

Fredericksburg Rockhounds

Fredericksburg, Texas

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS



Newsletter



NOVEMBER 2026

Table of Contents

- [Programs](#)
- [This Month's Events](#)
- [Birthstone & Flowers](#)
- [Birthdays](#)
- [Club Membership Forms](#)
- [Newsletter Hard Copies & Mail-Outs](#)
- [Ads](#)
- [Club Info](#)
- [Club Officers and Committee Chairs](#)
- [Monthly Meeting Map](#)
- [Newsletter Articles and Club Info](#)



PROGRAMS

UPCOMING

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 - November

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

October-November 2026

31-1—AMARILLO, TEXAS: Annual show; Golden Spread Gem Mineral & Treasure Society; Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S Buchanan Street; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; \$5; Hands on learning activities, flint knapping lessons, vendors offering gem and mineral products, rough gems, raw mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, fine jewelry, lapidary, educational demos, silver, exhibits, kids area, raffles, door prizes and rock walk, and more; contact Kassidy Barlow; Email: Kassidy.gsgmts@outlook.com

November 2026

6-8—EL PASO, TEXAS: Wholesale and retail show; Victoria Mills; Tobin Park United Methodist Church, 9410 Roanoke Dr; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; Free; contact Victoria Mills, (505) 238-1285; Email: vtrujillo1701@aol.com

13-15—HUMBLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Houston Gem and Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; \$12; Kids' Day on Friday, children's activities, dino dig and Scout Merit Badge program; contact Scott Singleton, (832) 524-8382; Email: fossilwood@comcast.net; Website: hgms.org

21-22—MESQUITE, TEXAS: Annual show; Dallas Gem and Mineral Society; Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Dr; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$8, Kids to 12 \$4, Family of 4 \$20, Vets, Teachers, Over 65 \$5; contact Diana Case, (469) 688-4057; Email: dgmscontracts@yahoo.com

November Birthstone & Flowers

The November birthstone is the **topaz**; the flower is the **chrysanthemum**.



Topaz



Chrysanthemum

Topaz is the mineral fluoro-hydroxy silicate and is the hardest of all known silicate minerals. Topaz itself is colorless but impurities within can turn it into almost any color. Yellow or amber is most often associated with topaz. Interestingly, even though blue topaz is rare to find naturally (most for sale have been treated to get the color) it is Imperial topaz (reddish orange with pink undertones) that is the most valuable.

The lone flower for the month of November is the chrysanthemum. It is a perennial and comes in a variety of colors. After they finish blooming in autumn, they can be mulched with straw to protect them from inclement weather.

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



Happy Birthday!

- Debbie Anderson — November 1
- Jennifer Burkhart — November 9
- Glory Neffendorf — November 9
- Trish Brannan — November 21
- Jay P Graves — November 23
- Ken DeVos — November 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.



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

October 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Sara Verstuyft. The pledge of allegiance was led by Sara. There were 4 new members Dan and Joline Holloway of Kerrville and Tom and Pam Dosenberry of Willow City.

Sadly, Dan Moreno, a long- time member passed, his widow addressed the club and thanked us for donating a book in his name to the library.

The program was provided by W.C. Jameson, a professional treasure hunter for many years. He talked about some of his wild adventures while hunting and collecting treasure. His work has led to appearances on Unsolved Mysteries, The Travel Channel, Discovery Channel, Nightline, NPR, PBS documentaries and feature films. He shared that there are opals in New Mexico.

It was announced that a Gold and Treasure Fest that includes rocks and minerals will be happening in Llano March 13-14 of 2027.

Members were invited to help themselves with snacks while the door prized drawing was held. The people who donated prizes, the name of the rock donated and the person who won the prize are listed below.

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS

MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2026

Photos were taken of rock and mineral specimens member brought to be photographed to be included in a calendar.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lee Adams suggested that the club needs a new audio system. Sara OK'd the purchase.

The November meeting is the scheduled time for a yearly election. At the November meeting, the members we will be voting for are Treasurer, 1st Vice President and to fill a vacancy in the Secretary position. New officers will assume their duties in January.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please see President Sara Verstuyft or 2nd Vice President Judy Adams before the meeting so we can add your name to the nomination list.

The October 2026 meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The door prizes winners were as follows:

DONATED BY	WINNER	PRIZE
Lee & Judy Adams	Patti Felts	Malachite
Lee & Judy Adams	Roxanne	Rose Quartz
		Wunderlich
Lee & Judy Adams	Roger Schluete	Moss Agate
Lee & Judy Adams	Micah Schluete	Petrified Wood

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS

MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2026

DONATED BY	WINNER	PRIZE
John Crone		Quartz XTALS, Blue Wing Mine, NC
John Crone	Sara Verstuyft	Kyanite, Baker Mt. VA
John Crone	Jackie Chude	Quartz XTALS, Potosi, MD
		Rocks minerals of Edwards
Ken DeVos	Sue Burkhart	Plateau and Llano Uplift
Steve Perez	Joleen Franklin	Fire Agate
Micah Schluete	Cathy	Snow Flake Obsidian
		Weliver
Micah Schluete	Pam	Desert Rose
		Desenberry
Larry Spillers	Ben Hollren	Sulfur
Larry Spillers	Eli W	Dog Tooth
Larry Spillers	Andy Anderson	Onyx
Bruce Watts		Petrified Wood
Bruce Watts	Daniel	Jasper
		Hummer
Bruce & Diana Watts	W.C.	Candle Wicks
		Jameson

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: Melissa Keilman
- 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