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## GEORGIA FIFTH GRADERS LEARN ABOUT ROCKS AND FOSSILS

**CAROL & MATTHEW LYBANON:** Laura Becker is Teacher of the Year at Benton Elementary School in Nicholson, Georgia. When she was planning a project on rocks and fossils for her fifth-grade class, she contacted MAGS members Carol and Matthew Lybanon. The Lybanons provided her with materials and information to help with an ambitious project. Laura wanted to do more than simply give a few lectures on the subject. Her idea was to give her students some "hands-on" experience, by making a full-scale research project. After reading about the subject, they each had to:



- ◆ Write a letter applying for a job with the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, complete with a letter of recommendation from a parent or teacher and a copy of a "driver's license"



(cont'd on pg. 4)

## 2007 – 2008 Officers and Board of Directors

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Rockhound News is published monthly by and for the members of  
Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Please send your  
comments and articles to the attention of Shelby Hartman, 5116  
Whiteway Drive, Memphis, TN 38117 or via email at magsnewslet-  
ter@comcast.net

## President's Corner



*By now most of you have already heard that MAGS member, Frank Walker passed away last week after a long illness. Frank and his wife, Frances, have been members of this club for twenty years. They were some of the first people to introduce themselves to me when I was a new member, and they were also some of the most friendly. It was Frank who talked me into serving on the MAGS board for the first time many years ago by assuring me that I would do just fine. Frank was also very supportive and encouraging when I talked to him about how nervous I was about leaving the firm I worked for and opening my own appraisal business. He was always there to help every year when the Show rolled around and he enjoyed the fieldtrips and the friendships that came with being a MAGS member. Frank was a loving father and husband and he often talked about how much he loved Frances. He will be missed by those of us who knew him and enjoyed the pleasure of his friendship. Frances, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family and, on behalf of all of our members, we extend our condolences.*

*Sandy Ward*

## “Best of Show and Found Display Contest” Rules

To display and compete each member is requested to:

1. Bring a single specimen from the location listed in the table on the right (collected on a MAGS field trip or at the same collection site at another time).
2. You must have found the specimen your self.
3. Specimen must be in original form or, if changed/modified, only through lapidary or prep work.
4. Juniors and adults are combined for this contest.
5. One winner will be selected. Winner will determine by members using a point rating from 3(high) to 1(low).
6. Winner will receive a certificate and entry into the Best of Show event in December. A special prize will be awarded to the Best of Show winner at the December Christmas Party.

# Best of Show

Month	Type of Material	Location	Winner
March	Druze Quartz	Missouri	David Day
April	Petrified Wood	MS, TN, AR	Carol Lybanon
May	Quartz Crystal	Arkansas	Wayne Williams
June	Fossil	Vulcan or Dale Hollow	John Matthew Erickson
July	No Display—Mineral Sale		
August	No Display— Rock Swap Fund Raiser for Shop		
September	Agate	Gravel bars or pits, etc.	
October	Fossil	Frankstown or Birmingham Ridge	
November	Geode	Ledbetter or Pharis Farm	
December	Winners from previous months compete for “BEST OF SHOW.”		



### Announcements & Tidbits

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

This month we welcome new MAGS members, John & Mary Covert; Jennifer & Kyle Eubank; Jim & Roseann Askeland and Lydia Askeland, as well as Robert & Tammy Gray. We look forward to seeing you at the membership meetings, field trips and rock swaps!

#### OOPS!

The newsletter editor extends her apologies to all of the MAGS members with July birthdays! August birthdays were erroneously printed in the July newsletter so all of you

who were born in August are getting birthday greetings for two months in a row!

#### STAY INFORMED WITH 2009 SHOW PLANNING!

Thanks to Mike Baldwin, the Rock Show has a new blog! Check it out at <http://thememphisshow.blogspot.com/> and stay up to date on the planning of the 2009 Show at its new location at the Agricenter!



## 2008 Adult Program Presentations

**August 8**

**MAGS Annual Indoor Picnic and Rock Swap**

**September 11**

**Robert P. Connolly, Director  
Chucalissa**

**October 9**

**Alan Parks & Ron Brister  
The Geological & Paleontological History of  
Nonconnah  
Marvin Nutt: Extinct and Extant Plant Life of  
Nonconnah Creek**

**November 14**

**TBA**

**December 12**

**MAGS Holiday Party**

## Youth Program Presentations

August	Indoor Picnic/Rock Swap with Adults	
Sept	Study of Mining	Alan Parks
October	Civil War Artifacts	Lou White
November	Fossil & Mineral ID	Idajean Jordan
December	Holiday Party with Adults	

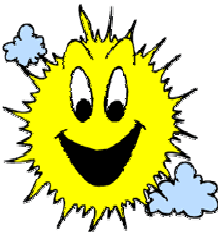
## MAGS Field Trip



**BARRY BURNS:**

The August MAGS Field trip will be to the National Ornamental Metal Museum located at 374 Metal Museum Drive on Sunday, August 17th. Those planning to attend should meet on the grounds of the museum at noon. The museum is housed in a 1930's brick house on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. It was formerly a U.S. Marine Hospital. There are over 3,000 items in the museum's permanent collection. There is also a working smithy and foundry on the site. In addition to the items on exhibit, the beautiful garden with metal sculpture is a pleasure to see. Anyone who has not been to this off-the-beaten-path attraction should definitely make plans to attend!

## Sunshine Report



*It is with great sadness we announce the passing of one of our most beloved members, Frank Walker. Our deepest sympathy to his wife, Frances. He will be sincerely missed by everyone.*

*Pam Gurley*

*If you have any announcements to include in the sunshine report, please contact Pam Gur-*

## “Georgia Fifth Graders...” (cont'd from front page)

to go into the employment record.

- ◆ Learn about the tools used in a dig.
- ◆ Participate in a simulated dig and identify the specimens found.

Each “scientist” had a specific job to do at the dig site, which was marked off with a labeled grid. Fossils were to be identified as plant or animal, and further identified as to type. Minerals were also to be identified. Each specimen got its own index card to record the information.

Here's where the MAGS members came into the picture. Carol and Matthew sent Laura samples of quartz, pyrite, selenite, druse quartz, agate, geodes, barite, petrified wood, coral, shark's teeth, exogyra, horn coral, brachiopods, trilobites, and crinoid stems. They also wrote up brief nuggets of information on each sample.

May 12 was the big day. With all the academics out of the way, it was time for the dig. As she put it, Laura buried the fossils and some of the mineral samples “in plastic tubs in a mixture of good 'ol Georgia red clay and some sandy loam and top soil.” Laura sent some pictures so you can see for yourselves what the dig looked like.



**It looks like everyone had a great time at the July Rockswap. Thank you to Jim and Hasami McNeil!**



# August Birthdays



**SHELBY HARTMAN:** The birthstone for August is the peridot. Peridot, is one type of the mineral called olivine.

Gem quality peridot is rather rare and it is one of the only gemstones that comes in basically one color — basically shades of olive green. The tint and intensity of the color of the stone is dependent upon the iron content of the crystal structure. It is often found in lavas and in peridotite xenoliths of the mantle which carries lava to the earth's surface.

Peridot is mined in many places, North Carolina, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, and New Mexico. Outside of the United States it is found in Australia, Brazil, China, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania. Much of the highest quality peridot is mined in the eastern lava fields of Saudi Arabia.

The largest cut specimen of peridot olivine is a 310 carat specimen which is kept at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC.

[Source: Wikipedia]

## 2008 Dates to Remember

Month	Board Meeting	Membership Meeting	Due Date for Newsletter Submissions
August	July 31	Aug 08	July 20
September	Sep 04	Sep 12	Aug 24
October	Oct 02	Oct 10	Sep 21
November	Nov 06	Nov 14	Oct 26
December	Dec 04	Dec 12	Nov 23

1 Chris Cozart	19 Ramon Gafford
1 Ravi Tummalapalli	19 Rachel Huber
4 Don Spencer	20 Kent Stratton
6 Irma Idell	21 Zachary Faddis
7 Charlie Thomas	22 Idajean Jordan
9 Danny Falkner	22 Jerome Wood
9 Dr. Don Lum	24 Kimberly Loveland
11 Paul Sides	24 Floy Hawkins
12 Ron Brister	25 Sherri Baldwin
12 Ginny Stanford	25 Dylan Burns
12 Chris Ferguson	25 Robert Foster
12 David Murray	25 Lenora Murray
14 Kasia Ferguson	25 Frances Walker
15 Holly Stanford	27 Tim Long
16 Lelitia Brister	28 Beth Day
16 George Loud	31 Gerald May
17 Phillip Loveland	31 Frank Schwartz
17 Anna Sisk	31 John Keegan

## Web Site Statistics for June 2008

a brief look at our website ([www.memphisgeology.org](http://www.memphisgeology.org)) since 1/21/02

### Total Visits & Hits

Total visits to web site since 1/21/02	329,171
Total hits to web site since 1/21/02	1,246,119
Visits in past 30 days	5,518
Hits in past 30 days	31,992
Average daily visits / hits (past 30 days)	178 / 1,032

### Top page views past 30 days

rocknews0608	615 hits
rocknews1206	600 hits
eris	555 hits
rocknews0602	465 hits

Note: A visit is every time someone comes to our web site. A hit is every page viewed once a user enters our web site.



## The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

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**DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee  
An Official Field Trip of the Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society  
(Hendersonville, NC, Host)  
An Official Trip of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society**

**9:00 a.m. until dark  
Saturday, August 16, 2008  
Crabtree Emerald Mine Grassy Creek Township, N.C.  
(Near Little Switzerland)**

### **FEE AREA**

The Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society will be hosting a trip to the famous Crabtree Emerald Mine on August 16th, 2008. The dig will begin at 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning and continue until dark. The property manager (The M.A.G.M.A. Club) will have a backhoe on site turning over the dump piles to make collecting more productive for those who attend. All who attend will be required to fill out a liability release form upon arrival.

**COLLECTING:** Emeralds in matrix, emerald crystals, black tourmaline (schorl), garnet, golden beryl, green beryl, fluorite (rare).

**COST:** \$30.00 per person. Children 12 and under are free.

**FACILITIES:** There will be porta potties on site for the dig.

**FOOD:** Bring your own food and plenty of liquids to drink.

**TOOLS:** Sledge hammers (small and large), 1/4" sifting screen, buckets and shovel.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Interstate 26 West in Asheville, N.C., take exit 9, Burnsville/Spruce Pine exit, (Hwy. US 19 North), turn right towards Spruce Pine. Drive 25.4 miles to Crabtree Road, turn right, drive 4.7 miles to McKinney Mine Road, turn left, drive 2.3 miles to Chestnut Grove Road, turn left, bear left around the church, drive 1.0 miles to Emerald Mine Road, this road will turn to Gravel, follow 1.2 miles to the mine on the left.

**CONTACT:** Rick Jacquot: rick@wncrocks.com (826) 683-1048

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"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!"

MC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose: To collect field trip information from it's member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.

Please reply by e-mail to: [dmc@gamineral.org](mailto:dmc@gamineral.org) World Wide Web site for the DMC is: <http://www.gamineral.org/dmc.htm> DMC is a program of the Field Trip Committee of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. Copyright © All rights reserved.

## June 2008 Board of Directors Meeting Notes : CAROL LYBANON

The MAGS Board of Directors met June 5 at the Blue Plate Cafe, 5469 Poplar Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 P.M. Those present were: Sandy Ward, Barry Burns, Carol Lybanon, Matthew Lybanon, David Day, Mike Cannito, W.C. McDaniel, Mike Baldwin, Pam Gurley, Alan Parks, and Dick McKitrick. The minutes from the May Board & Membership Meetings were reviewed and approved as submitted. **Treasurer's Report:** Mike Cannito circulated copies of the corrected April report and the May report. They were accepted as submitted, subject to audit. **Field Trips:** Barry Burns reported that Paul Sides will lead the June field trip, to Crowley's Ridge. Paul will have additional information at the Membership Meeting; he told Barry there will also be an opportunity to pick blueberries. Barry is planning a trip to Marion, KY, to check the Clement Mineral Museum as a site for a future field trip. It is a fluorite site; the fee is \$20 per 5-gallon bucket. **Youth Programs:** Mike Baldwin reported that David Day will do the June program (soap sculpture), and Carol and Matthew Lybanon will do the July program (geodes). The schedule for the remainder of the year is printed in the newsletter. David Day replied that Ron Brister was well organized, and over 20 kids were there. **Webmaster:** Mike Baldwin reported that the site is now hosted on BellSouth instead of EarthLink; the URL remains the same. His e-mail address as webmaster is now [mike@memphisgeology.org](mailto:mike@memphisgeology.org). We can have up to 20 mailboxes, so Board Members can get their own [memphisgeology.org](mailto:memphisgeology.org) mailboxes. At present Mike pays for hosting. W.C. McDaniel moved that MAGS should cover the cost, retroactive to the beginning of 2008. The motion was carried. **Library:** Ron Brister was not present. Sandy Ward reported that SFMS would like as many of our VHS tapes as we are willing to give them. They will pay the postage, and Ron will recommend which tapes to send them, if the Board approves. Matthew Lybanon moved that we donate our excess VHS tapes to SFMS; the motion was carried. Mike Baldwin suggested that we let the membership know, and have a last call to view the tapes before we donate them. **Rock Swap:** The next rock swap will be on June 21, 11:00-2:00, at the home of the late Charlie McPherson in Brighton, TN. His extensive collection will be available for viewing. There will not be a cookout this time, so this will be a pot-luck lunch. Show: Alan Parks announced the planning committee for the 2009 show, and gave a preliminary report on the proceeds for the 2008 show. The final report will be presented at the July Board Meeting. **Adult Programs:** W.C. McDaniel reiterated the program schedule through December. The list is published monthly in the newsletter. **Membership:** The Board approved an application for the Loveland family. Pam Gurley also reported that she has one incomplete youth application. She will attempt to get the missing information in time for the July Board Meeting. Carol Lybanon questioned the purpose of a youth-only membership. After extensive discussion Alan Parks moved that we table further discussion of the youth-only membership; the motion carried. **Old Business:** None. **New Business:** Barry Burns asked whether we had thought of MAGS business cards. W.C. McDaniel said that we have them, and he will bring some to this month's Membership

Meeting. W.C. McDaniel reported that our insurance company has overcharged policyholders in some areas, and we might get a refund. The refund would come through SFMS. W.C. said MAGS should consider officer liability insurance, which is now available, and also that our insurance covers our meetings, but that the church's name needs to be added so they can be protected. Point of clarification: The Board named Alan Parks to replace James Butchko as Show Committee chair last month, so Alan replaces James on the Board. The July Membership Meeting will be the first auction of pieces from the MAGS collection. There will be a silent auction before and after the meeting, and a live auction as part of the program. There will be reserve pricing on individual pieces, based on appraised values. Proceeds will go to the club savings account, to reimburse the cost of purchasing the collection and support the lapidary room. There was a discussion on changing the date of the next Board Meeting, but the Board decided not to change the date. The next meeting will be July 3. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

## June 2008 Membership Meeting Notes : CAROL LYBANON

The MAGS Membership Meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on June 13. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 P.M. There were 47 members and 11 visitors. The visitors were Mike Howard (speaker), Michele Demo, Jeff and Katherine Riley, Ellison Loftis-Jones, Robert Gray, Josh Mandere, Nagendra Rao, and Jennifer Eubanks, Austin and Andrew.. Pam Gurley welcomed the visitors. She has a new member packet for the Loveland family. Sandy Ward asked that members pay James Butchko for show tickets, so we can finish the financial report for the 2008 show. W.C. McDaniel announced that Pat Atkins of Lincoln, NE, will be in town soon. Pat has a variety of items to sell, and would like to trade for some Brilliant wood. W.C. will e-mail people to tell them when Pat will be in town. Barry Burns brought some fluorite specimens that he collected in Marion, KY. He will plan a field trip to the Clement Museum this fall or next spring. Paul Sides told members about the July field trip to Crowley's Ridge. Plans are to meet for breakfast at 7:00 A.M. at the Starlight Motel, or at the WalMart parking lot at 8:00, so we can leave by 8:30. Paul plans to take people to several sites, and said that those interested can pick blueberries on the same property. We will be collecting agate, jasper, shark's teeth, and several other things. There was no old or new business. Sandy turned the meeting over to W.C. McDaniel, our Program Chair. He reminded everyone that there will be a rock swap on June 21, 11:00-2:00, at the home of the late Charlie McPherson. It is worth going just to see his collection. There will be a pot-luck luncheon. People should bring drinks and something to share. W.C. said people should check the newsletter for the lapidary room schedule. The July program will be the first sale of 75-80 pieces from the MAGS collection. On Sunday, July 22, there will be a meeting to select the pieces. The August meeting will be an indoor picnic/rock swap. Funds raised at this meeting will support the lapidary room. W.C. McDaniel introduced Mike Howard, who gave a very interesting and informative program, Introduction to Visual and Physical Properties of Minerals. June's displays topic is fossils from Vulcan or Dale Hollow.: Wayne Williams told us about his mososaur fossil. Sandy Ward asked that those who have not yet paid their 2008 dues should do so. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.



**MAGS PRESENTS THE 7TH ANNUAL**  
"A Mid-Summer Night's Indoor Picnic & Rock Swap"

**Special Events/Activities , Rock Swap And Indoor Picnic**  
**Membership Meeting**  
**Friday, August 8 7:30 pm**

**Food And Drinks**

MAGS will supply tables, coverings, cutlery.  
MAGS members and guests bring the food to eat and share.  
Bring your own drinks and some to share. Cans(cold) recommended

**FOR EVERYONE- HELP NEEDED BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE MEETING**

**Special Events And Activities**

Tables supplied by MAGS.  
Geode cracking- brings your own and get it cracked for \$1.00 per geode with proceeds split between cracker and club.  
Portable light box with UV light. Bring your specimen (s) to see if they fluorescence.  
Check out the MAGS web site.  
Check out your specimen(s) up close with a microscope.  
Check out your geological knowledge with a quiz.  
Kids- show off your rock and fossil artistic side-special awards.

**Selling and buying**

Each member must supply own table. Limited selling space so a four foot table is recommended.  
Each seller is requested to make a \$5.00 donation to the club.

**Swap and MAGS Area**

Table(s) supplied by MAGS.  
Swapping only, no selling permitted.  
Swap and Spin- bring a specimen, place it on the spinning wheel, spin and get another specimen to take home.  
Register and win a free spin on the "Rocks Around the Clock."  
Silent auction and/or buy it now. Some pieces may be from the Frank Theibold collection. All proceeds to club.  
Register and a win the "Grand Door Prize."  
MAGS T-shirts.  
New book in color: "Rocks and Fossils Found in Mississippi Gravel Deposits."

The main purpose of Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society 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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AFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS: New Editor 7th—95 • Small Bulletin Honorable Mention—04, 05, 06 • Adult Article 10th—04; Honorable Mention—05 (x2), 06 (x2) • Junior Article 3rd—98; 8th—03 • Special Pub 4th—03

SFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS: New Editor 1st—86; 2nd—88, 97 • New Editor (Explorer) 4th—03 • Certificate of Excellence—89, 90, 91, 92, 93 • Large Bulletin 1st—87 • Small Bulletin 1st—04, 2<sup>nd</sup>—06, 4th—03, 3rd—07 • Special Publication 2nd—03 • Art 77, 80, 81, 82, 86 • Junior Article 1st—03, 07 • Adult Article 1<sup>st</sup>—06, 2<sup>nd</sup>—89, 90, 04, 06; 3<sup>rd</sup>—92; 4th—85, 04, 07; 5th—91, 03, 07; 6th—87; 8th—04, 07; Honorable Mention—03, 04, 07 • Adult Poetry—07

DUES: \$20 (Family); \$16 (Single); \$8 (Junior)

## AUGUST 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		JUL 29	JUL 30	JUL 31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30/31

- July 31**                      **6:30 p.m.**                      **Board Meeting: Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue**
- August 8**                      **7:30 p.m.**                      **Membership Meeting, "A Mid-Summer Night's Indoor Rock Swap & Picnic" at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Road**
- August 16**                      **9:00 a.m.**                      **DMC Field Trip to Crabtree Emerald Mine, Grassy Creek Township, NC**



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