



## Inside This Issue.....

Officers & Board	<b>2</b>
President's Corner	
<hr/>	
Upcoming Field Trips	<b>3</b>
Announcements & Tidbits	
<hr/>	
MAGS Holiday Party Announcement	<b>4</b>
<hr/>	
Meeting Programs & Rock Swap Schedule	<b>5</b>
<hr/>	
November Birthdays	<b>6</b>
2009 Meeting Dates & Deadlines	
<hr/>	
Schedule of Regional Rock & Gem Shows	<b>7</b>
<hr/>	
SFMS November Field Trip Info	<b>8</b>
<hr/>	
September '09 Board Meeting Notes	<b>9</b>
September '09 Membership Meeting Notes	
<hr/>	
Monthly Calendar	<b>10</b>
Newsletter Awards	

# Battle of The Geodes

## November MAGS Displays

**MATTHEW LYBANON**— MAGS Members-- We love to see displays of good stuff you have found. Displays are an important part of the monthly Membership Meetings, not an afterthought. People will now present their displays between the business meeting and the program.

The October 2009 Field Trip is a geode-collecting trip to several sites in middle Tennessee. Those who go on this trip should score some good specimens. Bring your favorites to the November 13 meeting so others can see them, You say you weren't able to go on that trip? If you have some good geodes that you collected at other sites, bring them. Let the best geodes win. There will be prizes for the best adult and Junior displays; Friday the 13th could be your lucky day.

The October field trip also includes a visit to Dale Hollow Lake to collect crinoid stems (and maybe a calyx or two if you're lucky). Bring your crinoids to show at the November meeting, also; same rules apply.

You know what you like. If you have a good topic idea for displays at a future meeting--some minerals, fossils, or archaeological artifacts you would really like to see--pass the idea along to Matthew Lybanon, Assistant Program chair. Call (901) 757-2144 or email [lybanon@earthlink.net](mailto:lybanon@earthlink.net).



## 2009 – 2010 Officers and Board of Directors

**President – W.C. McDaniel** • 2038 Central Ave., Memphis, TN 38104 • 901-274-7706 • w.c.mcd@worldnet.att.net

**1<sup>st</sup> VP (Field Trips) – Mike Wheeler** • 5764 Heatwood Drive, Bartlett, TN 38135 • 901-383-82256 • mike.wheeler@shelbycountyttn.gov

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Programs) – Paul Sides** • 1062 C.R. 739, Wynne, AR 72396 • 870-208-9586

**Secretary – Carol Lybanon** • 2019 Littlemore Dr., Cordova, TN 38016 • 901-757-2144 • lybanon@earthlink.net

**Treasurer – Doris Johnston Jones** • 409 Bradford Trail Cove, Collierville, TN 38017 • 901-832-0437 • darjohnston@aol.com

**Director (Asst Field Trips) – Robert Duncan** • 926 Joel, Memphis, TN 38127 • 901-251-6719 • agatized50@aol.com

**Director (Asst Programs) – Matthew Lybanon** • 2019 Littlemore Dr., Cordova, TN 38016 • 901-757-21444 • lybanon@earthlink.net

**Director (Youth) – Ron Brister** • 3059 Old Brownsville Road, Bartlett, TN 38134 • 901-388-1765 • bristerr@bellsouth.net

**Director (Asst Youth) – Alan Schaeffer** • 6854 Corsica Drive, Memphis, TN 38120 • 901-753-8496 • dayday91@aol.com

**Director (Librarian) – Ron Brister** • 3059 Old Brownsville Rd., Bartlett, TN 38134 • 901-388-1765 • ronald.brister@Memphistn.gov

**Director (Membership) – Neville Mayfield** • 7782 Bill Knight Ct., Millington, TN 38053 • 901-872-6761 • emayfiel@localnet.com

**Director (Historian) – Nannett McDougale-Dykes** • 106 Maple Street, Stanton, TN 38069 • 901-412-9357 • redchesty@yahoo.com

**Web Coordinator – Mike Baldwin** • 367 North Main St., Collierville TN 38017 • 901-853-3603 • mbaldwin05@gmail.com • rockclub@earthlink.net

**Newsletter Editor – Shelby Hartman** • 5116 Whiteway Dr., Memphis, TN 38117 • 901-626-1920 • magsnewsletter@comcast.net

**Show Chairman – Vacant**

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 magsnewsletter@comcast.net

## President's Corner



- Be sure to check out the Christmas party announcement in this edition of the newsletter. We have modified the gift exchange process
- Welcome to Matthew Lybanon as the new Assistant Director for Programs. Renewed emphasis will be placed on displays and door prizes.
- MAGS Rockhound newsletter is in search of an editor. If interested please let me know. Shelby will be available to help with the transition.
- Planning for the 2010 show is underway. If you come to the November membership meeting with the correct date of the show you will get a sneak peek at the 2010 Grand Door Prize.
- At the October membership meeting a “Code of Conduct” was presented. The conduct outlines membership meeting and facility needs and expectations. If you would like a copy please forward your request to me.
- New quote for the Farmers Almanac: “Abundant fall rain will bring abundant spring rock/fossil hunting opportunities.”

*W.C. McDaniel*  
MAGS President

## Comments or Questions regarding MAGS?

Contact W.C. McDaniel, MAGS President, by phone at (901) 274-7706, by mail at 2038 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104, or by email at w.c.mcd@worldnet.att.net.

Check out the clubs website at [www.memphisgeology.org](http://www.memphisgeology.org)

# MAGS Field Trips



**November 7-8 (Sat/Sun)** Crystals in Mt. Ida, Arkansas with Fiddlers Ridge on Saturday and "group choice" on Sunday!

**November 28 (Sat)** Richardson Landing (southwest of Millington, TN). We will be collecting agates/chert, fossils, petrified wood and river artifacts.

**January 1- (Fri-Sun)**, Potosi, Missouri. We don't do this one often so don't miss it! Ring in the new year collecting Druze Quartz, Barite, Lace Agate. (We will keep an eye on the weather).

*There are some possible weekday trips in the works and will be announced as they develop.*



## NEW MEMBERS

MAGS welcomes new members William De Vore, Ray Roberson & Karen Hiatt, and Chuck & Sherri Turner and daughter Rebecca. We look forward to seeing you at meetings and on upcoming field trips!

## FIELD TRIPS

Reminder: Due to liability reasons, you must be a MAGS member to attend a MAGS field trip.

## SHOW TICKETS

There are some members who still owe for tickets they obtained for friends/family for the 2009 Show. Please pay this as soon as possible to Dick McKittrick. Make checks

payable to "MAGS Show Account" and mail to 5431 Brantford Road, Memphis, TN 38120.



Happy Thanksgiving!

Announcements  
&  
Tidbits

# MAGS Membership Holiday Party

Shady Grove Presbyterian Church

Friday, December 11  
7:30 pm



**Mark your calendars! It's already time for MAGS Annual Holiday Party.**

As usual, MAGS will provide the meat, table decorations, and cutlery. We need the members to help out by bringing an entrée or dessert. In order to balance the selection of food, we will have a sign-up sheet at the November membership meeting where you can let us know what you plan to bring.

This year we will have a change in the gift exchange procedures.

**Members are not to bring a gift to exchange this year.**

Instead, MAGS will have Christmas bagged specimens that have been selected from the MAGS collection, including the Theibold collection.

Adults will pay \$10 adults and \$5 for children (14 and under) in order to have your name included in a drawing. All proceeds will go the club.

Names will be drawn and when your name is called, you will take a spin on the "Rocks around the Clock" to receive your bagged gift.

This will take the worry out of trying to come up with a hobby related gift and provide an equal opportunity for all members and guests to enjoy the party.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM & ROCK SWAP SCHEDULE

Month	Adult Program	Junior Program	Rock Swap *
<b>November</b>	Tennessee geodes with Mike Gibson	TBA	November 14 11a-3p At the home of Alan & Alishia Parks 831 West Powell Collierville, TN Phone: 901-853-6898
<b>December</b>	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	None scheduled

\*Remember, if you are attending one of our scheduled Rock Swaps, please bring a side dish or dessert (enough for your party and some to share with the rest of the group) and your drinks. Also, it is suggested that attendees bring lawn chairs and whatever you will need to display if plan on swapping or selling.

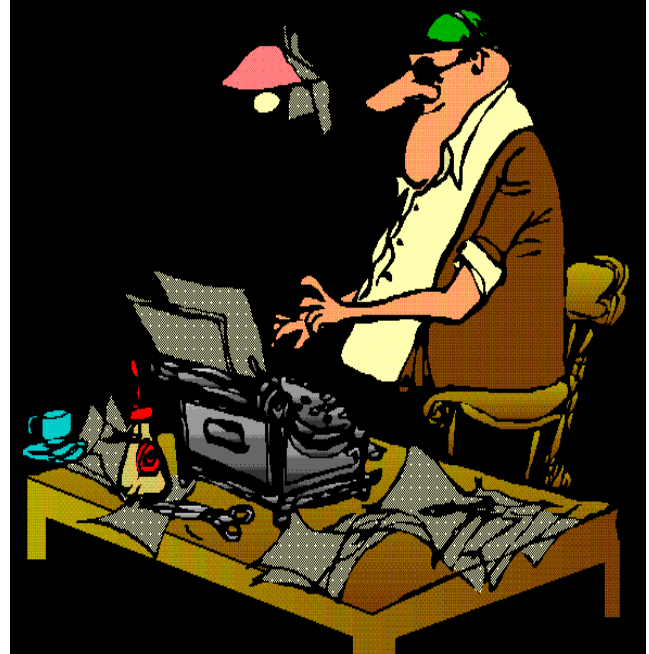
## ARE YOU THE NEXT MAGS NEWSLETTER EDITOR?

**W.C. MCDANIEL**— MAGS is in search of a new Rockhound News newsletter editor starting with the January 2010 edition. Shelby Hartman, the current editor, will be resigning to focus on completing her property appraisal qualification and licensing program and we extend our appreciation to her for her three year tenure as the Newsletter Editor.

### Basic Qualifications

- Good computer skills, writing skills, desk top publishing
- Computer system capable of sending documents to large groups helpful
- Basic knowledge of rocks and fossils helpful
- Able to maintain a consistent and timely publication deadline

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact me, W.C. McDaniel, at [w.c.mcd@worldnet.att.net](mailto:w.c.mcd@worldnet.att.net)



# November Birthdays

1 W. C. McDaniel	17 Cody Gembala
2 Caitlin Douglas	17 Logan Pulley
6 Gwen Lum	Edward Lindsey
6 Whit MacDonald	17 Rucks
7 Susan Plough	17 Ed Wagner
10 Rachel Sejas	18 Cathie Jacobs
10 Leisa Law	19 Nina Riding
10 Docia Lenz	21 Alex Sejas
12 Daniel Maybee	22 Celeste Long
12 Petrice Gembala	22 Melba Cole
16 Hugh Ferguson	Shirley Ruth Chris-
16 Judy Faulkner	23 man
16 Briana Burns	24 Jan W. Williams
16 Abbey Randolph	24 Rena Everett
16 Mallory MacDonald	23 Jimmy McNeil
17 Luke Ponce	28 Alan Parks
17 Regina Richards	29 Luke Loveland
	30 Robert Neill
	Alexa Kaitlin
	30 Ouellette



**SHELBY HARTMAN:** November's birthstone is citrine. Citrine is a member of the large quartz family. The name "citrine" originates from the color of the stone—often a lemon yellow, although the most

sought after stones are clear radiant yellow to brownish red. Like all crystal quartzes, citrine is a 7 on the Mohs Scale so it is quite resilient against scratches.

To remember the Mohs scale try remembering this phrase:

The Geologist Can Find An Ordinary Quartz,  
(that) Tourists Call Diamond!

<u>Mohs Scale</u>	<u>Mineral</u>
1.0	Talc
2.0	Gypsum
3.0	Calcite
4.0	Fluorite
5.0	Apatite
6.0	Orthoclase Feldspar
7.0	Quartz
8.0	Topaz
9.0	Corundum
10.0	Diamond

*Submitted by Dan Reed, MAGS Member*

## 2009-2010 Meeting Dates

Month	Board Meeting	Membership Meeting	Due Date for Newsletter Submissions
November	Nov 05	Nov 13	<b>Oct 15</b>
December	Dec 03	Dec 11	<b>Nov 15</b>
January	Dec 31	Jan 08	<b>Dec 15</b>
February	Feb 4	Feb 12	<b>Jan 15</b>
March	Mar 4	Mar 12	<b>Feb 15</b>
April	Apr 1	Apr 9	<b>Mar 15</b>

## 2009 SHOWS ACROSS THE REGION

**November 13-15, 2009, Louisville, KY – KYANA Geological Society.** Annual Mineral, Fossil, Gem, and Rock Show. Resurrection Lutheran Church Gym, 4205 Gardiner View Ave. Hours: 13th, 10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.; 14th, 8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.; 15th, 12:00 Noon – 6:00 P.M. Contact: Mike Whitehouse, 4304 Winter Park Dr., Louisville, KY 40218; 502.905.4988, or kyanageo@gmail.com.

**November 21-22, 2009, West Palm Beach, FL – Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches.** 43rd Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show, Americraft Expo Center at the South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd. Hours: 21st, 9:00 A.M.– 6:00 P.M.; 22nd, 10:00 A.M.– 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Barbara Ringhiser at bar5678@aol.com or 561.588.5458/ Ellen Jean at ellenjean24@aol.com or 931.372.8236.

**November 27-29, 2009, Mobile, AL – Mobile Rock and Gem Society.** 15th Annual Jewelry, Gem and Mineral Show, Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds, Cody Rd and Zeigler Blvd. Hours: 27th, 2:00 PM.– 7:00 P.M.; 28th, 9:00 A.M.– 6:00 P.M.; 29th, 10:00 A.M.– 5:00 P.M.; Contact: Jerry Shirey, 2911 Pretty Branch Drive W., Mobile, AL 36618; 251.786.4777, or Rockhoundjs@aol.com.

**December 12-13, 2009 Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society,** Nashville, TN - "Earth Treasures" Show: Tennessee State Fairgrounds; Sat 9am-6pm; Sun 10am-5pm; Adults \$3; Jewelry, gems, beads, minerals, fossils, collectibles, tools, equipment, silent auction, demonstrations, and door prizes. Over 30 dealers. [www.MTGMS.org](http://www.MTGMS.org)

## GEOLOGY FACTS

**Moving Rocks in Death Valley, California:** The flat clay surface of this area in California has trails left by rocks, with the rocks sitting at the end of them. Wiggly, zigzag trails have been made when these large rocks have mysteriously moved on their own across the flat surface. Scientists still don't know exactly what causes these rocks to move. Some ideas include ice crystals forming beneath the rocks or the wind blowing them.

**Cave of Crystals in The Naica Mine, Mexico:** This cavern system in Chihuahua, Mexico, has huge crystals that grow larger than people and are impressive in their beauty. The crystals are mostly made of Gypsum and have grown without being disturbed for thousands of years, allowing them to reach their amazing heights. Similar crystal caves can be found in the United States, but the Naica Mine hosts some of the most impressive formations on Earth.

**Southwest China's Stone Forest:** What looks like limestone trees towering for miles can be found in Southwest China in Shilin, a town who's name translates to "stone forest." Water bubbling along the surface of the ground eroded everything but these massive limestone structures, which tower over the trees and hills. Centuries of wind and rain erosion have weathered the peaks into jagged edges, creating a unique natural landscape.

**DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee  
An Official Field Trip of the Knoxville Gem and Mineral  
Society  
and  
the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society**

**10:30 AM Eastern, 9:30 Central** (Sharp!)

**Saturday, November 21, 2009  
Dale Hollow Lake, Byrdstown, TN**

**TRIP:** Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society will host a DMC field trip to Dale Hollow Lake for agatized Crinoid stems and plates. It has snowed and sleeted on previous trips at this time of year, so come prepared for cold weather.

**COLLECTING:** Agatized Crinoid stems and heads, agatized plates of exposed crinoids material and geodes along the shore of Dale Hollow Lake,

**BRING:** You will need to bring scratching tools to work the beach, a bucket and Ziploc (tm) bags to store your finds. You may want to include your rock hammer for plate trimming. For geode collecting you will need to bring along a couple of 5 gallon buckets, a pick, and a shovel. Bring rubber boots and a change of clothes if you want to dig in the lake. As always, bring your lunch, plenty of fluids, a hat, and gloves.

This field trip is suitable for children.

**DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:**

**Where:** In the parking lot beside the Dairy Queen 17 miles North of Livingston, TN at the corner of SR 111 and Cove Creek Road.

**When:** 10:30AM (Georgia Time) and 9:30AM (Tennessee time) on November 21, 2009

**Directions to our meeting place:** When you arrive in Livingston, TN., continue on SR 111 for another 17 miles to Smyrna, TN and the Dairy Queen at the corner of SR 111 and Cove Creek Road. Start looking for the Dairy Queen about two miles after you cross the large bridge over Dale Hollow lake.

**Questions - contact:**

Travis Paris - nuggetnose@comcast.net 865.691.8228

Daniel Miller - dmillerspe@aol.com 865-494-9700



## September Board Meeting Notes Carol and Matthew Lybanon

The MAGS Board of Directors met September 3 at the St. Clare Room in St. Francis Hospital, 5959 Park Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P. M. Those present were: Mike Baldwin, Ron Brister, Doris Jones, Kimberly Loveland, Carol Lybanon, Matthew Lybanon, Neville Mayfield, W. C. McDaniel, Alan Schaeffer, Paul Sides, Mike Wheeler, and Phillip Loveland. Excused: Robert Duncan and Nannett McDougal-Dykes. Secretary: The minutes were approved with two minor corrections. Treasurer: Doris Jones presented both the July and August reports. Both were approved subject to audit. Doris needs to transfer \$492 from the Club Account into the Show Account, because the Show account paid the entire amount for printing the Chucalissa brochures. W. C. McDaniel said he has \$110 from the sale of minerals at the July Membership Meeting. Membership: Neville Mayfield reported that the new membership application that was approved at the last Board Meeting is not available on the web yet. He and Mike Baldwin will take care of it. He approved the following applications from the August Membership Meeting: William De Vore, Ray Roberson & Karen Hiatt, and Chuck & Sherri Turner and daughter Rebecca. Field Trips: Mike Wheeler said that our next field trip will be on September 27. The club will go to Birmingham Ridge and Frankstown. Other upcoming trips are: October 16-18, Cookeville area, geodes and fossils; November 6-8, Mt. Ida, Sweet Surrender Mine and Eagle Mountain; November 28, Richardson Landing if water level permits. Mike Baldwin has been in touch with the owner of the new geode site near Cookeville. The owner is trying to obtain a motel discounted rate. He has also refurbished an old country store, where we could possibly have lunch. W. C. McDaniel is attempting to get in touch with someone who may be able to tell us of a new collecting site at Dale Hollow Lake. W. C. reminded Mike Wheeler to bring sign-in forms for the field trips to the Membership Meetings. Adult Programs: Paul Sides reported that Bill Prior will speak on the Pleistocene of Northeast Arkansas at the September Membership Meeting. The October 9 subject will be a lapidary workshop. Dr. Gibson had to cancel his November presentation; Paul is working on a replacement (possibly Robert Connolly). December's program will be the holiday party. Paul was asked to send a list of participants in the October program to Shelby Hartman, so she can list them in the October newsletter. W. C. McDaniel discussed the January 2010 program. He thinks it should be a club orientation program, and a summary of the year. Junior Programs: Alan Schaeffer sent a report. The September program will be on fluorescent minerals and volcanos. In October Carol Lybanon will talk about molds and casts. Alan is working on a November program. Show: W. C. McDaniel announced that he will head the Show Committee (which he wants to call Show Team 2010). He will hold the first exploratory meeting in mid- to late September, at the AgriCenter. He will recruit team members. Everyone will have a specific job. About 10 people attended the August 19 meeting. A few Members still owe for their membership tickets to the 2009 Show. We also have not received a bill for the postcard mailing. After these two things are taken care of we can close out the 2009

Show. Neville Mayfield reminded W. C. that he made up some sponsor forms, which he will show to W.C. Library: Ron Brister reported that he spoke with a church representative who will check with the church to see if we can use a storage room, for which we will pay rent. If we get approval Ron offered to purchase several cabinets to use along with the existing cabinets. Newsletter/Webmaster: Congratulations to Mike Baldwin. Our website won first place in the SFMS and second place in the country. Next year the contest names will change to "Web Site Contest" and "Bulletin Competition" (rather than referring to the webmaster and editor), which better describe what is judged. There have been quite a few problems with the website hosting recently, related to the change from AT&T to Yahoo, but they are getting ironed out. Historian/Rock Swap: Nannett McDougal-Dykes sent a report. The September 12 rock swap will be at the home of David and Beth Day. The final rock swap of the year will be on November 14, at the home of Alan and Alshia Parks. Old Business: W. C. McDaniel asked for volunteers to help pack up the collection that has been on display at the museum in New Albany. Neville Mayfield reported on the class he took at the University of Memphis, Public Relations for Non-Profit Organizations. He has put together a notebook from the class, which will be available in the library. New Business: Neville Mayfield informed the Board of another University of Memphis class, Event Planner, that he thought would be of benefit to MAGS. Nobody volunteered to take the class. Carol Lybanon brought the Board the information on Christmas tree decoration in the Enchanted Forest. The Board was not interested in tackling that this year. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 P. M.

## September Membership Meeting Notes Carol and Matthew Lybanon

The MAGS Membership Meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on September 11. 65 Members and 12 visitors were present. Neville Mayfield welcomed visitors and new Members. W. C. McDaniel reminded people that only MAGS Members can attend MAGS-sponsored field trips. David Day explained about tomorrow's rock swap. W. C. McDaniel reminded people that Life Member George Fulghum's family was holding a garage sale of rocks, minerals, tools, and more, which will be held Friday-Sunday, September 18-20. W. C. McDaniel announced that the first Show planning meeting will take place the last week in September. Our contract with the AgriCenter is in place, and dealer contracts have been mailed. Just a reminder: The 2010 Show will take place April 24 and 25, 2010. Susan Thompson suggested that our Members join the North Mississippi Rock Club, so that we can go on their field trips. Paul Sides introduced Bill Prior of the Arkansas Geological Survey, who gave a very interesting talk on "The Pleistocene in Arkansas." There was one display. Lauren Schaeffer showed a trilobite fossil that she collected at Nonconah Creek. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P. M.

