



Volume 58 ♦ Number 06 ♦ June 2012 ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

Devilstep Hollow Cave

Mark Norton, Tennessee Division of Archaeology



Devilstep Hollow Cave is located at the headwaters of the Sequatchie River in Cumberland County, Tennessee. This cave contains Native American petroglyphs, pictographs, and mud glyphs dating to the Mississippian period—ca. 800-1450 AD. Archae-

ologists suggest that these glyphs indicate Native Americans were participating in complex rituals and ceremonies within this cave.

The State of Tennessee recently purchased this cave to preserve this monumental Native

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SEND ME YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

If you are reading this from a black-and-white paper copy of MAGS Rockhound News, several days into the month, there is a better way. If you have an email address but I don't have it, then you aren't getting the newsletter the way most people get it: by email. Most people receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, in color, several days before the



mail can get a printed copy to you. They can read the newsletter in full color onscreen (many people prefer this—they have enough paper already) or print it if they want a paper copy.

Please send me your email address if I don't have it. The simplest way is to send an email to me, at lybanon@earthlink.net. Or you can call (901) 757-2144. Printing

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MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

2011-2012 MAGS BOARD

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Show Chairman—W. C. McDaniel

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Send Me Your Email Address
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and postage costs are so high that printing in black and white and mailing 12 issues to you consumes almost your entire annual dues. By helping yourself you will also help your club.



Waiting to be Awarded

The 2012 Memphis Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show's Grand Prize winner was Ina Ramsey of Melbourne, Arkansas. As of this writing she still hasn't picked up her prize, but maybe that's because it weighs 144 pounds. It is a beautiful quartz geode pair (both halves), collected January 2011, from Keokuk, Iowa.



Help Fill the Bucket!

Our club is in need of grab bag material for next year's Show. Grab bags are very popular, and bring in quite a bit of money. We will be asking for rock, mineral, and fossil donations at our monthly meetings. Most of us have some specimens we can spare. Your trash could be someone else's treasure. We have lots of members, and if everyone gets in the habit of bringing something each month we will end up with lots of material to fill grab bags. Thanks, Idajeon, for this idea.

Links to Federation News

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

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Devilstep Hollow Cave American site and it is protected within the Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Park. This presentation will highlight the amazing cave art located here and provide at least partial explanation for these iconographic symbols.



Editor's Note: MAGSters can get a preview of Dr. Norton's presentation from the video on www.knoxnews.com/videos/detail/inside-devilstep-hollow-cave/

THE MAGS JUNE WEB REPORT

Mike Baldwin

"The Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society Excavations at the T. O. Fuller Site were begun in March of 1952 upon the approval of the project by Mr. L. G. McLean who was at the time, State Naturalist of the State of Tennessee." This quote is from The T. O. Fuller Report edited by Kenneth Lawrence Beaudoin. Thanks to MAGS Librarian, Ron

Brister, MAGS has acquired permission to post the entire 52-page scanned report on our website. A link to the report PDF can be found in the right-side navigation of the MAGS website, memphisgeology.org.

The MAGS website became active in 1998. From 1998 until 2009 our website was hosted by Earthlink. Statistics for those eleven years indicate that the pages on our website were visited 1.3 million times. In 2009 we changed to a new web host. Tracking statistics show that pages on our website were visited 1.319 million times from January 2009 until May 10, 2012 [the date of this article]. This means that our pages have been viewed over 2.6 million times since they first appeared on the internet, with the average visit lasting 6 minutes.

Here's a brief look at MAGS website statistics for 01.01.12 through 05.10.12:

- Total page views [1,310,211]
- Average page views per day [1,000]
- Highest number of pages viewed in a single day [5,288]

Top 5 pages [or documents] viewed 01.01.12 through 05.10.12:

- Coon Creek Book-Part 1.pdf [15,317 views]
- Devonian Fossils.pdf [14,044]
- sg_Eris.htm [3,555]
- Explorer0604.pdf [3,320]
- Coon Creek Book-Part 2.pdf [3,141]

Top 5 countries from which the MAGS website has been viewed:

- U. S.
- Canada

- Australia
- United Kingdom
- Germany

April 6, 2012, Board Minutes

Ron Brister

Attending: Doris Jones, Bob Cooper, Matthew Lybanon, Carol Lybanon, Mike Baldwin, Marc Mueller, Nanett McDougal-Dykes, Charles Hill, W. C. McDaniel, Lou White, Neville Mayfield, Paul Sides.

Meeting opened by President Lou White

Treasurer's Report: Doris Jones submitted the treasurer's report which was approved subject to audit. The annual report was approved. Doris circulated next year's planning budget to board members for line item requests.

Library: Librarian Ron Brister informed the board that a number of books are overdue from the library. Telephone calls, letters, and emails have been sent requesting the books return to no avail. A new series of letters will be sent. Memorial books are needed for Dick McKittrick (an agate book was suggested) and Cecil Perkins. Ron will buy them.

Historian/Rock Swap: Nanett McDougal-Dykes announced a rock swap at Jimmy McNeil's house from 10:00 A. M. until 2:00 P. M. Nanett is offering a treasure hunt for children and door prizes for adults.

Website: Mike Baldwin announced that the MAGS Newsletter is now on our *Continued, P. 5*

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Some Pictures From ...



**Thanks to all
the MAGSters
who helped
with the Show.**

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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April Minutes website. Ron
Continued from P. 3 gave Mike a
scanned copy of
Kenneth Boudion's 1953 book on
the archaeology of T. O. Fuller
Park (Chucalissa), for posting on
the website. The report was a
MAGS project and publication
and was instrumental in encourag-
ing State Parks interest in develop-
ing Chucalissa.

Membership: Neville Mayfield
reviewed the most current MAGS
membership roster. There was a
discussion on production of mem-
bership cards. The board resolved
to print membership cards and
distribute them at monthly mem-
bership meetings. None will be
mailed. Mike Baldwin offered to
print them.

Show: W. C. McDaniel reported
that the last Show meeting would
be held on Monday, April 9th.

Juniors Programs:

- The April presentation will be
Indian drums by Mike Baldwin.
- The May program will be on
crystals by Idajeon Jordan
- The June program will be on
mineral identification and prepara-
tion by Carol Lybanon.

Adult Programs:

- May 12—Dr. Michael Gibson will
speak on fossil fishing in Kansas.
- June 8—Mark Norton of the Ten-
nessee Division of Archaeology
will speak on Swift Creek Cul-
ture influences at Pinson
Mounds.

Old Business: Ron Brister made
a motion to set a MAGS fund
raising goal, not a pledge, of up to
\$3,000 a years for 3 years (total of
\$9,000.00 from 2012 to 2015) to
help pay for house reconstructions

at Chucalissa. The motion was
passed.

New Business:

- Neville Mayfield expressed con-
cern that the doors of the
MAGS storage unit don't close
completely and may allow rain to
spoil items inside. W. C. said the
doors worked just fine.
- Doris Jones suggested that we
stop funding the Ronald
McDonald House with a portion
of the show profits and use them
instead for advancing archae-
ology. W. C. McDaniel suggested
we defer a decision until fall
when the new show committee
was in place.

Nonconnah Creek Park: Carol
Lybanon met with director Cindy
Buchanan and Mike Flowers of
the Memphis Division of Park
Services to advocate a park and
interpretative area on Nonconnah
Creek. Ms. Buchanan said that it
would be easier to do a park on
the Wolf River because the City of
Memphis was currently funding
activities in that area. The Non-
connah Creek area is not being
developed by the City at this time.

Discussion among the MAGS
board revealed there are no min-
eralogical or paleontological re-
sources on the Wolf River while
Nonconnah Creek is rich in ag-
ates, gravel fossils, vivianite, and
Ice Age fossil plants and these re-
sources have been documented.
The board agreed to continue to
push for a park on Nonconnah
Creek. Ms. Buchanan observed
that a petition would be required
before Parks could make a deci-
sion. The MAGS board voted to
set up a table for the petition at
the Show and to continue pursu-

ing the park and interpretative
area.

Newsletter: Matthew Lybanon
asked board members to review
the newsletter email list for addi-
tions.

Field Trips:

- April 14—Southeastern Federa-
tion collecting trip to the Cole-
man Quartz Mine in Arkansas.
- May 19—MAGS Nonconnah
Creek collecting trip.
- June 2-3—MAGS field trip to the
Marion, Kentucky, gem show and
dig.
- June 16-23—extended MAGS trip
to North Carolina mineral locali-
ties.

Other Upcoming Area Events

▶ June 9

The First Annual Union
County Heritage Museum Gem &
Mineral Show and Sale is set for
June 9, 2012, along with the annual
Fossil Road Show at the Union
County Heritage Museum, 114
Cleveland Street, New Albany, MS,
9 A. M. until 3 P. M.

Vendors are invited to come to
this indoor, air conditioned venue
to sell and show their wares. Bring
your own 6 foot table, limit of
two, and table coverings. No
setup fee is charged, but a dona-
tion to the Union County Heri-
tage Museum of 15% of your sales
is requested.

Please phone or email your
registration to (662) 538-0014 or
jill@ucheritagemuseum.com.

The museum will provide the
space, the advertising, coffee, and
lunch.

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May 19 Field Trip

Carol Lybanon



We were glad that Nonconnah Creek did not look like this on

Saturday, May 19. About 20 people joined the field trip. The weather was clear and rather warm, but we still had a fine time collecting, eating, and talking. Thanks, Bob and Bonnie Cooper, for bringing the umbrellas and extra water. Field trips are the best part of our group activities. Everyone should come.



Nonconnah Specimens
(don't miss the artifacts).

Hooray, Summer Time is Here!

Juniors Corner, Carol Lybanon



The MAGS Juniors will meet as usual in June and July. In August we will participate in the annual Indoor Picnic,

along with the adults. Our program for June will be building a rock and mineral collection. In July we will learn about ammonites.

See you in June. Have fun on vacation and collect a lot of rocks, minerals, and fossils. Bring some to share.



June Field Trip Schedule

For more information, contact Charles Hill at (901) 626-4232 or hunter3006@aol.com.

Saturday, June 16	Sunday, June 17	Monday, June 18	Tuesday, June 19	Wednesday, June 20	Thursday, June 21	Friday, June 22	Saturday, June 23
Travel Day	Chunky Gal Mountain	Sheffield Mine	Waterfall Tour	Crabtree Emerald Mine	Free Day	Mason's Ruby & Sapphire Mine	Sheffield 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	Explore, have fun, sleep in	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Franklin, NC	Morning Meeting: Huddle House, Franklin, NC
Address:	Address:	Address:	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 Highway 19e N Spruce Pine NC (828) 765-4893	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: 7:00 PM	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM		Time: 7:30 AM	Time: 7:30 AM

More Nonconnah Creek Field Trip Pictures



The water level was low so a lot of the gravel bar was exposed. Conditions were good for collecting.

Other Upcoming Area Events Continued from P. 5

George Phillips, paleontologist from the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, will be a speaker, and other area paleontologists will be on hand to identify specimens. For more information call the museum at (662) 538-0014.

New Albany is located 30 minutes from Tupelo, 45 minutes from Oxford, and about an hour from Memphis.

► **June 22 & 23**

Mineral, Rock and Fossil Sale 9.00 am each day Northeast Arkansas Sale method to be announced

- Petrified wood
- Pallets and pallets of prime cutting material, most collected in the '60s and '70s
- Pallets and pallets of geodes and Thunder eggs
- Rush, Arkansas, quartz as big as the bed of a pickup truck
- Hundreds of boxes, primarily of Arkansas minerals, unopened in decades
- Crates and crates of miscellaneous material

- Piles and piles of miscellaneous material
- Fossils including many from the Leslie, Arkansas, area

Directions to sale-from Memphis (about 80 miles)

1. I-55 north
2. Exit to H63 toward Marked Tree
3. Exit H14 toward Harrisburg
4. Travel H14 through Waldenberg going over railroad tracks
5. Remain on 14 which is straight road
6. At first curve turn left onto Jackson 15, note there is a sign that states Jackson County,
7. Travel about two miles on gravel road. On your right you will see a water tower
8. House is on your left about 1/2 mile down (from tower), large group of buildings in the back

You can see pictures of the articles offered for sale at these links:

<http://odomauction.net/>

<http://photos.odomauction.net/GalleryThumbnails.aspx?gallery=2741110#2>

Editor's Note: The following event is a little farther away.

► **June 16**

DIAMOND HILL "Specimen Auction" and Show The Historic Belton Depot, 100 North Main Street at intersection with Anderson Street (US76/178) in downtown Belton, SC 29627. Saturday, June 16, 2012, Show 10-5, Auction 2pm

In 2007 & 2008, many large and spectacular specimens were found at the Diamond Hill Quartz Prospect (near Antreville, South Carolina) during our mechanized digs. The diggers decided to hold back seven of these top specimens, with the hope that they could be placed in museums or other institutions, where they could be seen and enjoyed by the public. One of these seven specimens was acquired by the South Carolina State Museum and is now there on permanent display. The remaining six specimens will be available at this auction.

This event will include both the auction and a sale: The Belton *Continued, P. 10*

Summer at Chucalissa

Rachael South Bogema

This summer has started off with a bang at Chucalissa! On May 19 we celebrated the opening of our Traditional Medicinal Plant Sanctuary, complete with workshops and activities geared towards the conservation of our outdoor exhibits. We are so excited to share our newest exhibit with groups, families, and visitors alike!

Our sanctuary may be officially open, but we still have plenty of projects that need to be completed this summer. Our next Volunteer Days will be Saturday, June 16, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Come out and volunteer for a few hours or the entire morning! We will be cataloging artifacts for our repository inventory as well as working to maintain and beautify our nature trails and sanctuary. All ages are welcome; no experience is necessary!

Finally, be sure to mark your calendars on October 20, when Chucalissa will be celebrating National Archaeology Day. The museum will host a number of activities, including excavation trench tours, flintknapping demonstrations, artifact identifications, and an atlatl throwing contest! For more information on these and other events, please contact us at 901-785-3160, or at resouth@memphis.edu. We hope to see you soon at the museum!

Best,

Rachael

Park Hills, Missouri, June 8-10

Annual show; Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society, Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs; Missouri Mines State Historic Site; south side of Hwy. 32, 1.5 miles west of Hwy. 67; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; free admission; rocks, minerals, fossils, rock jewelry and crafts, museum, auctions; contact Boneta Hensley, (573) 760-0488; e-mail: mojellybean63@yahoo.com; Web site: <http://mostateparks.com/park/missouri-mines-state-historic-site>.

Quality in Mineral Specimens

Editor's Note: *The May issue published the first part of a long article that appeared in the official newsletter of The Mineralogical Society of Southern Africa (thanks to MAGS member Howard Bromley). Space limitations prevent continuing the text in this issue, but here are some pictures that illustrate the article. The top left photo shows the author, Konstantinos Charalampidis. Look for the rest of the article in the near future.*



→ **Editor's Note:** *The Nonconnah Creek Science Park Petition, mentioned in the May issue is available for download from the MAGS website, memphisgeology.org. Please collect some signatures and return the signed petition to Matthew or Carol Lybanon. Information: (901) 757-2144 or lybanon@earthlink.net.*

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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	<p>Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc</p>	
<p>DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee - Copyright © All rights reserved.</p>		

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

An Official Field Trip of the Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society (Montgomery, AL) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

9:00 AM CT, Saturday, June 9, 2012

Trenton, AL

FEE SITE

Place: Trenton, AL

Time: Saturday, June 9, 2012 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Fee: \$17 adults, \$5.00 children.

What to find: Paint Rock Agate and various fossils. (Paint Rock agate is usually red and yellow. It can sometimes have other colors and even fortification lines. On occasion large agate nodules are found with hollow places that may have druze quartz crystals. Sometimes these crystals can be quite large, and can even be smoky or amethyst colored. The material is very good for making cabochons or any other type of lapidary processing and polishing, even tumbling!)

Lodging: Paint Rock Valley Lodge & Retreat, 865 Co Rd 9, Estillfork, AL 35745, (256) 776-9411 (Other lodging in Scottsboro, AL, or Huntsville, AL)

What to bring: Backpack, lots of water and/or Gatorade, lunch, rock hammer, safety glasses, insect repellent, potato rake or pick mattock, and release form.

What to wear: Light hiking clothing, hat, sturdy shoes/hiking boots.

Meeting Place: Holly Tree Grocery, 11620 AL Hwy 65, Holly Tree, AL 35751.

Directions: From Montgomery, take I-65 N. Near Decatur, take Exit 340/I-565 E and go through Huntsville. I-565 becomes US 72 E. Continue on US 72 E. Turn left onto AL 65 and drive to Holly Tree Grocery. (Total drive is approximately 219 miles.)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: This is on a mountain and requires moderate physical activity including hiking from the base to the top. It is not easy for beginning hikers and is NOT recommended for children unless strictly supervised! There is plenty of shade on this tree covered mountain; so it is not as hot as most places.

(Georgia Mineral Member responds) I wanted to say something about this location. My wife and I did this about a year and a half ago and had a rough time. This is NOT a gentle mountain slope. This path is steep in places. We aren't in the best of shape, but do exercise regularly and the climb up took us an hour. The climb down took an hour and a half as we were carrying about 50 pounds of rock. I would warn the older members that this is not an easy location to collect. DMC

For further information call field trip coordinator Jeff Edwards at (334) 312-0572.

Area Events (continued from P. 7)

Depot will be open to the public from 10 am-5 pm. Visitors will be able to see and purchase crystals, mineral specimens, fossils, and gemstones/jewelry, with a special emphasis on finds from South-eastern USA. The six remaining notable Diamond Hill specimens will be auctioned, beginning at 2 pm.

View all six specimens at www.wncrocks.com/resources/dhillmuseumforsale.html. If you'd like to participate in the auction, you need to register. Prior to June 16, you can register with Gina Clary (contact info below). On the day of the auction, you can

register with Gina at the Belton Depot.

Information:

Gina Clary,
Phone: (864) 934-3744,
e-mail: gina1420@aol.com

Bryan Major,
Phone: (910) 547-0427,
e-mail: dhmine@rocketmail.com

Chet Karwoski,
Phone: (706) 769-8163, e-mail:
gailkarwoski@hotmail.com

Jim Haege,
Phone: (770) 689-9376,
e-mail: jim@planetaryparts.com

Calendar

May 31, 2012

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

June 8, 2012

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

June 9, 2012

Union County Heritage Museum Show, New Albany, MS

June 16-23, 2012

MAGS Field Trip, North Carolina

June 22-23, 2012

Mineral, Rock, & Fossil Sale, Northeast Arkansas

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

