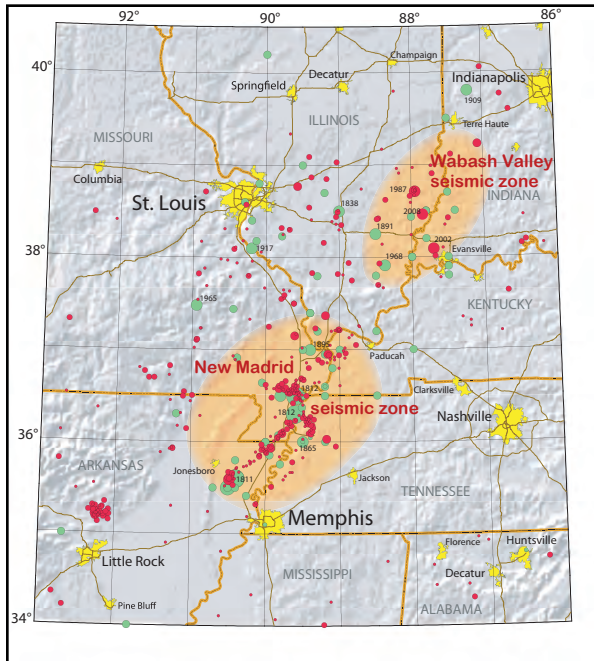




Volume 57 ◊ Number 11 ◊ November 2011 ◊ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

# November Presentation

*Fossils and Earthquakes in the Mid-South*



The November 11 MAGS meeting's adult presentation will be "Fossils and Earthquakes in the Mid-South," by Gary Patterson of the University of Memphis Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI). CERI is devoted to understanding the causes

and consequences of earthquakes and the structure and evolution of the continental lithosphere. We know that Memphis lies in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, which produced major earthquakes in 1811-1812. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from an expert.

## In this issue

November Presentation	P. 1
RMH Says "Thanks"	P. 1
MAGS News	P. 2
MAGS At Big Scoop	P. 3
TEWO-SHOW <sub>12</sub>	P. 3
MAGS/DMC Field Trip Summary	P. 3
Chucalissa News	P. 4
Juniors Corner	P. 4
Field Trip Pictures	Pp. 5 & 6
Minutes	P. 7
Jim's Minerals—Melba's Rock Shop	P. 7
November DMC Field Trip	P. 8
Turkey Creek Field Trip Pictures	P. 9
MTGMS Show/Nashville Faceters' Frolic	P. 9
Jewelry Bench Tips	P. 9
Continents and Core	P. 9
MAGS Tidbits	P. 10
Calendar	P. 10

## RMH SAYS "THANKS"

On September 24 MAGS participated in the Big Scoop Ice Cream Festival at Autozone Park, which benefitted the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Memphis. Some of the MAGS rock food table was on display there, and there was also



plenty of edible food—the best kind: ice cream. Aside from a nice thank-you note, MAGS got this special expression of thanks from the kids at RMH. You can read more about our participation in this fun event, and see more pictures, on P. 3.

# MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

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## MAGS News

November is another busy month: Board Meeting, Member Meeting Show Meeting, field trip, rock swap. Gary Patterson of the Center for Earthquake Research and Information at the University of Memphis will give the final presentation of 2011 (holiday party in December) at the November 11 meeting. The topic, "Fossils and Earthquakes in the Mid-South," should generate plenty of interest.

Two days later (Sunday, November 13) Lou White will once again try to hold his rock swap. It has been rescheduled twice because of various conflicts, but absolutely nothing (well, almost nothing) will interfere with it this time! 2:00-6:00 P. M., 3805 Melanie June Drive, Bartlett, TN 38135. Come to swap, buy/sell, or just to have a good time.

The November 19 field trip is another event that was rescheduled (weather-related issues). MAGS will go to the Wells Creek Impact Structure, near Erin, Tennessee. We will meet at 10:00 A. M. at Ryes N-Shine Inc., 1349 Highway 149 E, between Erin, TN, and Cumberland City, KY (WNW of Nashville, approximately 3 hours from Memphis). The trip leader will be Marvin Berwind, (931) 801-8393, retired from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Geology. The MAGS trip leader is Marc Mueller, (615) 491-5110.

MAGSters Jimmy and Hisami McNeil attended the Tokyo International Mineral Fair in June.



There are about 800 mineral specimens on two tables and another 800 under the table.

## MAGS At Big Scoop Ice Cream Festival

*Jim Butchko*

On Saturday, September 24, 2011, three MAGS members set up a portion of MAGS Rock Food Table at the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Memphis Big Scoop Ice Cream Festival at AutoZone Park. None of the food is missing even though Shrek and Rocky the Redbird were eyeing it pretty close. I guess they filled up on the ice cream and treats given away by the generous vendors supporting MAGS's favorite charity. I know Hunter Hill and I got our fill of treats and fun. Nannett McDougal-Dykes (shown in the pic-

ture) made sure all the kids had fun spinning the Rocks Around The Clock Wheel and winning rock candy or polished rocks (inedi-



ble). We also showed off our grand door prize for the April 2012 Show at the Agricenter in Memphis. It is both halves of a big geode. The crowd really thinks this stuff is cool. So I ask all of you "Brainiacs" in the club, if you see new faces at the next meeting or field trip or show, try not to rain on on their picnic by overfilling them with knowledge. Remember they're coming straight from eating ice cream at the ballpark and invite them to discover more cool family fun.

THAT's our mission!



*This food is hard on your teeth. Stick to ice cream.*



*2012 Show Grand Prize.*

## TEW0-SHOW12

Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show  
April 28-29, 2012

Update:

1. Dealer contracts have been extended.
2. Admission prices will remain the same.
3. Ronald McDonald House of Memphis will receive a portion of show admission proceeds.

## MAGS/DMC Field Trip Summary

On October 15 MAGS hosted a Dixie Mineral Council field trip. Member clubs from around the Southeast joined MAGS at the Memphis Stone & Gravel Co. Perry Plant. Aside from letting us visit their facility, Memphis Stone & Gravel Co. provided lunch for the rockhounds.

The weather was great and everyone involved seemed to have a good time. You can see some pictures from this event starting on P. 5 of this issue.

## Chucalissa Renewal

*Ron Brister*

Be a part of *Chucalissa Renewal* at the fund-raising campaign kickoff to build replica prehistoric houses at the Chucalissa site. The ***Chefs and Chiefs*** event will feature:

- Gourmet treats from Memphis's top Chefs
- The Midsouth's legacy of Native American cultural heritage
- A superb selection of wines
- A silent auction like no other
- And your opportunity to make a difference

## Chucalissa Volunteer Day

*Dr. Robert Connolly, Director, C. H. Nash Museum.*

Join us for our Volunteer Day on November 19th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Besides our regular volunteer activities, our Graduate Assistants at Chucalissa will prepare some tasty Native American treats, straight from the recipes of the Chickasaw Nation, along with some hot tea made from plants in our Sinti Herb Garden. We hope you can join us. For more information contact the C.H. Nash Museum at [chucalissa@memphis.edu](mailto:chucalissa@memphis.edu), call us at (901) 785-3160, or visit our web page at [www.memphis.edu/chucalissa](http://www.memphis.edu/chucalissa).

## Juniors Corner

*Carol Lybanon*

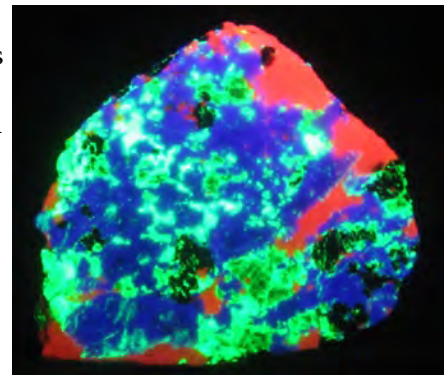
Hi, Juniors,

Thank you, Dr. Connolly, for giving us a great program on Native American stone tools. This month Bob and Bonnie Cooper will bring samples of fluorescent minerals. We will talk about fluorescence, phosphorescence, and chemiluminescence. In December we will celebrate the holiday season.


Again this year the club will present each Junior with a gift, so there will be no gift exchange.

We will start 2012 with an informative program on fossil cleaning given by Sherri Baldwin. February's program will be given by the University of Memphis Egyptology Graduate Student Association.

We are still in need of coffee cans, peanut cans, round oatmeal boxes, and powdered infant formula containers for our March program. See you at our November meeting. And bring any rocks you think might fluoresce.



C.H. Nash Museum  
**Chucalissa**



*The Friends of Chucalissa cordially invite you to attend*

### ***Chefs & Chiefs***

*a gala culinary event and silent auction to benefit C.H. Nash Museum at the Chucalissa Archaeological Site*

*Sunday, November 13, 2011*  
*Four to seven in the evening*

*C.H. Nash Museum*  
*1987 Indian Village Drive*  
*Memphis, Tennessee 38109*

Tickets are \$65 for one, \$50 for two or more  
Purchase by visiting [chucalissafriends.com](http://chucalissafriends.com); calling 901-619-7679; or mailing a check (payable to Friends of Chucalissa) to 2563 Broad, Memphis, TN, 38112

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**

# MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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MAGS/DMC  
Field Trip  
October 15,  
2011



Memphis Stone  
& Gravel Co.  
Perry Plant

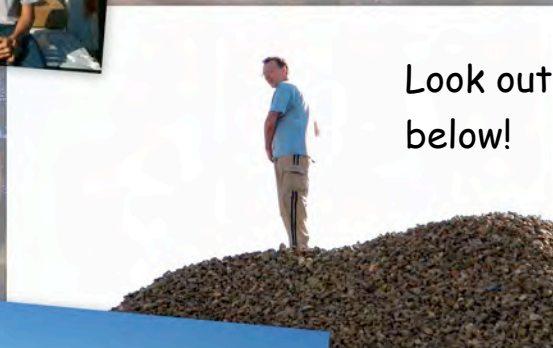
Giving us  
the ground  
rules



Tough  
climb



Look out  
below!



Waiting for lunch

**More Pictures From MAGS/DMC Field Trip**



# MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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## September 2011 Board Minutes

Marc Mueller

The MAGS Board of Directors met Sept. 2 at the St. Clare Room in St. Francis Hospital, 5959 Park Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P. M. Present were: Lou White, Carol and Matthew Lybanon, Marc Mueller, Ron Brister, Neville Mayfield, Mike Baldwin, W. C. McDaniel, and Nannett McDougal.

Ron Brister: Chucalissa is grateful for the \$1,000 donation. A plaque thanking MAGS is on the exhibit. The glass for the Robert Ford exhibit case cost \$490.

Secretary: August minutes were approved as corrected.

Field Trips: Turkey Creek will take place on, Sept. 25 because of the Miss. State ball game. Dixie Mineral Council, Oct 15; Wells Creek Nov 19. The DMC trip will be at the Memphis Stone and Gravel Coldwater MS, gravel pit. A lunch will be supplied. MAGS will cover drinks and cups, etc.

Adult Programs: Relayed for Paul Sides by Matthew Lybanon: For Sept. Dr. Tom Paradise, U of Arkansas, Petra-Valley of the Crescent Moon. For October, Dr. Rick Major will present "Modern Carbonate Sediments." For November. Dr. Gary Patterson, "Fossils and Earthquakes in the Mid-South." For February, Dr. Susan Kus from Rhodes College will talk on Madagascar. Paul is looking for info on Richard A. Batey. He was the Millard Professor of Religious Studies at Rhodes College. He is the author of *Jesus and the Forgot-*

*ten City*. MAGS invited to book Egyptology signing Nov., more info to come.

Treasurer: Not Present.

Junior Programs: Bonnie Cooper will be the new assistant. In Sept. Charles Hill will present crystals. In Oct., Dr. Connolly will give a program on stone tools. In Nov., Bob is presenting Fluorescent Minerals; Bonnie will do something with holidays. December is the holiday party.

Membership: Neville's hard drive failed. Please email him back the info that may be held by other board members.

Webmaster: Coon Creek and Devonian Fossil articles have been linked.

Historian/Rock Swap: Lou White is moved to Oct. Swap. and Alan in October.

Newsletter, Matthew Lybanon: Aug. Newsletter is complete. Deadline Aug. 15 for September newsletter.

New Business: Life Membership was discussed with no conclusion. Need club membership forms to be available at events and the DMC dig. Need to bring MAGS T-shirts to the DMC dig.

Rock Table needs to be set up at Autozone Park, Ronald McDonald Big Scoop fund raiser on Sept. 24. Let Jim Butchko in charge. Nannett is signed up.

Rock Show: Agricenter has supplied contract for next year. No increase in cost. Re-emphasis on only Coke products being allowed. Total contract \$7,700, with \$2,500 deposit due.

Memphis Rocks on Friday Oct. 14, 10-12, at Botanic Garden. Last year, the club made about \$500 off of sales and share of tickets. Lou, Neville, Nannett, Bob and W. C. are signed up.

## September 2011 Membership Meeting Notes

Marc Mueller

The MAGS Membership Meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on Sept. 9, 2011. Paul Sides called order at 7:30 PM. 42 members were present. Six visitors, including Patricia Allen, Chris Scott, Rick Stone and wife Betty.

Trips: Marc Mueller announced field trips: Turkey Creek, Sept. 24, Dixie Mineral Council trip to Memphis Stone and Gravel, Oct., 15, Wells Creek Nov. 19.

Paul Sides announced the speaker, Dr. Tom Paradise, Geosciences Dept. of the University of Arkansas, who gave an amazing lecture on Petra-Valley of the Crescent Moon.

Charles Hill gave a presentation on crystals to the Juniors.

## Jim's Minerals - Melba's Rock Shop

BLACK COTTON BOXES are available upon request.

—FREE OF CHARGE—  
great for storing rocks  
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT:  
901-382-0344.  
Leave message and will return call.

Thanks,  
*Melba*

# MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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**An Official Field Trip of the Aiken Gem and Mineral Society (Aiken, SC) (HOST)**  
**An Official Field Trip of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society**

**9:00 AM TO 5:00PM**  
**Saturday, November 5, 2011**  
**GRAVES MOUNTAIN, Lincolnton, GA**

**Where:** Graves Mountain - off SR 378

**Assembly Time:** 9:00 am. Everyone off the mountain by 5:00 pm

**Accommodations:**

Cullars Inn, Lincolnton, GA: (706) 359-6161

Soap Creek Lodge, Clarks Hill Lake, Lincolnton: (706) 359-3124

Elijah Clark State Park: (706) 359-3458 / (800) 864-7275

**Directions:** From Washington, Georgia, drive 11 miles on SR-378, or from the Hardee's in Lincolnton, Georgia, drive approximately 5-½ miles west on SR-378. Look for a sign at the entrance to Graves Mountain on the south side of the road.

**FEE:** \$5 or more per person *donation* to Clarence Norman, Jr., the mine's caretaker. All DMC members must sign a liability release before being allowed onto the mountain. No children under age 12 permitted due to the dangerous steep cliffs. All children 12 and over must be supervised by an adult.

**Collecting:** Beautiful lazulite, pyrophyllite, and kyanite; world class rutile can be found rarely. Over 50 different minerals can be unearthed in this extinct volcano and former mine, and now dig site for gem and mineral clubs and other organizations. Georgia Mineral Society has further details and photos on their website: <http://gamineral.org/commercial-sites.htm>

**Tools:** A hand truck to ferry buckets and hand tools to surface collect specimens. Backpack, gloves, 8-lb sledge, 2-4 lb crack hammer, rock hammer, pry bar, shovel, chisels, and SAFETY EYEWEAR are useful. Hard hat required if you plan to work adjacent to the high wall areas.

**Safety:** DMC Members must sign and adhere to the **Graves Mountain Code of Conduct** (see below). Doing so keeps everyone safe. Dress for the weather, and bring plenty of water and something to eat. There are no toilet facilities.

**Graves Mountain Code of Conduct!**

- Park vehicles in the designated area only. No vehicles allowed beyond the parking area.
- No children under 12 allowed. All children must be supervised by an adult.
- All pets must be leashed and controlled.
- The caretaker, Junior Norman, has absolute say as to where you may safely work.
- Hand tools only! No power tools. No ladders.
- Stay away from all high walls.
- No repelling off of anything.
- Everyone must be off the mountain by dusk.

**Field Trip Leader:**

**Contact:** Shellie Newell, Aiken GMF, (803) 439-2625, [shellienewell@att.net](mailto:shellienewell@att.net); [www.aikengmfs.org](http://www.aikengmfs.org)



## Turkey Creek Field Trip Pictures

Here are a few pictures from the MAGS field trip to Turkey Creek on September 24.



### MTGMS Show/ Nashville Faceters' Frolic

Mark your calendars so you don't forget about the Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society's Gem Jewelry, Mineral, Fossil Show & Sale (try saying all of that with one breath). The event will be on December 10 and 11 at the Ag Expo Park in Franklin, Tennessee, 20 miles south of Nashville (new location). The Show will feature over 30 dealers as well as other attractions.

The Show will be in conjunction with the Nashville Faceters' Frolic. The Frolic will have lectures, demonstrations, and classes, as well as dealers selling faceting/lapidary tools & equipment, rough, along with both commercial and high end faceted stones for designer jewelry or investment.

You can get more information on the Show from [www.MTGMS.org](http://www.MTGMS.org) and on the Frolic from [www.facetersfrolic.org](http://www.facetersfrolic.org).



### Jewelry Bench Tips by Brad Smith

#### HOMEMADE WAX TOOLS

Save your used X-Acto or scalpel blades for utility work on the bench. They're wonderful for delicate wax work. Use a cutoff blade or a grinding wheel to shape the blades to what you need. For instance, you can carve away excess metal on the spine to make yourself some narrow carving knives that do a great job of detailing small areas of your waxes.



More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at [groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/) or [facebook.com/BenchTips](http://facebook.com/BenchTips).

### The Continents and Earth's Core

Two of the greatest discoveries in 20th-century geophysics are

plate tectonics and the fact that the Earth's magnetic field has reversed direction many times throughout the planet's history. New research suggests that the two are linked. A group of French scientists has evidence that during a given geological period the location of continents is linked with the frequency of magnetic field reversals.

The average rate of magnetic field reversals has varied. Most geophysicists agree that the frequency of reversals is related to slow changes in conditions at the outer core-mantle boundary. More reversals occur when there is an asymmetry between conditions in the outer core in the two hemispheres.

In a *Geophysical Research Letters* paper the French team suggests conditions at the boundary are correlated with the convection that drives plate tectonics. They report a correlation between the rate of field reversals and the extent of asymmetry among continents, on a time scale of 100 million years—not a long time for mantle flow. Other researchers think the correlation is good enough to explore the idea further.

## MAGS Tidbits



*Editor's Note:* The last issue credited the "Mountain Waterfall Tour" article to Charles Hill. Charles does deserve credit for sending the article to **MAGS Rockhound News**. But he says the article was actually written by Francie Rose. We apologize for the error.

- MAGS is invited to a book signing on Thursday, November 17. Dr. Lorelei Corcoran, Director, Institute of Egyptian Art & Archaeology and Professor of Art History, Department of Art, has a new book. The event will be at 7:00 P. M. in the University of Memphis New University Center.

- MAGSters were very generous with pictures from the MAGS/DMC field trip, sending more than MAGS Rockhound News could use. But you can see them all on YouTube. Check out [tinyurl.com/mags-dmc-2011](http://tinyurl.com/mags-dmc-2011) (you must know the URL).

### Calendar

#### November 3, 2011

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

#### November 11, 2011

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

#### November 13, 2011

Rock Swap, Lou White's house

#### November 14, 2011

Show Committee Meeting, Agricenter International, 6:30 P. M.

#### November 19, 2011

Field Trip, Wells Creek Impact Structure

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

