

Fredericksburg Rockhounds

Fredericksburg, Texas

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS



DECEMBER 2025

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PREZ SAYS

DECEMBER 2025

Greetings and salutations fellow Rockhounds! So much to cover in this newsletter, but first and foremost I want to congratulate our new president, Sara Verstuyft, and new second vice president, Judy Adams! I am so excited for this new leadership team and all the amazing things they will accomplish. They will assume their duties as of the January meeting.

Our annual Christmas dinner will take place on Monday, 1 December, at the Golden Hub. We'll open the doors at 5pm and start the dinner at 6pm. So far we have 6 members bringing a main dish, 7 bringing a side dish, and 7 bringing a dessert. If you haven't already signed up to bring something then you can't go wrong bringing a main dish.

We won't conduct a meeting during the dinner, but we will be accepting any silent auction and/or raffle prize donations for the upcoming annual gem and mineral show in January.

Please donate any minerals, rocks, specimens, lapidary art, digging tools, rockhounding books, etc. either at the dinner or no later than the January meeting.

I hope that y'all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and may you have a very Merry Christmas. It's been an honor serving as the president for the past two years. Thank you for your kindness.

God bless,
Joe Edstrom, President

PROGRAMS

UPCOMING

November 2025: We thank Lee Adams for his fluorescent presentation. We also thank Lynn Post for the fluorescent mineral photography.

December 2025: There will be no program because we celebrate our Rockhound Christmas with bring a dish food. Party starts at 6:00 PM.

January 2026: No program. The meeting will focus on the January SHOW.

February 2026: Ed Gage will be providing the program. Ed can speak on many topics and is currently selecting a subject. More info will be provided about his selection.

March 2026: Our previous program manager, Karen Anderson, had a great idea we can duplicate. It's called "Share your Hobby." Everyone brings a sample of your hobby, rock, or anything. We will pass the mike around for you to describe your hobby.

April 2026: To be scheduled.

May 2026: To be scheduled.

June 2026: No Program, the rockhounds have a picnic at Lady Bird Park.

PROGRAMS

UPCOMING CONT.

July 2026: Joann Socash, President of the Southwest Gem and Mineral Society, San Antonio, will provide the presentation "How to identify rocks and minerals."

Note: If you would like to give a presentation please contact Judy Adams to be added to the list.

Happy Birthday!

- Joseph Burke — December 3
- John Cook — December 3
- John Crone — December 6
- Beth Brady — December 7
- Becki Hudson — December 7
- Alek Gant — December 11
- Jeff Scoggins — December 11
- Lola Post — December 12
- Renee Luna — December 13
- Judy Adams — December 18
- Emery Price — December 18
- Ray Griffith — December 21
- Ed Keilman — December 24
- Kenneth Verstuyft — December 26
- Chasity Price — December 31



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

fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com

This Month's Events - December

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

December 2025

There are no events that we are aware of.

December Birthstone & Flowers

The December birthstone is the turquoise; the flowers are the Narcissus and Holly.



Turquoise



Narcissus



Holly

Turquoise is found most often in very dry areas where volcanic activity has occurred. Unlike many other gems, turquoise is opaque rather than translucent. Its blue-green color can vary from sky blue or greenish blue to pale green or greenish gray. Bluer stones are considered more valuable and contain more copper.

The holly symbolizes your wish for domestic happiness. Although some animals and birds enjoy holly berries, they are semi-toxic to humans.

The narcissus conveys that you want your beloved to stay just the way they are. While there are many types of narcissus, the paperwhite is the winter-growing variety and the birth flower for December.

- Majoros, Martie. "December Birthstone: Color and Meaning." Almanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. October 17, 2018.
- "December Birth Flower." Almanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. October 17, 2018.

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 - November 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Joe Edstrom. There were no guests present.

Lee Adams presented a program on fluorescent Minerals. Lee explained the 3 different wave lengths that can be used to show how the different minerals react. They are short wave, mid wave and long wave. Some localities famous for fluorescent minerals are Franklin NJ, Sweden, Greenland, Russia, Arizona, and Terlingua Texas. Lee showed a slide presentation of examples of minerals under UV light. Then after the slide presentation Lee demonstrated how the lights illuminated actual rocks that he brought. Following the presentation, he invited members to bring up any rocks they brought to see if they were fluorescent.

Members were invited to help themselves to snacks while the drawing was held for door prizes.

NEW BUSINESS

In December we will have a Christmas party so there will be no program. Please be here at 5 PM for serving at 6 PM. Signup sheets were present for food: main course, sides, deserts.

Fredericksburg Rockhounds Meeting Minutes - November 3, 2025

SHOW: January. Signup sheets were available for people to volunteer to help. All help is needed, especially to help break down and put away the tables and chairs.

Bring items for the silent auction. Specimens of rocks, magazines, etc. to help raise money for the club.

There are 11 show cases available for members to show off something from their collection or to demonstrate how to make something as an educational display.

Joe reported on new signage for the roadway and door and the banner will be put up. At the present time there needs to be a food vender. Bazzys will not be able to do it this time. The club does not pay a vender. The vender makes their money on their sales.

ROLLING ROCK CLUB: Sheri Lauda won the prize at a recent show and showed the contents of the chest. Meetings are held on Sunday morning at various rock shows.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Sara Verstuyft was elected PRESIDENT

Judy Adams was elected 2nd Vice President

Attendance for this meeting was 41

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

The door prizes winners were as follows:

Fredericksburg Rockhounds

Meeting Minutes - November 3, 2025

DONATED BY	WINNER	PRIZE
Lee & Judy Adams	Dolores Uribe Mike Egger Sherri Lauda Charles Anderson	Glass Calcite Blue Rock Terlingua Calcite
Larry Spillers	Tom Mitchell Sue Burkhart	Quartz Palm Wood
Carole Gage	Steve Perez	Agates with Druzy Quartz
Patti Felts	Sara Verstuyft	Ilmenite in Quartz Mason Co TX
Judy Carswell	Jose Uribe	Brazilian Agate
John Crone	Frank Rowell	Garnet
Tom Mitchell	Karen Anderson	Acrylic Amulet
Member?	Kenneth Verstuyft	Ozona Meteorite
Member?	Hadley	Bloodstone
Jennifer Burkhart	??	Petrified Wood
Member?	Pepper Rogers	Chrysocolla

Minutes by Ed Gage, Secretary

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: Sara Verstuyft – (830) 998-7350
- 1st Vice President: Blane Neffendorf – (830) 889-9141
- 2nd Vice President: Judy Adams – (830) 328-8386
- Past President: Joe Edstrom – (254) 258-7499
- Treasurer: Jackie Chude – (830) 998-9144
- Secretary: Ed Gage

Committee Chairs:

- Programs: Judy Adams – (830) 328-8386
- Field Trips: Patti Felts – (325) 247-6040
- and Sam Rodgers – (210) 240-7721
- Hospitality: Vacant
- Membership: Carole Gage – (210) 386-0550
- Historian: Sara Verstuyft – (830) 998-7350
- Media Equipment: John Crone – (830) 990-9823
- Annual Show: Vacant
- Newsletter: Daryan Graham – (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 Carole Gage at carolegage503@gmail.com or 210-386-0550
- The **Club CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** are posted on our website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org/constitution