

NEWS

Fredericksburg Rockhounds



At our January 2 meeting, we will not be having a program, but, instead, details about our upcoming January 21 and 22, 2017 Fredericksburg Gem and Mineral Show will be discussed as well as our Vendor's dinner plans for, Friday, January 20th. The 20th is also the date where all the Vendors will be setting up for the show, and, after a tiring day, we will be looking forward to the delicious meal planned by our very own rock hound members!!

Remember, if you have not signed up to bring a dish, **Susan Olson**, who is in charge of the Ven-

dor's dinner, will have a sign-up sheet available for you to fill out at our meeting.

A special thanks goes out to **Jim Gedeon**, our Show Chairman, for all his hard work in making our show a success, and for all the other members who are a huge help to him.

See you next year!!!
Karen Anderson



The Prez says...

Greetings fellow rock hound club members. The Christmas Party was a wonderful event. I think everyone had a great time. I know I did. Many thanks to Susan Olson for all of the time she puts in for not only the Christmas Party, but for every meeting. I also want to thank the members who brought all the delicious food to the party. I managed to take a little of everything and it was all very

good. I was tempted to overeat, but I was strong and only ate a little bit— hey ... that's my story and I am sticking with it. While I was at the Party I noticed a balance scale in the corner by the door. I stepped on the scale and weighed myself. I discovered that the scale was as broken as the one in my doctor's office. The two of them must be from the same bad batch of scales. What are the odds?

Prez, continued...

There were a couple of problems with the party. First one was the fact that the Golden Hub had double booked the main room. The other group was the "Sister City" people of Fredericksburg and whatever city it is in Germany. I have been told that the manager of the Golden Hub was sorry that the overbooking had happened. I was sorry too. It was difficult to serve food in the room we were in. I hope this never happens again. I want to thank the members who moved the tables and chairs in and out of the room. The second problem was that Kenneth Verstuyft did not receive a present during the gift exchange. I do not know who drew his name, but I announced at the October and November meetings that the member who draws a name and then does not come to the party, is still responsible for bringing a present to the January meeting. I

hope this works out. I plan to have a gift exchange again next year.

I know that many club members are looking forward to the Annual Gem and Mineral show. Susan Olson has the sign-up sheet for members to indicate what food they plan to bring to the Vendor's Dinner on Friday, January 20, 2017. If you want to bring something to the dinner, contact Susan as soon as you can. Many members signed up at the Christmas Party.

As I write this it is the first full week of December. I want to wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Andy Anderson ... and remember:

The road to a friend's house is never long.



Lets make it another great show!

When and Where:

The 48th Annual Hill Country Gem and Mineral Show happens Saturday, January 21st and Sunday, January 22nd at the Pioneer Pavilion in Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park. Saturday hours are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Rolling Rockhounds will hold a meeting at 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning, and all of us are invited. They usually have an auction as part of the meeting. As is always the case, there will be no admission charge for visitors. All inside dealer and member spaces have been taken, and all outside spaces are filled as well. Several magazines have called to confirm information for publication in their events listings.

Member Donations:

John Farmer has been accumulating prizes for the big raffle along with hourly door prizes, and Bill Morgenstern has accumulated material for the hourly silent auctions. We would like to thank all those who donated material for the show.

WE NEED LOTS OF HELP during the show to greet visitors at the front door and direct them to the raffle prize area and the silent auction area. We need help at the club area to sell raffle tickets, answer any questions, and direct people. We also need someone to talk to people at the membership desk and sign up new members, as well as collect dues from current members. We also need some members to "roam" the hall to help visitors and discourage potential shoplifters. We need two helpers each hour in the silent auction area to assist with signing up bids and answering questions. In addition, we need help setting up and tearing down tables before and after the show.

Schedule of Activities:

At the January 2nd meeting, we will meet at our regular time (7:00 p.m.). **Sign-up sheets will be circulated so that members can sign up for preferred times to volunteer for the show.** Bring munchies as usual. Sign-up sheets will also be available for members to select the types of food

they will bring to the Friday Dealer Dinner. **Susan Olson** will have the list that she started at the December meeting.

Please remember, if you have a table you or your helper has to volunteer at least 2 hours to perform some club duty during the show.

Thursday morning, January 19, 2016:

The Bradys and a few others will tape off the spaces defining dealer areas on the floor. They will also lay all the extension cords. They are extremely efficient at this task, and they would appreciate it if everyone waits until they finish, despite the fact that we may want to offer our help.

Thursday afternoon, January 19, 2016:

Strong-backed and able-bodied folks will transport the club's tables, exhibit cases, raffle jars, and other show-related stuff from the storage facility in Fredericksburg to the Pioneer Pavilion. There, we will unload and arrange all the tables and paraphernalia where it belongs. We ask that only "set-up" people be present at the pavilion this afternoon. Display cases will be available on stage for those who will be having exhibits at the show.

—Display cases will be on stage along with lighting

Friday morning, January 20, 2016:

Members and dealers who are selling their merchandise will arrive and set up their wares. A few volunteers would be appreciated to help in various ways, and I will be running around attending to any issues that may arise.

Friday afternoon, January 20, 2016:

Members and dealers will finish arranging their areas.

Friday evening—Dealer Dinner

Please bring your food items to the pavilion by 5:00-5:15 p.m. so Susan Olsen can arrange the dinner. Our dealer dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. After dinner, we will finish arranging dealers' areas for the show. The security guard will arrive by 6:00 p.m. and we can go home and rest up for the show. We

will need help moving dinner tables into their final show configuration.

Special note: Bill Morgenstern has indicated that this will be his last year heading up the silent auction. We appreciate his time and we are looking for someone with a lot of enthusiasm to take his place and "learn" his job, in order to take over next year, if we are to continue our silent auction.

SHOW DAY!

Saturday, January 21, 2016:

Doors open to the public at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers should be at the pavilion by 8:00 a.m. at the very latest. Saturday show hours are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Wear your yellow club vests. As I mentioned earlier, security will arrive at 6:00 p.m. so that we can all go home and recover.

Sunday, January 22, 2016:

The Rolling Rockhounds will hold a meeting and auction at 9:00 a.m. and visitors are welcome to join us. Doors open to the public at 10:00 a.m. Follow the same drill as Saturday. Volunteers should arrive at least a half hour before their duty time. Sunday show hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. At around 3:30 p.m. we will draw the raffle prizes, hoping to catch some winners before they leave the show. Other winners will be contacted by John Farmer, and prizes will be mailed shortly thereafter.

Then we wait for the dealers to pack up and clear out. We will then remove the tape from the floor, pack the electrical cords, fold the tables, and pack the remaining items. At about 7:30 p.m. we will load the truck and return everything to the storage facility in Fredericksburg. Then we can all go home and soak our sore feet!

I thank you in advance for all of your help!

Jim Gedeon
Show Chairman

[And we thank YOU, Jim, for all your work organizing the show!]



No December minutes: we had our annual Christmas party, with no formal meeting.

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!



Virginia Klenzing, Jan 3
 Nathan Dempsey, Jan 4
 Tom Carswell, Jan 8
 Keith King, Jan 11
 Lamer Watts, Jan 13
 Yvonne Starr, Jan 13
 Sandra White, Jan 15
 Sue Burkhart, Jan 15

Patti Felts, Jan 16
 Tom Moyes, Jan 16
 Dennis Raines, Jan 18
 Ashara Raines, Jan 20
 Carolyn Roup, Jan 21
 Amanda Payne, Jan 22
 David Nolen, Jan 24

The January birthstone is Garnet; the flower is Carnation or Snowdrop

The Verstuyfts

Our secretary, Shelly Verstuyft, recently had two surgeries, from which she is recovering. Also, as mentioned in the October 2016 newsletter, her husband Kenneth had a massive heart attack. He was able to return home a few days later, but is still undergoing treatment. We wish them both the very best!

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.

DO YOUR DUES



It's that time again! Please pay your 2017 dues at the next meeting. In spite of ever-increasing inflation, they're still only \$3 for juniors (under 19 years), \$8 for individuals, and \$15 for families.

Let us know if you have a new address, phone number, or email.

Folks who have not paid their dues by the February meeting will be dropped from the membership list.

If you can't come to a meeting, mail a check (made out to Fredericksburg Rockhounds) to John Roup, 1909 Summit Top Dr, Kerrville, TX 78028-8915. Thanks!

Mark Your Calendars...

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 27-29—TYLER, TX: Annual show; East Texas Gem and Mineral Society, Rose Garden Center; 420 Rose Park Dr; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$3, Students \$1. The nationally recognized Rock Food Table will be on display the entire show.; contact Keith Harmon, TX, (903)-316-2967; e-mail: keithharmon19@yahoo.com; Web site: etgms.com

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.

Feb 18—LLANO, TEXAS: Annual show; Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail, Llano County Community Center; County Road 152; Sat. 8-5; Free Admission; Texas Prospectors Second Annual Get-together and swap meet event. This fun, educational and free event is for prospectors, rock collectors, treasure hunters and metal detecting enthusiasts to get together and share ideas and experiences. There will be a limited number of vendors, and a swap meet outside (or inside if weather conditions are bad) for non-commercial individuals selling items related to the theme of the event. ; contact Frank Rowell, 805 Berry St., Llano, TX 78643, (325)-248-1067; e-mail: frank@enchantedrocksandjewelry.com; Web site: www.prospecting-texas.com

Feb 18-19—GORGETOWN, TX: Annual show; WCGMS, San Gabriel Park Community Center; 445 East Morrow Street; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$3, Seniors \$3, Students \$2, Children under 6 free; contact Bill Medford, Georgetown, TX 78626, (512)-930-2768; e-mail: dragon.reynolds@hotmail.com; Web site: www.wcgms.org

Feb 25-26—PASADENA, TX: Annual show; Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society, Pasadena Convention Center; 7902 Fairmont Parkway; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults/Seniors \$7, Students \$3, Children: free; contact Sara Chelette, Houston, TX; e-mail: temp3@mflan.com; Web site: www.clgms.org

Feb 25-26—PLAINVIEW, TX: Annual show; Hi-Plains Gem and Mineral Society, Ollie Liner Center; 2000 S Columbia; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$3; Slabs, fossils, beads, jewelry, geode cutting, silver-smith, demonstrations, silent auctions, kids wheel, snack bar; contact Bobby Shipman, 1616 Ennis St., Plainview, TX 79072, (806)-685-3748; e-mail: bobcat22@suddenlink.net

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

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 Store Hours
805 Berry St. Tuesday - Saturday
Llano, Tx 78643 10am - 6pm
(325) 247-4137 Or by Appointment
EnchantedRocksAndJewelry.com

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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 2017:

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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