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## ARKANSAS FOSSILS

Fossils can be found in most areas of Arkansas, but certain areas of the state offer greater collecting opportunities than others.



Archimedes

Many of the most interesting discoveries have come from the so-called "unfossiliferous" areas, so don't overlook any area without a proper check. The best places to initiate a search are places like roadside outcrops, stream cuts, and old quarries. Remember, fossils are the property of the land owner. Most people don't mind if you collect a few rocks, but

you should always get permission before entering private property. The rules for entering public land vary but, for the most part, are tolerant as long as the effects of the activity are light. Vertebrate fossils are protected on most public lands, but invertebrate remains are usually available for collecting. If you are unsure about the regulations on public land, please contact the agency in charge of the land on which you wish to collect. State and National Parks are off limits!

Paleozoic-age fossils are abundant in north Arkansas. The oldest rocks present in north Arkansas are dolomites, sandstones, and limestones of Ordovician age. Algal structures such as stromatolites, corals, brachiopods, bryozoa, crinoids, and some cephalopods are the fossils most commonly found in these

(see Arkansas Fossils on page five)

## JUNE EVENTS

June 6	6:30p	Board Meeting: Ronald McDonald House
June 14	7:30p	General Meeting: Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Rd., Memphis (bring displays and snacks) Adult Program: "Arkansas Fossils" by John D. McFarland Youth Program: "Tumbling" presented by W.C. McDaniel
Jun 14-16	9:00a	Missouri Rock Swap (see page 4)
June 15	9:00a	Youth Field Trip: Frankstown, Mississippi (see page 8)
June 22	10:00a	MAGS Rock Swap at the home of Carolyn Hays (see page 7)
June 22	8:00a	DMC Field Trip: Lynchburg, Virginia (see page 6)
Jun 29-30	8:00a	MAGS Field Trip: Mt. Ida, Arkansas (see page 3)

## 2001-2002 MAGS OFFICERS

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**Show Treasurer--Dick McKittrick**

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901-683-3235

MAGS Rockhound News is published monthly by and for the members of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Please send your comments and articles to Mike Baldwin, 367 N. Main St., Collierville, TN 38017.

## Greetings from the Prez

If the last month had been any busier, we would have had to divide it into two months. Between the Rock Show, the Memphis-in-May dinosaur display, rock swaps, field trips, and meetings, I was even dreaming about rocks! I tried to cut a deal with Pat Akins at the show, but he wouldn't trade all his Arizona petrified wood for my geodes. It's a shame he had to haul it back to Nebraska with him. I know a lot of you have a piece or two of it sitting around your house right now. Take a look at W.C.'s article about the show inside the newsletter. I think we did real well. Maybe you'll recognize the people in the picture on page four.

The MAGS Youth are going to Frankstown, Mississippi to bring home a truck load of fossils this month. This one's just for our young members and their families, but you could probably twist Don's arm to let you go with 'em as a chaperone. No cheating. If you go, you gotta work!

Hot weather's here, school's out, rock swaps are in full swing and I'm ready to go to Mt. Ida and chisel out some quartz crystals. How about you? Get your name on the list and let's go.

see you at the meeting *Lou*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members to MAGS:

- (1) Mark, Sherry, Emily, David Barton  
616 Loeb, Memphis, TN 38111  
324-4126 • fiveamigos@juno.com
- (2) Doris Parsons  
3218 Estes St., Memphis 38115  
795-5138 • dparsons@utm.edu
- (3) Rick, Helen, Jared, Lauren Rodgers  
4203 Poplar, Memphis, TN 38117  
901-682-3283

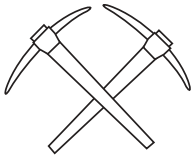
## CHANGES

Please make the following changes to your MAGS directory:

- (1) Martha Rannels  
Wesley Highlands Terrace  
366 South Highalnd  
Memphis, TN 38111  
327-1386
- (2) Tom and Robyn (Kriz) Strong  
Jacob Kriz  
1080 Parkview Circle, North  
Southaven, MS 38671  
662-349-3174 • rmstrong@ftb.com

## UPCOMING MAGS FIELD TRIPS

- June 29/30** Quartz Crystal Mines, Mt. Ida, Arkansas
- July 27** Magnet Cove, Malvern, Arkansas
- August 24** Tunnel Mine, Yellville, Arkansas
- September 21** MAGS Host DMC, Vulcan Quarry, Parsons, Tennessee
- October 26** Richardson Landing, Millington, Tennessee
- November 23** Birmingham Ridge, Tupelo, Mississippi



## MAGS FIELD TRIP MT. IDA, ARKANSAS

SAT-SUN, JUNE 29-30, 2002

FIELD TRIP LEADER DAVID McILWAIN (901) 465-7388

COLLECTING SITES: Sonny Stanley's "Fisher Mountain Crystal Mine", and "The Sweet Surrender Crystal Mine"; both mines located near Mt. Ida, Arkansas.

MINERALS: We will be collecting quartz crystals at these sites.

MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Colonial Motel, 5403 Hwy 270 East, Mount Ida, AR 71957; (870) 867-2431, Fax (870) 867-0159 E-mail: crystals@ipa.net. 11 units, pets extra, located eleven miles east of Mount Ida on Hwy. 270. A group rate of \$41.95 + tax for 2 full size beds, add \$5.00 for additional person. No in-room telephone available. Please make your reservations ASAP!

MEETING TIME/PLACE: Each day at 8:30 a.m., at Crystal Inn Restaurant, 3489 Hwy. 270 East, Mount Ida, AR 71957; (870) 867-2643. Six miles east of Mount Ida on Hwy. 270 near the Mount Ida/Bearce Airport. Please come earlier if you plan to have breakfast. We will be leaving promptly at 9:00 a.m., for the collecting site.

DIRECTIONS: From Memphis take I-40 West to Little Rock, then I-440 South exit number 159 (I-440 becomes I-30 South), then take AR-270 West exit number 98B. Continue on AR-270 West around Hot Springs to Mt. Ida. Drive time-5.5 hours.

TOOLS: Leather gloves, buckets and small rack or small garden tools (for going through tailing piles), shovel and pry bar, rock hammer and chisels (for breaking crystal vanes), newspapers for wrapping crystal specimens.

SPECIAL NOTE: While in the mines, all children must be supervised by an adult member at all times. This is a requirement of The US Forest Service.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: 1 to 3 on a scale of 1 (easy) to 10 (hard). Please be advised that there is always a possibility of injury and poisonous snakes at these sites.

FIELD TRIP LEADER: David McIlwain (901) 465-7388; cell (901) 266-1446; email djmcilwain@earthlink.net. If you want to go, please sign the list. If you sign up and decide not to go, please contact David McIlwain ASAP.

SATURDAY AGENDA: Collecting at Sonny Stanley's Fisher Mountain Crystal Mine. This is a fee pay mine, \$10.00 per person, \$5.00 per child (ages 6-14) and children under age 6 are free. You keep all the crystals you can dig. Break for lunch at noon.

SUNDAY AGENDA: Collecting at The Sweet Surrender Crystal Mine. This is a fee pay mine, \$20 per person and \$5.00 per children (ages 10-15) and children under age 10 are free. You keep all the crystals you can dig. If you are not satisfied with your experience, you can leave your crystals and we will refund your money. Around noon, we will break for lunch. Please bring a sack or picnic lunch, as we will again be traveling about 10 miles from the nearest restaurant. (For the serious rockhound)

PLEASE NOTE: This trip is open only to MAGS members and their guests.

**ONCE A PUN A TIME:** Two vultures board an airplane; each is carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at them and says, "I'm sorry, gentlemen, only one carrion allowed per passenger."



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June Birthstone is ALEXANDRITE

- 4-Ruth Young
- 6-Sandra Ann Swink
- 7-Edward DeVoe, Jr.
- 10-Donna Norris
- 13-Sherri McCalla
- 14-Daniel Blanton
- 15-Matthew Huber
- 16-Ann Williams
- 17-George Fulgham
- 17-Robert Williams
- 19-Norman Daniels
- 20-Melissa Johnston
- 20-Vivian Sharpe
- 21-Allen Helt
- 28-Larry Blanton
- 29-Jennifer Baldwin
- 29-Cornelia McDaniel
- 30-Sean DeVoe
- 30-William Sanford



## SUNSHINE REPORT

FRANK & FRANCIS WALKER-

It was great to see **Dr. James Cole** at the May general meeting. **Roger Van Cleef** is doing well and will be active with MAGS again as of June 20, when he hosts the first Micromounters meeting at his house. The doctors have told **Bill Scheffer** that he has a lot of good miles left in those knees, so Bill's knee replacement surgery has been postponed indefinitely.

*If you, or a MAGS member you know, becomes ill, please call Frances and Frank Walker at 372-6206 and let them know.*

## 5TH ANNUAL MISSOURI MINES ROCK SWAP

**JUNE 14-16, 2002**

Missouri Mines State Historic Site, Park Hills, Missouri (on Hwy. 32, 1.5 miles west of US Hwy 67)

### SWAP-SELL-BUY • ROCKS-MINERALS-FOSSILS-JEWELRY-CRAFTS

- Modest Space Fee
- Bring Your Own Tables
- Limited Area Under Canopy
- Primitive On-Site Camping
- Nearby Motels & Campgrounds
- Expect Large Local Attendance
- Potluck Dinner Sat. evening
- Tour Mining Museum Free
- Auction To Benefit Museum

**SPONSORED BY:** Mineral Area Gem and Mineral Society; Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs; Missouri Mines State Historic Site; and, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources

### SWAP INFORMATION:

- Merchandise should be earth-science related
- No admission fee
- Open 9-6 Fri/Sat; 9-5 Sun
- 15' x 35' open-air space \$6.00-1 day or \$15.00-3 days
- 9' x 7' under-canopy space \$6.00-1 day or \$15.00-3 days
- Swappers are responsible for their own merchandise
- Each swapper will be asked to donate one item/day for auctions

### FOR MORE INFO:

Call Lloyd & Betty Marler at (573) 431-2951 or locally call David McIlwain (901) 465-7388

## SHOW NEWS

It came from the east! A Lehman-Roberts truck traveled down Central Avenue, delivered and parked an electronic road sign facing westbound traffic and it began flashing "Don't Miss It". Over the next several days many did not. They came from all directions: dealers, exhibitors, club members and guests and most of important, a lot of buying customers. So except for the show evaluations and a few bills the 2002 show is part of our memories and directs our thoughts to 2003. So how did we do and what do you think? The following data has been gleaned from ticket distributions and dealer show evaluation forms.

### How did we do?

Attendance: Tickets distributed		Financials: Preliminary, subject to audit	
Saturday	953	Income	\$13,000
Sunday	701	Expenses	\$ 9,000
Total	1654	Profit	\$ 4,000

**What did the dealers think?** All 30 dealers were provided and asked to complete a show survey form. To date 28 of those have been returned. They were asked to evaluate the show in seven areas using a 5 (highest) to 1 (lowest) and provide comments.

Facility	4.3
Show layout	4.6
Show advertisement	4.6
Show communication to dealers	4.5
Hospitality	5.0
Attendance	4.0
Sales	3.9
Overall rating	4.3

### COMMENTS

positive comments	24
negative comments	5
recommendations	3

Only one dealer indicated a possibility of not returning next year, primarily due to a change in jobs. Based on current indicators, we are booked for 2003. If you want a complete copy of the comments, email W.C. or come to a meeting.

S. Sorrells of Memphis won the sharks' teeth collection and I. Eiseman of Memphis won the bracelet. Congratulations to them. The show was also a big winner as we collected over 1,000 names to enter into our database for future show mailings.

**There are 3 things you can do:** [1] Complete a show survey form to assist in evaluating and planning our shows—request a copy by email from W.C. or come to the June meeting; [2] if you distributed show tickets contact W.C. to see if you owe money; and [3] if you volunteered, come to the June meeting for your certificate and MAGS sticker.



Araucaria Petrified Wood for sale at the 2002 Show.

## ARKANSAS FOSSILS

(continued from page one)

rocks. Although most Ordovician rocks have few fossils, they are abundant in some beds. Expect to use a hammer and chisel to remove fossils from these rocks.

The Mississippian- and Pennsylvanian-age rocks of north Arkansas and the Arkansas River Valley have produced most of the fossils found in Arkansas thusfar. Corals, bryozoa, brachiopods, crinoids, bivalves, gastropods, cephalopods, and plant fossils are common throughout. The Mississippian rocks are limestone, shale, chert, and some sandstone. The Pennsylvanian rocks are sandstone, siltstone, shale, and some limited sections of limestone.

Mississippian-age shales offer the easiest collecting of the rocks of north Arkansas. Shale weathers rapidly to mud which washes away, leaving the fossils behind and allowing you to pick them up off the surface of the outcrop. Unfortunately the fossils are often crushed due to the way the shale compacted as it formed from the clays and muds deposited so long ago. There are three major Mississippian-age fossiliferous shale areas in north Arkansas: Moore-field Shale (limonite-replaced cephalopods); Fayetteville Shale (pyrite or marcasite-replaced fossils); and, Imo Shale of Searcy and Van Buren Counties (well preserved ammonoids, nautiloids, bivalves, brachiopods, bryozoa, plant material, blastoids, crinoids, gastropods, shark teeth, and arthropods).

The lower Pennsylvanian-age rocks of the Boston Mountains consist of limestones, sandstones, siltstones, and shales. In the Arkansas River Valley, Pennsylvanian shales and siltstones associated with coal seams often have abundant plant fossils. Old spoil piles from pre-reclamation days are excellent places to look.

The Ouachita Mountains have few fossils, but some areas, notably the Ordovician-age Womble Shale, contain graptolites. Other fossils (poor quality) have been found in various places.

Just south of the Ouachita Mountains are rocks of Cretaceous age. Some of these areas are very rich in fossils. Oyster, echinoid, gastropod, and cephalopod fossils are commonly found. The Cretaceous rocks are the only rocks in Arkansas that were deposited during the Age of Reptiles. It is only from these rocks that dinosaur fossils have ever been found (or ever will be found) in Arkansas. In addition to the few dinosaur bones, a large number of dinosaur tracks have been found in this Lower Cretaceous limestone. Other vertebrate fossils discovered in the area include shark teeth, mosasaur, reptile teeth and plates, and miscellaneous fish parts. Few of these rocks are as hard as the Paleozoic rocks. Collecting is fairly easy, but a hammer and chisel are still needed.

Arkansas is divided into a highland area to the north and west and a lowland area to the south and east. Along the boundary between these areas scattered outcrops of lower Tertiary age can be found yielding fossil shark teeth, sting ray teeth, crab parts, fish teeth and vertebra, and some cephalopods, bryozoa, bivalves and gastropods. Deposits of similar age and fossil content are exposed on Crowley's Ridge of eastern Arkansas and within the West Gulf Coastal Plain of south Arkansas. Petrified wood is occasionally found associated with gravel deposits of Quaternary age in the Mississippi River Alluvial Plain.

*John David McFarland, Arkansas Geological Commission, "Fossil Collecting in Arkansas".*

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## CLEANING QUARTZ

Cleaning quartz crystal is a three step process: (1) wash the clay off the crystals; (2) remove the iron oxide film coating in an oxalic acid bath, (3) wash the oxalic acid off the crystal with fresh water.



- 1 - Washing the clay off the crystal is not always easy, especially with clusters. Points are fairly easy to wash with a garden hose. Most clusters have small cracks and crevices filled with clay. A pressure washer works best to flush out the clay. Let the clusters dry in the sun for a couple days after washing and repeat the wash several times. The cleaner the crystal the more effective the acid bath.

- 2 - Oxalic acid can be bought in powder form at most drug stores, cleaning supply stores or rock shops. In a 5-gallon plastic bucket, mix the oxalic acid with fresh water—1 pound oxalic to 2 gallons of water. If you see funny green crystals growing in your solution, you have too much oxalic (add more water). Place your crystals in the solution and let them soak in the sun for several days. Wear rubber gloves! Be sure to neutralize the acid with baking soda, lime, or ashes from your fireplace before disposing of it!

- 3 - When you remove the crystal from the acid, wash it thoroughly with fresh water. If you're not satisfied with the results, repeat steps 1-3 as many times as you need to.

Visit [www.arcrystmine.com](http://www.arcrystmine.com) for information on Sweet Surrender Mine, Mt. Ida, Arkansas

## SFMS CLUBS SHOWS/EVENTS

JUN 8, 2002 • 10am-4pm

**Rockfest** • White, GA  
Weinman Mineral Museum  
Terry Everett • 770-386-0576

JUN 14-15, 2002

**Second SFMS Board Meeting**  
Hosted by Southern Appalachian  
Mineral Society, Asheville, NC

JUN 14-16, 2002 • 10am-8pm (14);  
10am-6pm (15); 12N-5pm (16)

**6th Annual Asheville Gem Fest**  
Colburn Museum, Asheville, NC  
Park Place, Asheville, NC

AUG 17, 2002

**1st Annual Rock Swap**  
Rockingham County Gem and  
Mineral Society, Reidsville, NC  
Penn Civic Center, 324 Maple Ave.  
contact: picnshovl@aol.com

AUG 30-SEP 2, 2002 • 10am-6pm

**21st Annual Gem and Mineral  
Spectacular** • Henderson County  
Gem & Mineral Society •  
Whitmore Activity Building, Lily  
Pond Rd., Hendersonville, NC  
contact: Margaret Johnson, P.O.  
Box 6391, Hendersonville, NC  
28739-6391 • 828-692-1249

AUG 31, 2002 • 9am-4pm

**Annual Micromount Symposium**  
Henderson County Gem & Mineral  
Society • Salvation Army Bldg.,  
Grove St. between 3rd & 4th  
contact: Emily Adams, 355 Pelham  
Rd., Greenville, SC 29615 •  
864-271-3877

*Class schedules and applications  
for **Wild Acres** and **William  
Holland** are available from Nancy  
Folden, MAGS Librarian, or from  
the SFMS website located at  
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms>*

## FEDERATION NEWS



**Dixie Mineral Field Trip: Hosted by the Gem and  
Mineral Society of Lynchburg Virginia, Inc.**

**Saturday, June 22, 2002**

**7:00 am-12:00 noon EDT**

**Boxley Aggregates, Mt. Athos Quarry, Lynchburg, VA**

Mt. Athos is one of the most productive quarries in central Virginia. Some of the more common minerals to collect will be white and pink calcite, feldspar, quartz, ilmenite, epidote, pyrite, chalcocopyrite and bornite. Some of the more elusive are malachite, sphene and stilbite.

**LOCATION:** Lynchburg, Virginia is centrally located in the State. Take I-81 north to US 460 (Cloverdale exit 150) toward Bedford and Lynchburg. Take US 460 East bypass around the two cities. Stay on US 460 East to the meeting place.

**MEETING PLACE:** This is located on US 460 East on the East side of Lynchburg. From the US 501 (Campbell Ave.)/US 460 interchange, continue on US 460 East exactly 1.8 miles. There will be a traffic light and a big Shell Station/Convenience Store on your left (north side) with a very large vacant lot behind the station. We will all meet at this lot between 7 and 7:30 AM. The Quarry is 10 minutes from the meeting area but you will need sufficient time to fill out and sign the Hazard Training Certificate and sign the required Boxley release form. We will convoy to the Quarry, arriving at 8:00 am.

**EQUIPMENT:** The Boxley Quarries are very safety conscious. Standard quarry gear is required: hard hats, steel toe boots or other substantial boots and safety glasses. Good protective clothing and gloves should be worn (no shorts). It may be very hot in the quarry so be sure to bring plenty of water, snacks and sunscreen. Bring your own collecting equipment such as hammers, chisels and buckets. We will be allowed to drive into the quarry.

**AGE LIMIT:** Children of all ages will be allowed but it will be the parents responsibility to keep them under control at all times and see that they obey all the safety requirements. The same dress requirements apply. Pets will be allowed only if they are under total control and will not be allowed to roam free.

**ADDITIONAL FUN:** (1) The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg is planning a Saturday afternoon to early evening get together for relaxing, fellowship, picnic and rock swap. Details will be available Saturday morning at the meeting place. Please **RSVP** if possible so that we may know how to plan. Be sure to bring some swap material from your area or your surplus. (2) For those who will be staying over we will have a Sunday morning field trip to Bargins Quarry in Lexington, VA, noted for nice calcite, pyrite, quartz, and purple fluorite.

**CONTACT:** David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman • Phone: 540-297-1853 •  
e-mail: [DBCALL1@aol.com](mailto:DBCALL1@aol.com). Locally, contact Mike Baldwin at 853-3603.

**NOTES:** (1) Severe weather or other crisis out of our control may result in the canceling or rescheduling of this trip. (2) DMC field trips are exclusively for DMC member clubs! This trip is closed to non-DMC clubs, their members, or members of the general public.

# MAGS REVIEW

## BOARD MEETING MAY 2, 2002; 6:30pm

**RAYNEE RANDOLPH:** The May board meeting of MAGS was held May 2, 2002 at Perkins, Eastgate. The following were present: Mike Baldwin, Don Blalock, Nancy Folden, Idajean Jordan, W.C. and Cornelia McDaniel, David McIlwain, Dick McKittrick, Park and Terry Noyes, Alan Parks, Bill Scheffer, and Lou White.

**1st VP REPORT:** Field trip May 25/26 will be Mark Twain National Forest, Potosi, Missouri. Please make reservations soon as this is a holiday weekend.

**2nd VP REPORT:** The adult program for this month will be “Myan and Mississippian Symbolism” by Dr. Kent Reilly. June will be “Arkansas Fossils” with Mike Walker.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Financial reports for March and April were presented.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Wild Acres needs to be stressed more.

**EDITOR REPORT:** Due to the amount of information published and the maximum page requirement for the minimum postal cost, it was agreed that the secretary’s notes would be abbreviated.

**WEB REPORT:** See the newsletter for stats on the website and DMC field trips.

**YOUTH REPORT:** Youth program will be Mother’s Day gifts. Field trip June 15th to Frankstown. Bring screens and shovels. Day camp off the ground. Six youth will be max; we already have two. In-town field trips will be to Pink Palace and the Earthquake Center. It was suggested that a future fundraiser for the youth could be their own rock swap.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Applications for memberships were accepted for the Rodgers Family, the Barton Family, and Doris Parsons.

**SHOW REPORT:** Preliminary report after the show; numbers look great!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Rock swap at Charley McPherson’s May 11th; June board meeting will be at Barnhill’s 6:00 – 9:00pm; Future rock swaps in the newsletter; a complete set of minutes will be available at the General Meeting for members to read.

## WEB STATISTICS

Here’s a brief look at our website (www.memphisgeology.org) from 01.21.02 through 05.27.02:

Visits\* ..... 5,531  
 Hits\*\* ..... 40,026  
 Average visits per day ..... 44

\* visit=every time someone comes to the site  
 \*\* hit=every page viewed on the site

## NAME RESULTS

The results of the “Name the Newsletter” vote conducted at the May 10th meeting are as follows:

- [1] MAGS Rockhound News ..... 23
- [2] MAGS Explorer ..... 13
- [3] MAGS Rock Talk ..... 11
- [4] MAGS Written In Stone ..... 9

## GENERAL MEETING MAY 10, 2002; 7:35pm

**RAYNEE RANDOLPH:** 60 members and 14 visitors present. Our visitors were: Christopher and Anna Marsh, Don Richardson, Tom Lawrence, Richard Butterick, William Conner, John Smith, Dana Griffith, Autumn Winter, Turner Cole, Michael Botto, Sarah Martin, Don and Gwen Lum, and Jeff Lehr.

**1st VP:** May 25-27 will be Potosi field trip. Sign up and take a map and info sheet if you are going. If you went on the Memphis Stone and Gravel trip April 13, please return safety glasses and hard hats to Alan.

**PROGRAM:** Dr. Kent Reilly from Chucalissa will be speaking on “Mississippian Symbolism”.

**SHOW:** Show surveys were filled out by our dealers [ratings were high]. Volunteer certificates are available. Check with W.C. to pay your pink bills.

**EDITOR/WEB:** Vote tonight for the name of the newsletter. Roger Van Cleef will be starting a micro-mounting group. Size is limited so please be serious if you sign up.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Rock swap at Charley McPherson’s tomorrow at 10:00am. If you are interested in classes at Wild Acres or William Holland Lapidary School please see Nancy Folden. Memphis Astronomical Society will host a planet gazing evening at Village Creek, May 11th. Rain date will be May 18th.

**DISPLAYS:** [1] Dr. Cole–Apache Tears in matrix from Superior AZ; [2] Nancy Boucher–Petriified wood from Madagascar; [3] Docia Lenz–Druse Quartz from Reynolds County MO; [4] David McIlwain–Druse quartz, bladed barite from Potosi MO; Nancy Boucher won!

**DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:** Raynee Randolph, Turner Cole, Anna Marsh, and Don Lum.

## MAGS ROCK SWAP POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY, JULY 20, 10-2

*Bring pot luck dish, dessert or snack food and chairs. Bring a table if you plan to swap.*

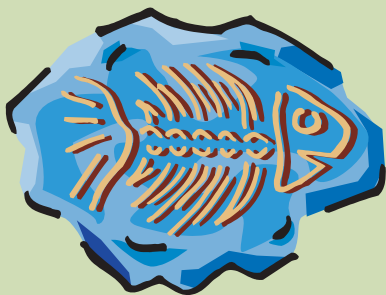
The June Rock Swap which was scheduled for June 22 at the home Carolyn Hayes has been postponed until Saturday, July 20, due to overlapping events. Carolyn’s son will be married on June 22. Congratulations Carolyn, and thank you for graciously agreeing to host the July Rock Swap.

# MAGS DAY CAMP

MONDAY-FRIDAY  
JUNE 17-21, 2002  
8:00am - 5:00pm

MAGS Youth Members, the First MAGS Day Camp (for boys and girls 6 to 9 years old) is scheduled for the week of June 17-21, 2002. That's five days of geology fun! You will enjoy three days of field trips to fossil and mineral locations around the Mid-South, and two days of rock-related arts, crafts and activities. The camp is limited to 12 day campers, so parents, check your calendar and sign your junior geologist up today. Don Blalock will have more information at the June meeting or give him a call at 662-342-0903 today.

**Cost for the Day Camp is \$75.00 for MAGS members and \$100.00 for nonmembers.**



# YOUTH

## A VISIT WITH SUE AT THE FIELD MUSEUM: PART 1: JUST THE FACTS

by Kelly Baldwin (MAGS Youth member)



*Sue and Kelly at the Field Museum*

While visiting Chicago in April, I had a chance to tour the Chicago Field Museum. I saw "Sue" on display there and decided that I wanted to learn more about "her" and write an article about what I found out.

Sue was discovered on August 12, 1990 in the badlands of South Dakota by Sue Hendrickson. Sue is the largest, most complete, and best preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* ever found. It lived in the late Cretaceous Period, about 67 million years ago. Sue is 12 feet long and 13 feet high at the hips. Sue's estimated weight when it was alive was 7 tons and just

the skull weights about 600 pounds. The skull is 5 feet long with a brain cavity just big enough to hold a quart of milk. Sue has 58 teeth, each one 7.5 to 12 inches long. It was a carnivore, but no one knows whether it was a girl or a boy. Most of Sue's bones are in great condition and they have a high degree of surface detail.

Although Sue died 67 million years ago, you can still see where the muscles, tendons, and other soft tissues rested against or attached to the bones. Sue's completeness and well preserved bones make it a very valuable resource, allowing very detailed study of T-rex structure.

[Sue at the Field Museum: Some Interesting Sue Facts](#); ©1997; Chicago Field Museum  
[The Field Museum GEO86129\\_49c](#); <http://www.fnmh.org/sue/discovery.html>; April, 2002

### **PART 2: THE DISPLAY (next month)**

## TRIP NOTES

### FRANKSTOWN, MISSISSIPPI FIELD TRIP

The youth field trip to Frankstown, Mississippi to collect fossils is all set. We will meet in the parking lot of Shady Grove Presbyterian Church at 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning, June 15, 2002, or contact Don Blalock for alternate plans. Be sure to wear clothes and shoes you don't mind getting wet. Bring a change of clothes, a shovel, a small screen box [if you have it], small containers [film canisters work great], a gallon bucket, a hat, plenty to drink, snacks, and lunch.



# PAGES WELCOME NEW YOUTH MEMBERS

Emily Barton, Lauren Rodgers, and Jared Rodgers and their families all became new members this month. Welcome to the club and we hope you have a great time with MAGS!

**COLLECTOR'S CARDS:** Cut out the Dinosaur Card, and the Specimen-of-the-Month card, fold on the dotted lines, tape them closed and add them to your collection.

## ALEXANDER CITY FEB 15-18, 2002

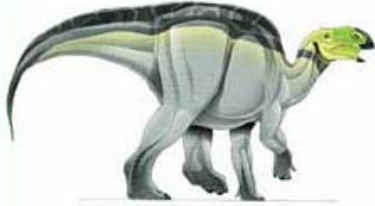
By Emily Randolph  
(MAGS Youth Member)


One recent field trip that part of the MAGS group went on was to Alexander City, Alabama, hosted by Dixie Mineral Council (also known as DMC). It took six and a half hours to get to our destination. At least 15 MAGS members were present.

Our host was James Mallonee. He led us in a caravan of cars, through Clay County to Erin Road in Ashland, Alabama. We found almandine garnets, and some petrified wood. The collecting area is in Talladega National Forest. Collecting was along a dirt road that runs through privately managed forestland. The road surface itself, the banks, and the area near the road were where all the garnets you could carry were laying. There were other materials that were collected in this same area. Mica is usually found with garnets. Later in the day, at a different forest site, several of us found tourmaline. The best part of the field trip was when we found a mall in Birmingham, Alabama. So this field trip had something in it for everybody.



Almandine Garnets  
in Mica Schist

Did You Know . . .	Hadrosaurus
<p>Hadrosaurus was the second dinosaur named in North America and a whole family of dinosaurs [hadrosaurs] was named after it. It was the first duck-billed dinosaur found, and one of the first on the east coast of the U.S. The original specimen of a hadrosaurus was found in the Cretaceous marls of New Jersey in 1858. Joseph Leidy, an anatomy professor from Philadelphia, assembled the skeleton and named it. It's skull was typical on non-crested hadrosaurs, except for a noticeable bump on the nasal bones that created a resemblance to a prizefighter with a broken nose.</p> <p><small>©2002 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society</small></p>	<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">MAGS DINOSAUR CARD</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>Hadrosaurus foulkii</i>                  Pronounced: Had-roh-Saw-rus                  Diet: Herbivore (Plant-Eater)                  Name Means: "big lizard"                  Length: 33 feet (10 m)                  Height: 14 feet (4 m)                  Weight: 2 tons (1,900 kilos)                  Time: Late Cretaceous</p> </div>

Did You Know . . .	Banded Agate
<p>Agate is a form of chalcedony. The color of chalcedony is highly variable, and may be white, blue, red, green, brown, or black. Varieties of chalcedony include jasper (an opaque form); agate (a form with concentric banding of different colors); moss agate (with dark dendritic patterns); chryso-prase (a green variety); and onyx (in which the banding is parallel). Carnelian is red to reddish brown, and sard is light to dark brown. There is a white streak. This mineral forms in cavities in rocks of different types, especially lavas. A lot of chalcedony develops at relatively low temperatures.</p> <p><small>©2002 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society</small></p>	<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">MAGS SPECIMEN CARD</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>SiO<sub>2</sub> (silicon dioxide)                  Color: variegated                  Hardness: 7                  Cleavage: None                  Specific gravity: 2.6 to 2.64                  Crystals: None; microcrystalline variety of quartz                  Fracture: Conchoidal</p> </div>

# MICROMOUNTERS TO MEET IN JUNE

**ROGER VAN CLEEF:** The first meeting of the MAGS Micromounters will be held Thursday, June 20th at 7:00pm at the home of Roger Van Cleef, 4683 Aloha, Memphis. During this meeting we will decide on a permanent meeting day and time; what are micromounters; what materials are required for specimen cleaning, ID, collection mounting and storage. We will look at the facilities we will use for

meeting and working on specimens (Roger's shop which is being redone to accommodate the group. If you have difficulties with the meeting date or time, please contact Roger at 794-1641. If you did not sign the "micromount list" at the last meeting please call Roger and let him know you plan to attend. I am looking forward to seeing you-all at the June meeting.

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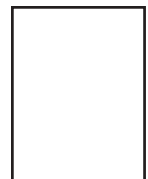
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The Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society's main purpose is to promote and advance the knowledge of the Lapidary Sciences in the mining, identification, cutting, polishing and mounting of gems, minerals and fossils to the utmost of our geological and lapidary capabilities.

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**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR  
TODAY**

MAGS Meeting  
**June 14**

Youth Field Trip  
**June 15**

Rock Swap  
**June 22**

DMC Field Trip  
**June 22**

MAGS Field Trip  
**June 29-30**

