MAGS Rockhound News

Volume 58 ♦ Number 04 ♦ April 2012 ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS







Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society presents

THE EARTH WIDE OPEN

2012 Memphis Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

Agricenter International • Memphis, TN

Sat. April 28, 9 - 6 / Sun. April 29, 10 - 5

Adults \$5, 12 & under \$2, scouts in uniform free

Portion of admission benefits the Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Memphis

For one weekend a year, you're invited to experience "The Earth Wide Open." Join the exciting events which include:

- · 30 Dealers from across the U.S.
- High Quality Minerals, Fossils, Petrified Wood, Gems, Hand-crafted Jewelry, Beads, Lapidary Equipment and Supplies, Geodes, Crystals, Rock Art, Carvings and More!
- Earth Science & Archaeology Educational Exhibits & Live How-to-Demonstrations.
- · Speaker Series with Geological, Archeological and Paleontological Topics.
- Grand Door Prize: A Very Large and Beautiful 144 Pound Geode, Cracked and Ready for Display.
- The RockZone, a Kids Area Featuring a Gem and Fossil Dig, Geode Bowling, Rocks Around the Clock and Dig/Paint a Dino!

For more information about the show visit TheEarthWideOpen.com, or call 901-274-7706. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.



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April Rock Swap

The next rock swap will be Saturday, April 7, 11:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. at Jim and Hasami McNeil's home, 9869 Taylor Drive, Olive Branch, MS.

Kids will go on a treasure hunt. Adults will have games to play. The McNeils will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs. Everyone else please make a side dish or dessert. The McNeils will have things to swap. It's more fun if you bring something to sell or

trade.

Directions From Memphis

From I-240 turn south on Lamar Avenue (US 78) Go to Exit 6 in Olive Branch (Bethel Road/Hacks Cross Road, 15-20 miles). At stop sign turn left onto Hacks Cross. Go approximately 0.4 mile to stop light (the cross road is MS-178). Turn left on 178 and go approximately 0.6 *Continued, P. 10*

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2011-2012 MAGS BOARD

President-Lou White

3805 Melanie June Drive, Bartlett, TN 38135 ◊ (901) 937-8522

1st VP (Field Trips)-Marc Mueller

1415 Shagbark Trail, Murfreesboro, TN 37120 ◊ (615) 491-5110 ◊ skydancer2992@yahoo.com

2nd VP (Programs)-Paul Sides

1062 CR 739, Wynne, AR 72396 ◊ (870) 208-9586

Secretary-Marc Mueller

1415 Shagbark Trail, Murfreesboro, TN 37120 ◊ (615) 491-5110 ◊ skydancer2992@yahoo.com

Treasurer-Doris Johnston Jones (acting)

409 Bradford Trail Cove, Collierville, TN 38017 ♦ (901) 832-0437 ♦ darjohnston@aol.com

Director (Asst. Field Trips)–Charles Hill 2887 Forest Hill Irene Road, Germantown, TN

2887 Forest Hill Irene Hoad, Germantown, TN 38139 ♦ (901) 754-1504 ♦ hunter3006@aol.com

Director (Asst. Programs)–Alan Schaeffer 6854 Corsica Drive, Memphis, TN 38120 ♦ (901) 753-8496 ♦ laserme@aol.com

Director (Vouth) Carol Lubonon

Director (Youth)-Carol Lybanon

2019 Littlemore Drive. Memphis, TN 38016 ◊ (901) 757-2144 ◊ lybanon@earthlink.net

Director (Asst. Youth)-Bonnie Cooper

8695 Baylor Road, Arlington, TN 38002 ◊ (901) 377-0900 ◊ rocks4us@hotmail.com

Director (Librarian)-Ron Brister

3059 Old Brownsville Road, Bartlett, TN 38134 \$ (901) 388-1765 \$ bristerr@bellsouth.net

Director (Membership)-Neville Mayfield

3982 Glendale Drive, Memphis, TN 38128 ◊ (901) 386-3006 ◊ enmayfield@gmail.com

Director (Historian)-Nannett McDougal-

Dykes ♦ 106 Maple Street, Stanton, TN 38069 ♦ (901) 634-9388 ♦ redchesty@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor-Matthew Lybanon

2019 Littlemore Drive. Memphis, TN 38016 ◊ (901) 757-2144 ◊ lybanon@earthlink.net

Webmaster-Mike Baldwin

367 North Main Street, Collierville, TN 38017 ◊ (901) 853-3603 ◊ mbaldwin05@gmail.com

Show Chairman-W. C. McDaniel

2038 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104 ◊ (901) 274-7706 ◊ w.c.mcd@att.net

Countdown To Show

27 days and counting as of April 1

2012 Show Needs Your Help MAGS MEMBERS

IT IS YOUR TIME AND YOUR TURN

Ways and things you can and should do to help the show

1. Donations—needed items

- Coke products including water, can or small bottles; no 2 liter bottles
- Plastic table covers (54 inches x 108 inches) white, red or black
- IIXI4 precut photo mats with mat board backing
- Material for RockZone

2. Adopt a hospitality bag—help provide a show benefit

- For vendors and exhibitors
- Pick up empty bag at April membership meeting
- Pack bag with nonperishable packaged snacks, crackers, nuts, candy; no drinks in bags
- Bring bags to show by Friday, or you bring items for the bags and the show will pack
- **3. Show tickets**—Provides MAGS members the opportunity to promote the show by distributing tickets to the general public. Ticket procedures:
- Available for use by current MAGS members. No exceptions.
- Member must sign each ticket. One admission per ticket.
- Ticket holder is admitted free to show.
- You are not responsible for tickets that are not used.
- At the conclusion of the show each member must pay—by June 1—the show \$2.00 for each redeemed ticket. After June 1 you must pay \$3.00 for each redeemed ticket.

4. Handouts-market the show

- Notepads
- Show Tickets
- Small poster
- RockZone
- Speakers and Demonstrations
- Volunteer-sign up as the show needs a lot of help

See Show schedule, P. 3

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2012 Memphis Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show

Volunteer			
MAGS Volunteer Work Schedule			
Day	Hours	Activities	
Thursday, April 26	9-6	• Tables delivered, shed contents delivered, Show layout	
		• At 6:00 pm grab bag packing and pizza party	
Friday, April 27	9-9 pm	Complete show layout	
		Dealers move in	
		• 6:30 pm show dinner	
		Cleanup and final preparations	
Saturday, April 28	9-6pm	Show opens to public	
		 Large number of volunteers needed every hour for ticket 	
		booth, info/member desk, RockZone, general show support	
Sunday, April 29	10-8 pm	Show opens to open public	
	1	• Large number of volunteers needed every hour for ticket	
		booth. info/member desk, RockZone, general show support	
		• Show breakdown, cleanup—need lots of help	

North Carolina Field Trip Schedule

Editor's Note: Last month Charles Hill gave us a partial itinerary for the June 2012 North Carolina field trip he is organizing. Here is a complete schedule.

Saturday, June 16	Sunday, June 17	Monday, June 18	Tuesday, June 19	Wednesday, June 20
Travel Day	Chunky Gal Mountain.	Sheffield Mine	Waterfall Tour	Crabtree Emerald Mine
Optional Meeting: Huddle House, Waynesville, NC	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Hayesville, NC	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Franklin, NC	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Franklin, NC	Morning Meeting: Hardees, Spruce Pine, NC
Address:	Address:	Address:	Address:	Address:
49 Hyatt Creek Road Waynesville, NC 28786 (828) 456- 8601	180 Hwy. 64 East, Hayesville, NC 28904 (828) 389-4452	Huddle House, 361 GA Highway Franklin, NC 28734 (828) 524-9324	Huddle House, 361 GA Highway Franklin, NC 28734 (828) 524-9324	Hardees 6187 High- way 19e N Spruce Pine NC (828) 765- 4893
Time: 7:00 PM	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM

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NC Field Trip Schedule Continued from P. 3



Thursday, June 21	Friday, June 22	Saturday, June 23
Free Day	Mason's Ruby & Sapphire Mine	Sheffield Mine
Explore, have fun, sleep in	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Franklin, NC	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Franklin, NC
Address:	Address:	Address:
Somewhere in North Carolina	Huddle House, 361 GA Highway Franklin, NC 28734 (828) 524-9324	Huddle House, 361 GA Highway Franklin, NC 28734 (828) 524-9324
	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM

Juniors Corner

Carol Lybanon_

Our April program will be given by Mike Baldwin. We will construct drums and talk about Native Americans and their drum language. Mike promises some good stories and fun for us. Make sure you attend. In May Idajean Jordan will give us a program on crystals. I am sure Ms. Jordan will answer all your questions on crystals.

Juniors, remember to hand out RockZone flyers to your friends. We need a good turnout for our Show. What are the dates? April 28 and 29. We need Junior volunteers to help with the games. Sign up for a couple of hours on Saturday or Sunday—or even both days.



See you April 13 for an informative and fun program.

February 2012 Board Minutes

Marc Mueller

The MAGS Board of Directors met February 2 at the St. Clare Room in St. Francis Hospital, 5959 Park Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:30. Present were: Lou White, Doris Jones, Carol and Matthew Lybanon, Alan Schaeffer, Marc Mueller, Paul Sides, Neville Mayfield, Charles Hill, Ron Brister, Mike Baldwin, Bob Cooper, and Nannett McDougal.

Secretary: January minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer: Accounts have been moved. Bank has requested proof of non-profit status. Doris is documenting. SFMS fee has been paid. Treasurer's report was approved.

Field Trips: Charles Hill's itinerary for the North Carolina trip is almost complete. One of the sites is offering. 17th, Chunky Gal; 18th, Sheffield; 19th, Waterfall;

20th, possibly Crabtree Emerald Mine (tourmalines).

Adult Programs: For February, Dr. Susan Kus, an ethnoanthropologist from Rhodes College, will talk on Madagascar. March program is possibly Ron Zurawski. Phosphate mines in TN is an option. May, Dr. Mike Gibson tentatively will talk about Colorado.

Junior Programs. February,
University of Memphis graduate
students will present Egyptology.
March will be a show program, bag
decorating and posters. April,
Mike Baldwin will conduct the
Indian drums workshop again.
Please collect coffee cans for drum
construction. The May program is
a project related to Mothers' Day.
Everyone check Dollar Store for
shadow boxes.

Webmaster: Newsletter is online. Wells Creek is one of the few sites in the world that have shatter cones.

Continued, P. 6

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Who's coming and what is going on at the 33rd annual Memphis Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show

Sat., April 28, 9-6 Sun., April 29, 10-5 pm Memphis Agricenter International www.theearthwideopen.com (901) 274-7706

35,000 square feet of dealer and exhibit space with 300 tables **DEALERS**-**DEMOSTRATIONS and DEMONSTRATORS** Stones and Bones—Fossils Richard Gunter—flint knapping Arkansas Gems & Beads—Jewelry Mike Baldwin—fluorescent minerals Earthworks and Stones—Fossils Sherri Baldwin—fossil cleaning and prep McNeil Minerals—Minerals Idajean Jordan—rock, fossil, & mineral B & J Enterprises—Minerals identification Volunteer Gems— Minerals Robert Duncan—tumbling and vibrating lap J. R. Rocks—Jewelry Cornelia McDaniel—earrings—Make it and Mineral House—Minerals Take it 9. Javed's—Jewelry Wain Poole—faceting 10. Rock Barrel—Minerals April Gibbs—beading, wire wrapping 11. Eagle's Nest—Minerals Bill Gilbert—cabochons 12. Geode Gallery—Minerals 10. Charles Hill—gemstone spheres 13. Christopher's Crystal Mine—Minerals 14. Fantastic Stones—Jewelry **EXHIBITS and EXHIBITORS** 15. Nature's Bazaar—Jewelry Delta State University 16. Custom Creations—Jewelry University of Mississippi 17. Ebbo Products—Minerals 3. Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology 18. Carved Opal and Obsidian—Minerals 19. Blue Duck Gem and Minerals—Minerals 4. 5. 6. 7. North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society 20. Marble Gems–Minerals Mike Howard—Arkansas—geologist 21. Mercer—Minerals Memphis Stone and Gravel Company 22. Unconventional Lapidarist—Minerals Shelby Farms Park Conservancy 23. Amber America—Jewelry C. H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa 24. Geodite—Minerals The MAGS Collection: 25. C & N Rocks—Minerals The Frank Theobold Mineral Collection 26. Marble Arts—Decorative stone art The Roger Van Cleef Education Program 27. Imperial Gems—Beads Fluorescent Minerals 28. Moorehead Enterprises—Lapidary Equipment Rock Food Table with complete menu 29. Davis Rocks and Gifts—Minerals Mineral and Rock Display Boxed Collection Note—Most dealers carry a variety of merchandise other than the primary listed by

ROCKZONE- KIDS AREA

- Gem and Fossil Dig
- 2. Rocks Around the Clock
- 3. Paint your Dino
- Pebble Toss

their names.

- 5. Geode Bowling
- Archaeological display

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Geode cracking, grab bags, T-shirts
- Door prizes every hour or more o
 Speakers Program—see schedule Door prizes every hour or more often
- Lapidary on the Rocks
 - Scout merit badge program

Links to Federation News

- AFMS: www.amfed.org/afms news.htm
- SFMS: www.amfed.org/sfms/

See www.amfed.org/sfms/rock-swaps.html for an April 21 field trip to Glendon Quarry in North Carolina.

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Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show "The Earth Wide Open" Saturday, April 28, 9-6:00 and Sunday, April 29, 10-5, Memphis Agricenter International Enter Section B 7777 Walnut Grove Road Speaker and Educational Programs

Saturday, April 28	Sunday, April 29
All speakers in Seminar Room A	
11.00-11:45 Mike Howard, RPG	10-1 "The Earth Wide Opens Up"
"Photomicrography with a USB microscope"	Tour the exhibit areas and see :
12-12-45	Real dinosaur fossils of dung, eggs, and bones
Mark Norton "Swift Creek Influences at Pinson Mounds"	• Minerals from all corners and depths of the earth
Pinson Mounds is a Tennessee State Archeological Park near	• Fossils from 1 million to 500 million years old
Jackson, TN	
1-3 pm Lapidary on the Rocks	1-3 pm Lapidary on the Rocks
Tour the demonstration areas for short presentations on the	Tour the demonstration areas for short presentations on the
following:	following:
• Tumbling	Tumbling
Vibra lapping	Vibra lapping
• Cabochons	Cabochons
 Rock Carving 	Rock Carving
 Faceting 	• Faceting
 Sphere making 	Sphere making
• Beading	Beading
 Wire wrapping 	Wire wrapping
 Jewelry making 	Jewelry making
 Fossil Prep and Cleaning 	Fossil Prep and Cleaning
 Flint Knapping 	Flint Knapping
Each area will talk about proper equipment, selection of	Each area will talk about proper equipment, selection of
materials, and basic techniques	materials, and basic techniques
2-2:45 Dr.Terry Panhorst, University of Mississippi "Mineral Twinning" Twinning occurs when two or more crystals of the same mineral grow together in a particularly symmetrical arrangement, which can form some of the most appealing mineral specimens.	2:30 pm Boy Scout Geology(minerals) Merit Badge Program, Seminar Room A
3-3:45 Dr. Alan Schaeffer "Fluorescent Minerals"	2:30 pm Cub and Girl Scout Geology Merit Badge Program, Seminar Room B

- Attendance to speakers program and scouts merit badge program does not require admission to Show.
- Attendance to "lapidary on the rocks" requires admission to the Show.
- Scouts in uniform are admitted free to show at any time during the Show.
- Cub or Girl Scout groups wishing to attend a merit badge program at another time than 2:30 pm on Sunday should contact the Show Chair at w.c.mcd@att.net or (901) 274-7706.

February Minutes Library: Inven-Continued from P. 4 tory complete. Emails have

gone to those who have overdue books.

Historian/Rock Swap: Planning for the future: Rock Swap at Jimmy McNeil's. Chinese auction

in August.

Newsletter: Deadline Feb 14th for March newsletter. Please send any announcements, trip reports.

Membership: Dues from 30 members were turned over to the treasurer.

Rock Show: Jan 14, work day was held at the storage facility to sort donations.

New Business: Ron Brister proposed that MAGS raise \$3000 for the Chucalissa village reconstruction project. A motion was passed *Continued, P. 7*

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February Minutes to make a goal Continued from P. 6 of raising \$3000 per year for

three years for Chucalissa. Mike and Sherry Baldwin will work on the village diorama. Paul Sides requested a raise in the speaker fund. Approved raising programs budget to \$300.

Upcoming Adult Programs

- ★ April: Show Preparations
- ★ May: Dr Michael Gibson, title to be announced.
- ★ June: Mark Norton, "Swift Creek Influences at Pinson Mounds"

Jewelry Bench Tips by Brad Smith

DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling or burring to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. A quick solution is to hold the workpiece with a pair of pliers or your ring clamp. Another alternative is to clamp your piece to the bench pin or a thin board. If using pliers, you can avoid scratches by putting a little tape over the jaws.



DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've found these often break or burn up. The reason I think is that the drill pivots on the piece of diamond on the drill tip. By pivoting the diamond does not cut. When it doesn't cut, you tend to add more force, and the drill is damaged by excess heat.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a

circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are reasonable in price, for instance \$6 for 2mm diameter.

Chuck up the core drill in a drill press or a Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to break through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.



More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at <u>groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/</u> or <u>facebook.com/BenchTips</u>.

PICTURES Thanks to Marc Mueller for these pictures from (top) the March DMC field trip to Rose Creek and (bottom) the February volunteer day at the C. H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa.



Lots of people looked for Mississippian and Pennsylvanian era fossils near Gruetli, TN. The field trip was hosted by the Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Club of Chattanooga.

MAGS volunteers cataloged artifacts, restored the village diorama, and otherwise helped out at the Chucalissa archaeological site in Memphis.



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Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc





DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of the Mobile Rock and Gem Society (Mobile, AL) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

APRIL FIELD TRIP
COLEMAN'S MILLER MOUNTAIN MINE
JESSIEVILLE, ARKANSAS—FEE SITE
Saturday, April 14, 2012
FEE Site

WHERE: Coleman's Miller Mountain Mine, Jessieville, Arkansas.

WHEN: Saturday, April 14, 2012, at the mine, 358 Big Hole Road, Jessieville, Arkansas

71949.

COLLECTING: You will find clear and white quartz crystal and you keep all you find.

There will be a backhoe digging, exposing new material. If rain is

predicted for Saturday, they will dig plenty of new material on Friday.

TIME: Sign-in is starting at 8:00 a.m. Central Time at the mine, to sign release and pay fee.

FEE: Adults—Discounted price of \$7.50 each day paid at the mine. Children nine (9) and under are free.

DIRECTIONS:

These directions were copied from website: www.bluemooncrystals.com.

Coleman's Miller Mtn. Mine is located off of Hwy 298.

GPS = N 34.40.068 W 093.12.491

Google = maps.google.com (Coleman Miller Mtn. Mine)

Mapquest = mapquest.com (358 Big Hole Rd., Jessieville, AR 71949)

(This is NOT a mailing address...we will not receive the mail!)

The above worked when we tested them...but, we cannot guarantee them! Call if you have questions.

You can also follow the directions on the next page and call if you have questions - 501-984-5752.

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April DMC Field Trip Continued from P. 8

From Hot Springs—On Hwy. 70 take Exit 2 North. Follow the curvy road (Gulpha Gorge Rd.) about ½ mile until it deadends at Hwy. 7. Turn Right and go a few miles. Hwy. 7 makes a left hand turn. Stay on Hwy. 7 through Hot Springs Village and go 2 more miles to Hwy. 298. Turn Left on Hwy. 298 (you can only turn left) go 9 miles to the red and white Miller Mtn. Mine sign on left. Turn Left and follow signs up the mountain!

From Little Rock—Take Hwy. 30 South to Exit 117. Go up ramp and turn right at light. You are on Hwy. 5 South. Go 30 minutes to Hwy. 7 (By Fina Gas Station). Turn right on Hwy. 7 (you can only turn right). Stay on Hwy. 7 through Hot Springs Village and go 2 more miles to Hwy. 298. Turn Left on Hwy. 298 (you can only turn left) go 9 miles to the red and white Miller Mtn. Mine sign on left. Turn left and follow signs up the mountain!

From North—Take Hwy. 7 South. Go through Jessieville (you will mostly just see the school). Turn right on Hwy. 298 (you can only turn right) go 9 miles to Miller Mtn. sign on left. Turn left and follow signs up the mountain!

From West—Take Hwy. 71 South or North (depending on where you are coming from) to Hwy. 270. Turn onto Hwy. 270 (it only goes East). Go 32 miles to Mt. Ida. As you are coming into town, turn Left (North) on Hwy. 27. Go 13 miles. Turn Right on Hwy. 298 (you can only turn right) and go 18 miles to the red and white Miller Mtn. sign at the top of a hill on the Right. Turn right and follow signs up the mountain!

WHAT TO BRING: Pick, shovel, scratching tools, screen, buckets, gloves, newspapers to wrap crystals and plenty of water. Extra clothes and boots might be useful if it's muddy.

GENERAL INFORMATION: There are public restrooms onsite and bagged ice, snacks and drinks for sale at the mine. They also sell Oxalic Acid for cleaning crystals, with instructions at the mine. Wear old clothes and shoes or boots. You will get dirty from the red clay. Well-behaved pets on leash are allowed.

WHERE TO STAY: There is onsite RV parking, four (4) spaces with electric an water at \$10.00 a day, and twenty-three (23) primitive campsites without hookups at \$4.00 a day. They have showers for \$2.00 per person. No septic. You can call for reservations at 501-984-5752. Nearby Hot Springs, Arkansas, has many motels and campgrounds available.

Trip Chairman: Larry Landry—maryloulandry@aol.com or 251-653-8459 or 251-591-5682.

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April Rock Swap (continued)



mile. Turn left on Dorothy (you should see a brick development sign saying Lees Crossing, Fairfield Estates); go approximately 0.1 mile. Turn right on Loftin and go approximately 0.3 mile. Turn left onto Taylor Drive and go approximately 0.1 mile (second driveway on left).

Directions From Hwy. 385 (Bill Morris Parkway)

Take 385 to the Hacks Cross exit. Turn right onto Hacks Cross and travel approximately 5-10 miles. At stop light at Hacks Cross and MS-178, turn right on 178 and go approximately 0.6 mile. Turn left on Dorothy (you should see a brick development sign saying Lees Crossing, Fairfield Estates); go approximately 0.1 mile. Turn right on Loftin and go approximately 0.3 mile. Turn left onto Taylor Drive and go approximately 0.1 mile (second driveway on left).

Calendar

April 5, 2012

Board Meeting, St. Clare Room, St. Francis Hospital, 6:30 P. M.

April 7, 2012

Rock Swap, Jim and Hasami McNeil's home, 11:00 A. M.-3:00 P. M.

April 9, 2012

ShowTeam meeting, Agricenter International, 6:30 P. M.

April 13, 2012

Membership Meeting, Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 7:30 P. M.

April 28 and 29, 2012

2012 Memphis Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show, Agricenter International

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