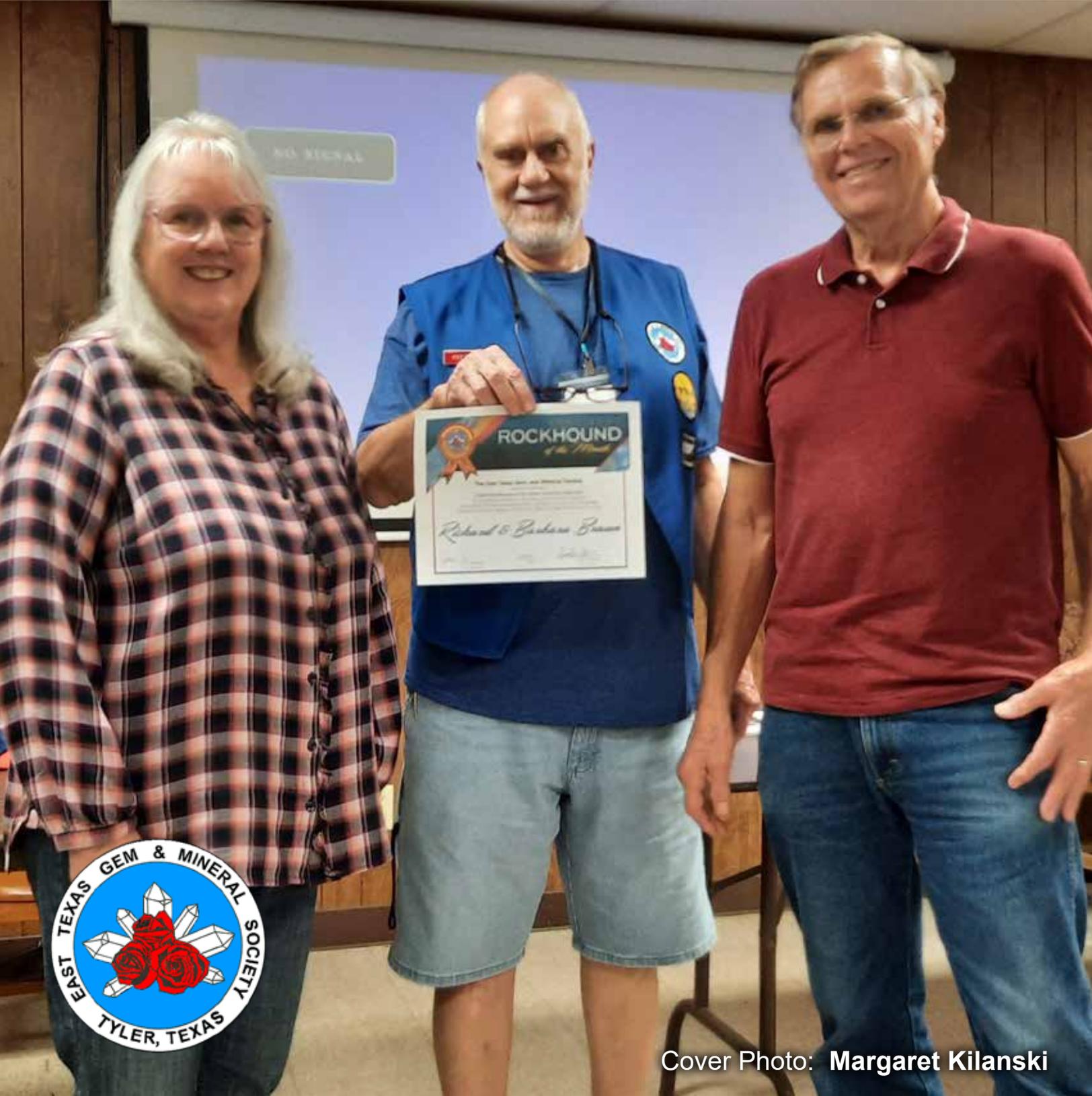


# ROCK N ROSE

Volume 48 Issue 5

TYLER • TEXAS

May 2022



Cover Photo: Margaret Kilanski

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## ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 20 - 22, 2022**  
Plano Texas Show  
Plano Event Center

**May 28 - 29, 2022**  
Ft. Worth Gem & Mineral Club  
Ft. Worth, Texas

**June 5, 2022**  
Lone Star State Archaeological Society  
Temple, Texas



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Colleen Hayes

#### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY

Margaret Kilanski  
Terry Roberts  
Colleen Hayes

**Rock-N-Rose**  
Newsletter

231 Scott Street  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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)

## FIELD TRIPS

### May 14, 2022

Post Oak Creek - Fossils, shark teeth

### June 3 - 4, 2022

Ron Coleman Mine, Jessieville, Arkansas - crystals

### July 8 - 9, 2022

Mineral Wells, Texas - Pennsylvania era fossils; road cuts

## CLUB REPRESENTATION

Julia Toombs

## ETGMS 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 events such as the booths at Bergfeld 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**

# A Message to the Club



*Jerry Sudderth*

**PRESIDENT**

Hello club members!!

You wanted field trips!! We have some for you!! Check your emails and get with Rick Walker to sign up. So far, we are going to Sherman, Texas for shark teeth, Arkansas for quartz, and Mineral Wells for fossils. We look forward to seeing you there.

Also, I hope you can make our monthly meetings as some good changes are in the works. If any of you are not getting your emails, contact Margaret Kilanski and make sure she has your correct email address.

# ETGMS Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2022

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on May 2, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:50 PM. President Jerry Sudderth asked for new members to introduce themselves. A father and young son did so. Jerry asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Samantha Rhoades made the motion, Margaret Kilanski seconded, and the motion carried. Treasurer Ed Grounds gave his report.

## Announcements:

- Lapidary group – Ed will lead the meeting on Saturday, May 14 at 2 PM. The equipment will be looked at and taught how to use but you must be certified to use them by completing a cabochon.
- Mineral group – Charles Creekmur - NO meeting May 10. There will be some meetings on how to identify minerals.
- Field trips – Rick Walker – There are 3 being planned. There are sheets for preference dates for attendees. This month is Post Oak Creek, May 13 or 14. This location is for finding shark teeth and other fossils. June is to the Ron Coleman Mine. July is to the Mineral Wells Fossil Park.
- Program – 15-minute club orientation video & 20-minute video on the Ron Coleman Mine in Arkansas.

Old Business: There was none.

## New business:

- The Museum/Office will be the Saw/Cleaning room. The Museum display cases will be moved to the Doe St. wall in the main meeting room.
- April Rockhound of the Month – Richard & Barbara Braun.
- The Rock Swap has been postponed as the park is undergoing some construction making the Swap location not easy to get to. It will be at the clubhouse.
- Colleen Hayes - The magazines at the front on the bookshelves are free and there are some books on the back table that are also free. Please take as many as you want.

With no further business to discuss, Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Terry Roberts made the motion, Jim McDonald seconded, and the motion carried. Door prize tickets were drawn, there was a short break for refreshments, and the program began. The next meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2022 at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Julia Toombs, Secretary

# Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

While cleaning up the shop and rearranging everything, I found the slabs that produced the four cabs shown. I decided to make these cabs on Monday before the storms moved in and took the pictures on Wednesday. The sun was not out, but it was a bright day for the photos. I will not be able to make any more cabs or do any more work in the shop until I recover from surgery.

The first cab is a small Laguna agate that is about the size of a quarter and did not take long to make due to its small size. (Fig.

1) I believe the second cab is what is called a Parrot Wing due to all the colors. (Fig. 2) Part of the slab had some red in it, but I was not able to include the red in this cab. I had trouble getting a decent polish on it with ZAM, but got a little better polish using tin oxide. This makes me wonder if it really is Parrot Wing since that is a softer material that polishes well using ZAM.

The third photo shows a nice red and black plume agate, probably from the Walker Ranch south of Alpine, Texas. (Fig. 3) I noticed that several spots appeared on the surface when I finished the cab. Upon closer inspection, the spots were produced when the grinding process exposed some of the plume tips. Also, the exposed plume tips had a silvery shine to them when examined under a bright light. I suspect this is produced by iron oxide or manganese oxide which produces a black color in the plumes.

The last photo shows a beautiful agate that I do not remember seeing before. It has gorgeous colors and formations in it. (Fig. 4) I wish I had more of this material to work with, but the one slab that produced this cab is all that I could find. I talked to two of my friends that have a lot of experience with agates and they think it could be what they call pocket-rot wood. This is caused by the removal of small parts of the wood during fossilization and replacement with agate. There is another type of alteration of wood during fossilization in south Texas that is called shrink wood.

(Since Terry is unable to type for a while, I am turning emails he sent before the surgery into Shop Times, including this column. The Shop Time for June will be on Pocket-Rot Wood. – Julia)



# How to Make Gem Trees:

*Or what do with all those rocks!!!*

By Colleen Hayes



Many years ago, the Japanese art of Bonsai was created from the Chinese traditional art of Penjing. Bonsai uses small live trees and forms them into the shapes of real trees. Later, the same idea was applied to wire, rocks, and gemstones.

The gemstone trees are fun to make and collect. Sometimes they are used in Feng Shui decorating. Others attribute mystical or healing properties to different minerals and gem trees are a fun way to have these minerals on display.

Personally I just like the way they look and they are fun to make.

There are many ways to create a gem tree, and there are just as many tutorials on you-tube that go into great detail. I am going to just explain the basics; then you can let your imagination run wild.

I must confess that the first gem tree I made was from instructions I got from a neighboring rock club's Pebble Pups program. I figured if the kids could make a tree, so could I. Here we go!

- Pick out a palm size or smaller rock, and some rock chips or beads. Any craft wire will work. I use copper wire that is natural colored and copper wire that is tinned a silver color, or you can use any color you wish. I use a 24-26 gauge craft wire.

- Next, think about how many branches you want, I usually have 24 or so. Cut 24 equal size pieces of your wire, about 6-8 inches long. The length will determine how tall your tree will be. (Fig. 1)

- Take the pieces, hold tight, and start twisting about 1 inch from one end. At this point we are creating the roots and trunk of the tree. Keep twisting until you have about two inches of twisted wire. (Fig. 2)

- At this point it's time to start the branches. Separate a few strands of wire and twist together, leaving a small tip of each single wire exposed. Then continue twisting the branch and separate a couple more strands of wire and twist together. Continue this pattern until you "run out" of wire at the tree top. (Fig. 3) You will end up with a single wire that should be trimmed to about a 1" length. You will use this wire to attach your rocks.

- Separate the roots and bend them around your rock. Use a good amount of glue (527 craft glue works well) and secure the "tree" to the rock, I use fishing line to tie the wires to the base. Let dry completely. (Fig. 3)

- Lastly find the end of each branch, make a small circle at the end of the wire and glue a tiny rock, bead or gem on the end. Continue until all branches have a glued rock on the end. Let dry and then shape your gemstone bonsai in any form you wish. (Fig. 4)

Have fun and enjoy your masterpiece!



## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

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Terry Roberts

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## 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



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