



THE
INFORMER



FEATURED ROCKHOUNDS

Bud and Mary Trammel

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
EDITOR COMMENTS AND FEATURED ROCKHOUND	1
FEATURED ROCKHOUND	1,2
DAVE WINS AGAIN	3
TALLEYS' TRIP TO CHACO CANYON	4
CARLOS AND BOB GO TO SCHOOL	5
UPCOMING-SHOWS	6
PRESIDENT SPEAKS AND SHOP REPORT	7
YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED	8
MINUTE BY MINUTE BY BEV	9
OFFICERS AND CHAIR-PERSONS	10

Editor's Notes:



"Remember, if you don't send me news I can always make up some." ...
Jerry Davis

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This month's story is from Mary Trammel. I'm sure you will recognize Mary and Bud from our spring show. You will have seen Mary also presiding over the Rolling Rock club.

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The flint knapping and the story about Indian Paint Pots just happen to bring to mind the early peoples that occupied this land before us.

There is a location that
(Continued on page 4)

Bud retired in 1984 from the Jewelry Business and whooo, sat in a chair using his finger on the TV button. After a few trips to the doctor, we needed to find something to keep him busy and get him out.

Our friend Sterling Bills and wife Kathleen were interested in rocks and hunting for them. They invited us over to their home. We went over for a short visit and the first thing we knew it was 1 a.m.

Our next trip was to the Gem and Mineral Show in Stephenville.

One man from Waco had a wonderful display of facet stones. I told Bud if he would learn to facet, I would join Cross Timbers G&M Club

which we did in 1985.

Where-oh-where would we find a faceting machine? Checking every rock shop within 100 miles no one knew where we could get one. An Ad in Rock & Gems listed material in Fredericksburg. A trip down and the druggist had two new machines which he and his wife used. He told Bud he had an old one upstairs and would like for him to take and use to see if he wanted to invest in a machine. Bud taught himself and bought two more machines. Would you believe the next thing we needed was a saw, genie, grinder, tumbler? One year in Quartzite the dust was so bad he could not facet. He had watched Gary Jones knapping and

Continued on page 2

FEATURED ROCKHOUNDS - Bud and Mary Trammel

with being shown a few things. Bud started flint knapping while we would be in Quartzite.

We were bitten by the hobby and The Waco Club was going on a field trip to the Big Bend.



We were asked to go and this is where I fell in love with hunting rocks. We had the best guides Rich and Dita Cowan of Dublin, Gus and Frances Linveit. We were taught about the mountains, what we were looking for, how to know where we were at all times. From this trip over the years we covered the entire west and north hunting rocks. The hardest work we ever did was digging sapphires at Gem Mountain in Montana with Grady and Phyllis Harris. Bud dug and shook, then I got the job of washing the dirt and the great joy of turning the washer over and finding the beautiful stone in the center.

We made a trip with the Arlington G&M Club to Arizona to hunt. We bought a collection of

minerals. We needed to do something with all the rocks so we bought a table space in Wichita Falls G&M Club Show, from there to Midland and a large booth. We participated in shows and Quartzite for fifteen

years before retiring a second time. But we needed to have something for Bud; being friend with Russ and Dee Cable through the years, we decided to demo knapping and Russ doing spheres. This being the really fun years.



I was at a show in Fredericksburg and Ed Ries who was President of SCFMS asked if I would take Jane Immel's job of secretary. From there I have served as Treasurer, VP and President, a Vice President of AFMS, Show Consultant for AFMS and for SCFMS and all the offices in Rollin' Rock Club. Bud and I have been so blessed with a wonderful time and rich with friends.



Dave Vargo brings home honors again from Midland Show.



Dave and Beverly Vargo and Charlie Lightfoot recently attended the Midland Gem and Mineral Show in Midland, Texas the weekend of November 3rd and 4th. Charlie and Dave each took along three display cases to show off their projects and to represent CTGMS. The Midland club has always supported our own rock shows, bringing cases and patronizing our vendors, so they were happy to reciprocate.

The show was held downtown at the Midland community center or civic center. Tony and Judy Steele, Bob and Helen Patterson, Jim Owens, Tammie Dollison and Lisa and Calvin McCarty all came to the show on Sunday. The Steeles and the Pattersons traveled together. Jim made the trip on his “scooter”, as he calls it.

The Midland club allowed guests to demonstrate at the demonstration table on the stage. Space

was limited but there was room for Jim Matlock from the Plainview club to demonstrate his sphere-making machine. Dave set up a space to demonstrate agate engraving using the Dremel. All of the Midland club members were helpful and friendly and the club even provided a hospitality room with



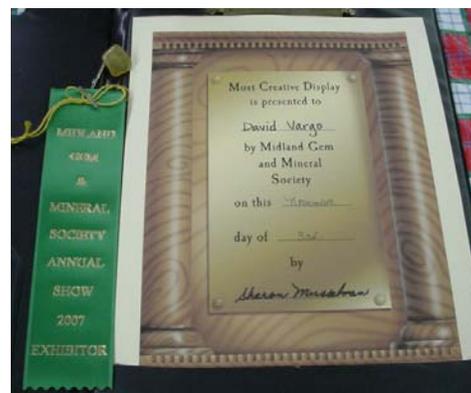
couches, coffee and refreshments for vendors and displayers when they needed a break from the floor.

Dave was awarded a certificate for Most Creative Display and also won a trophy for Best Guest Display 2007. They really liked his agate display in the lighted case that Bob made. Each guest displayer was given a green ribbon with a tie tack

attached. The tie tack was decorated with a polished rock, a keepsake from the show, which said “MGMS 07 Exhibitor.”

Dave, Bev and Charlie did a little antiquing while visiting Midland, though Charlie found something other than antiques at the shops. He came home with two more pieces of petrified wood – guess he couldn’t find any at the rock show!

– by Bev



Continued from page 1

Editor's comments

could be visited by this club if we wanted to take a nearby field trip where Indians spent a lot of time expressing themselves with drawings on the walls and boulders along a river; the place being Paint

Rock, Texas. Texas and other states are colored



with iron ores suitable for using in paint pigments. You will see from my examples that not all paint pigments have to come



from ores. The gypsum for example makes a pure white powder when rubbed on stone. Charcoal in the fire pit was probably the first and most common substance ground into powder and used as paint; giving grays and blacks when mixed with oil from animal fat.

.... *editor*

ANNIVERSARIES

Martha and Lonnie Boggs
Dec 24

Joyce and Carlos Talley's trip to Chaco Canyon, NM

Our one and only motor home trip!

At the end of October, Carlos and I and our two adult kids and two grandchildren, went to Chaco Canyon, NM. It is actually called Chaco Canyon National Monument.

There are no trees, whatever, and very little running water in this canyon. There are also very few people living here. Some Navajo herdsman eke out a living running a few cattle on this forsaken, in my estimation, land.

Scientists believe this area came to light sometime in the mid 17th century. The Navajos lived here, but it was also occupied by the Spanish; who did their best not to infringe on the rights of these Indians.

Richard Wetherill, an archaeologist, is one of the discoverers of Chaco. He also had something to do with the Mesa Verde dwellings.

Pueblo Bonito is probably the largest of the ruins, although there are many others. There are 37 rooms and 1 kiva. Most of the contents of this dig were sent to a museum in New York, filling a freight car. Some of the things were 114 cylinder shaped pottery pieces, a quiver containing 81 arrows, wooden staffs that were probably prayer sticks, baskets encrusted with turquoise and shells, wooden flutes, pottery of birds, frogs,

also with turquoise and many turquoise beads and pendants. We were probably most impressed with the remains of this pueblo.

An archaeologist, now retired, talked to us one night about her part in the digs of this area. They don't seem to know the whys, for whatever reason, these people seemed to disappear without a trace of what could have happened to them. They estimate the time of its usage to be around 1000 - 1100 A.D.

The first day was very warm, but that night got down to about 35 degrees. We were in a 30 foot motor home - but it's still a motor home. The kids did all of the meals and cleaning up - but it's still a small area. The next couple of days were very windy and cold. Had a fun time - very interesting - very cool, and I do mean the weather!

Our kids (all four of them) love it up there. It's about 3 hours Northwest of Albuquerque and they go there about once a year. Glad we went - had a good and informative time. Sure wanted to pick up at least one piece of that sandstone!

.....*Joyce and Carlos Talley*

BIRTHDAYS

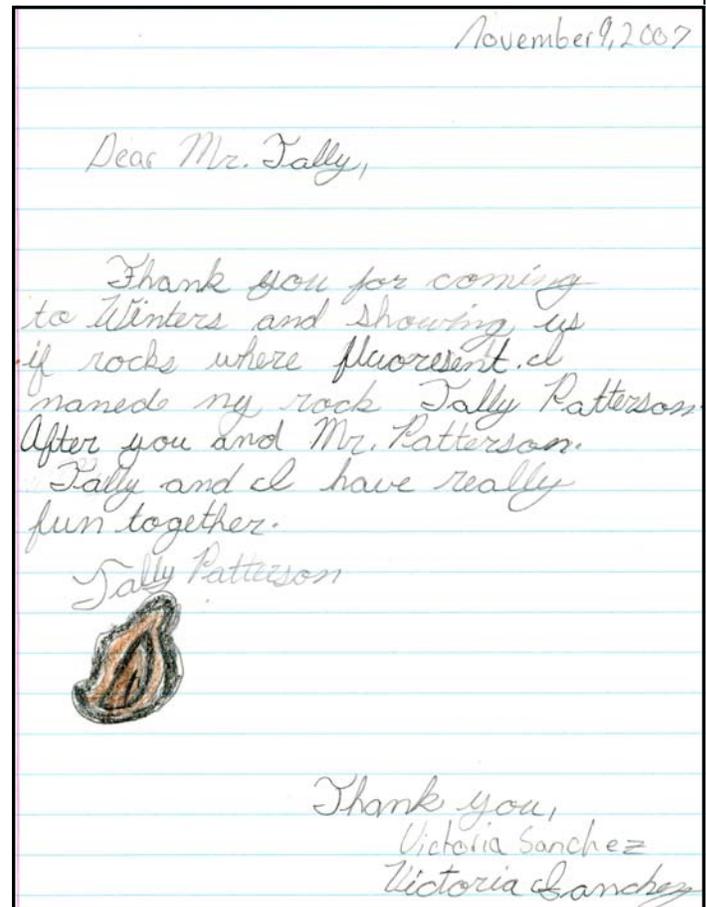
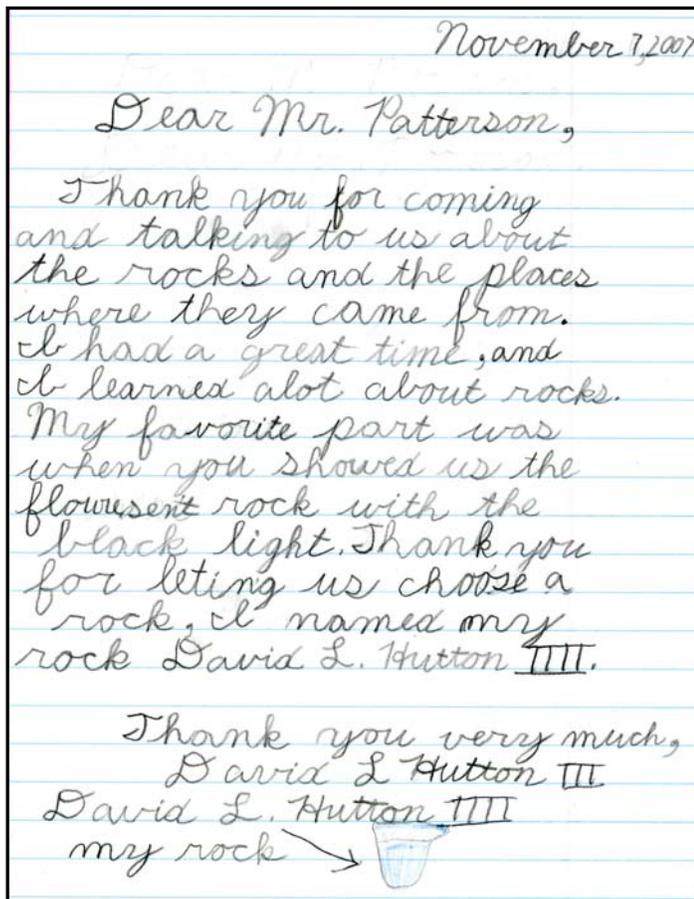
Judy Steele	Dec 8
Bobbie Turnbow	Dec 10
Jim Owens	Dec 13
Norma Ann Harrison	Dec 28
Travis Graves	Dec 30

Carlos and Bob's trip to Winters to talk to school kids about rocks.

On October 29th Carlos Talley and Bob Patterson went to Winters, Texas and made a presentation about gems and minerals to their 5th grade students. There were two sessions with 59 students, three teachers, the superintendent of schools and a janitor. Carlos talked about earth science and Bob brought along his fluorescent rocks, black light and a bucket of polished rocks.

Each person was given a rock at the close of each session. They were told they were pet rocks and to give them names.

We were received well and all involved seem to have had a fun time. We received letters from the students. The following are some of their letters.



The third letter too light to scan. It said "Dear Mr. Talley,

Thank you for coming and telling us about rocks. It was so fasinating to me. At first I didn't know a lot about rocks and now I do. I asked my mom if she could name one kind of rock but she couldn't then. I told her the name of some rocks that I remembered.

Thank you,
Olivia Rodriquez."

UPCOMING SHOWS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2007:

30-2--AUSTIN, TEXAS: Show, "Gem Capers 2007"; Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, 3 days \$9, seniors \$4, 3 days \$7, ages 13-18 \$1, ages 6-12 50 cents, children under 5 free; more than 30 vendors, mineral specimens, lapidary equipment, fossils, beads, jewelry, spheres, demonstrations, exhibits, fossil cleaning, gold panning, kids' gem mine, wheel of fortune, fluorescent tunnel tour, jewelry fabrication, door prizes; contact Susan Postlethwait, 6719 Burnet Ln., Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; e-mail: gemcapers@austin.rr.com; Web site: www.austingemandmineral.org.

30-2--EL PASO, TEXAS: Show; El Paso Mineral & Gem Society; El Maida Auditorium, 6331 Alabama; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Gem Center USA, (877) 533-7153 or (915) 533-7153; e-mail: gemcenter@aol.com.

JANUARY 2008:

1--BIG SPRING, TEXAS: Annual show; Big Spring Prospector Club; Howard County Fair Barn, behind the Rodeo Arena; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; displays, jewelry repair, stone setting, glass bead and cabbing demonstrations, spinning wheel, hourly door prizes, kids' rocks, dealers; contact Lola Lamb, 2200 Cecillic, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432) 263-3340; e-mail: rockhound11@yahoo.com.

4-6--MESA, ARIZONA: 36th annual show, "Flagg Gem & Mineral Show"; Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation; Mesa Community College, Dobson Rd. and U.S. Hwy. 60; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; kids' activities, free samples for children and teachers, more than 80 vendors, minerals, fossils, gem and lapidary materials, special exhibits, Peralta Stones; contact AMMMF, P.O. Box 41834, Mesa, AZ 85274, (480) 987-8958; e-mail: dminerals@yahoo.com.

19-20--FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS: 39th annual show; The Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird Johnson Park; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; hourly door prizes, raffle prizes, gold panning, fossils, gems, jewelry, exhibits, lapidary demonstrations, tame geologists, Rolling Rockhounds meeting; contact Jeff Smith, 208 Castle Pines Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028, (830) 895-9630; e-mail: jeffbrenda@kctc.com; Web site: www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org.

23-27--QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA: 42nd annual show, "QIA Pow Wow"; Quartzsite Improvement Association; 235 E. Ironwood Dr.; Wed. 9-5, Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; more than 400 vendors, rocks, gems, minerals, beads, wire wrap supplies, jewelry, fossils, lapidary, field trips, displays, demonstrations; contact Diane Abbott, P.O. Box 881, Quartzsite, AZ 85346-0881, (928) 927-6325; e-mail: powwow@qiaaz.org; Web site: www.qiaaz.org.

26-27--TYLER, TEXAS: Show, "Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Showcase"; East Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Rose Garden Center, 420 S. Rose Park Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, students and children \$1; rock food table display, Wheel of Fortune, silent auction, fluorescent mineral display; contact Keith Harmon, 8316 Oxford Dr., Tyler, TX 75703, (903) 581-4068; e-mail: kharmon1219@sbcglobal.net.

Greetings from the Front Desk—President—Gary Hudson

Well ya'll have gone and done it now! You're stuck with me for a whole year, unless you impeach me.

I really enjoyed the November meeting. There was a lot of participation by everyone and some excitement.

I would like to extend a hearty thank you to Ann Harrison for her service as Secretary/Treasurer for the past years. Unless you have been lucky enough to serve in this capacity, you don't have any idea how much time is involved.

The holidays are upon us. We'll all be stuffed Thanksgiving day, and enjoying the company of family and friends. Elaine and I are looking forward to the grandkids under foot. They'll be full of joy, running and laughing through the house. Everyone from the grandkids to their great-grandparents will be here. And to top it all off, there's football on the TV!

It just don't get any better than that.....till Friday morning when I head southwest to the ranch for a couple days of hunting and relaxation.

I wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Christmas.

Gary 



The Shop Report — foreman - Tim Walker

WE HAVE SAW OIL FOR SALE IF ANYONE NEEDS SOME. IT IS CANOPUS 13. BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINER AND \$10 PER GALLON.

NOTE: TIM WALKER VOLUNTEERED IN OCT 07 TO BE SHOP FOREMAN, WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE HIS HELP AND SUPERVISION.



YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED?

Have you heard of Indian Paint Pots?



“Indian paint pots” are found in this area on occasion. They are found in other places in the United States as well. An Indian Paint Pot is an iron ore (sometimes sandy) concretion. You may find a brown concretion that rattles when you shake it. You break it open and inside may be yellow or red-brown powder and a ball of the ore. The little pot with the powder then can be used like a paint pot by mixing animal fat or oil with the powder and finger painting a design. Probably the first known finger painting occurred with early peoples painting on cliffs or on cave walls.

I stepped out on my back porch to see if I had any of the rock suitable for painting and found a whole range of pastel colors that could be used for face paint or “war paint” if one wanted to do that form of art. The common colors found are red-brown (Hematite iron ore) or yellow (Limonite Iron ore).



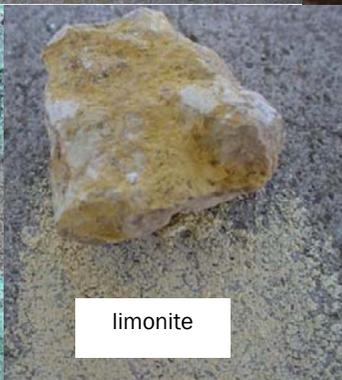
Sandstone with hematite blend



Sandstone with hematite blend



Chrysocolla



limonite



Gypsum



Azurite

MINUTE BY MINUTE BY BEV

The CTGMS held its regular business meeting Monday, November 5th. Highlights from the meeting are as follows:

Members are reminded that dues for 2008 are due by the first of January.

Our annual Christmas party will be held Monday, December 3rd, in lieu of the business meeting. Penny Rorabaugh and JoAn Wilks are asking that volunteers meet on Sunday, December 2nd at 2:00 p.m. at the clubhouse to decorate for the party. Your help will be welcome; call JoAn or Penny if you have questions.

Members are asked to bring two dishes for the pot luck. Please have the food ready and at the clubhouse by 6:00. We'd like to start eating by 6:30 this year because the gift exchange takes such a long time. We're sure to have a lot a good food and fun to go with it.

New officers were elected at the November meeting. Officers for 2008 are: President - Gary Hudson, Vice President - Dave Vargo, Treasurer - Lou David Allen, and Secretary - Beverly Vargo.

We welcomed two guests at the meeting, Peggy Ford and Jean Brown, and we also welcomed back members John and Ruth Sparks from Brownwood.

Show chairperson Judy Steele reported that she has sent out the dealer contracts for the 2008 show and flyers are ready to hand out.

Jerry Davis needs your news items for the Informer. Please let Jerry know if you're taking any trips or if you have information pertaining to members.

The club has purchased saw oil and some of it will be made available to members for personal use at \$10 per gallon. '

Bob Patterson and Carlos Talley went to Winters school to talk about rocks. They had a great time. Carlos said the teacher was just delighted to have them. She was probably glad to relax while someone else did the talking.

A committee has been appointed to audit the club books at the end of the fiscal year. The committee will consist of two members, Zack Stockton and James Grant.

January refreshments will be furnished by Penny Rorabaugh, Sallie Lightfoot and JoAn Wilks.

Annual Membership Dues : Adults \$15 each, Juniors, age 15 and under \$10 .

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We are on the web:
www.txol.net/rockclub

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2008



President	Gary Hudson	325 554-7804
Past President	Calvin Donaghey	325 695-1508
Vice President	Dave Vargo	325 690-0750
Secretary	Beverly Vargo	325 690-0750
Treasurer	Lou David Allen	
Corresp Sec	Joyce Talley	325 692-0063
Editor	Jerry Davis	254 643-4586

Committees/Chairpersons

Show	Sallie Lightfoot
Field Trips	Tony & Judy Steele
Classes	Charlie Lightfoot/Jim Owens
Nominating	James Grant
Programs	Vice president
Shop	Tim Walker
Club House and Grounds	Charlie Lightfoot
Dealers for show	Tony & Judy Steele
Budget	Lou David Allen
Scholarship	JoAn Wilks
Show Demonstrations	Jerry Davis
Silversmithing Classes	Jerry Davis

Gemstone for December

TURQUOISE



The bright colored gem is highly popular in jewelry of Navajo design. The Navajo prized this because they believed it would bring them closer to their gods and protected them from harm. The Aztecs wore turquoise to show their ranks.

Turquoise has a wide variety of colors. Sky-blue is the most valuable. High-quality turquoise has a permanent color.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of rocks, minerals and fossils. We offer field trips and provide educational opportunities and instruction to members in a variety of areas related to the Lapidary Arts and Jewelry making. We also award a scholarship to a student enrolled at a local college in a field closely related to geology. We provide educational displays related to this hobby at shows of a similar interest. — Jerry

ILLNESSES / RECOVERIES

Ernie Wright
Charley Harrison—
adjusting to new knee

Sallie Lightfoot—
adjusting to new hip



ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.