

ROCK N ROSE

Volume 47 Issue 7

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July 2021



Cover Photo: Margaret Kilanski

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ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 17 - 18, 2021

Tulsa R&MS
Tulsa, OK
Tulsa Fairgrounds

Aug 14 - 15, 2021

Baton Rouge G&MS
Gonzales, LA
Lamar Dixon Expo Center

Aug 21 - 22, 2021

Arklatex G&M
Bossier City, LA
Bossier Civic Center

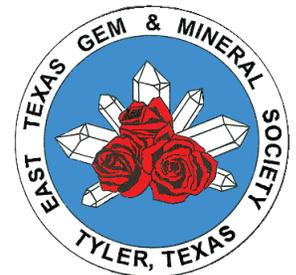
January 21 - 23, 2022

East Texas Gem & Mineral Show
Rose Garden Center
Tyler, Texas



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Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Russ

There was a good turnout for the July meeting with several new members attending. Vests, patches and pins are available to identify you as a club member. Keep that in mind if you will be able to volunteer to help with our

upcoming annual show. For those interested in fossil collecting the North Sulphur River (NSR) a new fossil park is being prepared to replace the one at the Hwy 34 bridge north of Ladonia which is being demolished for the new lake bridge. The

new park is on FM 2990 west of the old location. Looks like a much better access to the River has been added. Much thanks to all our Board members who have been putting in lots of effort on behalf of the club.

CLUB REPRESENTATION

Julia Toombs

ETGM Merchandice

- Large Emblem.....\$12.00
- Small Emblem.....\$3.00
- Club Pin.....\$3.00
- Vests
- S,M,L,XL.....\$15.00
- 2X, 3X.....\$17.00



Members, a vest with a patch and/or a pin is a good thing to have on when you are representing the Club at any show or Club-sponsored event such as Kilgore Geekend or Lindsey Park. We have all of these available for a nominal price. I put a large patch on the back and a small one on the front so I am identifiable from both sides. I also bought the pin.

Please consider making these purchases and contact Ed Grounds, Treasurer.

ETGMS Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met on July 12 due to the official July 4th holiday being on the 5th. The meeting was called to order at 6:45PM. President David Russ asked that new members and visitors introduce themselves and say what they were most interested in. We had three visitors from Arklatex and eight new members. David asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Terry Roberts made the motion and Colleen Hayes seconded. The motion carried. Ed Grounds, treasurer, gave his report.

Announcements:

- **UPCOMING SHOW**
Texas Mineral and Fossil Dallas/Frisco Show
July 16 - 18. Entry is free.
- **LAPIDARY GROUP**
Terry said they would meet Saturday, 17th at 2:00PM.
- **MINERAL GROUP**
Charles Creekmur said they would meet Tuesday, 13th at 6:30PM. The subject would be on what material is hot in Tucson this year.
- **FOSSIL GROUP**
David said they would meet on Tuesday, 20th at 6:30PM.

Old business: none

New business:

- David presented Marcia Graham with the certificates and plaques she won in 2020. This is her last meeting as the family is moving to Kansas.
- Rick Walker mentioned the survey that Margaret sent out via email. Please respond via email to Rick concerning a Rock Swap, where you would like to go on a field trip, and what you would like for a program. With no further business to discuss, David asked for a motion to adjourn. Terry made the motion and Charles seconded. The motion carried. After a short break for refreshments, visiting, and purchase of door prize tickets, tickets were drawn and we proceeded to the Program given by Kevin Hill on meteors and meteorites. He is interested in Astronomy and Haley's comet.

Submitted by: Julia Toombs, Secretary

Kevin Hill, Guest Speaker



Marcia Graham, past Treasurer, moving to a new city. Wishing her the BEST!





**HELP
WANTED**

The Board of Directors requests someone proficient in **audio/visual** matters who can attend meetings when the equipment is in use.

Thank you!

An Easy Field Trip BY Julia Toombs

Geva Roberts and I hit the road on June 12 for an easy rockhounding trip. We drove two and one-half hours to the Livingston, Texas, area home of Jay and Bobbie LeFebvre who are selling their collection. Their previous home was destroyed by the Onalaska tornado a year ago, and they now live in a manufactured home, but their collection is too heavy for its floor. The collection occupies a bedroom and its closet. She inherited dinosaur bone and meteorites from her father. It took me one and one half hours to go through everything but the raw gems as they were packed away separately. We looked at about half. It took another half hour to decide on prices and purchases. She is selling below market value.

I bought a slice of dinosaur bone and an unusual meteorite, a fish fossil (*knightsia eocanea*) from the Green River formation in Kemmerer, Wyoming, 2 Trilobites and 2 small orthoceras from Morocco, a small geode, a small sandstone slab with graptolites in it, a nice chunk of fluorescent green calcite from Mexico, Mara Mamba Tiger's Eye from western Australia, and tourmaline schist (black crystals of schorl tourmaline). I've had two people recommend that I take the meteorite to Texas Christian University for authentication. I'll strike the meteorite off my bucket list.

If you are interested, here is their email address: bobbieandjay@gmail.com. They would love to sell to you.

As it was well past lunch, we made our next stop Shrimp Boat Manny's in Livingston. We continued on to Johnson's Rock Shop, also near Livingston, that Colleen Hayes told us about. It is in a residential area and is an interesting piece of property, made up of several quaint buildings, each containing various types of precious and semi-precious gems and minerals. There are piles of petrified wood all around. The first building I went into contained museum-quality pieces. I went to four more buildings, purchasing items from two. The best item is an arrowhead dated to 1,500—4,000 years ago. It looks different from modern arrowheads. That is another item off my bucket list. I bought a pound of tumbled picture jasper for making critters. I fished them out of an old-fashioned bathtub half full of tumbled stones.

Because it was late in the afternoon and hot, we only stayed about 30 minutes. A return trip on my birthday is planned, but I will arrive in the morning. I'm not used to driving more than 350 miles in a day, but we had a great time.

Johnson's Rock Shop

238 N. Lincoln Wiggins St, Indian Springs Subdivision, 10 miles east of Livingston, Texas on US Highway 190.

Phone: 936-563-4438

Lindale LIBRARY Display

BY: JULIA TOOMBS

On May 25, Randy Harmon, Terry Roberts, and I took some of our collections to the Lindale Library for display through the summer. Randy has been doing this for many years. Randy asked me and Terry if we would give about a 15-minute talk on July 7 on something related to rocks. Terry explained the minerals he took for show-and-tell. I spoke on the making of critters. Randy always takes a bucket of dirt, from north of Jacksonville, that contains fossilized shark teeth, plus he adds some. One girl left with five teeth and was really excited. Randy also gave out door prizes. I made up 20 critter kits to add to what he had. The kids were very attentive to all of us.

At the beginning of the summer, Randy had asked me to make critters for the box of free rocks that the kids take from. Initially I made 30 and delivered them to Randy at the June meeting. He would decide how many went out at a time. Those were gone, so he asked me to make about a dozen a week for the rest of the summer. I will not have any trouble adding this to my schedule. I love making critters!!



JULY 4th *at* LINDSEY PARK

By: Margaret Kilanski



What did you do on July 4? Terry Roberts, Ed Grounds, Rick Walker, Julia Toombs, and I spent most of the day manning the club's booth at Lindsey Park. It was a warm and sunny day and we were very lucky that our booth was close to a big shady tree. We were most grateful to Terry for making sure we had plenty of cold water.

Even though the crowd was small for the hours we were there, Ed had two new families sign up. Rick was a hit with several kids as he was showing off his dinosaur bone and a megalodon tooth. He handed out free tumblers to kids and a few excited adults. Ed and I had brought a few treasures along for folks to see and touch and these started some great conversation with those who stopped by our booth. Julia kept the Wheel of Fortune spinning every time she had a customer. Terry was, as always, a wealth of information about the various pendants and slabs we had for sale.

For our day's effort, we added \$133 to the club treasury and had a lot of fun catching up and talking rocks with each other and visitors.



Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

Recently, I came across some slabs (Figure 1) that I cut from a Flower Garden Agate (aka jasper/agate) found on the Walker Ranch in West Texas south of Alpine. These slabs show an unusual form of this agate, as well as some bright colors. I cabbed one of slabs (Figure 2) to show just how beautiful they are when polished. In addition to the most obvious colorful features on the right side, it has brown moss in the center and an image that I think resembles the sun with flames radiating out from the surface. Unfortunately, the cab took such a nice polish that you will have no problem seeing the reflection of my T-shirt.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Figure 3 shows a cab I cut from one of the chevron amethyst slabs. A friend cut across the c-axis of the crystal rather than parallel to it which is the usual cut used to show the chevron features. Unfortunately, it has an abundance of cracks running through it, but it held together during the cabling process without me having to seal it with superglue. The only problem I had was trying to get a good polish on it due to the porosity of the surface. I finally got a decent polish on it using ZAM on a flannel buff.

Figure 4 shows a banded agate that I cabled from a nodule that my friend found on a South Texas gravel road. Again, you will have to ignore the reflection of my camera on the surface. I will have to remember to wear a solid black T-shirt while taking photos in the future, but I don't know what to do about the camera reflection.



Figure 4

ADVENTURES FROM NEW MEXICO

Part 3

By Colleen Hayes



Part two of this series left off in Socorro, New Mexico. This area still has many sightseeing spots and mines to explore.

Heading west from Socorro on Hwy 60 and traveling about 27 miles, you come to the small town of Magdalena, New Mexico. In the late 1800's, Magdalena was known as the "Trails End" for a railroad spur that was built to transport cattle, other livestock, and timber from the

area. You can still see remnants of the historic stockyards in town. There have been some attempts to establish Magdalena as an artist center and there are several galleries and shops in the area.

Another attraction is the old ghost town of Kelly, New Mexico. Kelly was about three miles from Magdalena. The town was home to the Kelly mine. The area started production in 1878, and was still operating as a

zinc/lead mine into the mid- 1900s. The mineralization is deposited in the Kelly Limestone of the Magdalena group. Hydrothermal activity allowed minerals to be deposited. The mine itself was reported to have as many as 30 miles of underground tunnels.

The old town of Kelly at one time had as many as 3,000 residents. After the mine closure, some of the homes were relocated to Magdalena. The Kelly mine is most famous for the light blue-green Smithsonite ($ZnCO_3$) that is an associated mineral from this location. Kelly-mine Smithsonite is a prized find for any rock hound. A bit of history is that, at one time, the Smithsonite was used as a paint additive and Sherwin Williams was an interested party in mining the Smithsonite until the Depression. A large specimen was donated to the Smithsonian in Washington, DC. Other fine specimens can be seen in local rock shops and museums.

Currently the mine is a historical site; however, you can still walk among the historic structures. The



headframe still exists as well as other historic relics. You can also surface-collect rocks with permission. Tony's Rock Shop in Magdalena is the caretaker for the mine. To obtain permission for exploring the area, stop in at the rock shop. I believe the fee is ten dollars per person and you will get directions and instructions.

Now a note: At my last visit there were still open tunnels that beckon the curious. One of the dangers of entering old tunnels is the dangers of collapse, or falling into an unmarked stope. Another danger is that over the years, unventilated tunnels have degrading minerals and "bad air" may be an issue. And lastly, this area is somewhat remote; there are mountain lions and rattlesnakes that take up residence in the cool shade in the heat of the day. So basically: Just stay out! Nearly every trip I have taken to New Mexico, I have seen a rattlesnake. Yes they warn you, until they don't!



One last must-see stop on this trip is the Very Large Array. Twenty-four miles west of Magdalena is the VLA. This is a collection of 27 radio telescopes, very large 82 foot discs that are located in the middle of nowhere. The discs are moved on rail-tracks throughout the year for maximizing their listening abilities. According to the facility's website, the radio telescopes are used to investigate astronomical objects.

The facility does allow visitors, has a visitor center, and you can walk out to view one of the telescopes close up...and they are huge.

There are other mineral deposits and collecting sites in the general area. Just pick up one of the rock hounding guide books to locate other sites around Socorro.





THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

The 26th Annual Gemstone and Jewelry Show

TYLER ROSE GARDEN CENTER

420 SOUTH ROSE PARK DRIVE
TYLER, TEXAS



Gemstones • Jewelry • Minerals • Fossils • Supplies

JANUARY 21 - 23, 2022

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

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

Gemstones

Gold and Silver
Jewelry

Minerals

Fossils

Cut and Uncut Stones

Geodes

Wire Wrapping Demos

Lapidary Material

Raffle Prizes

WWW.ETGMS.ORG

DUES, DUES, DUES

If you plan to mail in your dues:

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

EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY • MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM

Date Paid ____/____/____ Dues Paid _____ Cash _____ Check _____

YEARLY DUES – Individual - \$10 • Family - \$20

Name(s) _____ Adult _____ Jr. _____
_____ 18+ _____ Jr. _____
_____ _____ Jr. _____
_____ _____ Jr. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Newsletter via email Y ___ N ___

Special Interest in Club? _____

Home Phone _____ Work / CellPhone _____

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

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

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

Gemology Group

Meets every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 - 8:30 pm

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Terry Roberts

TREASURER

Ed Grounds

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NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Please send original articles to 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

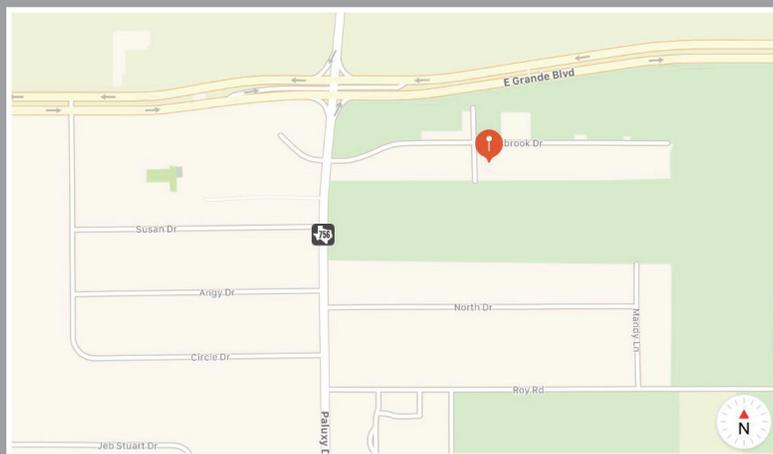
Single: \$10.00 • Family: \$20.00

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



CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES

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

ETGMS CLUBHOUSE

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Tyler, Texas



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