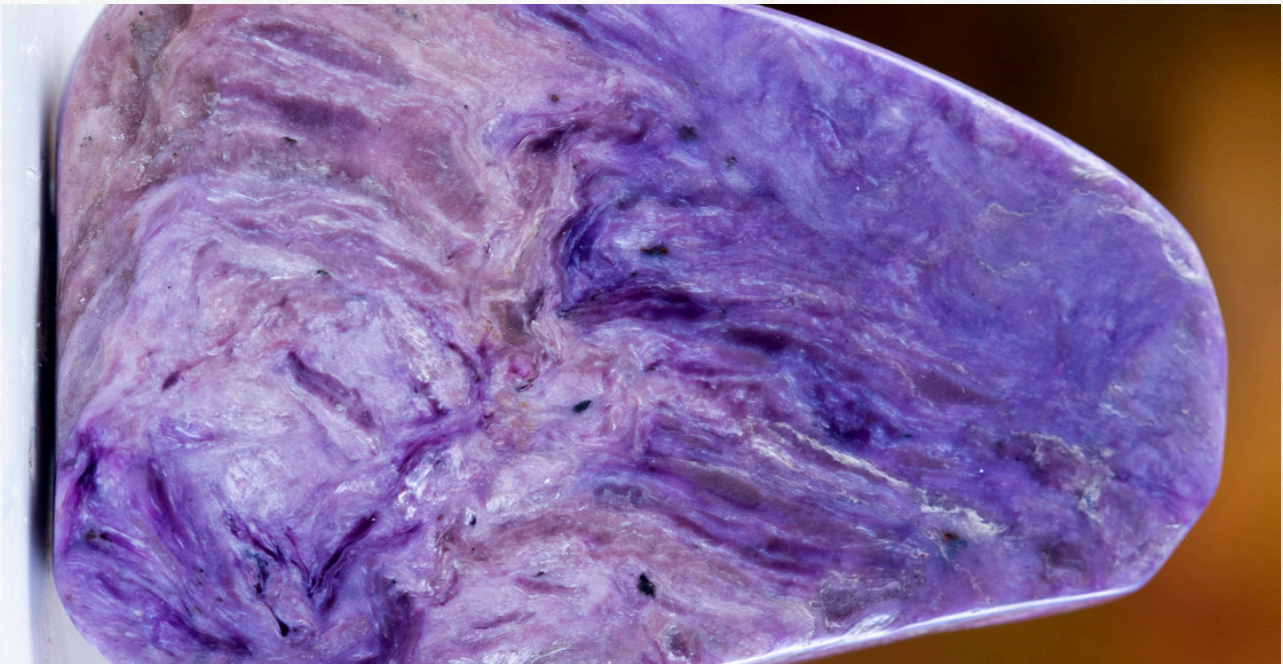

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS



Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2026

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PREZ SAYS

SEPTEMBER 2026

September is here, and it's hard to believe how quickly the year is moving along. The days will soon begin getting shorter, the air will start to cool, and before we know it, the beautiful colors of fall will be all around us. For those of us who enjoy getting outdoors and searching for interesting rocks, minerals, and fossils, the changing seasons are a wonderful reminder that there is always something new to discover. Every season has its own beauty, and every day has the possibility of uncovering a special find.

With fall approaching, the holiday season is also just around the corner. Before long, we'll be thinking about Halloween, Thanksgiving, and then the Christmas season. These holidays give us another opportunity to appreciate the people around us and the friendships we've made. I'm especially thankful for the wonderful people who make up our Rockhounds family. Our club is about much more than collecting—it's about sharing our interests, helping one another, enjoying good times together, and having a place where we feel welcome.

As we head into the busy months ahead, I hope everyone takes some time to enjoy the season, spend time with family and friends, and perhaps get out for one more collecting adventure before winter settles in. Thank you for continuing to make our club such a special group to be part of. May your autumn be filled with beautiful scenery, good friends, and plenty of rocks worth bringing home!

- Sara Verstuyft, President



PROGRAMS

UPCOMING

September 7, 2026: Dinosaur George. "Dinosaur George" Blasing is a self taught paleontologist and animal behaviorist with more than 40 years of study and research. Blasing is a public speaker, author, television host and writer who has performed live to over 40 million people and has lectured in over 4000 museums, schools and public events. He is the writer, co-creator and host of JURASSIC FIGHT CLUB on the History Channel.

October 5, 2026: Presenter will be geologist Roger Smith a member of the Hill Country Archeological Society.

November 2, 2026: Master Geologist Mr. Rowen. Mr. Rowen has 35 years in the oil industry and will speak on the topic of "The Geologic History of the Hill Country".

December 7, 2026: Fredericksburg Rockhounds Christmas Party starts at 6PM. Bring a dish, no gift exchange.

January 4, 2027: No Program. Rockhounds will coordinate the January Rock and Gem Annual Show.

Note: If you would like to give a presentation please contact 2nd Vice President, Judy Adams.

This Month's Events - September

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

September 2026

26-27—LUBBOCK, TEXAS: Annual show; Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society; Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4; \$5 Age 12 and up, \$3 age 6 - 11, 5 and under free; Featuring minerals, fossils, crystals, beads, jewelry, and so much more.

Demonstrations include cabochon fashioning, gemstone faceting, silversmithing, and wire wrapping. A fluorescent tent, a silent auction, two grand prizes, and the kids' area will have games and educational materials; contact Walter Beneze, (806) 797-5832; Email:

walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org; Website:

www.LubbockGemandMineral.org

Happy Birthday!

- Jim Chude — September 2
- Cheryl Wildfong — September 2
- Malachi Wunderlich — September 3
- Melissia Keilman — September 7
- Frida Carron — September 11
- Kyld Conklin — September 12
- David Astwood — September 17
- Amanda Hamilton — September 18
- Blane Neffendorf — September 18
- Steve Perez — September 22
- Lee Adams — September 27
- Charlie Anderson — September 29
- Erica Falbaum — September 30
- Machele Fleeman — September 30



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

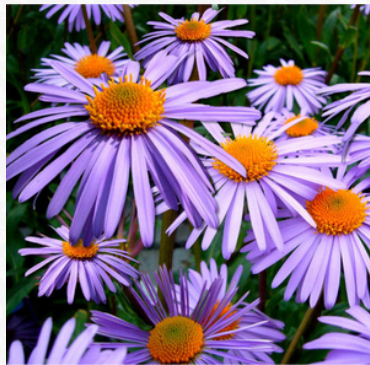
fbgrockhoundsnews@gmail.com.

September Birthstone & Flowers

The September birthstone is the **sapphire**; the flowers are the **aster** and the **morning glory**.



Sapphire



Aster



Morning Glory

Sapphires are a form of corundum and generally come in many shades of blue that run the gamut from light to dark. Sapphire was once believed to ward off evil and protect against poison.

Asters bloom in the late summer and early autumn and need little care to flourish. They are symbolic of powerful love.

A symbol of affection, morning glories live up to their name: they open their blooms in the early part of their day and then close them later in the afternoon.

- Majoros, Martie. "September Birthstone: Color and Meaning." Almanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. August 19, 2018.
- "September Birth Flowers." Almanac.com. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. August 19, 2018.



Announcement

Sara asked to share a brief update with the club. We'll need to pause the mineral specimen collection for calendar photos this month. Her grandfather is currently in the ICU, and she's been back and forth to the hospital supporting her family. She's grateful for your understanding and looks forward to getting the calendar photo sessions going again soon.



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.

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.



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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.
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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: Primary: Blane Neffendorf, Secondary: Sue Burkhart
- Annual Show: Frank Rowell
- 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