
FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS



Newsletter



APRIL 2025

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PREZ SAYS

APRIL 2025

Greetings and salutations fellow Rockhounds! Spring has officially sprung and we started it with a wonderful rockhound trip a few weeks ago. We had a total of 17 attend, including 3 new members and 3 junior rockhounds! The first part of the day was spent near Baby Head Cemetery to collect Llanite. For many members this was their first time collecting this very rare material. Young Eli (see attached pic below) spent almost an hour digging out a massive piece of Llanite! From there Frank took us to Living Stone, which is a granite supply company in Llano. The owner has a free scrap pile in front containing smaller pieces from various projects. These make great additions to outdoor projects so feel free to stop by and check it out. We then finished our rockhounding day by going to the Ash Street entrance to the Llano River. Members found various pieces of quartz, granite, schist, feldspar, and chert. It was a great day of rockhounding and fellowship!

The next opportunity to rockhound as a club will be the make-up trip to the Houston Ranch on April 6th. Club members should meet at 9am in front of Greg's rock shop on the square in Llano. As per usual, ensure you bring proper clothing/footwear, plenty of water, various digging tools, sunscreen, snacks, etc. We hope you can make it out there!

God bless,

- Joe Edstrom, President



ROCKHOUND

TRIP





MEMBERSHIP

DUES

If you have not paid your dues this year, please mail a check to
Fredericksburg Rockhounds, 412 S. Adams St.,
Fredericksburg, TX 78624 or bring your money to the next
meeting - \$8 for individuals or \$15 for a family. Don't miss out
on the monthly newsletter and activities!

SHOW RESULTS

I'm sure EVERYONE is waiting for these results. After putting in so much effort, it's nice to know how well we did. So here it is:

Income:

Vendors	\$5,175
Raffle	\$897
Auction	\$1,106.75
Club Table	\$414
Total Income	\$7,592.75

Expenses:

Pavilion	\$312.50
Security	\$985.08
Prizes	\$100
Banner	\$150
Total Expense	\$1,847.58

Net Profit \$6,045.17

The big draw was the Silent Auction. Good job to Mike, Dawn and Melissa! Our total profit is not just back to pre-COVID levels, but even better!!! Great Job, everyone!

- Jackie Chude

This Month's Events - April

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

April 2025

5-6—SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS: Annual show; Southwest Gem & Mineral Society - 63rd Annual Fiesta of Gems; Morris Center @ Joe Freeman Coliseum, 475 AT&T Center Parkway Gate E; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5, senior/military \$3, kids over 7 \$1; Parking \$10 [Provide receipt for one free adult admission] 26 Mineral dealers, crystals, fossils, lapidary, exhibits, fine jewelry, demonstrations, make your own cabochon; contact Kitty; Email: Kitty.swgms@gmail.com; Website: www.swgms.org

18-20—ALPINE, TEXAS: Annual show; Chihuahuan Desert Gem & Mineral Club; Alpine Civic Center, 801 West Holland Ave; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Free; 34th Annual Show with over 40 indoor and outdoor vendors. Showcasing Jaspers & Agates of this Big Bend; contact Lisa Nix; Email: rocksofalpine@gmail.com.

25-27—CONROE, TEXAS: Annual show; Texas Mineral & Fossil Conroe Show; Lone Star Convention & Expo Center, 9055 Airport Rd; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission & Parking; Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Gems, & More, Free Rocks for Kids, \$100 dealer voucher giveaways on Friday, Wholesale & Retail, Geodes, Family-Friendly; contact Sandra Gonzales; Website: www.rmgmppromotions.com

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

April Birthstone & Flower

The April birthstone is the **diamond**; the flowers are the **daisy** and the **sweet pea**.



Diamond



Daisy



Sweet Pea

Although once thought to bring courage, the diamonds are now viewed as a symbols of love. They are the center piece of many jewelry sets, most notably engagement rings. It is the hardest mineral on the planet and because of this has many industrial uses.

Generally, diamonds are colorless with a high sparkle, but they can be found in varying tints and hues. Perhaps the most famous diamond of all, the blue Hope Diamond, is one such example.

Daisies connote innocence and purity while paradoxically “holding secrets” among friends.

Sweet peas signify blissful pleasure though they can also be used to bid farewell.

- Majoros, Martie. “April Birthstone: Color and Meaning.” Almanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. March 13, 2018.
- “April Birth Flowers.” Alamanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. March 13, 2018.



Happy Birthday!

- Anna Rachinsky — April 4
- Jose Uribe — April 5
- Forrest Nikorak — April 8
- Kristen Lister — April 9
- Allen Dancey — April 21
- Sandy Cordano — April 22
- Ron Gant — April 24
- James Brent Mansfield — April 25
- Wiley Sides — April 29



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

March 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by President Joe Edstrom. The new members present were Regina Fell from Ingrahm. There were 39 members present at the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved with an addition of the mineral in the road cut in Colorado that was told by Bruce Watts was identified as Amazonite.

The program was a report from Blane on his trip to Tucson where he showed pictures of the many shows he attended.

Door prizes were drawn while refreshments were open for grazing.

The members were invited to get refreshments while door prizes were being drawn.

OLD BUSINESS:

The club mascot was out for viewing at the meeting. It's a piece of "Boulder Opal" from Australia.

Field Trips:

Toward the end of May-June 1 we are invited to attend a field trip by Ron Carmon from the Austin club (AGMS) to Oklahoma to dig hourglass Gypsum crystals. More information to come later.

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS

MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2025

The AGMS is also planning a trip to Arkansas to dig Quartz about mid-September.

There was an interest for a trip this month to the Llano River. Meet at the rock shop at 9am (3/15/25).

If anyone wants to attend the annual event to stack rocks on the last weekend in March in Llano. No admission fees.

NEW BUSINESS

UPCOMING SHOWS

The SW Gem and Mineral will be April 5-6 AT&T Center in Sam Antonio, Texas

SCFMS show will be in October in conjunction with the Austin show (AGMS).

In May there is a Masters Jewelry show held at the YO Hilton in Kerrville, Texas.

Treasure Jackie Chude called for the dues to be paid this month if you have not yet paid. The membership list is being finalized this Month for March as the final membership list.

Shirts are still available in all sizes for \$20.00 each. Available at the monthly meeting.

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS

MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2025

We are asking for feedback from the membership on what you would like to see the club focus on. Any ideas are welcome so bring them to the meeting where the membership can discuss them.

The door prize winners were as follows.

DONATED BY	WINNER	PRIZE
Ed Keilman	Patti Felts	OR coast agate
Lee & Judy Adams	Nathan McKinley Melissa Keilman Joe Edstrom	Ammonite metal reproductions Amethyst Vanadinite
Frank and Patty	Sam Rodgers	Ricolite
Kenneth DeVos	Andy Anderson	Coesite and fossils Leon Co TX
Sheri Lauda	Eli Wunderlich	Quartz
Glory Neffendorf	Judy Adams	Mica Schist
Ed Gage	Bruce Watts Cathy Welliver Shelly Verstuyft Diana Watts	Texas Topaz Texas Topaz Texas Topaz Quartz
Bruce and Diana Watts	Dawn Egger Renee Luna	Moss Quartz Shatter cone
Jim Chude	Ed Gage	Terlinqua Selenite

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2025

Door prizes continued...

DONATED BY	WINNER	PRIZE
Jim Chude	Judy Carswell	Ark Quartz
Judy Carswell	Hadley Livingston	Tumbled rocks

Motion to adjourn by Patti Felts

Seconded by Lee Adams

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM



Rockhounds Mascot



Rockhounds Meeting

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.



Your ad here for \$25/year

For more information, please contact
the newsletter editors by
emailing us at:
fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com



CLUB INFO

- **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 for more club info, field trip news, club photos, resources, and previous newsletters.



Club Officers and Committee Chairs

Club Officers:

- President: Joe Edstrom - (254) 258-7499
- 1st Vice President: Blane Neffendorf - (830) 889-9141
- 2nd Vice President: Greg Zimmerman
- Past President: Frank Rowell - (325) 248-1067
- Treasurer: Jackie Chude - (830) 998-9144
- Secretary: Ed Gage

Committee Chairs:

- Programs: Greg Zimmerman
- Field Trips: Patti Felts - (325) 247-6040
- and Sam Rodgers - (210) 240-7721
- Hospitality: Vacant
- Membership: Carole Gage - (210) 365-9149
- Historian: Sara Verstuyft - (830) 998-7350
- Media Equipment: John Crone - (830) 990-9823
- Annual Show: Vacant
- Newsletter: Daryan Jones - (443) 926-1063

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
- 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 or 817-404-9789
- The **Club CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** are posted on our website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org/constitution