

ROCK-N-ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



PAGE 1

VOLUME 44

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 5

MAY 2018

Upcoming Events

MAY 26-27, 2018

FORT WORTH G&MS
WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL
CENTER
FORT WORTH, TX

JUNE 30-JULY 1, 2018

ARLINGTON G&MS
GRAPEVINE CONVENTION
CENTER
GRAPEVINE, TX

JULY 21

ETGMS ROCK SWAP
ETGMS CLUBHOUSE
TYLER, TX

AUGUST 18-19

ARK-LA-TEX G&MS
BOSSIER CITY CIVIC
CENTER
BOSSIER CITY, LA

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank everyone who came out to the Maker's Faire. We had a great time and we had a lot of interest in the club. I have to say I have never been prouder of our club than when I had the privilege to attend the South Central Federation of Mineral Society Conference in Lubbock to represent the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society, and watch our club members receive so many awards. There were even a few awards from the American Federation of Mineral Societies. I want to encourage all of you to contribute to the newsletter and help make our club the best. We are looking for someone to take over the Treasurer's position and we need a full time Field Trip Chairperson. We have folks helping out right now but we have a lot of very capable members who could help with these roles in the club. Volunteering is good for everyone, it helps you stay up to date on everything that is going on and you usually know what is planned and going on earlier than others do. Welcome to all of our new members! When you see someone at the clubhouse you don't know, I encourage you to introduce yourself to them and find out what they enjoy.

Our next field trip is scheduled to the North Sulfur River on May 19th. Items that can be found there are dinosaur bones, Indian artifacts, other fossils, and sometimes other minerals in the gravel. If there is someone who would like to be in charge of this field trip please let me know.

Also, we are planning a Rock Swap at the end of July. Are any of you interested? We will invite other Mineral Clubs to come visit and will host it at the clubhouse. More information to follow.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon, and I would like to know if any of you are decent painters, and can come help with a small painting party. Let me know. Fred Mahaffey

Inside This Issue

2. [May Meeting Minutes](#)
3. [Calendar](#)
3. [Tips & Tricks](#)
4. [Sub-Groups](#)
6. [Bulletin Editors Contest](#)
7. [SCFMS Convention](#)
8. [The Mica Family](#)
9. [Rock Hunting Headquarters](#)
9. [Tyler Makers Faire](#)
10. [Rock Swap](#)
11. [Information](#)



MAY MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2018

Robert Criss called the meeting order in the absence of the president and vice-president.

Visitors and guest were recognized.

The minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter. The motion was made by Cecil Waterhouse and seconded by Penny Hawkins.

Colleen Hayes gave the treasurer's report.

- **FIELD TRIP REPORT:** Help is needed with this position. Fred Mahaffey is assisting with this for now but a volunteer is needed.
- **FOSSIL GROUP:** The fossil group last met on April 19th with 9 attending. David Russ had a display of finds from Lake Texoma. The group is in the process of collecting funds in order to buy microscopes to aid their study. They will gladly accept any contribution. They meet the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30.
- **MINERAL GROUP:** This group will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, May 8th, at 6:30. Charles Creekmur will present the program on fluorite. You are welcome to bring specimens to put under the black light.
- **LAPIDARY GROUP:** This group meets on the 2nd Saturday at 2:00. Sign up with Terry Roberts for reminders and updates.
- **NEWSLETTER:** The 10th of the month is the deadline for submissions. Kinney Polve needs your articles, poems, jokes, and photos. This is how many find out what our club is all about.
- Awards were presented to members that were recognized at the South Central and American Federation Convention attended by Kinney Polve and Fred Mahaffey.
- **OLD BUSINESS:** The Makers Fair was a success. Thank you to those who volunteered to help show off our club.
- A thank you letter was received from the American Federation for our contribution to the scholarship fund.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was made by Kinney Polve and seconded by Sherry Breedlove to have a rock swap on the 3rd

weekend in July. Other gem groups will be invited. A member can have one table for their swap items or show items. A lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs will be served.

- Carolyn Davis asked for volunteers to meet every other month starting in June to plan and contact school groups for the annual gem show next January. Now is the time to start if we want to reach groups before they plan their field trips.

A motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Kinney Polve and seconded by Euva Scott.

Drawing for door prizes was held. A reminder of the silent auction item was made before social time.

The program was "Show and Tell" given by Gene Gore, Pete Keiser and Kinney Polve.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Davis



Pete Keiser shows off the Fluorite specimen he had engraved by Kelly Ford, for a Mother's Day present. His "Mom Rocks."

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Field Trip North Sulfur River
20	21 Fossil Group Meeting 6:30 pm	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	June 1	2
3	4 Monthly Meeting 6:45 pm	5	6	7	8	9 Lapidary/Jewelry Group Meeting 2:00 pm
10	11	12 Mineral Group Meeting 6:30 pm	13	14	15	16



Making Silver Balls

By Kinney Polve

Sometimes you may find it necessary to add multiple same-size silver balls to one of your jewelry designs. There are several options to obtain the balls you may need. Some people buy casting grain and separate the different size balls that they may need. I teach the students that take my silversmithing classes how to make balls from their scrap silver. Sometimes you may find it necessary to have all the balls in your design exactly the same size. This is easily accomplished by using a tip that was shared by Cheryl Dole, one of my Facebook friends. Depending on whether you need sterling or fine silver balls, choose some wire. It's best to use a thicker gauge wire for larger balls. Let's use 20 ga. for example. If you cut a 1-inch piece of 20 ga. silver wire and melt it into a ball, each 1-inch length of wire will melt into the same size ball. Just increase or decrease the length of the piece of wire for longer or smaller balls.



MINERALOGICAL GROUP

There was a low turnout at the mineral subgroup on May 8th. Only four members showed up for the fluorite program. At the next meeting we will be covering the Harding Mine in Dixon, NM. The program should be of general interest to the membership because it is a fieldtrip that can be done on a long 3-day weekend. We will review the geology, history and minerals found there, and show a lot of pictures. The next meeting will be June 12th at 6:30 pm.

Charles Creekmur

LAPIDARY GROUP

The May meeting of the Lapidary/Jewelry Group was attended by 11 members. Gene Goar brought some cabs and slabs that he has collected over the years to show the members and John Schulz brought some new jewelry he completed recently to show the members. John also brought some nice mineral specimens that he collected at the Last Chance Silver Mine near Creede, CO for identification. Terry brought some plume agates that he extracted from seams in the Silver Island Mountains near the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, as well as some very nice mineral specimens found in Utah that were given to him by a fellow wire wrapper in Salt Lake City. Among the minerals shown to members were; Variscite, Salina Wonderstone (a sandstone), two slabs of Coprolite from two different sources, Bubble Opal, and Chicken Track (or Tiger Tail) Jasper from Eureka, UT.

Kinney demonstrated to members how to make opal doublets and triplets using opal that he had acquired from different sources. The attendees had many questions for Kinney about the process and were very pleased with the results of his demonstration. Everyone left happy with their new knowledge on turning thin slices of opal into beautiful slabs suitable for cabbing for jewelry.

The next meeting of the Lapidary/Jewelry Group will be held on Saturday June 9 at the ETGMS club house starting at 2:00 pm.

Terry Roberts

**FOSSIL GROUP**

At the April 23rd meeting, we studied the faunal assemblage of the lower Cretaceous stratigraphy exposed in the Preston Anticline. This material was mostly collected around Lake Texoma. Represented were the Phyla Brachiopoda (two species), Echinodermata (six species), Mollusca (Three Orders): Gastropoda (two species), Bivalvia (formerly Pelecypoda) eight species including a rare pen clam Pinna Comanchean, Cephalopoda (ammonites) seven species including a Mariella Brazoensis. A number of fossils were presented by other members. Eight members were in attendance. Also discussed was a drive to fund stereo microscopes for use by both the mineral (micro mounts) and fossil (micro fossils) groups, by donations and possibly having a chili or hamburger supper at upcoming primary meetings. Next month on May 21st, we will address the faunal assemblage of the Pennsylvanian Finis Shale found near Jacksboro and collecting equipment and tips.

David Russ



Below are some pictures of an interesting Ammonite with Echinoids nested on it. These were displayed at the April 23rd meeting.



MEMBERS HAPPENINGS

A PERSONAL FIELD TRIP

By Sherry Reutlinger

I went to Montana to help with Paul's dad's final arrangements, from there to Wahweap Lake Powell area, then down to Marble Canyon Arizona. Found a forest of petrified wood more than anyone could ever gather. The picture is of one tree. It was amazing!



2018 BULLETIN EDITORS CONTEST

published in club newsletters from all over the country. As the editor, it's my job to pick the best submission from each category, by each member, and submit them to the SCFMS for judging. I had help from past editor Susan Burch making all the selections for the entries from 2017. And I am proud to congratulate and announce the winners. If you didn't receive your certificates and plaques, they are at the clubhouse.

Kinney Polve

SCFMS Winners

Small Bulletins

1st Place – Rock-N-Rose Newsletter – Susan Burch

Special Publications

1st Place – Resurfacing Diamond Wheels – Kinney Polve

Adult Poetry

2nd Place – A Lymric – Lynn Metcalf

4th Place – Rock Hound – Jerry Beare

5th Place – A Pile Of Rocks – Mary Owens

7th Place – What Might I Be?" I'm Not A Tree!" – Kinney Polve

8th Place – Authentic Rockhound Rock Licker – Susan Burch

Original Adult Article

8th Place – Using Rocks In A Different Way – Colleen Hayes

Honorable Mention – Manufactured Lapidary Materials – Kinney Polve

Honorable Mention – How Do Crystals Form – Fred Mahaffey

Features

1st Place – Tourmaline - Charles Creekmur

2nd Place – From The Editor's Desk – Susan Burch

3rd Place – Mineral Group October Monthly Meeting – Kelly Ford

4th Place – Field Trip Safety Tips – Fred Mahaffey

7th Place – Graves Mountain Field Trip – Colleen Hayes

10th Place – Lapidary / Jewelry Group – Terry Roberts

Honorable Mention – Clubhouse Update – Kinney Polve

Webmaster

3rd Place – etgms.com – Lynn Metcalf

AFMS Winners

Written Features

3rd Place – Tourmaline – Charles Creekmur

10th Place – From The Editor's Desk – Susan Burch

Honorable Mention – Mineral Group October Meeting – Kelly Ford

Adult Poetry

6th Place – A Lymric – Lynn Metcalf

Special Publications

3rd Place – Resurfacing Diamond Wheels – Kinney Polve

Great job! Let's start getting those newsletter submissions sent in for next year's contest. Remember, if I don't get 'em, I can't print 'em.



2018 SCFMS CONVENTION & LUBBOCK

Here's a few highlights from our time spent in Lubbock, Texas. Photos by Vicky & Kinney Polve.



Vicky Polve and Fred Mahaffey getting in a little social media time.



Susan Burch and Don Shurtz preparing to give out awards.



I seemed to spend most of my time collecting all the awards won by ETGMS members.



Vicky Polve getting in a little shopping.



Fred Mahaffey settled in for some SCFMS business.



Awards banquet.

THE MICA FAMILY

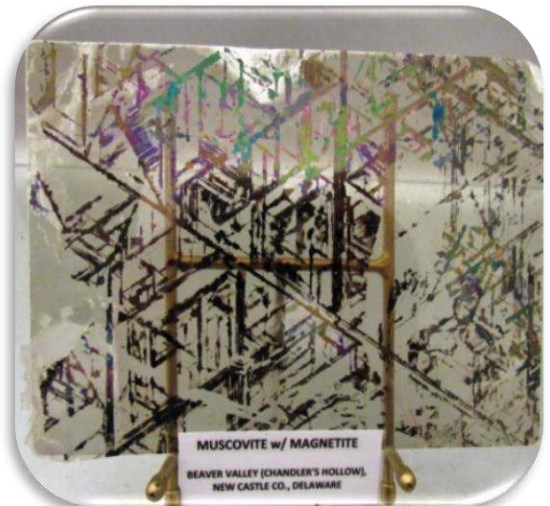
By Charles Creekmur

The mica family of minerals is a group of polysilicate minerals of the general formula; $X_2Y_4-6Z_8O_{20}(\text{OH}, \text{F})_4$, where X is K, Na, or Ca, Y is Al, Mg, or Fe, and Z is mainly Si or Al. The group consists of some 28 separate minerals species although only 6 are common. They all have near perfect basal cleavage and crystallize in the monoclinic system.

The mineral Muscovite is the most prominent and widespread member of the group. Muscovite is a common constituent of acidic igneous rock and is common throughout the world. It is also present in metamorphic environments as a constituent of schists and gneisses and is also found in sedimentary rocks. One species, glauconite, is the green mineral in our local glauconitic sandstones of the Weches Formation that is exposed over a large area of East Texas. Large plates of the minerals of the mica family are often called “books.” Sheets of muscovite as large as 3 to 5 feet across are known. Because of its perfect basal cleavage, it can be split into very thin sheets that when held to the light are colorless. Pictured at the right is a sheet that was cut for electrical insulating purposes but the inclusions of the iron mineral, magnetite, make it unsuitable for use. Twinning is rare but Brazil produces some golden colored specimens referred to as “Star” Muscovite that form clusters of six pointed stars that are highly prized by collectors. Muscovite is a good insulator and is used in thermal as well as electrical applications.

Pictures from the Creekmur collection are several of the more common micas that the average collector is likely to encounter. The more common member of the family is Muscovite.

Fuchsite is the chromium rich species. A big Canadian Phlogopite that is listed in Foote's 1910 Mineral Catalog. Biotite from Canada, the lithium rich Lepidolite from New Mexico and a Magnetite included Muscovite sheet.



ROCK HUNTING HEADQUARTERS

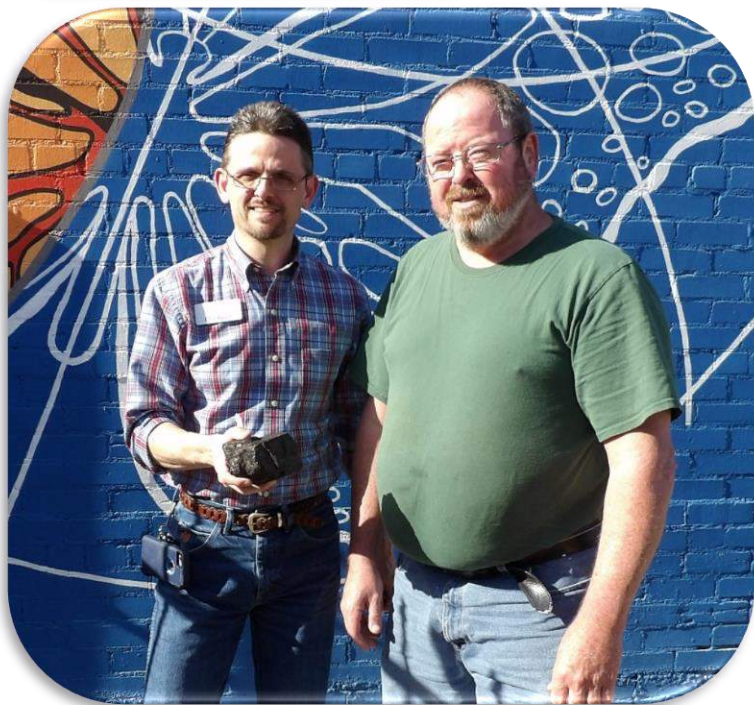
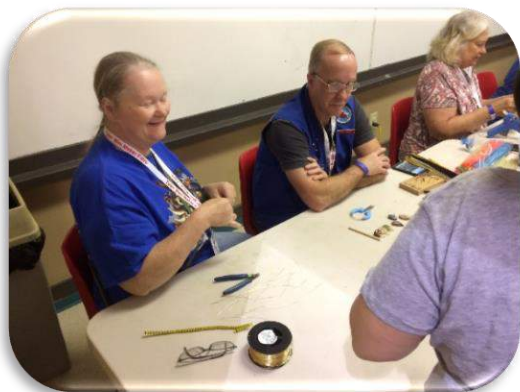
is classed as strenuous, as there may be steep climbs into and out of the river. I will be providing a knotted rope to assist. Please bring a change of shoes and clothes in a plastic trash bag as well as water, lunch and any snacks. We will be looking for both vertebrate and invertebrate fossils, as well as bulk sampling for micros. The Monday Fossil group meeting will address our finds and identification as well as the geology (Ozan formation) that was observed and the paleontology found there. I would like to schedule a field trip to the Mineral Wells Fossil Park to collect Pennsylvanian invertebrates in June. Give me a call or email me if there are any questions.

David Russ

TYLER MAKERS FAIRE

For those of you that didn't have the opportunity to help out in our booth at the Makers Faire last month, you missed out on a great event. We all had a great time. Here's a few photos.

Kinney Polve



On my last trip to Utah, I was able to pick up a few specimens of coal that came from the Bronco Mine in Emery County, Utah. I donated one to the Discovery Science Place for their energy exhibit.

EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY ROCK SWAP

Saturday July 21, 2018

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.

**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.

No dealers please.

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
hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch.**

See you there.

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

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.

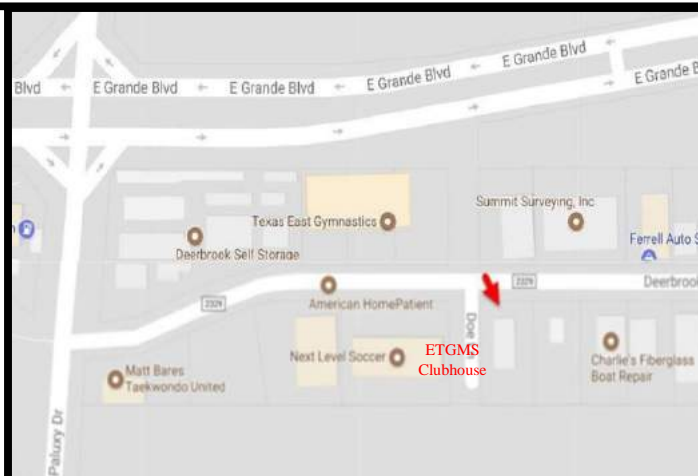
ANNUAL DUES:

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



PRESIDENT: Fred Mahaffey
903-978-0268 frederickmahaffey@gmail.com

EDITOR: Kinney Polve
903-646-3189 rocknrosenewsletter@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Terry Roberts
903-881-5108 terry.roberts45@yahoo.com

FOSSIL GROUP: David Russ
903-894-4275 dbruss50@gmail.com

TREASURER: Colleen Hayes
903-343-2714 chayestx@suddenlink.net

MINERAL GROUP: Charles Creekmur
903-834-6814 calcite65@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Julia Toombs
903-882-5809 jltoombs@suddenlink.net

SHOW SCHOOL DAY
CHAIRPERSON: Carolyn Davis
214-212-0421 emugems0@gmail.com

FIELD TRIP
CHAIRMAN: Kelly Ford
903-647-0878 kellyjeanford@gmail.com

CHAIRMAN SHOW: Keith Harmon
903-795-3860 keithharmon19@yahoo.com

WEBMASTER: Holly Ingram
214-794-7736 holly.ingram369@outlook.com

CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES

East Texas Gem & Mineral Society

P. O. BOX 132532

Tyler, TX 75713-2532