

## NOVEMBER ROCK PARTY

By Sharon Marburger

The November Rock Party was hosted by Jayne Beer and Judith Bay at The Jewelry Connection. By the time Jim and I got there at 5:05 p.m., the place was filled with people. I was quite surprised because we are usually one of the first families to arrive at these events.

Jayne scrambled to make room on the table for our food items. There were many kinds of soup: potato, turkey noodle, hot and sour, vegetable beef, bean, and vegetable pork. There were biscuits, cornbread, and rolls; chips and cheese dip; turkey; and two kinds of salads. There were several desserts: pumpkin pies, cinnamon rolls, apple cake with caramel sauce, apple pie, lemon merengue pie, and caramel popcorn. Oh my! Enough food to feed half an army! And it was all delicious!

After the priority business of eating was completed, everyone spread out to their places of hobby work. Nick, Corey, Eddie, and I went for the lapidary equipment. Judith, Susy, and Elayna did some silver work. Others sat around and shared summer finds. There were some mountainous tales told of past field trips. Anyone entering the shop could tell that this group of people enjoy the hobby and each other. There was lots of laughter and good-natured ribbing.

Rock Parties are the events to attend if you want to learn any aspect of the hobby. There is always someone there who can teach lapidary. Several members can assist with stone and mineral identification. Want to know how to use your tumbler? Come to a Rock Party. We are a little short on attendees who can help with fossils, but we hope to change that. Jayne is at nearly every Rock Party; she can help with silver smithing. Both Jayne and Judith are excellent teachers in smithing! Susy knows about beads, if that is your thing. And, if you already know everything there is to know, you might enjoy the friendship and camaraderie, not to mention being a mentor to someone else!

The next Rock Party will be December 16 at the Marburgers' home in Hickman. Contact a club member to get the address. We look forward to seeing you there!



Nick, Corey, and Sharon hard at work in the lapidary room.



Judith & Jim



Susy assisting granddaughter Elayna master the silver smithing torch.



Eddie & Nick, deep in discussion



Corey telling Nykky a tall tale



Cabochon Sharon worked on at the Rock Party.



Elayna's finished bracelet. Twisted sterling silver wire entwined with copper. Great job, Elayna!