

ROCK N ROSE

Volume 48 Issue 6

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June 2022



Cover Photo: Julia Toombs

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ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 19 - 20, 2022
Arlington Gem & Mineral Club
Grapevine, Texas

July 15 - 17, 2022
Texas Mineral & Fossil
Dallas/Frisco, Plano, Texas

July 23, 2022
M.A.S. Artifact Show
Waxahachie, Texas



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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 & 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

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The next meeting is scheduled for July 11 at 6:45 PM.
(The first Monday falls on July 4.)

July 9th Lapidary Meeting at 2 PM

Karen Nance will be teaching a class on Beading (stringing beads). The cost will be \$5 per member. Karen will be furnishing the supplies and tools needed.
You need to sign up so that Karen will have enough kits ready.

Class size will be limited, so sign up soon. Karen will need to know what level everyone is at such as beginner or intermediate. To sign up, contact
Terry Roberts at terry.roberts@yahoo.com or
Ed Grounds at egrds1@gmail.com by email by **July 1st**.

A Message to the Club



Terry Sudderth
PRESIDENT

I hope everyone is staying cool so far this summer. We are making some changes around the clubhouse. We will soon have a cutting and cleaning room for our members to use. If you are interested in these things, you will need to get with our shop supervisors, Terry or Ed, to be trained in the proper usage of these machines. Come to the next meeting and check out the changes. See you there!!

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ETGMS Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2022

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on June 6, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM. President Jerry Sudderth asked for new members to introduce themselves. Another family has joined us and there was one visitor. Jerry asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Mary Claire Rowe made the motion, Colleen Hayes seconded, and the motion carried. Treasurer Ed Grounds gave the financial report.

Announcements:

- Tonight's program has changed to a Show & Tell of finds from recent trips.
- Lapidary group – June 11th at 2 PM; orientation & teaching for new members;
July 9th- Beading class (See the full announcement in this newsletter.)
- Mineral group - June 14th at 6:30 PM; Mineral Identification
- Field trips – Mineral Wells – Rick Walker has spoken with someone who advises this be moved to a cooler month. It was 91° at ground level and 105° in the digging pit for fossils. There is no natural sun protection.
- Saw Room – Rick spoke on fossil cleaning. (See below) Amazon – mini-sand blaster and aluminum oxide for cleaning at home.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business:

- Rockhound of the Month - Jimmy Simpson.
- For sale – old big & flat-screen TV and old stereo with speakers.
- Randy Harmon – He, Terry Roberts, and Julia Toombs have a display at the Lindale Library for the summer. They will be speaking to the kids and parents on July 29 at 10:30 AM.
- Work days – June 11, 10 AM – Move the display cases from the front room to the meeting room on the kitchen side. All boxes will be shelved until they can be gone through and placed or disposed of by sale or donation.
June 18, 10 AM – Move the saws out of the container and put in the front (saw) room. Shelving on the Doe Street wall will be moved into the container for use out there. Chairs will be pushed toward Doe Street.
- A fossil cleaning station (cleaning box) will be in the Saw Room as well. After some lessons on use from Terry or Ed, members may cut rocks or clean fossils.
- Guest Angel spoke on the fossils he brought that were found between Lindale and Tyler, on his property. They are exposed with each rainstorm.
- Rick asked for someone to talk about the Ron Coleman Mine field trip. Easton Simpson showed some of what he found.

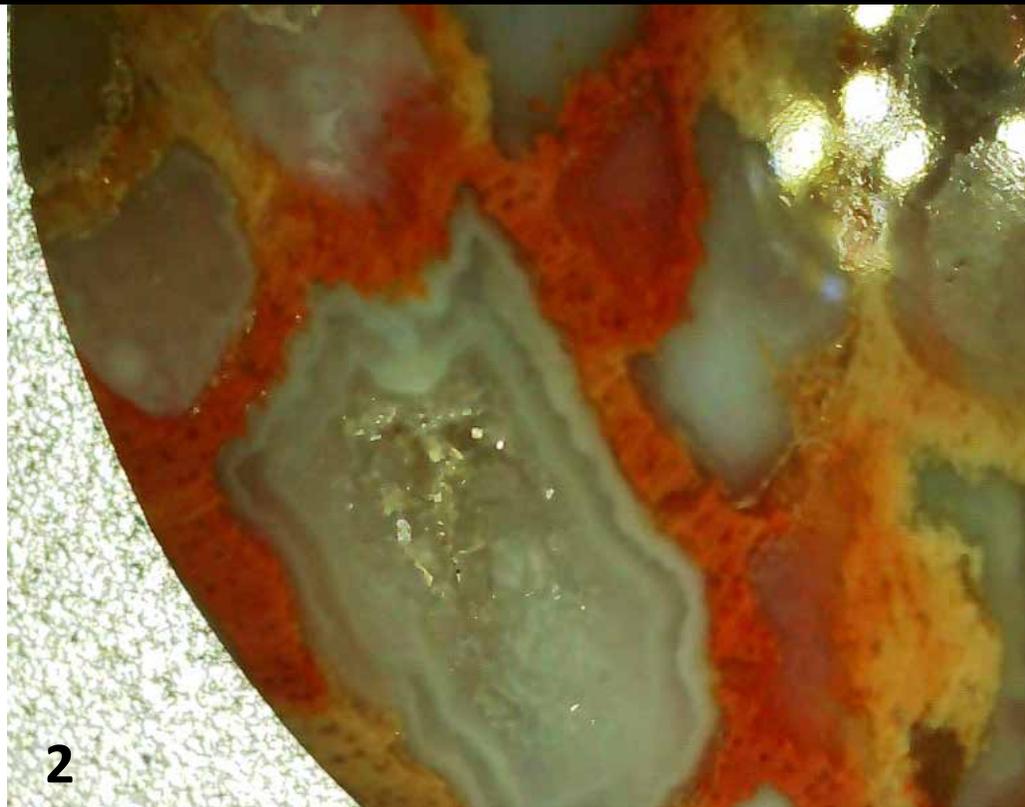
With no further business to discuss, Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Terry made the motion, Darby Spears seconded, and the motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for the second Monday, July 11 at 6:45 PM due to the first being July 4.

Respectfully submitted by,
Julia Toombs, Secretary

Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

My wife got me a relatively inexpensive electronic gizmo to mimic a microscope and screen to project the image onto. It comes with a card to record the images. I have not got the hang of operating it correctly, but I have attached some images of colorful pocket-rot wood. I think the images might be more indication that it is as my friend suggested. The following paragraph is his response to my theory:



“Yes indeed and the red is from iron oxide, prevalent in areas of Texas, from one side to the other, as is also the case in Louisiana and other states. Usually about 100-150 miles or so from the Gulf Coast, but probably originated from the erosion of red granite. It is in the soil in the higher elevations, along the road that stretches from Eagle Pass to Laredo. Remember that red, overburden pile, or mound on the Delores ranch, not too far from the intersection of the Mines Road and the Solidarity Bridge access road?”

Now back to my description of the photos. The first photo shows the whole cab. You will notice that I focused on the bottom of this cab in the

next three photos. It shows complete replacement of the original wood with bands and other chalcedony in the interior of the cells.



FIELD TRIP TO POST OAK CREEK

SHERMAN, TEXAS • MAY 14, 2022

By Julia Toombs



Fifteen members of ETGMS drove 2½ hours to the Travis Street Bridge at Sherman, Texas in search of shark, mosasaur, ptychodus, cretodus, and other teeth, and other fossils from the Cretaceous era. Some of the bedrock layers are solid oyster shells. Mixed into the many sandbars are fossils, gravel, and more oysters. It takes good eyesight to see some of the shark teeth and kneepads are recommended.

- Pictures of some finds -

Figures 1 and 4 are from Easton and Jimmy Simpson

Figure 2 is from Samantha Rhoades

Figure 3 is from Rick Walker



Figure 1



Figures 2



Figure 4



Figure 3

FIELD TRIP WITH DPS

May 29, 2022

By Julia Toombs



Credit: Rick Walker

Jerry and Shelley Sudderth, Rick Walker, and Colleen Hayes joined the Dallas Paleontological Society (DPS) to check out some of their field trips. Those organizers have the ability to go to the same areas that we may go to, but they can get onto private land. Some of our future field trips may be follow-ups to DPS. (Our people are, essentially, scoping out future hunt sites.)

On May 29, they drove to the Ash Grove Cement Quarry in Midlothian, Texas, onto land with lime beds. They joined 40 in DPS. Many shark teeth were found and pyrite was everywhere. The prize find was the largest Ptychodus tooth anyone has seen in DPS or our group. Shelley was the lucky finder. Pictures follow.

Rick has spoken with the plant manager and was told that when ready in October or November, Rick can bring ETGMS to the area for our own hunt. For those who want to regularly hunt, the DPS membership fee is \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. DPS usually posts a sign-up sheet online at noon on Friday. It is first come, first served. If the limit is 60, as soon as they have 60, the list is closed, and a waiting list starts. They go to this if someone calls to cancel.

Next week's field trip is to Fossil Ridge, south of Gainesville, Texas. Some trips have a limited number of members and some are adults only (over 12 with an adult.) Another upcoming trip is to Onion Creek, off of the North Sulfur River. They will be looking for micro shark teeth, smaller than Post Oak Creek. It takes a finer sifting screen. This is open to an unlimited number of people. They also go to the Arbuckle Mountains in Oklahoma.

If you know of locations you would like to visit, let Rick or Jerry know. Rick would like to schedule two trips a month once it cools down.

Credit: Rick Walker • Ptychodus Tooth



FIELD TRIP TO THE RON COLEMAN MINE

June 4, 2022
By Colleen Hayes



ETGM scheduled a crystal digging field trip to the Ron Coleman Mine in Jessierville, Arkansas. It is located just outside of Hot Springs National Park and has been open to the public since 1991. The mine covers 30 acres, and is about 250 feet deep in several layers.

Quartz is the state mineral and there is an “inexhaustible” supply of it. The red-clay quartz belt stretches west for 30 miles, from Hot Springs to Pencil Bluff in the Ouachita Mountains. The quartz was deposited by extremely hot water about 300 million years ago and is a milky material. The shale or sandstone it is found in is pocked with cavities containing six-sided clear crystals and clusters protected by the red clay. (This information comes from their web page.)

We had five families: parents, kids, grandkids, and the Brauns’ dog, Tyler. Tyler even had his own covered wagon.

Everyone else had buckets and digging

tools. We met at the gift shop, signed in, and headed to the mine to dig in the tailings. There were a total of 25 of us at the dig. The area is about four acres total, and we were told that about 70 yards of fresh dirt had been delivered that week.

We all got started digging, and I noticed that quite a few yard rocks were making their way back to the cars. There should be some really pretty rock gardens in East Texas by week’s end.

After a few hours, the mine dump truck brought five more loads of fresh digging material, and we all scrambled to find the treasure. Most of the finds were small clear quartz and tiny clusters, but Simon Halbertstadt found a huge clear point and a really nice cluster at the bottom of the pile.

This was a come and dig for as long as you want trip, but by noon, quite a few of us had had enough of the mud and heat and started heading for home or other adventures.



Managing Your Rock Collection

By Colleen Hayes

Have you ever picked up a rock, set it in your display, and then a few years later can't remember what it is or where you got it?

That is why managing your collection is so important, especially as your inventory grows. It could be minerals or fossils acquired on a field trip, a local dealer, a store, or even a gift from a friend. It's important to remember the basics of what, where, when, and how collected.

Many people keep a field trip journal.

This should contain information such as location, either by address, or GPS coordinates if you are out in the wilderness. Examples are the various BLM lands and forest lands that allow you to collect specimens but are vast and usually not readily addressed. If all else fails, just write the directions to the site in your journal. With this information, you can easily return to your favorite location or direct a fellow club member to the site. Sometimes it makes sense to mention landmarks as well. Of course the date of your trip needs to head the page. And any other notes that you think are pertinent to the trip such as a favorite diner or gas station or availability to cell service. I know from experience that gas stations can be few and far between in the US West. It's always nice to have a reminder of how far it is to the next station.

Once you are back home and are ready to display your "finds", there are many ways to label your specimens. You can find templates for labels online or create your own,

Most labels contain some of the following: date collected and by whom, or date purchased and where. If purchased, many people include the purchase price to remind them of the value of that specific piece. Mineral identification can come next. This can be as simple as a general term, such as petrified wood, or with more research very specific petrified species of wood. This identification should be as specific as possible.

The next line should be location the mineral was collected. Example, POST OAK CREEK fossil site, or BLM land central Utah, or if you know the specific mine or quarry name, that needs to be included.

Next, most labels have a line to claim ownership: Example: is From the Collection of Colleen Hayes.

Any other notes of interest may be included such as: is the mineral fluorescent, will the color fade in sunlight, is the mineral toxic, or any other variable that should be addressed.

Keeping your specimens properly labeled really helps as your collection grows.

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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

Check us out on the web

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

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P. O. BOX 132532
Tyler, TX 75713-2532

ETGMS CLUBHOUSE

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231 Scott Street
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