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# FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS

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# Newsletter



## MARCH 2024

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# PREZ SAYS

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## MARCH 2024

Who's excited to go hunt for some one-of-a-kind, gorgeous, West Texas agates? I know I am! Aaron Thomas (our guide) and James Winn VI (owner) have devoted an entire weekend, 6-7 April, at the Kokernot 06 Ranch just for us! The total cost to dig for both days is \$120 with an additional charge of \$2 per pound. I can tell you from experience that you'll get way more than your money's worth (see photos) with the agates you'll find. Aaron is also very attentive to you while you're hunting, so if you're not finding anything he'll ensure that you take some good ones home with you. If we have 15 or more members attend then the price goes down to \$50 per day to dig. Steve Perez will handle getting / driving a 9-pack passenger van that the club will pay for to help get club members there and back. We will discuss departure location, date and time at the March meeting.

Other things to know for the trip:

- The Kokernot 06 Ranch is located 10 miles north of Alpine, so that will be your best bet for accommodations. There are several hotels in Alpine.
- We'll meet up with Aaron at 8am both mornings at the Tri-La-Bite Food Truck parking lot located at 605 East Holland Drive in Alpine. We'll typically end each day by 6pm.





# **PREZ SAYS**

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## **MARCH 2024**

- If you're not in the passenger van then ensure that your vehicle has at least 7" of clearance. 4x4 is preferable. RV's and motorhomes are not allowed on the ranch's roads.

You should bring: rock pick(s), collecting buckets, backpack, good boots or hiking shoes, gloves, digging tools, sunscreen and/or sun hat, food and water (better to bring a cooler full versus running out by noon) for the day, a first aid kit is recommended, and a full tank of gas.

- The weather there can go from hot and windy to cold and raining, so check the local weather before we depart and pack accordingly.

- The terrain is desert with mountainous and hilly ecosystems. It's an arid climate and includes ravines, cobbles, flat grass, scrub brush with thorns (recommend wearing pants), and canyons.

We will discuss all of this in detail at the March meeting, but please feel free to reach out to me with any questions you have before or after that. I look forward to the memories we'll make on this trip and hope you can join us.

- Joe Edstrom







# March Birthstone & Flower

The March birthstone is the **aquamarine**; the flower is the **daffodil**, also known as the jonquil.



*Aquamarine*



*Daffodil*

The March birthstone, aquamarine, was thought to cure heart, liver, and stomach diseases—all one had to do was drink the water in which the gem had been soaking. Early sailors believed that aquamarine talismans, etched with the likeness of the sea god Neptune, protected them against ocean dangers.

The March birth month flower is the daffodil, one of the first flowers of spring brings us new beginnings and, as the poet Keats said, daffodils bring “joy for ever”. With their bright yellow petals, daffodils seem the perfect way to say that the sun is always shining whenever your loved one is around.

- Majoros, Martie. “March Birthstone: Color and Meaning.” Almanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. October 17, 2018.
- “March Birth Flower.” Alamanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. October 17, 2018.



# Happy Birthday!

- Shay DeVos — March 2
- Chris Cooley — March 5
- Susie Fisher — March 5
- Brenda Perez — March 6
- Dawn Egger — March 9
- Shelly Verstuyft — March 12
- Gail Bowie — March 13
- Jackie Chude — March 16
- Seth Holladay — March 10
- Fernando Gutierrez — March 21
- Diane Thompson — March 21
- Kevin VanRenterghem — March 22
- David DeLuna — March 23



Please note: If we missed your birthday or have listed it incorrectly, please let us know so we can correct it! [fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com](mailto:fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com)

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## This Month's Events - March

*For more shows at later dates, or outside Texas, visit*

[www.rockngem.com](http://www.rockngem.com)

**16-17—ABILENE, TEXAS:** Annual show; Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society; Taylor County Expo Center, 1700 SE 11th St; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adult Tickets - \$5 Kids 6-12 - \$3 Kids under 5 - FREE! Kids in Boy Scout or Girl Scout Uniforms - FREE! Military with ID - \$3; Come to the 70th Anniversary of the Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society! Gems, minerals, specimens, jewelry, beads, crystals, geodes, fossils and more! The show will be located in the Display Building; contact Linda Walker; Website: [www.abilenerockhounds.com](http://www.abilenerockhounds.com)





## Club Membership Forms

Membership application forms for the Fredericksburg Rockhounds are now available to download and print from our website. Please navigate to the new Resources Page located at this address:

<http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/resources/>

Once there, simply click the link for the Membership Form to download or print a PDF copy.



## FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS MEETING MINUTES

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*February 2, 2024*

The February meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Joe Edstrom. All new members and guests were introduced.

Program Chairman Greg Zimmerman introduced the February program showing a video of a family rockhounding on the Llano River and at the Llanite outcrop on Llano HWY 16. A second video showed the family hunting for topaz in Mason, TX area.

During the eating break, we drew for door prizes.

# FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS

## MEETING MINUTES

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*February 2, 2024*

- Lee and Judy Adams donated Rhyolite won by Renee Luna. a second donation, a Cabochon made by Lee was won by Andy Anderson and a third donation of Owyhee Jasper was won by Michael Dyer.
- Carl Ashline donated a Flint tool won by Delores Uribe.
- Jim Chude donated an Ammonite from Madagascar winner not recorded.
- John Crone donated Jasper Cubes won by D'Ann Sides, a second donation of an Onyx horse was won by Hadley Simington, a third donation of Tennessee Crystals were won by Sara Verstuyft and a fourth donation of Arkansas Crystals were won by Eddie Keilman.
- Freda Carron donated a Lava Rock that was won by Kenneth Verstuyft.
- Ken DeVos donated Antlers with Koudorskit (pink) and Bobienniter (grey) Hilda/Mason. Won by Wiley Sides.
- Summer Holiday donated petrified wood won by Jacob Edstrom.
- Tom Mitchell donated a flintstone heart found in Alamo Springs won by Greg Zimmerman.
- Frank Rowell donated azurite crystals won by Jim Chude.
- Greg Zimmerman donated 3 rock slabs won by Summer Holladay.

Field Trips were discussed with a possible Alpine trip in Late March or Early April and a reminder of the Alpine Gem and Mineral Show taking Place April 19, 20 and 21.

Jackie Chude gave the Treasurers Report. The meeting was adjourned.



# Newsletter Hard Copies & Mail Outs

*The club will no longer mail out hard copies of the newsletter to members. Those who have provided the club with an email address will continue to receive notifications via email when the newsletter is published for viewing online.*

If you need a hard copy of the newsletter each month

and cannot access the online newsletters

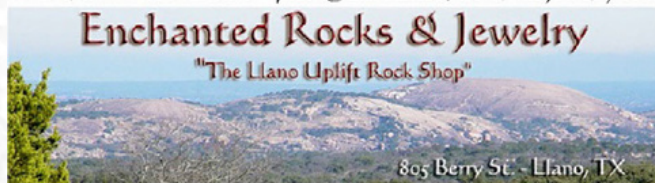
— <http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/newsletter/> —

to print your own, then please let an officer of the club know and arrangements can be made to assist you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us at

**fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com.**

Frank Rowell & Pat Felts frank@EnchantedRocksAndJewelry.com



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For more information, please contact  
the newsletter editors by

emailing us at:

**fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com**





## CLUB INFO

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- **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: fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com

- **All other correspondence:** Fredericksburg Rockhounds, 412 S. Adams St, Fredericksburg TX 78624

- Visit our website at [fredericksburgrockhounds.org](http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org) for more club info, field trip news, club photos, resources, and previous newsletters.





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# Club Officers and Committee Chairs

## Club Officers:

- President: Joe Edstrom
- 1st Vice President: Steve Perez – (817) 404-9789
- 2nd Vice President: Greg Zimmerman
- Past President: Frank Rowell – 325-247-1947
- Treasurer: Jackie Chude – (830) 850-9141
- Secretary: Ed Gage

## Committee Chairs:

- Programs: Greg Zimmerman
- Field Trips: Patti Felts – (325) 247-6040
- and Sam Rodgers – (210) 240-7721
- Hospitality: Vacant
- Membership: Steve Perez – (817) 404-9789
- Historian: Sara Verstuyft – (830) 998-7350
- Media Equipment: John Crone – (830) 990-9823
- Annual Show: Vacant
- Newsletter: Daryan Jones - (443) 926-1063

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## Monthly Meeting Map



## Newsletter Articles and Club Info

- **Articles for each month's newsletter** must be received by the **15th of the month**.
- Send them to your newsletter editor via email: [fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com](mailto:fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com)
- You may also use the form on our Contact Page to submit your articles: <http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/contact-us>
- A copy of the Club **MEMBERSHIP LIST** is available TO MEMBERS ONLY, via email (or paper mail if necessary). Contact Steve Perez at [stevesapito60@gmail.com](mailto:stevesapito60@gmail.com) or 817-404-9789
- The **Club CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** are posted on our website: [fredericksburgrockhounds.org/constitution](http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/constitution)