articles to be included in the newsletter to the Editor at the address or email listed below by the 10th of the month. Please keep your address, phone and email up-to-date, so that we can get the newsletter to you in a timely manner. Out-of-date information costs the club time and money in returned newsletters. If you need an issue dealt with quickly, don't hesitate to call. AFMS & SCFMS Newsletters will be emailed to members, as to not duplicate that information here, unless it needs to be repeated. Board meeting minutes are not published in the newsletter. If you would like to see a copy, contact an officer on the Board. The information in this newsletter may be reproduced for nonprofit use, as long as credit is given to the source. Thank you, Kinney Polve

Check us out on the web: WWW.ETGMS.COM

THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

Purpose of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society: Is to promote; the study of Geology, fossils and the Lapidary Arts. The public is always invited to attend regular monthly club meetings.

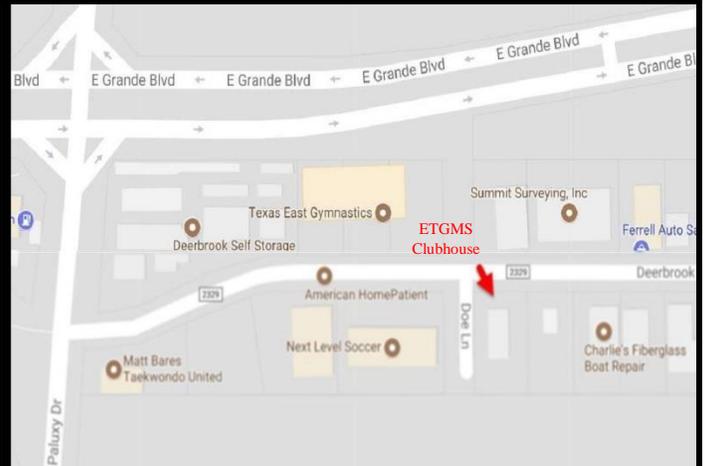
ANNUAL DUES:

Single: \$10.00 - Family: \$20.00

MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN: First Monday of the month unless it's a holiday, then the second Monday, at 6:45 p.m.

WHERE: ETGMS Clubhouse, 2015 Deerbrook Drive, Tyler, Texas



PRESIDENT: Fred Mahaffey
903-978-0268
frederickmahaffey@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Terry Roberts
903-881-5108
terry.roberts45@yahoo.com

TREASURER: Colleen Hayes
903-343-2714
chayestx@suddenlink.net

SECRETARY: Julia Toombs
903-882-5809
jtoombs@suddenlink.net

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: Kelly Ford
903-647-0878
kellyjeanford@gmail.com

CHAIRMAN SHOW: Keith Harmon
903-795-3860
keithharmon19@yahoo.com

WEBMASTER: Holly Ingram
214-794-7736
holly.ingram369@outlook.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Kinney Polve
903-646-3189
rockrosenewsletter@gmail.com

SHOW SCHOOL DAY CHAIRPERSON: Carolyn Davis
214-212-0421
emugems0@gmail.com

CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES

East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
P. O. BOX 132532
Tyler, TX 75713-2532