Megan Kalina, The University of Texas Permian Basin, Odessa, TX, for her project: *Evaluation of Cementing Phases in the Cherry Canyon Formation of the Delaware Mountain Group, Ford Geraldine Field, Texas*

Megan Kalina is a first year Master’s student at the University of Texas Permian Basin. She will begin her second year in the program co-advised by Dr. Miles Henderson and Dr. Bob Trentham. Her thesis project focuses on the assessment of porosity preservation within clay minerals in the Cherry Canyon sandstones using standard petrographic techniques and Scanning Electron Microscopy.

This research has implications for clastic formations which are targets for saltwater disposal and CO$_2$ storage. Megan is very grateful for the financial support from GSA and the MGPV Division, which allows her to use SEM to further assess her thin sections. Megan is also working alongside the UTPB Department of Geosciences on the Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage Grant by the U.S. DOE.

Megan received her B.S. in Chemistry at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in 2019. During her undergrad, Megan worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a soil scientist. It was during this time she developed a love for the outdoors and exploring exposed Cretaceous reef shelves in local creek beds. In her spare time, Megan enjoys hiking, fishing, and spending time with friends and family.