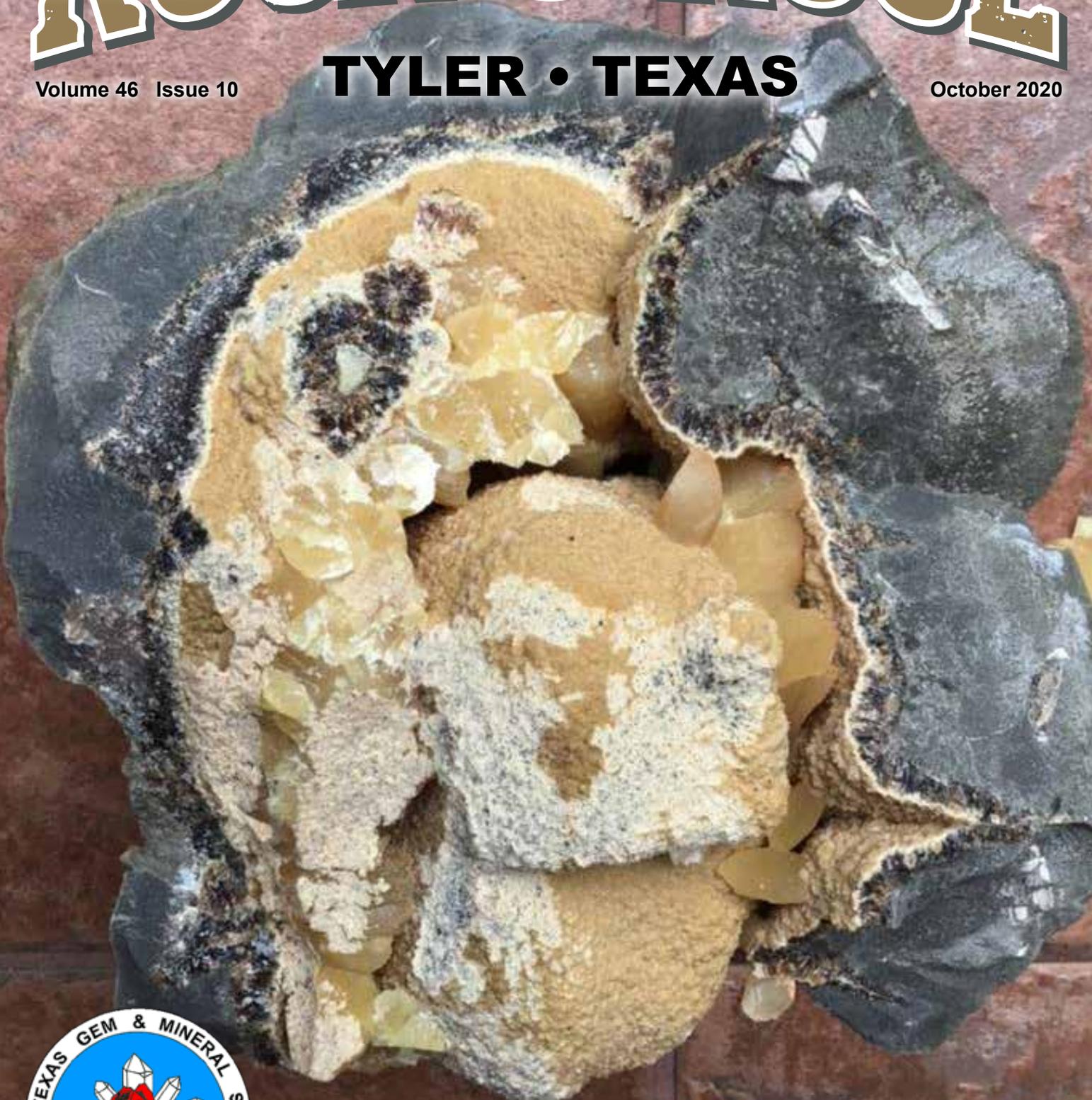


# ROCK N ROSE

Volume 46 Issue 10

**TYLER • TEXAS**

October 2020



Cover Photo: Barbara Braun

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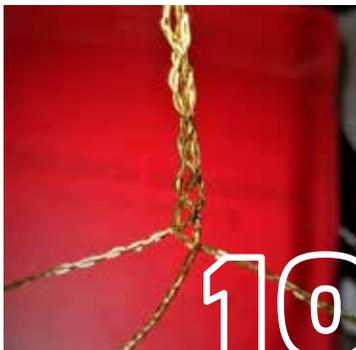
## ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

January 22 - 24, 2021  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society  
Texas Rose Garden Center  
Tyler, Texas

Check for cancellations  
prior to attending



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#### Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*David Russ*

The October general meeting was the annual ETGMS auction. Over 25 attended and it was a fun event that made some money for the club. I'm hoping that we are on the verge of a comeback.

Several subgroups are meeting this month and I have the fossil group scheduled for the 20th. I will be sharing my recent summer finds of the Cretaceous formations around Lake Texoma.

Please be thinking about volunteering some time for the upcoming January annual show.

David

## ROCKHOUND OF THE MONTH

Ed Grounds September 2020 • Jerry Sudderth October 2020

*By Julia Toombs*

Even though the Club has not been having meetings, some of its members have still been active. The Board of Directors would like to recognize two members who have helped us out.

**We selected Ed Grounds for the month of September.**

He helped Margaret Kilanski clean up some items for the Silent Auctions, helped with Clubhouse yard work, helped with the container set-up, and was at the workdays.

**We selected Jerry Sudderth for the month of October.**

He helped Julia Toombs with a project, helped with the container set-up, did some wood repairs to and painting of display cabinets for the Clubhouse, and was at the workdays.

Well done Gentlemen!!

# ETGMS Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2020

The East Texas Gem and Mineral Society met for its first monthly meeting since March 2020, due to COVID-19. President David Russ called the meeting to order at 6:45pm. Twenty-four members were present including three new members. All introduced themselves and gave their interests. David stated that the business meeting would be short so that we could proceed with the live auction.

1. Rockhound of the Month certificates were presented to Ed Grounds for September and Jerry Sudderth for October.
2. We are in need of a Gemology sub-group chairperson.
3. The Mineral sub-group will meet October 13 at 6:30 to discuss fluorite.
4. The Fossil sub-group will meet October 20 at 6:30.
5. Treasurer Marcia Graham gave the report on the bank accounts.  
Four vendors have committed to the show with booth payments.
6. Anyone who would like to volunteer for the Annual Show should let Margaret know so she can get your name on the right sheet.

New business:

Zach Weenink has a booth at Canton Trade Days to display and sell his minerals, etc.

The business meeting was adjourned at 6:57pm.  
We started the auction immediately after.

There was no break for food and beverage as there was none out.  
Our next meeting is scheduled for November 2 at 6:45pm.

Submitted by: Julia Toombs, Secretary

October 6 – The auction earned the club \$551.52. There were \$124 in donations.

# SOUTH DAKOTA RATTLE ROCKS

By Terry Roberts

During a recent gathering of some club members to clean up and sort the large volume of equipment, rocks, and other items that have been donated to the club, we came across a box of small quartz nodules that no one knew anything about. There were about 15 lbs. of the nodules, but with no external features or other characteristics that would make them desirable for display or other uses, we were at a loss on what to do with them.

I took one home to cut on my trim saw to see what the interior would look like. I was pleasantly surprised to see that it was hollow and had snowball-like structures and tiny drusy quartz crystals lining the walls. Since it was shown they have desirable qualities, we next had to find out who donated them and see if they had a name for them.

I contacted Keith Harmon as the most likely person with this information. He said that he and his wife Charlotte had collected them many years ago in the South Dakota Bad Lands. They are called South Dakota rattle rocks because some will rattle when shaken due to some broken crystals inside.

Julia brought me some more nodules to cut to see if any of them had these same features or would rattle. On the negative side, none of the nodules I had would rattle, but on the positive side, only two of the nodules were solid and the rest had the same internal features I found previously. I polished the rind of several of the half-nodules and took pictures of them to share with the club. Figure 1 shows the external features of the half-nodule and Figure 2 shows the interior hollow with the small spheres and tiny drusy quartz crystals.



Figure 1



Figure 2

# ROCK FOOD TABLE DISCOVERY

By Julia Toombs

The first time I saw the Rock Food Table I was fascinated. I had taken my camera, snapped many pictures and, wondering what some of the items were made of, asked the attendant.

The person did not know. While browsing the rest of the show, I considered joining ETGMS. I thought I was nearing retirement, would finally have the time, and joined before leaving. March 2, 2016 was my last day, and I set out to learn about geology.

At the 2017 show, I helped Kinney and Vicky Polve put the Rock Food Table display together and had a lot of fun. I kept asking what items were made of. If I guessed something correctly excitement set in. Asking Kinney why there was no list of materials, he said it would take a long

time to make one. Little did I know there was one already made up. Keep reading.

One of the things that arrived at the clubhouse, after Kinney's retirement, was a steno book in a plastic bag. It had FOOD TABLE on the cover, with some minor water damage. On opening, I found that Lois Pattillo had made an entry for every food item donated, when, by whom, and their address. In some places it said where it was found and what it was made of. The first showing of the Table was March 1983. This was a labor of love.

I decided that what I had found was priceless and deserved a place in the club's history collection but did not want it separated from the table. I wanted the book to go along when it traveled to other shows so if

someone asked the same question, maybe it could be answered. I decided to type up its contents. It took many hours over 3 days as Lois's handwriting was tiny, and it required a magnifier to read it.

Though it is all quite interesting, there are not as many material entries, as desired. I laughed upon discovering the most popular item is a potato at 36 entries, including mashed. The egg donations come in at 23. When finished, there were nearly 400 donations. I know not all items are still with the collection because there are notes that mention, for example, an item was returned to an estate after a death. Her records are unbelievably detailed.

I can see now what Kinney meant. Even with some items listing their makeup, in its present form, it would be difficult to answer that question. I need to go back thru the book and categorize. If COVID does not back off soon, I guess the time will be there.

There is also a photograph of the table as it appeared in September 1983 when it went to the Houston, Texas, show. It traveled 420 miles round trip. At 19 cents a mile, it cost \$79.80 for gas. Meals cost \$50 over three days.

I also found a typed list of "Shows Since Inception." It traveled to 47 places. Many were visited more than once, and Lois kept track. It was at the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Show 27 times, Jackson, Mississippi, 23, Montgomery, Alabama, 22, San Antonio, Texas, 21, and Houston, Texas, 20 times. Its furthest destination was Billings, Montana, at 3,256 miles round trip and only once. This list was as of February 17, 2010, and until then the Table had traveled 303,047 miles.

If you have not read the table's history on the website, please do.

GILIBERRIES	CLAY & BIRDIE WATERS			
JELLY BEANS	JIMMY DAVIS		DEC '87	Azurite
JELLY BEANS				QUARTZ - Alabama
HOAGIE BUN				Agate
BROWN RICE	DON & HOLLIS O'NEILL (Identified by a geologist ??)			FOSSIL - Austin, Tx
SCRAMBLED EGGS	DALTON & CONNIE PRINCE			SULFUR
2 HOT GREEN PEPPERS	PATTILLO			SLUG PEARLS
HOMINY FOR PLATE	PATTILLO			
RED ANT	DOUG & P.J. GREEN		NOV '91	
ENGLISH PEAS	PATTILLO			cheap JADE beads
BUBBLE GUM	PATTILLO			AGATE
WHITE BEANS	PATTILLO			for plate
DOG	RITA SHEALER - AWARD	84-'85		GCGMS Rockhound Female of Year
DOG'S BONE				HORSE ANKLE
DOGGIE DOO	HANK BRENNERT			
DOGGIE DOO	DON & HOLLIS O'NEILL			COPRALITE
CRITTER SPIDER	PATTILLO			MADE BY JENNI RIDDLES - AGE 7
CANDLES	DON & WANDA FUNK			SELENITE
GEM TREE	JOHN & DOROTHY Sanders		MAT '86	OKLA ROSE
FRENCH BREAD	R.W. TIMME		SEPT '83	PETRIFIED WALNUT WOOD
PATE - MEAT LOAF - IN CRUST	ALLEN & SUZANNE WILLIAMSON			
3 SLICES RARE BEEF ROAST				
SLAB BACON W/ KNIFE CUT	RAY & SHERRY CENEY		OCT '81	
BABY CARROTS	CLAY & BIRDIE WATERS			
WHITISH SWEET POTATO				PETRIFIED PALM WOOD
SWEET POTATO	JAMES & ELSIE ENGELING			ALABASTER
3 SLICES BACON	DON & WANDA FUNK			
3 FRIED EGGS	DON & WANDA FUNK			
BLACK BOTTOM PIE	DORIS SANTEE		MARCH '86	
SUICE TOAST	BILL BLUNTZER			
DIRTY LOOKING POTATO				GASROLITHS - DINO GIZZARD BONES
LINER - 2	DON & MARY CAPPS			CALOTITE
DISH CAULIFLOWER	A.B. & GLADYS CROSS			
CANDY BOX	PATTILLO			JADE - bought in California
GREEN GRAPES	PATTILLO			HONEYCOMB CORAL
ALL HONEY	PATTILLO			
MARBLE CHEESE BOARD	HARRY & BETTY JENNINGS	APR '84		WHITE SAND - N. Mex
CRAM	PATTILLO			

# Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

I finished three new cabs from some slabs of Island Agate from Indonesia that a friend sent me several months ago. The slabs from these agate nodules tend to be larger than I usually work with when making cabs, but some of them are colorful enough to make the work worthwhile. These are all freeform cabs so that there is a minimum of material removed from each slab. Although the colors may vary in each slab,



most of them have a nice banded pattern as seen below. The cabs in Figures one and three appear darker in reflected light and much of their beauty is lost. I decided to show these two cabs in transmitted light to better show their colors and beauty. Each cab is shown in order from largest to smallest.

I decided to include a photograph of a beautiful bouquet agate that I wire wrapped for Matt Dillon's wife. I used 14k gold-filled and solid

sterling silver wire to wrap the cab. Matt has been traveling down to Mexico for many years to collect agates in the State of Chihuahua where many of the world class agates are found. I intend to write an article about this site so that our club members can dream about making a pilgrimage to the site one day to do their own collecting. Of course, any future trips to this area will have to be delayed until the current drug cartel violence has been eliminated. Until then, we will have to rely on pictures and material that Matt furnishes me.



# DONATED ITEMS

By: JULIA TOOMBS

When Keith Harmon moved down south, he had to decide what did not go from his years of buying contents of businesses going out of business. He donated a lot of those items to ETGMS. And it was thousands. A lot of the things are dated and not used anymore. They went to recycling and the money received (\$41.77) went into the treasury.

Many other things were split up among a few members to use as projects for the annual shows. Notice I said shows plural. We discussed different ideas. Some accessories would have to be purchased to bring them to completion. Marcia Graham purchased cabs to go into some jewelry she took home.

*Below are pictures of some of these creations.*



Marcia Graham



Geva Roberts



Ed Grounds



Julia Toombs

# A Novice's Guide on a Field Trip

By Barbara Braun

Richard and I joined ETGMS in February of this year. We were excited to go on field trips and learn how to find fossils and stones of all shapes and kinds. Saturday, September 26, was our first field trip and we had to make an early exit to get to the meeting spot on time. We made it to the Tiger Mart on time and saw the group we would be hunting with.

As we made our way to the "mountain," we could see the deep ruts in the trails heading to the parking area. We got out of our car and were quickly hit with a horrible smell. There was a dead animal right next to our car. We hastily grabbed the buckets filled with our tools and made our way up the hill, and boy was it steep! Having no idea what to look for, we began to follow and watch others. We caught on quickly.

We chose an area that looked promising. Richard spotted a rock and began to dig away to find its edges and dig it out. He borrowed a sledgehammer, whacked it, and watched it break into pieces revealing the different colors within.

Now we were cooking! We walked on to another patch of ground and saw a bit of rock peeking out. It was grayish brown, rounded on top, smooth on one half and bumpy on the other. We began to dig out the perimeter to see how much it was buried. It was huge and was some what deep. Richard and I worked to get it to ground level. We borrowed the sledgehammer again and Richard whacked it hard. As the rock opened to reveal the beautiful crystal formations and color, I was thrilled! It looked like our early morning rising was worth it. Richard took another swing to break it into more manageable pieces.

The hardest part of the trip was taking the stones down the hill to the car. We moved the car away from the dead animal before beginning to load our treasures.

We took a bit of a breather, then trudged halfway up the hill, stopped

to rest, and continued with empty buckets to capture another load. We had saved the bigger ones for last. We made our final trip down the hill with the last load. We were heading home! We took a closer look at our finds after we took them to the patio and hosed them off. I may have Richard make me a nice display stand to show off the pretty one I call the "egg". (See the cover photo) We are novices no longer and look forward to the next field trip with the gang!



Photo: Rick Walker



Photo: Rick Walker



Photo: Fred Mahaffey



Photo: Rick Walker

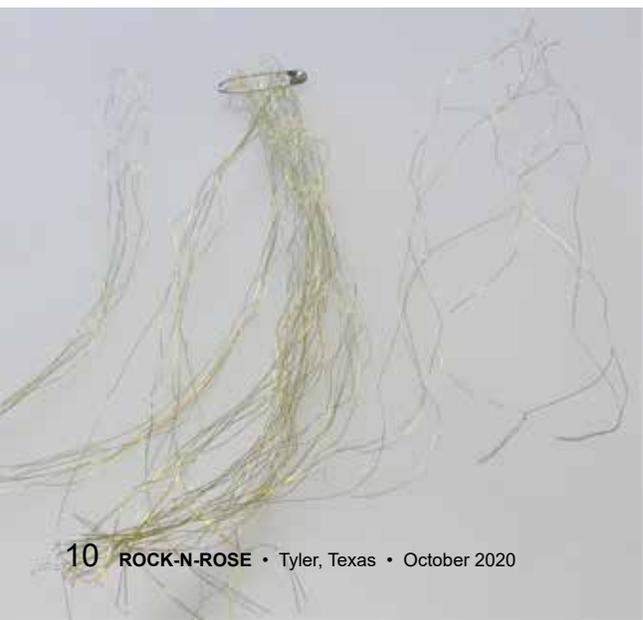
# AS THE PANDEMIC WINDS DOWN...UNWIND TOO

By Lynnette C. Metcalf, GG GIA

Ever have one of those days when you have nothing to do? Uh huh.... You know when you are looking at your wire-wrapping supplies and stones and...sigh...nothing looks sufficiently time-consuming?

Here is a suggestion. Try this and not only occupy an enormous amount of time and do Mother Nature a favor by helping our world ecology...as if.... Okay...how about having a nice piece of...something...as a reminder of the time spent making it every time it is worn. Interested? Read on!

There are, out there in this world of ours, wine bottles. Sure, you say, there are millions of them. So what? Well, I am speaking of the wine bottle variety that comes beautifully wrapped in gold tone wire. Four yards of enameled gold-tone 30-gauge wire to be exact. You see the stuff entwined around bottles of claret wines and the like. They make lovely 'hostess prezzies' when attending those wine and cheese soirees your spouse said you had to attend.



Back to the wire. It takes a while to figure out the pattern the winery uses to wrap the bottles. The first two wrapped bottles took me at least an hour each to figure out the 'unwind matrix'.

Momentary digression: Malcolm Gladwell, in his book *Outliers: The Study of Success*, says that, to be truly proficient at something, at least 10,000 hours must be devoted to the subject. As an example, The Beatles had already practiced and performed in concert well over 10,000 hours before they ever stepped foot on US soil.

So! By the time I had unwrapped over -- (not saying!) -- bottles of the buggers (if the wire knots on the bottom came apart easily --eh, just cut 'em off!) I had shaved the time down to an average of eleven minutes. Straightening the four yards of very curly & kinked wire took another 4-5 minutes. Stringing it on to large safety pins by making a twisted loop of the four wires on the top of each set—another 2 minutes. Later, I would spend hours untangling the opposite ends of those looped strands when they tangled with others on that safety pin. Yeah, no. See the photos.

During this period of less-than-gainful employment, I determined that the estimated retail cost of the wire wrapped about the wine bottles totaled about 3

cents per bottle. The cost of the wire per case (12 bottles) of wine totaled 36 cents. Multiple cases...well, that's higher math and out of the scope of this discussion. Among other benefits of this endeavor, I developed callused fingers, dealt with repetitive movement issues with aplomb, and happily avoided the need for a tetanus shot booster despite poking myself with wire enumerable times. Amazingly, I drew blood only once.



As the ever-increasing amount of straightened wine bottle wire crowded multiple safety pins (again, see photos...), I pondered how it could be recycled. A bracelet or perhaps a necklace? After spending multiple hours perusing wire-wrapping projects on You Tube, I determined to try a so-called 'Mermaid' necklace. Put simply: MISTAKE. Attempting to braid with 12 strands of 30-gauge constantly curling wire coupled with a distinct lack of finesse in holding the wire in the desired 'mermaid' pattern—yeah, nope. It took exactly 35 minutes to disassemble 2 weeks of work. Re-straightening the wire: 1 hour. Luckily, a new use for the wire emerged. The new plan? Three-on-three...-on-three (not stuttering here...) braiding.



larger braids, then braid the three larger braids together to form a flat plait about 24 inches long. Later, add bails and lobster claws (or another locking connector) to complete the project. (Did you catch it? I used the word 'braid' (and 'braiding') a total of eleven times in one paragraph! Only used 'plait' once, though...so I got THAT going for me...)

See how time consuming the process is? Isn't it great?! Depending on how many necklaces you want to make, occupying months of free time is possible--until you stop drinking

Beautifully simple. Braid three lengths of one yard each 30-gauge wire in the standard manner as you would someone's hair using a ring holder or some other type of clamp. This takes about ten minutes for each braid depending on the level of tangling as the wire becomes curly again while braiding. Straighten the strands and flatten each braid with flat square nose pliers. Once you have braided 3 sets of these wires, braid the three sets together to form a larger braid. Do not twist the wires over each other as you braid the larger strands since flattening of the resulting larger braid is necessary. Instead 'lay' the strands flat across each other. Continue this process and make three additional



'prezzie wine' and run out of wire (or the California vineyards burn up... yikes...). For the record, the wine wire came from accredited wine connoisseur 'sources' (read: of age and legal).

Decorate the wire by entwining or integrating beads into the weave. I considered learning to drill beading holes and attaching some Oregon sunstones to the necklace weave. This would be a good way to occupy more free time. Eh... different story.

See? Never be bored again. Frustrated, anxious, tearful, manic, and depressed at the same time... yeah.... But--never bored!

NOTE: Author does not drink wine Really.



#### PHOTOGRAPHS:

1. Wire off the bottle.
2. Wire Unwound & straightened,
3. Braiding 3 strands of 30-gauge wire.
4. Multiple strands of braided 30-gauge wire.
5. Braiding previously braided wire.
6. Three levels of braiding examples plus one of interwoven natural stone beads.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## CLUBHOUSE EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- Election of Officers

### DECEMBER 7, 2020

Tyler, Texas

- Christmas Party, Clubhouse

Check ETGMS.Org or with a Board Member for any scheduling changes

## GROUP MEETS

### Lapidary / Jewelry Group

Meets on the second Saturday of each month at 2:00 pm, except December and January.

Terry Roberts leads this group. Contact Terry to have your name added to the email.

[terry.roberts45@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.roberts45@yahoo.com)

### Mineral Group

Meets every second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Charles Creekmur heads up the group. Contact Charles to have your name added to the email.

[calcite65@gmail.com](mailto:calcite65@gmail.com)

### Fossil Group

Meets every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

David Russ heads up the group. Contact David to have your name added to the email.

[dbruss50@gmail.com](mailto:dbruss50@gmail.com)

# GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS



## THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

### *The 25th Annual* Gemstone and Jewelry Show

**JANUARY**  
**22, 23, and 24, 2021**

[WWW.ETGMS.ORG](http://WWW.ETGMS.ORG)



**TYLER ROSE GARDEN CENTER**  
420 SOUTH ROSE PARK DRIVE  
TYLER, TEXAS

**Gemstones • Jewelry • Minerals • Fossils • Supplies**

**SHOW HOURS:**

Friday: 9 am - 5 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 6 pm • Sunday: 10 am - 5 pm

**ADMISSION:**

Adults: **\$5.00**

Children and Students: **\$1.00**

Colorful Fluorescent Mineral Display

Silent Auction on Saturday & Sunday

Hourly Door Prizes

Grand Prize Drawing

Wheel of Fortune

Game for the Children

Equipment and Supplies

Lapidary Demonstrations

Flint Knapping

Gemstone Identification

Gemstones

Gold and Silver  
Jewelry

Minerals

Fossils

Cut and Uncut Stones

Geodes

Wire Wrapping Demos

Lapidary Material

Raffle Prizes

**The Rock Food Table • <http://rockfoodtable.com>**

Contact Information:

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Dealer Chairman: **Charles Chreemur** • 903-834-6814 • [calcite65@gmail.com](mailto:calcite65@gmail.com)

# THE NARANJO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

in Lufkin, TX will host an opening event for a new Texas Artifacts Exhibit on

**Saturday, November 21, 2020 • 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

The new exhibit will display a variety of artifacts from everyday life during the early days of Texas. Some of the most unique pieces of the exhibit are on loan from the Sam Houston State Natural History Collections.

Along with viewing the new exhibit, visitors are also invited to bring artifacts, fossils or other items to be identified by Dr. Neal Naranjo and Mr. Morris Weeks. Dr. Naranjo specializes in identifying fossils, bones and rocks and Mr. Weeks of Beaumont, TX is an expert in identifying Native American arrowheads and artifacts.

*“This will be a fun day for visitors to experience the new exhibit, learn more about artifacts in their own collections and meet other history enthusiasts.”*

- Veronica Amoe, Naranjo Museum Manager.

Artifact identification is free with standard museum admission and visitors bringing items to be identified are asked to RSVP by emailing [veronica@naranjomuseum.org](mailto:veronica@naranjomuseum.org)



**Naranjo Museum of Natural History**  
5104 South 1st St. Lufkin, TX 75901 1pm-5pm

*The new Texas Artifacts Exhibits features a variety of artifacts from East Texas and beyond. Each artifact includes an origin story and further demonstrates that glimpses of Texas History can be found all around!*

**Featuring:**

**Artifact identification with local experts:  
Morris Weeks and Dr. Neal Naranjo**

Visitors may bring fossils, artifacts and other items to be identified.

For more information visit:

**[www.naranjomuseum.org](http://www.naranjomuseum.org)**

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David Russ

903-714-3330

[dbruss50@gmail.com](mailto:dbruss50@gmail.com)

**NEWSLETTER CONTENT**

Please send original articles to [rockrosenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rockrosenewsletter@gmail.com).

Please send in a Microsoft Word format that can be edited.

The 10th of the month is the deadline.

Board minutes are not printed in the newsletter. If you would like to see a copy, contact a member of the Board.

**THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

The 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**

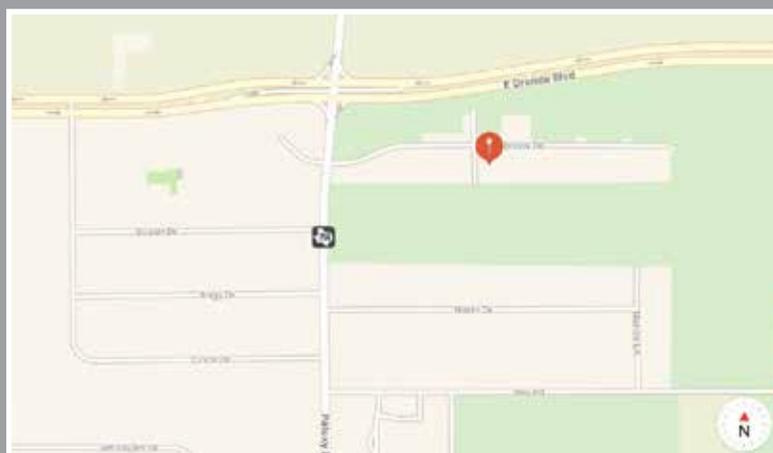
Single: \$10.00 • Family: \$20.00

**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

Check us out on the web • [WWW.ETGMS.ORG](http://WWW.ETGMS.ORG)



**CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES**

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

**ETGMS CLUBHOUSE**

2015 Deerbrook Dr.  
Tyler, Texas



**Rock-N-Rose • Newsletter**  
231 Scott Street  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961