



# ROCK~N~ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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VOLUME 41

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2015

## Coming Shows, 2015

March 07-08  
Big Spring, TX  
Big Spring Prospectors Club  
Howard Co. Fair Barn

March 07-08  
Robstown, TX  
Gulf coast G&MS  
Regional Fairgrounds

March 07-08  
Pasadena, TX  
Clear Lake G&MS  
Pasadena Convention Ctr.

March 14-15  
Live Oak, TX (San Antonio)  
Southwest G&MS  
Live Oak Civic Ctr.  
8101 Pat Booker RD

April 11-12  
Abilene, TX  
Central Texas G&MS  
Abilene Civic Ctr.  
North 6th & Pine

April 16-19  
Alpine, TX  
Chihuahua G&MS  
Alpine Civic Ctr.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, our annual show is behind us. I want to thank all of you that took part in making this a great show. Attendance was down from last year, but everything still turned out great. This was all do efforts of our members, and the donation of your time and materials. Even though attendance was down from last year, the proceeds from the Silent Auction were almost the same. Next year will be our 20th anniversary show, and I'm getting started early. The Annual Show page on the website has been updated, and there are now a couple of videos that may entice people a little more into attending.

There was a good turnout at the February meeting. And there weren't any glitches this time with the program. I would like to welcome all our new members to ETGMS. As always I encourage you to take part in club activities. Get to know us, and let us know what your interests are. For the March meeting Pete Keiser will give a program on Coprolite.

As I stated last month, I'm ready for a break. I'm on the road getting a dose of medicine for my Rock Fever. And I have it bad, so I might be gone awhile. I just hope the springs hold up on the truck. I'm doing a little gold prospecting at Orogrande, NM, and we all know that gold is heavy. Then it's off to Silver City, NM. I should get there in time to sit in on the Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society's monthly meeting. Who knows, I might even get some leads on some of their secret rock hunting locations. Doesn't look like I'm going to make it to Tucson before their show is over.

Some of our members are going to be busy in March. Gene Goar and Jack Shull are giving a program at the Discovery Science Place's Dinosaur and Fossil Camp. Brad Martin and Sherry Breedlove are giving programs at Douglas Elementary School. We also have the Tyler Mini Makers Faire coming up in April.

We are trying to start a new addition to the Rock-N-Rose Newsletter. Mary Ann Ashcraft is going to start writing biographies on some of our members. So if you get a call from her, give her a little of your time. I know I would like to learn more about some of our members. Kinney Polve

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*'Group Hard at work',  
January 10  
workday at  
Bullard, Texas*



**FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES**

President Kinney Polve called the meeting to order on February 2, 2015, at 6:45 p.m. Two new members introduced themselves. One guest was in attendance.

Minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter. The motion was made by Jack Shull and seconded by Penny Hawkins.

No treasurer's report was presented. All were encouraged to buy door prize tickets and bid on the silent auction specimen of fluorite.

**Annual Show Report:** The attendance for the show was down by about 200. This might be attributed to no other activity going on at the Harvey Convention Center. Dealer feedback indicates that they were happy with the results of the show. They will all be back next year. We do have a waiting list of dealers. Our proceeds from the silent auction were also slightly down.

**Lapidary Arts Sub Group:** There will not be a meeting in February.

**Field Trips:** Fred Mahaffey announced the trip on February 21<sup>st</sup> to the Texas Memorial Museum at the University of Texas in Austin. Sign up or contact Fred if you will attend this trip.

A Trip is planned for October 24<sup>th</sup> to the Austin Gem and Mineral Show. Kinney is planning to enter a showcase in competition at the South Central and American Federation Conventions. If you are interested in entering a case talk to Kinney. He will help with the information you need. There is a list of possible field trips on the website. You need to check to see if the ones you want are on the list. Other suggestions would be appreciated.

**Newsletter:** Susan needs your help to make the newsletter bigger and better. Please email your pictures and articles to Susan and Kinney. Kinney will put them on the webpage.

**Old Business:** The board agreed to move money from the checking account into Certificate of Deposits. The Money Market account will also be moved into Certificate of Deposits.

**New Business:** Jack Shull and Gene Goar will be doing a program on fossils and dinosaurs on March 12 at the Discovery Science Center.

Ashley Green has requested help for the "Starry Night" program at Douglas Elementary School. It will be held from 4:30-6:00 p.m. on February 12<sup>th</sup>. She needs three twenty minute presentations. Let Kinney know if you can help.

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> will be the Mini Makers Fair at the Discovery Science Museum. Sign up to help. Many volunteers will be needed for this all day function.

The Tyler Library display was a success. Kinney hopes that some new volunteers will help on this project next time.

The next meeting will be March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The program on coprolite by Pete Keiser will be presented then instead of tonight. Pete went rock hunting.

A motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Becky Whisenant and seconded by Terry Roberts. Refreshments and door prize drawings followed.

The program was a video detailing the history of the Mayflower Mill in Colorado.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Davis



## POTENTIAL EXPLORATION

Whether you are a seasoned "Rock Hound" or just getting started, one of the best ways to increase your knowledge and collection is to go out and find your treasures. Field trips help increase your chances of finding some really cool stuff. But, it also helps you to understand where it came from and possibly more about the way it was formed. Sometimes you can find your treasures just by walking around and picking them up, walk in a creek, and sometimes you have to move a few rocks or dirt to find the good stuff! Field Trips to museums where there are collections already dug up, picked up, cleaned up and put on display with the history and geographic information are invaluable ways to learn more about fossils and minerals/rocks. I would like to encourage everyone to try to participate in field trips. Below is a list of potential field trips and I would really like to know where or what you are interested in if you have not already told me.

- **Assorted Texas locations:**
  - Baringer Hill Mines (Llano Uplift west of Austin)  
Fluorite, assorted quartz varieties and many other minerals
  - Fossils- North Sulphur River
  - Two possible cement quarry sites
  - Nacogdoches State Park
  - Petrified Wood in several different locations
  - Waco Gem and Mineral Show April 25-26, 2015
  - Austin Gem and Mineral Show Oct 24, 2015
  - Dallas Gem and Mineral Show Nov 2015
- **Ark-La-Tex** Gem and Mineral Show 3rd weekend in August, Bossier, La
- **Arkansas**
  - Quartz crystals and other minerals
  - Diamond State Park for diamonds



I have not heard from anyone interested in going to the Museum in Austin that was planned for the 21st of this month. If you are interested please contact me. Email is the best way, however you may call my phone and leave a clear message if I do not answer. Thanks!

Fred Mahaffey, Fieldtrip Chairman, frederickmahaffey@gmail.com, 903-978-0268 cell

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## SMILE A WHILE—DAFFY NITIONS

- Agate - The door in a fence
  - Cabochon - A small French taxi
  - Faceting - A complex way to ruin a good jewel
  - Facet - Australians' answer to a water tap Field Trip - When you fall down outside
  - Findings - Stuff you find!
  - Flint knapping - Sleepy stone
  - Fossils - People or social security
  - Garnet - Something you catch a long fish In
- Via StrataGems, 6/13; via Golden Spike News, via SCFMS Newsletter, Jan/Feb 2015



PUT THE FUN BACK BY BILL BURNS

According to Webster’s Dictionary, a hobby is an activity or interest that is undertaken for pleasure or relaxation in one’s spare time. I am certain that is why so many of us become interested in this hobby. It is exciting to go on field trips and find beautiful gems and minerals. What a joy it is to cut a slag and see the beautiful colors and designs, or to clean a mineral and view nature’s perfection, or to discover a good fossil specimen. Then taking these prizes to a club meeting or a show to share with others brings even more satisfaction.

Gem and mineral collecting is versatile; a person can enjoy it out on the desert, in a shop, at a society meeting, or at a show. But we have to become involved to gain the pleasure that we are seeking. People can not receive gratification from organizations unless they participate. The ninety year old man could not have enjoyed the field trip if he had not attended it.

We have a great hobby-let’s put the fun back into it. Get a little cab making going; get a little silversmithing started; get a little faceting done, get into rockhounding, WE’RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT! (from Cobb-L-Stones, 10-95, via SCFMS Newsletter< Nov 1998; Via SCFMS Newsletter Jan/Feb 2015)

**ROCKY ROAD WORDSEEK**

**BY JZ & DZ**

S	Q	I	R	P	F	E	L	D	S	P	A	R	S	J	M	A	Z
F	O	L	J	H	D	X	G	A	F	C	U	R	A	N	I	U	M
L	L	P	A	A	A	R	Q	T	V	B	G	O	L	D	B	T	W
I	V	U	J	R	S	U	X	Z	Y	A	H	P	A	C	O	K	L
N	O	I	O	U	A	P	L	Y	R	E	F	A	S	D	K	O	M
T	P	B	E	R	Y	L	E	N	Q	S	G	L	I	O	N	E	D
S	M	I	T	H	I	T	E	R	B	A	F	R	O	Y	O	T	N
Z	E	Z	A	P	O	T	I	K	T	T	E	L	X	W	M	I	O
L	A	N	C	D	M	P	E	E	C	P	U	M	I	C	E	N	M
A	E	Z	I	E	Y	W	H	I	M	O	Q	P	D	M	N	A	A
E	O	P	L	R	L	R	S	I	T	I	R	D	E	E	L	R	I
T	E	T	I	S	O	R	H	C	O	D	O	H	R	I	G	G	D
I	F	T	S	D	G	E	G	H	I	L	H	Q	S	E	U	L	C
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A	T	Z	E	N	I	L	A	M	R	U	O	T	C	R	P	Q	T
H	I	C	S	Z	L	G	I	E	E	F	I	L	E	P	A	A	R
E	L	R	I	I	I	A	E	T	I	T	A	M	E	H	T	M	I
S	O	Y	O	E	L	R	K	A	E	T	E	R	B	O	I	E	N
E	E	S	U	L	M	V	C	M	C	M	C	N	I	Z	T	E	E
T	Z	T	Q	M	O	U	E	O	P	I	S	L	O	E	E	N	S
I	L	A	R	G	N	E	S	R	N	G	M	E	T	T	T	O	A
T	R	L	U	A	O	O	A	P	O	O	E	E	I	I	I	T	P
E	T	S	T	L	L	N	R	H	Y	M	R	X	T	C	N	S	P
N	H	I	X	E	Y	E	L	I	S	G	U	H	E	L	A	E	H
G	M	U	D	N	U	R	O	C	G	A	R	T	O	A	Y	M	I
A	G	L	N	A	M	L	I	O	B	O	Y	G	F	C	K	I	R
M	H	Z	P	A	E	T	I	N	E	D	B	Y	L	O	M	L	E

- \_\_AGATE
- \_\_APATITE
- \_\_ARGENITE
- \_\_BAUXITE
- \_\_BERYL
- \_\_BIOTITE
- \_\_BOG IRON
- \_\_BORAX
- \_\_CALCITE
- \_\_CITRINE
- \_\_COAL
- \_\_COPPER
- \_\_CORUNDUM
- \_\_CRYSTAL
- \_\_DIAMOND
- \_\_DIOPTASE
- \_\_EMERALD
- \_\_EPIDOTE
- \_\_FELDSPAR
- \_\_FLINT
- \_\_FLUORITE
- \_\_FOSSIL
- \_\_GALENA
- \_\_GARNET
- \_\_GOLD
- \_\_GRANITE
- \_\_GYPSUM
- \_\_HALITE
- \_\_HEMATITE
- \_\_JADE
- \_\_JASPER
- \_\_KYANITE
- \_\_LAVA FLOW
- \_\_LEAD
- \_\_LEPIDOLITE
- \_\_LIMESTONE
- \_\_MAGNETITE
- \_\_METAMORPHIC
- \_\_MICA
- \_\_MOLYBDENITE
- \_\_ONYX
- \_\_OPAL
- \_\_OPHIOLITE
- \_\_OXIDE
- \_\_PERIDOT
- \_\_PUMICE
- \_\_PYRITE
- \_\_QUARTZ
- \_\_REALGAR
- \_\_RHODOCHROSITE
- \_\_ROCK
- \_\_RUBY
- \_\_SAPPHIRE
- \_\_SILICATE
- \_\_SILVER
- \_\_SMITHITE
- \_\_TALC
- \_\_TOPAZ
- \_\_TOURMALINE
- \_\_TURQUOISE
- \_\_URANIUM
- \_\_ZEOLITE
- \_\_ZINC
- \_\_ZIRCON

Contributed by  
Keith Harmon



# Golden Dreams

**By Kinney Polve –  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society**

**With this adventure we start on the road,  
And that's where the problem started to unfold.  
Our first destination, we had planned ahead,  
It was a very likely spot for a geode bed.  
After days of travel we arrived at the place,  
Unloaded our gear and set up a base.  
We built a campfire and went over our plans,  
Left out the next morning with tools in our hands.  
Heading into the field like we were in a race,  
It wasn't very long till we slowed down our pace.  
Now at the right spot, I started to dig,  
Opened a hole that was really quite big.  
I took out my flashlight and climbed down inside,  
And when I looked around I just about died.  
It looked like gold covering all of the sides,  
All I could think is the Lord always provides.  
It was all gold, so I loaded the truck,  
There was so much weight that I almost got stuck.  
I headed for home and was almost there,  
I heard a loud noise blasting out from somewhere.  
I awoke at home, laying there in the bed,  
It was all just a dream, made up in my head.**



### SWEET SUCCESS

Nine educational groups from the Tyler area participated in this year's school day of the annual gemstone & jewelry show. Approximately 400 students, teachers and families attended on Friday, in addition to regular admissions.

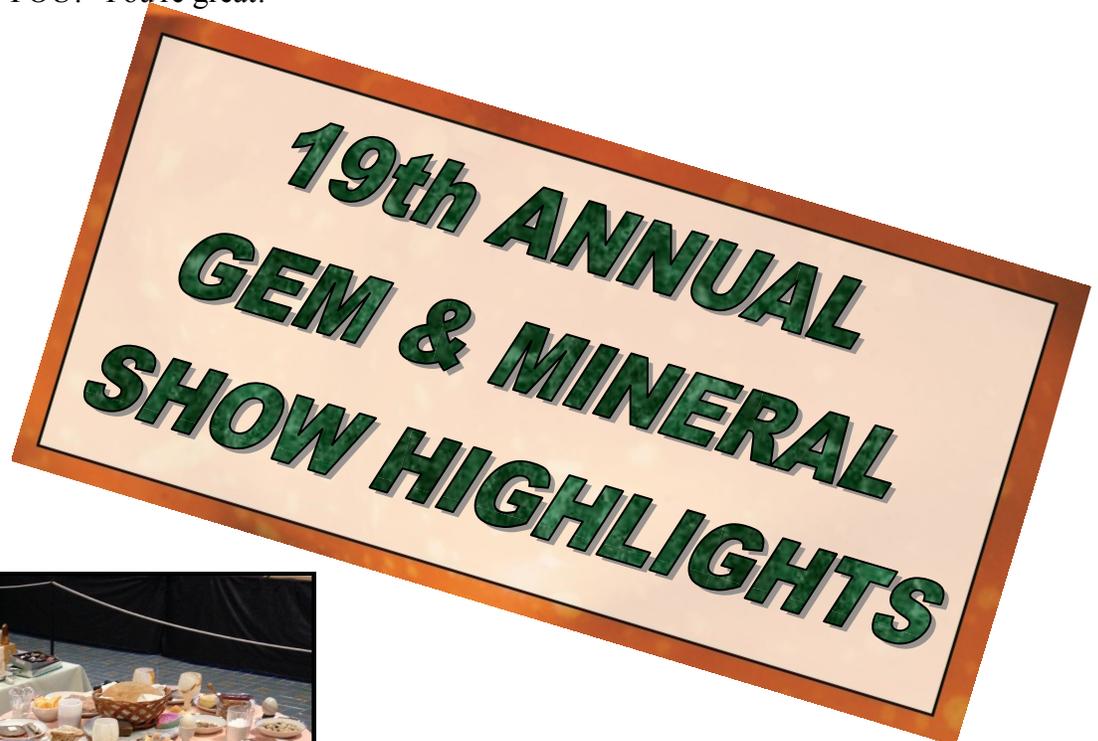
Several club members & dealers presented demonstrations for the visitors including wire wrapping, cabbing, hands-on large rock table, fossil exhibit, gold panning, the rock food table, display cases, fluorescent room, gem faceting and coprolite and amber learning stops.

Lots of favorable feedback was received and a good time was had by all who attended the school day. To all the members who contributed to the dinner dealer, did a display case, gave talks to the students, escorted groups or just helped out: THANK YOU! You're great!

Becky Whisenant



*The 'fruit and desert' portion of the Rock Food Table, looks good enough to eat!*



*The Rock Food Table formerly presented by Bill and Lois Patillo, courtesy of Keith Harmon is a huge attraction enjoyed by all. Did you identify the 'rock food' with an expiration date?*



# A Fossilizing Good Time



*At top, Jack Shull and Gene Goar show off their fossil knowledge at one of the education stations on Friday during the Student Day of the show. Inset middle, a large ammonite specimen sliced in half to show the multi-chambered details. Bottom right, Keith Harmon talks 'Rock Food' to a private school group while filmed for a television segment by a cameraman from Tyler's KFXK Fox Channel 51.*





# Fun For Everyone

Photos on this page: Of the many education stations was the 'hands-on' large rock table pictured top right with a group of students from St. Gregory Cathedral School in Tyler. Middle right, shows glowing detail from one of the fluorescent mineral display cases. Bottom right, Lani Lanchester tours a group through the fluorescent mineral display room as Sherry Breedlove explains the effects of short and long wave light on mineral specimens. Top left, Vicky Polve and Becky Whisenant are all smiles as they pose in front of member display cases at the show. Bottom left, gold panning is a 'heavy subject' as demonstrated by Don Brizendiine to an intensely interested group of students from The Brook Hill School in Bullard. Photos courtesy of Kinney Polve and Becky Whisenant.





*At top, Jim Marler gives a fascinating' explanation about turning a marble into a 'real gem'. Below, a group of East Texas Gem & Mineral Society members ready to tour and demonstrate, pose on 'Student Day' of the 19th Annual Gem and Mineral Show.*

*In front from left, Susan Burch demonstrating wire-wrapping, Laurel Lanchester, Terry Roberts demonstrating cabbing; middle row, Willow Lanchester, Carolyn Davis, Elsa Jerger, Lani Lanchester; and in back, Brad Martin.*





# A 'Fare' Minded Group and Rock Soup

The Dealer's Dinner held on Friday evening was a much needed respite from a busy day. Top and middle left show the diners enjoying conversation and fare provided by members of the East Texas Gem and Mineral Society. Bottom left is a long shot of the main room of the show, including the silent auction table, several of our dealer's tables and a big attraction in Keith Harmon's geode cracking station. Top right, an amazing 'Batman' shaped amethyst geode opened at the show. Bottom right, Terry Roberts demonstrates cabbing using a machine with diamond encrusted polishing wheels to a group of students from The Brook Hill School in Bullard. Photos courtesy of Wanda Reynolds, Kinney Polve and Becky Whisenant.





## BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

### WINDING JUMP RINGS

Whenever you need a few jump rings the same size, it's easy to grab a round rod and wind as many as you need. But when you need a lot of them, some form of winder saves a lot of time. A variable speed screw gun makes quick work of winding the coils. Screw guns are quite inexpensive at discount stores and are remarkably handy for odd jobs in the shop and around the house.

To wind a coil, just bend a right angle on the end of the wire about a half inch long and insert this into the screw gun chuck. Then wind slowly, keeping a tight coil. I like to rest the end of the mandrel on the edge of the table or bench pin. Finally, one note of caution. If you are winding an entire length of wire, be careful as you get near the end of the wire. If the end passes under your thumb, it can cause a nasty scratch or cut.



### TOUCHING UP A BEZEL

Pumice wheels are good for touching up a bezel after you've set the stone. The hardness is about 6 on the Moh's scale, less hard than quartz, so it shouldn't scratch any of your agates or jaspers. However, I'd avoid or be real careful of using pumice near the softer stones like turquoise, amber, howelite, etc.

If you're unsure about the hardness of your wheels, test them on a piece of glass. Glass is about 5 ½ on the Moh's scale, softer than quartz. So if the wheel doesn't harm glass, it's safe for use on the quartzes and harder stones.

My preference is the one inch diameter ones such as those shown at [riogrande.com/Product/AdvantEdge-Pumice-Wheels-Medium/332722?pos=2](http://riogrande.com/Product/AdvantEdge-Pumice-Wheels-Medium/332722?pos=2)

Attribution to be included with each publication:

'Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon'

and if you publish as a pdf, I'd appreciate 'Amazon' to be a live link to [www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/](http://www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/)



Check us out on the web: [WWW.ETGMS.COM](http://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 all club meetings.

MONTHLY MEETING:

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

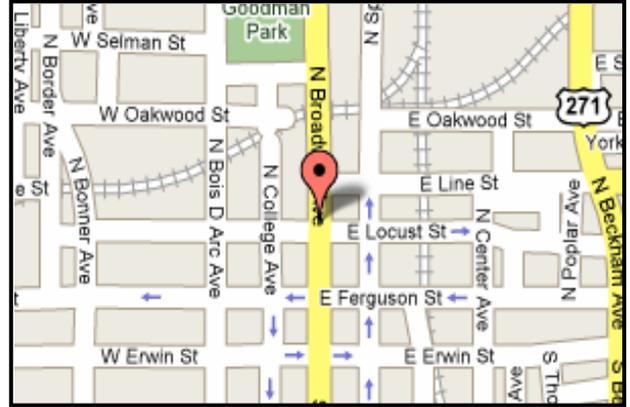
WHERE:

The Discovery Science Place  
308 N. Broadway  
Tyler, Texas

ANNUAL DUES:

- Adults: \$10.00
- Juniors: \$2.50 with adult membership
- Family: \$20

NOTE TO EDITORS: Feel free to use contents for non-profit newsletters. Give credit when and where due.



NEWSLETTER CONTENT: Please send any info or articles to be included in the newsletter to the Editor at the address or email listed below by the 15th of the month. Please, keep your address, phone and email information 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, as that is the best way to reach me.  
Thank you... Susan Burch

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