



ROCK-N-ROSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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Coming Shows, 2013

Sep 28-29—MESQUITE, TX
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society
Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall
1800 Rodeo Dr.

Oct 13—EAGLE PASS, TX:
F.R. Field trip for agate, petrified wood, fossils, etc. Meet at the HEB in Eagle Pass at 8 A.M.; we will depart in a caravan style at 9 a.m. sharp. **HARD HATS ARE REQUIRED.** Bring a lunch and plenty of drinking water. Field trip leader is Sam Rodgers, 210-240-7721

Oct 12-13—TEMPLE, TX
Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society
Mayborn Civic & Convention Center

Oct 14-15—FORT WORTH, TX
LMRA Rockhounds Rockfest;
Lockheed Martin Recreational Facility, 3400 Bryant Irvin Road

Oct 18-20—AUSTIN, TX
Austin Gem & Mineral Society
Palmer Events Center
900 Barton Springs Rd

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Annual

Gem & Mineral

Auction

Don't miss out, come to THE Gem & Mineral Auction. This is one of the main fundraisers for our club and it only happens once a year! Bring items you wish to donate and be prepared to bid on just that special treasure you've been looking for. Our auctioneer will delight and entertain you offering rocks, minerals, fossils, books, anything related to our hobby.

President's message was not available at press time.



SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

ETG&MS Meeting September 9, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7pm by President Don Campbell

Guests and new members were welcomed

Terry Roberts moved Minutes be approved, Emily Phillips 2nd

Bill Faulkner gave the Treasurer's Report

Field Trips

None planned at the moment – too hot. Terry spoke about the Walker Ranch. Will be open October 11, 12 & 13. Cost is \$75 per day for two days – third day free. There is no charge for material collected. Becky Whizenant discussed a possible trip to the Midlothian Quarry in October. Keith Harmon's rock sale in Rusk is 9/21.

Programs

Mineral Collectors in Dallas hosted a Mineral Symposium with the featured speaker being Dr. Jeffery Post, Curator of Rocks and Minerals at the Smithsonian. A DVD was made of the presentation which will be viewed as tonight's program.

October – Auction

November – Terry Roberts will give a Walker Ranch Report

December – Gift exchange

Will need more programs starting in January – would like to feature Lapidary, jewelry making, etc.

Lapidary Sub Group

Meeting will be at Terry's 9/14. Focus will be on the slab saw, safety and information. Also wire wrapping.

Mineral Sub Group

Don will be out of town on the 19th. Meeting postponed to the 26th.

South Central Federation Business Meeting

Don, Kinney and Susan attended the SCFMS show in Bossier City, LA

SCFMS has 3293 members – ETG&MS has 97 paid members.

Endowment Fund

Interest may be available to SCFMS for emergency operating expenses

Scholarship Fund

ETG&MS donated in memory of Charlotte Harmon. \$2572 has been donated in her memory.

Amendments to SCFMS Constitution and By-Laws were discussed at the meeting.

Susan attended the Editors Breakfast. ETG&MS received several awards which Susan distributed.

Announcements

Emily Phillips opened a store in Chandler - Blue Llama Jewelry – Gems, mineral, fossils, casting in silver and gold.

Several members attended the visitation for Pete Kieser's father who passed away recently.

Old Business-no old business

New Business

The Board voted to replace the Annual Show banner and "sandwich boards". Discussion ensued concerning enlarging the show. We do not yet have sufficient attendance to fill Harvey Hall and there is no place slightly larger than the current location. There is potential to rent the room across the hall to possibly host the SC FMS meeting.

Elections

President - Kinney Polve – Nominated by Terry Roberts, 2nd by Bill Faulkner

VP – Terry Roberts – Nominated by Bill Faulkner, 2nd by Suzan Chapman

Treasurer – Bill Faulkner – by acclamation

Secretary – Carolyn Davis – Nominated by Don Campbell, 2nd Suzan Chapman

Jack Shull and Suzan Chapman were nominated for Board positions

Don will serve on the Board as Past President

Drawing for door prizes and break for snacks

Program

Submitted by Suzan Chapman, Secretary



THE VICE-PREZ SAYS

Two items for the newsletter. The first is about a club field trip that Randy Harmon wants to do. Randy is the new Field Trip Chairman that has been appointed by Kinney Polve (at least that is what he told me).

Randy wants to do a field trip on the 2nd or 3rd weekend in November to collect fossilized marine seashells near Waco. He will provide more details at the October club meeting. He wants the club members to decide which date is best for them. The club could meet at a museum on the grounds of Baylor University in Waco around 10:00 a.m. and take a brief tour of the museum, if the members want to. The first dig site (actually surface collecting) is about 30 minutes away. There is another collecting site that could be visited when everyone is satisfied with what they got at the first site. Again, he can provide more details at the club meeting.

I would like to remind the club members that there will be a rock hunting trip to the Walker Ranch about 18 miles south of Alpine, TX on October 11-13 (Friday through Sunday). I will be on this rock hunt and can show club members where to find some great agate on the ranch. There have been enough people to sign up and pay a deposit for the site visit to take place as planned. The collecting fee is \$75/day, but if you pay for 2 days, you get the third day for free. There is no limit on the amount of rock you collect and there is no extra fee charged for each pound of rock you keep. If you go, you should send a \$75 dollar deposit (check made out to Bryan Crumpton) to Teri Smith by early October. I will provide an address at the next meeting. Also, you should make hotel reservations at Alpine soon since there is some kind of art event taking place at Marfa on that weekend and people will be making reservations in Alpine to attend it. I will be glad to answer any questions the members may have at the next club meeting.

I also have a summary of the Lapidary/Jewelry subgroup meeting for September.

Ten people attended the L/J subgroup meeting at my home on Oct. 14. I spoke to the members about the operation of a 14" rock saw and pointed out the dangers/problems that could be encountered while operating this saw and other large rock saws. The next discussion was about wire wrapping pendants. Six members got hands-on experience wrapping a cabochon with myself providing suggestions and demonstrating how to do one style of wire wrap. The group thanks Kinney Polve for providing the copper wire to use in wrapping the cabs. After the members left, a new member (Mitch Young) asked to use a Genie cab machine to complete a malachite cab that he had started previously. He was able to complete the cab and put a nice polish on it. The next L/J subgroup meeting will be at Bill Faulkner's home on Saturday, October 12.

Terry Roberts



Fun activity for kids (answers on page 5)

See if you can find out which of the following are minerals?



- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Cubic Zirconia | Diamond |
| Fluorite | Galena |
| Graphite | Ice Cubes |
| Pyrite ("Fool's Gold") | Ruby |
| | Snow |



AWARDING ADVENTURES

One of the things that is truly rewarding about being editor is hearing positive feedback from the membership. Occasionally, I'm sent an email or letter telling me how much someone enjoys the newsletter I put together each month. Our newsletter has evolved over the years from hand drawn to the digital creation you receive today.

In recognition of the importance of having this vital communication tool for each club is the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies Authors and Editors contest, which is held annually. Recently I had a chance to see the results of the newsletter entries from 2012 publications on August 18 in Bossier City, LA. There is something about sitting in that chair, almost antsy, awaiting our clubs' name to be called. Excitement and anticipation...knowing I'd put my best effort forth. Even when most of those certificates and awards are for other members.

The first year I was editor started oddly, as I didn't take over completely until the month of March—I did not enter the contest that year. However, things have changed in the seven and a half years since, I now enter all I can, including any contributions which are sent to me by other members. Here are the results for our club from the 2013 Authors and Editors contest. If you have the opportunity, congratulate those who participated on their awards, it takes courage to submit items for the newsletter.

Features

- HM—Colleen Hayes—Feb. Meeting Minutes, Feb./12
- HM—Keith Harmon—Annual Show a Success, Feb./12
- HM—Laura Wilson—Sept. Meeting Minutes, Sept./12
- HM—Don Campbell—President's Message, July/12

Original Adult Articles

- 2nd—Susan Burch—Birthstone Commemorative Stamps, May/12
- 7th—Becky Whisenant—Spanning the Geologic Generation Gap, Dec./12
- HM—Laura Wilson—Friends Our Joys are Doubled, Our Sorrows Halved, Oct./12

Adult Poetry

- 1st—Mary Owens—A Long Search, Nov./12

Special Publications

- 1st—Susan Burch—What are your interests in Earth Sciences, brochure

Small Bulletin

- 2nd—Susan Burch—Rock-N-Rose, Dec./12



SAPPHIRE

Why the color of a Birthstone is important:

The Color of Birthstones relates to rarity, value and the quality of a gemstone. Birthstone colors are therefore extremely important to consider when purchasing a piece of jewelry containing precious or semi-precious gemstones.

Symbolism and Meaning of the Birthstone Color for September:

Individual Birthstones colors, such as the Sapphire, also has special attributes. The meaning behind birthstones colors were symbolized by their association with events which occurred in history, many of which date back, and relate to, the biblical meanings of colors. The Christian meaning of Deep Blue was highly symbolic. From Ancient times wise men and healers have believed that jewels and gemstones, such as the Sapphire, have mystical powers and conduct the energies of the ruling planets with which each gemstone is associated which affect our physical or emotional well being and healing powers. Gemstones and their attributes were related to signs of the Zodiac or month of birth and referred to as Birthstones. The symbolism and meaning of the Birthstone Color for September is as follows:

The color blue has a Biblical meaning symbolizing heavenly grace. The Virgin Mary is often depicted wearing blue clothing.

Facts and Information about Birthstone Color for September:

- *September Gemstone: Sapphire
- *September Birthstone Color: Deep Blue / Indigo
- *Zodiac Sign: Virgo, dates: August 23 - September 22
- *Sapphires come in a wide range of natural colors and shades
- *Sapphires are available in every color but red
- *Sapphires in colors other than blue are often referred to as fancy sapphires
- *The most valuable sapphires have a medium intense, vivid blue color
- *The color of Indigo is a deep, rich dark blue and sometimes referred to as Royal Blue with its obvious connotation
- *The symbolic meaning of the color indigo is power, importance and wealth
- *Blue Colors are caused by the presence of the element Boron (B) which changes the conductivity of the gemstones



<http://www.birthdaygems.org/birthstone-colors/birthstone-color-for-september.htm> via Stoney Statements 9/13



A NEW SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

We are opening a jewelry, mineral, fossils and more shop in Chandler. Keith Harmon arrived for the Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting/grand opening to crack geodes. We have been busy getting it ready and haven't been able to come to any meetings.

Thanks, Emily, Travis and Mickey Phillips



A BRIGHT IDEA!

FIELD TRIPPERS, use plastic jugs (milk, bleach, etc.) for rock holders. Cut off the neck, leaving the handle. Location of your finds can be marked on the jug with a magic marker. The plastic jugs are not harmed by dampness or dirt.

SEPTARIANS should not be stored directly on the ground. They will soak up moisture and eventually come apart, leaving only the calcite centers. from Fox News, via MWF Newsletter, June 2001, via SFMS newsletter Sept./Oct. 2013.



BENCH TIPS By Brad Smith

JUST SAY NO TO OPTIVISORS

During his annual vision-check, a jeweler friend of mine wondered why not have his reading glasses made with bifocals that would magnify the same as the Optivisors? So he asked the ophthalmologist if he could add around +2.00 diopters into bifocals.

The doctor checked with his supervisor and came back all excited. They all agreed that it was a great idea and even gave him a special device to measure how far he holds a jewelry piece from his eye, to get the focal distance exactly right. So if all goes well, no more sweaty, bulky optivisors! Anyone else tried this?

MANDRELS

Straight rod mandrels have a multitude of uses in helping to bend sheet and wire. Frequently we choose a round rod for winding jump rings. Common sources for different sized rods are knitting needles, wooden dowels and clothes hangers. Metal rods can also be found in hardware stores and hobby shops.



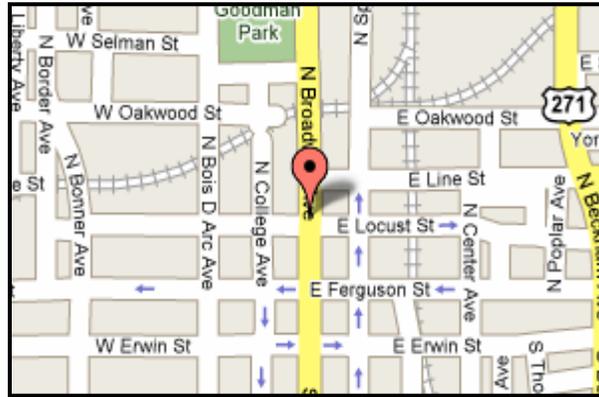
But to get the right "look" in chain maile designs, you must have just the right size mandrel, and often they are not easy to find. Jewelry catalogs sell selections of straight rod mandrels for \$50 or more, but my choice is from Harbor Freight. They have a set of 28 sizes, from 3/32 inch to 1/2 inch, for under ten bucks. It's called a Transfer Punch Set. The catalog number is #3577, and the price is \$9.95 Plus, look for the 20% off coupon on any one item in their advertising circular. That cuts your cost to around eight bucks. I've bought four of these over the last couple years. www.harborfreight.com

Attribution requested with each publication:

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

CLUB OFFICERS

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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. 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



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