



ROCK-N-ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY



PAGE 1

VOLUME 38

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 6

JUNE 2012

Coming Shows, 2012

Aug. 11 - 12
BATON ROUGE, LA
Baton Rouge G&MS
Fraternal Order of Police

Aug. 18 - 19
BOSSIER CITY, LA
Ark-La-Tex G&MS
Bossier City Civic Ctr.

Aug. 25 - 26
JASPER, TX
SCMFS & Pine Country
G&MS
Events Ctr.

Sep. 01 - 02
ARLINGTON, TX
Arlington G&MS
Arlington Conv. Ctr.

Oct. 06 - 07
TEMPLE, TX
Tri-City G&MS
Mayborn Civic Ctr.

Oct. 19 - 21
VICTORIA, TX
Victoria G&MS
Community Ctr.
2905 E. North St.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I don't have a lot of time or much to say this month so my note here is short. Please fill out and send in the attached club membership form so we can update our club mailing list. I'll also have copies of the form at the July 2nd. club meeting for those who forget. Mail them in, or send the information by e-mail to: donald1427@hotmail.com.

As soon as we get the list compiled, we will have copies of the list at the club meetings. That's it for this month. Happy collecting and be safe. Don C.



JULY MEETING PROGRAM

The July 2nd club meeting program will be a show and tell night. Everyone please bring a item to the meeting that you have made, purchased, or collected and tell us all about it. If you have something interesting that you want identified, please bring it and we will try our best to figure out what it is.



AFMS ENDOWMENT FUND RAFFLE

Pictured here are two of the prizes in the AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle. There are 40 prizes that were donated for the raffle. You can read the updates about the raffle on page 3 of this issue of the Rock N Rose newsletter or go to the amfed.org website to see all 40 prizes.

CabKng 6V 3 Machine



4" Amethyst Sphere



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2. Meeting minutes/Membership
3. SCFMS show/AFMS raffle
4. Junior Activities/Tears/Perlite
5. Tucson
6. Cutters competition
7. A Rockhound poem/Tip
8. Officers and directions



JUNE MEETING MINUTES

Don Campbell called to order the June meeting of the East Texas Gem and Mineral Society. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the May meeting as printed in the last newsletter, motion was seconded and passed. There was no treasurer's report given this month. Don then recognized a new member, Elizabeth Tullis and guests, Elizabeth Earle and her daughters, Lydia and Leslie. Old business included a reminder to fill out the signup sheet with all your current information for an updated membership roster. Several ongoing projects with the Discovery Science Place are in progress: The seashell identification project is almost complete and the display case project will begin in a few weeks.

New business includes...no field trips are planned until this fall when the weather cools. Anyone who wishes to organize a field trip please let Don know. Several club members are going to check out the Waco area for future fossil collecting trips.

Laura Wilson and Tom Stringfellow are planning to put together a facebook page for the club.

After break, Don Campbell presented the meeting program: Texas Igneous Rocks, and included a comprehensive printed identification handout.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Colleen Hayes
Acting Secretary



MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you have not already done so, please take a moment to fill out the form below and return it to Don Campbell, or to the Club's address on the back page of this newsletter. Thank you for taking the time to update your membership with the club.

**EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM**



Name(s): _____ Anniversary _____ Birth Date: _____ Adult: ___ Jr. ___

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Newsletter via e-mail? Y ___ N ___

Special Interest in the hobby: _____ Date Joined: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone or Cell: _____ Dues Paid:\$ _____



HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES
by Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS
Junior Activities Chair
An Update on Revisions to Our Badge Program

As noted in previous articles, I've been working this past year on five new units to add to our Future Rockhounds of American Badge Program. I'm glad to report those are done, the new badges have been designed, and the order has been sent to our badge manufacturer, A-B Emblem in North Carolina. I anticipate having the badges in-hand to be able to start awarding to kids by the end of February. In the meantime, I've been going back over all the previous fifteen units, inserting cross-references to the new units, checking any references to web sites to make sure they're still active, and adding additional activities and little tweaks and adjustments here and there, largely in response to great suggestions that have been sent in over the years from local juniors leaders. My target date to have all tribute, is the end of February. Watch in next month's newsletter, when we'll hopefully be hitting the "Go!" button.

Until then-have fun in the New Year! From AFMS Newsletter Feb. 2012; via SCFMS 03-04/2012.



APACHE TEARS
By George Campbell

Just outside of the town of Superior, which is about 80 miles from Phoenix, in Pinal County, Arizona, is a cliff, which has as its name Apache Leap. As the story goes, the local Apache Indians were being pursued by another warlike tribe. They were chased to the edge of the cliff and, rather than be captured, they rode their horses right over the edge and fell to their deaths. Their wives and families cried and cried and their tears were turned into those obsidian nodules we now call Apache Tears.



from Rocks & Fossils Newsgroup via SCFMS 03-04/2012.



THE POPCORN MINERAL...!!



Perlite, the unique, so-called popcorn mineral, is one of the most surprising actors of the mineral kingdom.

Being a highly hydrated variety of lava, it explodes with almost explosive force when brought quickly under high temperatures between 1600 and 1700 degrees. It is found in a number of localities in our western mountains, but some of the best deposits are located near Lovelock, Nevada and Grants, New Mexico. A carload of crushed, when expanded, produces about 20 carloads of plaster-making aggregate, and a cubic foot of the expanded pellets may weigh as little as two pounds.

All photos via the Internet.

via SCFMS 03-04/2012.



TUCSON: HEAVEN, HAVEN OR HADES

By: Josie Middleton

Well folks, I happen to be of the opinion that this is a truism for all that attend. A place of beauty, fraud, and just wonderment that the earth can hold any and all of these for you! That unless you have the wherewithal to be at a mine, hopefully, you may be the one of the select few who will ever see that one item. To also gain the opportunities to even purchase such a part of that history. People gainsay and beleaguer this time spent, always hunting, roaming and gathering. It sounds all so rather, primordial. Then of course, you have the fraudsters, who would give all the others of honest value, a run for their money, literally. This is where the love of history, of geography, of learning and languages, all become one!

Now I am only a mineral collector, who happens to enjoy the small stuff. I don't really notice those massive pieces, but the sizes of some of those minerals defy comprehension. The amount of effort, cost, and yes, some human toll, which takes place to bring such items for your viewing pleasure and to bring the right buyer, that is, AWESOME!!!

Sometimes, my pint size frame was somewhat dwarfed, again literally, by the size of the tent, and the occupants! There were so many outlying shows, the web has not necessarily gotten bigger but it is more widespread. You literally can't walk every show in a day's time unless you have the eye for only one type of item and resist temptation to be side tracked, in other words, focus. I was not surprised by the amount of persons there whom I actually knew or had known at one point or other! It is really a small community, where one loves to share the knowledge and the wealth in one form or fashion. So in conclusion, for me it was all the above title, which to me, is, was, and will, always be. Via SCFMS 03-04/2012.





TO A CUTTERS COMPETITION
Submitted by Edward Clay

The Houston Gem and Mineral Society is offering a cutters competition, Open to all cutters. It will be a judged competition based on Role Judging Guidelines. First Prize will be \$200; Second Prize is \$100. The entries are due no later than September 15th

The materials to be cut are Chrysoprase, Imperial Jasper (red or green) and (Labradorite or Spectrolite) The cuts will consist of: A pair cut to match The H.G.M.S. lapidary sections Template #4, the asymmetrical tear-drop shape marked 15 MM in dimension

(the two should be cut mirror image from each other). A single stone to match the cushioned (pillowed) triangle 20 MM on Template #4. A single stone cut to match the Marquise cut on Template #1 marked 30 MM. The complete entry will consist of 4 stones cut in 3 shapes as listed above.

The Templates can be ordered from the H.G.M.S. website: <http://www.hgms.org>

Send entries plus a \$15 entry fee and \$6 for return postage to

Phyllis George.

22407 Park Point Dr.

Katy TX. 77450

Checks should be made out to H.G.M.S lapidary Section. The entries and awards will be shown at the H.G.M.S. show of 2012 and displayed through the show starting Nov 9th through the 11th. They will be returned within three weeks after the show.

THE FOLLOWING POINT FORMULA WILL BE USED FOR EVALUATING ALL SUBMITTED STONES.

CHOICE OF MATERIAL:

Quality of stone, proper orientation placement of pattern.....15 Points

SANDING AND GRINDING:

No flat spots, scratches, sufficient sanding, etc.....25 Points

POLISH:

High luster, water glass finish.....30 Points

SYMMETRY:

Dome, outline, curvature.....15 Points

Back Bevel even and approximately 45 degree.....5 Points

Bezel edge if present even.....5 Points

SIZE:

Accuracy of template size.....5 points

A back bevel is required on all submitted stones. A bezel edge is allowed and not required but must be even and consistently cut if present. The stones must fit the template used without being too large or too loose when finished polished. Judging will be done with the aid of a 10x Jewelers Loupe.

Questions contact Edward Clay at: edlapidary@gmail.com

From SCFMS 03-04/2012.



A ROCKHOUND

Submitted by: Bill Pattillo

I think that there shall never be
 An ignoramus just like me
 Who roams the hills throughout the day
 To pick up rocks that do not pay
 For this one thing I've been told
 I take the rocks and leave the gold.
 O'er deserts wild or mountains blue
 I search for rocks of varied hue
 A hundred pounds or more I pack
 With blistered feet and aching back
 And after this is said and done
 I cannot name a single one.
 I pick up rocks where e're I go
 The reason why I do not know
 Rocks are found by fools like me
 Where God intended them to be.



From the SCFMS Newsletter, May-June, 2002; via SCFMS 03-04/2012



TUMBLER TIP by Don Shurtz

Although my tumbled rocks look ok after the polish stage. I was not pleased with the results I was getting with the clean and burnish stage. I had been using Ivory Snow Flakes in the final runs, so as an experiment, I added a dollop of car wax. The rocks came out cleaner, and had a really bright finish. I have tried this on several batches, and it has helped every time. For the record, I used about two teaspoons of Turtle Car Wax (cream, not liquid) in my 5-pound tumbler.

From Chips & Chatter, 2003; via SCFMS 03-04/2012

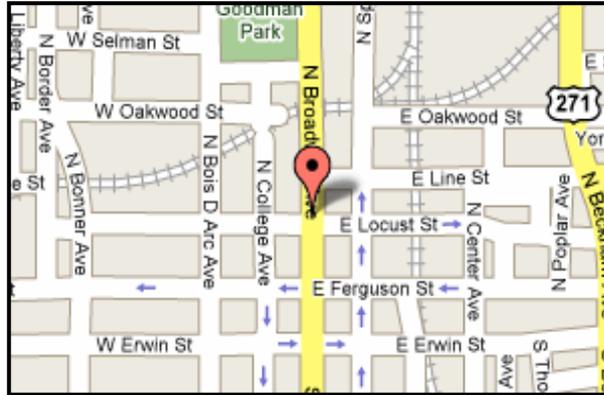


NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Just a reminder that all items to be included in the newsletter must be received by the 15th of each month for that month's issue. I ask that you send text, pasted within the body of the email or in an attached document. This is so that I can copy and paste, as retyping should be unnecessary. Only pictures should be sent in JPG format. The newsletter takes several hours to complete, so I appreciate receiving the info in a manner that is easy to use, and by deadline. Thank you for your understanding. If anyone wishes to contact me, I only check the club email around the deadline. If you'd like a timely answer, please contact by phone at (936) 615-5397, and I will return your call as soon as possible. Thank you for allowing me to be your editor. Susan

CLUB OFFICERS

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| PRESIDENT: | Don Campbell 3319 Omega Dr. Tyler, TX 75701 | 903-520-4085 |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Becky Whisenant 3786 CR. 2107 Rusk, TX 75785 | 903-795-3652 |
| TREASURER: | Jeri Kitchens 2533 Chelsea Dr. Tyler, TX 75701 | 903-245-8822 |
| SECRETARY: | Laura Wilson 1337 CR 3402 Bullard, TX 75757 | 903-521-8292 |
| MEETING PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: | Don Campbell 3319 Omega Dr. Tyler, TX 75701 | 903-566-6061 |
| FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: | Your name could be HERE!!! Volunteer Today! | |
| SHOW CHAIRMAN: | Keith Harmon 8316 Oxford St. Tyler, TX 75703 | 903-581-4068 |
| CLUB ADDRESS FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES: | East Texas Gem & Mineral Society P. O. BOX 132532 Tyler, TX 75713-2532 | |



THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY MEETS ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, UNLESS THAT DAY IS A HOLIDAY, THEN THE MEETING IS MOVED TO THE SECOND MONDAY. WE MEET AT THE DISCOVERY SCIENCE PLACE, 308 NORTH BROADWAY, JUST NORTH OF DOWNTOWN TYLER, TEXAS. MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6:45 P.M.

NOTE TO EDITORS

Feel free to use contents and graphics for non-profit newsletters. Give credit when and where due.

Purpose of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society

Is to promote the study of geology, mineralogy, fossils and the lapidary arts. The public is always invited to attend all club meetings.

Annual dues are \$10.00 for adults and \$2.50 for juniors.

Please send any info or articles to be included in the newsletter to the Editor 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.

Thank you... SB



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