

Menu

[Fredericksburg Rockhounds](#)

FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS

FREDERICKSBURG ROCKHOUNDS



— July 2018 —

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From the Top of the Rock Pile

By

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Lee Adams – President

THE HEAT IS ON US!!!

We are experiencing heat both weather-wise and other-wise. Weather-wise because of the 95+ degree day time heat which brings no afternoon rock hounding or any other activity that is out doors in the sun.

Other- wise because this month and no later than the August meeting, decisions need to be made about the 50th

Anniversary vest pins/patches so the orders can be placed before the January show.

We need to decide:

1. Who will win the best Rockhounds 50th design contest that ends in August?
2. How much do the vest pins and patches cost?
3. Does the club want to produce both pins and patches?

Tips for being in the sun:

1. Wear light-weight, light-colored clothing (long sleeve shirt).
2. Wear sunscreen (reapply every two hours).
3. Limit your time in the sun, especially between 10am and 4pm.
4. Wear sunglasses.
5. Drink lots of water.
6. Avoid alcohol (Both alcohol and the sun cause dehydration; alcohol is a diuretic).

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Fredericksburg Rockhounds 50th Anniversary

The hobby of rock hounding is so multi-faceted it has the interest of a wide span of people. As part of the Fredericksburg Rockhounds Club's 50th Anniversary, we are writing a series of biographies for some long time (not old) members. It is our hope you will see the diversity of people that are interested in rock hounding.

This month we feature [Jim Gedeon \(#articleb\)](#) and [Bill Wildfong \(#articlec\)](#).

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Jim Gedeon

— A Biography —

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I was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. As a kid, I spent all my waking time exploring the Metropolitan Park which was adjacent to our home. I played a lot of baseball and I ran track and did gymnastics in high school. After high school, I attended Ohio State University for two years, after which time I transferred to Case Western Reserve where I received a B.A. in Geology and an M.S. in Geology with honors.

I was hired by Amoco (now British Petroleum) in 1969 and moved to Houston where I spent my entire professional career. After Amoco, I worked for a few independent oil companies. In 1979, I and three other ex-Amoco geologists formed Geo-Consultants, Inc., a small independent oil company. I became President of GCI and we operated for over ten years, drilling wells in Texas and Louisiana. My final position was Onshore Exploration Manager for Amerada Hess Corporation. I early retired in 2000.

I have been a 35-year member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and I'm a certified professional geologist by the American Society of Professional Geologists.

I joined Fredericksburg Rockhounds in 2004, and I have served as Education Chair, Treasurer, President, and for the past six years I've been the Show Chairman. I have held some position for all fourteen years as a club member. I have given geological talks to schools, clubs, libraries throughout the Texas Hill Country, and I offered a class in "Hill Country Geology" for the Fredericksburg Continuing Education program. After working as a substitute teacher, I became involved with the Mentoring Program where I have followed two young men throughout their elementary, middle school and into their high school years. I have been mentoring for twelve years.

In addition to geology, my hobbies are collecting Native American artifacts, hiking, restoring furniture and golfing.

My loves are my wife of twenty-four years, Kristi, my four grown children and 8-1/3 grandchildren—eight boys and 1/3 girl, she'll be joining us on my birthday this year!

o *Written by Jim Gedeon*

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Bill Wildfong

— A Biography —

Bill was born in St. Louis in 1936. He lived there until he was in his teens. His father, William, was a pharmaceutical salesman and a registered pharmacist. His mother, Vivian Niederloh, was a stay-at-home mom. Bill has a sister, Sharon, who now lives in Peoria. The Wildfong family moved from St. Louis to Hannibal, Missouri, Burlington, Iowa and then to Peoria, Illinois. Bill moved to Fort Myer, Florida, Orlando, Florida and to Kerrville in 1999.

Bill attended Malinkrodt Grade School and Southwest High School in St. Louis. He then attended High School in Hannibal, Missouri and graduated from High School at Burlington High School in Iowa. Wildfong studied Electrical Engineering at Bradley University in Peoria and the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana, with no diploma.

Bill's first real job was as an Electronics Technician for Illinois Bell Telephone in Peoria. He then took a job as equipment engineer for Florida Telephone (now Embarq) in Ft Myers, Florida. Bill joined the Naval Reserve and taught electronics

the monthly Navy Reserve meetings.

Bill and Cheryl met at a skin-diving club meeting in Florida, and it was love at first sight. They married in 1972. Cheryl has a nursing degree (LPN); she worked in an ear-nose-throat clinic under Dr. Robin Brown, the author of “Florida’s Fossils” and “Florida’s First People.” Bill took early retirement with a “golden parachute” in 1997. Cheryl also retired. They were already avid fossil hunters and after retirement they traveled to the Southwest, where they discovered gems and minerals. Bill and Cheryl visited Jim and Jackie Chude’s rock shop and fell in love with Fredericksburg. They decided to move from Orlando to Kerrville in 1999. Cheryl loves gardening and Bill is a computer addict, with no interest in computer games.

Bill published a newsletter for the Succulents Club in Kerrville and he and Cheryl were active members of that club. Bill and Cheryl have a greenhouse and have raised succulents for years. Cheryl has a loom and is an avid weaver.

Bill and Cheryl joined the Fredericksburg Rockhounds in 2001 and volunteered to publish the newsletter. Bill published the award-winning newsletter and also maintained the Rockhounds membership lists until December 2017. Cheryl is an excellent graphics person and has also put a lot of work into the Rockhounds newsletters. In their early years with the Rockhounds, Bill and Cheryl were vendors at the annual Rock and Mineral show. Bill and Cheryl have been granted lifetime memberships with the Fredericksburg Rockhounds.

- *Written by Judy Adams based on an e-mail interview with additional input for Glenn Thompson.*

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Dinosaur Footprints Discovered on Isle of Skye

Dinosaur footprints dating back 170 million years have been discovered on a Scottish island and will help shed light on the reptiles’ evolution, the University of Edinburgh said on Tuesday.

The footprints are in a muddy, shallow lagoon on the Isle of Skye.

The largest print, left by a sauropod, measures 70 centimeters (28 inches) across. Long-necked sauropods were up to two meters tall.

“The find is globally important as it is rare evidence of the Middle Jurassic period, from which few fossil sites have been found around the world,” the university said in a statement.

Researchers are documenting about 50 footprints in the area, including those of theropods — an ancestor of Tyrannosaurus Rex — which measure around 50 centimeters across.

They used drone photographs to make a map of the site.

Paige dePolo, who led the study, said the find “demonstrates the presence of sauropods in this part of the world through longer timescale than previously known”.



The research was carried out in conjunction with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the findings have been published in the Scottish Journal of Geology.

- o “Dinosaur Footprints Discovered on Scottish Island.” *Newsletter of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies (May-June 2018): 14-15. Print.*

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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/> (<http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/resources/>).

Once there, simply click the link for the 2018 Membership Form to download or print a PDF copy.

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Fredericksburg Rockhounds Meeting Minutes

– June 14th, 2018 –

We had our annual picnic with no business meeting on June 4th – there are no minutes to document.

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This Month’s Events

– June/July 2018

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show

June 30-July 1, 2018 — GRAPEVINE, TEXAS: Annual show; Arlington Gem & Mineral Club; Grapevine Convention Center (10 min. from DFW Airport) 1209 S. Main St., Grapevine, TX 76051; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; General Admission \$6, Seniors (60+) and Children Under 12 \$5, Scouts in Uniform and Military ID get in free; Arlington Gem and Mineral Club’s 61st Annual Show will feature 25+ Vendors selling Artisan and Fine Jewelry, Gemstones, Geodes, Fossils, Minerals, Rough-Cut- Polished Rocks, Tumbled Stones, Paleontological Books, Metaphysical Crystals, Petrified Wood, Tools, Glass Creations, SteamPunk Designs, Beads and much more. Members will be demonstrating jewelry designs, teaching on-site jewelry classes, Identifying Gemstones, hosting a Silent Auction every hour, and offering activities to Juniors. Contact Nadira Charaniya Andre Meyer at (469)751-2944; email: show@agemclub.org (<mailto:show@agemclub.org>); Web site: www.agemclub.org (<http://www.agemclub.org/>).

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– July 2018

July 2018 Fredericksburg Rockhounds Meeting

July 2, 2018 – FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS: This meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday, July 2nd, at the Golden Hub Senior Center located at 1009 N Lincoln, Fredericksburg, Texas. See [Monthly Meeting Map \(#meetingmap\)](#).

- o For more shows at later dates, or outside Texas, visit www.rockngem.com (<http://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL>).

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July's Birthstone & Flowers

The July birthstone is the **ruby**; the flowers are the **larkspur** and the **water lily**.



Ruby



Larkspur



Water lily

In ancient times, the ruby was regarded as the “king of gems” by the Hindus. All rubies are red and come in various shades of the hue. Ruby comes from the Latin word *rubeus*, which means “red.”

The ruby is among the hardest natural gemstones, second only to the diamond.

The larkspur can grow up to eight feet tall and comes in a variety of colors such as pink, white, or purple.

Water lilies float on the surface of natural waters such as ponds. They help deter algae growth and provide shade for wildlife below.

- o Majoros, Martie. “July Birthstone: Color and Meaning.” *Almanac.com*. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. June 19, 2018.
- o “July Birth Flowers.” *Almanac.com*. Yankee Publishing, Inc. n.d. June 19, 2018.

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Happy Birthday!



- **Virginia Adian** – July 3
- **Diane Magee**– July 7
- **Bill Wildfong, HLM**– July 12
- **Agnes Thompson**– July 13
- **Richard**– July 13
- **Jeff Smith**– July 20
- **Don MacDonald** – July 23
- **Gayle Smith** – July 26
- **Jessie Petty** – July 28
- **Andy Anderson** – July 29
- **Tina Roth** – July 30
- **Tom Westermeier** – July 31

– Please note: If we missed your birthday or have listed it incorrectly, please let us know so we can correct it!
[fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com \(mailto:fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com\)](mailto:fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com)

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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.

Every online newsletter will now feature a link to a PDF version of itself in the section titled “[Print or Save This Newsletter \(#printthisnewsletter\)](#)” where you can save or print your own copy.

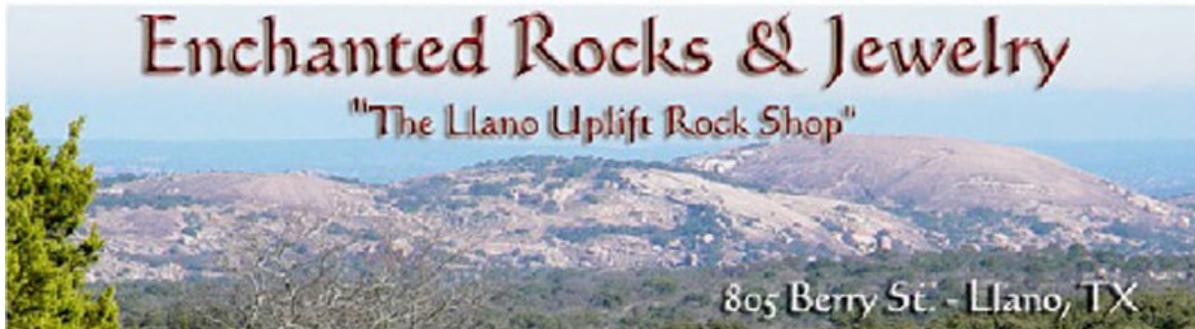
If you need a hard copy of the newsletter each month and cannot access the online newsletters — <http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/newsletter/> (<http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/newsletter/>) — to print your own, then please let the president, Lee Adams, know. He will provide printed copies for those who need them at each meeting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us.

— Josh and Melissa Hazer, fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com (<mailto:fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com>)

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Frank Rowell & Pat Felts frank@EnchantedRocksAndJewelry.com



Enchanted Rocks & Jewelry
 805 Berry St.
 Llano, Tx 78643
 {325}247-4137

Store Hours
 Tuesday - Saturday
 10am - 6pm
 Or by Appointment
[EnchantedRocksAndJewelry.com](http://enchantedrocksandjewelry.com)

<http://enchantedrocksandjewelry.com>



<mailto:leeapeman93@yahoo.com>

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fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com (<mailto:fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com>)

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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: fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com
- **All other correspondence:** Fredericksburg Rockhounds, 412 S. Adams St, Fredericksburg TX 78624
- Visit our website at fredericksburgrockhounds.org (<http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org>) for more club info, field news, club photos, resources, and previous newsletters.

Club Officers and Committee Chairs

Club Officers for 2018:

- **President:** Lee Adams – (830) 796-8890
- **1st Vice President:** Tom Carswell – (830) 792-2160
- **2nd Vice President:** Patti Felts – (325) 248-6040
- **Past President:** Andy Anderson – (830) 370-2177
- **Treasurer:** John Roup – (830) 896-4955
- **Secretary:** Judy Adams – (830) 796-8890

Committee Chairs:

- **Programs:** Patti Felts – (325) 247-6040
- **Field Trips:** Patti Felts – (325) 247-6040
and Sam Rodgers – (210) 240-7721
- **Hospitality:** Susan Olson – (830) 997-8516
- **Membership:** Brenda Smith – (830) 895-9630
- **Historian:** Sara Verstuyft – (830) 998-7350
- **Media Equipment:** John Crone – (830) 990-9823
- **Annual Show:** Jim Gedeon – (830) 456-5419
- **Newsletter:** Josh and Melissa Hazer

Monthly Meeting Map



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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: fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com (<mailto:fbrockhoundsnews@gmail.com>)

You may also use the form on our Contact Page to submit your articles:

<http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/contact-us> (<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 Virginia Adian at v.adian@gvtc.com (<mailto:v.adian@gvtc.com>) or 830-755-6105

The **Club CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** are posted on our website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org/constitution
(<http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/constitution/>)

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The PDF has the same information as what you see here online, but it is in a printer friendly format. If you have any questions, just drop us a line and we'll be happy to help you.

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