

# MAGS EXPLORER



Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society Youth Newsletter

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## Labelling

*MIKE BALDWIN-One of the most important things you can do for yourself and your collection is label.*

### Why Label?

Let's say that you go on a field trip with MAGS once every two months [OK, some of you might go on a field trip with MAGS every month]. One month you go to Richardson's Landing and you collect agates, jaspers, petrified wood, and a fantastic fossil ice age beaver tooth. A couple of months later you go Florence, Alabama and collect blastoids, archimedes, and a trilobite or two. In May, it's off to Potosi, Missouri, and you add about a dozen drusie quartz clusters to your collection. July rolls around and you and your family stop by Stuart, Virginia during your summer vacation. In Stuart, you collect a small ziploc baggie full of staurolite crystals and stop by the little service station near the park to watch the Mr. Hanson file away the rust from some of the crystals.

Your collection is really growing now, but you're not finished yet. September arrives and you head to Parsons, Tennessee to explore the rock piles of Vulcan Quarry. Buckets of crinoids make it home with you. By now you have about four boxes full of specimens, all

stacked neatly in one corner of your room. One sunny Saturday in November, add another field trip to your list with a visit to Nonconah Creek. You come home with more agates, jaspers, and even an arrowhead. All these specimens make it into your boxes.

The only problem with this picture is this. Your four boxes of specimens are neatly stacked, but none of the specimens have labels. After a year or two of sitting in those boxes, you no longer have a clear idea of where they came from, when you collected them, and what some of them are. Are those agates from Richardson's Landing, or Nonconah, or are they from the gravel mine that you went to year before last?

It is very important that you label ALL of your specimens. What if you give some of them to someone else. You will want them to know what you are giving them. Take the time to do a little research and learn what you have in your collection. Make copies of the cards on page 2 of this newsletter, and have fun collecting.

MAGS Explorer is published monthly by and for the youth members of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Please send your comments and articles to Editor Mike Baldwin, 367 N. Main St., Collierville, TN 38017 or rockclub@earthlink.net. Youth can give articles, artwork, poems, puzzles, experiments, or stories to co-editors Jennifer Baldwin, Emily Randolph, Kelly Baldwin, or Abbey Randolph.

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### Fossil Specimen Card

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_  
Genus \_\_\_\_\_  
Species \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Formation \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Collector \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_  
Genus \_\_\_\_\_  
Species \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Formation \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Collector \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_  
Genus \_\_\_\_\_  
Species \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Formation \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Collector \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_

### Mineral Specimen Card

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemical Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemical Comp \_\_\_\_\_  
Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Collector \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemical Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemical Comp \_\_\_\_\_  
Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Collector \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemical Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Chemical Comp \_\_\_\_\_  
Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Collector \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_