

ROCK N ROSE

Volume 49 Issue 10

TYLER • TEXAS

October 2023



68

*Fall
Auction*



Cover Photo: Colleen Hayes

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ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 14 - 15

Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society
Frank W. Mayborn Civic & Convention Center
Temple, Texas

October 21 - 22

Bergfeld Park
Saturday 9 AM - 5 PM
Sunday 11 AM - 5 PM

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

October 27 - 29

Fossilmania
Somervell Expo Center
Glen Rose, Texas



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PUBLICATION STAFF

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

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Terry Roberts
Julia Toombs
Fred Mahaffey

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHY

Terry Roberts
Colleen Hayes
Keith Mack
Fred Mahaffey
Darby Spears

Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAPIDARY GROUP

October 14 & 28 – 10 AM - 3 PM

\$5.00 supply fee (cash / correct change appreciated)

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

NOVEMBER BUSINESS MEETING – OFFICER ELECTIONS

My apologies for the lateness of the September newsletter.

Between the meeting on the 11th and a week's vacation,
it couldn't be helped. – Julia

ALIEN / PROJECT WORKSHOP

There is NO SCHEDULED Alien/Project workshop until
January 13, 2024.

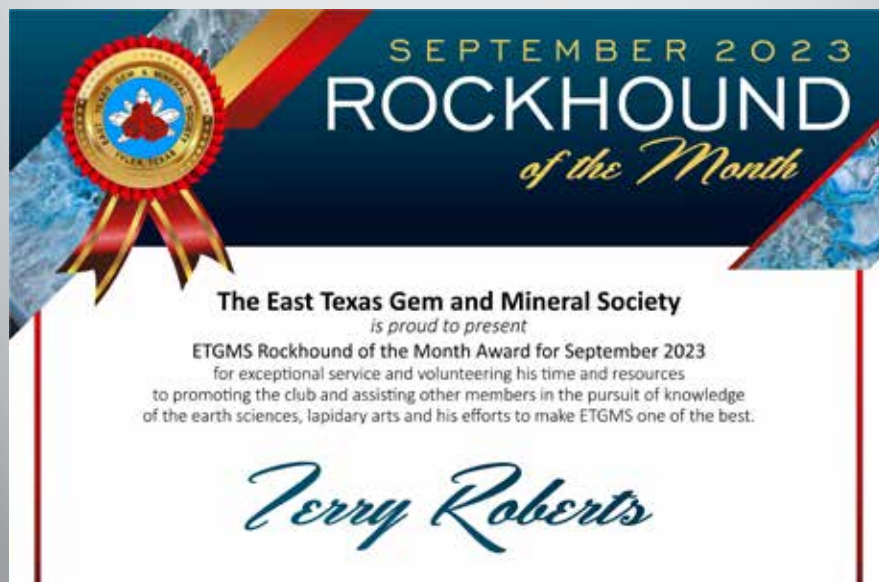
I MAY have a workshop in November, but it all depends on knee surgery. December is a possibility, but people are usually too busy with the holidays. – Julia

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.



A Message to the Club



Jerry Sudderth
PRESIDENT

It's Fall and we all know what that means. Planning is underway for the show in January. If you haven't signed up to help by now, it isn't too late. Sign-up sheets are at the meetings or email Rick Walker to sign you up. Our next meeting is our annual elections and December is our Christmas party. That is a "don't miss for sure", so see you there.

ETGMS Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 2, 2023

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on October 2, 2023. The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Sudderth at 6:45 PM. He asked the new member to introduce himself. Jerry asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Colleen Hayes made the motion, Rick Walker seconded, and the motion carried. Treasurer Jimmy Simpson gave his report.

Announcements:

- It's time to pay dues: Individual is \$15 and \$25 for a family.
- Lapidary group – Workdays will be October 14 and 28.
If you would like to take the Safety class, please put your name on the list at the back.
- Bergfeld Park October 21 – 22, we could use 2-3 more helpers.
- Website – Margaret Kilanski; Newsletter – Julia Toombs; Facebook – Rick Walker
- Terry Roberts is the September Rockhound of the Month.

Old Business:

- Colleen Hayes – there are patches, pins, and vests for sale. If we don't have your size vest, let us know what it is so it can be ordered.
- The field trip to the North Sulphur River was a success for many.
Fred wasn't here but he is still planning for Post Oak Creek & Waxahachie, Texas.

New Business:

- November is the yearly election of officers. Consider if you would like to volunteer.

Program: Fall auction. There is a good selection of 70 items.

With no further business to discuss, Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Kris Dennis made the motion, someone seconded, and the motion carried. After a short break for refreshments, the auction began.

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

Submitted by,
Julia Toombs, Secretary



Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

For this issue of the club's newsletter, I have decided to discuss three new cabs that I recently completed. The first cab (Figure 1) is an exceptional Blood Stone, with different patterns of red and green that resembles a strange planet in another galaxy. The red spots are a type of iron oxide, usually hematite. The green is usually a solid color but may also occur as different and uneven shades of color. The primary source of this beautiful stone is India.



Photo 1



Photo 2

The second cab (Figure 2) is called a Prudent Man Agate and came from a slab that I bought from a dealer six or seven years ago. This beautiful stone is found on a claim in the southeast corner of Oregon in the Owyhee Desert. Unfortunately, it seems that many of the best agates have one or more small imperfections in them. True to form, the top of the cab had a small area of quartz crystals that broke off during the grinding phase, leaving a small, indented area at the top. There is also a small crack running through the bottom of the cab. However, none of the imperfections detract noticeably from the beauty of the agate with its different colors and patterns or scenes.

The last cab (Figure 3) is a colorful Rainforest Jasper. I bought a four or five-pound rock of this material at a show in North Carolina about 15 years ago. The dealer told me the rough material is a rhyolite from Australia. The rock barely fit into the vise in my 14-inch rock saw, but I was able to get several slabs from it and still have half of the rock left for future cutting. Not only did the cab take a very good polish, but the small areas of chalcedony scattered over the cab fluoresce bright green under long-wave UV light.



Photo 3



FALL AUCTION

By Julia Toombs

We had an excellent turnout for our semi-annual auction. Several items brought spirited bidding and we made nearly \$1,300.

The bolo tie, a Carey plume agate from Oregon, crafted by award winning mid-century silversmith artist Robert Koeppler was one of those items. Koeppler won the 1994 National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame awards and was included in Franklin D. Roosevelt's Art Train in the 1940s. This was donated by the family of deceased ETGMS member Ernest Howe, a close friend of Mr. Koeppler. It began at \$100 and had two or three bidding on it.

On this page are pictures of the auction items.



NORTH SULPHUR RIVER FOSSIL PARK

BY FRED MAHAFFEY



Exploring the Past: Unearth the Mysteries of North Sulphur River Fossil Park

Greetings, fossil enthusiasts and nature lovers!

Located just outside Ladonia, Texas, in the heart of northeast Texas, lies a hidden gem that has captivated the imaginations of paleontologists, amateur fossil hunters, and families looking for a unique adventure. Welcome to the North Sulphur River Fossil Park, a place where the ancient world comes to life beneath your feet.

We embarked on our journey Saturday, September 23, 2023, and everyone met in the parking lot at 9 AM on a beautiful morning. We had a nice size group of around 15 members. After a brief safety review and everyone introduced themselves, we

headed down the path to the river. After a short walk, everyone with an exuberant enthusiasm started heading in different directions.

A Geological Time

Machine: Imagine stepping back in time, millions of years ago, when dinosaurs roamed the earth and ancient sea creatures swam in the oceans. At North Sulphur River Fossil Park, you do not need a time machine to experience this; you only need to pick up a fossil or two.

This remarkable park, nestled along the North Sulphur River, is home to an extraordinary array of fossils, some dating back to as far as 100 million years. From the teeth of giant prehistoric sharks to the bones of terrestrial dinosaurs, the park boasts a diverse collection of fossils that reveal the rich history of our planet. And sometimes even ancient artifacts from the inhabitants of the area are found as well. There are many who scour the riverbed and banks for arrowheads and other artifacts lost to time.

A Fossil Hunter's

Paradise: North Sulphur River Fossil Park welcomes everyone, from seasoned fossil hunters to first-time visitors.



Whether you are an expert or a novice, there is something for everyone to discover. The Park provides a unique opportunity for individuals and families to get hands-on with history, as you are free to collect fossils during your visit.

For those new to fossil hunting, fear not! The park is easy to access and after a fairly easy hike down a trail that is reasonable to traverse, even the newest members to the world of fossil hunting find themselves at the entrance to a world of possibilities.

Plan Your Visit: As you consider your next outdoor adventure, put North Sulphur

River Fossil Park at the top of your list. Located just a short drive from Dallas or East Texas, it's a day trip that promises adventure, discovery, and a connection to Earth's ancient history.

Remember to bring essentials like sunscreen, water, and sturdy footwear for a day of fossil hunting. And do not forget to respect the parks' rules and guidelines to help preserve this unique natural treasure. What trash you bring, make sure you take it with you. There are no facilities, so it is truly a primitive site.

As you explore the North Sulphur River Fossil

Park, you'll be reminded of the incredible wonders that lie beneath our feet, waiting to be unearthed and admired. Whether you are a seasoned paleontologist or a curious novice, this park promises a journey through time that you will not soon forget.

So, pack your bags, and prepare to embark on a prehistoric adventure at North Sulphur River Fossil Park. It's a journey back in time that is waiting just for you.

Thanks to Fred Mahaffey, Keith Mack, Colleen Hayes, and Darby Spears for photographs.



Our leader
Fred Mahaffey



Coprolite



Darby Spears' finds



HELP WANTED



ETGMS ANNUAL SHOW JANUARY 26 – 28, 2024

By Julia Toombs

Your Board has already begun planning for the show next year. 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

Our set-up day at the Tyler Rose Garden Center is Thursday, January 25.

- **Show Set-up** – Thurs.
- **Display Case Set-up** – Thurs.
- **Student Day** – Fri.
- **Dealer Dinner** – 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** – Fri., 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 one. They must be filled by 9 PM Thursday, January 25.

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 PM with serving utensils. Leftovers often feed the workers and vendors over the weekend.

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

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

Front Desk – You will take entrance fees, hand out door prize tickets, and oversee filling in forms for grand prize drawing, etc. A ticket Friday admits a patron Saturday and Sunday, too.

Door Ticket Checker – This entails checking and stamping a patron's hand on entry, so they can get back in should they leave the building.

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, you will take money or credit cards and the items are wrapped and bagged for transport.

Show Breakdown – There is not a sheet for this. If you are working in an area until 5 PM 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 breakdown extraordinaire. If you are not working that day but want to help, please contact Rick.

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

WE NEED YOU!!!

CLUB REPRESENTATION

Julia Toombs

ETGM Merchandise

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



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 event such as Kilgore Geekend or Lindsey 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.

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?*

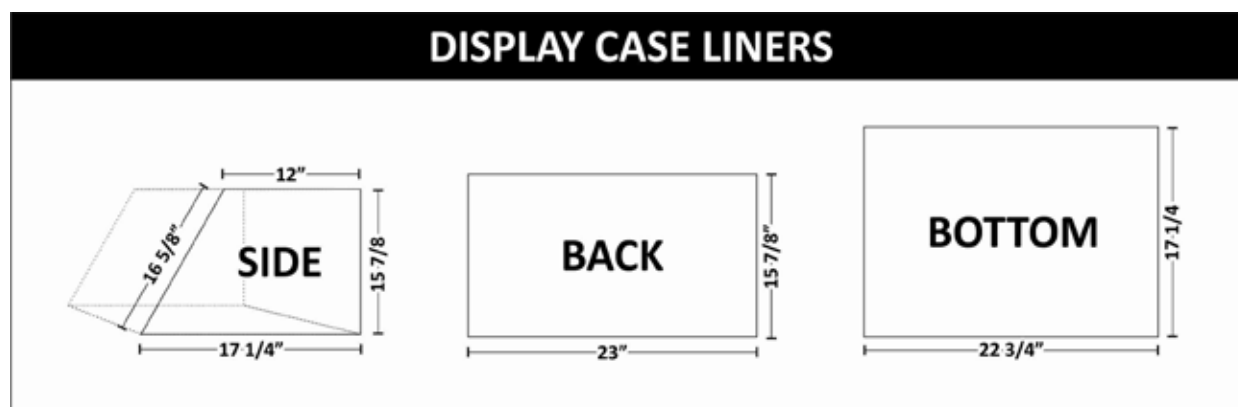
Ten copies at 10 locations would be a big help.

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

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.



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 • TEXT

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

ANNUAL DUES

Single: \$15.00 • Family: \$25.00

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

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