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A monthly newsletter for and by the members of Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FEATURE ARTICLES

1 Frankstown: A Day in the Late Campanian Stage of the Late Cretaceous Mississippi

MEMBER PAGES

- 2 Board Members
- 2 From the President
- 2 2004 MAGS Field Trips
- 3 MAGS Field Trip: Parsons, TN
- 4 Proposed Amendments
- 4 Web Report
- 4 September Birthdays
- 5 Sunshine Report
- 5 Road Cut
- 7 July Board Meeting Notes
- 7 July General Meeting Notes
- 8 New Members/Address Changes
- 10 Rock Starz Shine

MINI MAGS [MAGS YOUTH]

- 9 FRA Merit Badges Available
- 9 2004 Programs

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION NEWS

- 6 DMC Field Trip: Parsons, TN
- 6 SFMS & Other Clubs/Events
- 8 First Annual Oktoberfest
- 8 NC Treasures Unearthed

FRANKSTOWN

A DAY IN THE LATE CAMPANIAN STAGE OF THE LATE CRETACEOUS MISSISSIPPI

Frankstown, Mississippi-75 million years ago

The bellowing cries of hadrosaurs (duckbill dinosaurs) resound from the coastal marshes as the dinosaur herd finds food and water in the shallow ponds behind the beach ridge. Here crocodiles lie in wait for the poor baby hadrosaur who wanders too close. With rising sea level, the beach and dunes move across the coastal meadows like a slow-motion bulldozer, encroaching over the marsh on the landward side, while exposing marsh sediments to the surf on the seaward side. Soon the teeth and bones of dinosaurs, crocodiles, freshwater gars and turtles, and fragments of petrified driftwood are mixed with the remains of sharks and other saltwater fish.

The hadrosaurs characterize this coastal environment and are good swimmers even in the surf, where they often flee to evade predators. Also, the Campanian Stage was the heyday of the hadrosaur, with large herds roaming the North American continent. The sound

of the hadrosaur is everywhere as they make trumpeting

see Frankstown: A Day in the Life on page five . . .

SEPTEMBER MAGS EVENTS



02 6:30p Board Meeting @ Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue

10 7:30p General Meeting @ Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Road,

Memphis. Bring displays and refreshments.

Adult Program: "Coon Creek Fossils" with Ron Brister, Pink Palace Museum

Youth Program: "Seashells" with Nancy Folden

16 7:00p M3 Micromounters Meeting at the home of Roger Van Cleef

18 7:30a DMC Field Trip to Parsons, TN for marine fossils [see page 3 and page 6

for details]

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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 or email them to editor@memphisgeology.org . ©2004.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As fall approaches and cooler temperatures (excluding our unusual but greatly appreciated August weather) arrive, MAGS will be busy on several fronts:

At the September meeting members will be ask to participate in discussing and voting on several recommend changes in our by-laws. Please read a summary of those recommended changes in the newsletter. Specific wording will be at the September meeting

Over the next few months the nominating committee will be appointed and they will be looking for members to serve the club in various positions over the next couple of years. When they come calling please consider making a commitment.

Our field trips for the last few months have run into some roadblocks. Locating sites and scheduling field trips is a challenging task. It's made even harder when we must deal with weather, river stages, landowners, businesses and various public entities and then try to please a bunch of rockhounds.

A special appeal is made to MAGS' member's regarding the need for material for the 2005 gem dig. We had an extremely successful gem dig and nearly exhausted our supply In addition, we have diminishing resources and opportunities to acquire and accumulate material. So help out my collecting materials for the gem dig on upcoming field trips. For example, most of us have a good supply of crinoids and material from Vulcan Quarry. So go on the 18th and collect for the show.

WC McDaniel

2004 MAGS FIELD TRIPS

DAVID MCILWAIN: Mark your calendars and clear your weekends. Here's what you have to look forward to:

SEP 18-19 Fossils; MAGS hosts DMC at Vulcan Quarry, Parsons, TN

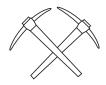
OCT 23 Agates, jasper, ice age fossils; Richardson Landing;

Millington, TN

NOV 20 Barite/Dolomite; Black Rock, AR

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NEWS, ARTICLES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR PICTURES FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF MAGS ROCKHOUND NEWS IS **SEPTEMBER 25**, **2004**.

SEPTEMBER 2004 DMC/MAGS FIELD TRIP



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2004 • 7:30AM MARINE INVERTEBRATE FOSSILS • VULCAN QUARRY, PARSONS, TN THIS FIELD TRIP IS OPEN ONLY TO DMC MEMBERS

Collecting site: The Vulcan Materials Company, Parsons Facility - Located in Parsons County near Parsons, TN. This field trip is 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!" Collecting is free at this site.

Specimens: Marine invertebrate fossils such as corals, crinoids, brachiopods, sponges and trilobites. These specimens may be found in gray limestone and shale.

Release, wavier: The Vulcan Materials Company requires each person to sign a Release, Wavier and Indemnity Agreement form before entering the facility. These forms will available at our meeting place or online on our website at www.memphisgeology.org.

Description of site: The Vulcan Materials Company, Parsons Facility is a working mine where the exposure is from the early Devonian Period (about 400 million years ago, or about 50 million years after the fossils you find in the Nashville Basin. Fossils are most common in the lower Devonian Ross Formation. During the early Devonian Period, what is now North America was still largely under water and close to the equator. However, the continents which were to form Pangea at the end of the Paleozoic Era were much closer.

Meeting Time/Place: Saturday, 7:30 am, The Deerfield Inn parking lot. MAGS will have a sign-in sheet and Wavier and Indemnity Agreement forms signed and collected. We will convoy to the Vulcan facility promptly at 7:45 am. Follow AFMS Field Trip Convoy Guidelines.

Safety Note: While at this sites, all safety rules must be followed. All children and junior members must be supervised by an adult member at all times. Please be advised that there is always a possibility for injury.

Follow AFMS safety rules, code of ethics and collect courtesy code.

Rock Swap: Saturday afternoon there will be a rock swap in the parking lot of the Deerfield Inn with the group and members of Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society (MAGS) and Dixie Mineral Council. Bring your materials and let's trade or sell.

Driving Directions: To Deerfield Inn located at 863 Tennessee Ave N, Parsons, TN 38363 (731) 847-4700. From Memphis take I-40 East towards Nashville, or from Nashville take I-40 West towards Memphis. Take the TN-69/US-641 East exit number 126, towards Camden/Paris/Parsons. Turn right onto TN-69/US-641, travel 14 miles to Parsons to the Deerfield Inn will be on the right.

Accommodations:

If you are plan to stay in the area Friday night or Saturday night, rooms are available first-come-first-serve bases. Group rates are available for all DMC and MAGS members and their guest at the following motels:

[1] Deerfield Inn. 863 Tennessee Ave N. Parsons. TN

[1] Deerfield Inn, 863 Tennessee Ave N, Parsons, TN 38363, (731) 847-4700

[2] Jake's Motor Lodge, 3946 Hwy. 412 E., Parsons, TN 38363, (731) 847-6387

Please make your reservations ASAP! DO NOT STAY AT ANY HOTELS LOCATED NEAR THE HWY 69/I-40 INTERCHANGE.

Tools: Bring rock pick, hammer, chisel, pry bar, screwdriver, etc. Leather gloves are a good idea, also safety glasses. Newspapers for wrapping specimens, collecting containers such as bucket or clothe bags.

Difficulty Level: 5 to 7 on a scale of 1 (easy) to 10 (hard).

1st VP/Field Trip Leader: David McIlwain

Home: (901) 465-7388 • Cellular: (901) 266-1446

E-mail: davidmcilwain@netscape.net

President: W. C. McDaniel • Home: (901) 274-7706

E-mail: cfmcdaniel@worldnet.att.net

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MAGS BY-LAWS

At the September membership meeting several proposed bylaws changes will be placed on agenda for discussion and decision. The summary of the proposed amendments is:

- 1. Delete the membership requirement of attending two membership meetings within a six-month period. Delete the associate membership category.
- Restructure several officer positions:
 - a. Current director positions would receive additional titles and specific responsibilities
 - b. The appointed positions of membership, librarian and youth would become elected positions and combined under three of the director's positions. In addition create four new positions all with director titles. The changes would create the following positions:
 - i. Director-Youth
 - ii. Director-Membership
 - iii. Director-Librarian
 - iv. Director-Historian
 - v. Director-Assistant youth programs
 - vi. Director-Assistant field trips
 - vii. Director-Assistant adult programs
- 3. Change dates:
 - a. For the appointment of the nomination committee from October to August
 - b. For the submission of nominations to the membership from November to October
 - c. For the election of officers from December to November.
- Rename Business meeting to membership meeting
- Immediate past president becomes member of the board of directors.
- The first vice-president immediately assumes office if the president position becomes vacant

WEB REPORT

MIKE BALDWIN: Here's a brief look at our website (www.memphisgeology.org) from 01.21.2002 through 08.30.2004:

Visits*112,605	Top pages in the past 30 days:	rocknews1002.pdf322 hits
Hits**	Home Page612 hits	Explorer0903.pdf291 hits
Visits in the past 30 days 7,636	rocknews0804.pdf357 hits	argon2003.pdf252 hits
Hits in the past 30 days 34,471	Explorer0703.pdf330 hits	Average visits/day past month 243



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS Birthstone = Sapphire

3 - Kathy Ethridge	12 - Turid Dulin	17 - Nola Beckum	25 - Terri DeVoe
3 - Lenette Mewborn	12 - Julia Ethridge	19 - Karen Schaeffer	25 - William Randolph
5 - Jerry Ehrlich	13 - Fred Anderson	21 - Rachel Griffin	
5 - Emily Hill	14 – Rhena South	21 - Carolyn Hays	
5 - Barry Walther	15 - Gaben DeVoe	23 - Ron Aycock	

10 - Alishia Parks 23 - Park Noyes 16 - Barry McCalla 12 - Emily Barton 17 - Kelsey Beckum 24 - Phil Novarese

FRANKSTOWN: A DAY IN THE LIFE

. continued from page one

calls through the air space in their crested skulls. Male hadrosaurs stake out their territories, warning other males to stay away. But soon the sea will reclaim all of this marsh, and the hadrosaur will have to find pasture elsewhere.

During our brief visit to this ancient setting, we choose the safety of the beach and avoid the dinosaurs in the marsh. Here we have a wonderful time collecting seashells along the high tide line. The beach is littered with the exquisitely beautiful shells of marine snails (gastropods) and the occasional giant shell of an ammonite with its flashy mother-of-pearl interior. Among the gastropods are a diversity of aporrhaids with flaring extensions protruding from the shell's mouth (aperture). The largest and most brightly colored shells are those of the spindle-shaped volutes.

Our pursuit of large shells takes us into the surf where we are greeted by a school of fish leaping from the water. In pursuit of them are the large predatory fish *Xiphactinus* and *Enchodus*. These ten-footlong fish breach the surface with open jaws containing dagger-like teeth. Behind them are the sharks *Scapanorphynchus* and *Squalicorax* looking for leftovers. The commotion attracts the attention of a flock of flying reptiles called pterosaurs. They swoop to grab fish swimming near the surface. Below them, one unfortunate shark is ambushed by a fifteen-foot-long mosasaur, a fierce sea-serpent-like reptile.

The feeding frenzy drives us close to shore where we see the sawfish *Ischyrhiza* flushing crabs and rays from the sand with its long snout studded with sharply-pointed, lateral teeth. One slash of that snout could inflict a serious wound. Nearby is a cracking sound as the mosasaur *Globidens* munches clams with its blunt conical teeth. We return to the beach, leaving the ocean to the reptiles and fish.

Reference:

Article: David T. Dockery III; <u>Windows Into Mississippi's Geologic Past</u>; Circular 6, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Office of Geology; Jackson, Mississippi; 1997.

Illustration on page one: Rich, Rich, Fenton and Fenton; <u>The Fossil Book: A Record of Prehistoric Life</u>; Dover Publications; Mineola, NY; 1996.

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SUNSHINE REPORT

CORNELIA McDANIEL: We send our condolence to **Alishia Parks** following the loss of her grandfather. We all send our hearty CHEERS to **David McAlister**, **George Everett**, **Carolyn Hays**, and **David Sanford**.

MAGS ROADCU1

Welcome to the MAGS ROADCUT. ROADCUT is designed to provide general information and news for rockhounds.

Over the next few months the Roadcut will focus on one specific topic. This month it is the Mississippi River

- ... length. Varying lengths are reported ranging from 2, 552 miles to 2,300 miles. The varying length is attributed to the changing channels.
- speed. At the headwaters of the Mississippi, Lake Itasca in Minnesota- the average surface speed of the water is near 1.2 miles per hour roughly one-third as fast as people walk. At New Orleans, the speed of the river is 3 miles per hour. A raindrop falling in Lake Itasca would arrive at the Gulf of Mexico in about 90 days
- . . . depth. At its headwaters, the Mississippi is less than 3 feet deep. The river's deepest section is near New Orleans where it is 200 feet deep.
- ... sediment. The Mississippi carries an average of 159 million tons of sediment each year. Its basin covers over 41% of the continental US. Average that over millions of years and you can understand the wide diversity of materials found on the gravel bars.

Send your MAGS Roadcut News to WC McDaniel at cfmcdaniel@worldnet.att.net

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION NEWS



DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological
Society (Host) • 7:30am [CST] Saturday, September 18, 2004
Marine Invertebrate Fossils • Vulcan Quarry, Parsons, TN

Details of this trip can be found on page three of this newsletter.

Field

Saturday, September 18th, 2004

Trip Agenda **8:00 am – 11:00 am--** Enter the Vulcan Materials Company, Parsons Facility. We will make a brief stop at the weigh scale office building to turn in our wavier forms and then we'll be escorted to the collecting site.

11:00 am – 11:30 am-- We will have a short break for lunch. Please bring a sack or picnic lunch and drinks, as we will not be allowed to re-enter the facility once we leave.

11:30 am - 2:00 pm-- Continue collecting.

2:00 pm-- leave the Vulcan Materials Company, Parsons Facility. We'll be escorted out of the collecting site to the gate near the weigh scale office building.

2:30 pm - 5:00 pm-- Rock swap in the parking lot of Deerfield Inn.

SEPTEMBER SFMS & OTHER CLUB SHOWS AND EVENTS

- **3-6 HENDERSONVILLE, NC:** Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society; 23rd annual show and sale; Whitmire Activity Bldg., Lily Pond Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6, Mon. 10-5; contact Margaret L. Johnson, 141E Pine Hill Ln., Hendersonville, NC 28792, (828) 692-1249.
- 4 HENDERSONVILLE, NC: 15th annual symposium, "Southeastern States Micromount Symposium" Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society; Salvation Army Bldg., Grove St. between 3rd Ave. and 4th Ave.; Sat. 9-4; contact Margaret L. Johnson, 141E Pine Hill Ln., Hendersonville, NC 28792, (828) 692-1249.
- **10-12 WINSTON-SALEM, NC:** 33rd annual show; Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club; Education Bldg., Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Gate 5, Deacon Blvd.; Fri. 10-7m, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 12-6; contact Paul Burton, 2001 Walker Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27106, (336) 924-8510.
- **17-19 ASHEVILLE, NC:** 6th annual show; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows; Asheville National Guard Armory, 75 Shelburne Rd. (I-240 exit 1B); Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; contact Van Wimmer, 5273 Bradshaw Rd., Salem, VA 24153, (540) 384-6047; e-mail: van@toteshows.com; Web site: www.toteshows.com.
- **25-26 HIDDENITE, NC:** 16th annual show; Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society; Hiddenite Educational Complex, Sulpher Springs Rd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 12-5; rock swap Sun. 12-4, minerals only, no dealers; contact Jerry Hedrick, (828) 396-4576.
- **25-26 JOPLIN, MO:** Show, "Rock-A-Thon" Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society; 504 Schifferdecker Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; Chris Wiseman, (417) 623-1180; joplinmuseum@sbcglobal.net.

MAGS REVIEW

JULY 1, 2004 BOARD MEETING NOTES

RAYNEE RANDOLPH: The MAGS board of directors met July 1, 2004 at The Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue. The following were present: Mike Baldwin, Nancy Folden, Idajean Jordan, Cornelia and W.C. McDaniel, Park and Terri Noyes, Kim Prudhomme, Raynee Randolph, Dennis Sanders, Bill Scheffer, Paul Sides, Roger Van Cleef, and Lou White. The following reports were given: (1) Treasurer: financial report. (2) 1st VP: Given by W.C. McDaniel-Lou White will bring us a program of Memphis artifacts Pre 1862. August we will have our indoor rock swap, no program for adults or juniors. September program will be with Ron Brister in connection with our Coon Creek trip. October program is needed by the August Newsletter. (3) Editor/Web: Thanks for the on-time submissions. (4) Library: Sherri Baldwin will open the library Friday evening due to Nancy's absence. 30 years worth of Lapidary Journals are taking up much needed space in the library. Dennis Sanders has volunteered to store them. Members please keep watch for any videos or DVDs that would be a great addition to our library. (5) Juniors: July we will wire wrap shark's teeth. August is our swap there will be no program but bring things to sell or swap. September will be the world of shells thanks to Nancy. October we will do mineral experiments. November will be Dino Mania. (6) Membership/Sunshine: "Condolences" to Anna Sisk, "Cheers" to Kathy Hemingway, "Thank You" from Lucy McPherson. Five new memberships were approved. Family memberships for Manson, Shaeffer, Motter, and Bennet. Regular membership for Gurley. "Rock Stars Shine" this month will be Kathy Hemingway. (7) Show: Memphis Stone and Gravel will make a donation to RMH. (8) Old Business: [1] Rock Swap–If selling or trading, you must donate an item for auction as payment. It will be a potluck with the board providing drinks and ice. The club will provide table coverings and cups. [2] We will host the SFMS board meeting during our show in April. We have received a memo with their requirements. Eileen Price will visit during our January meeting. [3] All by-law revisions need to be presented at the August meeting. Please give you changes to Raynee Randolph.

JULY 9, 2004 GENERAL MEETING NOTES

RAYNEE RANDOLPH: MAGS July General Membership meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on July 9, 2004, presided by President W.C. McDaniel. There were 52 members and 8 visitors present. They were: Anne Warren, Al Klug, Madison Horowitz, Jack Borg, Linda Wilson, Jane Lankford, Linda Wilson, Kelly Rayne, and Kelsey Lyons. (1) Field trips: August 21 will be Frankstown, MS. and Birmingham Ridge. September 18 we will be hosting the DMC trip to Vulcan Quarry. Dr. Gibson will be with us to identify our stuff. October 23rd is our Richardson Landing trip. (2) Reminders/ upcoming events: We will have a live auction, as well as a silent auction going on throughout the meeting, bid high and bid often. August will be our annual indoor rock swap. Bring lots of picnic food and all your stuff to swap. You will need to bring your own tables and a specimen for "admission" for the club to auction later. (3) Juniors: There will be no program this month due to the rock swap. In September Nancy will have a program on shells. (4) Program: Tonight we will have our own Lou White bringing us "Memphis Pre 1862 Artifacts". (5) Displays: Adult: Barry Burns-New Mexico and Sweet Surrender. Melisa Johnston-B&G and Sweet Surrender. Mike Cannito-Zeolite and heulandite minerals from New Jersey. Juniors: Rhena South–Halite, petrified wood. Display winners-Barry Burns and Rhena South. There were three door prizes awarded and we dismissed @ 8:45 for refreshments.

Visit the Southeast Federation at http://www.amfed.org/sfms for federation news, Wild Acres and William Holland updates and <u>Lodestar</u> newsletter online.

FIRST ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST AND POT LUCK PICNIC

Dear MAGS members:

The North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society would like to invite any and all of you to our first annual Oktoberfest and pot luck picnic!

The picnic will be held on the third Saturday in October, October 16, 2004, at 11:00 a.m. at Choctaw Lake. The lake and park are located in Choctaw County, on Highway 15, 3 miles south of Ackerman, Mississippi. It is about a three-hour drive from Memphis. There are motels and campgrounds in the area. Just contact us and we will steer you in the right direction.

We plan to have games, really special door prizes, an auction, tail gating for sale or swap, and plenty of fellowship. Arch Murphee will bring one of his world-famous hams, and the North Mississippi club furnish the necessary paper goods. We ask that all attendees bring a dish or two (enough for themselves and one other) and whatever drinks you may want.

We hope that lots of folks will be able to join us as we kick off the cool weather at Choctaw Lake.

Rena Everett, Oktoberfest co-chair 69 Jeff Street, Oxford, MS 38655 662-234-8561 • mlgae@olemiss.edu

Virginia Murphee, Oktoberfest co-chair 3190 CR 333, Tiplersville, MS 38674 662-223-6584 • amurphee@Dixie-net.com

NORTH CAROLINA TREASURES UNEARTHED

A note from Susan Partain, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh.

A special exhibit at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences called "Treasures Unearthed". This exhibit is the most comprehensive exhibit of North Carolina's Gems & Minerals ever displayed. An anonymous collector provided the majority of the specimens in the exhibit, and this will be the first time these pieces have been available for public viewing. As gem & mineral enthusiasts, we would like to personally invite your organization to the exhibit, which runs until June 12, 2005. If you are interested, I can send your group discounts to the exhibit, or answer any further questions you may have regarding the exhibit. You may also contact Steve Popson at steve.popson@ncmail.net, ext 376 or Jeff Williford at jeff.williford@ncmail.net, ext 302.

Susan Partain, Intern, NC Museum of Natural Sciences 919.733.7450 ext 356 • mktintern.mns@ncmail.net 11 W. Jones Street • Raleigh, NC 27601-1029

NEW MEMBERS AND ADDRESS CHANGES

Welcome our new members to MAGS. Please add these names and addresses to your 2004 directory.

- [1] HERREN, Michael: 719 Belmont, West Memphis, AR 72301, 870-733-2177, thenextbigthingy@aol.com, www.mindgamesstudies.com
- [2] WILSON, Linda: 4790 Kaye Road, Memphis, TN 38117, 901-767-8898, lwilson435@msn.com NEW ADDRESS
- [1] FIELDS, Lee: 1880 Glenbuck Cove North, Germantown, TN 38139

MINI-MAGS NEWS [WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE KIDS]

FRA MERIT BADGES: AFMS PROGRAM FOR YOUTH

It's official! We now have a merit badge program for our clubs with youth members enrolled in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America (FRA). MAGS youth are members of FRA. To be a member of FRA, all we need is a group of kids (up to the age of 18), a sponsor, a name, and an application to FRA. The group must be a member of the regional Federation. The number of youth is not important: we can have as few as one or two and as many as we can handle. MAGS youth have been members of FRA for about three years now.

This new program consists of an FRA membership badge, 9 merit badges, and a "Rockhound Badge" that will go to youth members who earn 6 of the 9 merit badges. A 100-page guidebook describes and outlines requirements for each of the 9 badges. There are 52 activities to choose from, or about a half dozen activities per badge, with kids required to complete only 3 activities to earn any particular badge. Checklists in the guidebook make it easy for youth leaders to sign off on activities as a junior member completes them. In addition, brief back-up pages and suggestions help leaders guide the kids through each activity. The guidebook is available in both hardcopy (photocopied) and on the AFMS web site (www.amfed.org). To save on costs to the program, which is being provided entirely free to members, we encourage you to download a copy from the web. If this is not possible, please contact Mike Baldwin at 367 North main Street, Collierville, TN 38017 or 901-853-3603 or rockclub@earthlink.net.

A few word from AFMS about implementing this program with our kids . . .

First, don't feel obliged to do each activity precisely as described in the guidebook. You should adapt each activity and adjust is level to best match the ages and abilities of the kids in our club. For instance, Activities 1.1

2004 PROGRAMS

IDAJEAN JORDAN: Kids, mark your calendars. Here are the programs we have planned for you for the remainder of 2004.

SEPTEMBER 10: Librarian Nancy Folden will bring her large collection of shells to show you. If you have special shells or other beach treasures you have found, bring them to show.

OCTOBER 8: We will be conducting several mineral experiments. If you have minerals that you're not sure how to identify, bring them with you.

NOVEMBER 12: Dinomania

DECEMBER 10: Christmas Party

and 1.2 are on learning how to identify minerals using various characteristics and tests, such as color, streak, hardness, luster, crystal shape, cleavage, fracture, etc. For the very young children in our club, we may focus on just a handful of easily identifiable minerals, using a couple of characteristics (such as color, hardness and crystal shape). The older the kids, the more characteristics should be learned.

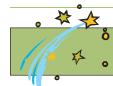
Second, try to do as many of the activities as possible as group projects. This makes it more fun for the kids and easier for the leaders.

Third, involve the adult club members in helping to oversee activities and to provide supplies and materials, and involve the kids in selecting the activities they want to try.

It is the hope of AFMS that this program will prove useful and successful. To help ensure its success, feedback is welcomes from the youth leaders and from the kids, not only on the existing activities, but on suggestions for creating new activities that will help us all learn and grow, while, as always, we have fun!

Editor's note: I would encourage all MAGS youth and youth leaders to take advantage of this great learning tool provided by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Information by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Activities Chair, AFMS.



ROCK STARZ SHINE

CORNELIA McDANIEL: In order to acknowledge contributions on the part of MAGS members, each month we recognize the efforts of those making an outstanding contribution to the ongoing success of our club. This month we recognize James Butchko for his outstanding dedication to MAGS. James can be seen helping out

whenever there is a job to be done, no matter how small or how large, from moving chairs on meeting nights to building display cases and hauling rocks for the show. James donated a TV cart to the club. He has a "never say never" attitude. Thank you James, for all you do behind the scenes for MAGS.

DUES:

Family-\$20.00 Single-\$16.00

Junior-\$8.00

Associate: \$13.00

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AFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS:

New Editor 7th-95 • Junior Article 3rd-98; 8th-03 • Special Pub 4th-03

SFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS:

New Editor 1st–86 • New Editor 2nd–88, 97 • New Editor (Explorer) 4th–03 Certificate of Excellence–89, 90, 91, 92, 93 • Large Bulletin 1st–87

Small Bulletin 4th–03 • Special Publication 2nd–03 • Art–77, 80, 81, 82, 86 • Junior Article 1st–03 Adult Article–(2th) 89, 90; (3rd) 92; (4th) 85; (5th) 91, 03; (6th) 87; (Hon. Men.) 03

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

Board Meeting **September 2**

September 10

M³ Meeting **September 16**

DMC Field Trip to Parsons, TN Hosted by MAGS **September 18**