

# ROCK N ROSE

Volume 48 Issue 1

TYLER • TEXAS

January 2022



Cover Photo: David Metzner

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## ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 15 - 16, 2022**  
Fredericksburg Rockhounds  
Fredericksburg, TX • Lady Bird Park

**January 21 - 23, 2022**  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Show  
Tyler, Texas • Rose Garden Center

**February 12, 2022**  
Deleon Indian Artifact Show  
Deleon, TX

**February 19 - 20, 2022**  
Williamson County Gemboree  
Georgetown, TX



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Terry Roberts  
Julia Toombs  
David Metzner

#### Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961





**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!*

# A Message to the Club President

*Jerry  
Sudderth*

## **FREE ADVERTISING FOR OUR SHOW**

The Board of Directors had the idea that if each club member printed the flyer that has been appearing in the newsletter and took it around to businesses in your respective city, this would be great free advertising.

*What do you think?*

*Help us out?*

- Ten copies at 10 locations (ex: schools, work, bulletin boards, leave next to waiting room magazines)
- Share on Facebook
- Share on Instagram

I want to thank all of the new members for joining. I want to remind all members if you have any requests for field trips or meeting programs to please let me, or any Board member, know. This is your club and we want everyone to take ownership to help make our club the best in Texas.

# ETGMS Meeting Minutes

January 3, 2022

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on January 3, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM by new President Jerry Sudderth. A member that had been away for a couple of years has returned and introduced himself. Jerry asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Colleen made the motion, Rick Walker seconded, and the motion carried. Ed Grounds gave the treasurer's report.

## Announcements:

- Lapidary sub-group – will defer to the Critter Workshop on Saturday, January 8 from 10 AM to 4 PM.
- Fossil sub-group – there is presently no leader
- Mineral sub-group – meetings will return in February
- Field Trips – Jerry & Rick Walker will continue to scout out locations.  
The location near Palestine for selenite can be given out to families but it isn't really possible for 10+ to meet up because of lack of parking just off the side of the road.
- Tonight's program will be given by Charles Creekmur on Garnets.

Old business: There was none.

New business: There was none.

Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Colleen Hayes made the motion, Terry Roberts seconded, and the motion carried. After a short time of refreshments & visiting, door prize tickets were drawn. After the program, silent auction item winners were announced.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2022.

Respectively submitted by,  
Julia Toombs, Secretary

# Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

A friend of mine asked me to wire wrap three beautiful agate cabs as pendants for him. Figure 1 shows the two smaller agates that I wrapped. The pendant on the left is a very nice green moss agate from Rancho Tinaja, which is located just south of Big Bend National Park in the San Carlos area of Mexico. Green moss agates from this ranch rival and may surpass those found at Needle Peak just north of Big Bend National Park.

The agate on the right side of Figure 1 is a really impressive Apache Flame agate that came from an area near the City of Chihuahua in the State of Chihuahua in northern Mexico. I wish we could find this quality and type of agate north of the Rio Grande.

Figure 2 shows the third and larger cab that I wrapped as a pendant. It is a jasp/agate that was found on a gravel road near Laredo in South Texas. It is an atypical Flower Garden



Figure 1

jasp/agate that is unlike any that I've seen on rock hunts in West Texas where this type of agate is commonly found. It also gave me some problems when I tried to wrap it due to its size and the varying width of the girdle on the sides. However, I was able to anchor the wrap to the cab at the corners so it won't slip out. I am looking forward to receiving more cabs of this quality to wire wrap in the future.

**Correction:** In the December 2021 issue of this newsletter, I mistakenly stated that I used a flannel buff with ZAM to get a polish on the opalized fluorite in Tiffany Stone. This statement should have read muslin buff with ZAM. I regret any confusion this error may have caused the reader.



Figure 2

# January Critter Workshop

By Julia Toombs



Five hearty souls braved the rain storms and came for the last critter workshop before the show. Nearly 100 critters and/or projects were created in five and a half hours.

Allen Brown came for the first time and had no idea what to do. He looked at the ones already made, looked at all of the supplies provided, and set to work. We are always up multiple times looking for that perfect rock or the right accessory. When Allen saw the box of wooden items with wheels, you could see the light bulb turn on. He created eight objects in all and they are pictured to the left and lower right. The car and animal will be in the Silent Auction.

Sherry Breedlove came with a big pot of chicken vegetable soup that was enjoyed by all. I think she made the most critters.

Shelley Sudderth decided to take a crack at it again, but is still a little skeptical of her talent. She just needs more practice.

Colleen Hayes joined in as well and made 24, though she didn't stay the entire time.

I only made 13. I may not be fast, but I am a nut when it comes to throwing them together.

I've included pictures of some of each person's creations.

I suggested we get together for another workshop mid-year to start fresh and simply enjoy each other's company. We always have fun laughing at each other's talent.



# DISPLAY CASES AT JANUARY SHOW

By Julia Toombs

To the right you will find measurements for the 12 display cases we use at our annual show. This is a great way to introduce others to geology and the cases have always represented all aspects of the hobby.

I like to plan ahead. In 2017, I got paper and drew out the bottom dimension. Then I placed what I wanted to show.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR FIRST-TIMERS:

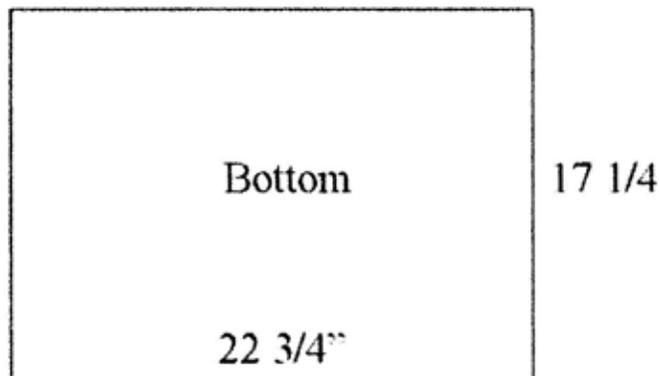
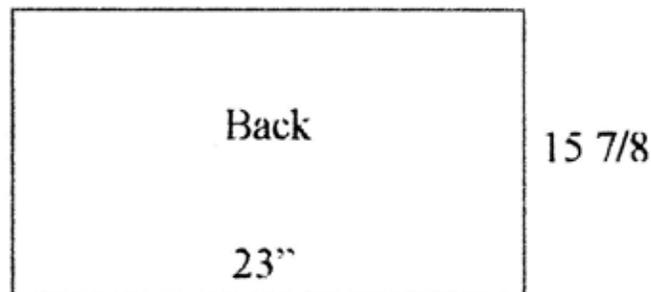
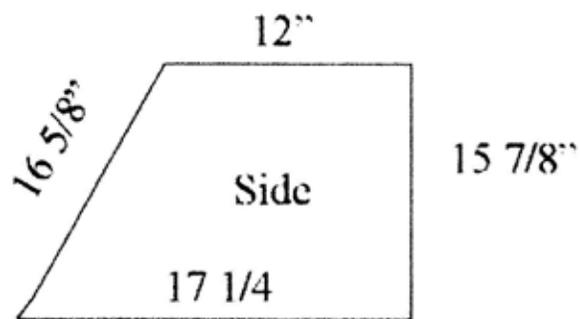
1. Does it need to be on a riser? – If everything is about the same height, one in front may block the one behind, so a riser is a good idea. You can also stack risers for more vertical space-filling.
2. Which is better - on a display stand or not? – If you want a particular portion of an item to show, use a stand the prop it up. Mine are usually displayed as they are at home.
3. Are you going to identify what they are? – You need to leave room for these.
4. One year, I identified each item in front and typed up a further explanation & taped it to the back wall.
5. Another year I placed letters in front of the items, typed up what each letter was, and pinned it to the back of the case.
6. There will be a 60-watt light bulb on inside of your case.

The first time I displayed, I had no idea what to do. I had a rough idea of the bottom dimension, drew it out, picked a theme, and identified everything. I even gave my case a name – An Amateur's Love. Then I picked a box next to Terry Roberts so I could watch him. By the time I was finished, I knew I could do better the next year – amateur vs. seasoned displayer.

For this show, I had my case planned out before Christmas so I would know what not to take to the Tyler Public Library. I took me longer to get everything identified. At the Christmas party gift exchange, I acquired fossil leaves. I knew they would be part of my display.

You still have time to get your name on this list – or any of the others. Please call Rick Walker.

## DISPLAY CASE LINERS



# Who Knew?

By Julia Toombs

This article is so titled because that is what I said after I read the introduction. I'm reprinting it because I have been to Washington, D.C. four times. I've been to the Smithsonian Museums each time, but have yet to see them all. The Museum of Natural History is my favorite.

The article to which I refer is from the December, 2021 issue of Chips and Chatter, bulletin of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas, Texas. It is by Don Shurtz, President and Editor of that club's bulletin.

## Smithsonite

Last month we addressed Hemimorphite. This month we will look at Smithsonite, a mineral that is often confused with Hemimorphite. Up until the early 1800s, Smithsonite and Hemimorphite were thought to be the same mineral. That mineral

was called Calamine. In 1802, James Smithson, a prominent British chemist and mineralogist, determined that calamine consisted of two distinct zinc-based minerals. In 1832, Francois Sulpice Beudant, a French mineralogist and geologist, named Zinc Carbonate ( $ZnCO_3$ ), one of the two minerals in Calamine, as Smithsonite, in honor of James Smithson.

Smithsonite has a Mohs hardness of 4.5, a white streak, and a specific gravity of 4.4 to 4.5. It is found in a variety of colors including white, green, blue, purple, pink, and yellow. It belongs to the trigonal crystal system, but rarely forms crystals. Smithsonite is generally found as a botryoidal massive formation. Smithsonite's primary use is as a Zinc ore.

As mentioned, James Smithson was a British chemist and mineralogist. He

was never married and had no children. His will specified his estate was to pass to his nephew. However, his will provided that if his nephew was to pass without heirs, his estate was to be given to the United States with the stipulation the estate was to be used "to found in Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men". Upon Smithson's death, his estate did pass to his nephew, but the nephew died six years later without heirs. The estate was thus used as the seed money to build the Smithsonian Institution into the Museum system it is today.

## References:

- Geosciences and Geological and Petroleum Engineering, <https://ggpe.mst.edu/mineral-collection/>
- Minerals.Net, Smithsonite, <https://www.minerals.net>
- Wikipedia, Smithsonite, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

If you would like to read the rest of the article, go to [www.pogmc.org](http://www.pogmc.org).

# MY ADVENTURES MAKING A CHESS SET

By David Metzner



Happy New Year! This is the story of a chess set I made for my adult son this Christmas, 2021. It started many months ago when I had been talking to him about my interest in lapidary arts. He made a casual comment about how cool it would be to make a chess set with pieces carved from stone. I really wanted to surprise him and do this but, at the time, I did not have any equipment in my shop and I had no experience in making these kinds of shapes. I kept an eye open for used equipment for sale and in late September, I pounced on a deal. Someone in Grand Prairie had listed a 14" slab saw and a Genie. Once they were set up in my shop I was ready to go.



FIGURE 1

The first week of October I started on the cedar chess board while I waited for new Genie wheels and supplies. One of my other hobbies is cutting and milling my own cedar boards to use in projects. I cut 2" strips of light and dark cedar and glued them together

(Figure 1). I then cut across the strips to make the alternating color strips and glued them together. Lastly, I planed and sanded the board and put on a nice polyurethane finish to complete the board (Figure 2).



FIGURE 2

Selecting materials for the pieces began as a trial-and-error exercise: cutting, grinding, and testing different rocks I had collected. I also had a large piece of scrap kitchen countertop from my son and daughter-in-law's home that I wanted to use, but it had too much Biotite mica and just cleaved after I cut it. I then tried some garnet gneiss but the crystals did not shape well. I finally settled on a piece of black marble from a quarry in Virginia. It was collected back in the early 1980's while on a geology field trip at the University of Kentucky. This rock was initially cut into a pair of bookends that traveled to every place I lived and worked since then. That was also about the time I met my wife so it has sentimental value. For the white pieces, I used white marble that I saved from my son's old soccer

trophies he earned as a kid. I guess I figured I would find a use for them someday (Figure 3).



FIGURE 3

I designed the pieces myself based on a number of images, but mainly on how I could use my Genie to grind the shapes without too much finesse. To practice slabbing, grinding, and finishing, I made checkers first. I used petrified wood for the light checkers because I realized I would not have enough white marble for both chess and checkers. I then made 5/8" square slabs for the pawns and 3/4" square slabs for the larger pieces. For height, I cut 1 1/2" pawns and 2 1/2" knights, bishops, and rooks (Figures 4 & 5).



FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5

I drew a rough-grind template on each piece then shaped each piece with the Genie (Figure 6). I progressed to finer and finer grit sizes. As I neared completion, I used my Dremel tool with diamond shaping bits to add detail. For kings and queens, I shaped crowns separately then cut  $\frac{1}{4}$ " chips and attached the crowns to make them  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " tall. I finished all 32 pieces with the 14,000 grit wheel and called it good (Figures 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10).



FIGURE 6



FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8



FIGURE 9



FIGURE 10

This was my first chess set. I learned a lot about free-form shaping of rock using my Genie and Dremel. I had to suppress the perfectionist in me or I may have never finished. I started cutting rock in mid-October and finished December 17. A repurposed pie gift box and some foam made some good packaging (Figures 11, 12, & 13). With help from my wife and daughter, I sewed a velvet cover



FIGURE 11



FIGURE 12

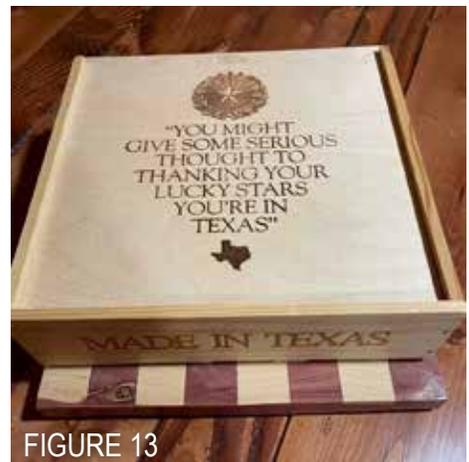


FIGURE 13

for the chess board. When my son opened the box on Christmas morning he was speechless. Seeing his reaction made it worth the time, effort, and love that went into creating this gift. Except for buying the foam, everything else came from materials I had on hand for a near zero-cost project. Finally, thanks to Terry Roberts for some early advice on saw and Genie operation, maintenance, and his review of this article.

David Metzner,  
crossroadsgeoscience@yahoo.com

# CLUB REPRESENTATION

Julia Toombs



## ETGM Merchandise

Vests: S,M,L,XL.....	\$15.00	Large Emblem.....	\$12.00
Vests: 2X, 3X.....	\$17.00	Small Emblem.....	\$3.00
T-shirts Adults.....	\$20.00	Club Pin.....	\$3.00
T-shirts Youth.....	\$15.00		



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**



# 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  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Hourly Door Prizes

Grand Prize Drawing

Wheel of Fortune

Game for the Children

Lapidary Demonstrations

Flint Knapping

Gemstones

Gold and Silver  
Jewelry

Minerals

Fossils

Cut and Uncut Stones

Geodes

Wire Wrapping Demos

Lapidary Material

Raffle Prizes

**The Rock Food Table • [www.rockfoodtable.com](http://www.rockfoodtable.com)**

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



# SCFMS and AFMS NEWS



By Julia Toombs

This is an introduction for our new members.

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society is a member of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies (SCFMS). Our region consists of Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas and is one of seven regions in the country that are all affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

For more information or to get the SCFMS newsletter, the website is [www.scfms.net](http://www.scfms.net). Each region follows the practices of AFMS. The Land Use Policy and Code of Ethics are listed in both publications. They will be addressed in future months. I am printing the **Purpose of SCFMS** and the **Purpose of AFMS** here as printed from their publications.

## SCFMS

- To promote popular interest and education in the various earth sciences, in particular those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the science of minerals, fossils, as well as their associated fields.
- To cooperate with educational and scientific institutions or other groups engaged in increasing knowledge in the earth sciences.
- To cooperate with or become members of similar federations in the United States, and elsewhere.
- To assist in the formation of earth science societies in localities where public interest justifies their formation.

## AFMS

- To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and related subjects, and to sponsor and provide ways to coordinate the work and efforts of all interested persons and groups; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and thereby to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

## ETGMS

This is our goal in the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society.

Interest and education - I know that we live in a technical age, but there are still those among us who like to read from paper. We have a pretty well stocked library that I have painstakingly arranged and rearranged several times since taking the post of Historian/Librarian. Everything in the library has been donated over the years. A lot has been saved since 1956 and I keep it organized for future years as Historian and those who follow me.

Please, check out the Library some time. There is a list of books, arranged by topic, hanging outside the door if you are looking for something in particular or are just curious. Hopefully, there will be someone there who knows the combination.

We want you to enjoy all that ETGMS has to offer. We hope that you can make time to come to the meetings and join us on field trips for some fun exercise and great finds.

# 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](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)

## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Jerry Sudderth  
[sudderthjerry13@gmail.com](mailto:sudderthjerry13@gmail.com)

### VICE PRESIDENT

Terry Roberts

### TREASURER

Ed Grounds  
[egrds1@gmail.com](mailto:egrds1@gmail.com)

### SECRETARY

Julia Toombs  
[rockrosenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rockrosenewsletter@gmail.com)

### FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Rick Walker  
[rickjwalker5639@gmail.com](mailto:rickjwalker5639@gmail.com)

### ANNUAL SHOW CHAIR

Jerry Sudderth  
[sudderthjerry13@gmail.com](mailto:sudderthjerry13@gmail.com)

### WEBMASTER

Margaret Kilanski  
[www.etgms.org](http://www.etgms.org)

### PROOFREADER

Julia Toombs  
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### EDITOR • GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Sarah Hawthorne  
[hawthorne04@gmail.com](mailto:hawthorne04@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

Check us out on the web

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

### 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



### 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