



ROCK-N-ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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VOLUME 39

TYLER, TEXAS

ISSUE 7

JULY 2013

Coming Shows, 2013

August 10-11
Baton Rouge, LA
Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Soc.
Bossier City Civic Center

August 17-18
Bossier City, LA
SCFMS Convention & Show
Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Soc.
Bossier City Civic Center

August 24-25
Jasper, TX
Pine Country Gem & Mineral
Society, Events Center

September 14-15
Arlington, TX
Arlington Gem & Mineral
Society, 1010 Event Center

November 8-10
Humble, TX
Houston Gem & Mineral
Society, Humble Civic Center



March 8-9, 2014
Pasadena, TX
Clear Lake Gem & Mineral
Society, Pasadena
Convention Center

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MUSEUM FIELD TRIP JULY 27

I need an RSVP from all going!! In order to get into the museum, we have to schedule a time and pay ahead! They book up for weekends and only let walk-ups in every 30 minutes IF there is an available slot! So far, we have 15 going, which is the MINIMUM!

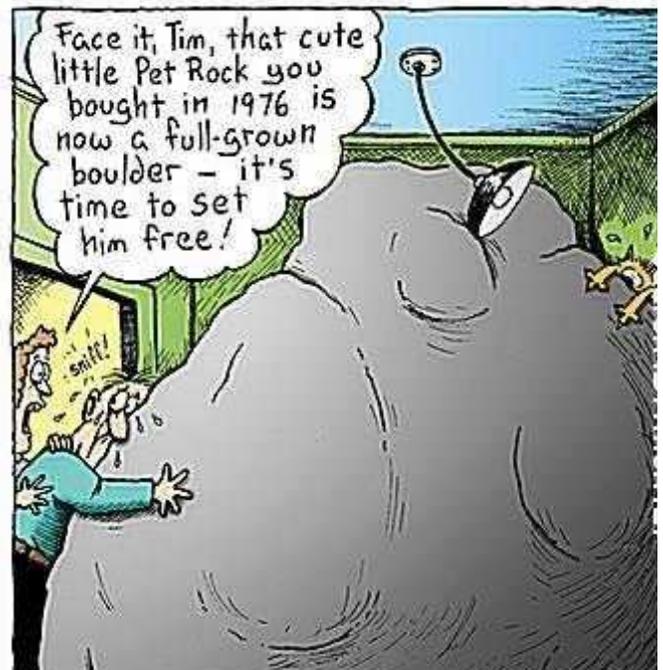
Since I'm about to pay the full group amount for everybody to secure our tickets and slot, I HAVE to know if everyone is still going! Please contact me ASAP and confirm. I need to call this afternoon& pay.

Everybody can reimburse me at some point before we leave or pay me on that day. Since we have 15, we get the group rate of \$10/ea and, best of all, will be guaranteed to get in.

This is what I have:

Susan - 2 tickets, Don - 1, John - 1, Ed - 1, Carolyn - 1, Bill - 5

Let me know, Becky 903-795-3652.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a treat we had at the July 1st club meeting. Kinney and Vicky Polve provided very interesting program on rock collecting in the western US. They recently completed touring several western states collecting rocks all along the way. Kinney brought lots of good examples of what they collected on their trip and even gave a few away to club members. Thank you Kinney and Vicky for providing our club meeting program.

Now, how about you? we need other club members to volunteer to share their rock hounding experiences with the club in the form of a club meeting program. It doesn't have to be a fancy presentation, just tell us about what you like to do in the hobby, collecting specimens, making jewelry, or perhaps something related to our hobby you have learned or know a lot about.

While we're talking about volunteering, how about serving as a club officer this next year? We are accepting nominations from club members for officer elections in September. New officers and board members start serving in October. Please let us know so we can get your name on the September ballot.

Several club related events are about to happen, so don't miss out on the following:

July 23: Club involvement in the Discovery Science Place Summer Camps

July 27: club field trip to the Perot Science Museum in Dallas

July 29-30: Club involvement in the Discovery Science place Summer Camps

August 17: the South Central Federation Convention and show at Bossier City, LA.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun Summer of collecting.

Don Campbell



AUGUST 5TH MEETING PROGRAM

Our club meeting program on August 5th will be presented by club member Randy Harmon on fossils. Randy is an avid fossil collector and has lots of wonderful fossils to show and tell us all he knows about where they're found and what they are.



ETGMS 2014 OFFICER ELECTIONS

We are accepting nominations for club officers and board members from club members who are willing to serve this next year. We hold elections at the September club meeting and new officers and board members start serving in October. Each year we elect a club president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, and two board members to serve on the executive board. Please consider serving as an officer, and let us know so we can get your name on the September ballot.



JULY MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Donald Campbell at 7:00 pm.

Don welcomed members and visitors.

Bill Faulkner moved the minutes be accepted as printed, Terry Roberts seconded. Motion passed.

Bill Faulkner read the Financial Report. A copy of the report is available for viewing by the membership at the meeting.

Field Trips

Becky was not present but Don stated she has proposed a field trip to the Perot Museum in Dallas. There is a sign up sheet for those interested. Several dates were proposed – July 20, 27 and Aug 3. Of those present, the date of July 27 was the date selected.

The group will meet at the museum at 10:00 a.m. Cost per individual is \$15. If the number in the group exceeds 15, the cost will be \$10 each.

Sub-Groups

Terry Roberts stated the Lapidary/Jewelry group will meet at his house July 13. Will work more on cabbing. We will also discuss what the group wants to do next. Bill Holman's saw needs to be rewired – new member, Bruce Walker has offered to rewire it.

Don stated the mineral group typically meets the third Thursday of the month. However, this month they will meet at Don's home the 25th of the month. They have been discussing physical properties of minerals and will move on to Crystallography of minerals.

Don announced he will be calling a board meeting in the next week or so.

Announcements

Don asked for club members to participate in the Day Camps at the Discovery Science Place.

July 22 – 26 is "Geode Week" and July 29 – Aug 2 is Archeology Week.

Chris Rasure of the UT Ingenuity Center spoke with the membership about the camps.

Kinney and Vicky Polve took a trip out west and will present the program today.

Rocks were donated to the club by John Comer (west of Lindale). Terry and Bill will get them for the club.

Don has his contact information.

Old Business – None

New Business

Kinney Polve asked if it was time to start sending press and schools the information about our show. Don stated since school is out now, early August, about the time the students return is a better time.

Don and Keith are handling the notifications.

Tickets were drawn for door prizes.

The membership broke for refreshments.

Kinney and Vicky Polve presented the program on their trip.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzan Chapman, Secretary



The Prez Says CALCITE By Jim Gedeon Of the Fredricksburg, Tx Rockhounds

Calcite (CaCO_3) is another of the common minerals that comes in an almost endless number of forms and has many uses. In its most mundane form, limestone, calcite makes up most of the topography of the Hill Country.

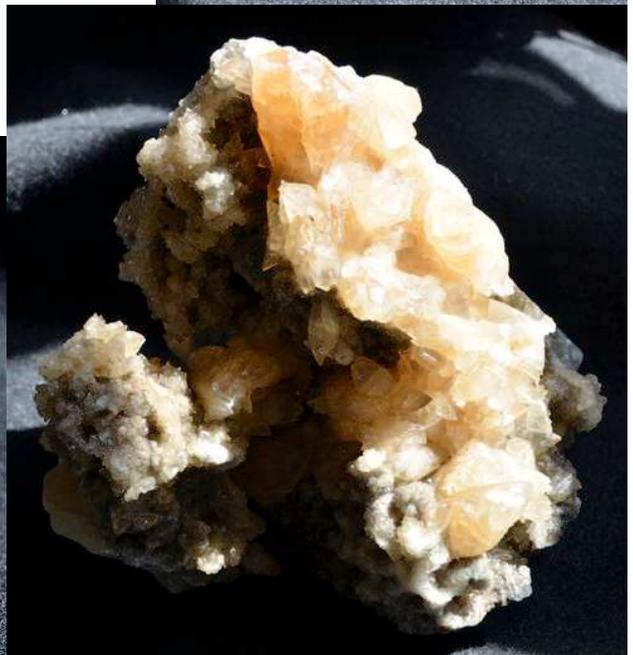
In the subsurface, limestone takes on another role, forming magical landscapes in the numerous caverns scattered around the area.

Common uses of limestone are as road material (caliche), building material, as an acid reducer in soil, as a whiting agent in paints and white-wash, and as a dietary supplement in animal feed. In its metamorphosed form, marble, the common form becomes magnificent when sculpted into statuary, tombstones or classical buildings.

The other "face" of calcite is its crystal habits. Highgrade optical calcite was used during World War II for gun sights in bombers and anti-aircraft weaponry. Single calcite crystals display an optical property called birefringence (double refraction): hold one over an image and it appears twice.

Calcite crystals also are thought to possess magical properties for healing, lessening fear and reducing stress (I swallowed two crystals while composing this article). It has a hardness of 3 on the Mohs scale, and comes in clear, white, grey, yellow, and green color. It may fluoresce red, blue, yellow and other colors under long wave UV light.

Two of the more interesting crystal habits of calcite are Rhombohedra (bottom crystal, below left) and Scalenohedra (top crystal). One of the first field trips I went on in college was to study calcite crystals from cavities in a shale quarry in Ohio— see the last three pictures.





JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

A scale devised by Friedrich Mohs

Scratching tools:
 fingernail (2.2)
 copper penny (3.5)
 pocket knife or common nail (5.2)
 piece of glass (5.5)
 steel file or concrete nail (7.5)
 piece of corundum (9)

Moh's Hardness Scale									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
TALC very soft, like chalk	GYPSUM easily scratched with a nail	CALCITE difficult to scratch with a nail	FLUORITE cannot be scratch with a nail	APATITE about the hardness of teeth	MICRO- CLINE suitable for gems	QUARTZ scratches glass	TOPAZ harder than quartz	RUBY harder than to- paz	DIAMOND hardest material known to man
	← soapstone →		← serpentine →		← leopard stone →		← verdite →		
			← cobalt →		← butler jade & red jasper →				
			← opal stone →		← springstone →				

Notes for testing:

Each mineral can scratch the minerals with lower hardness ratings. Each mineral can scratch itself. Don't press hard, normal scratching should do. Weathered surfaces are softer. Corners or edges of crystals are softer. Small pieces seem softer than large pieces. When you scratch, take a close look at the scratch line - which often looks white. Is it really a scratch or is it a powder line made from the tool you used because it was softer than the item you were trying to scratch?

source: *rocks for kids website*

Earth Word Scramble

Source: <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz>

Check out some Cool Kids Links

- <http://www.kidsgeo.com>
- <http://www.rocksforkids.com>
- <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/kids/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/fossils>
- <http://www.abc.net.au/beasts/fossilfun/>
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/prehistoric_life/games/
- <http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/fossils/inverts>
- <http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/rocks/index>

via *Stoney Statements*, 7/13

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. LAEK | 11. TEER |
| 2. OLDG | 12. VALA |
| 3. CAVOLNO | 13. OCNTTINEN |
| 4. AKTQURAHEE | 14. MAMAG |
| 5. TANMINUO | 15. STEROF |
| 6. VIRER | 16. GREIECB |
| 7. STEDRE | 17. ASRGS |
| 8. ONCAE | 18. LIOS |
| 9. KRCO | 19. RIAN |
| 10. TREWA | 20. ROLDW |



PCGMS FIELD TRIP – COLLECT PETRIFIED WOOD Sunday, August 25th

The Pine Country Gem and Mineral Society invites you to join us in an excursion collecting petrified wood. In conjunction with their annual show (August 24th and 25th), PCGMS has arranged for a field trip to the Lake Sam Rayburn area where petrified wood is in abundance. The number of participants will be limited to 20 individuals, so sign up early to reserve your spot. All participants must be a member of a club affiliated with the SCFMS. The fee is \$ 25 per person. **Your reservation is completed once the registration form and fee has been received.** Please note that each participant is required to submit a registration form. If you are participating as a family, each family member must submit his/her own registration form.

Should you have any questions contact Paul James at (409) 429-7444 or Fred Brown at (936) 661-1024.

You are responsible for bringing your own gear, refreshments/lunch, plenty of fluids, sunscreen, chigger spray, etc. PCGMS is not providing transportation. You will be using your own vehicle. Once we meet at the gathering place, some of you may want to carpool. The site has controlled access so please be on time.

The particulars are as follows:

We will meet at the Stump Restaurant (3819 Hwy 255, Brookeland, TX 75931) beginning around 6:30 am. Departure time for the site is 7:00 am.

Plan to be there by 6:45 am as release forms must be completed. We will collect petrified wood until 1:00 pm or so and then on to the waterfall excursion. Again, this trip will be led by PCGMS members and “Master Naturalists” - Keith, Lori, Ron and Ellis.



AFMS ENDOWMENT DRAWING

Ticket purchasing time is running out! As we have mentioned in previous FR Newsletter articles, the AFMS is holding a drawing at their 2013 Annual Meeting in September (see “Coming Events” on page 7 for meeting details). At this writing, there are 26 prizes, with most values in the \$50-\$150 range, and one with an estimated value of \$1,865 (see picture at right).

Tickets for the drawing are **\$5 each or 5 for \$20**. To order, make your check payable to “AFMS Endowment Fund” and mail it along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to our SCFMS representative:

Catherine E Rouchon
5845 Winchester Lane
Clinton, LA 70722
rouchoncstarband.net

She must receive your order by **August 2**.





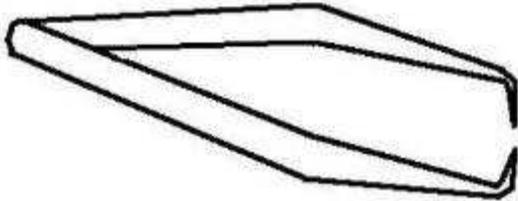
BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

DRILL BREAKAGE

Using a small drill is difficult for a beginner, especially if it is hand held in a flexshaft or Dremel. They are easily broken if you push too hard or if you tilt the drill while it's in the hole.

Remember that drilling always goes easier with lubrication. A little wax or oil is all you need. Almost anything will work - Three and One, beeswax, mineral oil, injection wax, car oil, olive oil, or one of the commercial cutting waxes. The lubricant helps to move chips out of the hole and reduces friction of the drill against the side of the hole, keeping the drill cooler.

FIND THE BALANCE POINT



With odd-shaped pendants or earrings it's often difficult to find the right place to attach a bail or loop so that the piece is balanced and hangs straight. A quick way to make a tool for this is to modify a set of tweezers. Any set of tweezers will work. Spread the tips, sharpen them with a file, and bend the tips at a right angle to point towards each other. To use the tool suspend the pendant or earring between the two sharp points to see how it will hang.

FINISHING PIERCED PATTERNS

After sawing patterns there's always a little cleanup to do, and the smaller cutouts can be a challenge. Needle files (7-8 inches) can get into the larger areas, and escapement files (4 inches) can get into some of the corners. But I often find myself looking for even smaller files. Couldn't even find them at a watchmaker tools supply company, so I had to try something else. I ended up grinding down the tip of a 4" barrette file using a separating disk (or cutoff wheel) in my Dremel (or Foredom).

Be sure to wear your safety glasses when using this tool. A flake of steel in your eye makes for a bad day.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or see the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/).

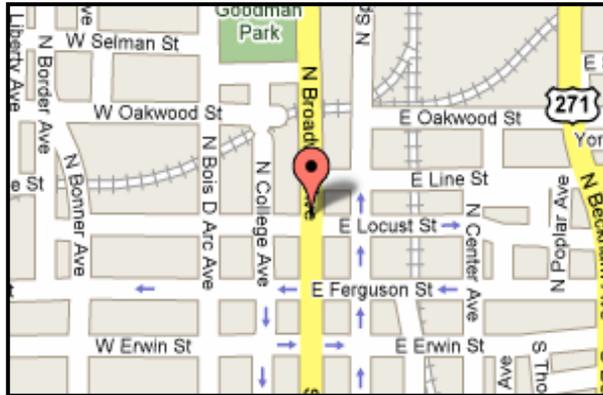


Earth Word Scramble Answers

1. LAKE; 2. GOLD; 3. VOLCANO; 4. EARTHQUAKE; 5. MOUNTAIN; 6. RIVER; 7. DESERT; 8. OCEAN; 9. ROCK; 10. WATER; 11. TREE; 12. LAVA; 13. CONTINENT; 14. MAGMA; 15. FOREST; 16. ICEBERG; 17. GRASS; 18. SOIL; 19. RAIN; 20. WORLD

CLUB OFFICERS

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SHOW CHAIRMAN:	Keith Harmon 9116 US HWY 84 W Rusk, TX 75785	903-795-3860
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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