

# ROCK N ROSE

Volume 48 Issue 8

TYLER • TEXAS

August 2022



Cover Photo: Julia Toombs

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## ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 20 - 21, 2022**

Bossier City, LA  
Ark-La-Tex G&MS  
Bossier Civic Center

**Sep 24 - 25, 2022**

Lubbock, TX  
Lubbock G&MS  
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

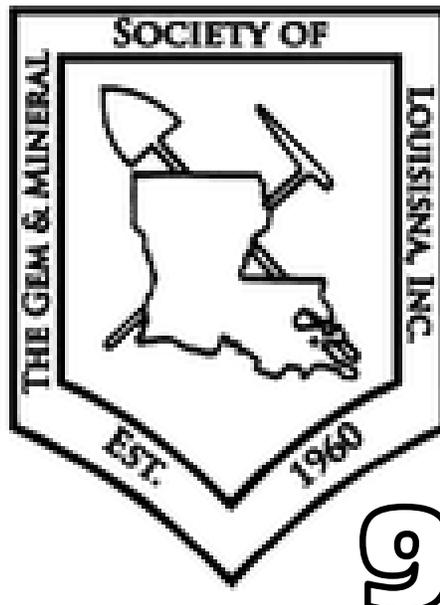
**Sept 24 - 25, 2022**

San Antonio, TX  
Southwest G&MS  
Wonderland of the Americas



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#### PUBLICATION STAFF

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#### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY

Terry Roberts  
Colleen Hayes  
Julia Toombs

#### 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](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)

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## CRITTER WORKSHOP

I have been told that some have requested a class on how to make critters. I would like to schedule a critter class/workshop on **August 20, 2022** beginning at 10 AM. We will need them for our annual show and possibly the Rose Festival Craft Fair at Bergfeld Park on **October 15 & 16, 2022**. We will also have workshops in November and January.

I hope to see you at all three.

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## MEETING

**September** meeting will be on the **12th** as Labor Day is our usual day. The presentation will be The Mineral Wealth of New Mexico given by Charles Creekmur.

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# A Message to the Club



*Jerry Sudderth*  
**PRESIDENT**

Summer is almost over but you can still escape the heat for a while by coming to our monthly meetings. September's meeting presentation will be given by Charles Creekmur. October is our big fall auction with lots of good stuff to add to your collections. If you haven't been lately you will be amazed at what we have done to the old place.

# ETGMS Meeting Minutes

AUGUST 1, 2022

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on August 1, 2022. President Jerry Sudderth called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. Jerry asked the new member to introduce himself. He and his family have moved from Oregon. A grandson has a high interest in gems. Jerry asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Charles Creekmur made the motion, Terry Roberts seconded, and the motion carried. Treasurer Ed Grounds gave the financial report.

## Announcements:

- Dues increase reminder: Individual - \$15; Family - \$25
- Mineral sub-group: Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30 PM – Arkansas Wavelite
- Dealer contracts have gone out for the January 27-29, 2023 show.
- Rose Festival Arts & Crafts Fair at Bergfeld Park, October 15 – 16. We will need volunteers to work the booth.
- Lapidary sub-group – Saturday, August 13 at 2 PM – Cabbing class with Terry; safety course with Ed for the saws and other equipment
- Field trips – Rick Walker – Mineral Wells Fossil Park is still out for late September/early October. Dallas Paleontology Society membership fee is \$25 for an individual. DPS goes to private land so check their website - this weekend to Oliver Creek north of Dallas – ammonites and gastropods. Barbara Braun mentioned that Post Oak Creek, Sherman, is going to make the hunt area a multi-acre park and family-friendly to be easier to get to the creek; the bridge is closed for now. Jerry mentioned that on the other side of I-45, 2 miles further up, there is a closed retirement home and you can get to the creek behind it. Not many people know of this spot.
- Newsletter - send articles to Julia Toombs
- Website – Margaret Kilanski is still Webmaster for now; Rick's son is going to build a new website that will be "Rick-friendly" when Rick takes over as Webmaster.
- 2nd display case – for temporary displays; bring something if you would like
- Program – "Ice Age Footprints" found in the white sands area in New Mexico.

**Old Business:** There is none.

## New Business:

- There is a sign-up sheet for vests.
- Fluorescent display boxes – lights are to be replaced to be ready for the show; Jerry is donating the lights from his display at home to be used here.
- July Rockhound of the Month – Karen Nance for beading classes
- There is a sign-up sheet for learning to make gem trees with Colleen Hayes.
- There was a short break for refreshments and the purchase of tickets for the drawing of door-prizes.

With no further business to discuss, Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Rick made the motion, Archie Engledow seconded, and the motion carried.

**The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2022. The first Monday is Labor Day.**

Respectfully submitted by, Julia Toombs, Secretary

# Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts



Bacon-Bubble Opal - Utah-1

A friend recently sent me some bacon-bubble opal rough that he collected near Milford, UT. He told me that it needed to be treated to prevent it from breaking apart while cutting and grinding because it is so porous and fragile.

Before stabilizing the material, I thoroughly cleaned some extra-thick slabs to remove most of the oil residue after sawing. Then I heated the material in a toaster oven to drive off any remaining oil and water. Next, I applied Starbond Superglue to each side of the slab to seal the tiny pores in the slab. Due to the porosity of the material, I had to apply the superglue to each side three times with a 24 hour drying period between each application to saturate the slabs. Next, I cut the slabs to the final rough size and outline that I wanted to

cab. Finally, I cut each preform in half parallel to the plane of the slab and cleaned them again in soapy water. This gave me two potential preforms for making cabs.

I was pleased to find the opal held together during the cutting and grinding process, so I moved on to the sanding and polishing steps without any problems. The cabs took on a beautiful polish, but I'm not sure if that was a result of the superglue filling in all the pores or the material is hard enough to produce the polish naturally, despite its porous nature.

You will notice in the photos below that the clear opal portion of the cabs in the first and last photo has many bubbles scattered throughout the opal. The cab in the second photo was cut from a section of one slab where the "bacon" was the predominate feature in the cab, along with what appears to be some banding. I believe the "bacon" in the cabs may also be opal that has been invaded by some other mineral that provides the color.

The first photo shows all three cabs in reflected light surrounding a quarter to indicate the relative size of the cabs. The second and third photos shows two of the cabs in transmitted light to emphasize the internal features. One person who looked at these photos told me that the round cab in the third photo should have been rotated 90 degrees to the right to better show a clown's face in the cab.

The last photo shows a pendant I made from a Bacon-Bubble Opal for a lady in our club who became ill just before she and her husband were going to leave to go hiking and rock collecting in Colorado. I know it ruined their vacation plans, so I'm hoping this will cheer her up a little.



Bacon-Bubble Opal - Utah-2



Bacon-Bubble Opal - Utah-3



Bacon-Bubble Opal - Utah

# GEM FACETS

## ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT GEMS AND JEWELRY

Richard D, Armstrong, NAJA Certified Master Appraiser, GIA GG, GP, AJP, and AGA ASG

Welcome to my new column where I will answer your questions about gems and jewelry. If you have a question about any gem, gem identification, grading of gems, or jewelry I will do my best to answer your question or find an answer. I cannot answer questions such as “what is this gem”, or “what is this worth”. Identification of gems and valuation or appraisal cannot be done without proper examination, testing and evaluation, a process that takes time and personal inspection of the item.

I have had a passion for gems and minerals for 70 years. I am a gemologist and Certified Master Appraiser with the National

Association of Jewelry Appraisers. I have an extensive library, an accredited and certified gem lab, as well as contacts with top gemologists and experts worldwide. I have been a member of ETGMS since about 2010.

Your participation is essential for this to succeed. I know many of you have questions. There is no such thing as a “stupid question” as far as I am concerned. If you have a question there are very likely others who have the same question. So please ask. If several members ask the same or a similar question I will give that priority. I will do my best to provide answers in a non-technical way so that all may understand. I

have learned over the years that even technical information can often be explained in simple terms.

We will start next month answering your questions, so send your questions to either my business or personal email, [info@lonestargemlab.com](mailto:info@lonestargemlab.com) or [keltfire@msn.com](mailto:keltfire@msn.com). The deadline for submission will be the 1st of the month in order for me to write the column and submit it to the editor. Questions received after the deadline will be answered the following month.

I am looking forward to your questions. Sometimes I learn something new when I am researching a question for someone.





# 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem and Mineral Show!

OCTOBER 14 - 16, 2022

## What to Expect?

- Dealers from Texas to Georgia will be exhibiting hand faceted gems, Louisiana opals, mineral specimens, fossils, beads and finished hand crafted jewelry, lapidary rough and slabs
- Crack your own geode, hourly FREE raffled door prizes, silent auction and TWO GRAND PRIZES will be raffled Sunday.
- Society members will be demonstrating the art of silversmithing and casting, wire wrapping and cabochon cutting.
- Competitive exhibits displaying unique rock collections and dinosaur bones; A fluorescent minerals tent; Cabochon cutting; Jewelry Making.

## Activities for the kids include:

- Surprise grab bags
- "Polish your own cabochons"
- "MAKE A FOSSIL", where kids create their very own Dino-bone.
- Gem Tree Creations, a tree of gems
- Plinko Wall

## Of QUARTZ there's family fun for everyone!

The New Orleans Gem and Mineral Society of Louisiana, INC. is a recognized 501(c)3 organization, a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and South Central Federation of the Mineralogical Societies.

## Mission Statement:

The Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana, at New Orleans, is dedicated to the advancement and sharing of knowledge in the fields of Geology, Mineralogy, Lapidary, and Paleontology.

Brenda Reilly • Advertising Chair  
(504) 430-4240 • brendar@gmsola.org

It's the 50th Annual Gem and Mineral Show!

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The Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana, Inc

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More!!

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
OCT. 14	OCT. 15	OCT. 16
10AM TO 6PM	10AM TO 6PM	10AM TO 4PM

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Students, Military and Members W/ I.D \$3.00  
SCOUTS IN UNIFORM FREE



# WORKSHOP GUIDELINES



**Purpose** - The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society's purpose is to encourage interest in the earth sciences. The club workshop is provided only for members in good standing - all dues & fees paid. As a part of this endeavor, the safe use of equipment, to enhance and expose the natural beauty of gem and minerals, by individual club members is encouraged. Shop Stewards will teach interested club members how to safely use the club's equipment. Many members cannot afford to purchase and maintain their own equipment, but as a group we can provide and maintain this equipment. Usage of the club equipment is for personal enjoyment not for creating specimens or

jewelry for resale. Shop Stewards will be appointed by the BOD. All members must view the club orientation video and attend the safety class before being allowed to use any lapidary equipment in the workshop. No members under 18 years of age unless accompanied by parent/ grandparent and approved by the Shop Steward will be allowed to use the club's equipment.

Classes to teach various lapidary skills and techniques may have a workshop charge and/or supply charge. All fees collected will help cover the workshop expenses. Each individual club member is required to provide and use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). The club may furnish some safety equipment for shop use, but the user must clean that equipment before returning it for reuse. Club members may bring their own safety equipment to use and take it home with them, but the Shop Stewards must approve the safety equipment.

1. At least one of the **Shop Stewards** or assistants (designated by a Shop Steward) must be present when anyone is using the club workshop.
2. **Hours of Availability** - TBA as club needs dictate, to be scheduled or announced via email or Facebook.
3. **Sign In Log** - Name, start time, end time, fees collected (if just observing/visiting- no charge but must sign in)
4. **Orientation and certification training for specific equipment** - as required by Shop Steward
5. **Safety - personal & environmental**
  - A. Appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) must be used when operating equipment in the workshop
  - B. During equipment cleanup, all waste must be disposed of in a safe manner... NEVER dispose of any waste in a club house drain or in an environmentally hazardous way.
  - C. Safety equipment to include- goggles/safety glasses, respiratory dust mask, apron, gloves/hand protection, hearing protection as needed.
  - D. All safety devices on equipment must be in place and operable before that piece of equipment can be used. Anyone removing a safety device is deemed using unsafe practices and will be barred from club workshop.
6. **Fee schedule and collection policies** - Fee will be \$5 per session (normally a 4-hour period) and are paid to Shop Steward or his designee at the beginning of the session. This is due even if member arrives late or leaves early. Please bring correct amount as Shop Steward may not be able to make correct change.
7. **Equipment cleaning and maintenance** -
  - A. All equipment used must be cleaned each session (allow 15 minutes for proper cleaning)
  - B. The workshop area must be clean at the end of each session/shift.
  - C. No adaptations to equipment. All equipment is to be used for approved operations only.
  - D. Any equipment failure requires removal of power source, visibly tagged "Out of Service", and reported to Shop Steward immediately.
  - E. All equipment maintenance is to be done by qualified repair person as directed by Shop Steward. All repair expense above \$100 must be BOD approved. Repair expenses are paid for from shop fees collected.
  - F. Members using the workshop are not to be penalized for normal wear and tear of equipment.
8. **Recourse for not following established safety procedures and guidelines** - Any club member found in violation of above Guidelines will be barred from using the Club Workshop. Retraining will be required with approval from Shop Steward and all fees for repairs of equipment damaged by mis-use must be paid before privileges are reinstated. In matters where safety of others is involved, reinstatement of privileges to the workshop will not be granted.

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Shop Steward Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

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

### FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Rick Walker  
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[sudderthjerry13@gmail.com](mailto:sudderthjerry13@gmail.com)

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### EDITOR • GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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[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