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SEEKING FACULTY INSTRUCTORS
For the 2005 School Year

Contact Richard Siemens
richardsiemens@mindspring.com

BEAD NECKLACE STRINGING
COMPUTER AIDED JEWELRY DESIGN
ENGRAVING BY HAND
ENGRAVING ORNAMENTAL FACETING DAMAGED STONE REPAIR
FOLD FORMING/HYDRAULIC PRESS JEWELRY
INTARSIA
JEWELRY DESIGN- RENDERING DRAWING/MODELS
MAKING DOUBLETS AND TRIPLETS
MOLD MAKING- MULTIPLE CASTING
ORIENTING STONES/OPTICAL PROPERTIES
WIREWRAPPING -WIRE BENDING AND WRAPPING
BUYING LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT – WHAT TO LOOK FOR BUYING JEWELRY EQUIPMENT – WHAT TO LOOK FOR
CREATIVE MARKETING-DESIGNER JEWELRY LINE
SELLING ON THE SHOW CIRCUIT TRADE PRACTICES JEWELRY STORES/INDUSTRY

WISH LIST
Seeking Donations
By Terrance Grisso

Name Tag Engraver
Air Compressor with tank- medium to large sized (not commercial sized) to replace an undersized one
Expanded Concrete Parking Lot (requires concrete, steel rebar and wood forms)
Chain Link Fencing - 6 feet tall and Posts with possible two gate entrance for cars
Fire Ant Killer
Fertilizer/Weed killer
Small Metal Shear Press
Small Metal Brake
Multimedia Projector that a Laptop computer can be attached to for Power-Point Presentations for classes and assembly programs
Repair modification South Building Gutters
Someone that can transfer VCR tapes to DVD’s. (Approximately 41 tapes)
Door Security card reader and cards. 28 foot or great extension ladder
Jewelry equipment and supplies
Lapidary equipment and supplies
BOOK WISH LIST “HOW TO” by author

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION TO:
DVD OR VIDEO LIST “HOW TO” by author
New Briefcase for the Treasurer

TEXAS SCHOOL OR EARTH SCIENCES
is an affiliate of

SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION OF MINERAL SOCIETIES

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by 1st Director, Richard Siemens.

Motion was made by Sam Howeth, seconded by Kris Galbraith, to accept the minutes and treasurer's report as posted on the bulletin board. Motion passed.

Volunteers are needed in many areas. Please consult the Bulletin Board where these jobs are listed. There also is a "Wish List" for items that you may donate.

Sam Howeth reported that he needs help with the grounds. Alan Anderson has volunteered, but two or three more are needed. Call Sam at 972-263-8002 or Richard at 972-989-2448. Grounds cleanup is on-going; the next big cleanup day will be in March.

The Chili Cook-Off will take place on Saturday, February 19. Bring your chili for judging. If you want beans in your chili, they must be brought separately, for judging. If you want beans in your chili after 3 PM, judging will take place at 4 PM, and dinner will be about 5 PM. Those who do not bring chili may bring accompaniment dishes such as shredded cheese, onions, salads, etc. Sam has arranged to have cheese enchiladas. A $2.00 donation per person will be accepted.

The Chili Cook-Off reported that he needs Sam Howeth

The event will be an all-day affair and will receive extensive advertising. We expect to have visitors all day long. This event will help advertise our show, and may result in some new students and additional interest in our class offerings. Our insurance will cover all participants and visitors. Please contact Barbara, 817-276-9337.

Girl Scout Merit Badge – Kris Galbraith is already offering a course for Boy Scouts, and will investigate the requirements for Girl Scouts.

Scholarship - We need a chairman to coordinate collection of funds for the scholarship donation. These funds could be given to a professor at UTA for distribution to a needy geology student. We also need to encourage students to come take some of our classes in the earth sciences. This scholarship program could also be a part of our outreach program, and offer educational support. This needs to be discussed and defined further.

Field Trips – Irene Stemple – In her absence, Aubrey Boyd reported that the Lockheed-Ft. Worth group is having a trip on February 26th to the Hoffman Ranch. They have invited our students to accompany them to dig for topaz. The group will meet between Mason and Grit at the junction of Highway 29 and 377 South. If you plan to go, please call Bob (817-277-9510) or Aubrey (817-277-2059) Boyd for further instruction.

Historian – Ruth Cress – In the absence of Ruth, Sam Howeth reported that anything you wish to contribute to the 2004 history book must be in before the middle of February. This includes pictures of classes and events/parties, and any pertinent documents.

Library Display – Sam also reported that the Grand Prairie Library's fossil display will begin March 1. Please bring fossils during February so that identification tags may be prepared. Veronica Murday is in charge of this display.

Show – Kris Galbraith – Show dates: August 26th (set-up), 27th and 28th at UTA. She needs a vendor chairman immediately – please volunteer. A dock-master is also needed to keep things organized and moving. If anyone has a picture of last year’s grand prize winner, please provide Kris with a copy. If you have any suggestions for someone to judge the cabbing competition, please advise Kris. Call her at: 817-784-0375. Mary Owren is in charge of demonstrators.

Cab Class – Jim Collins - This class meets every 2nd Saturday at 11:30 AM. This is a pre-requisite for all other cabbing classes, and you will receive saw orientation and use of the wheels in making a cab.

Chain Making – Mary Owren – this class is cancelled during February.

Hospitality – Mike Knuth - Please use the sign-up sheet to bring food for social hour. More volunteers are needed.

Student Report – Marge Harrand – In her absence, Carl Wells reported that Marge is ill. Becky Downey has had gallstone surgery.

Editor – Sarah Shallcross – In her absence, Carl Wells reported that Sarah is beginning a new column in the bulletin, called “Students’ Classified”. Here you may advertise your used, in good condition, tools or equipment that is available for purchase. At present there is no cost for these ads.

Silver Jewelry Class – Sam Howeth – Sam announced that the 101 class is so enthusiastic and excited that their first class ran an hour overtime! He thanks Rick Litzinger, Kris and Bob Boyd for helping with the classes. This is a large class and the additional help is welcome to insure that all students understand what they are doing.
Royce Cochran pointed out that the Executive Board is considering items needed for classes. The casting class needs an air compressor larger than the one we have and the silver jewelry class needs a brake shear for cutting sheet silver. If anyone can donate these items, please let us know.

Utilities – Keep the heat turned down, especially when no one is in the building. Electric bill for January 1st was $441.64, water $63.37. The electric bill received February 1st was nearly $200 higher due to colder weather. Help conserve electricity.

New Business

Dale Miller – reported that the AMFS scholarship fund is in need of donations. This scholarship usually gives two $1000 scholarships per year, however due to lack of funds, only one was given during 2004. A campaign is on for groups to donate $1.00 per member to help raise enough money for a second scholarship. Ross pointed out that we cannot do this until our bills are paid, and that large expenditures must be met. A budget was suggested, however there are some objections. Past-treasurer Nova Wells pointed out that many of our bills are unpredictable, making it nearly impossible to stick to a budget. The Executive Board will discuss this matter and make a recommendation.

Student Directories are available. Pick yours up.

Guests: Dale Miller introduced guests: Connie Nolan, Beverly Elbert and Jay Kohler.

Raffle: The sign-in prize of “rough in a bag” was won by Rick Litzinger. The name badges prize of palmwood rough was won by Mumtaz Knuth.

Program: Carl Wells introduced our speaker, Pat Ross, proprietor of “Beads, Rocks and Knots, in Arlington. Her subject was “There’s a Hole In It”. It was a very informative program about beads dealing with their origin, composition and use. The March program is related to our evolution into a school. It will deal with injury prevention and safety in the school.

April and May – to be announced. June – Joyce Speed and Keith Carman will talk about the South Central Mineralogical Federation. If you have any suggestions or preferences for program topics or speakers, please let Carl know.

Raffle – Kay Smith donated a package of Malachite Fan Beads, won by Barbara Decker. From the school stash: chili pepper earrings – Brian Bowles; agate rough – Sean Galbraith; collar tips – Sean Galbraith; opalized wood – Elaine Donley; green stone slab – Frank Donley; and two rough rocks – Frank Donley and J.K. Hudson.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Submitted by Ramona Vorgert, Secretary

AREA MEETINGS

LMRA Rockhounds
2nd. Tuesday every month, 7:30pm; Room 3, Lockheed Martin Recreational Association Clubhouse, 3400 Bryant Irving Rd, Fort Worth, Texas. Contact Angela Thomson 817-633-7557 or 817-845-4577 if you want to attend.

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral
1st. Thursday of every month, 7:00pm, Garland Women’s Building, 713 Austin, Garland, Texas

Dallas Paleo Society
2nd. Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm, Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park, Dallas, Texas

Dallas Gem and Mineral
3rd. Tuesday of every month, 7:15pm, Ridgewood Recreation Center, 6818 Fisher Road, Dallas, Texas

Dallas Bead Society
3rd. Thursday of every month, 7:30pm, Walnut Hill Recreation Center, Northwest Corner of Walnut Hill and Midway, Dallas, Texas

Oak Cliff Gem and Mineral
4th. Tuesday of every month, 7:30pm, Ice House Arts Plaza , 1011 Brooklyn, Dallas, Texas

Fort Worth Gem and Mineral
4th. Tuesday of every month, 7:30pm, 3545 Bryan Ave, Fort Worth, Texas
TOPAZ FIELD TRIP
By Irene Stemple

WHERE: Old Rocky Davenport Ranch near Mason, Texas
WHEN: Saturday  February  26,  2005
TIME: 10 A.M.  Meeting of group
MEETING PLACE: Roadside Park out of Mason toward
COST: $15.00 per person
LEADER: Bob Boyd, Lockheed and Arlington
Gem and Mineral Clubs
(Now the Texas School of Earth Science)
Cell Phone - 817-917-4977 (Dead phone areas are common in the hunting area. If you
can not reach Bob leave a message and phone number.)
TOOLS: Shovel, pick, screw driver, screen.
Wear water proof boots.
ACCOMODATIONS: Motels in Llano and Mason
Camping: Trailers only at Llano –Robinson City Park.
For other Llano Parks call 915-247-5354
Enchanted Rock State Park – Llano Fort Mason City Park
DIRECTIONS: Possibilities
1. I-35 to Georgetown - Hwy 29
   West to Mason (About 100 miles)
   Estimated time 5 hours.
2. Hwy 377 south through Stephenville
   Comanche, Brownwood, Brady to Hwy 29
   just west of Mason. Estimated time 4 - 4 ½ hrs
   Hwy 29 will merge with 87 and 377.
   87 will split off. Stay on 29 –
   377 West of Mason toward Grit,
   Roadside park is not too far (2 to 3 miles)

NEW MAGAZINE ADDITIONS TO THE
LIBRARY JAN-FEB 2005

Library Chairperson – Clarence Root
If you receive a magazine at home that is related to the Texas
School of Earth Sciences classes- please bring it in and donate it as it will help our Students as fine arts artists, and jewelry
designers! Thank you.

MAGAZINE DONATIONS IN JANUARY WERE GOOD!

BACHENDORF JEWELRY MAGAZINE
NIEMAN MARCUS JEWELRY MAGAZINE
SAKS FIFTH AVENUE JEWELRY MAGAZINE
TIFFANY S JEWELRY MAGAZINE

MAGAZINE DONATIONS IN FEBRUARY WERE FANTASTIC!

INDIA GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS
INDIA JEWELRY MARKET
ISRAEL DIAMOND BUYERS GUIDE
NEW YORK DIAMONDS
TURKEY SMART PARTNERING – TURKISH ASSOC. OF JEWELRY
PEARLS, PASSION, AND PROFITS
AJM –AUTHORITY JEWELRY MANUFACTURING- JULY 2004, NOV
ART JEWELRY -MARCH 2005
BEAD AND BUTTON –FEB 2005
BEAD STYLE –MARCH 2005
BEAD UNIQUE – ISSUE 2, ISSUE 3,
BEADWORK –DEC 2004/JAN2005
SIMPLY BEADS – FEB 2005
BELLE ARMOIRE – ART TO WEAR
COLORED STONE – SHOW GUIDE 2005
INSTORE – AMERICAN JEWELRY STORE OWNER –FEB 2005
THE INTERNATIONAL JEWELRY QUORUM –JAN/FEB 2005
JCK -JEWELER CIRCULAR KEYSONE – JAN 2005
JEWELRY CRAFTS – FEB 2005
JEWELRY NEWS ASIA –JAN 2005
METALSMITH –JEWELRY, DESIGN, METAL ARTS
MODERN JEWELRY –FEB 2005
NATIONAL JEWELRY –FEB 2005
ORNAMENT- ART OF PERSONAL ADORNMENT
SALON –ART TO WEAR
STUDIO PMC –SUMMER 2004, FALL 2004, WINTER 2004-05,
JEWELRY ARTS LAPIDARY JOURNAL DEC 2002, MAR 2003, APR
2003, OCT 2003

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!
Rockhounds VS Rockhogs
Program by Carl Wells

Carl Wells, Director for Texas School of Earth Sciences, presented a program of verse, song and stories for the Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club on January 25, 2005. He called the program, "Rockhounds Versus Rockhogs," and he said, "I hope the Rockhounds won." Several of the numbers Carl wrote, celebrating the role of people involved in the study of earth sciences and the beauty they reveal in the gems, minerals and fossils they collect, study, cut and polish. Fort Worth club member Glenn Flowers, a former member of the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club, joined Carl for several numbers playing the mandolin.
SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED/SUPPORT/GALLERY SHOW
By President Terrance Grisso

Elementary, Middle Schools and High Schools are always seeking volunteers, and our school is no exception!

As many of you know who attended the January 2005 meeting, I asked for your support in “Helping the School Grow”, and at the February 2005 meeting Richard Siemens made the same request. One of the methods to do this is to volunteer your services better known as being an “active participant” either as an Instructor, a Chairperson or as a Committee Member so that we can serve each other and the community better! This allows us to get more publicity- that in turn makes others aware of our existence and increases the number of people wanting to be students using the School.

The following volunteered to help!
Barbara Decker-Advancement Certification Committee Chairperson, Veronica Murday-Library Rotating Displays Committee Chairperson, Mary Owren-Library Rotating Displays Committee Member, Margery Harrand-University of Texas Show Hospitality Chairperson; Barbara Decker-Spring Gallery Day Chairperson, Bob Boyd-University of Texas Vendor Chairperson. If I have missed anyone let me know! Thank you for being an “Active Participant”!

We are still in need of the following:
Student Satisfaction Survey Chairperson and committee member
Scholarship Committee Chairperson and committee member
Grounds Keepers (Primarily Lawn Mowing and trimming Wednesday morning or afternoons)
Grounds Keepers (Saturday mornings)
Concrete Driveway Committee Chairperson

March 12th will be an outside grounds cleanup work morning bring your rake, shovel, pruning shears, saw and what ever other equipment that is needed for items that you see that needs to be accomplished outside!

You may have noticed a conflict in schedules with the Schools Educational Training Meeting on February 1, and the Tucson Arizona Educational Training week going on at the same time. “Look at all the beautiful Rocks, Gems, Minerals and Stones that you may have never have seen before- you can learn more about them”! If you have never gone to Tucson before and you love to look at Earth Science specimens and to walk, this is a great adventure! Put the “Tucson Educational Experience” on your Calendar for next year January 28 – February 6, 2006 but be sure to reserve a Hotel or Motel room a year in advance! Talk to students of the Earth Sciences such as David and Carol Abbott, Dale Miller, Delbert and Joyce Speed and many others that have attended for more information.

SUPPORT. Are you aware that with your new enrollment you should have received a free “Kroger Cares” card from the School? If you did not receive it, ask the next time you are at the School. Kroger supports the Texas School of Earth Sciences by making a contribution from the purchase of Groceries that you buy. Hand your card to the Check out Clerk as soon as it is your turn in line. They scan the bar code and at the end of the year depending on the total that we all spent there, they send a check to the School. It all adds up! Thank you Kroger!!

GALLERY NIGHT. Coming up on Saturday April 2nd is our First ever Spring Gallery Day and Night. This is not a Vendor event of items that you have purchased from someone else but an event for the Artist to show what they have made, and sell. For many of you this may be your first opportunity to have a one page printed “Artist Profile” telling about your specialty in the Fine Art area and the Instructors that you have studied with, any places that you may have previously displayed or shown your work and of course having business cards available.

For others this will just be another Gallery show that you have displayed at! Requirements to display will be 1. An Enrolled Student of the School, 2. submit 3 photographs of the type items that you desire to display by March 15 showing acceptable workmanship and aesthetics (as determined by the committee) of the items that you have made using materials, techniques and knowledge taught at the School, 3. Rent table display space, 4. Have a current Texas Retail tax identification number (if you do not have one, I’ll be happy to instruct you how to go about getting one), 5. Be in attendance throughout the whole day and collect money or checks from any customers for sales, and 6. Make a donation to the School on what ever is sold. This is a no pressure event for any potential customers coming into the School to take a look. So start thinking about how you might cover your table and make a great display! Contact the Spring Gallery Show Chairperson for particulars and sign up.

A big Texas School of Earth Sciences Thank you- to all the Student participants in the February 19th Chili Cook off!!
Common Stone Orientation

"Get the best out of your stone"  Written and edited by: Frank Menchaca

If you are beginning lapidary, you will want to begin with common stones that are easy to obtain and predictable to work with. What do I mean by predictable? It would be materials that would be easier to work with because of certain characteristics inherent in the materials we are, about to discuss.

Picking a stone or material that you want to work with, is just as important as your skill, at cutting and polishing it. With some very basic information you can make informed choices and logical decisions, based on what you observe and how certain stones are known to behave. Really it's just allot of common sense and not an exact science. But knowing some of what exactly to look for can help you make better choices, in your materials.

Basically when beginning you will want to look for materials that are hard. On the Mohs scale of hardness anything harder than 5. It's an easy test to perform. Your basic pocket knife has a hardness of 5 and if you can scratch your material with it would be too soft to work with.

I only suggest this as you begin your journey, into Lapidary. As harder stones will help you to refine your skill at shaping and polishing. It will also allow you some experimentation working with allot of different materials.

Jasper, quartz and agate. There are a multitude of materials, just under these generalized material headings.

Jasper  Quartz  Agate

Though very different, in textures, patterns and colors these materials offer you the very kind of hardness you are looking for. They also offer a great variety of materials with which to work with and are relatively inexpensive and easy to obtain.

Once you have the material you want and have tested it for it's hardness you will have to decide what you want to, get out of your material. It would be a sliced portion of your stone or slab.

This might be a special pattern, grouping of colors or has just caught your eye. It is important to remember that sometimes you will not be able to get every special part, out of every stone you encounter.

Cracks and fissures should be avoided if possible. If you just can't live without these you will need to seal them with a colorless epoxy or sealer. These cracks and fissures may cause breakage or marr the surface polish of your design.

Also positioning, in the saw to, cut your special part out of your rock will sometimes hinder your plans. You can solve this by attaching your stone to a block of wood with Elmer's glue so that sawing your slice won't be limited to positioning with the jaws of the rock cradle, in the saw alone. Simply soaking your stone and block. In warm water will eventually loosen it from being glued.

All of these things should be considered, before planning your cuts. It is also a good trick to spend allot of time studying your stone.

(Next month, part 2 of Common Stone Orientation)
February Program
Pat Ross presented the program for February entitled “There’s A Hole in it.” She gave us a nice background of information about beads found by archaeologist in sites from earliest humanity and continued to the newest glass and fiber optic materials for beads. Some of the most important hints Pat gave us were about buying beads:

1. When selecting a string of beads from a vendor be sure to roll them on a flat surface to check that the beads are drilled accurately in the center.
2. Look at the edges of the drilled holes to see if they have been finished smoothly.
3. Check the color variation. Beads with bright, consistent color usually are not natural stone but synthetics that may have as little as 10% ground material for which they are named, mixed with a form of plastic.
4. Know that names like “watermelon quartz”, “pineapple quartz” and “grape quartz” are not quartz stone but glass.
5. If the price seems too good to be true it probably is. Cheap beads will not pass the first three tests above.

Around the world, she said that China is developing as a source for crystal beads, which have historically been supplied by the cottage industry in Austria. Japan is moving strongly into the field of seed beads, but most people think the Czech beads have the better color. Pat recognized the work of Becky Downey and Diane Flynn in the field of Lampwork beads. She noted that bead carving in such materials ads camel and water buffalo bones is popular in some areas; and that beaders are getting more and more adventurous, experimenting with combining lapidary work such as cabochons with their beading projects.

Pat, a long-time member of the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club, operates Beads, Rocks & Knots at 1730 W. Randall Mill Road in Arlington. --Submitted by Nova and Carl Wells

MARCH 2005
TSES CLASSES AND EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

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*Clean up on Saturdays at the School take place every Saturday before the next Tuesday meeting. Please try to attend at least one Saturday a year. Your help is greatly appreciated!

** Lost Wax Casting Class will be scheduled on Sundays, as needed.

***Deadline for Ads and Articles for the Hound’s Tale is Thursday after the Tuesday Board Meeting each month.

**** Labs are open on Thursday night, 7:00pm to 9:00pm and Saturday morning, 9:00am to 12:00pm.
SCHOOL OFFICERS

President    Terrance Griss 817-277-0555
1st Director  Richard Siemens 214-941-7735
2nd Director  Carl Wells 817-451-7861
3rd Director  Irene Stemple 817-926-6546
4th Director  Carol Abbott 817-654-1475
Secretary     Ramona Vorgert
Treasurer     Lori Anderson 817-275-1579
Delegate at Large  Sam Howeth 972-263-8002
Delegate at Large  Kris Galbraith 817-784-0375

STANDING COMMITTEES

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ED. SHOW SUPPLIERS CHAIRPERSON  OPEN
ED. SHOW PUBLICITY  C. Wells
LAPIDARY CHAIRPERSON  J. Collins
LAPIDARY ASSISTANT  B. Bush
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CLEANING  OPEN
MAINTENANCE  E. Faeth
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LIBRARIAN  C. Root
HISTORIAN  R. Cress
JEWELRY  S. Howeth
CASTING  R. Cochran
HOSPITALITY  M. and M. Knuth
ADMISITIONS CHAIRPERSON  E. Collins
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GUEST BOOK  D. Speed
CALLING COMMITTEE  N. Wells
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LONG RANGE PLANNING  H. Hoskison
HOUND’S TALE EDITOR  S. Shallcross
WEBMASTER  J. Dubhros

THE HOUND’S TALE

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ADS AND ARTICLES

Lapidary related ads and articles from Students of TSES are welcomed. They will be placed on a space available basis, first in first out; non-enrollees ads are accepted after student ads. Include your name and contact information.

SCHOOL PURPOSE:

To encourage the study of earth sciences, lapidary arts and other related fields, and to enjoy good fellowship with those who share like interests.

Yearly Enrollment:

Initial Adult Enrollment  $35.00 (includes $10.00 enrollment)
Adult Renewals  $30.00 per calendar year
Early Enrollment  $25.00 per cal. year before Jan 1
Junior Students  $3.50 per calendar year

Activities take place at:
Texas School of Earth Science
1408 Gibbins Road, Arlington, TX 76011
Phone 817-277-2286

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 986
Arlington, TX 76004

E-mail Address:
gemclub@ev1.net or webmaster@agmclub.org

World Wide Web Home Page:
http://www.agmclub.org

Training and Business meeting on 1st Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.
TSES Board Meeting on 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 P.M.

We would like to see your personal Rock & Mineral Collection. If you would like your collection published in the Hound’s Tale, please send your picture to the editor at sjsinst@comcast.net

Send Ads and Articles to:
Sarah Shallcross, Editor
1806 Fieldstone Court
Arlington, TX 76018
ph 817-465-8670
e-mail to sjsinst@comcast.net

DEADLINE DATE FOR ADS AND ARTICLES IS THE THURSDAY AFTER THE TUESDAY BOARD MEETING EACH MONTH
Come Join in the Fun....