



**SOUTHWEST GEM AND  
MINERAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER**



**Volume 59, No. 4 ..... April, 2017**  
**P.O. Box 17323, San Antonio, Texas 78278**  
**Our Website: [www.swgemandmineral.org](http://www.swgemandmineral.org)**

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017  
 TIME: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Program begins at 7:00 PM

USUAL MEETING PLACE:  
 ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
 1018 E. GRAYSON STREET  
 SAN ANTONIO, TX

DIRECTIONS: (Traveling SOUTH on Interstate 35)  
 Exit#159A, turn right at N. New Braunfels Ave.,  
 Continue on to E Grayson St. and turn left.  
 address will be on the left. Entrance will be  
 through the door marked OFFICE

DIRECTIONS: (Traveling NORTH on Interstate 35)  
 Exit#159A, turn left at N. New Braunfels Ave.,  
 Continue on to E Grayson St. and turn left.  
 address will be on the left. Entrance will be  
 through the door marked OFFICE

**Refreshments Committee**

Brown, Sharnell	Burkhart, Sue	Busch, Richard
Butler, Coryne	Chankin, Roland	Clark, Tim & Lisa

Please let me know if you do not wish to be on the refreshment committee roster. Why is not needed. I wish to fill the roster from those who attend regularly, to avoid stomach growls during the program.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope you all received my email on the FIESTA OF GEMS show info I had shortly after the SHOW. We should have a summary on how we did financially and possibly a report from Joe on general observations or potential improvements we received from vendors. For those of you that worked at the show, we would also appreciate any comments positive or constructive improvements we can make for next year. AGAIN MANY THANK TO ALL OF YOU WHO WORKED AND MADE OUR SHOW THE SUCCESS THAT IS CERTAINLY WAS. John Speck hopefully will also have a report on the response he received for his cabbng booth at the show and how his night courses are being received.

At our April meeting we will have a presentation by JOANN SOCASH, one of our own members- details in our NEWSLETTER. Don Kolle has also set up a presentation at our May meeting. Short message this month- hope to see you all at our APRIL 13TH meeting.



Bob Bowie

## PROGRAM

Our very own JOANN SOCASH, is our presenter for our April meeting, with the topic:

**“Touring Tucson... Rocks, Fossils, and Locations.”**

The annual rock and gem show in Tucson is widely regarded as the largest in the US and one of the largest in the world. So – what is it like? I’ll be sharing photos from multiple venues and talking about the multitude of locations which have all sorts of material from all over the world.

This will be a great program, especially for those of us who have never attended the Tucson show, as well as we who have not attended the show in some time.

## AREA SHOW DATES

**April 8-9: Abilene, TX;** Annual show, Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society, Abilene Civic Center, 1100 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

**April 8-9: Siloam Springs, AR;** Annual show, Northwest Arkansas Gem and Mineral Society, Siloam Springs Community Center, Mt. Olive Road.

**April 14-16: Alpine TX;** Annual show, Chihuahuan Desert Gem and Mineral Club, Alpine Civic Center, 803 West Holland Ave. (W. Hwy 90).

**April 28-30: Shenandoah, The Woodlands, TX;** Annual Show, Fine Mineral Show, Holiday Inn & Suites, Shenandoah, The Woodlands, 19333 David Memorial Dr.  
*FREE ADMISSION*

**April 29-30: Waco, TX;** Annual show, Waco Gem and Mineral Club, Extraco Events Center Creative Arts Bldg; 4601 Bosque Blvd.

SHOW LISTINGS FOR ALL 50 STATES: <http://www.rockngem.com>

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Evaluations were received from 13/27 vendors. The show was felt to be “good” to “outstanding” by the vendors. It appears the new vendors were more enthusiastic about their comments. They felt the show was well-run. The club members were again praised for their friendliness, helpfulness, and overall attitude. The floor layout was fine with most vendors, as was the customer flow. The venue was okay with most (not the best part of town).

There were a couple of comments about the need for additional marketing effort on our part due to the increased number of vendors. A couple suggestions were made about not adding any more vendors, at least, or perhaps even reducing the number to fit the size of the customer flow. The club was again chastised for being in too much competition with our silent auction.



SANDSTONE CONCRETION photo by Joe Noonan

## **OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

### **FROM JOHN SPECK**

Sam Rogers and I have put together a Rock and Gem Show for August 12, 2017 from 11-6 and August 13, 2017 from 12-5. It will be held at the Crystal Mystic, 4703 Shavano Oak, SA 78249. The space is very limited and is intended for local amateurs and small local dealers. We presently have no more space, but it is possible that some people may have to back out. If enough people are interested, we might be able to get some additional space. The show is listed online with Rock & Gem Magazine. If anyone in the club would like to get on the waiting list, please call me at [210-596-1611](tel:210-596-1611) or email me at [jspeck2@att.net](mailto:jspeck2@att.net).

The classes that I am teaching, so far, have been a great success. The Introduction to Gemstones course had 20 people enroll. Both of the Lapidary courses were full and had a waiting list. At the show 12 people took the mini lapidary class and 33 people signed up for future class information. I do not know yet how many new members we got at the show, but I heard that we handed out a lot of information.

### **Planned classes for the rest of 2017:**

Northside Independent School District  
Adult and Community Education

[www.nisd.net/ace](http://www.nisd.net/ace) [210-397-8100](tel:210-397-8100)

Summer Classes:

Lapidary Arts: Beginning and Advanced

July 19, 20, 26, 27 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Lapidary Arts: Beginning  
and Advanced

August 2, 3, 16, 17 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Fall Classes:

Introduction to Gemstones

September 21, 28 1:30 to 4:00 pm

Introduction to Gemstones

September 21, 28 6:60 to 9:00 pm

Lapidary Arts: Beginning and Advanced

October 4, 11, 18 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Lapidary Arts: Beginning and Advanced

October 4, 11, 18 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Lapidary Arts: Beginning and Advanced

November 1, 8, 15 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Lapidary Arts: Beginning and Advanced

November 1, 8, 15 6:30 to 9:00 pm

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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<i>Director</i>	<i>Keith King</i>	None.	[210] 867-9984

*Web site for Southwest Gem & Mineral Society*     [www.swgemandmineral.org](http://www.swgemandmineral.org)

