ROCK N ROSE

TYLER • TEXAS

Volume 49 Issue 7 July 2023

Cover Photo: **Julia Toombs**

CONTENTS

ROCK N ROSE
THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 15 - 16
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society
Exchange Center at Expo Square
Tulsa Expo Square, Oklahoma

August 19 - 20
Ark-La-Tex
Gem & Mineral Society Show
Bossier Civic Center
Bossier City, Louisiana

October 21 - 22
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
Azalea Arts & Crafts Festival
Bergfeld Park, Tyler, Texas

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Terry Roberts
Julia Toombs
Colleen Hayes
Kerry Cartier

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY
Terry Roberts
Colleen Hayes
Julia Toombs

Rock-N-Rose
Newsletter
231 Scott Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

Find us on Facebook

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GROUP MEETS

Safety Class for equipment usage – none in July

LAPIDARY / JEWELRY GROUP
Contact Ed Grounds 903-316-9157 or egrds1(at) gmail.com.

Lapidary Workshop: July 22 – 10 AM – 3 PM

Gem Tree classes
If you would like to learn to make them,
contact Colleen Hayes at colhayes321 (at) gmail.com

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

CRITTER WORKSHOPS

Scheduled for August 5 & September 16
RSVP to etgmsnewsletter (at) gmail.com

Booth at Bergfeld Park – October 21-22
This is what we are making critters for.

Mosaics - Anyone who is into Mosaics as a hobby or has done it in the past, please contact Julia at etgmsnewsletter (at) gmail.com

I need to make a request to the members who drive to the meetings: We have many members who don't get to attend the meetings because they do not want to drive at night. The summer months are the only times when they might come on their own since daylight is longer. Please consider helping them out by making yourself available to pick someone up. The Board has a list of the membership with all contact information. If you know you are going to attend a meeting, please give me a call and let me put you in contact with one of them. Please give me and them a couple of days' notice, at least. I will do my best to select someone in the same general area. There are two members I currently pick up.

The plus side to this is that you will make a new friend. Julia at etgmsnewsletter (at) gmail.com

A Message to the Club

Jerry Sudderth
PRESIDENT

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far. It was great seeing new members at our meeting. I hope to see all the old and new at future meetings. We are getting a lot of interest in different classes, and we want that to continue so that all our members will join in. Be sure to check your emails for all the different activities we offer. See you at the next meeting.

ETGMS Meeting Minutes

JULY 3, 2023

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular meeting on July 3, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM. We had one visitor who introduced himself. President Jerry Sudderth asked for a motion to approve the June minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Colleen Hayes made the motion, John Ellwanger seconded, and the motion carried.

Announcements:

- Lapidary group – workshop will be open Saturday, July 8, 10 AM to 3 PM
- Sign up sheets - back table for various activities
- Gem Tree class – Saturday, July 8, 9 AM to Noon (if have 2-4 students)
- Field Trips – according to Fred Mahaffey – the Septarian area in Duncanville is very overgrown; looking at a pyrite location; has not heard back from the petrified wood location; still looking into other areas.
- Newsletter – Julia Toombs; Website & Facebook – Rick Walker
- June Rockhound of the Month – Becky Whisenant
- Program – Video on Volcanos

There was no old or new business.

With no further business to discuss, Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Easton Simpson made the motion, John Ellwanger seconded, and the motion carried. After a break for refreshments and the purchase of door prize tickets, the tickets were drawn, and the video began.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2023, at 6:45 PM.

Submitted by,
Julia Toombs, Secretary

Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

I decided to show a variety of recently completed cabs for this issue. The first photo shows a beautiful Poppy Jasper from an old site in California located near Morgan Hill on the side of El Toro Mountain, Santa Clara County. Unfortunately, this site has been developed for housing and is no longer available for rock collecting. However, there is another site near Black Butte Reservoir farther north that has a different type of Poppy Jasper that many rockhounds consider to be more beautiful than what was found at the old site. Since this site is on Federal land, there is no danger of any housing developments preventing future collecting. The second photo shows a picture of one that was collected by an unknown rockhound at Black Butte Reservoir.

Photo 1

Photo 2

The third photo shows two cabs, an unknown plume agate from an unknown location and a red banded agate from the Woodward Ranch south of Alpine, Texas.

Photo 3

The Woodward Ranch is closed to rockhounds, as is the adjacent Walker Ranch.

The fourth photo shows the red banded agate in transmitted light. This view reveals the bright internal colors and small bands.

Photo 4

More Productive Days

By Julia Toombs


14

On June 10, our monthly lapidary day, Ed Grounds held a Safety class using the new computer (Photo 1) and Marcia Graham held another wire wrapping class. Pictured is Easton Simpson who comes as often as possible to cut rock, cab, wire wrap, and make gem trees and critters. (Photo 2)

On July 8, also our monthly lapidary day, three groups met in the clubhouse:

About six joined Terry Roberts and Ed Grounds on the cab machines (Photos 3) and saws. (Photo 4)

Colleen Hayes had three ladies join her to make gem trees. (Photos 5–8)

Easton, Darby, and Debra joined in on making critters/aliens when they were finished with other activities. Photos 9–10 show the alien production line. Even though only two signed up, there were about 150 critters made over five hours by nine people!! Two left, for a short time, but returned! Photos 11-14 show what were created.

Thanks to all of you for coming and contributing your talent, even if you think you lack it. Neither the aliens nor I care how crazy your imagination is.


15


1


2


3


4


5

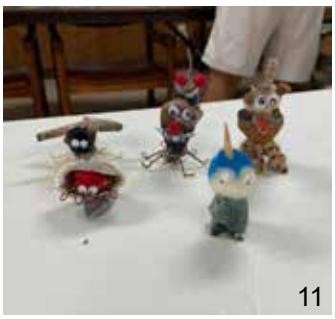

6


7


8


9


10


11


12


13

East Texas Oil Museum, Kilgore College

By Colleen Hayes

During the heat of the summer months, it is almost impossible to go rockhounding safely. The heat, along with the critters and bugs, make summer rockhounding uncomfortable.

Julia Toombs and I decided to venture inside for a change and elected to visit the East Texas Oil Museum in Kilgore, Texas. The museum is located on the Kilgore Junior College campus just off Highway 259 and Ross Street in Kilgore.

The museum is essentially dedicated to preserving the history of the East Texas oil field, a tribute to the independent oilmen, and to the wildcatters during the 1930-31 oil boom.

The East Texas oil boom got off to a bang with the discovery of oil on the Daisy Bradford farm. "Pop" Joiner and his crew hit a gusher on October 3, 1930. This was his third attempt at drilling a well, and he hit a good one. This was the beginning of the great East Texas oil boom. The oil field covered parts of three counties—Upshur, Smith, and Cherokee. Prior to the oil discovery, Kilgore was a sleepy, little rural farming community of almost 500 residents. It grew to over 12,000 within a few years. Later Kilgore would be known as the city with the world's richest acre in downtown Kilgore.

Oil in East Texas is in the Woodbine formation. This is a Cretaceous-age layer formed when seas covered this part of Texas approximately 100 million years ago. This substratum underlays the Austin chalk layer and overlays the Maness shale and older rocks. This layering of strata is best explained at the museum where you can "ride" to the center of the earth on an elevator with each layer explained, along with some of the fossil content in each layer, until you get to the oil sandstone. The presentation is explained by two marionettes. One is a geologist and the other a student. This was a fun way to explain the earth's layers and is perfect for kids and adults.

As you enter the museum, you are transported to the 1930s with a realistic street scene, shops, and offices, all decked out with artifacts from the era. You can also enter and look at the tools and machines, soda fountain, general store, and more. Visit the Boomtown Theater for a 20-minute movie on history with actual photos and video from the 1930s. There are also descriptions of how they drill a well, how fracking works, and how a horizontal well is dug. The museum also has a small display of some of the rocks that the drillers may encounter.

Oil and gas production is still a major force in Texas, and geology and engineering degrees are prevalent in our local universities.

This is a must see for all……!

STABILIZING BONES

By Colleen Hayes

Earlier this month, Rick Walker received a request on Facebook from someone wanting to know how to stabilize bones in the field. A request was sent out to the members for their help. Kenneth Rowland responded with this answer. It is taken from two sources advertising the product.

Stabilizing Dinosaur Bones with CA Glue

Cyanoacrylate glue can be a handy tool for either field or lab work. This quicksetting, strong adhesive is great when working with fossil stabilization.

Given the value of dinosaur bones, most museums must preserve and stabilize these bones using the right kind of adhesive. There are various adhesives on the market, but the best adhesive to use here is thin CA super glue. The viscosity of the CA glue to be used will be determined by the size of the fracture. Super-fast, thin CA glue is best suited for dinosaur bones with hairline fractures as well as bones which are porous. This glue is widely known for its use in the repair of fossil bones particularly for the fact that it penetrates as well as stabilizes the bone material through capillary action.

Fossil Stabilizing

It is important to know that CA glue is a strong adhesive and will instantly bond. One must be aware of this when working with CA glue because there is little to no room for error. Any small adjustments can weaken the bond. CA glue is also irreversible which is necessary for fossil bones to keep them intact. However, if there is a strong need for the bone to be reset, one can use acetone to soften the cyanoacrylate. This process is particularly useful in dissembling a bad bond. However, full removal of a dinosaur bone requires a more advanced process.

Due to its quick-setting bond time, cyanoacrylate adhesive is useful for field work. CA glue comes in small 1-oz and 2-oz bottles which makes it easier to carry around. When out in the field, one can stabilize weak bones or even fix bigger fragments of fossil bones as preparation for further detailed work in the labs. It is particularly useful for infiltrating and subsequently stabilizing the fossil bone just before extraction.

Cyanoacrylate super glue is particularly useful for small works. It is sold worldwide under the name CA glue. In addition to this, CA glue can be used alongside an accelerator if the saturation of a porous bone is unwanted. This prevents the CA glue from soaking excessively into the bone and lessens waste.

Thin CA glue is easily available in different packages. The super glue is available in 1-oz, 2-oz, and 16-oz bottles, with extra supplies. This thin glue is useful for quick penetration, high-gloss finishes, and producing less brittle end-products.

Gold in "THE KINK" in Alaska

By Kerry Cartier

The north fork of the Fortymile River in eastern Alaska has a man-made channel called "the Kink". It is a geographical example of what men will do to find gold.

The story is that prospectors along the Fortymile River found more gold in their pans getting up to the Kink than they did after the Kink. Any good prospector could figure it out: the gold had to be where the river kinked.

There were several "gold rushes" to Alaska between 1897 and 1904. From what I have read, the 1897 to 1904 "rushes" was just a continual, seasonal move northward. Many people do not realize much of the gold the prospectors sought was in Canada, though the prospectors ranged throughout the Alaska territory. The other hot spot was Nome.

Between 1890 and 1900, Alaska's white population increased seven-fold, from 4,298 to 30,293.

In 1903, prospectors rerouted the Yukon River by blasting through a ridge. This physically cut off river flow in the Kink, making the gold available through placer mining. I think they had British investors who went broke when there was no great pocket of gold.

When you drive to Eagle, Alaska, you will pass the town of Chicken. Originally the prospectors were going to name it Ptarmigan, for the many ptarmigans nearby, but no one could spell it, so Chicken it became.

I panned for gold in the Fortymile River on the road to Eagle, which is on the Yukon River. All I got was one little glimmer of gold—what the prospectors called a "flash in the pan." The same thing happened when I flew by helicopter to photograph the Kink. I expected more than that, but the Kink had been placer mined for decades. I guess I was lucky to find anything.

When looking at the Kink, one question is: Which side is likely to have the most gold? Because the Kink is shaped like a "U," the flowing water is supposedly cutting away the bottom of the U. If the gold is in the bottom of the U, more gold would be continually exposed and washed away.
On the other hand, the gold might be in the part of the U where the water slows up. Sediment, including gold, might drop out as the water makes its way around the slow corner. Gradual buildup of deposited sediment might have much gold in it.

One thing I never find mentioned in the stories is how cold the water is in the Fortymile River. I fell in. My gosh, what a wake-up call! I stripped, dried off using the seat cover from the truck, and hovered over the heater until my goose bumps went down. I carried spare clothing, so I was all right there. That afternoon, I hung my wet clothes out to dry, and by morning they had frozen stiff.

I fell in because the gravel bar I had been walking on was undermined by the current. It looked just fine, until I took one more step, and the gravel bar collapsed. Looking at it later, I decided that the gravel bar had been built up when the current flowed one way, then undermined when the current flowed a different way. No problem, people smarter than me had been fooled by this.

When I was in Alaska, I carried a little glass bottle, smaller than my pinky. Whenever I found gold, it went into the bottle. In 6 years, I found enough gold to fill the space 1/16 of an inch above the bottom of the bottle. If you want to ask about prospecting in Alaska, you had better ask somebody else.

But a speck of gold or two in the bottle did come from the Kink. After being placer mined for a long, long time, there was still enough gold for me to find a grain or two. I knew a prospector in Alaska who spent the summers looking for gold. He said Alaskans were sitting on a pile of gold, but nobody would ever find it all. If that is true elsewhere in Alaska, it is probably true for the Kink.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Jerry Sudderth
sudderthjerry13 (at) gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Terry Roberts

TREASURER
Jimmy Simpson
ejsimpson (at) outlook.com

SECRETARY
Julia Toombs
rocknrosenewsletter (at) gmail.com

FIELD TRIP CHAIR
Fred Mahaffey
frederickmahaffey (at) gmail.com

ANNUAL SHOW CHAIR
Jerry Sudderth
sudderthjerry13 (at) gmail.com

WEBMASTER
Margaret Kilanski
www.etgms.org

EDITOR
Julia Toombs
rocknrosenewsletter (at) gmail.com

EDITOR • GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Sarah Hawthorne
hawthorne04 (at) gmail.com

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.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Please send original articles to rocknrosenewsletter (at) 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.

CONTEST CATAGORIES

Original: Adult Articles • Adult Articles Advanced • Junior Articles for under 12 Junior Articles for 12 & up • Adult Poetry • Junior Poetry Features (Written & Drawn, all ages) • Special Publications

For more information on Contest Entries: www.amfed.org/editor/BEAC/contest.htm

ANNUAL DUES
Single: $15.00 • Family: $25.00

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

Check us out on the web
WWW.ETGMS.ORG

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