



ROCK ~ N ~ ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

PAGE 1

VOLUME 43

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2017

Coming Shows, 2017

OCTOBER 14-15, 2017
TEMPLE, TX
TRI-CITY G & M SOC.
FRANK W MAYBORN
CIVIC & CONVEN. CTR.

OCTOBER 14-15, 2017
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
COWTOWN GMGC
CORPORATE EMPLOYEES
RECREATION ASSOC.
3300 BRYANT IRVIN ROAD

OCTOBER 20-22, 2017
AUSTIN, TX
AUSTIN G & M SOC.
PALMER EVENTS CTR.

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2017
ODESSA, TX
MIDLAND G & M SOC.
ECTOR CO. COLISEUM

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2017
AMARILLO, TX
GOLDEN SPREAD G & M SOC.
AMARILLO CIVIC CTR.

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2017
ROUND ROCK, TX
PALEONTOLOGICAL
SOC. OF AUSTIN
OLD SETTLERS HERITAGE
ASSOC.
3300 PALM VALLEY BLVD.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I'm thankful for the opportunity that I have to serve the club as president once again, the fact that you all entrusted me with serving you again is very humbling. I appreciate all the help and support from everyone and I hope it continues. I welcome, Terry Roberts – Vice President, Julia Toombs – Secretary, and William (Bill) Faulkner- Treasurer. Robert (Rip) Criss and Lynn Metcalf will be our new Board members.

Remember that Keith's Rock Sale is coming up October 7th. If you're looking for some used equipment, lapidary material, or anything else rock related, you won't want to miss this yearly sale. I always find a lot of goodies to take home, but I really enjoy the opportunity to talk to the people from other clubs that attend.

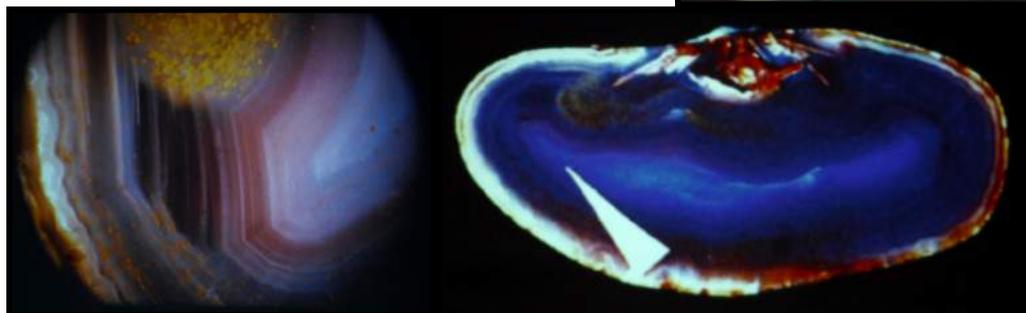
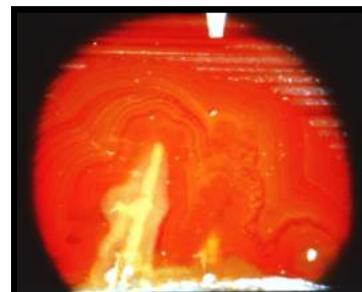
In lieu of a program at our October meeting, we will be having our annual club auction. It should prove to be an event worth attending. Please bring any club related items that you wish to donate for the auction, and if you have something to donate, but can't attend, please get it to another member that's going. And most important, bring your friends, and plenty cash or your checkbook.

[The Critter Workshop will be held at Kinney Polve's workshop, and is planned for October 14th. We always have a lot of fun making critters for our January show.](#) This year, once again, I want to encourage the parents of our junior members to try to attend. This is one activity that they will really enjoy. [We will start at 9:00 A.M, and go until everyone has had their fill of making critters.](#) Lunch will be provided. Also we will need help loading up all the show supplies in our new cargo trailer.

Congratulations to all the club members who won AFMS Awards this year! Especially to Susan Burch for winning First Place nationwide for her newsletter submission!

A reminder to everyone that membership dues are due in October. Fred Mahaffey

Photos below and at right, three agate slides from the Fossils and Queensland agates video shown at the September meeting. Photos by Susan Burch





SEPTEMBER ETGMS MEETING MINUTES

The September meeting of the East Texas Gem and Mineral Society was held on September 11, 2017, due to September 4 being a holiday. President Fred Mahaffey presided. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. We had two visitors and one new member. Kinney Polve made a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter and Lynn Metcalf seconded. Bill Faulkner then gave the Treasurer’s report. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, we had a visitor, Sharron Barton, selling part of her and her husband’s collection of 35* years of jewelry making.

Announcements:

* Lapidary Group – Terry Roberts stated that the group had not met at his house on September 9. A Club member had passed away and his memorial service was that day. The next meeting will be at Kinney’s house on Saturday, October 14 along with the Critter Workshop for the 2018 annual show. The new cargo trailer will also be loaded. Again, there is a sign-up sheet to attend a silver-smithing class.

* Mineral Group – Amy Long stated that the meeting will be held on September 12 at her office at 522 S. Broadway on the second floor. The program is to be micro-mounts, but the person giving the program is unavailable, so the program might change.

* Field Trips – There will be a field trip to the Twin Creek crystal mine at Mt. Ida, Arkansas on September 15-17. Room space has been reserved by Kelly Ford as it is a long drive.

* October 2 is the annual club auction. You can purchase some nice pieces, make money for the club, and have fun, all at the same time.

* October 7 is Keith Harmon’s annual rock sale in Rusk from 9 a.m. – dusk.

New Business:

* Fred gave an overview of the changes to the Constitution and By-Laws for those who hadn’t read them on the email. Kinney gave the reasons for the changes to reimbursements, scholarships, and dues.

*The circumstances for the removal of Trish Hamilton as Treasurer were discussed.

* Terry made a motion to approve the revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws and Carolyn Davis seconded. The motion carried.

* Kinney made a motion to remove Trish Hamilton as a club member and Randy Harmon seconded. The motion carried.

* Nomination and election of new Officers:

President - Fred Mahaffey

Vice-President – Terry Roberts

Secretary – Julia Toombs

Treasurer – Bill Faulkner

As there were no more nominations, Carolyn Davis made a motion to accept all and Kinney Polve seconded. The motion carried.

* Lynn Metcalf and Rip Criss volunteered to be members-at-large. Kinney made the motion to approve them and Randy Harmon seconded. The motion was carried.

Awards:

* Becky Whisenant received a certificate from AFMS for an article she wrote entitled Hunting for Fossils and Septarians.

* Kinney received a certificate from AFMS for being in the Top Ten in North America in Adult Poetry for penning Leaverite.

* Susan Burch received a certificate and plaque from AFMS for First Place in Small Bulletins.

With the conclusion of the business meeting, 20* door prize tickets were drawn and there were 2 silent auction items – a block of rain forest jasper and a geode. This was followed by visiting and refreshments and time for late members to look at Sharron’s remaining items.

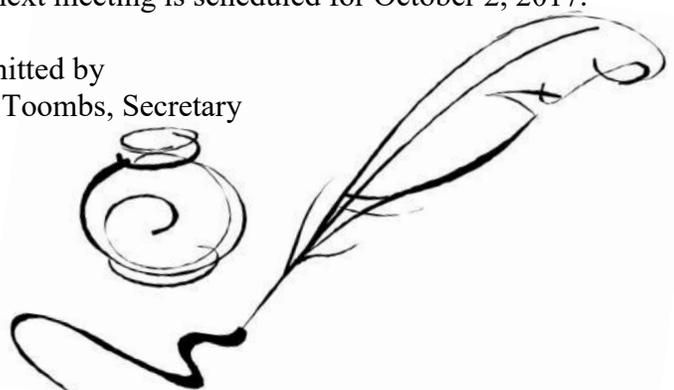
The program began at 7:50 p.m. Terry had a display of agates from a friend who gathers Queensland agates in Australia. He showed a DVD made by a rock-hound in Australia entitled Fossils and Queensland agates. He had some beautiful specimens and described how many were formed and even showed many blown up for easier viewing.

Terry also had fossils he had found on the last field trip, sea urchins (Echnoids), that he was giving away.

On leaving, members again looked at Sharron’s remaining items and she left with empty crates.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2017.

Submitted by
Julia Toombs, Secretary





ETGMS FIELD TRIP AUGUST 2017

Eight ETGMS members joined the Dallas Paleontological Society (DPS) field trip to Oliver Creek in Justin, TX on Saturday, August 19, 2017. We met at the Justin Boot Outlet and traveled approximately five miles to the private property on which the dig occurred.

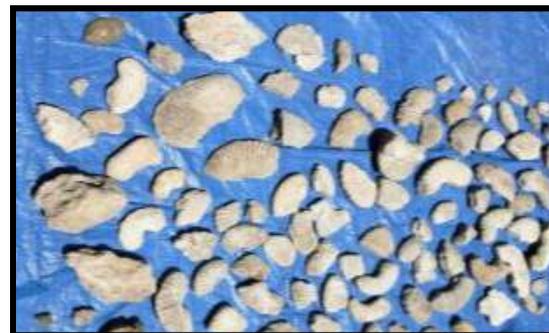


There were lots of DPS participants, probably in excess of 100, even though this was the 23rd year this dig had occurred. The land owner, to whom we are very grateful, allows the group to dig once a year. And even though the site has obviously been explored previously, there were plenty of finds for everyone.

We were expecting to find ammonites like Oxytropidoceras and echinoids like Epiaster whitei and the rarer, regular Salenia Mexicana as well as a few shark teeth. While there was an abundance of ammonite pieces laying in and around the river bed, there were also plenty of full ammonite specimens available for digging.

If you were unable to make this field trip, I would advise you to make it next year! You could bring home as much as you could carry... with help in some cases! Special thanks to the Dallas Paleontological Society for letting us join them!

Kelly Ford



FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

Below is a tentative schedule for remaining 2017 field trips. They may change based on club input. Please, contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Kelly Ford, 903-647-0878; kellyjeanford@gmail.com

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>TO BE COLLECTED</u>
October 6-8, 2017	Graves Mountain; Lincolnton, Georgia	Rutile, Kyanite, Lazulite, Pyrite, Fuchsite, etc.
October 13-14, 2017	30th Annual World Championship Quartz Crystal Dig; Mt. Ida, AR	Crystal Quartz
November 18, 2017	Ladonia Fossil Park; Ladonia, TX	Fossils, Artifacts
December, 2017	No field trips scheduled at this time.	





Authentic ROCKHOUND: Rock Licker

By Susan Burch

From your everyday hard work,
You look to take a recess.
It's futile to hate this quirk,
A rock hunt brings you success.

Out in the collection field,
The over bright sun does beam,
You're hoping the search will yield,
A treasure found that will gleam.

The long pursuit for that find,
Will continue till you die,
And can make you lose your mind,
Or in turn might make you cry.

Once you've found that rock so dear,
You'll want to give it some care,
The twinkle in your eyes clear,
You then take it to your lair.

Cutting that new rock apart,
Color revealed so sweet,
Bands give flutter to your heart,
Nature's beauty speeds the beat.

Buying from a real rock shop,
Really might have been quicker.
But you can't pass a road cut stop,
You're an authentic rock licker.



**RICHARD ALBERT
CARTER SR.**

Sunrise Sunset
11-19-43 8-29-17



Richard Albert Carter Sr. age 73, was welcomed into heaven on Tuesday, Aug. 29. R i c h a r d was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and a devoted friend. Born Nov. 19, 1943, in Rochester, N.Y. The son of Richard and Mary Herbst and adoptive parents, Albert and Sarah Carter. Richard was an Air Force veteran and maintenance supervisor for Alief ISO. He had many passions, including raising and showing endangered parakeets and parrots, collecting rocks that he made into lovely faceted, wire-wrapped and cabochon jewelry. He was a Freemason, Ham Radio operator, Freightliner Club Past President and member of the East Texas Gem and Mineral Society. He resided in Jacksonville for the past four years. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Linda; daughter, Laura and husband Steve Yates of Fort Worth; son, Richard Jr. and wife Vanessa Carter of Hempstead; grandchildren Cody, Wesley, Austin Yates, Geneva Carter, Brandon McGee; one great grandchild, Mason McGee. Sisters, Donna Kausch, Barbara Bertram, both of Rochester N.Y. A memorial service was held Saturday, Sept. 9, at 3 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, 318 1/2 Main St. Jacksonville, TX.

Flowers will be accepted at:
333 CR. 3203,
Jacksonville, TX 75766.





BACK YARD ROCK AND EQUIPMENT SALE

CONTACT: KEITH HARMON
903-316-2967/ keithharmon19@yahoo.com

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2017

START AT 9AM

WHERE: 9116 US Hwy 84 West, Rusk, TX 75785

WHO: KEITH AND TONI HARMON

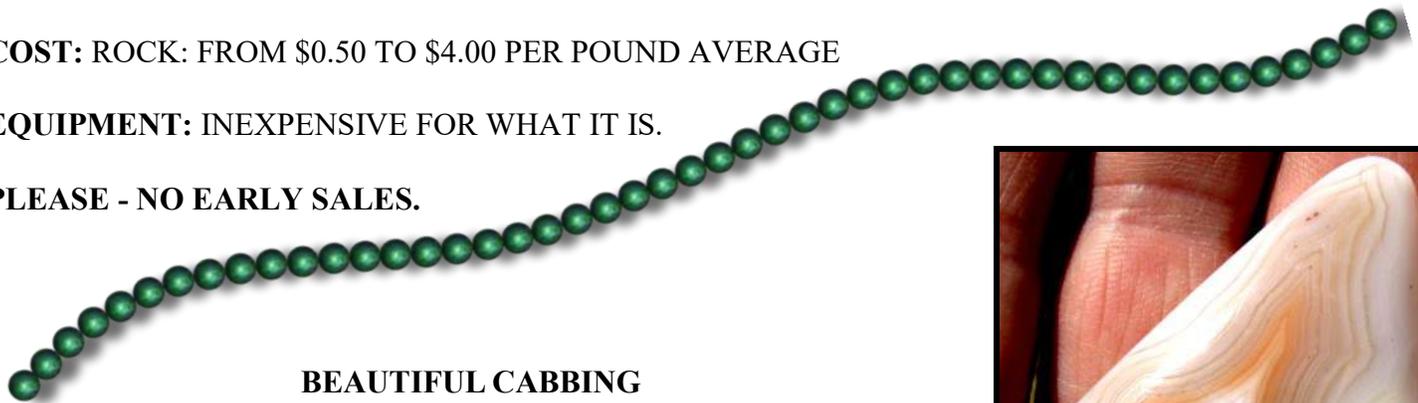
WHAT: OVER 50 TONS OF ROCK OF VARIOUS TYPES – INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO; agates, jaspers, obsidians, Jade, palm wood, Arizona wood, tumbling rough, large rock, Cutting material.

USED EQUIPMENT: SAWS, GRINDERS, POLISHING UNITS
VIBRATING LAPS, FLAT LAPS, SPHERE MACHINE, TUMBLERS

COST: ROCK: FROM \$0.50 TO \$4.00 PER POUND AVERAGE

EQUIPMENT: INEXPENSIVE FOR WHAT IT IS.

PLEASE - NO EARLY SALES.



BEAUTIFUL CABBING

Hi Folks: I had some slabs lying around on my work bench for several years taking up space, so I decided to do something with them and free up some of that space. I ended up making the four cabs pictured at right, plus two Botswana cabs not pictured here.



The bottom right picture shows two cabs, one of which is a red tiger eye and the other is a Queensland agate from Agate Creek in Australia (the subject of September meeting's presentation). The bottom middle picture shows a Laguna agate from Mexico. The above left picture shows a Tecolote Agate from the San Carlos area of Mexico. I still have more agate slabs to convert into cabs, but I don't know when I will be able to completed the work. I hope you all enjoyed seeing the cabs.

Terry Roberts





Cab of the Month

I completed a Teepee Canyon agate cab today from a slab that my friend, Johnny French sent to me some time ago. It was a thicker slab than normally cut for cabling, but it had a lot of fractures and some of them had broken off large pieces of the agate on one side. So, I had to cab the broken side in order to remove the broken areas. I would have preferred to cab the other side because I think it had a prettier scene. I left the original shape of the slab which means that I cabled a long rectangular shape which I have seldom done. I think it turned out to be a great Teepee Canyon cab with bright colors and a nice pattern. I will keep it for display and will not wire wrap it. The first picture shows the cabled surface and the second picture shows the flat bottom of the cab.

Terry Roberts



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The October meeting is our annual auction. Come enjoy the fun, bring rock theme donations, money and a friend.

AUCTION

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This is my 126th issue as editor of the Rock-N-Rose newsletter, but more importantly it is my last.

After the September meeting I received a couple of emails from President Fred Mahaffey. In one he stated, 'You have had a very long run at being the editor and for a volunteer organization that is great when there is no one else who wants to volunteer. But, it is my experience in other volunteer organizations that when there are multiple individuals wanting to volunteer that they should also have the opportunity to contribute. Otherwise, it tends to discourage members from volunteering because it gives the impression (right or wrong) that they are not needed or their contributions are not important. Based on that and the fact you have been the publisher for such a length of time we need to give someone else a chance. As the club president I have to look at what may be best for the club not just one individual.'

With that statement, what could I do other than leave with grace. However, I did wish to let you know how much I've enjoyed being your editor. Eleven years of articles, poems, photos and graphics. But so much more than that, I guess I could compare it to tending a precious seedling entrusted into your care. You water, fertilize, get rid of the bugs, trim here and there, and end up with a beautiful flowering plant. Your care and nurturing has endeared it to you, each time it's admired or commended, your heart lifts, knowing you did your best.

When Fred announced the 2017 AFMS Author and Editors' contest results at the September meeting, I was humbled and honored to receive 1st place in the region and in the nation. Over the years I've receive many awards from the SCFMS and AFMS contests, including being inducted into the AFMS Hall of Fame. Thank you



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 for your contributions, commendation and appreciation, I don't feel I could have accomplished all of this without you, our members. It took hard work and I feel I'm going out on top.



Susan Burch, Editor

Club Happenings...

At the September 11 meeting of the East Texas Gem and Mineral Society, President Fred Mahaffey presented three awards from the American Federation of Mineral Societies' 2017 Author and Editor's contest. Becky Whisenant (pictured first below with President Fred Mahaffey) scored an Honorable Mention for her feature, Hunting for Fossils and Septarians, Kinney Polve (shown bottom left) landed a 9th place for his poem, Leaverite, and Susan Burch (second to the bottom) placed 1st in the Small Bulletins category. These three also placed a 1st-3rd in the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies contest which awards will be given out at the Editor's breakfast at the Houston Gem and Mineral Show in November. Congratulations to all our winners.

Caption—Susan Burch, photos—Kinney and Vicky Polve.



MINERAL GROUP

Twelve members met for a micro-minerals presentation with the mineral subgroup. Thank you to Charles Creekmur and Jack Shull for bringing your equipment and specimens. We meet the second Tuesday of each month. Next meeting topic? Open to suggestions. Tourmaline, and garnets have been mentioned. Caption and photo—Amy Long.



LAPIDARY/JEWELRY GROUP

It was decided to cancel the Lapidary/Jewelry Group meeting out of respect for a member whose memorial service was held the same day.



SILVERSMITHING

It looks like member Marcia Graham likes the way her ring project turned out. She just completed the advanced beginners silversmithing class, and I can't wait to see some of the creations she will be making in the future.



Caption and photos—Kinney Polve





AFMS/SCFMS NEWS

Safety Matters - What Do You Know?

by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

What do you know? The brain has a remarkable ability to forget things. I've often thought that such an ability to be very useful for quite a number of reasons. One of those reasons is to clear out the clutter that accumulates and in doing so makes room for new stuff. So, what do you know? What new information are you stuffing into the places where information has been forgotten? Are you filling the new-found storage in your head with good and useful information? May I offer the following quote - "Human beings are perhaps never more frightening than when they are convinced beyond doubt that they are right", by Laurens VanDerPost. Over the years I have heard many variations of those words such as, "It's not what one knows, but what one doesn't know - that's the problem." and "It's not what one knows, it's what one knows that isn't so." Please permit me to mention some examples of rockhound safety information that may be less often known: Oxalic acid - There is a common understanding that oxalic acid is relatively safe. Here are some facts -- compared to many acids oxalic is relatively weak. An acid's strength is measured by how readily hydrogen is given up Safety Matters - What Do You Know? by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair in water - it's Ka value. Oxalic acid has a Ka of 0.0054 (primary) and 0.0000523 (tertiary), so when compared with hydrochloric acid's Ka of 1.0 or nitric's Ka of 27.79 oxalic is comparatively weak. One large issue that is often omitted in the rockhound community is that there is no correlation between an acid's strength and its toxicity. So while the rockhound community understands that oxalic acid may be relatively weak, what is not well known is that, gram for gram, oxalic acid is highly toxic. Its toxic potential can be inhaled or readily absorbed through the skin. Very strict safety measures must be followed to address oxalic's toxicity. Grindstone safety. I can't tell you how many times I have seen lapidary workers standing or sitting in front of rapidly rotating grind stones while doing their work. Each time I see such a body position chills run up and down my spine. One should not sit or stand directly in front of a grindstone while one is starting the machine or shutting it down. Nor is it wise to position oneself in front of it while it is running. The reason is that grindstones have the potential to break apart. Admittedly, the risk is small but never-the less it exists. Equipment guards do mitigate some of the risk potential but, according to machine instructions, not all the risk. I have personally seen the evidence of a self-destructed grindstone and been in the shop when one was self-destructing.



Needless to say, a great deal of damage can be done by such an event. So, I highly recommend not standing in the path of anything that can injure oneself. Diamond and belted wheels are considerably less problematic. Eye protective goggles are great - but there is more to the story. Have you ever noticed that when one is digging for minerals, hammering on big boulders, or doing some extensive lapidary work that a good measure of dust accumulates on the inside of one's goggles? I have noticed that effect quite often. Most goggles are ventilated to prevent fogging and that venting, in addition to some mysterious force, permits accumulation of dust on the inside surfaces of the goggles. Here's the thing - we have protected our eyes with the goggles and those goggles have provided notice that there is a large amount of dust present which is most likely not being addressed by the wearing of a dust mask. In these, less than obvious instances, dust protection is advisable. So now you know. When one is filling their head with new information please make sure safety issues are considered. Let's put the new found memory space to its highest and best use. Please be safe out there! to position oneself in front of it while it is running. The reason is that grindstones have the potential to break apart. Admittedly, the risk is small but never-the less it exists. Equipment guards do mitigate some of the risk potential but, according to machine instructions, not all the risk. I have personally seen the evidence of a self-destructed grindstone and been in the shop when one was self-destructing. Needless to say, a great deal of damage can be done by such an event. So, I highly recommend not standing in the path of anything that can injure oneself. Diamond and belted wheels are considerably less problematic. Eye protective goggles are great - but there is more to the story. Have you ever noticed that when one is digging for minerals, hammering on big boulders, or doing some extensive lapidary work that a good measure of dust accumulates on the inside of one's goggles? I have noticed that effect quite often. Most goggles are ventilated to prevent fogging and that venting, in addition to some mysterious force, permits accumulation of dust on the inside surfaces of the goggles. Here's the thing - we have protected our eyes with the goggles and those goggles have provided notice that there is a large amount of dust present which is most likely not being addressed by the wearing of a dust mask. In these, less than obvious instances, dust protection is advisable. So now you know. When one is filling their head with new information please make sure safety issues are considered. Let's put the new found memory space to its highest and best use. Please be safe out there! Via AFMS/SCFMS September newsletters.

Aim For Safety

Please, rockhound carefully!





BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

LAYOUT TOOLS—Dimensions on some features of a design can be fluid while others must be accurate for the design to work. When precision on a piece is important, good layout techniques are essential.

These are the tools that I rely upon to get holes in the right place, to achieve correct angles, and to cut pieces the correct length.

I like crisp sharp lines to follow, so I often coat surfaces with a dark marker and scribe my layout lines onto the metal. A square makes quick work of checking right angles or marking where to cut, and the thin center punch helps



me mark a place to drill holes exactly where I want them.

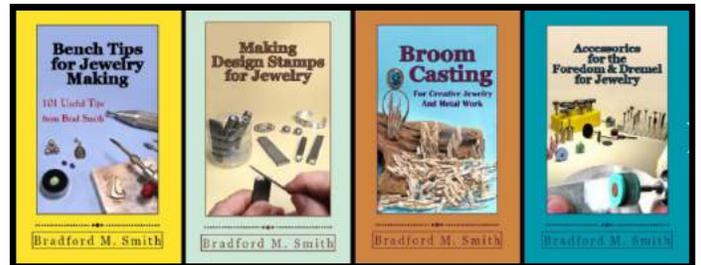
Finally, a good set of dividers is probably my favorite layout tool. They let me quickly mark a strip for cutting, swing an arc, and divide a line or curve into as many equal segments as I need. I keep at least one set of dividers in every toolbox.

INVENTORY RECORD—In an ideal world each of us has a complete pictorial record of all pieces of jewelry in our inventory. We use the pics for marketing, and we use the record for insurance. We use it to remember which items have been sent out on consignment, or we use it to mark which items we're taking to a show. And eventually, we note in the record the pieces that have sold.

Unfortunately, we don't always have time to take good pictures of each piece for a detailed inventory. In situations like this I've been able to make a quick group shot with the help of a smart phone, a camera, a scanner, or a color copier. The quality is more than sufficient to accurately identify the pieces.

Please include the following attribution with each publication:

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/ and www.amazon.com/dp/0988285835



EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM



Name(s): _____ Anniversary _____ Birth Date: _____ Adult: _____ Jr. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Newsletter via e-mail? Y ___ N ___

Special Interest in the hobby: _____ Date Paid: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone or Cell: _____ Dues Paid: \$ _____



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 all club meetings.

MONTHLY MEETING:

First Monday of the month unless a holiday, then the second Monday, at 6:45 p.m.

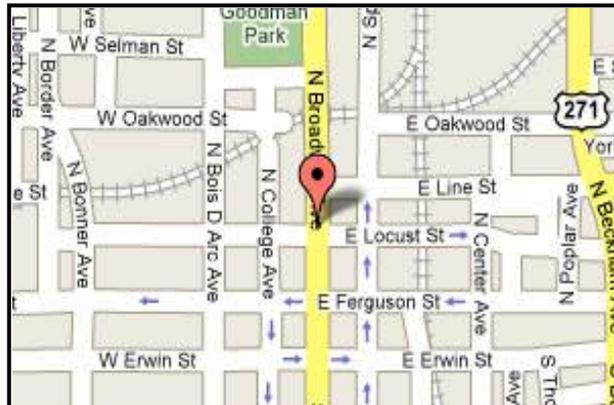
WHERE:

The Discovery Science Place
308 N. Broadway
Tyler, Texas

ANNUAL DUES:

Adults: \$10
Family: \$20

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NEWSLETTER CONTENT: Please send any info or articles to be included in the newsletter to the Editor at the address or email listed below by the 15th 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. Keep in mind some photos or graphics may be chosen from the Internet. Susan Burch

CLUB OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:
903-978-0268

Fred Mahaffey
1637 CR 1306
Rusk, TX 75785

SHOW CHAIRMAN:
903-795-3860

Keith Harmon
9116 US HWY 84 W
Rusk, TX 75785

WEBMASTER:
310-714-0136

Lynn Metcalf
9120 Mint Ave.
Frankston, TX 75763
lcmetcalf@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:
903-881-5108

Terry Roberts
12243 Cross Fence Trail
Tyler, TX 75706

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMEN:
903-647-0878

Kelly Ford
PO BOX 156
Arp, TX 75750
kellyjeanford@gmail.com

CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES:

C/O Bill Falkner
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
P. O. BOX 132532
Tyler, TX 75713-2532

TREASURER:
903-839-5139

Bill Faulkner
309 Princess St.
Whitehouse, TX 75791

Or
903-330-6741

Darby Spears
PO BOX 131934
Tyler, TX 75713
darbvofbrightmoon@gmail.com

SECRETARY:
903-882-5809

Julia Toombs
317 Rustic
Hideaway, TX 75771



EDITOR: Susan Burch
10911 Holly Springs Dr.
Houston, TX 77042

E-Mail: rocknroseeditor@hotmail.com
Phone: 936-615-5397