

# ROCK N ROSE

Volume 49 Issue 1

TYLER • TEXAS

January 2023



Cover Photo: Julia Toombs

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## ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 1 - February 12, 2023**

Many shows in  
Quartzite, Arizona

**January 21 - 22, 2023**

Fredericksburg  
Rockhounds Pioneer Pavilion  
Fredericksburg, Tx

**January 27 - 29, 2023**

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

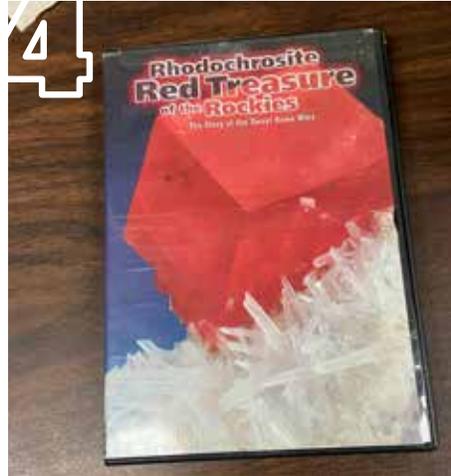
**January 29, 2023**

Rolling Rock Club  
Tyler Rose Garden Center  
Tyler, Texas

**February 18 - 19, 2023**

Williamson County G&MS  
Community Center at San Gabriel Park  
Georgetown, TX

*(SCFMS Newsletter – January-February, 2023)*



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#### PUBLICATION STAFF

Sarah Hawthorne - Editor / Graphic Designer  
Julia Toombs - Editor  
Margaret Kilanski - Webmaster

#### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Terry Roberts  
Julia Toombs  
Kerry Cartier

#### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY

Terry Roberts  
Lynn Metcalf  
Julie Toombs

#### Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## ETGMS ANNUAL SHOW

JANUARY 27 – 29, 2023

Page 10 has all the details to help out with the show.

### 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 would be a big help.**

If you have a Facebook page could you post it there too please?

## GROUP MEETS

### LAPIDARY / JEWELRY GROUP

The Monthly Lapidary Meeting is Saturday, January 14th.

### MINERAL GROUP

Suspended until more interest is shown

Charles Creekmur heads up the group.

Contact Charles to have your name added to the email.

[calcite65 at gmail.com](mailto:calcite65@gmail.com)

### DUES FOR 2023

- \$15/year for an individual
- \$25/year for a family

Dues should be paid by **January 1, 2023** to stay on the membership roster, but will be accepted later.

Please remember that you can send a check to the PO Box shown on the back of the newsletter.

# A Message to the Club



*Jerry Sudderth*  
PRESIDENT

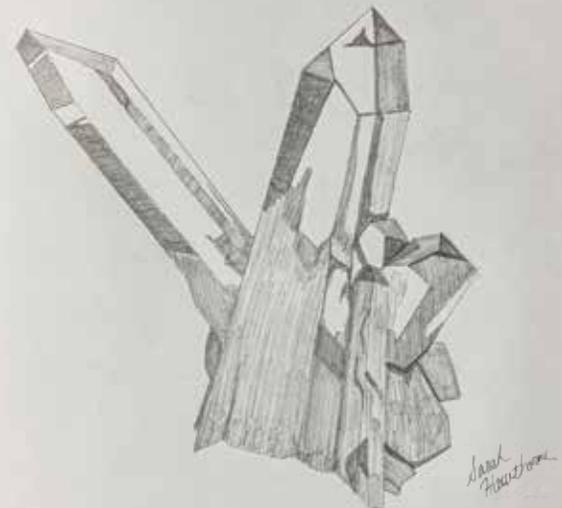
We hope everyone had a great holiday season, but now it is time to put on a great show and to do that we need every member to be a part of it. If you haven't signed up yet, it isn't too late. Send Rick Walker a message and let him know when you can help, even if just for a couple of hours. See you all there.



Submission by:  
Sarah Hawthorne

Pencil Drawing • 1.11.2023

A **Crystal** is just a mineral that is not part of an aggregated solid, like a rock, but instead stands on its own. Structured lattice-like lattices are used to make crystals. The outcome is an inorganic, geometric structure.



# ETGMS Meeting Minutes

JANUARY 9, 2023

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on January 9, 2023 due to the first Monday falling on an official holiday. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM. There were no visitors or guests. President Jerry Sudderth asked for a motion to approve the December minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Colleen Hayes made the motion, Easton Simpson seconded, and the motion carried. Treasurer Jimmy Simpson gave the financial report.

## Announcements:

- Lapidary group – Leader Terry Roberts announced that it would be on Saturday, January 14, from 10-6, and would be an Open House with the saw room open.
- Mineral group – suspended for now, but Charles' programs will be incorporated into the regular programs. He could not make it tonight, so Zeolites is scheduled for February.
- Update on the new website – Rick Walker's son is updating it and Rick said it will look identical, but he is creating backdoors so that Rick can make changes.
- Field trips – Fred Mahaffey wasn't present. Jerry said he would begin as Field Trip Chairman at the end of the month.
- Rockhound of the Month – Margaret Kilanski; Rockhound of the Year – Sarah Hawthorne; both do an outstanding job in their respective jobs.



- The critter workshop for the show will be on Saturday, January 14, from 10-4. It is not possible to have too many with the Azalea Arts & Crafts Fair coming up in March. Please join us for a fun time.

## Old business = New business:

- Show – Rick said there were still 2 display cases available for filling and there are only nine signed up to help set up on Thursday and 5 of those are board members. We need more help.

With no further business to discuss, Jerry asked for motion to adjourn the business meeting. Terry made the motion, Karen Nance seconded, and the motion carried. After a short break for refreshments and the purchase of door prize tickets, the drawing was held.

A very good video followed: Rhodochrosite: Red Treasure of the Rockies. It was on the Sweet Home Mine in Colorado.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2023, at 6:45 PM.

Respectively submitted by, Julia Toombs, Secretary





*I would like to recap the folks who have been Rockhounds of the Month leading to Rockhound of the Year for 2022.*

By Julia Toombs

#### JANUARY

**Butch Halberstadt** for his great help at the show.

#### FEBRUARY

**Zack Weenink** for all the rocks he donated when he was moving.

#### MARCH

**Julia Toombs** for my work on the newsletter and the special publication to promote the club to new members.

#### APRIL

**Richard and Barbara Braun** for their time devoted to painting rocks and help at park events.

#### MAY

**Jimmy Simpson** for helping at workdays and being available to transport son Easton on field trips.

#### JUNE

**Ed Grounds** for his finance abilities and being so involved in setting up the saw room.

#### JULY

**Karen Nance** for volunteering her time to hold beading classes.

#### AUGUST

**David Metzner** for helping with audits.

#### SEPTEMBER

**Shelly Sudderth** for spending several months making critters.

#### OCTOBER

**Jeff Lewis** for helping at Bergfeld Park.

#### NOVEMBER

**Sarah Hawthorne** for her fine work as graphic designer/editor of the newsletter.

#### DECEMBER

**Margaret Kilanski** for her work on the website.

*One of these monthly winners becomes Rockhound of the Year, and that honor goes to Sarah Hawthorne for her outstanding work in making our newsletter a work of art itself.*



I am truly touched by the Rockhound of the Year award, Thank You All!

Having the opportunity to combine my life long love of beautiful rocks and my career

in digital design is a blessing to me. I want to thank the club for entrusting me with the newsletter these past two years. I also want to thank Julia for agreeing to Co-Edit since I don't fancy myself a writer. I think we make a Great Team!

I hope everyone will take a moment and check out Julia's article on all the categories that can be entered by submitting articles/drawings to the newsletter. I hope 2023 will bring in even more participation for the newsletter.



# CLUB REPRESENTATION

Julia Toombs

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. Contact Jimmy Simpson, Treasurer.

## ETGMS Merchandise

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

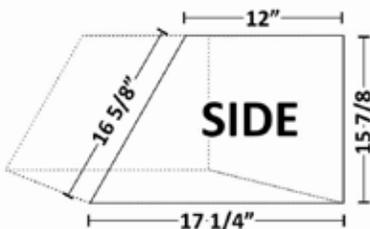


# DISPLAY CASES AT JANUARY SHOW

By Julia Toombs

Below are the measurements for the 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. It's fun too.

## DISPLAY CASE LINERS



# Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

Recently, I found a large agate nodule in a bucket in my shop. The agates in the bucket were found on the Walker Ranch<sup>1</sup> which is located about 18 miles south of Alpine in west Texas. What made this nodule unusual, besides its large size, is that it contained many small brown jasper spherule-like structures interspersed throughout the agate matrix. Geologists call any small spherule larger than two millimeters a pisolite. If they are smaller than two millimeters, they are called an oolite. Therefore, these jasper structures may be called pisolites. However, most rockhounds who hunt for these nodules south of Alpine are more nontechnical and prefer to use the more colorful term “peanuts” to describe the shape, size, and color of the pisolites. (Fig, 1)

I have made several cabs from some of the slabs that I cut, but my favorite cab has a round shape that is about one and one-half inches in diameter and contains some aesthetically pleasing red structures found in only a few other slabs. This particular cab has a small fortification band with some druzy quartz crystals inside that can only be seen clearly under magnification.

I found another unusual feature in the last two cabs (Fig, 2) that I cut from the small end of the agate nodule. They contained some large red and black plumes at the top of each slab with no indication of any pisolites showing at the bottom of each slab. However, it appears that the brown jasper material might be changing shape to a more flower-like structure found in “flower garden” agate on this ranch. This agate nodule turned out to have a more complex structure than is what is normally found in nodules occurring in the Bird Hills along Highway 118.

<sup>1</sup> This ranch is under new ownership and now closed to rock hunting.



Peanut Agate, Walker Ranch, Alpine, Texas



Peanut Agate with Plumes - Walker Ranch, Alpine, Texas



# INTERESTING ITEMS

From SCFMS Newsletter January - February 2023

## Is Ice a Mineral or Not?

It is transparent to translucent, has a vitreous luster, variable hardness, and low specific gravity. It occurs in massive and crystalline form. Yes! Ice is a mineral.



Find out exactly why at:

[www.rockngem.com/is-ice-a-mineral/?em=c2NmbXN1ZG10b3JAeWFob28uY29t&utm\\_campaign=RnG+Weekly+Dec+29\\_2022&fref=0b048750-f573-43ee-9b18-f41310d89dbb](http://www.rockngem.com/is-ice-a-mineral/?em=c2NmbXN1ZG10b3JAeWFob28uY29t&utm_campaign=RnG+Weekly+Dec+29_2022&fref=0b048750-f573-43ee-9b18-f41310d89dbb)

## What Minerals Produce the Colors in Fireworks?

(From Frequently asked questions – Minerals – USGS.GOV)

Mineral elements provide the color in fireworks. Additional colors can be made by mixing elements:

Color Produced	Element(s)	Primary Mineral Ore(s)
bright greens	barium	barite
deep reds	strontium	celestite
blues	copper	chalcopyrite
yellows	sodium	halite (rock salt)
brilliant orange	strontium + sodium	celestite, halite
silvery white	titanium+zirconium+magnesium alloys	ilmenite, rutile, zircon, dolomite, magnesite, brucite, carnallite, olivine
lavender	copper+strontium	chalcopyrite, celestite

Gold sparks are produced by iron filings (magnetite, hematite) and small pieces of charcoal. Bright flashes and loud bangs come from aluminum powder (bauxite).





# Do You Enjoy Writing?



By Julia Toombs

As the text editor of our newsletter, I am tasked with sending articles, written or drawn features, poetry, etc., to the South Central Federation (SCFMS) Author and Editor's Contest. By my standards, we have some very good writers among us, both creative and technical.

Here are the categories to which you can submit: Original Junior Articles for under 12, Original Junior Articles for 12 & up, Original Adult Articles, Original Adult Articles Advanced, Original Adult Poetry, Written Features for all ages, Drawn Features for all ages, and Special Publications.

You can write as often as you want, and in several categories, but there can be only one entry **per** category **per** person.

I must follow certain guidelines when deciding whether your piece is an article or a feature. **Articles** are original, not a review of an article or a summary, and not a trip or vacation report unless there is information included such as geological factors or information to enhance education.

A **Feature** is hobby-related, may have little or no educational value, may be a trip or vacation report, cartoon, puzzle, etc. There have been word searches and crossword puzzles.

**Adult Article Advanced** refers to authors of books or other published documents and he/she earns a living in an Earth Science field.

When Kinney Polve was editor, February was always **Poetry** month. I do not specify a month as they are welcome anytime. It does not matter what form your poem takes, but it should be hobby related.

Sarah Hawthorne comes from an artistic family, and in November, decided to pick up her pencil and start to draw again. Her trilobite was featured in the December issue. She wanted it entered in the **Drawn Features** category. She had been bitten by the "recognition bug" with the SCFMS second place and AFMS fifth place newsletter wins.

We currently have families with junior members. If you are a parent or grandparent, encourage your child to contribute an article, feature, poem, or drawing.

The SCFMS judges submit their winners to the American Federation (AFMS) judges, so it is possible you could win regional & national awards. As text editor, it is my job to read your submission through and look for errors you may have missed like spelling, punctuation, and grammar. The judges publish what to look for in errors that editors can fix to enhance an entry. Sometimes a word or two will be added to make a sentence clearer. I have one author who requests nothing is changed. It will still be read through, but her wish is respected. Most say I am free to edit, but a revised version will be sent for your approval.

If you contribute something but do not want it entered in the contest, just let me know. Keep in mind, too, that your field trip report can enhance someone else's field trip experience. Perhaps a family is from another state and is coming to Texas on vacation. The newsletters are read by those from across the country, not just regionally.

So please, write up something for all to read.



# 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 27, 28 and 29, 2023**

### 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 Prizes
- Grand Prize Drawing
- Lapidary Demonstrations
- Wheel of Fortune Game for the Children
- Equipment and Supplies
- Cut and Uncut Stones
- Gold and Silver Jewelry
- Wire Wrapping Demos
- Lapidary Material
- Flint Knapping
- Minerals
- Fossils
- Geodes
- Gemstones
- Raffle Prizes

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION

DEALER CHAIRMAN  
**Charles Creekmur**

903.360.2556  
[calcite65@gmail.com](mailto:calcite65@gmail.com)

SHOW CHAIRMAN  
**Jerry Sudderth**

903.787.2088  
[sudderthjerry13@gmail.com](mailto:sudderthjerry13@gmail.com)



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

# ROCKS IN MY HEAD

By KERRY CARTIER

On the bottom of my living room bookshelf sits a large rock covered with quartz crystals. I found that rock in western Montana and lugged it home in a backpack.

Next to that is a fossil cycad, or fern stem, that's almost four inches in diameter, that I found in 1979 in an abandoned coalmine near Heavener, Oklahoma. It looks something like huge bamboo.

In the Lower Carboniferous Age, there were forests of ferns instead of the forests of evergreens or deciduous trees of today. In my mind, I can see them tall and waving in the breeze, bright light green and delicate.

Next to the cycad is a fossilized clamshell from the North Sulfur River near Cooper, Texas [at 2nd bridge, right side of river]. The river cuts through layers of geologic time, exposing an era when Texas was underwater. A seabed of clams is exposed in the riverbed, but if you dig a few feet deep anywhere in the area, there is evidence of clamshells.

The clams have shells almost an inch thick. Were these just sturdy clams, or were the shells protecting them from something that loved to snack on clams? I cannot tell; the predators – if that is what they were – did not survive to be fossilized, but the clamshells did.

If there were strong predators that could break the baseball-sized clams, one wonders what they were. The mystery goes back millions of years, to a time when there were no human beings to contemplate it. Just clams, living in shallow water in an area that would become Texas, some 186 years ago. On the timeline of the clams, Texas is but a moment of glory.

When I lived in Nevada and Arizona, there was always a dirt track off the main highway that led to something. Sometimes it was the remains of a century-old wooden building, preserved only by a hot, dry climate. I would try to figure out what the building had

been. Once I found old deeds under a wooden floor. When I examined them at home with a map, I learned that I held deeds to house lots in a town that no longer existed. I gave the deeds to the historical society in Carson City and heard no more about them.

Sometimes I found the remains of an old mine, whose piles of overburden stretched out with a flat top for a railroad track used by small dump carts. The railroad track would always be gone, salvaged for the steel. But the overburden would be there forever.

As an adult I learned the principle of “provenance,” the idea that a rock or any other object exists in an environment. Removed from where you picked it up, that rock is no longer related to its world. Generally, I think that is hooey invented by people who look at the world as static and overly vulnerable. Each rock on my shelf has its own story, and that story begins with me.

Another rock is cylindrical, two inches in diameter and two and a half inches high. I am told that it is a fossilized vertebrae though I do not know what animal it may have come from. I found it in the Owyhee Desert in northern Nevada, in dirt piled at the bottom of a cliff. Perhaps more fossilized bones were in the cliff face, but I had no way to climb up and see.

I have pieces of obsidian from the Nevada desert. The area where I found them is covered with tiny obsidian chips and some broken arrowheads. Apparently, the Paiutes harvested obsidian and sat near a hot spring to make arrowheads from it. Making arrowheads produces a lot of chips. Sitting out in the hot sun making arrowheads must have been a major activity, judging by the amount of chips.

As far as I know, none of my rocks has any monetary value. To anyone else, they are just a pile of rocks. To me, they are reminders of worlds gone by, times no man has ever seen, and of places I have been and may never go again.

# HELP WANTED



## ETGMS ANNUAL SHOW JANUARY 27 – 29, 2023

By Julia Toombs

Your Board is in full-planning mode for the show. If you are a member who does not come to the meetings on a regular basis but wants to help at this big endeavor, you can still get your name on a Volunteer sheet. Below is a list of the areas in which you can help. Most shifts are two hours. You can sign up for as many as you like and in as many areas as you want.

**Our set-up day at the Tyler Rose Garden Center is Thursday, January 26.**

- **Show Set-up** – Thurs.
- **Display Case Set-up** – Thurs.
- **Student Day** – Fri.
- **Dealer Dinner** – 6 PM Fri.
- **Rock Food Table** – Fri., Sat., and Sun.
- **Front Desk** – Fri., Sat., and Sun.
- **Door Ticket Checker** – Fri., Sat., and Sun.
- **Fluorescent Room** – Fri., Sat., and Sun.
- **Games** – Fri., Sat., and Sun.
- **Silent Auction** – Sat. and Sun.

**Show Set-up** – This will include loading trucks and trailers at the clubhouse. Most items will be on pallets for easy loading, but there are always single items that are better off in vehicles. Once at the Center, you will help get everything into place including assembling the Display Cases.

**Display Case set-up** – This is for the members who want to fill a case with their treasures. There are 16 small cases and one big case. They must be filled by 9 PM Thursday, January 26.

**Student Day** – We need help guiding students among the vendors. There is also a stop at the Games. You have the aid of a mapped path.

**Dealer Dinner** – We need help setting up the area and getting the food put out. The meal will be fully catered this year but extra desserts are welcomed and should be there by 5 with serving utensils. Leftovers often feed the workers and vendors over the weekend.

**Rock Food Table** – This involves standing/sitting with the tables and answering questions (to the best of your ability) from the attendees. (Many items on plates are glued down. We request that you keep arms from reaching across to pick things up.)

**Front Desk** – You will take entrance fees, hand out raffle tickets, hand out forms to be filled in for the mailing list, etc. A ticket Friday gets them in Saturday and Sunday, too.

**Door Ticket Checker** – This entails checking and stamping each hand that enters, so they can get back in should they leave the building.

**Fluorescent Room** – You will be the attendant who explains fluorescence and operates the lights.

**Games** – You will take money and refill the prize boards with critters, etc.

**Silent Auction** - You will put out items on the tables with their bidding sheets. When each 30-minute round is up, the items are wrapped and bagged for transport. You hand cash or credit card to the person behind the drawer.

**Show Breakdown** – There is not a sheet for this. If you are working an area up to 5pm on Sunday, we request that you stay and help get everything put away so the pallets can be reloaded. Rick Walker is set-up and break-down extraordinaire. If you are not working that day but want to help, please contact Rick.

If you want to help with our biggest fund raiser of the year but cannot get to a Volunteer sheet, please contact Rick Walker at [rjwalkeretgms@gmail.com](mailto:rjwalkeretgms@gmail.com).

**WE NEED YOU!!!**

# A LOOK INTO THE PAST

By Julia Toombs

A friend recently sent me some Rock-n-Rose newsletters from 2005-2009. The top one, November 2009, had this:

## TOP 10 REASONS TO COLLECT MINERALS

10. Large specimens can double as ballast for the car in winter.
9. Didn't know what to do with that empty space in the garage anyway.
8. Always preferred vacationing in abandoned quarries to white-sand beaches.
7. collecting only coprolites is just too specialized.
6. In-laws might not visit as much after hearing rock tumbler in guest bedroom.
5. Field collecting may help you improve your aim with a hammer.
4. Mounting micro specimens is an excellent way to teach the virtue of patience.
3. Baseball cards don't look as nice lining the flower garden.
2. Elvis may have his own stamp, but he'll never have his own mineral.
1. It's still legal!!!

And the number one reason to collect minerals...

It is reprinted from The Rock Collector 11/09 via Pesa Rock News, via Rockhound Record 11/09, via Stoney Statements 11/09

### LYNN METCALF HAS LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:

- Gemstone slant cabber w/ multiple pads
- Diamond Jem 5-wheel (like a Pixie), w/ interchangeable 5th wheel for leather or other pads
- Gemstone Trim Saw with 2 diamond 6" blades. One is for thin cuts on softer materials. The other is for heavier, denser materials (brand new).
- 10" diamond Black Blade rock saw blade
- The big wheel cabber has multiple new belts



Lynn has a few vials of powders and diamond drill bits for small work. There are miscellaneous smaller items and some raw rock material.

Contact her at [lcmetcalf@hotmail.com](mailto:lcmetcalf@hotmail.com)





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Nacogdoches, TX 75961