

ROCK-N-ROSE



THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1

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ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2019

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 16-17

WILLIAMS COUNTY G&MS
GEORGETOWN COMM. CTR.
GEORGETOWN, TX

FEBRUARY 23

HI-PLAINS G&MS
OLLIE LINER CENTER
PLAINVIEW, TX

MARCH 2-4

SPRING PROSPECTORS
HOWARD CITY FAIR GR.
BIG SPRINGS, TX

MARCH 2-3

GULF COAST G&MS
RICHARD M BORCHARD
FAIRGROUNDS
ROBSTOWN, TX

MARCH 9-10

SOUTHWEST G&MS
SAN ANTONIO EVENT CTR.
SAN ANTONIO, TX

APRIL 13-14

CENTRAL TX G&MS
ABILENE CONVENTION CTR.
ABILENE, TX

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President's Message

Hello Everyone! With our annual show and fundraiser over for this year, I want to thank everyone for their help and support for making it a success. We will plan a workday at our clubhouse to work on finishing up the painting and setting up the front room with the showcases. If you are available or want to help please let Terry or me know. I would still like to ask for volunteers to help with field trips. We still need a Field Trip Chairperson. A lot of folks have volunteered to help someone else. If you have any planning skills then please let me know. I want to encourage everyone to participate in as many of the club activities as you can. The more you participate the better the club will become. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting and any activities in between.

Fred Mahaffey



Note from the Editor

Our February issue is full of poetry. We announced at the January meeting that we were going to have a poetry contest. I think the real competition for me was getting some of you to submit a poem. I would have liked to have seen a few more, but I'm pleased with the turnout. Just because you didn't get your poem in by the cutoff for this month's issue, I can still use some throughout the year. I'm also in need of articles for the March issue. Make sure you list any necessary sources. Congratulations to our members that won awards in the SCFMS Editors and Authors Contest. Pictured below are some of our members who received a few of these awards. Thanks to the great articles that were submitted last year for the newsletter, we took a lot of the top place awards. I hope those top place awards will take some firsts at the AFMS Convention in March. Good luck.



MEETING MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society was called to order at 6:45 pm on February 4, 2019. President Fred Mahaffey asked for visitors and guests to stand and introduce themselves, as there were several new faces. Three guests did so. Another did so, having become a member at the show. Fred then asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Kinney Polve made the motion and Terry Roberts seconded. The motion carried. Fred asked for Marcia Graham to give the treasury report. After the expenses of the show, the club netted a profit of \$10,066. There were 3,501 adults and 450 students in attendance. Next year is already paid for at the Rose Center. A thank you card was received from Joe and Donna Grimes, a vendor at the show. Their booth was Bitterroot Rocks and Minerals.

Announcements:

- Kinney asked for poems for the February newsletter.
- Event - April 27th – Tyler Maker’s Faire at the Discovery Science Center
- Lapidary sub-group – Terry Roberts - January was the critter, etc. workshop. February’s meeting will be Saturday the 9th at 2 pm. It will be general information for new members.
- Sherry Breedlove asked for permission to delete duplicate addresses from the Show’s data base for the mailing of cards. It presently stands at about 6,500. Permission was given.
- Mineral sub-group – Charles Creekmur stated that the next meeting will be Tuesday the 12th at 6:30 pm. The program will be on garnets.
- Fossil sub-group – David Russ was not in attendance, but Rick Walker said January’s meeting was a small gathering. Dave pulled out his geological maps of Texas and explained how to read them. The next meeting will be Monday the 18th at 6:30 pm.
- Gem sub-group – The January meeting was Show prep work. The February meeting will be Thursday the 21st at 6:30 pm. The program will be pearls and when the next gem identification class will be.
- Field trips – Fred gave a tentative list for the year:
 - February 23rd – Naranjo Museum of Natural History in Lufkin (fossils, minerals, space debris, artifacts, etc.), \$7.50 or \$5 for a group of 10 and possibly on to the Livingston Rock Shop

March – Lake Texoma for ammonites and other fossils

April 20th – Rock Swap at the clubhouse; April 26th-28th – Graves Mountain, GA

May - Mason, TX – topaz and Indian artifacts

June – week-long trip to Michigan and returning through Missouri for copper, drusy quartz, calcite, etc.

July 26th – 27th – Oklahoma for hour-glass selenite and fossils

August – Magnet Cove, Ark. for pyrite

September – Rock Swap at the clubhouse; Duncanville, TX – septarian nodules and fossils

October – Mt Ida, Ark for quartz

November – none due to weather

December – none due to weather

We still need a field trip chairperson. A guest recommended Lake Hugo (near Lake Texoma) for ammonites and the red beds – a large area between Texas and Oklahoma for dinosaur fossils

New Business:

- Kinney - Rock Hound of the Month recognizes a person who has done an exceptional job for the club.
- Kinney - We are discussing hosting the South Central Federation and the American Federation Convention at our show in 2022. We were testing the People’s Choice Award on the showcases this year like they have at the convention. The judging is different. A member asked if the Rose Center was big enough and Kinney replied that there were several things involved. Those are an Editor’s breakfast, an Awards banquet, and three meetings. The club won’t be out any money on the meals. But we have three years to work it all out. It’s a great way to network. Kinney made a motion that we host the 2022 convention, Sherry Breedlove seconded, and the motion carried.

With no more business to discuss, Kinney made a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Allen Brown seconded, and the motion carried.

Door prizes were drawn; followed by refreshments and visiting. The program was the presentation of awards and an orientation video for new members or even members who haven’t seen it yet.

Respectfully submitted by
Julia Toombs, Secretary



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 February	11	12 Mineral Group Meeting 6:30 pm	13	14 	15	16
17	18 Fossil Group 6:30 pm	19	20	21 Gemology Group 6:30 pm	22	23 Naranjo Museum Field Trip
24	25	26	27	28	March 1	2
3	4 Monthly Meeting 6:45 pm	5	6	7	8	9 Lapidary/Jewelry Group 2:00 pm
10	11	12 Mineral Group Meeting 6:30 pm	13	14	15	16
17	18 Fossil Group 6:30 pm	19	20	21 Gemology Group 6:30 pm	22	23 Lake Texoma Field Trip

2019 Field Trip Schedule

February	Naranjo Museum of Natural History, Lufkin	February 23 rd	Minerals, Fossils
March	Lake Texoma	March 23 rd , 24 th	Ammonites, Fossils
April	Rock Swap - Clubhouse	April 20 th	Rock Swap, Cook Out
April	Graves Mountain, Lincoln, Georgia	April 26 th , 27 th , 28 th	Pyrite, Kyanite, Ilmenite, Lazulite, Pyrophyllite, Hematite, Goethite, Sulphur, Iridescent Hematite, Rutile, etc.
May	Mason, Texas	May 24 th , 25 th	Topaz, Indian Artifacts
June	Michigan, Missouri	June 17 th - 24 th	Druzy Quartz, Poker Chip Calcite, Copper, Agates
July	Oklahoma	July 26 th , 27 th	Hourglass Selenite, Fossils
August	Magnet Cove, Arkansas		Pyrite
September	Rock Swap - Clubhouse	September 21 st	Rock Swap, Cook Out
September	Duncanville, Texas	September 28 th	Septarian, Fossils
October	Mt. Ida, Arkansas	October 26 th , 27 th	Quartz Crystals
November	TBD		
December	Christmas Party		

Note: Schedule is subject to change due unforeseen circumstances.

For this month's field trip, we are meeting at the Naranjo Museum of Natural History in Lufkin Texas on February 23, 2019 at 10am. The cost is \$7.50 admission for adults and children is \$5.00. It normally takes an hour or two to go through and look at everything.

WANTED FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN

GEMOLOGY GROUP

The Gemology Group met in January with five members attending. We met at my lab to give members an opportunity to see what a gem lab is like. The meeting agenda was about getting ready for the annual show with our display on gem identification and the gem identification service we offered to the public on Saturday and Sunday of the show. The gem identification service was very slow on Saturday, and picked up a little on Sunday. We collected a total of \$56 in donations, which is a start toward our fund to purchase equipment for the group.

Our next meeting will be February, 21st, at 6:30 pm at the clubhouse. We will be talking about pearls this month. I recently got a Pearl Comparison Master Set for grading salt water pearls, and will be showing how it is used to grade and value pearls. If time permits, we may cover other topics related to pearls. We will also discuss when we can offer the next gem identification theory class, as well as offering the practical/lab classes for those who completed our class in November - December. Anyone with an interest in gems and wanting to know more about them, and how to identify, grade and value them are welcome and encouraged to participate in the Gemology Group. It is an interesting and fun way to learn about gems.

Richard Armstrong



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OF JEWELRY APPRAISERS

LAPIDARY/JEWELRY GROUP

The February meeting of the Lapidary/Jewelry Group was held on Saturday, February 9th, at the ETGMS clubhouse, with sixteen members attending. This meeting was notable because half of the attendees were new members of the ETGMS. They were all excited to learn about the classes we offer and wanted to get started as soon as possible. Terry started off the meeting talking about the three classes that we offer: cab making, wire wrapping, and silversmithing. Kinney helped fill in the details and also mentioned that he has offered a class in flint knapping. He also explained that he could not teach silversmithing at the clubhouse until we built our silversmithing shop. He has to teach this class at his shop.



Terry handed out sign-up sheets for the three classes for members to look at, and sign-up for the classes they wanted to take. Kinney and I will determine when we can start classes. The cab making class is limited at this time to only one functioning cab machine. It will be a slow process to work through the list until our other cab machine is repaired. We will start the other classes as soon as we can determine our schedule of availability and will get in contact with the students to work out the time of attendance with them. After discussing the classes, Kinney and Terry showed the group some examples of their cabbing, wire wrapping, and silversmithing work. The new members were excited and were eagerly looking forward to taking classes. Terry also showed the group his latest group of cabs he completed since the club's annual show in January, as well as some new slabs he received from his friend, Johnny French. Terry offered each of the group members a slab of their choice from the collection for them, to be use in making cabs. He also showed them some beautiful Chinese Fighting Blood agates that his friend sent him, and the May 2016 issue of *Rock and Gem Magazine* which had an article about these agates. Terry Roberts

A Look into the Past

By Julia Toombs

Even though we are Earth Science fanatics, we may not know how this study became of interest in Texas. While Yahooing for something else, I came upon a reference to Robert Thomas Hill, Father of Texas Geology. I was very interested by the references I read and will refer to here. I feel that he is worthy of an article.

He was born in 1858 and died in 1941. He was a prominent figure in the development of American geology during his lifetime. He discovered and named the Comanche Series of the Lower Cretaceous (146-100 million years ago or Ma), as well as being a lifelong student of the structure and stratigraphy of the deposits of Central Texas and neighboring regions.

In 1874, at the young age of 16, he boarded a train and traveled from Nashville, Tennessee, to where the tracks ended in east Waco, Texas. He continued on to Comanche, Texas, 89 miles west of Waco to join his brother Joe, Editor of *The Comanche Chief* newspaper. Two years later, he joined a survey crew between the eastern edge of the Llano Estacado and Fort Griffith, Texas. Hill was able to explore the "red bed country" of west-central Texas. Centuries of erosion had left behind scenic mesas and buttes that preserve clues to the region's geologic past.

At the age of 19, he worked as a cowboy from Texas to Kansas, and he learned to live outdoors for extended periods. He developed frontier skills that would prove valuable in later years when he worked as a field geologist.

He took special interest in the flat-topped mesas and buttes; often climbing one butte, Round Mountain, for the view. Although he had little knowledge of geology, he found the fossils along its rocky slopes fascinating, and he began collecting specimens.

Through a friend, Hill obtained a book with a chapter on geology. He ordered a copy of *Manual of Geology* by James White Dana, one of the leading geologists in North America. He studied it and tried to place the local stratigraphy into Dana's classification. But he was dealing with rocks and fossils not yet discovered. This sent Hill into a lifelong interest in the Cretaceous period (145-66 Ma), a time when Central Texas was covered by a shallow sea. He determined the age of many rocks.

Hill knew he needed a proper education. He was accepted at Cornell University, which allowed students to take a light course-load and work their way through school. He received his B.S. in 1887. John Wesley Powell hired Hill in 1885 to work at the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. In 1886, he was assigned to a 3-month field session, a period that would provide an opportunity to revisit the Cretaceous deposits. He traversed Cretaceous portions of the state accompanied by William Fletcher Cummins of Dallas, another geologist who became an influential figure in early Texas Geology.

In 1886, he found dinosaur bones (not sure if these were his first) along the Lick Branch of Grindstone Creek, just six miles east of Milsap. A highway runs past there today. The bones were identified by Edward Drinker Cope. The bones have been lost, as have writings on them.

In 1887, Hill published the report, *The Present Condition of Knowledge of the Geology of Texas*. Although it was primarily a thesis at Cornell, it was also published as a bulletin of the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The other published papers are too many to list here. In 1888, he was invited to fill the Chair of Geology at the University

Continued on page 6.

of Texas at Austin. He was given the opportunity to teach the first courses in geology ever offered in Texas. In 1890, Hill returned to Washington and the USGS, and began an appointment with the Artesian and Underflow Investigation.

He discovered the western belt of the fracture now known as the Texas Lineament, the delineation and naming of the Balcones Fault zone that forms the Balcones Escarpment, and the mapping and naming of the physiographic provinces of Texas. His studies and investigations of underground and artesian waters led to improvements of vast areas of farm and ranch lands, and served as the foundation for future petroleum exploration. Hill excelled at drawing maps. He mapped near-shore rocks in north-central Texas, a region he called the Black and Grand Prairies. We can trace, through the rocks, the shifting of the coastline through time.

In 1899, Hill led a six-man, three-boat exploration of the Big Bend canyons of the Rio Grande. Though dinosaur bones are in large numbers in the Big Bend, he found none. It took nearly a month to travel from Presidio to Langtry, Texas. He packed photo equipment into the boats and took a series of photos. Two years later, he published an article with photos describing that voyage.

Near the turn of the century, he conducted studies in the West Indies and the Isthmus of Panama — areas fundamental to understanding the geological evolution of North America. After the eruption of Mount Pelée, on the northern end of Martinique, he mapped the destruction area and wrote the first account of the devastating effects of dense, fast-moving clouds of hot gas and rock known as pyroclastic flows, previously *unknown* to volcanologists.

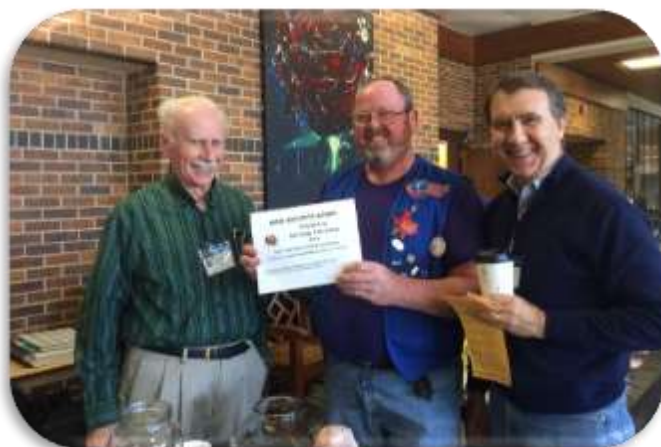
In 1921, Hill provided testimony as a petroleum geologist in the boundary dispute between Texas and Oklahoma. The decision made by the Supreme Court in 1923 found in favor of Texas and returned 450,000 acres of the Red River Valley known to contain significant oil deposits.

The above contains information from 19 different publications, most written by Robert Hill, but also four others. I read it from the website en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_T_Hill. I also took a little information from *Lone Star Dinosaurs* by Louis Jacobs, a book recommended to me by our own David Russ.

ANNUAL SHOW

Plenty was going on this year at the annual show, with new additions added and a shortage of volunteers at times. For me, it seemed a little more disorganized this year. With that said, everything seemed to work out. The members that worked the show did an excellent job; some volunteered to work the whole show. I know the post-show board meeting will address all these things and more. The new game of chance that Pete Keiser built to go with the Wheel of Fortune worked out great. The new raffle raised some extra money. The People Choice Judging of the display cases did an excellent job of getting show goers to pay a little more attention to the cases. After votes were tallied, ribbons were awarded:

First Place – Vicky Polve, Second Place – Darby Spears, and Third Place – Gene Goar. This year we also added gem identification. It got off to a slow start, but once the kinks were worked out, they raised \$56 on Sunday. Even though the attendance was down, we had a great show this year. Kinney Polve





MEMBERS HAPPENINGS

Some pictures of agates that I have cabbed recently. The first group shows the agates that I worked on during our annual show while demonstrating cabbing techniques to the school kids on Friday and the adults on Saturday. I wasn't able to finish the cabs during the show because the motor on the Genie cab machine kept overheating, so I had to finish them at home. I had finished the agates in the second photo a couple of weeks before, but I couldn't take a picture of them until yesterday due to all the cloudy days that prevented a good exposure.

The agates in the first picture include; a black plume agate from the Walker Ranch at the top left, several Queensland agates, two Laguna Lace agates, and several unknown agates. The agates in the second picture include three Queensland agates and one Laguna Lace agate.



Terry Roberts

Bolo Ties

By Kerry Cartier

I'm the guy who won the knife with the agate handle and the salt lamp at the Gem and Mineral Show. Winning the first of these prizes was the luck of the draw. I won the second one because of the integrity of the folks running the drawing. Instead of saying, "Oh, he already won a prize," they gave the prize to the guy whose name was on the second ticket – me! That integrity impresses me. Thank you!

Many of you like mineral specimens, but I like bolo ties. A bolo tie is a cut stone attached to leather drawstrings. It's worn around the collar of your shirt like a cloth tie. Unlike cloth ties, a bolo tie made from a rock is unique. I wore a section of a geode to your show.

Looking at some of my bolo ties; there's nickel-iron from a meteor, ammonite, coprolite, coral, fossil mastodon ivory, fossil shark tooth, geode, moss agate, Orthoceras, petrified wood, selenite, tiger-eye, and turquoise. I try to match a bolo tie to my attitude when I go places. I've enjoyed wearing the fossil shark tooth to dinners, the coprolite to government meetings, and the fossil mastodon ivory to my dentist. But no one notices, which makes it more fun.

I've got a couple shelves with fossil shells, a crinoid stem, quartz crystals, petrified wood, and some rocks that are unidentified. None are museum quality, but I found them myself. I look at such things as evidence of God's artistry. How amazing that regular people can find rocks that are beautiful!

SCFMS CONVENTION

There are always a lot of things going on when a club hosts the SCFMS Convention, and this year was no exception. Fred Mahaffey, Vicky Polve, and I drove to Fredericksburg, Texas last month, to attend the Fredericksburg show and convention. Saturday morning we attended the Editors' Breakfast. After we finished our breakfast, it was time to hand out awards. There were many to be had for ETGMS members. I was impressed that so many of your articles placed high in the rankings. After all the awards were given out, it was time to attend the gem show, so that's where we headed next. Naturally, Vicky headed for the silent auction table, but I had to take a look at the SCFMS competition cases. We had plenty to occupy us until the one-o'clock start time for the SCFMS Convention. Then Fred

and I left Vicky at the show and headed down to the convention. I was more of a spectator, taking a few photos for the newsletter, while Fred attend to his duties as our delegate. After the convention was over, we picked up Vicky and got some lunch. With full bellies, we decided to browse the shops around town, since the Awards Banquet wasn't until 6 pm. Later that evening we enjoyed a barbeque dinner at the banquet and some wonderful programs given by this year's scholarship recipients. Sunday morning, before leaving for home, we attended the official meeting of the Rollin' Rock Club. I always enjoy attending the conventions, because they are an opportunity to meet club members from all over the country.

Kinney Polve



The Day I Met Sue

By Colleen Hayes

The year was 1990. Dinosaur hunters were swarming all over South Dakota in search of dinosaur fossils. Sue, a Tyrannosaurus Rex, was discovered in Faith, South Dakota. The Hell Creek formation to be exact; by a woman named Sue Hendrickson. There was a long legal dispute regarding ownership of this specimen, however after several years it was determined that the rancher whose property that the T Rex had lived and died on 67 million years previously was the legal owner.

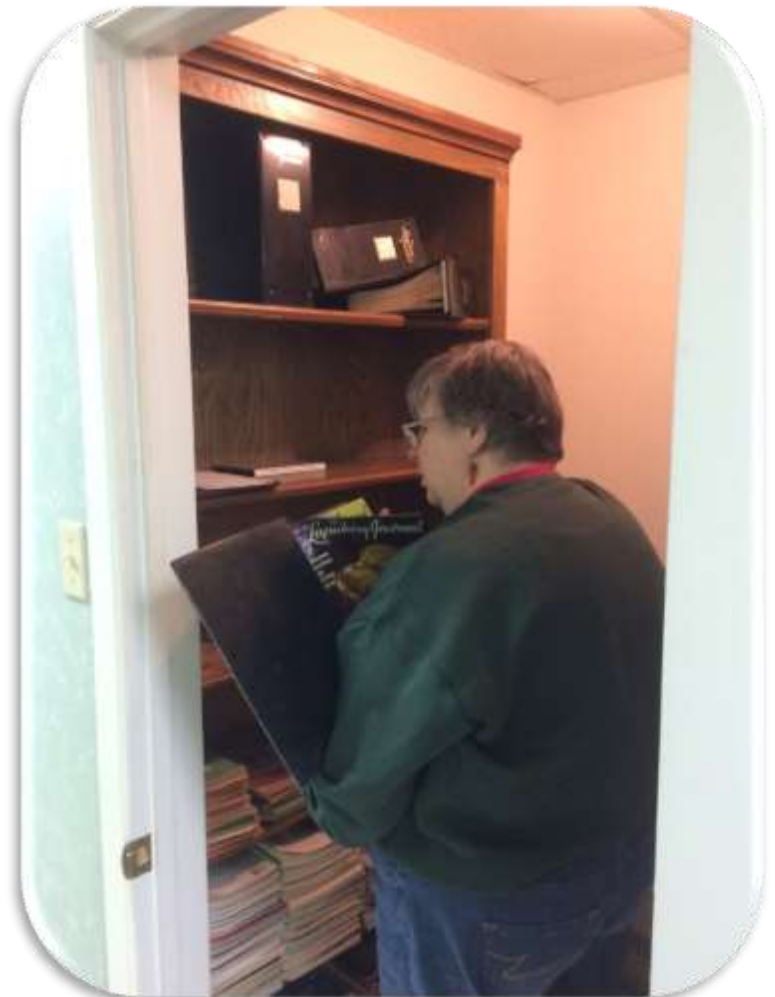
At this time my two boys were 5 and 9 years old, and were of the perfect age to be fascinated with dinosaurs. We took trips to the Dallas area for special Dino events, and we had many books and dinosaur toys in the house. Perhaps their enthusiasm for dinosaurs sparked my interest in this event. The skeleton of this particular T Rex was nearly complete.

A T Rex skeleton has approximately 321 bones. Sue was found missing only one foot, one arm, and a few miscellaneous bones. After the legal ownership was established, the rancher decided to auction the dinosaur through Sotheby's Auction House. With the help of Disney and McDonalds corporate pledges, the Field Museum in Chicago, IL won the auction with a final bid over eight million dollars. This is when the work really began, reconstructing the mammoth dinosaur. Sue is a total of 42 feet long, the weight of the bones alone are over 3000 pounds and the head itself is over five feet in length. It took several years to completely clean and mount the bones for display.

I followed the saga of this particular dinosaur with much interest. It just so happens that my bother lives in Chicago, and I've visited this museum several times in the past. I made a pledge that as soon as Sue went on display, I was going to Chicago.

It was the early 2000's and by then my boys were out of the dinosaur phase and had moved onto cars, girls and such. However, I was still fascinated with this story. I made plans to fly to Chicago and see Sue with my own eyes. It was an amazing sight. Until you are standing under the completed structure, you cannot imagine the size of this creature. My memories are now immortalized in printed literature and grainy Kodak photos. But at the time it was something!

Sue remains on exhibit at the Chicago Field Museum in Chicago, IL, for all to see.



Librarian Julia Toombs spends part of her Saturday organizing magazines in the club library.

Rock Candy

By: Fred Mahaffey

Pink like cotton candy,
 Green like mint,
 Black as licorice,
 Brown as chocolate,
 Rocks are hard,
 Rocks are slick,
 Lick them,
 And they may make you sick!

Rocks in My Head

By Marcia Graham

Garnets are red,
 Sapphires are blue.
 When listing the stones,
 These are only a few.

There's malachite, jasper,
 Agate and jade.
 All of these stones
 Were so wonderfully made.

Quartz, onyx, beryl,
 And moonstone makes four.
 Chalcedony, carnelian,
 To name a few more.

Such wonderful stones
 To delight a rock lover,
 God formed in the ground
 Just for us to discover.

Seeing Some Action

By Becky Whisenant

Kablam, kablooeey, kersplat and kapow!
 Where do the rock chips go?
 When you draw back the hammer
 And give it a real slammer?
 Everybody, watch out below!

Well, darn and drat, phooey and crap,
 What a disappointing aggregate was that?
 Just pick up another,
 And wipe it off, brother.
 Give it one more stress-relieving whack.

Grunting, groaning, sighing and moaning,
 Some actually do call this fun --
 Paying lots of money
 To a peroxidized blond honey
 For the privilege of sweating in the sun.

But wait, oh, my goodness, my gosh, look at that!
 Is that crystals, is that facets, or debris?
 Wipe the sweat from your brow,
 Your hands on a towel
 And slap your pockets for glasses to see.

Woo-hoo, Oooh-la-la, mon dieu, oui, oui!
 The brilliance of the beauty hurts my eyes!
 Shimmering emerald green
 With a luscious glittering sheen
 Makes my mouth hang open at the size!

La la la la la, sing a song of great joy!
 Angels echo the thrill of my find!
 But what is that ring-ring,
 Growing louder, now blaring
 As the crystals fade away in my mind??

Wait! Shoot! Dang! No, no, no, nooooooo!
 The alarm clock says it's not as it seems.
 Duty calls, gotta' go-
 Yeah, yeah, I know.
 Leaving behind all the stuff of my dreams.

Dreaming.....

By Colleen Hayes

Rocks and Gems are a passion of mine.
I love rockhounding but don't have time,
To travel to exotic places.
So, I stick close to home with familiar faces.

Petrified wood, Fossils and Quartz
are normally what I find of course,
But give me a chance and a million bucks
And I'm leaving here so wish me luck!!!

A Twinkle in the Dirt Catches My Eye

By Emily Phillips

What lies there? Agate? Crystal? Variscite?
Grunting, bending, aching back
Imagination soaring fast
Ruby? Diamond? Don't I wish!
Maybe a fossil fish?
All that trouble
All that toil
Just a piece of aluminum foil

Lapidary Love

By Marcia Graham

Turquoise and agates make me smile.
I wear them as pendants once in a while.
Magnificent colors and patterns galore.
No matter how many, I always want more.

Created with care by design from above,
So many rocks and gemstones to love.
Made into jewelry for me and my friends,
Being a rock hound, the fun never ends.

A Gem Tree

By Vicky Polve

You weave it and bend it.
You twist it, all so gentle.
Until you form branch galore.
Limbs bedazzled, with shiny rocks and more.
Finally, a tree to keep with all its glory.

The Fossil Hunter's Lamp

By Lynnette Metcalf

Down among the reeds, in shadow and soil
Lay things, large and small, waiting
Lying there, millennia upon millennia,
For the probe and pitch of a fossil hunter's toil.

Sand and sun, rich soil and peat
Soft rain, torrential flood, ice and wind,
Layer upon layer, formed in primeval mud,
A creature's hardened bones lie in eternal sleep.

Hidden behind a desert's hard-packed clay,
Resting amongst the cloak of a meadow's roots,
Arrested in time, a fossil hunter's tool
Deftly coaxes nature's painstaking carvings away.

Away from dry, away from damp
A creature's effigy lies clean and away,
From Earth's somnolence and tortures.
In glory, at peace beneath the loving rays,
Of the fossil hunter's lamp.

GEM SHOW MASH UP

A Limerick by Lynnette Metcalf

Manic and panic, Pre-Show Jitters abounded.
The dealers queued up for their meal.
Excitement filled the air,
Someone cried, "Look! Over there!"
That's how Mashed Potatoes sealed the deal!

Ode to an Aggie Geologist

by Charles Creekmur

In the hallowed halls of Halbouty,
Where I spent my prime.
Unraveling the mysteries,
Of geologic time.

Dentaliums and Spirifers,
Were just not my thing.
Crinoids and ammonites,
Didn't make me sing.

But finally I got serious,
And applied myself to books.
And got myself off of,
The scholastic hook.

With a BS behind me,
MS and PHD,
I was off to make my mark,
In lands across the sea.

I saw snows in the Andes,
Hawaii's black beach sands.
Studied the geology,
Of many far-off lands.

Developed mines and minerals,
All around the world.
Marveled at natural wonders,
The mysteries unfurled.

How one cannot appreciate,
Is hard for me to see.
These intricate works of nature,
That God has left for me.

What a Name!

By Kinney Polve

Sometimes I wonder, from time to time,
About the names of rocks, that we all find.
Some so silly, that you can't articulate.
And some so strange, you might want to debate.

They name them after flowers, or moss now and then.
And why so many syllables, some have more than ten.
So many syllables, for my tongue to say.
To pronounce it properly, there's just no way.

Some named after a canyon, or a lake nearby.
And some named after people, you don't have to wonder why.
Maybe named after a town, or a trail along the way.
A mountain or a bird, I just can't say.

I guess it doesn't matter, if it's a terrible name.
Whether it's hard to say, I like them just the same.
Next time you ask, what that rock is called,
If they pronounce it correctly, you might be enthralled.

This is a very poetic end to this month's newsletter (Pun intended).

Thanks to all of you for your submissions for this issue. There are many wonderful poems that were submitted by our members composed, and I'm looking forward to all the submissions for next month's issue. As you can see, it's your submissions that make our newsletter something to look forward to each month. Keep them coming!

Lapidary/Jewelry Group – Meets on the second Saturday of each month, except December and January. The meeting time is 2:00 pm. This group's meeting is all about lapidary (anything to do with cutting and polishing rocks) and jewelry making. Terry Roberts leads this group. To have your name added to the email list contact Terry Roberts - terry.roberts45@yahoo.com

Mineral Group – Meets every second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. This group is all about minerals, how to identify them, geology and the locations they can be found. Topics are decided on by the group leader and the members. Charles Creekmur heads up the group. If you are interested in learning more about minerals, get your name on the email list for this group by contacting Charles Creekmur - calcite65@gmail.com

Fossil Group – Meets every third Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. If fossils are your thing, or you just want to learn a little more about fossils, this would be the group for you. Topics about fossils, locations where they can be found, and geological time periods are all discussed in this group. David Russ heads up the group, and if you would like to have your name added to the email list, contact David Russ - dbruss50@gmail.com

Gemology Group Meets every third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. This group is all about gemstone and the identification of gemstones. Topics are decided on by the group leaders and members. The group is led by Richard Armstrong. If you are interested in gemstones, identification, where their found, or any other related topic, this is the group for you. To have your name added to the email list, contact Richard Armstrong - keltfire@msn.com

NEWSLETTER CONTENT: Please send any original info or articles to be included in the newsletter to the Editor at the address or email listed below by the 10th of the month. Please keep your address, phone and email up-to-date, so that we can get the newsletter to you in a timely manner. Out-of-date information costs the club time and money in returned newsletters. If you need an issue dealt with quickly, don't hesitate to call. AFMS & SCFMS Newsletters will be emailed to members, as to not duplicate that information here, unless it needs to be repeated. Board meeting minutes are not published in the newsletter. If you would like to see a copy, contact an officer on the Board. The information in this newsletter may be reproduced for nonprofit use, as long as credit is given to the source. Thank you, Kinney Polve

Check us out on the web: WWW.ETGMS.COM

THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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.

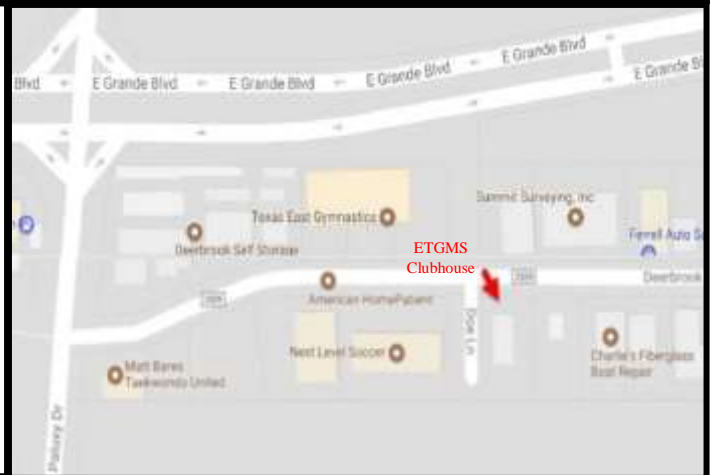
ANNUAL DUES:

Single: \$10.00 - Family: \$20.00

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, 2015 Deerbrook Drive, Tyler, Texas



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CHAIRMAN: **NEEDED**

CHAIRMAN SHOW: Keith Harmon
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CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES

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