



ROCK-N-ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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Coming Shows, 2012

Apr. 30 - May 01
LUBBOCK, TX
Lubbock G&MS
Lubbock Civic Ctr.

May 26 - 27
FORT WORTH, TX
Ft. Worth G&MS
Will Rogers Mem. Ctr.

MAY 7TH MEETING PROGRAM

Terry Roberts will be providing our May 7th club meeting program. He will be sharing with us his recent experiences of collecting West Texas agates at the Walker Ranch, the East Needle Peak site, and an un-named ranch site, all which are in the Big Bend region of Texas. He will show photos of the collecting areas, and show us some samples of the agates which can be collected there.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The club officers recently gathered for a board meeting and put together our 2012 Gem & Mineral show profit report. The details of the report were shared at the April 2nd. club meeting. If you missed the meeting and would like to know more about how well we did, please give me a call or e-mail and I'll share what I know. Call me @ 903-520-4085, e-mail: donald1427@hotmail.com It's been a club practice for many years to not publish our financial information in the news letter. If you want to know just ask me or our Treasurer Jeri Kitchens.

While I have the show on my mind, I want to again express my appreciation to all of our club members who worked hard to make the 2012 show a success. I hesitate to mention club members by name because I know I'll forget someone, and I don't want to leave anyone out and hurt their feelings. But I feel I must, so if I fail to mention your name please forgive me, it wasn't intentional. Our Vice President Becky Whisenant did a tremendous job making our Friday School day a huge success.

She also worked hard in getting our dealer dinner set up, and cleaned up on Friday with Sherry Breedlove's help. Becky worked all day on Sat. at the show, and Sherry worked all day Sun. at the show running the Fluorescent mineral display. Sherry also stayed late helping us tear down the show. Sherry took all of the grand prize entry forms and alphabetized them in preparation for next years show mail out. Terry Roberts, Carroll Grazer, Jack Shull, and the Ford's worked all day Thursday helping set up the show, and also on Sunday tearing down the show. Terry Roberts work a lot during the show, and was one of the last ones there Sunday evening when we hauled all of the club stuff to my office. The Fords work the entire show along with their grandson who kept the wheel of fortune game going for us. Jack Shull worked every day of the show, and worked on the Friday school day showing fossils to the school kids. Our Treasurer Jeri Kitchens was there every day of the show helping me keep the show money straight, worked continuously during the show, and helped a lot with the dealer dinner. Rip Criss work all day Sat. and Sun. at the show and help in every area we needed help. Our show chairman Keith Harmon did a great job getting the whole thing together and going, and Charlotte Harmon always does a great job getting our show mail out cards entered into the computer, and sent out each year. Charles Creekmur did

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JOEL ANDREWS/The Lufkin News

Dr. Neal Naranjo, center, begins a tour of his vast collection of fossils and specimens beginning with a giant tyrannosaurus rex skull at the entrance of the new Museum of Natural History. To view or buy photos from this event, visit lufkindailynews.com/photos.

Soon-to-be finished museum will showcase natural history

Sun Apr 1, 2012.

By CHASITY MONSCHEIN/The Lufkin News

Dinosaurs have been extinct for a long time, but their size, power and habitats still captivate peoples' imaginations. In September, East Texans will be able to enjoy several thousand fossils of these ancient and mysterious creatures at the Naranjo Museum of Natural History in Lufkin.

The museum is located on U.S. 59 south near The Settlement and will house the personal collection of Dr. Neal Naranjo, which includes geological artifacts, dinosaur and plant fossils, and ancient artifacts from Egypt, Rome and Greece.

"We are excited for community leaders and folks interested in natural history to view our museum," said Naranjo. "As a boy, I enjoyed looking for arrowheads in the forests of East Texas, and I have carried this passion for exploration and history with me throughout my life. Just like me, the fondest



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memories for many children are playing with a favorite toy, looking at the world with wonderment, and enjoying the enormity of seeing their first dinosaur.”

After introducing his collection to Lufkin students and the community, he knew he had to build a permanent home for the collection.

“The truth is, the museum has been 50 years in the making,” he said.

“It started with one child eager to explore his back yard and has grown into a network of teachers, parents, scientists and community leaders determined to re-create that experience for children and adults alike.”

His daughter, Katie Naranjo, said it was great that her father took his lifelong love and shared it with the community.

“There are not a ton of cultural or scientific activities in the community,” she said.

“He has been actively going on digs in different states for the last five years, but has been collecting artifacts for generations. This museum is a way to share it and educate others. This will be a fun opportunity for families with young children to learn in an exciting environment.”

Artists from Nacogdoches and Lufkin contributed to the museum by creating murals that depict the prehistoric world of dinosaurs.

“The murals at the Yale Peabody Museum took 30 to 40 years to paint, so I knew in order for us to complete these paintings that we would have to kick it into high-gear,” said Peter Andrew, SFASU art professor. “I worked on three of the murals, and there are others that have yet to be done. This will be the perfect marriage of science and art.”

Andrew said the murals were art with a purpose, and artists had to be mindful about the accuracy of the subjects they were painting.

“It was very traditional; I worked with oil paint and got up on a ladder and free-scaled it,” he said.

“For some people, learning in school is not fun, but this museum provides an educational and exciting way to learn. None of us stop learning. When you invest in education, you invest in yourself.”

Local artist Ann Reyes also participated in the project by painting three diagrams.

“I’m working on a fourth and am using acrylic paint,” she said. “It’s been great to talk to other artists and see what they do and techniques they use. Dr. Naranjo has fossils and bones for us to look at for reference. He also tells us what colors they would have been.”

The project exhibits are about 80 percent complete, while the fossil restoration is about 50 percent complete. When the facility is finished, it also will be the home to a 26-foot-tall hadrosaur, an einosaurus mother with her child, a Tyrannosaurus rex skull, a fully grown woolly mammoth, unhatched dinosaur eggs and more interesting and unique finds.

Chasity Monschein’s email address is cmonschein@lufkindailynews.com

Link to original article on the Lufkin Daily News’ website posted Sunday, April 1, 202, 1:15 a.m./updated 11:08 p.m.: http://lufkindailynews.com/news/local/article_8594de94-7bb4-11e1-b1aa-0019bb2963f4.html



NEWS ITEMS ~~~ Two recent news items you may find interesting:

E-Book on Blacksmithing

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For those interested in the field of blacksmithing and ornamental ironwork, a free downloadable book called "The Blacksmith's Craft" has been prepared by Herefordshire College of Technology in England. The book, first published in 1952, was written for craftsmen, technical schools and apprentice training programs. Though 60 years old, the book continues to be a good introduction to the blacksmith's craft. It can be downloaded from http://www.hct.ac.uk/Downloads/cp_blacksmith.html



GARNET BULLETS

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A cool fact about garnets is that they were actually used in ancient Asia and the American Southwest as bullets in guns. The strong, deep red of the stone was said to cause wounds worse than bullets. Read more about it on the Omnigems Blog - <http://omigems.com/blog/category/gemstones/>

News items contributed by Brad Smith



ROCK ESTATE AUCTION

Hi, my name is Robert Poteet, I am the president of the Highland Lakes Gem and Mineral club. I am having a private estate auction on April 21 at 9am and all my rock equipment and rocks are going at auction. you can see pictures and a list of most of the items at the auction web site, everything will sell to the highest bidder.

<http://www.angelfire.com/pq/obars/davidcrookpage3.html>

It is a collection of 40+ years and is quite extensive it includes 3 rock saws and polishers. The rocks are everything from various agate, apache tears, onyx, obsidian, geodes, some crystals and more. If you have any question please call or e-mail me. (325) 379-1227.

I hope to see you there,
Robert



BenchTips for the Month

QUICK CLOSE-UPS

There's a quick way to grab a close-up photo from your iPhone or Android shown on <http://omigems.com/blog/2012/03/the-traditional-jewelers-loupe-goes-high-tech/>

MOTOR SAFETY - THE LITTLE THINGS CAN BITE

Most jewelers treat motorized equipment with caution. We've all heard stories about workpieces coming loose in the drill press or about getting long hair or clothing caught in the polishing machine. It stands to reason that a machine with a motor of half a horsepower or so is going to win out over its operator. We all know that, and I'm not going to harp on it. That's not the point of this story.

But the point here is with the smaller powered machines we often use, the ones with little 3 inch diameter motors. For instance, these small motors are used in flexshafts and micro buffers. They're so small that many of us forget caution when using them. I'm guilty of it myself sometimes, and believe me it can get you in trouble.

One friend had a polishing bur bend in the handpiece and then whack the thumb that was holding the workpiece so badly that it seemed the bone might be broken. The swelling was substantial, and it took several weeks to regain normal use. A small underpowered motor? I don't think so.

Another friend was using one of the small buffing machines, the kind you can stop when you apply too much pressure to the wheel. Not to worry about such an underpowered beast you say. Wrong, it literally jumped up and bit the hand that feeds it ! Buffer was set on a low table to do a quick polish, so was not mounted or clamped. A buff was installed on the right spindle, no buff on the left. Friend was wearing a tight-fitting, long-sleeved sweater. While buffing on the right wheel, the left tapered spindle caught a thread on the friend's left sleeve and started grabbing more and more threads and sleeve.

Rather than pulling the arm into the machine, the light buffer quickly lifted off the table and started climbing up the underside of the friends arm. There was no way to get a hand of the on/off switch because the unit was spinning wildly and battering my friend like a club wielded by a mad man. Only when my friend could grab the gyrating power cord and yank it from the wall did the mayhem stop.

So when you're in the shop, please think safety. Don't take even those little motors for granted.

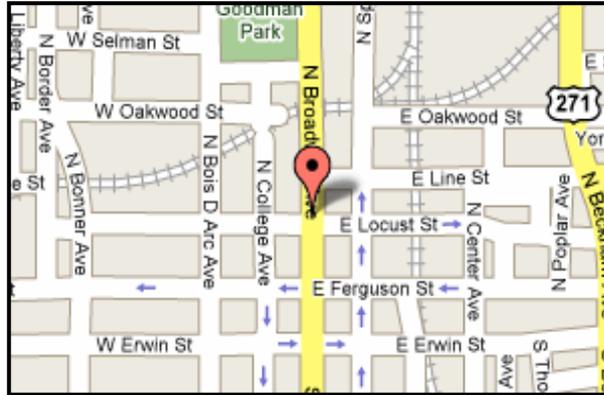
Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith can be found at [facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips) or

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

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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.

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.

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



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