



ROCK-N-ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2012

Coming Shows, 2012

Oct. 19 - 21
VICTORIA, TX
Victoria G&MS
Community Ctr.
2905 E. North St.

Nov. 03 - 04
AMARILLO, TX
Golden Spread G&MS
Amarillo Civic Ctr.
Exhibition Hall

Nov. 03 - 04
MIDLAND, TX
Midland G&MS
Midland Ctr.

Nov. 09 - 11
HUMBLE, TX
Houston G&MS
Humble Civic Ctr.
8233 Will Clayton Pkway

Nov. 17 - 18
MESQUITE, TX
Dallas G&MS
Resistol Arena

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had another fun filled evening at the October 1st club meeting. Our annual club auction is always one of my favorites. Everyone there was so generous in donating items to the club to auction off, and generous in bidding on the many wonderful things on the auction table. I think we had the largest amount of material ever at a club auction. So much that we ran out of time before all of it could be auctioned, thus we have seed material for our 2013 Gem & Mineral Show. Thank you everyone for your donations of materials and cash made to the club. This fundraiser is one of the two activities we do each year in order to build up our treasury. Hopefully some day we will be able to have our own club workshop where we can conduct classes and teach others about the different aspects of our hobby.

Speaking of teaching classes, we don't have to wait for a club house or workshop shop to start teaching others about our rock hound hobby. We can start now. Terry Roberts and some others have recently brought up the idea of forming within our local club, subdivisions based on areas of common interest. Those who are interested in fossil and minerals would be one group, those who enjoy jewelry making and the lapidary arts would be another group. We could have as many different groups as there is interest. We would still have our general monthly meeting at the first of each month. The divisional meetings would be at other times during the month. The divisional meetings would be where we can gather in small groups and really dig into what we like best, and teach ours about our particular interest. Several years ago a small number of club members (four), who really enjoyed studying minerals met once a month or so at each others homes and looked at minerals under microscopes. I learned a lot in these small instructional meetings. So, please think about this new concept for our club, and let me know what you think. We won't be doing anything about moving towards this immediately. Our club board will need to discuss this matter and then make a recommendation to the club for final vote. But please let me know what you think. I know of several gem & mineral clubs in Texas who meet like this. You might wish to look at the Houston Gem & Mineral Society web page to see how they have structured their different club divisions.

Lastly, thank you Becky Whisenant for volunteering to be our club field trip chairman. If anyone needs help organizing or promoting a field trip for our club, please contact Becky. She will help you get it done.

Don Campbell

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Important Request

If there is any club member who remembers writing a personal check made out to the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society during the 2011 club show for membership dues or silent auction item payment, or know of any friends, family, or anyone else who may have done so, please call Don Campbell President of the ETG&MS at 903-520-4085, or e-mail at donald1427@hotmail.com.



OCTOBER MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Don Campbell. New members Kinny and Vicky Polve were introduced. Keith Harmon motioned the minutes be accepted as written, Colleen Hayes seconded. Minutes approved as written. Bill Faulkner read the treasurer's report. A copy will be available for all to look at the meeting.

Announcements:

Don announced Dues are due.

Keith gave an update on Charlotte's health. Don read a note from Charlotte thanking all for their prayers, cards, etc.

The October Boy Scout event at the Discovery Science Place has been rescheduled for November 3, 2012.

Field Trips:

Becky Whisenant is our new field trip chairman. She will coordinate the trips, promote and publish details.

The November 23 trip to Arkansas for crystals is moved to December 1. Let Becky know if anyone is interested in the trip.

One Saturday in November a trip will be scheduled to the Naranjo Museum of Natural History in Lufkin. Details will be announced at the November meeting.

Don gave a report on the Lake Texoma Field Trip. He stated a large ammonite was dug out and will be donated to the show auction.

Programs:

The November program will be given by Don - a demonstration on putting together display cases for the show. It is hoped more members will put together display cases for the show.

The December program will be the gift exchange.

Old Business:

Don gave a report on the latest Board meeting.

He stated the Web page should be up, hopefully before the show. Mike Howe offered to assist.

Suzan Chapman stated the FaceBook page has been down for three weeks.

The audit was discussed. The deposit for the 2011 show was not made immediately following the show. There is no record of the deposit at the bank. We have no paper backup or receipts. Both Colleen and Don have been speaking with the bank trying to sort out the situation. There is a significant amount of money missing, but we need more specific information to even try to track it. Don asked everyone to check their bank registers and let us know if any check written at the show has cleared. That check could give us information needed to further track our funds. Al mentioned he wrote a check for membership 2/11 that has never cleared. No vendor funds were lost. We now have a different route of deposit. From now on, ALL funds will go to Bill and he will make all deposits, with the board making regular reviews.

Richard Armstrong, audit committee chairman, spoke with a CPA who stated legal pursuit of the case would require a third party audit - a cost of roughly \$5,000. A case most likely will not be filed.

The floor was opened up to questions from the audience. One member asked about the overall goal of the club. Don stated it was to own our own workshop. A member asked if there was a list of people who won auction items. Keith stated those had been entered in the computer and the original paperwork destroyed. Another asked about bank statements. Don stated the lack of deposits on the statements was what alerted the auction committee to the problem. In the past, the treasurer's report was simply a reading of the bank statement.

New Business:

The Audit committee submitted a list of recommendations to prevent a repeat of the current financial situation. The Board has voted to accept these recommendations. Additionally, the treasurer will give a monthly financial report. The vice-president and president will reconcile and check accounting. Don will pull the account from the bank and send it to Terry Roberts. Both will reconcile. Any check submitted to the club will immediately have "For Deposit Only" written or stamped on the back of the check. A list of the recommendations were distributed to the membership. No other comments.

Don Announced we need volunteers for two additional Committees, a chair is needed for programs. This individual would be responsible for obtaining programs throughout the year. They may come from libraries, instructors, artists, etc. The other is a hospitality chair. This person will be responsible for obtaining volunteers to provide refreshments, provide ice, make coffee, greet visitors and call to remind people of their refreshment commitment on sign-up sheets. The club will pay for all paper products. etc.

Keith announced the Rock Sale in his back yard is October 27, 2012. Time is 9 a.m. until the last rock is sold.

Bill brought up the subject of name badges. It was mentioned that the club used to do that but we have gotten away from it. Don asked Bill to print badges for the next meeting.

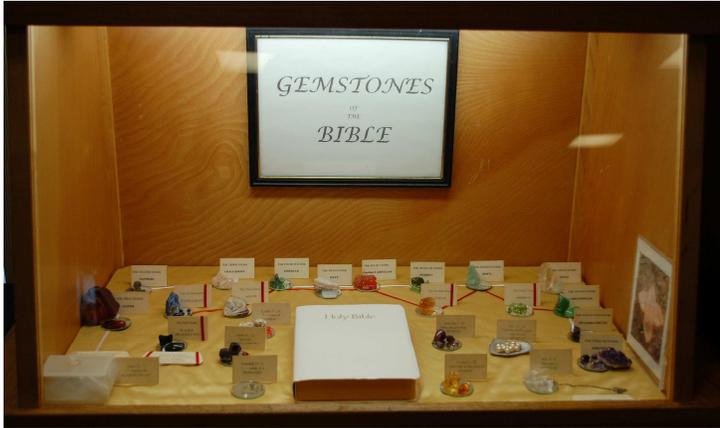
Door prizes were drawn and membership broke for refreshments.

Program for the meeting was the auction benefitting the ETG&MS treasury, Keith acted as auctioneer and Don recorded the purchases.

Meeting adjourned 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Suzan Chapman, Secretary



NOVEMBER 5TH MEETING PROGRAM

Don Campbell will provide a program at the November 5th club meeting on "How to put together a display case". We would really like for our club members to be thinking about putting together a display of the hobby related items they have made and created, or collected, and display their work at our 2013 Gem & Mineral Show. We have 15 show cases available for club members to use at our show.



MEMBER NEWS

AL Davis: Carolyn Davis contacted Don Campbell on Oct 8th saying that Al had recently had a stroke and was in Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas with pneumonia. We haven't been able to get a hold of Carolyn to find out about Al's condition or progress. Please keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.



BACK YARD ROCK AND EQUIPMENT SALE

Where: Keith and Charlotte Harmon's NEW place

Location: 9116 US Hwy 84 West, Rusk, Texas 75785

New phone: 903-795-3860

When: Saturday, October 27, 2012, from 9AM until about 5PM.

Directions: From Tyler go south on US Hwy 69 to Rusk. Turn West (right) on US Hwy 84. Go approximately 5 miles and our place is on the right.

Landmarks to look for coming from Rusk - go thru Oakland (speed limit drops to 65 so you will know you are there) about a mile and a half past Oakland you will see county road 1702 signs, slow down, about 100 yards past CR 1702 is our driveway. Go thru the white gateway into the pasture and up to the barn.

We are looking forward to seeing you again.



FRIENDS: OUR JOYS ARE DOUBLED OUR SORROWS HALVED

By: Laura Wilson

Thanksgiving of 2009, on a trip with my husband to the Trans Pecos area of South Texas (an area I've never explored), with an emphasis of visiting the Seminole Canyon State Park out of Comstock, Texas. This park offers several hiking opportunities to the Fate Bell Shelter and Presa Canyon within the boundaries of the park.

After the Friday hike, the archeologist gave introductions to another hike across the way (White Shaman Preserve) associated with the Rock Art Foundation, San Antonio, Texas. Ok, I was game, so the next morning we met up with Gary Kendrick (our guide) who took several including myself down into to the White Shaman Petroglyph site. It spoke to me in a language of the heart, the breeze off the Pecos was whispering in my ears. As I breathed in and out with my eyes closed, I knew this was a place that I would return to. Music is the universal language of people, and this place was no different as Gary closed the hike playing his Coyote Old Man flute. Being involved with the Native American flute, all this resonated with me. Now, was my turn to become an ambassador for the Rock Art Foundation.

Check it out: rockart.org.



Meyers Springs Hike



What was your impression of the Rock Art Rendezvous?

What impressed me about the Rock Art Foundation was the reverence they bring to these sites. They understand the deep value and are working to preserve and document as much as possible. They work tirelessly with private landowners where the Pictographs are located. There is no government funding or involvement, so pure passion, hard work, volunteering and education is how they do it. No Moon so the stars will be shining bright. You hike all day, look at enchanting rock art then come back to camp eat some delicious Texas BBQ, listen to a concert under a Texas night sky then a jam session with some fantastic musicians playing Cowboy and Folk music. Wow!



Just a note from the new Field Trip Chair: Laura's Arkansas crystal trip will be December 1 and possibly 2. Look for details in this letter or coming soon. For those of you who were asking, the Albuquerque club's field trip to Blanchard mine is Saturday, Nov. 17. We are currently formulating ideas and trips for the new year. All suggestions are welcome. Please bring WRITTEN info to the meetings to me or email me (whizgnat@netzero.net). I am just a coordinator so if you would like to plan and lead a trip yourself, please let me know. Thanks for members' help. I will hopefully have more organized information at the November meeting. Becky Whisenant



FIELD TRIP TO ARKANSAS

Due to a four day holiday around Thanksgiving, the trip to Arkansas has been moved from November 23 to December 1. The trip's goal is to visit the Miller Mountain mine and possibly the Arrowhead mine to collect crystal quartz. Laura Wilson is the coordinator for this trip and will have more information at the November meeting. The info will include flyers with hotel locations for those who do not wish to camp and sign up sheets for those who wish to participate. All those who wish to go MUST RSVP by November 18, so that Laura will have a count to give to the mine owners. If you can not make the meeting or wish more information, you may call Laura at 903-521-8292 and please specify you are with ETGMS in your message.



WIRE-WRAPPING CLASS

Hi there, many of you have seen some of the pieces of wire-wrapped jewelry I've worn to the meetings. This art is what drew me to join the ETGMS in the first place. Since in my teens I've been making different types of jewelry, but eight years ago wire-wrapping caught my eye in the Lapidary Journal. My late husband and I attended the annual show of the ETGMS and were introduced to Bill Holbert. He was kind enough to invite us over and showed me how to begin wrapping a pendant. It has only gotten better from there, I've studied many styles and have had my jewelry on consignment in several places. Once you have the basic skills, your imagination is the only limit of design.

Planned for possibly January or later as student preferences decide, I'm putting together the preliminaries for a pendant wire-wrapping class and possibly classes for two versions of a ring. These will be held in the Tyler area at a venue to be decided at a later time. Each class will include the stones or beads and enough copper wire to complete two projects. For practice, I suggest the first project be in copper, however I will have sterling silver and gold filled wire available for purchase to use in your second project. Basic tool kits will be available for purchase or you may bring your own. For planning purposes, I'd like those interested to contact me with their preferences of day and which class they might be interested in. In the coming months, each meeting I can attend, I'll bring a signup sheet. I'm looking forward to sharing my knowledge in this art. If these get a good response, I may have a bracelet or other classes in the future.

Pendant class, \$45.

Ring classes, \$55.

Basic tool kits will cost \$20 and will include:

Flush cutter

Chain nose pliers

Small polishing cloth

Narrow masking tape sections

Plastic case for tools

Round nose pliers

6" metal ruler

Fine black sharpie

Ink pen or pencil and note paper

Tools not included but recommended:

Rawhide hammer (small), needed for ring class

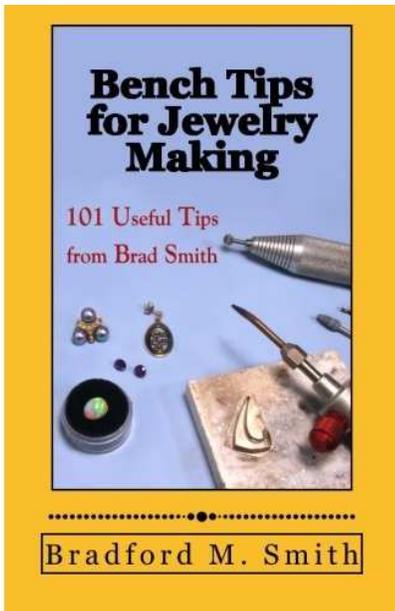
Steel ring mandrel, needed for ring class

Pin vice for twisting wire (optional)

Narrow flat nose pliers (optional)

If enough people wish it, I can try to find a deal for purchasing the tools that are not included in the basic kit for the group.

Classes can be held on a Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and or Sunday depending on response. If you would like to let me know of your interest or of any suggestions, please call 936-615-5397 or email me at rocknroseeditor@hotmail.com. Susan Burch



NEW 'BENCH TIPS' BOOK BY BRAD SMITH

Announcing "Bench Tips for Better Jewelry Making", a new book for beginning and intermediate jewelers by Bradford Smith. It contains 101 useful Bench Tips to help improve skills and increase quality at the bench. The 96 page book is filled with close-up photos to help explain the techniques and makes a great gift for the holidays. For more details, see:

<http://CreateSpace.com/3976439> or <http://Amazon.com/dp/0988285800/>



BENCH TIPS



LOOSE HEADS

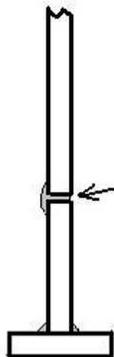
Flying off the handle is never good, particularly if it's a hammer head. The traditional way to tighten a loose hammer head is a bit of work, but there's a fast and easy solution available for about 50 cents - superglue. Simply put a couple drops in from the handle side, let it set up, and then a few drops from the top side. Be sure to get the thin superglue, not gel. It penetrates better. Packages of two superglues are usually available at the 99 cent store.



AS SOLDERED



SANDED FLUSH



AFTER SECOND SOLDERING

AVOIDING SOLDER LINES

After finishing a soldered joint on say a bezel, have you ever seen it reappear when you solder the bezel to a base plate? What's happening is that every time you heat a soldered piece to the temperature that solder flows, the liquid solder dissolves a little bit more into the base metal. This leaves a small furrow where the solder had been sanded off flush at the joint. To get rid of the furrow, you have to re-sand the joint area down to the bottom of the furrow.

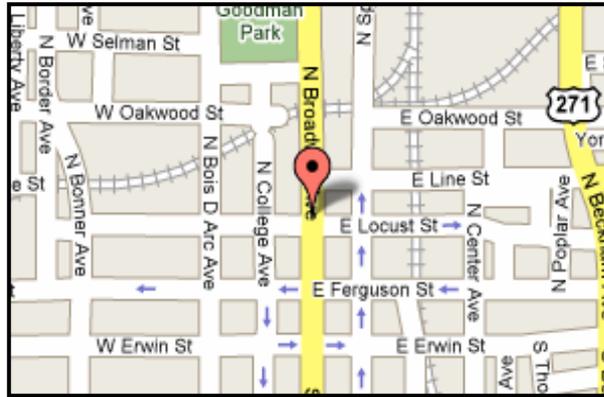
To avoid this when I have another soldering operation to follow, I try to leave a little extra solder on my joints. For instance, when trimming off excess base plate from around a bezel, I leave a couple paper thicknesses excess plate material whenever possible until I'm done with all soldering. Of course, this isn't always possible as when a soldering operation would prevent you from gaining access for final sanding and polishing of an area.

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication: More BenchTips by Brad Smith can be found at:

facebook.com/BenchTips or groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Don Campbell 3319 Omega Dr. Tyler, TX 75701	903-520-4085
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CLUB ADDRESS FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES:	East Texas Gem & Mineral Society P. O. BOX 132532 Tyler, TX 75713-2532	



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. If you need an issue dealt with quickly, don't hesitate to call me and I will direct you to the right party.

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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