



HOW ARE MINERALS IDENTIFIED?

At our **October 3 meeting**, Lecture 7 of **The Nature of Earth: An Introduction to Geology** DVD by Professor John J. Renton will be our October program. During this lecture, he will give us the answer.



This DVD is invaluable to our club, and Dr. Renton explains things that even I can understand. Not being a geologist, I find these lessons fascinating and I hope you do also.



See you there,
Karen Anderson

THE PREZ SAYS

Greetings Club Members,

This year is really going by quickly. Seems like only a few weeks ago I took over as President of our club, but that was nine meetings ago. I hope all continues to go well.

I asked at the last meeting about having a **gift exchange** at our Christmas Party... and I believe that the club was somewhat divided in their interest. A few wanted to have a gift exchange, a few did not want to have a gift exchange, and a few did not raise their hands at all. I am firmly in the “yes” group— I like to get presents— and I also like to give presents. Maybe those of us that want to have a gift exchange can bring a wrapped present and have our exchange. Those that don't want to participate can go home after eating. Please think about what you would like to do and we can **discuss this at our next meeting**.

Also at the Christmas Party— if you bring something special, please **bring the recipe** so that if it is a big hit, others can copy it and make it at home. If what you bring is a dud, and shunned by all, you can just keep the recipe to yourself :-)

We had another small PA system problem at the last meeting. The batteries in one of the microphones were weak. I'm thinking that some of the other people who use them during the month forget to turn them off when not in use.

Note to self... bring fresh batteries to the meeting and take them home when the meeting is over.

Well, that's all for this time.
Andy Anderson, President



THE FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS PRESENTS THE 48 TH ANNUAL

HILL COUNTRY GEM & MINERAL SHOW



Minerals, Fossils, Meteorites, Jewelry, Geodes, Stone carvings
Exhibits and Demonstrations

Experts can identify your mystery rocks

And

Food service provided by Buzzie's Barbeque

Soft Drinks, Meals, Snacks

Raffle Drawings for valuable Prizes, Hourly Door Prizes

FREE Admission and Parking

Demonstrations of Gem faceting and Stone cutting & polishing

IN THE PIONEER PAVILION..... Lady Bird Johnson Park
(Highway 16, three miles south of Fredericksburg)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 ST.....9:00 am- 6:00 pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 ND.....10:00 am-4:00 pm

Come Browse, Come buy, Come Have Fun!

Our 2017 Gem and Mineral Show is on
The radar screen!

Our 48th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show will be held on January 21-22, 2017 at Lady Bird Johnson Park

Reserving Stage Table and Outside Areas

- Members who wish to have a stage table or outside space for the show need to contact me either by email, phone, or in person **before the November meeting.**
- The cost is \$25.00
- There are twelve tables on the stage and twelve areas outside
- If more than twelve members request stage tables or outside areas, we will pick names out of a bowl at the November meeting

Display Cases

- Last year marked the club's initial entry into having a **JUDGED COMPETITION** for the best displays in several categories
- The entries last year were outstanding but I think we can do even better this year
- Twelve display cases are available to club members. Please request these display cases via email or phone by the November club meeting
- The club provides lighting for the cases. Those displaying will finish the interior of the cases as they desire
- There is no charge for display cases
- If more than twelve members desire a display case, we will pick names out of a bowl at the November meeting

We are in need of additional material for door prizes, raffle prizes, and silent auction items

- Please see John Farmer (john.farmer3325@gmail.com) for door/raffle prizes
- Please see Bill Morgenstern (earthmoodsphoto@yahoo.com) for silent auction prizes

During the next few months, please consider volunteering to help make our show a great success.

Questions or Comments

Call Jim Gedeon at (830)456-5419 or by email at gedeonjim1@gmail.com

The flyer and the above info are JPG files from Jim. Here are the live email links:

John: john.farmer3325@gmail.com

Bill: earthmoodsphoto@yahoo.com

Jim: gedeonjim1@gmail.com

NO SEPTEMBER MINUTES YET

As we go to press, **Kenneth Verstuyft**, husband of our secretary Shelly, is in the hospital with serious heart trouble. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

When we have more news we'll pass the info along via email.

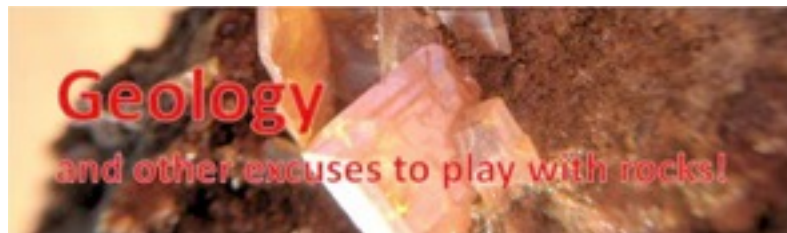
OUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We like to keep up to date on members who have had significant events in their lives, such as earning a degree or promotion, receiving an award, getting married, etc; or needing some kind of assistance, or having a serious illness, injury or death in the family.

If you know of an event for yourself or one of the other members which you feel ought to be recognized in our newsletter and at the next meeting, (and/or via special email if it's urgent), **please contact Glenn Thompson**. He can be reached at 830-990-4521 (landline), 830-992-7443 (cellphone), uffda@beecreek.net, or U.S. mail at 7542 North State Highway 16, Fredericksburg, TX 78624.

CHECK OUT THIS WEBSITE

Geology and Planetary Science, www.robertbeauford.net/home



It's the website of Robert Beauford, son of FR member Ed Beauford. He's a geologist, anthropologist, and jewelry craftsman. His website covers all of these interests.



RED ROSE ROCK SHOP CLOSEOUT SALE

From: [daughter of] Patty Hopkins <pattypco@gmail.com>:

My name is Trish from the Red Rose Rock Shop in Johnson City (well, 3 miles west of Henly). I inherited the rock shop from my Mom Patty Hopkins who passed away in May last year.

We have done our best to keep carrying on my Momma's dream, but we have made a decision to close the store. We intend on opening again next year sometime, in a location close to our home in Needville, TX but for now, we are closing. It has become quite the task to drive from Houston every weekend and back every weekend, while maintaining our careers Monday through Friday here in Houston.

We will be open for business **every weekend from now until the weekend of Sunday Oct. 23**. We will spend the weekend of October 29 and 30th packing and moving.



JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS PAGE

THE AMERICAN GOLDEN TOPAZ

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas



Are there any out there who remember seeing the American Golden Topaz at an AFMS Show? The American Golden Topaz is a 22,892.5 carats (cut weight) gem from Brazil. In 1987 Mr. John White, curator of the gems and mineral collection at the Smithsonian, approached the AFMS with plans to acquire a topaz that was bigger than the 21,327 carat Brazilian Princess Topaz, but needed \$40,000 to procure the rough stone. The AFMS originally balked at the idea, but did form a committee which supported the concept and rapidly raised the funds to procure the stone. The stone was owned by Drs. Marie and Edgar Bogatta of Seattle WA and was cut by Mr. Leon Agee of Walla Walla WA. The stone was then presented to the Smithsonian and displayed with a plaque that read "Gift of the Rockhound Hobbyist of America through the efforts of the six regional federations of mineralogical societies and Drs. Marie and Ed Bogatta, 1988." One of the inducements for the AFMS to help in the acquisition of the American Golden Topaz was that the gem would be made available for display at the Federation Show. However, in 1997 the Ameri-

can Golden Topaz was placed on permanent display at the Smithsonian and was no longer available to the Federation.

Now fast forward to today. The American Golden Topaz is one of about 24 Smithsonian "Giant Gems" which go on temporary display at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas! Here is some information I received from the [Perot Museum](#):

GIANT GEMS OF THE SMITHSONIAN

(Sept. 9, 2016-Jan. 17, 2017)

Never before seen together, approximately two dozen magnificent, Texas-sized gems from the Smithsonian's world-renowned National Gem Collection will be on display in the Lyda Hill Gems and Minerals Hall on Level 3. The mineral masterpieces, many weighing over 1,000-plus carats, include the "American Golden" topaz that tips the scales at almost 23,000 carats (more than 10 pounds), a blue topaz "football" of nearly 7,000 carats, a kunzite Tiffany necklace, the Mogul emerald diamond necklace and more. This temporary installation will mark the first time such a large collection of Smithsonian gems, some of which have never been displayed in any museum, will be on exhibit outside the famed Washington museum complex...

If clubs are interested in seeing the American Golden Topaz and the rest of this collection, they may contact the Perot museum at 214-428-5555 or reserve@perotmuseum.org for a Group Ticket discount rate (group must be at least 10 individuals).

For the record, I am not an employee of the Perot Museum, but I am an active volunteer at the museum. This article is not intended to be an advertisement, but rather to point out an opportunity to see the American Golden Topaz – a stone that we all helped the Smithsonian Museum to acquire.

—SCFMS Newsletter Sep-Oct 2016

Mark Your Calendars...

Oct 1—RUSK, TX: BACK YARD ROCK & EQUIPMENT SALE; 9116 US Hwy 84 West; Keith & Tony Harmon; over 50 tons of rocks: agates, jaspers, obsidians, jade, palm wood, and more: 50¢ to \$4 per pound.

Also used saws, grinders, polishing units, flat laps, vibrating laps, sphere machine, tumblers. Contact Keith at 903-316-2967 or keithharmon19@yahoo.com

Starting at **9 AM**—PLEASE, NO EARLY SALES

Oct 8-9—TEMPLE, TX: Annual show; Tri-City Gem and Mineral Society, Mayborn Convention Center; 3303 North 3rd Street; contact Leslie Russell, 5 Fir Court, Belton, TX 76513, (254)-493-7244; email: trinity4112@me.com website: www.tricitygemmineral.org [As of Aug 30, their website is still under re-construction].

Oct 21-23—AUSTIN, TX: Annual show; Austin just Gem and Mineral Society, Palmer Events Center; 900 Barton Springs Rd; contact Chip Burnette, (512)-458-9546; e-mail: showchairman@austingemandmineral.org; Website: www.gemcapers.com

Oct 28-30—GLEN ROSE, TX: Fossilmania fossil show; Somervell Expo Center; Dallas Paleontological Society; www.dallaspaleo.org

Nov 5-6—AMARILLO, TX: Annual show; Golden Spread Gem & Mineral Society, Amarillo Civic Center, Amarillo, TX; 400 S. Buchanan Street, Regency Room; contact Skip Kendrick, (806)-267-2567; email: kendrick@amaonline.com

Nov 11-13—HUMBLE, TX: Annual show; Houston Gem and Mineral Society, Humble Civic Center; 8233 Will Clayton Parkway; contact Scott Singleton, (281)-530-0942; e-mail: showchair@hgms.org; Web site: www.hgms.org

Nov 19-20—MESQUITE, TX: Annual show; 59th Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall; 1800 Rodeo Drive, (I-635 & Military Parkway); contact Diana Case, PO Box 742033, Dallas, TX 75374, (214)-349-2022; Web site: dallasgemandmineral.org

Nov 19-20—ROUND ROCK, TX: Fossil Fest; Old Settler's Heritage Association (inside), Next to the Dell Diamond on US Highway 79; Paleontological Society of Austin; Fossils / Minerals / Books / Gifts / Jewelry / Toys / more; Show Chair : showchiraustinpaleo.org; web site: www.austinpaleo.org

Dec 2-4—EL PASO, TX: Annual show; El Paso Mineral and Gem Society, Inc., El Maida Shriners Hall; 6331 Alabama; contact Louie Provencio, (915)-54-2717; email: 11155@yahoo.com; Web site: www.epmgs.com

Jan 21-22, 2017—FREDERICKSBURG, TX: 48th Annual Hill Country Gem and Mineral Show; **Fredericksburg Rockhounds**; Lady Bird Johnson Park in the Pioneer Pavilion, 3 miles south of town on hwy 16; Free Admission. Hourly silent auction, hourly free door prizes, outstanding raffle prizes; minerals, fossils, geodes, stone carvings and jewelry from over 35 vendors; food service will be provided by award-winning Buzzie's Barbecue.

For more info contact Jim Gedeon at gedeonjim1@gmail.com or 830-456-5419.

website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org.

Jan 27–Feb 12, 2017—TUCSON, AZ: The famous annual “Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Showcase.” Earth's gem and mineral riches are on display at over 40 venues unfurled all over town, for sale in huge circus tents, expo halls, hotels, warehouses, and in the city's fine Convention Center. For more information, including show guides, visit the Tucson Gem & Mineral Showcase website.

For more shows at later dates, or outside Texas, visit www.rockngem.com/



Ken Nichols, Oct 8
Meredith Ott, Oct 8
Jeff Smith, Oct 11
Ed Beauford, Oct 13

Caroline Plugge, Oct 16
Glenn Thompson, Oct 16
Mary Jean Moreno, Oct 17

The October birthstone is Opal or Tourmaline; the flower is xCalendula or Cosmos

NOT GETTING OUR EMAILS??

If you're among the 20± members who have been receiving paper copies of our newsletters, but no emails providing a link to the online version, then we don't know your email address—and **you're missing a lot!** The online version is in **color**, and has **live links** to the websites and email addresses it mentions: just click on the links and go directly to them.

Also, you're missing **important announcements**, such as field trip updates, event date changes, new training classes, and other late-arriving news which can't wait until the next newsletter.

If you have good internet access, **PLEASE give us your email address.** Our newsletter emails won't clutter or slow down your email software: they don't have the newsletter attached, just a link to the online copy. If you still need paper copies mailed to you, let us know when you send us your email address.

Bill & Cheryl Wildfong, wildfong@windstream.net



Frank Rowell & Pat Felts frank@EnchantedRocksAndJewelry.com

Enchanted Rocks & Jewelry
"The Llano Uplift Rock Shop"

85 Berry St., Llano, TX

Enchanted Rocks & Jewelry
805 Berry St.
Llano, Tx 78643
(325) 247-4137

Store Hours
Tuesday - Saturday
10am - 6pm
Or by Appointment
EnchantedRocksAndJewelry.com

[CLICK](#)

Adams' Lapidary Hobby Shop
Lee & Judy Adams

Cut & polish all types & sizes of rock
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Used lapidary equipment
Cast Silver

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830-796-8890
leeapeman93@yahoo.com

Your hobby-related ad here:
\$25 for 12 months

Mail a business card, with a check made out to
Fredericksburg Rockhounds, to the editors:

Bill & Cheryl Wildfong
342 W Water St
Kerrville TX 78028-4281

Purpose of the Fredericksburg Rockhounds:

To share knowledge and appreciation of gems, minerals, fossils, and other natural wonders, and the art of jewelry making. We do this through educational monthly meetings, field trips, an annual gem, mineral, & fossil show, and donations to schools. We're affiliated with the American Federation of Mineral Societies, and the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies.



Membership and Meetings:

We meet at 7:00 P.M. on the first Monday of each month at the Golden Hub Senior Center, 1009 N Lincoln, Fredericksburg, Texas (except in June, when we have our annual picnic). See map, below.

Annual dues are \$3 for juniors (under 19 years), \$8 for individuals, and \$15 for families; due in January.

Newsletter correspondence and newsletter advertising: Bill & Cheryl Wildfong, 342 West Water St, Kerrville, TX 78028; phone: 830-896-8940, email: wildfong@windstream.net

All other correspondence: Fredericksburg Rockhounds, 110 N. Milam PMB 197, Fredericksburg TX 78624

Visit our website at fredericksburgrockhounds.org for more club info, field trip news, club photos, and lots of interesting hobby-related website links.

CLUB OFFICERS for 2016:

President: Andy Anderson, 830-792-3560
1st Vice President: Tom Carswell, 830-792-2160
2nd Vice President: Karen Anderson, 830-792-3560
Past President: Frank Rowell, 325-247-1987
Treasurer: John Roup, 830-896-4955
Secretary: Shelly Verstuyft, 830-998-7350

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Programs: Karen Anderson, 830-792-3560
Field Trips: Patti Felts, 325-247-1987
and Sam Rodgers, 210-240-7721
Hospitality: Susan Olson, 830-997-8516
Social: Glenn Thompson, 830-990-4521
Membership: Brenda Smith, 830-895-9630
Historian: Sara Verstuyft, 830-998-7350
Media Equipment: John Crone, 830-669-2639
Annual Show: Jim Gedeon, 830-456-5419
Newsletter: Bill & Cheryl Wildfong (see above)



Newsletter Articles and Club Info

Articles for next month's newsletter must be received by the **20th** of this month. Send them to Bill & Cheryl Wildfong at wildfong@windstream.net

A copy of the Club **MEMBERSHIP LIST** is available, **TO MEMBERS ONLY**, via email (or paper mail if necessary). Contact Virginia Adian at v.adian@gvtc.com or 830-755-6105

The Club **CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** are posted on our website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org

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