

ROCK-N-ROSE



THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 45

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 3

MARCH 2019

Upcoming Events

APRIL 13-14

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

APRIL 19-20

**CHIHUAHUAN DESERT GMC
ALPINE CIVIC CENTER
APLINE, TX**

MAY 4-5

**WACO G&MS
EXTRACO EVENTS CENTER
WACO, TX**

MAY 25-26

**FORT WORTH GMC
WILL ROGERS MEM CTR
FORT WORTH, TX**

JUNE 1-2

**LUBBOCK G&MS
LUBBOCK MEM CIVIC CTR
LUBBOCK, TX**

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President's Message

I would like to say thank you to everyone who has been volunteering on all the different projects. It is much appreciated. It is really exciting to see all of the new members and visitors we have had at the last couple of meetings. We still have work to do on the building and the weather should start getting a little better, so we will start planning some work days to finish the front office/display room and then we need to build the walls for the other rooms. These are not small projects and more help is always better.



There was a great turnout for our March club meeting. Those of you who couldn't make the meeting missed an excellent program given by Charles Creekmur. It's always good to have a member show and tell of their adventures to learn from their experience. With that being said, we don't have a program scheduled for the April meeting as of yet. If you are willing to present the program, please contact me.

ETGMS is setting up a booth at the Tyler Mini Makers Faire at the Discovery Science Place again this year on April 27th. If you are interested in helping out in our booth, please contact me, and I will put you on the list. We will have a signup sheet at the April meeting. It is always better when we have plenty of help, so let's get enough members signed up so, we don't have any problems this year.

Don't forget to submit your nominations for Rockhound of the Month, so we can choose from all the entries. Please write a short reason why you chose that particular club member and what they did that impressed you enough to feel they deserve to be recognized.

Fred Mahaffey



MEETING MINUTES

The East Texas Gem & Mineral Society met for its regular monthly meeting on March 4, 2019. President Fred Mahaffey welcomed everyone and asked the seven visitors to introduce themselves. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Kinney Polve made the motion and Charles Creekmur seconded. The motion carried. Marcia Graham then gave the treasury report.

Announcements:

- April 27th – Tyler Maker's Faire at the Discovery Science Center
- March 9th & 10th – Rock & Equipment Sale in Temple, TX
- Lapidary sub-group – Terry Roberts – At last month's meeting the new members were introduced to the equipment. Lessons to new members also began during the month. The next meeting will be March 9th at 2 pm. They will discuss some of the tools used in polishing silver.
- Mineral sub-group – Charles Creekmur – March 12th – the Garnet family and how they are formed.
- Fossil sub-group – David Russ - March 19th – species and phyla. On March 9th there will be a field trip to the Brazos River west of Bryan/College Station to Whiskey Bridge. You may only collect invertebrates - gastropods and bi-valves. David also asked if anyone was interested in a "Geology 101" class. Some hands were raised and he asked how often it should be. Most agreed to once a month.
- Gemology group – Richard Armstrong – Pearls were discussed in February and Richard is now a certified pearl specialist. The Part 2 Identification class will be Thursday the 7th beginning at 9 am and will last most of the day. The 21st at 6:30 pm is the next group meeting.

- Field trip – In February, a few went to the Museum in Lufkin. Fred said there were many new items. This month, the trip is to Lake Texoma, but that trip is now iffy due to collecting limitations. David suggested Lake Benbrook. Fred suggested the North Sulfur River. More to come via email.

New Business:

- When you pay a new membership, you must fill out a member application form.
- The newsletter requests more poems and articles.
- Only one Rockhound of the Month nomination was submitted this month.

Fred asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Terry made the motion and Penny Hawkins seconded. The motion carried.

Tickets for door prizes were drawn followed by visiting and refreshments. The program was presented by Charles Creekmur on the Harding mine.

Respectfully submitted by
Julia Toombs, Secretary



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 10	11	12 Mineral Group Meeting 6:30 pm	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Fossil Group 6:30 pm	20  Spring Begins	21 Gemology Group 6:30 pm	22	23 Lake Texoma Field Trip
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	April 1 Monthly Meeting 6:45 pm	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Mineral Group Meeting 6:30 pm	10	11	12	13 Lapidary/Jewelry Group 2:00 pm
14	15	16 Fossil Group 6:30 pm	17	18 Gemology Group 6:30 pm	19	20 Rock Swap 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

2019 Fieldtrip Schedule

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	December 2 nd	

Note: Schedule is subject to change due unforeseen circumstances.

FIELD TRIP CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

East Texas Gem & Mineral Society

ROCK SWAP

Saturday April 20, 2019

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

ETGMS Clubhouse

2015 Deerbrook Drive

Tyler, Texas

ETGMS will be hosting a rock swap.

Other rock clubs are encouraged to join us, and the public is welcome.

You can set up your table inside the clubhouse or just tailgate on the back lot.

We are limiting indoor space to one 6 or 8-foot table.

Come and buy, sell, or swap.

There should be a good selection of club-related items.

Bring your minerals, fossils, rough material, slabs,
handmade items, equipment, etc.

It should be a great day for camaraderie.

And if that isn't enough, we will be cooking up some
hot dogs for lunch. See you there.

GEMOLOGY GROUP

The Gemology Group held a Gem Identification class on Thursday, March 7, 2019. There were five students who completed this class. This was our Gem Identification Theory class which covers properties of gemstones, crystallography, and a number of the more common gems. The students, who completed this class, will get their completion certificates at the next ETGMS monthly meeting.

We are planning to schedule several sessions of the follow-up Gem Identification class which is the practical lab class. This is a hands-on class using the gemological instruments to identify gemstones. To complete this class, students will have a test to identify a series of gemstones. More information on this class will be provided later.

Our next meeting will be March 21st. The program will be "Back to Basics". We will be using some of the basic tools one needs to master to work with gems, the 10x loupe, tweezers, gem cloth and diamond/gem papers.

The Gemology Group is open to anyone with an interest in gems. We hope to see you at our meeting Thursday, March 21st at 6:30 pm at the ETGMS Clubhouse.

Richard D. Armstrong, CM, ASG, GG, GP, AJP



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OF JEWELRY APPRAISERS

LAPIDARY/JEWELRY GROUP

The Lapidary/Jewelry Group met on March 9th at the ETGMS clubhouse with twelve members in attendance. Terry and Kinney discussed various methods for polishing silver and other metals and getting the best shine possible on cabochons. Terry also showed the group different polishing compounds and pads that can be used to polish lapidary material. The group was very interested in the topic and the ways to avoid problems commonly encountered by those just learning the trade. Kinney and Terry provided solutions that they had learned over the years and suggested sources that the students could look at for more information, if needed. They also showed the group the capping machines that the Club has available for members to use, as soon as we can get the workshop set up.

At the end of the meeting, Kinney told the group that a wire wrapping class will be offered on the morning of April 13th starting at 9:00 am. The April meeting of the L/J Group will begin later that day starting at 2:00 pm. He also showed the group the tools that they will be using and a tutorial that he prepared on how to wire wrap a cabochon. Five members signed up for the wire wrapping class before the meeting was adjourned. An announcement about the wire wrapping class will be made at the next meeting of the ETGMS (April 1st), and the sign-up sheet will be available for those interested in taking the class. The class will be limited to eight people, so that each student can be given as much individual attention as possible by Kinney and Terry during the class.

Terry Roberts



FOSSIL GROUP

There were ten members present at the February meeting. New members were Jerry and Shelly Sudderth. We discussed some general geological principles and collection site ethics. The meeting topic was Brachiopods, and a number of specimens covering several geological periods were presented for viewing. There was a discussion of a field trip to the Brazos River near Bryan to be announced for a date to be coordinated with Fred Mahaffey.

David Russ

The Importance of Club Field Trips

By: Fred Mahaffey

There are many important roles in a Gem and Mineral Club, you have the Club President, Vice President, Treasurer, and don't forget the Club Secretary, whom without the minutes would not be complete. But another important role in a club is the Field Trip Chairperson. Now you may ask why? Why is the Field Trip Chairperson so important? Let me tell you a few of the many benefits of having someone planning and organizing your club field trips. Organized and well-planned field trips help build excitement and enthusiasm within your club. When club members come back from a trip with all sorts of treasures, the excitement they have is contagious, and it is a great recruiting and retention tool for our club. The benefits of a field trip are many: from just getting out and getting fresh air and exercise; seeing a new part of the country; learning about a new mineral or fossil; or just building friendships and camaraderie with likeminded individuals. The excitement from a new Rockhound, who found their first fossil or mineral specimen is contagious and encourages more involvement and brings back memories of the excitement of other member's first find.

Field trips provide educational opportunities for members to learn about the mineral or fossil specimens being sought after. When planning a trip, sometimes the planner has to research for areas in which to search, based on what mineral or fossil they are seeking. In the process of doing this, they usually learn a lot more. They may learn the uses of the mineral, its properties and different forms it may take. Part of the education is learning the practical uses of many of the minerals. Sometimes the Field Trip Chairperson has to look themselves or have someone else go check out the potential field trip area for any hazards, and if it's suitable for taking club members there to hunt. It is very important to have permission to hunt in the area(s). Hunting on property without permission is trespassing, and you could wind up in jail. There are rules and regulations for collecting fossils, artifacts, and minerals in certain areas. Make sure you know and follow them. Ignorance of the law is not a good defense.

Preparing and planning for a field trip is just as important as scouting out the site for suitability and risks. When preparing for a field trip everyone needs to be told of any special equipment or protection needs such as hard hats, steel toe boots, eye protection, hammers, shovels, etc. Depending on the time of the year, it could mean sunscreen and/or protective clothing. Water is always necessary, even in the winter, because your risk of dehydration is even greater in the winter. The reason is when you are hot you think about drinking. When you are cold you usually do not and you may forget to drink or don't drink enough. Safety is paramount to having a fun and memorable field trip. You don't want memories of the local emergency room visit. Plan well, pack essentials, prepare for the unexpected, communicate with everyone, have one person in charge and a back-up.

Being able to go and collect specimens is a privilege. If you dig a hole, fill it back in. Do not leave trash lying around and when you leave an area, it should be cleaner than when you got there. Also, remember there are other Rockhounds out there, so leave specimens for them. Don't try cleaning out a location. That just gives Rockhounds and clubs a bad name and has caused many collecting sites to be closed or restricted. Part of learning about the amazing minerals and fossils out there is being responsible, and the only way to teach others is to set a good example.

Did I happen to mention earlier that a Field Trip Chairperson is needed?

A Look into the Past

By Julia Toombs

The following items are interesting snippets from past newsletters. I included many different subjects, because we all have different interests. I don't know the persons who contributed these, either. Only the editor's name is ever given. In the beginning, the newsletter didn't have a name. In February of 1980, *Rock 'n' Rose* was chosen and appeared in March.

September 1962 - A letter was read telling of the discovery by the Tulsa Mineral Club "of what may be one of the biggest fossil deposits ever discovered. The location was the Verdigris River between Coweta and Wagoner, Okla."

June 1978 - Long-range plans were introduced to the Club to have a show. The Club also had a visitor—Mrs. Gilbert Barton. (For our newer members, Sharonne and her husband were in Lapidary Arts for 35+ years and recently spent about a year selling all they had accumulated as Gilbert's health is failing. I have many of their items in my collection, and the Club bought at least 50 to 75 pounds. of amethyst bits for use at the shows.)

August 1979 - Did you know "Texas is one of those states that offer the collector fossils ranging from the Cambrian right on up to the Pleistocene? Unquestionably, the Comanche Series in the east, north, and central parts of Texas offer unlimited opportunities for collecting Cretaceous invertebrates, fish, and plant specimens. The Wilberns and Riley formations of the Cambrian provide a fair number of trilobites in the areas south of Marathon. In Palo Pinto County, good exposures of Pennsylvanian fossils can be had, while at Jacksboro and around Lake Bridgeport, numerous outcrops offer excellent quantities of gastropods, pelecypods, and sponges. The Lower-Middle Cretaceous deposits run from Cooke County in the north to Terrell County in the west with fossiliferous outliers at Kent and Sierra Blanca. In this northwest/southwest line, the Comanche Series of rocks contain one of the most prolific faunas mostly of molds of gastropods, pelecypods, and ammonoids. Teleost fish occur in the Austin chalk, as well as remains of elephants in the Pleistocene, both occurring in and around Dallas. Among the rarities to be had is the medusoid jellyfish which occurs in the Paw-paw formation in Denton County. Fragments may be collected at the old brick pit at Gainesville and the type locality 2 miles west of Roanoke. (Contact Dallas Geological Society for the Geological Highway Map of Texas.)" [*An Illustrated Guide to Fossil Collecting*, by Richard Casanova, 1970]

June 1980 - On March 26, 1969, petrified palm wood was declared the state stone. (Blue topaz from Mason County is the state gem.)

March 1981 - Ruth Gwatney, Secretary Pro-tem and teacher of Earth Sciences at John Tyler High School, lost most of her rock collection in a fire at the school. Club members were asked to help her replace the rocks. A motion was made to give her the rocks that had been collected for the Boy Scouts to use at the school.

October 1985 - Charles Creekmur gave a program on tourmaline. It is one of the oldest gemstones with some of the best in the United States from Maine and Southern California.

April 1986 - (The first discussion of a show and possible sale at Broadway Square Mall was in 1975, but it was decided not to do it. In November 1985, it was brought up again, and the planning began for 1986.) "At this time, Charles (Creekmur) reports that we have enough cases and materials to fill 14 of those large tables, so this should be a fantastic display of interesting and beautiful materials and specimens. It will be the most ambitious undertaking our Club has attempted for a long time and should be another excellent opportunity to introduce people to our fascinating hobby." Mentioned below this was a display at the Tyler Library, but it was in April. So, we have been displaying there for *many* years. Sometimes it was for more than one month.

May 1986 - A star sapphire was purchased by Roy Whetstine, a Longview gem dealer, for \$10. It proved to be worth \$2 million+. It was over 1,900 carats and was on display in Longview for four days. This snippet was included in a paragraph defining the term "Leaverite—the name given to material that rock hounds ignore, because it is not worth picking up. The name is derived from the instruction to *leave 'er right* there. But then if beauty is in the eye of the

Continued on page 8.

beholder, what one discards another may take. It pays to know what to take or leave.” (I remember my reaction the first time I heard the name.)

March 1988 – “Cutting and polishing of the world’s largest gemstone has been completed—22,892.5 carats. An American Federation Fundraiser is within \$9,320.66 of a \$40,000 purchase price. If the goal is reached, the huge, beautiful, light-golden topaz will be presented to the Smithsonian National Museum by AFMS somewhere around May 1.” Slighter later issue - “It was presented May 22, faceted, and measured 5.5 inches by 6.5 inches.”

May 1989 – Chemistry has determined the color of every other gemstone, but the opal has so far defied it.

In the Club’s very early years, (1956 to 1974), dues were \$2.00. From 1975 to 1980, they were \$3.00. In 1981, they went up to \$4.00 and, in 1982, to \$5.00.

Every year, there was a covered dish picnic in June and a Christmas party in December. As the summers heated up, the picnic was moved to April and Rock Swaps moved to cooler months.

The difficulty of getting articles for the newsletter is nothing new, either. There were months when pictures were drawn to fill space!

Petrified Wood: Age and Usage Are Relative

By Lynnette Metcalf

Examine a piece petrified wood. Polished or not, it has something to say. Some pieces scream, “I’m an ancient oak”. Others declare, “I’m a palm tree”. What is more difficult to determine is: How old is a piece of petrified wood...and what can I do with it? Most of us think, “so what? Who cares, as long as it can be polished?” There is that. Why worry about age before beauty? The point is some petrified wood is too ‘young’ to polish effectively.... And some are too ‘old’ to attempt to polish. Then there are the petrified pieces that simply scream “Polish me NOW!” Your decision to polish comes down to three criteria:

- (a) What are you trying to show in the piece?
- (b) Will your chosen piece stand up to what you want to do with it?
- (c) What alternatives are available to polishing?

Here are four pieces that show their age and their potential usage just by looking at them.

Petrified piece 1, is from the Piney Woods of East Texas. Sure, polishing could be attempted. But, LOOK at it. In its raw state, the texture of the bark and its knot holes are clearly visible, as are the layers beneath. The lands of East Texas are known to have been part of a shallow sea at a point in time. Petrified wood and fossils abound in the area. Most of the fossils there are known to be younger when compared to the geologic record. Choosing to forego polishing allows this piece to display what is: a relatively



Petrified Young Limb

‘young’ example of wood taken from the remains of a warm, shallow sea. To some, it looks ‘like something else’: A Humpback Whale’s baleen-laden mouth. Another thought it was a pelican with its neck laid back on itself.

Petrified piece 2, Opalized Petrified Wood, is from the long-dry deserts of the American Southwest (Arizona). There are locations where petrified wood can be purchased legally; often from Indian reservation stores found along the highways of Arizona (some New Mexico). This specimen was purchased from an Arizona reservation. The point of polishing this piece is to bring out its beautiful interior colors in an intact piece with bark showing on the outside. Pieces like this grace the mantels of many fireplaces. This piece is of 'middle' age. Its matrix is strong and intact, lending itself to the rigors of polishing.



Petrified piece 3, is also from the American Southwest. I selected this piece, not for its ability to take a polish, but for what it LOOKS like. Really examine it. What struck me at the time was how much it reminded me of a top sirloin steak with Montreal 'seasoning', right down to the 'fat' on the side of it! The grain of the 'meat' is clearly visible. This petrified piece will join the pantheon of startlingly realistic 'rock food' displayed annually at the ETGMS Gem and Mineral Show in Tyler, Texas.



Petrified piece 4, was purchased at another reservation in Arizona. This piece shows the decay of very old wood. It cannot be polished. As the petrified wood ages, the elements that hold it together wear away, making it fragile. Chunks of the interior regularly fall away when jostled or moved. As this piece continues to age, it will wear to dust, as do most things of this earth.



The love of petrified wood, rocks, gems and fossils are what lead us to ask questions of the passage of time. What is beauty, and how best we can preserve it for the millennia of generations ahead?

A Call to Junior Members

It seems that my call for submissions from our junior members has gone unanswered. To my dismay, getting our younger members to submit articles and poems must be like getting your kids to eat their vegetables. I don't stand alone in my disappointment. For this year's competition, out of the seven regions, only five junior submissions were sent into the AMFS from only three of the regions. None were from the SCFMS. I have worked hard trying to get some of our older junior members to submit something for the newsletter. I've even approached their parents and still no fruit from my efforts. Now I'm asking all members with children to encourage them to send me articles or poems. If they can't write, write it down for them. The challenge for April is to have each of our junior members submit something for the newsletter. It will be up to the parent to help meet this challenge.

Kinney Polve

I'm Just a Volunteer

By Kinney Polve

Those of you that know me, know that I have volunteered to serve in many different positions, serving the needs of our local club. As a volunteer, we may not always be the most popular person, and sometimes it may seem that we may be too popular. Non-profits depend on volunteers. Some of us still have full-time jobs, while others may work part-time or may be retired. In this article I want to stress the importance of volunteering. Without members willing to donate some of their time to serve the needs of the organization, eventually the organization doesn't function as designed or even fails to accomplish its purpose. This can even happen when we have enough volunteers. You may be perplexed on how this is even possible, failing even though we have plenty of volunteers? The adage, "I'm only a volunteer" or "They're only a volunteer" is where the problem begins. This saying comes up regularly, when it comes to non-profits. Somehow it seems that there is a different standard required of a volunteer, than required of someone who is paid to do a job. When they need volunteers to fill needed position, they need someone to perform the duties of that position, not most or part of the duties. Many of the volunteers that serve in these positions tend to take such an approach. Some may even hold the position just for the title. This is when the organization fails to operate as designed. When people hold an office and make little effort to do the duties of that office, and they look at it as, I'm only a volunteer. This happens at all levels, whether it's locally, regionally, or on a national level. It may be because we don't want to have an office with a vacancy, so we coerced someone to take the office. It may be a case where someone had performed great in the past, but has now become complacent toward their duties. They may continue to accept the nomination for the office, but it would be no different than having a vacancy in that office. This wouldn't happen if qualified members would answer the call to fill these offices. It could just be a result of the person not knowing the duties of their office, so they can't perform them. Most volunteer positions require very little time to perform the duties. There may be certain times of the month or year that the job load is heavier and requires you to devote more time, but it is important to dedicate the extra time. When we have one member serving in several different positions, their schedule may get overloaded and they may even become burned out. When this happens, they seem to completely leave all positions, instead of stepping back from a few to relieve the load. Some of us realize more than others what is needed to keep our organization growing. Also, thinking that somehow a retired member's time is less valuable than someone with a full-time job. I know by personal experience that retired people seem to have less spare time available than people that have full-time job, simply because there is more of a demand for their time. Most of us don't think beyond our local club, but we should. Just like us, the SCFMS and the AFMS need members to serve as officers and chair-people. There are some that look at their office as, I'm only a volunteer, and how much better would it be if we had members that knew the importance of the offices, and they filled those offices and did the job. I don't want you to misunderstand, we have many great volunteers fulfilling their duties, and I want to commend them. But understand that there is no place for the adage "I'm just a volunteer." There's no such thing as just a volunteer. Now that you know, get out there and volunteer.



Field Trip Update

This is the only photo from our February field trip to Naranjo Museum of Natural History in Lufkin. There were ten of us that went on the field trip, but I think we were all too busy enjoying all the items on display, and there was plenty to see. Fred Mahaffey said there were a lot more things added to the museum since the club's last trip there.

Kinney Polve

BACK YARD ROCK AND EQUIPMENT SALE**CONTACT: KEITH HARMON**

903-316-2967/ keithharmon19@yahoo.com

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019**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.**

I completed some new cabs in the last week or so and thought you all would like to see. The long cab on the left is a Long Walk Agate that I bought from Larry Sanchez at our show a few years ago. He told me it came from an old collection he bought and is supposed to come from some unknown ranch near Alpine (to the north I believe). The green/blue mineral to the right is a Parrot Wing from a small slab that I found under my workbench recently. The two cabs to its right are fractured fluorites. The cab to their right is an unknown agate. The red and black agate just below the Parrot Wing is a black plume agate with some reddish pink fortification bands. The three larger cabs to its right and below are some nice Laguna Lace agates and the smaller cab between them is an unknown pompom agate. I think those Laguna Lace Agates are really special due to their many different colors and patterns.

Terry Roberts

CLASSES

Terry Roberts has been busy the past month instructing Cabochon Making classes to many of the members that signed up at last month's L/J group meeting. Some of those cabochons are already made into some beautiful jewelry. I had four members take the Beginner's Silversmithing class and three members take the Advanced Beginner's Silversmithing class. I had a few more members in the classes than normal, but I had Cheryl Dole helping out with instruction. Cheryl is one of my Facebook friends from Ohio. She's been silversmithing for about four years and wanted

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to get involved in some of the silver classes that I instruct. I scheduled these two days of classes during the week she planned to visit.
Kinney Polve



Above - Lynda Staggs is working on her bezel.

Above – Steve Staggs is finishing up the pendant that he is making for Lynda.



Above – Cheryl Dole at the left, helping with instruction. Below – Joanne Hart shows her ring and pendant from the two days of classes.



Above – Emily Phillips shows her completed pendant. Below – Steve and Lynda show their rings and pendant for two days of classes.



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 Tuesday 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.

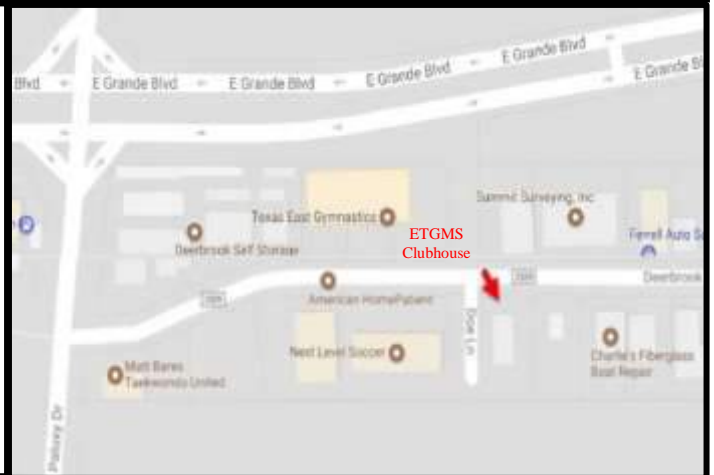
ANNUAL DUES:

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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