



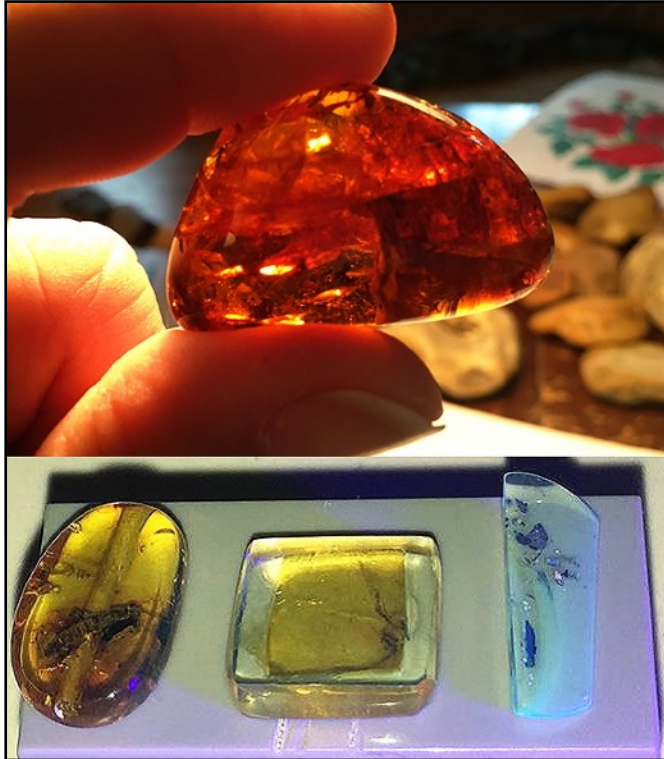
Volume 64 ♦ Number 10 ♦ October 2018 ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

Amber: *Prehistoric life trapped in the glow of nature's softest gem*

Dave J. Clarke

October Program

What do we know about prehistoric life preserved in amber from the time of the dinosaurs? Has blood really been extracted from a fossilized insect like we saw in Jurassic Park? Is amber a mineral or gemstone, or is it a fossil? Are the insects preserved in amber real fossils? How easy is it to cut and polish amber? All of these questions



and more I hope to answer for you within the context of a talk dedicated to the scientific and cultural value of amber. For this program, I will have specimens of amber

from around the globe on display and those interested will get the chance to do some hands-on cutting of amber pieces supplied by MAGS. Hope to see you there!

In this issue

Amber	P. 1
Fall Rock Swap And Picnic	P. 1
MAGS And Federation Notes	P. 2
2019-2020 Board Of Directors	P. 3
International Archaeology Day At Chucalissa	P. 3
MAGS On The (Inca) Trail	P. 4
Geology To The Rescue	P. 4
MAGS Notes	P. 5
August Board Minutes	P. 5
August Meeting Minutes	P. 6
TUSCON2019	P. 6
Fabulous Tennessee Fossils	P. 7
Cows Often Sit Down	P. 9
MAGS At A Glance	P. 10

FALL ROCK SWAP AND PICNIC

We will meet at the Freeman Smith Park Pavilion, 4620 N. Brunswick Road, Bartlett (If you look up the address you may be told it's in Arlington or Memphis, but this is a Bartlett city park.), at **12:30 pm on Sunday, October 21**. Driving directions are below. Please bring picnic-type food to



CAROL LYBANON
share—sandwiches, salads, meats, fruit, and desserts.

Fun activities are planned for adults and kids. Bring a table if you are going to sell or trade. We will eat in the shade on picnic tables, relax, and enjoy each other's company. See you there.

Driving directions from Memphis: Take I-40 east (toward *Continued, P. 3*)

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

2017-2018 MAGS BOARD

President—Charles Hill

1070 Park Swain Road, Grand Junction, TN 38039
♦ (901) 626-4232 ♦ hunter3006@aol.com

1st VP (Field Trips)—James Butchko

4220 Dunn, Memphis, TN 38111 ♦ (901) 743-0058 ♦
butch513j@yahoo.com

2nd VP (Adult Programs)—W. C. McDaniel

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

Secretary—Mike Baldwin

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

Treasurer—Bonnie Cooper

8695 Baylor Road, Arlington, TN 38002 ♦ (901) 444-
0967 ♦ rocks4us@hotmail.com

Director (Asst. Field Trips)—Kim Hill

4755 Royal Elm Cove, Memphis, TN 38128 ♦ (901)
388-7572 ♦ earthsis@aol.com

Director (Asst. Adult Programs)—Dave Clarke ♦

456 North White Station Road, Memphis TN 38117
♦ (901) 308-0334 ♦ dclarke@fieldmuseum.org

Director (Youth Programs)—Open

Director (Asst. Youth Programs)—Open

Director (Librarian)—Nannett McDougal-Dykes

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

Director (Asst. Librarian)—Jane Brandon

4384 Castle Avenue, Memphis, TN 38122 ♦ (901)
374-0366 ♦ jjbrandon@yahoo.com

Director (Membership Services)—Bob Cooper

8695 Baylor Road, Arlington, TN 38002 ♦ (901)
444-0967 ♦ rocks4us@hotmail.com

Director (Historian)—Carol Lybanon

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

Newsletter Editor—Matthew Lybanon

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

Webmaster—Mike Baldwin

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

Show Chairman—James Butchko

4220 Dunn, Memphis, TN 38111 ♦ (901) 743-0058 ♦
butch513j@yahoo.com

Past President—W. C. McDaniel

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

MAGS AND FEDERATION NOTES

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society, Memphis, Tennessee

The objectives of this society shall be as set out in the Charter of Incorporation issued by the State of Tennessee on September 29, 1958, as follows: for the purpose of promoting an active interest in the geological finds and data by scientific methods; to offer possible assistance to any archaeologist or geologist in the general area covered by the work and purposes of this society; to discourage commercialization of archaeology and work to its elimination and to assist in the younger members of the society; to publicize and create further public interest in the archaeological and geological field in the general area of the Mid-South and conduct means of displaying, publishing and conducting public forums for scientific and educational purposes.

MAGS General Membership Meetings and MAGS Youth Meetings are held at 7:00 P. M. on the second Friday of every month, year round. The meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall of Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5530 Shady Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee.

MAGS Website: memphisgeology.org

MAGS Show Website: www.theearthwideopen.com

We aren't kidding when we say this is a newsletter for and by the members of MAGS. An article with a byline was written by a MAGS Member, unless explicitly stated otherwise. If there is no byline, the article was written or compiled by the Editor. Please contribute articles or pictures on any subject of interest to rockhounds. If it interests you it probably interests others. The 15th of the month is the deadline for next month's issue. Send material to lybanon@earthlink.net.

October DMC Field Trip

WHERE: Hogg Mine (fee site), Troup County, GA

WHEN: Saturday, October 20, 9:00 A. M.-5:00 P. M.

COLLECTING: Aquamarine beryl, rose, smoky, and banded quartz, beryl, tourmaline, amethyst, ...

INFORMATION: Jeff Edwards, (334) 296-5304 or
goldennugget@montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com

Links to Federation News

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

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

Fall Rock Swap And Picnic *Continued from P. 1*

Nashville) to Exit 18, US-64 (Stage Road). Exit and turn left onto Stage Road. Go under the overpass and take the first right turn onto New Brunswick Road. Travel 3.4 miles (the road will change to Brunswick Road; just keep going) and turn right into the park. There's plenty of parking.

Alternate routes: About half a mile before the park, Brunswick Road crosses US-70 (Summer Avenue). So you could get to Summer Avenue at any point, go east to Brunswick Road, turn left onto Brunswick Road, and go half a mile to the park.

Questions? Contact me at sgcarol@earthlink.net or (901) 757-2144.

International Archaeology Day At Chucalissa

Melissa Buchner, C. H. Nash Museum

The C. H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa celebrates International Archaeology Day, Saturday October 20, 10:00 A. M. to 3:00 P. M.



In addition to scavenger hunts in the museum and access to real artifacts in the Hands on Lab, crafts like pottery reconstruction and bead weaving will start every hour. And you don't want to miss

2019-2020 Board Of Directors

The Nominating Committee met and put together the nominations for the 2019-2020 MAGS Board of Directors. Here is the slate of officers and directors to be presented in October and elected at our regular Membership Meeting in November. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the November election.

2019-2020 MAGS Board Nominations

President	W. C. McDaniel
1st Vice President (Field Trips)	Kim Hill
2nd Vice President (Adult Programs)	David Clarke
Secretary	Mike Coulson
Treasurer	Bonnie Cooper
Director (Asst. Field Trips)	Charles Hill
Director (Asst. Adult Programs)	Matthew Lybanon
Director (Youth Programs)	Mike Baldwin
Director (Asst. Youth Programs)	James Butchko
Director (Librarian)	Nannett McDougal-Dykes
Director (Asst. Librarian)	Kay MacLaughlin
Director (Membership Services)	Bob Cooper
Director (Historian/Rock Swaps)	Jane Coop

A "Thank you for your hard work" goes out to W. C. McDaniel, Nannett McDougal-Dykes, and David Clarke for serving on the nominating committee.

Carol Lybanon
Committee Chair

the only time this year you'll be able to see the real archaeology excavation trench in the late-morning tour. In the afternoon, all visitors can try their hand at throwing darts with an atlatl and compete for the best shot. Explore the mound site and enjoy face painting, a guided nature walk, flint-knapping, garbology, and more!

Free admission for MAGS Members.



For more information and directions, see our website at: <http://www.memphis.edu/chucalissa/> and watch our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Chucalissa/> for the flyer and schedule.

MAGS On The (Inca) Trail



A MAGS T-shirt, accompanied by MAGS Members Debbie and Alan Schaeffer, recently traveled to the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu, 2,430 m above sea level in Peru. The photo on the right shows Debbie standing at the Sun Gate, once the main entrance to Machu Picchu. Debbie and Alan are standing with Machu Picchu behind them in the photo on the left.

Machu Picchu is intact because the Spanish never found it and so didn't plunder or destroy it, as they did to many other sites. Perhaps MAGS can invite Debbie and Alan (and the T-shirt) to give a program on their trip.

Geology To The Rescue

Matthew Lybanon, Editor

Greenhouse gas emissions have been cited as a principal cause of global warming. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is one of the most common of these. If a practical means of removing CO₂ from the atmosphere could be found, it might be possible to slow or even halt the climate change.

A potential solution may come from geology (and chemistry). Magnesite (a magnesium carbonate mineral with a chemical composition of MgCO₃) may be the key. Magnesite (commonly used to make tumbled stones, beads, and cabochons; a lot of people have been fooled by magnesite dyed to look like turquoise) can form by several processes. One of them is the carbonation of magnesium-

rich rocks such as peridotite or serpentinite during regional, contact, or hydrothermal metamorphism. Mg-rich process tailings and waste rocks from mining operations can react spontaneously with atmospheric CO₂ to form stable carbonate minerals, such as magnesite. This process removes CO₂ from the atmosphere.

A tonne (another term for metric ton, 1000 kg) of naturally-occurring magnesite can remove around half a tonne of CO₂ from the atmosphere, but the rate of formation is very slow. The process takes hundreds to thousands of years in nature at Earth's surface. But now scientists have found a rapid way of producing magnesite. For the first time, researchers have explained how magnesite forms at low temperature, and offered a route to dra-

matically accelerating its crystallization.

The researchers were able to show that by using polystyrene microspheres as a catalyst, magnesite would form within 72 days. The microspheres themselves are unchanged by the production process, so they can ideally be reused. Project leader Professor Ian Power (Trent University, Ontario, Canada) said: "Using microspheres means that we were able to speed up magnesite formation by orders of magnitude. This process takes place at room temperature, meaning that magnesite production is extremely energy efficient."

Commenting, Professor Peter Kelemen at Columbia University's Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory said "It is really exciting that this group has worked out the mechanism of natural magnesite crystallization at low temperatures, as has been previously observed—but not explained—in weathering of ultramafic rocks. The potential for accelerating the process is also important, potentially offering a benign and relatively inexpensive route to carbon storage, and perhaps even direct CO₂ removal from air."

Refs:

- Power I, Harrison A, Kenward P, Dipple G & Wilson S, Magnesite Formation at Earth's Surface, (2018) Goldschmidt Abstracts, 2018*
- Ian M. Power, Paul A. Kenward, Gregory M. Dipple, and Mati Raudsepp, Room Temperature Magnesite Precipitation, Crystal Growth & Design 2017 17 (11), 5652-5659, DOI: 10.1021/acs.cgd.7b00311*

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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



Here is the schedule for the next three months:

October 12—**Kathy Baker** and **Jane Brandon**

November 9—**Dee Dee Goossens** and **Arlene Oleartchick**

December 14—Holiday Party—**Team Effort**

🎵 Field Trips

October 20—We will go somewhere in or closer to Memphis. Possibilities are: Richardson's Landing, Sugar Creek, or Nonconnah Creek depending on the water levels. Meet time is 10:00.

November 17—We will go to a quarry in Batesville, Arkansas. Meet time is 9:30.

December 22— We will go to Pickwick Lake since the water level should be lower.

🎵 Adult Programs

October 12—David Clarke, "Amber"

November 9—MAGS School of Rock plus Auction(s)

December 14—Holiday Party

🎵 Hospitality

Thanks to all who signed up to work hospitality at the Membership Meetings. You make that part of the meeting work better.

The duties are simple:

1. Before Meeting: Arrive around 6:30. Help set up and organize tables. All items are located in a rolling cabinet.
2. Monitor snacks, drinks, ice.
3. After Meeting: Clean up, put all items back in cabinet.
4. Two Members per meeting.

🎵 October Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Dave Shiffman |
| | Wyatt Gitter |
| 2 | Rondaviuse Bryson |
| 3 | Katie Box |
| 5 | Nikkos Morton |
| | Michala Demo |
| | Matthew Lybanon |
| 7 | Alan Jacobs |
| | Jacob Blodgett |
| | Chris Vaughn |
| 9 | David Hodge |
| | Charles Hill |
| 10 | Fulton Ledbetter |
| 11 | John Erickson |
| 12 | Jericho Morton |
| | Novak Morton |
| 13 | Michael Baldwin |
| 17 | Carolyn Behrman |
| 20 | Beto Ortiz |
| 24 | Keith Riding |
| | Ann Austin |
| 27 | Arlene Oleartchick |
| 29 | John Doherty |

🎵 New Members

Bill Price and Amanda Nalley

August Board Minutes

Mike Baldwin

Called to order 6:30. Members present: Charles Hill, Mike Baldwin, Nannett McDougal-Dykes, Kim Hill, James Butchko, Bonnie Cooper, Bob Cooper, W. C. McDaniel, Carol Lybanon, and Matthew Lybanon

Secretary: Mike distributed July Minutes via email earlier this week, and distributed hard copies to the Board Members present. He also distributed materials to be discussed in New Business. Minutes approved with one minor revision.

Treasurer: The rent check was cashed; we are paid up for the year. Statements were distributed via email earlier this week. A hard copy was distributed to the Members present. Report approved.

Adult Programs: Dr. Riding in September. David Clarke in October. December is Holiday Party.

Field Trips: Piggott, Arkansas, field trip was very good. August 18: Discovery Park. Nannett will link the Discovery Park page to our Facebook page. Mike will put Discovery Park information on the club homepage. Matthew will post info on the MAGS Facebook page. September 22: Hedger Quarry in Arkansas for dolomite and petrified wood. October: Memphis area.

Youth Programs: The youth will join the adults for the August Indoor Rock Swap.

Membership: One new Member since last month.

Newsletter: 15-20 August will be the deadline for receiving articles for the September newsletter. Matthew has the list of all programs and trips for the remainder of the year.

Historian/Rock Swaps: There will be a live auction at the August rock swap. Charles has all three of the specimens that will be auctioned.

Carol suggested that we come up with a few more specimens to auction. She enlisted Bob and Bonnie to bring a large cooler. Carol, Matthew and Nannett will be there at 6:00. There will also be a volunteer prize drawing. Members will bring food based on the first letter of their last name.

Librarian: Nannett has worked on the library cabinets.

Continued, P. 6

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

August Board Minutes Casters are available for around \$10

Continued from P. 5 each from Home Depot. She will purchase casters over Memorial Day weekend. Members will make the repairs over the course of 2-3 weekends. Motion made and carried to allow Nannett to purchase up to \$220 of materials. Nannett reported that there are several books missing from the library. She would like to limit member's to two books per check-out—one month limit. She is drafting a letter to send to members with outstanding books. W. C. suggested that Nannett make a list of missing titles and send it to Matthew to be placed in the newsletter. Nannett will have a reference section for use at club meetings only. If pages from those books are needed, she will scan them and email them to the requester.

Web: Hard copies of the August newsletter issue have been printed and will be mailed to non-email members on Friday. Webpages will be updated tonight after the Board Meeting. Mike asked if anyone would be interested [or knows of anyone who might be interested] in taking the web coordinator position for the 2019-20 term.

Show: Matthew stated that we have a contract with the Agricenter for three years. The rent has gone up \$1000 per year. The security deposit has gone down for next year. A minimum of two security officers is required for move-in and move-out and one officer required overnight. If there is no event on Thursday, we can move in on that day. Matthew would like to increase the show allotment from \$9,500 to \$10,500 to cover the increase in rent. W. C. would like to increase the table fee for dealers from \$60 to \$65, which is still lower than most shows.

Old Business:

1. We talked about making a donation to Chucalissa. They are still working

on the hands-on lab. Ron Brister suggested a donation for three boxes for Civil War and Native American artifacts in the lab. He also suggested a bookshelf with books for the kids using the lab. Carol suggested that we do the bookcases and place a plaque in memory of Sherri Baldwin, who passed away in June. The Board agreed. Carol will get in touch with Ron to discuss the details before we make a final decision.

2. We discussed table runners with the MAGS logo on them. We preferred the 30 x 60 runner. W. C. suggested that we purchase 4 runners. Mike will place the order. Motion passed to allow \$100. Mike will contact Board if the price is different.

New Business:

1. W. C. recommended that we provide \$500 to help buy materials for wooden stairs in three locations to Browning Fossil Park [Frankstown]. Charles will attend a meeting at the park on August 18 to get details. Carol moved that we provide the funds after Charles checks out the details. Motion carried.
2. Bonnie passed out a copy of an email from the Memphis Zoo to see if we are interested in a 2-day event there. The date conflicts with a MAGS field trip [Sept. 22]. This could be good exposure for the club. Carol suggested that we plan for 2019 instead of this year, because of time constraints. W. C. said he would do Sept 22. if someone else will do the 23rd. Bonnie will coordinate with the Zoo.
3. Nominating Committee has met. Have a full slate of nominees. Will be published in the October newsletter, vote in November.
4. Mike distributed a Children's Survey and notes for the Board to consider.
5. Mike will have a fluorescent tent set up at the Firefly Festival at the Botanic Garden on August 10. He

will be there rather than attending the MAGS meeting.

August Meeting Minutes

Bonnie Cooper for Mike Baldwin

Carol Lybanon made table decorations and organized activities. Keeping to her "beach theme" she made table centerpieces of wire sculpture coral with either a stained glass sea horse or fish she designed and made herself. Before the night was over she gave away all of these beautiful centerpieces as door prizes to nine very lucky people. Lou White was the auctioneer for a rock auction which raised a lot of money for the club. Five people who had volunteered at the show got beautiful book ends made from fossilized orthoceras. If you didn't make it to this rock swap you missed a lot of good food, prizes and a lot of fun but you still have a chance to go to the last rock swap, which will be in October. Mark it on your calendar when the details come out because you really don't want to miss it. You will be providing a great service to the club and can be part of the next show volunteer drawing.

TUSCON2019

Pallets to flats to single pieces

W. C. McDaniel

The tents are going up. The tents are going up and it is not a state fair. It's all for rockhounds of every type. Beginning in mid-January and extending until mid-February, Tucson, Arizona, plays host to the largest gathering of rockhounds and shows in the world. It's really big. Want to go? You need to get ready today. The sure size and numbers are a challenging and daunting task, especially for the first time visitors and casual buyers. To help you plan a trip—next show(s) are only a few months away—an

Continued, P. 8

Fabulous Tennessee Fossils

Dr. Michael A. Gibson,
University of Tennessee at Martin

FTF 45

Cambrian Soft-bodied Fauna



I am sitting in a hotel in Gatlinburg writing this installment of Fabulous Tennessee Fossils, having just spent two days with our UT Martin students at the 35th GeoConclave. GeoConclave is an annual two-day event begun in 1983 by UT Martin, UT Knoxville, Tennessee Tech, and MTSU faculty to bring geology majors across the state together for fieldtrips and competitions in things geologic. We have the longest continually running geology event in the country! We meet at Fall Creek Falls State Park and students compete in mineral, rock, and fossil identification, geologic map interpretation, along with several other academic events. In the afternoon, schools compete in more “fun” activities such as a hammer toss for accuracy (sort of a geologist’s version of horse-shoes), hammer throw for distance (think discus), and several other physical events. The highlight of the event is the evening playoffs called Rock Bowl (patterned after the old College Bowl of the 1960s). I would love to report that my UTM students took the trophy, but alas...we didn’t do that well this year. We were in 2nd place until the Rock Bowl, but were eliminated in the first round.

After leaving Fall Creek Falls, we traveled to Chattanooga where we met UT Chattanooga sedimentologist Dr. Ann Holmes, who arranged for us to visit a wonderful

outcropping of Silurian Rockwood Formation south of Tiftonia, Tennessee. The outcrop is loaded with brachiopods, bryozoans, echinoderm fragments, trilobite fragments, and trace fossils, all deposited as a death assemblage in a storm-ridden shallow marine setting. We also had torrential rain for the entire time we were collecting...it even flooded before we left. Still, we collected a lot of fossils that I will share with you next newsletter after identification. We thank Dr. Holmes for her time and a great trip!

The next day we drove north and east to study the rocks exposed in the Ocoee Gorge. My colleague professor co-leading the trip with me, Dr. Angie Van Boening (metamorphic petrologist and structural geologist), took over to explain deformation processes of rocks to the students. Not much fossil in this region, so I got to relax a bit. At the end of the day we arrived in Gatlinburg for our last night before starting the return leg across the state to Martin. Even though we saw no fossils yesterday in the Ocoee Gorge, due partly to its ancient Neoproterozoic age (not much moving around then) and due to deformation (any organism that was there was cooked and squished into oblivion), I recalled that there was a reported find in the 1950s of soft-bodied fossils in the Walden Creek Group of the Great Smoky

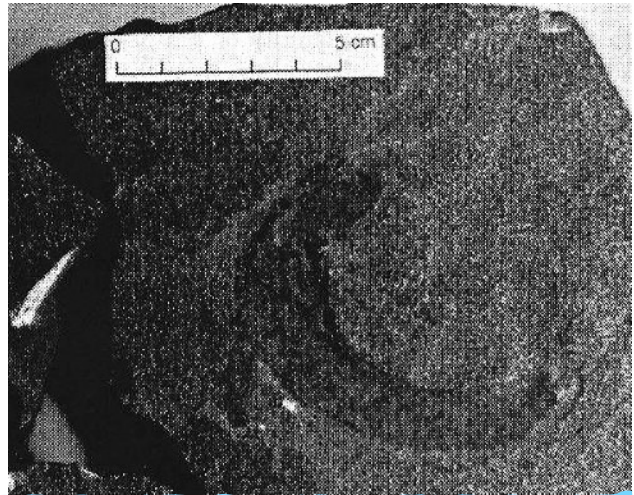
Mountains; I had heard about it while a student at UT Knoxville in the middle 1980s. As it turns out, Tennessee may actually have a small “Burgess Shale” fauna! The Burgess Shale is of course the famous site in British Columbia discovered by the great Charles Walcott that contains so many perfectly preserved soft-bodied organisms in a dark shale, and represents an unusual time in the evolution of basic body plans in early marine metazoans. Give yourself a treat and Google it!

A master’s student reported finding several specimens of micaceous sandstone from the Sandsuck Formation (don’t you just love that name) in Polk County in 1952. The specimens now reside with the U.S. National Museum in Washington, DC. The carbon-film impressions are shaped like a “C” (Figure 1) with very few morphological features. What could they be? The currently best accepted idea is that they are (1) a type of “holothurian” echinoderm (sea cucumber) called *Eldonia* due to their general outline shape, but the specimens lack the other features typical to this group; (2) a type of marine worm called a priapulid (perhaps the genus *Ottoia*), which gets its name from the Roman god Priapus (fertility); or (3) something entirely new. If new, the genus *Sandsuckia* has been kicked around as a possible name! Wouldn’t that be funny?

Continued, P. 8

Fabulous Tennessee Fossils
Continued from P. 7

Figure 1. Carbon-film soft-bodied preservation of a “C-shaped” fossil from the Sandsuck Formation (Neoproterozoic) of the Great Smoky Mountains. Image by Thomas Broadhead, UTK paleontologist.



TUSCON2019
Continued from P. 6

overview of the basic Tucson is provided with a suggested itinerary if you are going for a long weekend:



Tucson overview

- Tucson is not a single show, rather over 40 shows in varying types of venues with thousands of dealers. The first show opens on January 16 and the last show closes on February 14. The last show is the original Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, originating back to the 1950's. It is a retail only show and the only one that charges admission. All the others are free. Some places you may have to pay to park.
- Tucson is not wholesale/dealer only shows. A quick check of the current 46 listed shows

indicate only 7 are exclusive wholesale/business. Very few have a controlled entry with required registration and proof of business such as a sales tax certificate. Some wholesale dealers will sell retail with sales tax and offer a keystone price to dealers and no sales tax. Just shop around and you will find many choices and opportunities

- Tucson is fairly compact with most of the shows scattered along and/or visible from I-10. Traffic is not too bad, plus they have excellent on/off ramps. The key is the frontage roads which run parallel to I-10 and are one-way.
- Tucson weather is usually nice with cool days and nights. Can get windy at times.
- Tucson has many places and choices to stay along I-10 and airport area. Recommend you book early. Hopefully, you have a cousin you need to finally spend sometime with.

Shopping Hints

- Many of the shows, especially the tents and motels, will have



dealers opened well before the published date/time.

- When shopping please pay attention to quality and quantity. Some price differences can be attributed to the quality of the material.
- Determining whether a specimen is real, fake, or has undergone some type of alteration can be difficult. In general—especially fossils—if the specimen looks picture perfect, there are a whole bunch, and the pricing is pretty low, then the chances of its being real is low.
- If you buy a large volume be sure to examine and check your material and boxes, especially on the bottom.
- Carry a cart or bag with wheels and

Continued, P. 9

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

TUSCON2019 notepad to
Continued from P. 8 write down

something if
you want to find it later.

- Remember, many items are priced by the kilo. (2.2 lb).
- Several shipping companies have booths at the shows so you can ship. Make sure they are packed for shipping and put your name/contact info in the box.
- The biggie: How much money should I take? While it is a personal choice, just be prepared for the enormous opportunities and choices you have.



Itinerary

- This itinerary assumes you are a first-time visitor and/or casual buyer and have 2-3 days of shopping:
1. **Kino Gem and Mineral Show**, 2500 E. Ajo Way
 - Show opens on 1/31, closes on 2/17 (many dealers open before).
 - This is a very large show with a good mixture of dealers/vendors and material. You can buy a pallet or single piece, spend the day or more. They have a large food court.
 - Park in the back, usually less crowded and you can walk right up to many vendors.
 2. **22nd Street Show**. Located



northside I-10 and 22nd Street

- Easily visible from I-10. Opens on 1/31 and closes 2/11
 - One very long tent with many dealers/vendors covering just about everything and then some
 - Primarily retail with some wholesale
 - Parking can be challenging, dusty and most of it is a paid lot. In 2018 it is was \$3.00
3. **Main Avenue Mineral and Fossil Show**, 1202 N Main
 - Opens 2/2, closes 2/14 (many dealers open before)
 - Several shows in this area. Exit Congress or St. Mary
 - Focus your time on the Moroccan Village. This is a series of tents with very few permanent buildings. Fossils, geodes and minerals are abundant here. Please comparison shop and be careful in your selection.
 - Also at the north end is an open air building that contains a lot of material from Madagascar
 4. **Motel Shows**
 - Beginning along the west side frontage (Freeway) road I-10 and heading east there are about six-seven motel shows. Some of the shows will be open before the posted date.
 - Each of these shows is big,

filling every nook and cranny of the motel property. The variety is enormous and some of the best prices/bargains can be found. They have tendency to have dealers that specialize in certain specimens or types.

Websites

- www.Kinogemshow.com
- <http://www.tucsongemshows.net/coming.html>
- <https://xpopress.com/show>
- <https://www.visitucson.org/>

Photo credits: W. C. McDaniel

Cows Often Sit Down

Matthew Lybanon

Who can remember all those peculiar names of the geologic periods mentioned in last month's "Eons, Eras, Periods, And All That" article? Think cows.

Cows Often Sit Down Carefully. Perhaps, Their Joints Creak? Persistent, Early Oiling Might Prevent Painful Rheumatism. That's a mnemonic for the names of the periods in the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic eras: Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous, Permian, Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous, Paleocene, Eocene, Oligocene, Miocene, Pliocene, Pleistocene, and Recent.

If you have sharp eyes, you may notice some small differences. "Carboniferous" is another name for the combination of two periods (Mississippian and Pennsylvanian) you saw in in that pretty diagram from last month's article. And "Recent" replaces "Holocene." You can handle that, right?. Just think of those cows sitting down and you're off.

MAGS At A Glance

October 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1 Show Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Agricenter	2	3	4 Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, St. Francis Hospital	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm, David Clarke, "Amber"	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 MAGS Field Trip/ DMC Field Trip (details in newsletter)
21 Rock Swap & Picnic, 12:30 pm, Freeman Smith Park, Bartlett	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Show Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Agricenter	30	31	1	2	3

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

