

ROCK N ROSE

Volume 49 Issue 8

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August 2023



Cover Photo: Julia Toombs

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ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 19 - 20

Ark-La-Tex Annual Show
Bossier Civic Center
Bossier City, Louisiana

September 23 - 24

Southwest Gem and Mineral Society
Wonderland of the Americas
San Antonio, Texas

September 23 - 24

Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center
Lubbock, Texas

October 21 - 22

East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
Azalea Arts & Crafts Festival
Bergfeld Park, Tyler, Texas



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PUBLICATION STAFF

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

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Terry Roberts
Julia Toombs
Becky Whisenant

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY

Terry Roberts
Julia Toombs
Fred Mahaffey
Becky Whisenant

Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GROUP MEETS

LAPIDARY / JEWELRY GROUP

Lapidary Workshop: September 9
Contact Ed Grounds 903-316-9157 or [egrds1\(at\) gmail.com](mailto:egrds1@gmail.com).

GEM TREE CLASSES

August 26, 9am - 12pm if enough sign up.
If you would like to learn to make them,
contact Colleen Hayes at [colhayes321 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:colhayes321@gmail.com)

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

August 26 - Workshop - 10am - 3pm

September 16 - Alien Workshop - 10am - 4pm.

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

For those of you who watch YouTube,
check out the “Fingerprints in the Ground” posts.
You will recognize the YouTuber and you will probably recognize his
surroundings.

NEED A RIDE?

etgms.org website: Members Only tab -
For those needing rides the membership list can be found here.
Call someone in your area if you need a ride to a meeting.

Corrections for July Issue:

- “Stabilizing Bone” was not written by Colleen Hayes. The information was sent to me by member Kenneth Rowland and comes from two sources. This was an error your editor missed.
- “Shop Time” – Please read a correction at the end. This was an error your editor missed.

A Message to the Club



Jerry Sudderth
PRESIDENT

To all that have been enjoying our cool summer, you don't want to miss our next two meetings for sure. In September, we will welcome back Melanie Ertons from SFA to see her power-point presentation about her work in Arkansas. Our October meeting will be our fall auction. We will also start signing up volunteers for the big show in January. I hope to see you all. A big welcome to our new members.

ETGMS Meeting Minutes

AUGUST 7, 2023

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on August 7, 2023. President Jerry Sudderth called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. He asked for new members and guests to introduce themselves. We have one new member and four guests. Jerry asked for a motion to approve the July minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Charles Creekmur made the motion, Rick Walker seconded, and the motion carried. Ed Grounds gave the Treasurer's report as Jimmy Simpson is out of town.

Announcements:

- Lapidary group - Charles Creekmur will give a presentation from 10 AM - 12 PM on how to identify rocks and minerals, especially the quartz family. Ed will hold a Safety meeting at 1:00. The workshop will be open from 10 AM - 3 PM for a \$5 fee.
- Ed gave the report on the electrical work that needs to be done. There will be 3 separate circuits in the saw room and 2 separate circuits in the cab room. All will be on their own 20-amp breakers, instead of all machines on one 20-amp breaker. The bid is under \$1,600.
- Field trips - Fred Mahaffey isn't here but he is investigating several locations.
- Future meeting programs - September - SFA scholarship winner Melanie Ertons will give a power-point presentation & update us on what she has discovered this summer; October - our annual Auction.
- Julia announced the success of the last alien workshop to encourage attendance to the next on September 16.

Old business: There was none.

New business:

- Alan Walker - July Rockhound of the Month; appointed to be Assistant Shop Steward
- Tonight's program - Ancient Creatures of the Inland Seas – 50-minute video
- Special guests are Martha Hale Deen (and spouse Duane) and Louis "Buddy" Hale, grandchildren of Bill and Edith Denman, two of the original founders of the club in 1956. Charles introduced them. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned and there was a short break for refreshments and purchase of door prize tickets. Tickets were drawn and the video began. The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2023, due to the Labor Day holiday on the 4th.

Submitted by,
Julia Toombs, Secretary

Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

While looking for some different material to cab for this month's newsletter, I came across a couple of polished slabs of Ocean Wave Jasper from Madagascar that I had purchased at a show about 15 years ago. I was able to cut two beautiful cabs from one of the slabs (see the first photo.) I believe this material rivals the beauty of the more famous orbicular Ocean Jasper that also came from Madagascar.

The second photo shows a very nice Pompom Agate that

must have come from Needle Peak which is located just north of Big Bend National Park in West Texas. It was in a box of material that I purchased from the daughter of one of our deceased club members. She remembers her father taking her and her brother to the Woodward Ranch, which is located about 18 miles south of Alpine, in 1962, to go hunt agate. Although she doesn't remember how her father acquired the Pompom Agate slabs, I believe he must have bought them from Frank senior at the ranch.

The pompoms in the cab are composed of aragonite crystals that have been replaced by silica (chalcedony), with the exception of the smaller half-pompom located just above the much larger pompom at the bottom of the cab. Part of the smaller pompom was undercut by the grinding

process where the aragonite was exposed. I had to rework the cab to eliminate the undercut area. I was able to polish the chalcedony portion of the cab with cerium oxide and then follow up with ZAM to polish the exposed Aragonite. The ZAM did not affect the cerium oxide polish.

Author's Correction: There was an error in designating photo numbers in the July 2023 issue of the SHOP TIME article. Figures 2 & 4 were reversed during preparation for publication. The Poppy Jasper from Black Butte Reservoir in California should be labeled as the second photo and the red banded agate in transmitted light should be labeled as the fourth photo. My apologies for any confusion this error may have created.

Photo 2



Photo 1

SUMMER FUN AT THE LINDALE LIBRARY

By Julia Toombs



For several years, Randy Harmon, Terry Roberts, and I have been putting minerals and fossils in the Lindale library display case beginning in May until the start of school in mid-August. In mid-July we gave a presentation about the club. This year we had ages two to six, a handful of older kids, and parents.

On entering the area, each child and parent receive a door prize ticket. Tickets are drawn, first thing, for the prizes that Randy makes up.

The kids love this! Our presentation is next. Randy described some of the fossils he displayed.

Terry did not display this year, but he did bring some interesting items that he discussed: a gypsum rose, lead, marble, obsidian, selenite, slate, West Texas agates, and more.

I am always introduced as the critter/alien maker. I spoke with several parents and answered questions from the kids.

The final activity that really gets the kids excited is getting to look through dirt that Randy had brought from Love's Lookout in Jacksonville, Texas. The exact location will go to his grave, so do not bother to ask!!

I supply the library with critters each week throughout the summer. I took extras this time and put them out three times!! The kids and parents always have a great time.



SUMMER ALIEN WORKSHOP #2

By Julia Toombs

NEXT WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 16

10 AM - 4 PM

My next planned alien workshop on August 5 was well attended. Seven members, Darby, Euva, Rip, Colleen, Indie, and Easton joined me. We enjoyed each other's company and conversation and two brought snacks. During six hours 150-160 were made. Darby & Rip stayed to help me put everything away; I am an organizer, and it takes a while. Every alien created helps the numbers for Bergfeld Park and the Annual Show. We have about 300 so far, but I know that is not enough. I really cannot say how many are needed, but I would rather not run out like we did at the Annual Show.



SUMMER FUN AT THE RUSK LIBRARY

By Becky Whisenant

What do bombs, excrement, diamonds, and teeth have to do with each other? At first glance, surely nothing but when used as visual aids in a presentation on geology and paleontology, each item can spark interest, heretofore unknown, especially in a young mind.

The bomb would be a periodotite bomb, blown out from a volcano, the August baby's favorite example of an igneous rock. Excrement, the fossilized kind from a dinosaur, receives a name change – coprolite - and becomes a thing of beauty and science. Diamonds need no expla-

nation save for a lesson on their dark beginnings, and a multitude of teeth from an array of creatures begins to give a picture of ancient inhabitants of this chunk of rock we call earth.

All these items and many more were on display for a group of approximately forty individuals ranging in age from grandmothers to toddlers at the Rusk library July 11th. As part of the library's summer reading project, East Texas Gem & Mineral Society members Fred Mahaffey and Becky Whisenant spoke to the

group on the subjects of geology, mineralogy, and paleontology giving students the opportunity to ask and answer questions and hold and examine mineral specimens and fossils.

Interest level and participation was high - despite the wide age range - and all the kids received a take-home rock, gladly accepted. The goal, to coin a 1960s term, was to broaden their horizons, and plant seeds in their developing minds that may one day take root and grow. Overall, it was a gratifying and fun experience.



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Jerry Sudderth

[sudderthjerry13 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:sudderthjerry13@gmail.com)

VICE PRESIDENT

Terry Roberts

TREASURER

Jimmy Simpson

[ejsimpson \(at\) outlook.com](mailto:ejsimpson@outlook.com)

SECRETARY

Julia Toombs

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

FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Fred Mahaffey

[frederickmahaffey \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:frederickmahaffey@gmail.com)

ANNUAL SHOW CHAIR

Jerry Sudderth

[sudderthjerry13 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:sudderthjerry13@gmail.com)

WEBMASTER

Margaret Kilanski

www.etgms.org

EDITOR

Julia Toombs

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

EDITOR • GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Sarah Hawthorne

[hawthorne04 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:hawthorne04@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 [rockrosenewsletter \(at\) 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.

CONTEST CATEGORIES

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

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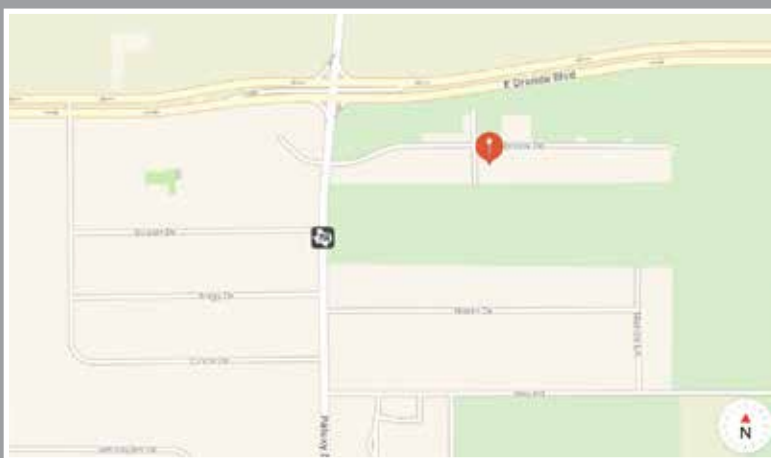
WWW.ETGMS.ORG

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