



Volume 65 ♦ Number 01 ♦ January 2019 ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

Parkin Site Research

Ryan Smith, Arkansas Archaeological Survey January Program



Since the 1960s, the Parkin site has been a treasure of knowledge for archeologists. Located in Cross County, Arkansas, it features one of the best preserved Mississippian Period occupation sites in all of Arkansas. Strong evidence for contact with the Hernando de

Soto expedition has also been uncovered. This presentation will give an overview of the research that has been done at Parkin and how it is preserved and interpreted to the public by the Arkansas Archeological Survey and Parkin Archeological State Park

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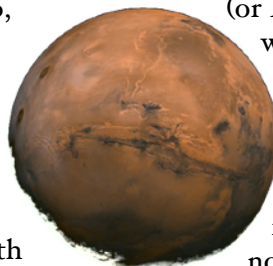
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THE COLORS OF MARS

Just before noon PST on November 26, InSight, NASA's newest Mars lander, touched down successfully on the Red Planet. The primary mission of InSight will be to drill 16 feet into the surface of Mars and examine the core sections. NASA hopes to uncover some of the mysteries of Mars. Perhaps InSight will unearth

THE JANUARY MAGS YOUTH PROGRAM

(or I should say unmars) further evidence of a watery past.



The rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, confirmed for us earthlings that the Red Planet is a dry and dusty place. Evidence of ancient surface water suggests that Mars might have been suited for past life (maybe not Martians like the ones you

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MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ◊ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

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MAGS AND FEDERATION NOTES

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society, Memphis, Tennessee

The objectives of this society shall be as set out in the Charter of Incorporation issued by the State of Tennessee on September 29, 1958, as follows: for the purpose of promoting an active interest in the geological finds and data by scientific methods; to offer possible assistance to any archaeologist or geologist in the general area covered by the work and purposes of this society; to discourage commercialization of archaeology and work to its elimination and to assist in the younger members of the society; to publicize and create further public interest in the archaeological and geological field in the general area of the Mid-South and conduct means of displaying, publishing and conducting public forums for scientific and educational purposes.

MAGS General Membership Meetings and MAGS Youth Meetings are held at 7:00 P. M. on the second Friday of every month, year round. The meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall of Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5530 Shady Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee.

MAGS Website: memphisgeology.org

MAGS Show Website: www.theearthwideopen.com

We aren't kidding when we say this is a newsletter for and by the members of MAGS. An article with a byline was written by a MAGS Member, unless explicitly stated otherwise. If there is no byline, the article was written or compiled by the Editor. Please contribute articles or pictures on any subject of interest to rockhounds. If it interests you it probably interests others. The 15th of the month is the deadline for next month's issue. Send material to lybanon@earthlink.net.

January DMC Field Trip

WHERE: Douglas Lake, Jefferson County, Tennessee

WHEN: Saturday, January 19

COLLECTING: "Douglas Lake Diamonds" (quartz crystals)

INFORMATION: Al Gaskill, (336) 766-19 or albert.gaskill.iii@gmail.com; Charles Whicker, (336) 880-9206 or ccwhicler@live.com.

Links to Federation News

- ➔ AFMS: www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm
- ➔ SFMS: www.amfed.org/sfms/
- ➔ DMC: www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm

President’s Message

Welcome to MAGS2019

Welcome to a new year of rock collecting, rock swaps, rock shows, Membership Meetings, and special events. The welcome comes with a big caveat—you—as, for all the club activities to occur and be successful you should insert your name here and do the following:

- 1. Renew your 2019 membership.
2. Mark your calendars:
• Upcoming Membership meetings are January 11, February 8, March 8, and April 12. For the remainder of year they are on the second Friday of each month.

- MAGS 40th annual show is April 27-28.
• In October MAGS hosts the DMC field trip.
3. Read this newsletter, web site(s), social media, and all electronic communications. That will provide you:
• Upcoming meeting dates, events and programs. Also some pretty darn good articles.

Be ready and willing to help the club when requested. We need to insert your name here to help Happy New Year.

W. C.

The Colors of Mars might see in Continued from P. 1 early science fiction movies, but possibly single-celled organisms).

During the January MAGS youth meeting, we will be taking a closer look at the colors of the surface of Mars. The rusty red color that the planet is known for is derived from iron oxide, like the rust color you might see as iron oxidizes on Earth. Water often plays a big role in the oxidation process. Mineral diversity on the surface of Mars results in a variety of colors ranging from bright, rusty red to bright white (from ice or silica deposits). At the January meeting we will look at a variety of images from the surface of Mars and observe how shadows, reflected sunlight, and seasonal changes (such as permafrost and flow features) affect the colors of Mars. Each youth member will have an opportunity to perform a colored-sand experiment to try and simulate the surface of Mars. We’ll talk about possible causes for the color combinations each participant

produces.

MAGS youth, don’t miss the January meeting. Your specimen of the month for January will be Tennessee Banded Agate. Parents, if one or two of you could assist James and me during the meeting, that would be very much appreciated.

Photo and information contained in this article credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Hello From Your New Field Trip Director

Kim Hill

Hey folks, it's Kim Hill. They finally did it: put me in charge of something. To be specific, I will be your Director of Field Trips for the 2019-2020 term.

I am working on what I hope will be a fun schedule of adventures—going back to some tried and true sites, and I hope some great new places.

There are some upcoming trips I am very excited about, one next September 27-29 to a geode

fest in Illinois, another to Gainesville, Florida, May 16 and 17, 2020, to hunt sharks teeth—it is possible to find megalodon teeth—and other sea life fossils. My assistant Charles Hill is planning a week long trip in late March 2019 to North Carolina. We will give out more information as soon as we can.

I am working on having at least six months of trips on the calendar so you can plan ahead of time, but have to wait until later in January for some information to complete my first list.

I can tell you we will be going January 19, 2019, to Nonconnah Creek at Perkins Road, and February 16 to Richardson's Landing or Sugar Creek depending on water levels.

I will have 22 trips to plan so if you have any ideas or know of places we can hunt (legally) please let me know.

As with all things in life trips can be subject to change. I will make sure everyone will be notified of any changes.

Continued, P. 4

*Hello From ... Field Trip Director
Continued from P. 3*

Hope you join me on what I think will be a great calendar of trips.

Falls of the Ohio State Park

The Epicenter of Geology
Activities in 2019
Alan Goldstein

The Falls of the Ohio State Park was created in 1990 to preserve and interpret the 390 million-year-old Devonian fossil beds on the floor and banks of the Ohio River. They are one of the first-known North American fossil localities, noted by the earliest explorers who navigated the Ohio River in canoe and flat boat. Native Peoples used the Falls extensively for hunting and fishing, as well as selectively collecting fossils, too.

In 2016, the park's Interpretive Center underwent a six-million-dollar renovation. Geology exhibits include a video wall showing a living Devonian sea, interactive components, and new fossils on display. The origin of the Ohio River is revealed through a series of short video clips narrated by an expert. Our six-foot mammoth tusk has a new case. A half-million dollar UHD orientation movie was unveiled in September 2018. The park celebrates the museum's silver anniversary in 2019 with a special event January 26 & 27, and monthly programs the rest of the year focusing on new knowledge since 1994.

We are offering more geology programs to visitors, such as the

"Marine Life of Today and Yesterday" series, with programs by marine biologist Dr. Dominique Hansen on the links of today's global climate change to issues like mass extinction, ocean geology, and coral reef significance. The series includes the ongoing "Meet the Paleontologist" covering fossils in different geological periods, geological time, how fossils form, etc.

In an effort to revamp a local geology club, a series of six geology programs will be offered throughout 2019. Scheduled programs include Pennsylvanian plants, why people collect, fluorite, dinosaur discoveries, the Cambrian explosion, and the early Dutch-American collector, Gerard Troost.

August 24, 2019, will be our 24th year of celebrating geology and archaeology with Digging the Past. This event, sponsored by IMI, features hands-on activities in geology and archaeology, collecting piles, fossil bed hikes, food, and presentations on how to become an archaeologist and paleontologist.

October 19–21, 2019, Paleontology Camp for Adults. After years of offering a career camp for teens, we will have a paleontology camp for the post-high school crowd. Participants will learn about fossils, explore the fossil beds with a paleontologist, go fossil collecting, and learn how to identify what you find. This immersive camp is for anyone 18 and over. Cost is \$200. Contact the Falls of the Ohio State Park for details.

For geology clubs with a group

reservation, we will offer a special behind the scenes tour and fossil lab at no extra cost. The Falls of the Ohio State Park is one of the few Indiana state parks with a collections store room. If scheduled when the staff is available, a group may tour the space and get a sneak peek at our fossils and other collections. Any group scheduled between November 15 and April 30 may participate in a hands-on "Devonian ecosystems" fossil lab in the classroom. Between May 1 and November 14, groups have the option of an indoor lab or a guided tour of the fossil beds. The expansive fossil beds are best seen from August–November, while the upper fossil beds are exposed most of the year, except when the Ohio River is higher than normal.

Clubs may dig in the collecting piles—and while collecting tools aren't permitted anywhere else in the park, they are allowed in the collecting piles. We plan to dramatically increase the size of the collecting piles with additions of fossil-rich Silurian Waldron Shale and subsoil with Devonian fossils from local quarries.

To schedule club field trip or request more details, contact Alan Goldstein, Interpretive Naturalist/Park Paleontologist: agoldstein@dnr.in.gov. Program details are available through Falls of the Ohio Foundation website, www.falloftheohio.org, the park's official Facebook page, www.facebook.com/falloftheohio, and the Indiana State Parks Falls of the Ohio State Park web page, <https://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2984.htm>.

Falls of the Ohio State Park
Interpretive Center *Continued, P. 5*

Falls of the Ohio State Park hours are *Continued from P. 4* 9 A. M.-5 P. M., Monday-Saturday, and 1-5 P. M. Sunday. Admission is \$9 age 12 and up, \$7 age 5 to 7, under 5 is free. Parking is \$2 per vehicle in the lot behind the museum. Group visit reservations are suggested, especially if you would like a guided program on the fossil beds (May 1–November 15), river level permitting.

Falls of the Ohio State Park, 201 West Riverside Drive, Clarksville, IN 47129, (812) 280-9970, is located north of downtown Louisville, Kentucky, and a mile west of I-65.



Interpretive Center and Devonian fossil beds—Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville, Indiana



Clean swath of fossil beds revealing countless Devonian-age corals.

Photo credits: Falls of the Ohio State Park

Discovery At George's House

Matthew Lybanon, Editor

On October 12, 2018, Dominic Anderson and Jared Phillips, a pair

of high school seniors from Akron, Ohio, were helping to map out the dimensions of a cemetery believed to house the remains of Mount Vernon's slaves and their descendants. While sifting through sediment they found an artifact from much longer ago than when the first U. S. President lived there.



The artifact, which bore a striking resemblance to a lumpy potato, was a three-inch wide, seven-inch-long, carefully crafted stone axe likely used for cutting or carving wood. It had been there for 6,000 years before being found by the two amateur archaeologists.

Anderson and Phillips approached Joe Downer, Mount Vernon's archaeological field research manager, and asked if the peculiar object was of any significance.

"I was kind of taken aback when I saw it," Downer told a *Washington Post* reporter who wrote about the discovery. "I looked at it, and I held it for a minute, and I was like, 'Well, that might be one of the coolest things we found out here.' It's pretty unmistakable when you see it."

The axe was dated to around 4,000 B. C. based on its similarity to other tools from that period. It still retains evidence of its creator's skill and craftsmanship. In order to make the axe, a craftsper-

son must have used a hammer stone to chip away at a rock's surface and form a sharp edge. This cutting surface was smoothed down with a second, harder stone, then refined with a hard grinding stone. A groove added to facilitate the attachment of a wooden handle provided the axe's finishing touch.

For now, the axe will be cataloged, cleaned, and preserved. Ultimately, it will join a collection of more than 50,000 artifacts already found at the site.



Want to Be a Member?

To become a MAGS Member, just go to our website at www.memphisgeology.org and print out an application form. There is a prorated fee schedule for new Members only. Mail the completed application along with the dues payment to the Membership Director shown on the form. If you are unable to print the application, you can pick one up at the sign-in desk at any of our Friday night Membership Meetings, or simply join at the meeting. Visitors are always welcome at our Membership Meetings but membership is required to attend our field trips.

The most important benefit of being a MAGS Member is getting *Continued, P. 6*

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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MAGS Notes to know and
Continued from P. 5 make friends
with other
members who have similar interest
in rocks, minerals, fossils, and ar-
chaeology. All new Members will
receive a New Member Packet, a
MAGS ID card, and a monthly
newsletter via email. Members are
entitled to go on our monthly field
trips and get free admission to our
annual rock and mineral show.

🎵 January Birthdays

- 2 Justin Coulson
Dominic Tribo
- 3 Mary Kratz
- 9 Heidi Browning
- 10 Noa Parks
- 11 Grayson Hebert
- 12 Angie Menne
- 15 Mike Murray
- 16 Jack Cupps
Francis "Mitch" Mitchell
Brandon Hubble
- 18 Ricky Waters
- 21 Brooke Ledbetter
Richard Gunter
- 23 Claudia Sims
- 24 Dr. John Stanford
- 30 Nancy Schaefer
- 31 Teresa Noyes
Abigail Loyd

🎵 New Members

Andrea and Douglas Maki
Katherine Dean
Karen Joseph

🎵 Adult Programs

January: Ryan Smith, Parkin Site
Research
February: Jane Coop, TBD

🎵 Junior Programs

January: Mike Baldwin, "The
Colors of Mars"
February: Mike Baldwin,
"Mountain Building and Contour
Map Reading"
March: Mike Baldwin, "The Last
Ice Age"

🎵 Field Trips

January 19, Nonconnah Creek
February 16, Richardson Landing
or Sugar Creek
March, North Carolina (details
TBD)

🎵 Show Committee

Meetings in Agricenter board
room
January 7
January 28
February 25

Regarding Gold And Silver

Mildred Schiff

Gold is currently at a \$1252.00
per troy ounce level and silver is at
\$14.70 per troy ounce. Gold is
near its high and silver has
dropped quite a bit, but both are
way higher than several years ago
and not likely to drop much more,
if at all!

Of course the figures change
every day and the daily exchange
figures are what refineries base
their payout on. All refineries pay
pretty much the same for scrap
per pennyweight, which is 1/20th
of an ounce. Refineries pay based
on the cost of pure metal minus a
refining charge, and it doesn't mat-

ter whether you are a jeweler or
not. Most of the places which will
buy your gold may also charge a
fee for service. All returned gold
is counted as scrap and will be
melted and reused; makes no dif-
ference what form it is in when
received by the refinery as long as
its karat can be determined. This
includes jewelry, teeth, bridges,
etc. Dental gold is frequently al-
loyed with more expensive metal
than jewelry gold, so it may bring a
somewhat higher price for the
scrap. This is also why you can
not easily melt dental gold yourself
for jewelry making or mix it with
other gold. The different alloys
wreak havoc!

I send metal back to Hauser
and Miller Refinery about once a
year. If you want me to include
your scrap, please contact me ei-
ther by phone at (901) 277-7446 or
at dreamcasters@comcast.net so I
can tell you when I am planning to
send it.

I DO NOT HOLD precious
metal at my studio. I will weigh
your scrap in your presence and
send it as soon as possible.

The more folks who send stuff
the cheaper it will be to send as I
split the shipping and insurance
cost by person and NOT by
weight. I do not take a separate
fee.

My Jewelry classes will start in
early March.

If any one is interested in
learning Metal Fabrication, Metal
Clay, Wire Wrapping or Fused
Glass for Jewelry, please contact
me. Class dates and times depend
on number of students and stu-
dent convenience.

Fabulous Tennessee Fossils

Dr. Michael A. Gibson,
University of Tennessee at Martin

FTF 48

The Brachiopod *Cincinnetina*



The Tennessee State Museum (<https://tnmuseum.org/>) in Nashville has undergone a renovation and recently opened with new exhibits. I was asked to participate in developing a series of earth science traveling “trunk” exhibits that highlight Tennessee geology, particularly its fossil riches. One of my colleagues on that committee is Nancy Stetten, retired from the State Department of Education, who is an accomplished amateur paleontologist. Nancy and I have known each other for over twenty years and she has been instrumental in developing K-12 earth science educational opportunities in the Nashville area. You may know her from her very useful “Nashville Fossils” brochure available on the Tennessee Geological Survey website (https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/environment/geology/documents/geology_fossil-hunt-nashville.pdf). In preparing her “Ordovician Box” for our “trunk”, Nancy ran across a notice that there has been a revision of a very common Ordovician through Silurian brachiopod found in Middle Tennessee, although the revision did not specifically use Tennessee fossils in the study (the nearby Kope Formation in Kentucky does play an important role in the study). This particular scientific revision may or may not affect some of our species, and Nancy asked me and State Geologist Ron Zurawski (also on the committee) what our professional opinions are on this renaming and whether or not it applies to her Tennessee specimens. This is a similar problem to the one we looked in back in 2015 with FTF 5 concerning the two corals

Litbostrotionella & *Acrocyathus*.

The Tennessee brachiopods that we are focusing on are *Dalmanella*, *Resserella*, and *Omniella*. Specifically, she is interested in the brachiopod *Resserella fertilis*. In recent years, brachiopod taxonomists have been revising several similar looking brachiopods based upon their morphology, but also using what was known about their ecology (e. g., warm water vs. cold water species). This later criterion is somewhat problematic in that species taxonomy is not usually based upon ecology, but rather upon morphology. The author of the revision paper (J.Jin. 2012. *Cincinnetina*, a new Late Ordovician dalmanellid brachiopod from the Cincinnati type area, USA: implications for the evolution and palaeogeography of the epicontinental fauna of Laurentia: *Palaeontology* 55(1):205-228) justified his revision of the taxa based upon ecology, but did use morphologic details of the fold and sulcus (an external feature), punctae (little holes in the shell), and the cardinal process (an internal feature only visible on disarticulated specimens) used to attach muscles for opening and closing the shell. Jin noted that the three species he is interested in revising have been variously called over the years *Orthis meeki*, *Dalmanella meeki*, *Resserella meeki*, or *Omniella meeki* and *Orthis multisecta*, *Dalmanella multisecta*, *Omniella multisecta*, or *Resserella multisecta*, and *Dalmanella minnesotensis*, *Omniella minnesotensis*, *Orthis minnesotensis*, and *Resserella minnesotensis* as one tracks through the literature of the past



Figure 1. Slab of limestone from the UT Martin Vanderbilt Collection showing numerous articulated *Dalmanella meeki* from the Arnheim Formation (Silurian) exposures at Newsome Station. These specimens are now known by the name *Cincinnetina meeki* (Photo by Michael A. Gibson).

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MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Fabulous Tennessee Fossils 100 years. Wow! You can see the confusion!

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So, is Nancy's *Resserella fertilis* now renamed *Cincinnetina fertilis*? The answer is no.

In the paper, Jin specifically redefines only three species (*meeki*, *multisecta*, *minnisotensis*) and moves those three species into the new genus he erected, *Cincinnetina*, based primarily on a cardinal process that divides itself into two lobes. Jin noted that some specimens have a cardinal process that is trilobed, which he leaves in two different genera all together that we are not even discussing here. Jin's new *Cincinnetina* genus is interpreted to be subtropical in water temperature. For Nancy, the genus *Resserella* remains a valid genus and continues to contain the other species assigned to it, including her *R. fertilis*. It is conceivable that this can change later if Jin or other brachiopod workers look specifically at *R. fertilis* and decide they should be included in the new genus, but that has not occurred at this point. As for me, I now have to add revised specimen tags to our specimens to keep up with the changes and you should do the same for your specimens if you have them. Merry Christmas to you all.

Amateur Curators Needed

Linda McCall

The Fossil Project has been a major player in helping the amateur and professional communities learn more about each other and begin to work closer together. This project was NSF funded and much of the project funding will be ending in the next year.

One of the more important aspects is an online database of fossils which is utilized by amateurs and professionals around the world. For a look at it, please use the link below.

[Fossils | myFOSSIL](#)

Currently it is being curated by a grad student at the University of Florida. That funding ends this year. This is a wonderful resource for amateurs and professionals alike and we believe allowing amateurs to submit fossils to a professional online database for research is vital in the fields of both professional and avocational paleontology.

We also believe our community is more than capable of curating this database ourselves. Therefore, we are looking for avocational

fossil collectors who are willing to volunteer and help curate this online collection. Responsibilities would include making sure submitted fossils meet image quality and scale guidelines, making sure locality and formation information is present, and checking that specific fossils are identified correctly.

Volunteers will be sent to the North American Paleontological Convention in Riverside, California, during the week of June 23rd for curation training. Travel and housing expenses will be paid for. Because of the training effort, any volunteer will be a curator for at least two years. If you feel you can be a curator for the amateur community, or want to learn more about this important opportunity, please contact Jason Kowinsky. JAK@megacorp.org.

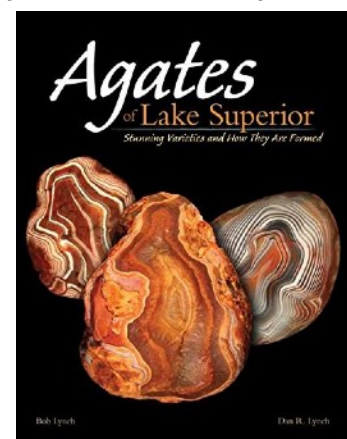
Linda McCall was President, North Carolina Fossil Club, 2012-2017, and is a Research Fellow, University of Texas at Austin. She can be reached at (512) 422-2322 or ldmccall02@yahoo.com.



Greetings, All MAGS Members

As you know, the 2019 MAGS annual (January 1-December 31) membership dues should be paid prior to January 1, 2019. You can accomplish this by paying your renewal dues at any of the Friday night Membership Meetings or by mailing your payment (payable to **MAGS**) to me at: Bob Cooper, 8695 Baylor Rd., Arlington, TN 38002. The dues for 2019 are:

\$15 (individual) \$25 (family)



This year's early renewal prize is a copy of the book *Agates of Lake Superior* written by Bob and Dan R. Lynch. This is a great book in which you can learn about agate formation and how

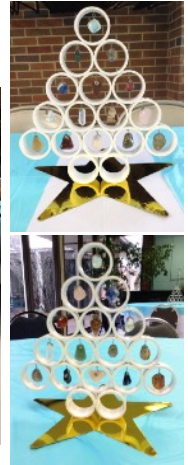
Lake Superior

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MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

2018 Holiday Party



*Greetings, All MAGS Members
Continued from P. 8*

agates are unique. It has hundreds of great pictures, diagrams, and tips on how to find and identify agates. When you renew your 2019 MAGS membership, you will be entered into a drawing for this book. **You have until the end of the January 11, 2019, Membership Meeting to renew your membership in order to be in this drawing.** You do not have to be present to win. Also if you live out of state or do not attend the Membership Meetings and you win the drawing, I will mail the prize to you. Renew early and good luck.

Bob Cooper

MAGS Membership Director

November Board Minutes

Mike Baldwin

Called to order 6:30 by W. C. McDaniel. Present: Mike Baldwin, Kim Hill, Matthew Lybanon, Carol Lybanon, Bonnie Cooper, Bob Cooper, David Clarke, Nannett McDougal-Dykes, W. C. McDaniel, Mildred Schiff.

Our condolences go to Charles Hill and his family following the loss of his grandson. Our thoughts are with Paul Sides as he remains in Baptist East Hospital.

Secretary: Electronic copies of the October minutes were distributed earlier this week; hard copies were distributed this evening. Minutes approved. Printed newsletter copies will be mailed on Friday.

Web: The home page, calendar and newsletter pages have been updated and will be uploaded on Friday.

Treasurer: Bonnie distributed checking and summary reports as well as CD information. Discussion followed concerning ordering of new

checks. Treasurer's report approved subject to audit.

Membership: No new Members but 16 renewals since last meeting. Renewal notice is in the newsletter.

Field Trips: Batesville trip is in flux. Suggestion was made to move the December trip (Pickwick, fossils) to November. Board agreed. An email will be sent to all Members.

Adult Programs: MAGS School of Rock will be next Friday night. Eight tables will be set up for activities. There will also be a live auction. December program will be the Holiday Party. Mike has printed invitations to distribute at the November meeting. Bonnie bought enough tablecloths to give to the youth next year so they can have a decorating contest amongst themselves. There will be bingo again this year.

Librarian: Nannett has recovered one delinquent book. She spoke to Ron Brister about volunteer days at Chucalissa. Ron will donate his massive library of geology books to our club library. All of these books will be reference only. Bob and Bonnie volunteered to repair one of the rolling library cabinets. Nannett will work on one of them this weekend. W. C. suggested that we label the cabinets with contents. Mike suggested a plastic sleeve that a contents sheet of paper could be slid in or removed as needed.

Newsletter: Send articles. Deadline for the December newsletter will be November 15.

Historian: The last rock swap for 2018 was held in Bartlett. Carol will try to do the new MAGS history pages for 2018 while in Florida.

Youth Programs: The first six meetings for 2019 have been determined: January—"Mountain Building Experiments and Contour Map Reading", Mike Baldwin. February—"The Last Ice Age", Mike Baldwin. March—"Who Are the Native Americans and Where Did They Come From?", Mike

Baldwin. April—Juniors will join the adults as we prepare for The Earth Wide Open Show. May—"An Introduction to Micro-Minerals Using a Binocular Microscope", Mike Baldwin. June—"Caves: How They Form and What You Will Find Inside Them", Mike Baldwin. Mike hopes to plan a "youth and youth families only" visit to Cumberland Caverns or Mammoth Cave during June. Mike would also like to begin working through the Junior Rockhound Program with the MAGS youth in January, keeping records of youth attendance and rewarding those loyal to the program with a new specimen for their collection each month. Beginning with the January issue of *MAGS Rockhound News* there will be a monthly youth-focused article. The January article will be about mountain-building, (the January program). Mike would like to start a digital-only 4-6 page monthly newsletter just for the youth. It would include a specimen card for the specimen-of-the-month, an article about the program, articles submitted by youth and youth family members, fact sheets, coloring pages, links to online resources, and more. The entire second half of 2019 is an open slate [except for the indoor rock swap/picnic in August and the Holiday Party in December].

Show: Almost all the dealer contracts have been received.

Old Business:

1. Matthew brought the old microphone and the new system. The microphone clips onto the lapel. There's a separate belt pack for batteries and transmitter. Each microphone is paired to a different receiver, marked so there should not be a need to pair them each time.
2. Discussion followed about printing and mailing USPS newsletters. Mildred offered to print and mail. MAGS will reimburse for ink and postage. Board de-

Continued, P. 11

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ◊ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

November Board Minutes decided not to charge USPS

Continued from P. 10 members for the newsletter since we only mail 16 copies.

New Business:

1. Mike asked permission to spend some of the youth budget funds for specimen boxes [about 20 to start]. He also asked Board Members to consider picking up a few extra small specimens on their field trips or vacations to share with the youth. Specimen cards will show the specimen name, location, who collected it and when.
2. Mildred gave us information about using the Square for our transactions. Discussion on when and where it could be used followed.

Adjourned 7:39.

November Meeting Minutes

Mike Baldwin

Called to order 7:02.

President Charles Hill thanked current Board Members for their service. Charles called the new Board nominees to the front and asked for nominations from the floor; none submitted. A unanimous vote of confidence was given to the new Board nominees. The 2019-2020 MAGS Officers and Directors will be: President W. C. McDaniel, First Vice President [Field Trips] Kim Hill, Second Vice President [Adult Programs] David Clarke, Secretary Mike Coulson, Treasurer Bonnie Cooper, Director [Assistant Field Trips] Charles Hill, Director [Assistant Adult Programs] Matthew Lybanon, Director [Youth Programs] Mike Baldwin, Director [Assistant Youth Programs] James Butchko, Director [Librarian] Nannett McDougal-Dykes, Director [Assistant Librarian] Kay McLaughlin, Director [Membership Services] Bob Cooper, and Director [Historian/Rock Swaps] Jane Coop.

Member renewal drawing will be held in January. Agates book will be the prize. Please check your club information at the Members table. Mike Baldwin reminded Members of the December Holiday Party. Information sheets are available at the Members table. Nannett conducted a very successful live auction. W. C. introduced the demonstrators for the night: Mike Baldwin [fluorescent minerals and geode cracking]. Mike informed the members of the upcoming December Holiday Party. Information sheets are on the visitors table. The first six months of youth programs are set, plus August, September, and October. Mike passed out youth program surveys and asked members to consider doing a youth program. James informed members that the November field trip has changed. We are unable to get into the Batesville mine so we have moved the Pickwick field trip to November 16 instead of in December. Our December field trip destination is being determined.

Program: School of Rock was a huge success.

Adjourned 8:30.

Pickwick Lake



Thanks, Ray Carnahan, for this picture from the November field trip. Send more pictures, everybody.

Jewelry Bench Tips by Brad Smith

STIFFENING EARRING POSTS
Soldering an earring post will

always soften the wire a bit. The easiest way I've found to harden it is to grip it with pliers and twist it a couple half turns. This work hardens the wire and also tests your soldered joint.



SOLVENT DISPENSER

Frequently I need to fill a small bottle with alcohol, like the bottle of an alcohol lamp or a nail polish bottle that I use for the yellow ochre anti-flux. Often I can't find a small funnel and end up spilling almost as much as I get into the bottle. It's wasteful, and the fumes aren't too good for you either.

A neat and inexpensive solution is to use a lab dispensing bottle to store small quantities of the solvents most frequently used. The bottles have a wide mouth for filling and a fine tip for dispensing. You can get a small stream or just a drop or two. With the bottle's fine tip I don't spill a drop.

A Google search will turn up many suppliers. One I've used is Carolina Biological Supply Company at www.carolina.com The bottle is Catalog #716580 Unitary Wash Bottle, Low-Density Polyethylene, 125 mL US\$ 5. They have several sizes and other bottles labeled for specific solvents.



MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

MAGS At A Glance

January 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1 	2	3 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, St. Francis Hospital	4	5
6	7 Show Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Agricenter	8	9	10	11 Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm, "Parkin Site Research"	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 MAGS Field Trip, Nonconnah Creek/ DMC Field Trip, Douglas Lake
20	21 	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Show Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Agricenter	29	30	31 Board Meeting (February), 6:30 pm, St. Francis Hospital	1	2

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society
 2019 Littlemore Drive
 Memphis, TN 38016

