



ROK TOK

AUGUST
2006



THE DALLAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

President's August Message

Don't forget your rocks! The August meeting every year is a silent auction, and we need your donations to have a good variety. This is one of our fundraisers to help support our activities, so please be generous, and try to remember. Doesn't that seem to be the hardest thing to do lately?



I will be going to the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies convention in Bossier City on August 19. If anyone else wishes to go and make it a party, let me know. I had planned on talking to the ArkLaTex club, who is hosting the convention, about their experience as the host club, but unless I hear some responses from our members about their desire to host the convention, I am about to give up on that idea. Oh well, on to the next windmill.

The workshop is really shaping up. Due to the efforts of Paul Floyd, Jack Sorrow, Mike Russell, and others, and financial contributions from Jack and Darrell Harrison, we have new paint, new carpet, new tables, new cabinets, a new workbench and a whole new atmosphere. With the new fans keeping the oil mist to a minimum, it's now a good facility for working, meeting, classes, or socializing. We have paint to complete our remodel, and need a few volunteers to finish the job. If you are wondering about how you can contribute to our club without a lot of rock knowledge, HERE YOU GO! Let Mike Russell know when you would like to do the job, and I'm sure we'll find someone to open up, and maybe even give you a hand.

If any of you know school teachers from about the 2nd grade to the seventh grade, let them know that we will come in with rocks to show, and do a program for them.

Our annual show is getting closer and closer. Mark November 18th and 19th on your calendar, as we WILL need your help. Some of us will be there for all the open hours, but if you can give us four hours Sat. and Sun., it would help assure the show will be a great success. Don't forget!!

I hope I see all of you at the meeting. It will be a chance to get some great rocks at a good price, so come on out!

R²

Next Meeting:

August 15, 2006

Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Ridgewood Rec Ceter

6818 Fisher

TOPIC:

SILENT AUCTION

Come early so you can buy raffle tickets. There is an informal pot luck at each meeting. Bring something tasty, homemade or store bought. There is always a variety of dishes.

Remember

This months meeting program is our **Silent Auction**.

Bring your rocks and food and be prepared to have a fun time.

There will be material available from the Western States.

(See instructions on page 5)

Rick Kaiser from the Nature Exchange at Dallas Zoo

Rick Kaiser was the speaker for the July meeting. He is the President this year for the Oak Cliff club. His Geology degree comes in handy while he works at the Nature Exchange at the Dallas Zoo.

The Nature Exchange is the Dallas Zoo's own special kind of swap shop.

Kids love collecting things natural objects: rocks, pine cones, flowers, you name it! And they love trading almost as much as they love collecting.

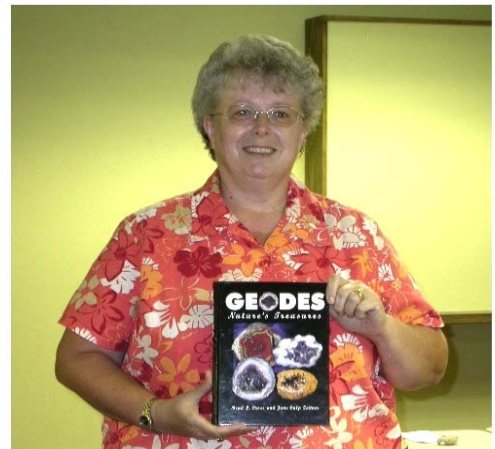
The Dallas Zoo Nature Exchange is an interactive exhibit that encourages learning about the natural world by means of collecting and trading objects found in nature. Eager young traders can bring collected objects with

them to the zoo, and then trade objects for points (subject to certain [Rules and Guidelines](#)). Kids can then use their points to "purchase" new objects from the Nature Exchange Swap Shop. You can also earn points for keeping a nature journal of your explorations.

Points are earned for: knowledge, quality and effort. If kids don't know anything about an object, the Nature Exchange is a great place to ask questions and find answers. This sounds like a great way to get children interested in the outdoors.

Nature Exchange is located at the Lacerte Family Children's Zoo and is sponsored in part by a grant from the Hillcrest Foundation.

You can tell that Rick enjoys his job! Thanks Rick for an enjoyable talk.



**The Dallas Zoo
is open
9-5 (Spring &
Summer) and ef-
fective
Oct 31st 9-4.**

**Admission is
\$8.75 for
12-64
\$5.75 for 3-11
and
\$5 for seniors.**

**Parking is \$5 per
car or you can
ride the DART
light red line to
Dallas Zoo sta-
tion.**

During the July meeting, Donnette holds up "Geodes: Nature's Treasures" a beautiful full-color exploration of geodes, one of nature's most fascinating forms.

This book was written by two of the most respected authors on rocks, gems, and minerals, Brad Cross and June Culp Zeitner. This book is beautifully illustrated throughout with many photographs taken by Donnette. This book covers the latest theories on the formation and occurrence of geodes, mining, and collecting. Information on related items such as septarins, thundereggs, and concretions is also included with many photographs taken by Donnette. Published by Gem Guides Book Company. Talk with Donnette if you would like a copy. She has some available for \$29.95.

Water—How Much?

By Keri Dearborn from AnimalBytes at www.animalbytes.blogspot.com



Water, turn on the tap and gurgling life gushes forth.

How easy it is to take this luxury for granted. Do you know how much water you use in a day? Have you ever given it a thought? Most people in the world must know; for them clean water is not readily available.

It was an eye-opening experience traveling in Turkey to be responsible every day for the water we wanted to consume. Water streamed out of the facet in our comfortable and modern hotel room, but the water was not consumable. In the picturesque heart of Istanbul's old city, our room had a sign taped above the bathroom sink warning us not to drink the tap water or use it for brushing our teeth.

If you had a bottle of drinking water to last you 24 hours, would you remember to save enough for brushing your teeth or for a swallow or two when you wake up in the middle of the night? How much water do you need to brush your teeth?

The Turkish travel company

that arranged our trip had a unique policy: every lunch included in our tour package came with drinking water. For all of the other travelers we encountered water was treated like any other beverage, it was an additional charge.

How much are you willing to pay for drinking water? Do you know how much it weighs? Are you willing to purchase water in 3 liter bottles to ensure a better price, knowing that then you will have the burden of carrying the extra weight?

It took us a few days and a couple of experiences paying for expensive small bottles of water from the hotel minibars to get an understanding of how much water we, two adults, needed over the course of a day. Without taking in to account, cooking, bathing, lavatories or laundry, **we each simply drank 2 to 3 liters of water every day.** We bought large bottles and poured their contents into small bottles for use during the day. We stocked up when we found it at a good price. We bartered for it when fellow travelers misjudged their own liquid needs. It was an ever-present concern, did we have enough drinking water? Did we need more? When we needed more, would be able to find it?

Looking out my office window at the verdant trees, gardens and lawns designed to mimic an English countryside in a Mediterranean climate, I know all of this green is dependent on a tap that turns on and delivers water. An ever-growing human population in southern California requires more

and more water. **Where will it come from? Who or what will we take it from?**

My great grandfather was born in a small high-desert town in the Owen's Valley. He was a young man when the residents there decided to lease their water rights for 99 years to the burgeoning metropolis of Los Angeles. He said he always knew the people of the Owen's Valley would regret selling what they couldn't replace: water.

When I watch the goldfinches waiting in line to sip from my neighbor's slowly leaking sprinkler head or observe the California towhee splashing gleefully in the bird bath, I see in them a true understanding of the precious nature of water. As summer heats up, more species of birds will visit my backyard for the small pool of fresh water than for the birdseed in the feeders.

Clean water, most living things can't survive without it. How much did you use today? If you couldn't turn on the tap, if you couldn't buy it, where would you get it from? "

-This is from Keri's blog. I thought it was interesting and relevant to our lives here in Texas.

Mike

Tell Us

If you know of an event coming up!

If you hear about

- A SHOW involving rocks
- An AUCTION that has rocks in it
- An ESTATE SALE or GARAGE SALE with a rock collection in it
- An ART FAIR showcasing jewelry
- A CLASS having to do with lapidary arts of any kind
- An EVENT involving rocks or jewelry
- A FUNDRAISER for a G&M club
- A FIELD TRIP for rockhounds

Contact US

as soon as possible so that we can

put it in the newsletter and/or on the Web site. The more people we can get the word out to, the better attendance there will be at all events.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING OR PARTICIPATING IN AN EVENT let us know. If you're making jewelry or lapidary art, and you will be selling it at a show, we want the details. Maybe some of the readers will be in that town when the show is going on. OR MAYBE they have friends who would like to know about it.

The purpose of this newsletter and the Web site is to build a network among ourselves so that we can all share information on ROCKS and events involving the lapidary arts.

This newsletter finds its way into the hands of many people outside this club; so it will inform them of events in which we are involved or are planning.

dgmseditor@aol.com Rok-Tok editor)

coco@wornstones.com (Web site)

Newsletter submission deadline: 10 days before the monthly club meeting. Web site posting deadline: At least 24 hours before an event.

Field Trip Planner

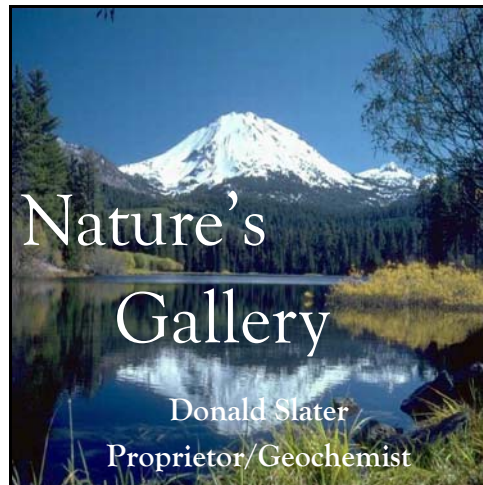
Any 1 day trips within easy striking distance of North Dallas? I would like to compile a list of trips (old favorite collecting spots from our more experienced members) in North and East Texas to be made available to our club members. Do you have old maps, contact info and a list of specimens available for collection? Favorite museum? Bring your ideas to the next meeting for a quick 10 minute brainstorming session or send an email to dgmseditor@aol.com and put **FIELD TRIP IDEAS** in the subject line. I would like to partner with our other local clubs.



Emerald Lake—British Columbia

Is there some place you would like to visit? Anybody interested in a trip back to Alpine or the Panhandle in the fall? Is there a neat old place you would like to revisit?

Brad



Nature's
Gallery

Donald Slater
Proprietor/Geochemist

On the Square in
Carrollton since 1994

1102 S. Elm
Carrollton, TX 75006

Hours:

Tues-Sat
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Phone:

972 446-1994

Toll free:

866 899-ROCK

Email: naturesgallery@yahoo.com

Dallas's only full service rock shop.

Specializing in

- Museum quality minerals
- Lapidary equipment & supplies
- Cutting & carving rough
- Custom jewelry & repair
- Expert custom lapidary
- 25 years plus experience

Something for everyone, from the beginner to the advanced collector or lapidarist. Free advice *Buy, sell, trade

www.DallasJewelryDesigners.com/naturesgallery

We Need Rocks

for the 2006

Dallas Gem and Mineral Show

We need the following donations:

- Polished pebbles for the Kids Mine (need BUCKETS of these)
- Items to sell in the Silent Auction (slabs, geodes, specimens, fossils)
- Items to be raffled, such as
- Finished cabs
- Finished jewelry pieces
- Large cut/polished decorative pieces
- Display pieces

You still have plenty of time to look through your stuff and see if you have something you'd like to donate, AND you have time to start making something for the show. Get that tumbler going! Clean out those boxes and shelves. You're bound to have a few things you don't really want anymore.

When you get a few things together for the show, put them in a container (box or baggie) and label them as follows:

2006 GEM SHOW

AUCTION or RAFFLE, IF YOU HAVE A PREFERENCE

Which club's show they are for (DGMS or POGMC)

What mineral it is (if you know)

Your name (in case we have questions)

Drop them off at the shop on Monday nights or Saturday mornings. (Please don't bring them to the meetings unless you have no way to get to the shop).

Remember that your donations are tax deductible. Both Gem & Mineral Clubs are non-profit organizations. If you want a tax receipt, have a list of items you are donating and their value. Shop Manager will give you a receipt. Questions? Contact Mike: twinman72@yahoo.com

SHOP SUPERVISORS NEEDED FOR THE SUMMER

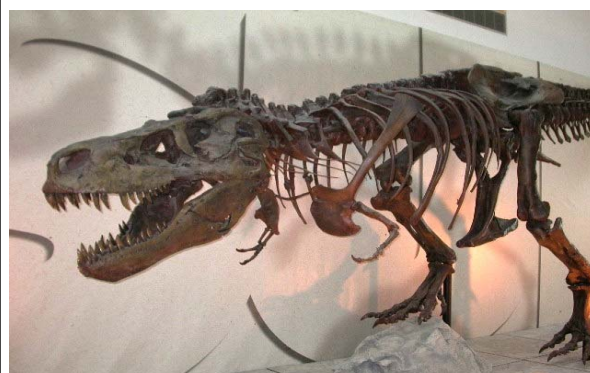
If you can spare a few hours, we need supervisors to "man" the shop on Monday nights & Saturday mornings during these summer months. Contact: Mike Russell

Editor's Corner

dgmseditor@aol.com

It sure has been hot. We needed to explore Oklahoma so we decided to drive north. We checked out The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History located on the campus of The University of Oklahoma.

Right now they are featuring "A T. Rex Named Sue". It's kind of interesting to see this exhibit. It was pure luck they even found her. A young fossil hunter Sue Hendrickson had a flat tire. While she was waiting for the rest of her team she decided to hike in the hills. She receives the honor of having the T-Rex named after her. The really lucky guy is the owner of the land where "Sue" was found. The Field Museum in Chicago bid over \$8 million to obtain her. They have extended Sue's stay until August. If you have a free weekend, I highly recommend this as a great place to visit. The drive wasn't bad. It was air-conditioned. Pretty cheap too. We showed our Auto Club card so our whole family only cost \$10.



LAPIDARY WORKSHOP HOURS

Monday evenings	Saturday mornings
6:00–9:00 pm	8:00–Noon

If you have questions contact Mike Russell by email. Shop phone: 214-249-2022

Questions? Suggestions! News?

We want to hear from you!

Meeting topics:

Dave Greenberg- davegreenbe@yahoo.com

The Shop & classes:

Mike Russell- twinman72@yahoo.com

Newsletter article ideas:

Mike Tanas/Laurie Tanas - dgmseditor@aol.com

Field Trip suggestions & info:

Brad Tanas- dgmseditor@aol.com

Show suggestions & info:

David Pirnie (ideas): dpirnie@yahoo.com

Linda Dallas (vendors): lindajdallas@gmail.com

Events, resources or Web sites to share:

Coco Johnston- coco@wornstones.com

We welcome your comments, suggestions, questions and ideas.

DGMS Show Display Case Update

Brad will be coordinating the display case sign-up and assignments and asks everyone to consider putting in a case. There are still a number of openings so please send an email to:

DGMSEDITOR@AOL.COM and add *Display Case* in the subject line. This year's theme is Texas Rocks so that should include anything rough, cut or finished using agates, palm, petrified wood, geodes, fossils, or a host of mineral specimens.

Please indicate if you will be bringing your case or if you will need a club case. Also indicate how many.

Rok Tox Advertising Rates

CLASSIFIED ADS: Ten cents per word:

Members of DGMS:FREE

LAYOUT ADS:

	h	x	w	Non-Member	Member
Full page	10"	x	7.5"	\$50.00	\$25.00
6 mos	per mo			40.00	20.00
Half page (h)	5"	x	7.5"	30.00	15.00
Half page (v)	10"	x	3.25"	30.00	15.00
6 mos	per mo			24.00	12.00
Quarter page (h)	2.5"	x	7.5"	20.00	10.00
Quarter page (v)	5"	x	3.25"	20.00	10.00
6 mos	per mo			16.00	8.00
Business card (h)	2"	x	3.5"	12.50	6.25
Business card (v)	3.5"	x	2"	12.50	6.25
6 mos	per mo			10.00	5.00
Notice	2.25"	x	2"	8.00	4.00
6 mos	per mo			6.00	3.00
Photo	one-time fee			10.00	5.00

Rates quoted are monthly; circulation is 200/mo. Layout of ad is included in price. Ad request must be received before the 10th day of Each month (preferably by email). Send payment to DMGS at PO Box.

dgmseditor@aol.com

Dallas Gem & Mineral Society

Po Box 742033

Dallas TX 75374-2033

Upcoming Classes

August 8, 22, 29 Silver Smithing 101 at the Shop from 7-9pm. Contact: Bob at tillion44@comcast.net and cc Mike at twinman72@yahoo.com for an equipment list and details. Cost is \$20.00

September— open

Send Mike an email if there is a class or lapidary skill you would like know more about. He is compiling a list to organize future classes. What are your interests?

Join the Dallas Gem & Mineral Society Dues

Type of membership	If you join Jan 1 - Aug 31	If you join Sept 1 - Dec 31
Individual	\$20.00	\$10.00
Age 16 or older- Eligible to vote&	For the entire Calendar year	Until the end of the calendar year
Hold office		
Family	\$30.00	\$15.00
One household at One address-	For the entire Calendar year	Until the end of the calendar year
Two from each Household eligible to Vote & hold office		
Junior	\$6.00	\$3.00
Age 15 or younger- Not eligible to vote Or hold office	For the entire Calendar year	Until the end of the Calendar year
Associate	\$12.00	\$6.00
For members who Are unable to attend Meetings- Not eligible to vote Or hold office	For the entire Calendar year	Until the end of the calendar year

Annual dues are payable at the first of each year. Included in your dues is a subscription to the monthly newsletter. Meetings are held on the **THIRD TUESDAY** of each month, 7:00 PM, and a potluck supper is served.

You can pick up a membership application at any meeting, or you can print one from our Web site and mail it, with your check, to:

DGMS Membership Committee

PO Box 742033

Dallas TX 75374-2033

Conserve Water!



North West Lake Lavon—July 3rd

Lake Lavon's normal elevation is 492.0. Recent monthly elevations as measured on the first of each month. 475 is a critical level for stage 4 water restrictions.

Let's hope for some rain!

August 479.01

July 481.09

June 482.89

FOR SALE

80 LB ROTARY TUMBLER

Two 40lb factory-made barrels; good motor, built into a sturdy metal table. **\$275**

Contact Donald Slater

naturesgallery@yahoo.com

Phone 972-446-1994

The irony of life is that, by the time you're old enough to know your way around, you're not going anywhere.

Last month's top raffle prize was a replica obsidian knife with antler handle. Thanks Tom for your generous donation.



Recreation Center
Ridgewood
6818 Fisher
7:00pm PM

July 18th

Next Meeting
Tuesday

Rok Tok
PO Box 742033
Dallas, TX 75374-2033

THE DALLAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER UPCOMING EVENTS—JULY—AUGUST 2006



The Dallas
Gem & Mineral Society
Is a member of the
South Central Federation
of Mineral Societies,
a regional branch of the
American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies



2006 Dallas Gem & Mineral Show
November 18 & 19th

Texas Rocks!

Jewelry-Rocks-Fossils-Prizes

Demonstrations-Games for Kids-Scout Instruction

www.DallasGemAndMineralShow.com

Deadline for submitting articles is **10 days**
prior to the club meeting, which is held on the
third Tuesday of each month

August 15th
Tuesday.—7:00pm
DGMS Meeting &
****Silent Auction****

September 19th
Tuesday 7:00 pm
DGMS Meeting

CHARTERED IN 1957

DALLAS
GEM & MINERAL
SOCIETY
2006 OFFICERS

President—Rick Ramsey
First VP—Dave Greenberg
Second VP—Mike Russell
Secretary—Ben Edens
Treasurer—Paul Floyd
Member Rep—Ben Hong

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Show Chariman—David Pirnie
Vendor Chairman— Linda Dallas
Ad Chairman—Steve Wheeler
Field Trip Chairman—Brad Tanas
News Letter—Brad Tanas
Web Site—Worn Stones Web Design

This newsletter is available on the DGMS Web site, www.DallasGemAndMineral.com, where it can be viewed in color.