



ROCK-N-ROSE



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TYLER, TEXAS

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MAY 2009

Coming Shows, 2009

MAY 23-24
FORT WORTH, TX
Fort Worth Gem & Min. Soc.
Will Rogers Memorial Center

JUNE 05-07
TULSA, OKLAHOMA
Gem Faire, Inc.
Expo Square/Exchange Center

JUNE 19-21
SAN ANTONIO, TX
Gem Faire
Live Oak Civic Center

JUNE 26-28
GRAPEVINE, TX
AKS Gem Shows
Grapevine Convention Center

JULY 17-19
KENNER, LA
AKS Gem Shows
Pontchartrain Center

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Obituary News

Two of our club members have passed away recently. One was Mark Hudson, of whom I don't have any of the details. The other is long time member Jack Parker. Jack had fallen several weeks ago and so went into the Hospice program. He passed away on April 28th. His funeral was on Friday, May 1st, 2009. Please, keep Pat in your prayers. Jack and Pat have been members of our club for several years now. Jack always loved going on field trips and loved to bring back the "BIG one". Pat said Jack's obituary is listed on the internet under Radar Funeral Home, Longview, TX.

Information originally sent from Charlotte Harmon



Rock Sale

The Ellis's will have a rock sale at their home in Bastrop on the weekend of June 6 & 7 from 10 to 4 on Saturday and 1 to 4 on Sunday. Items for sale include: Petrified Wood 10 cents lb, Misc. Agates 25 cents to 50 cents lb, (Walker Ranch, Rio Grande, West Texas), Horn Coral (Brown County, Tx.), Quartz Crystals (Arkansas), Obsidian (large pieces-30 lbs or over-\$2.50 lb, Limestone with Crinoids (San Saba area), Small Geodes 25 cents lb, and an Acetylene Tank and Torch \$60.00 (only piece of equipment).

We have many other rocks collected over 30 years that need a new home. Maps and other information will be available at the May AGMS Meeting. Phone calls are welcome but we will not have the rocks in place until the 6th of June. Mac & Fran Ellis. Austin Gem and Mineral Society.

I will try to get contact information if you wish it...



MAY MEETING MINUTES

The East Texas Gem and Mineral Society meeting was called to order by President Rip Criss at 7:08 p.m., May 4, 2009 in the meeting room of the Discovery Science Place on Broadway Street in Tyler, TX.

First order of business was acceptance of the minutes of the April 6, 2009 meeting as published in the Rock-N-Rose newsletter. Laura Wilson made motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Becky Whisenant and passed by unanimous approval. A total of 33 club members and 1 visitor were present.

The financial report was given by Club Treasurer, Jeri Kitchens.

One item of old business was the report by Gene Goar that the wire wrapping class slated for late May has been called off, for now. The earliest the instructor can work the dates into her schedule is late August. A total of 14 people had signed up with 2 more possible students, which reached the maximum of 16, divided into 2 classes of 8 each. There will be more information on the classes in future months.

Jack Shull gave a brief report on the upcoming May 9 trip to Jasper to gather petrified wood. There will now be a small collecting fee of \$5 per person, \$10 per family, to help with the escalating lease fees on the land. It was noted that this is the first time Ron has ever charged an entry fee. Pete Kaiser added that there was a sign up sheet on the back table and that he would email the trip members if rain forced cancellation of the trip.

There being no new business to be brought before the members, the program moved to a reminder by Rip of the citrine from Brazil which was the silent auction item of the night. Drawings for door prizes and a short break for refreshments were called.

Program for the evening, presented by Don Campbell was a showing of #7 of the Great Courses: The Identification of Minerals by Dr. John Renton, PH D, West Virginia University. Don added that he loves to look through old mineralogy books and recommended some of his favorites, both old and new prints. He also said that the web site mindat.com offers a wealth of information.

Keith and Charlotte Harmon and Mr. & Mrs. Ed Wheeler arrived during the program after just coming back to Tyler from a trip to Waco, TX. Keith gave a report on the progress made by the committee formed at the last club meeting to offer suggestions and ideas about having a "kid's day" on the Friday before the annual Club show in January at the Rose Garden Center in Tyler. Following a short discussion, with a question and answer session, Keith said the club needed to vote on the issue. Keith made a motion to have the Kid's Day, seconded by Penny Hawkins, approval voted by membership with 2 votes in opposition. Motion carried.

Charlotte gave the sad news of the passing of Jack Parker and reminded members of the long term Club association of Pat and Jack Parker. A motion was made and approved to donate to the American Scholarship Fund in the name of Jack and also Leon St. Pierre another long term member who passed away during the winter.

Keith reminded members that he & Charlotte will host a rock sale at their home on June 6th with about 40 tons of rocks of all types and associated equipment for sale. He had fliers to hand out with the details.

Rip adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Penny Hawkins, Club Secretary



Good Vibrations

*By a club member who wished to remain anonymous,
It is some of the reasons they like rocks.*

Like Modest Mussorgski, pictures at an exhibition
Move me.

So do the pictures lying on the trunk by my couch
Where the cat and I relax late at night.

One photo holds a rainbow inlaid over evening sky
As receding sunlight releases its grip on the treetops.

Two friends embrace in the moist mountain air;
My husband watches, hands in pockets,
Like someone from a Chekov short story,
His eyes telling me all is right with the world.

I pick up the next photo and shiver at the wind
Tearing at our clothes

As we stand on the edge of a goat trail.

Smiles beam in the brightness, crisscrossed by hair
That plays hide & seek across our faces.

My white knuckles clutch a rock for strength
Pulling me back from the sheer drop scant inches away.

The earth fairly hums, resounding through me.

It vibrates through my boots in the rock beneath my feet,
Sings a song not human, but whose melody always I knew.

Einstein speaks truth:

“One almost feels as if one is dissolved and merged into nature.”



The Sam Rayburn Trip to collect petrified wood was Saturday May the 9th...here is a picture of Gene Goar and helper, lugging a bucket of their finds...





**"STONE SOUP" recipes from fellow Rockhounds
submitted by Bob Powers**

Eggplant Parmesan - recipe adapted from Tyler Florence @ Foodnetwork.com

- Tomato sauce (use whatever brand name prepared tomato sauce you like)
- 4 cups dried bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 5 eggs
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 pounds medium eggplants, trimmed and cut lengthwise into 1/2-inch-thick slices
- 2 pounds whole milk ricotta cheese
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh basil leaves
- 1 1/4 cups freshly grated Parmigiano-Romano
- 2 pounds shredded mozzarella cheese

Directions for eggplant preparation: Combine the bread crumbs, garlic powder, and oregano in a shallow bowl; season generously with salt and pepper and mix well. Crack 3 of the eggs into another shallow bowl; season with salt and pepper and beat with a fork to mix. Put the flour in another shallow bowl and season with salt and pepper. Arrange the eggplant, flour, beaten eggs, and bread crumbs on a work surface near the stove.

Heat about 1/4-inch olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. When the oil is hot, dredge several eggplant slices first in the flour, then dip them in the egg, and finally coat them in the bread crumbs.

Put as many eggplant in the skillet as will fit comfortably in a single layer and cook until tender and well browned on both sides. Drain on paper towels. Cook all of the eggplant slices this way, adding more olive oil to the pan as needed. Stir together the ricotta and 1/2 cup of the Parmigiano cheese. Stir in the basil and remaining 2 eggs, and season with salt and pepper. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

To assemble the dish, first get yourself set up with a large, buttered baking dish. Have ready the eggplant, the ricotta mixture, the tomato sauce, the shredded mozzarella cheese and the remaining 3/4 cup grated Parmigiano. To start, spoon some of the tomato sauce over the bottom of the baking dish. Now add a layer of eggplant. Spread with half of the ricotta mixture. Spoon another layer of tomato sauce over and sprinkle with about one-third of the mozzarella. Repeat with a layer of eggplant, the rest of the ricotta, tomato sauce, and another third of the mozzarella. Finish with the rest of the eggplant, the rest of the tomato sauce, and the rest of the mozzarella. Sprinkle with the 3/4 cup Parmigiano. Put the dish in the oven and bake for about 1 hour, until golden and bubbling. Via Summit Gem Newsletter 03/09



AFMS/NFMS Show and Convention July 30-31, August 1-2, 2009
 From Doug True, Convention Chair, via the *AFMS Newsletter*, March 2009

The Billings, Montana, Gem and Mineral Club invites you to attend the AFMS/NFMS Show and Convention. Come spend some time with us and see the wonders of the Big Sky country and experience a time of your life. We hope you plan on spending some time in our state, visiting the many sights or hunting for Montana agate, Bear Canyon fortification agate, petrified wood, or fossils from the Hell Creek, Pierre and Bear paw formations. Join us for the many field trips scheduled for after the show. We will spend some time in the next issue [of the *AFMS Newsletter*] talking about each field trip and what you may expect to find. Many special exhibits are scheduled for this show. We're excited about:

- A moon rock from NASA, which has never been to Montana and should be a great draw for the area
- An Ice Age exhibit including a cave bear
- Outstanding ruby and corundum, Montana sapphires, and gold exhibits
- The rock food table from Texas
- World class collections of agate

We hope you plan your vacation around this show and visit places like Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks and Little Big Horn, where Custer fought.
 For more information, visit www.amfed.org.



Eternal Truths

I love cooking with wine. Sometimes I even put it in the food.
 If it weren't for STRESS I'd have no energy at all.
 Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.
 Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film.
 If the shoe fits.....buy it in every color.

~From the Calgary Lapidary Journal, 11/08; via Stone Chipper 11/08



Some Facts About Silver - submitted by Bob Powers

"Pure silver has a brilliant white color and is the whitest of all metals. None surpasses it in luster, and in hardness it ranges between pure gold and pure copper. An alloy of 925 parts fine silver and 75 parts copper is called 925-1000 fine or what is commonly known as sterling silver.

The word "sterling" is the quality mark of the best in silver. The word is Middle English, probably Anglo-Saxon. The origin of the term dates back to the 12th century when five free towns banded together in the eastern part of Germany calling themselves the Hanseatic League. They were free to make their own laws and issue their own currency. When trading with the British merchants, they paid for the British products with silver coins. These coins attracted the attention of the Britishers for their consistency of metal and the dependability of weights, and were, therefore, referred to as the coins of the Esterlings. In due time, after the British adopted the characteristics of these coins, the metal and the coin became known as sterling. Down to the present day this term has stood for the test of fineness and quality."

From Jewelry Making and Design by Augustus Rose and Antonio Cirino, Dover Publications, 1967. Via SLC Newsletter 12/05



Hello to the club, from Marilyn Austin,

I sold my home in Tyler last summer and was really lucky immediately to be able to purchase my own place just a mile down the road from my daughter and son-in-law's place here in bell County at the edge of the Hill Country. I have six acres on a ridge that borders the same creek as the place on Wild Horse and an amazing view of the mesa and valley.

The big talus slope near my home which was visited by Becky Whisenant and the Monroes a couple of years ago has received major attention from the Austin Paleo club as a source for a rich assortment of echinoderms and other Lower Cretaceous marine fossils.

Recently I joined the Temple club. I want to tell you how much I miss the Tyler club and to say that you are a much better club than any in this vicinity, including Austin. I really appreciate the work Don does with excellent programs and the field trips which are mostly lacking in the local clubs. I also want to commend Susan also for such a good job on the newsletter which I enjoy receiving very much. The Tyler show, in my opinion, is the best I've seen so far and that includes Austin, Houston and Alpine. Keep up the good work!!

The Austin Paleontological Society however does a great job. Tomorrow is our auction and we have as guest speaker George Hansen, a local scientist who specializes in Coal County, Oklahoma lower Devonian trilobites. He will be signing copies of his new book, The Trilobites of Cat Mountain and I wanted to alert Don to this book, copies of which can be purchased online through universe Book Store.

While East Texas has been drowning, we have been in a major drought this past year but are now getting much needed rain.

**CLUB OFFICERS**

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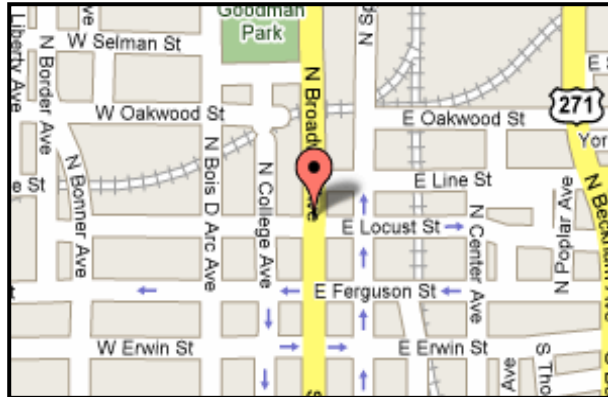
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THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY MEETS ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, UNLESS THAT DAY IS A HOLIDAY, THEN THE MEETING IS MOVED TO THE SECOND MONDAY. WE MEET AT THE DISCOVERY SCIENCE PLACE, 308 NORTH BROADWAY, JUST NORTH OF DOWNTOWN TYLER, TEXAS. MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6:45 P.M.

Please send any info or articles to be included in the newsletter to the Editor by the 15th of the month. Please keep your address, phone and email information 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.

Thank you... SB

NOTE TO EDITORS
Feel free to use contents and graphics for non-profit newsletters. Give credit when and where due.

Purpose of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society

Is to promote the study of geology, mineralogy, fossils and the lapidary arts. The public is always invited to attend all club meetings.

Annual dues are \$10.00 for adults and \$2.50 for juniors.



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