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

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2010 in Photo Retrospect

A few images from the editor's camera



This rock table has been around for many years. It greeted visitors as they entered the annual Memphis Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show in April.



Here's one from our June field trip to Frankstown, Mississippi to collect fossil shark's teeth and other Cretaceous fossils.

see 2010 Photo Retrospect on page five . . .

DECEMBER MAGS EVENTS

O2 6:30p Board Meeting @ Old Timer's, Millington, TN



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

Annual Holiday Party: Bring your favorite dish to share and adults bring a hobby-related gift

[valued at least \$10] for gift giving [one gift per person in your group] see page 3 for details

11 9:00a DMC Field Trip to Vulcan Quarry, Morganton, NC [see page 6 for details]

11 9:00a MAGS field trip to Richardson's Landing, near Millington, TN CANCELLED DUE TO

HIGH WATER

2010 MAGS BOARD

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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 North Main Street, Collierville, TN 38017 or email mbaldwin05@gmail.com. ©2010

FROM THE EDITOR

MAGS last membership meeting of 2010 will be our Holiday Party on Friday, December 10. New members and visitors are encouraged to attend. We ask you bring a dish or two and if you want to participate in the gift exchange, a hobby related gift valued at \$10. A brand new slate of officers and directors have been elected and will be presented to the membership at the Friday night party.

Reminder to members, 2011 dues are now due and should be paid before the end of the year. Neville Mayfield will be collecting dues at the party, or you can mail them to him. Dues are the club's primary source of income and provide for building rental, newsletter and website publication, federation dues and insurance, youth program materials, special events and activities.

The January 2011 issue of MAGS Rockhound News will be the last one from this editor. Matthew Lybanon will take the reigns in February.

Thank you Matthew.

Mike Baldwin

2010 HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday. December 10 at 7:30 pm at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church



MAGS will provide the meat, table decorations and cutlery. You are requested to bring a potluck salad, entree or dessert. Board members please bring cold, canned soft drinks to share with everyone. If you have would like to help decorate and prepare the fellowship hall for our party, come early. If you can help clean up after the party, plan to stay late.

Gift Exchange (changed from last year)

need to bring a gift to exchange.

Adults: If you wish to participate in the gift exchange please bring a wrapped hobby-related gift appropriate for either a man or a woman [not to exceed \$10.00]. **Juniors:** The junior's program will provide a gift for each junior so you do not

Door prizes

2011 DUES ARE DUE

MIKE BALDWIN, MAGS EDITOR: 2011 dues are due now. Please take a minute to renew your membership in MAGS for 2011. Make your check payable to MAGS. Family membership is \$25.00, single membership is \$20.00, and junior membership is \$10.00. You can pay your dues at the December party, or you can mail your check to Neville Mayfield, 3282 Glendale Drive, Memphis, TN 38128. Thank you for your membership in MAGS. Remember, you must pay your dues in order to go on MAGS field trips.

LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION FOR 2011-2012

MIKE BALDWIN, EDITOR: Our club depends on leadership and organization. Do you know how difficult it is in a club this size to find members willing to lead and organize. Without leadership and organization, we could not have MAGS. The Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society is fortunate to have people who fill the chairs in the officers and directors meeting each and every month. These volunteers do not get a salary for their involvement. They don't get bonuses or recognition. What they do get is the satisfaction of knowing that they planned the programs, paid the insurance and rent, organized the field trips, contacted guest speakers, taught our children, put together rock swaps and rock shows and auctions, wrote articles and newsletters, collected the dues, sent out updates and emails, monitored water levels and weather conditions, made sure we had a place to meet and a constitution and by-laws to govern our club. Still other volunteers set up meeting rooms, serve soft drinks at club meetings, host rock swaps in their backyards, bring displays to club meetings, clean and polish rocks, give us tips and techniques on collecting and cleaning our treasures, set up and man the booths at rock shows, demonstrate their crafts, share their knowledge and love of collecting. This list could go on endlessly. You know where you fit into the club. Volunteers, thank you for all you do for us.

The following slate of 2011-2012 officers and directors were voted into office at the November membership meeting: Marc Meuller–1st Vice President [Field Trips]; Paul Sides–2nd Vice President [Programs]; Marc Meuller–Secretary; Bill Gilbert–Treasurer; Charles Hill–Director [Assistant Field Trips]; Alan Schaeffer–Director [Assistant Programs]; Carol Lybanon–Director [Youth]; Ron Brister–Director [Librarian]; Neville Mayfield–Director [Membership]; Nanette McDougal Dykes–Director [Historian]; Matthew Lybanon–Newsletter Editor; Mike Baldwin–Web Coordinator; and WC McDaniel [Show Chairman]. We have one more officer to elect. Lou White has graciously accepted the nomination for MAGS President. Our first order of business on Friday night before the party begins to vote for President. Thank you Lou, and thank you officers and directors for giving your time and talent to help make MAGS the awesome club it is!

FOR SALE BY MAGS - SILENT AUCTION

- 1. Rock Saw- 18 inch diamond saw
- 2. Rock Saw- 4 inch diamond trim saw

Auction process

- 1. Submit bids, in writing or email, to WC McDaniel
- 2. Bid deadline extended to Friday, December 10
- 3. Minimum bids:
 - 18 inch saw -\$250.00
 - 4 inch -\$30.00
- 4. If you like to inspect the saws contact Robert Duncan at 876-3715

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: Last month Robert Duncan invited MAGS members to visit his workshop. Sherri and I visited his shop on Sunday and we were totally impressed with all the beautiful minerals and petrified wood that fill his shop [all cut and polished by Robert]. He is a very talented craftsman. Thanks Robert.

MAGS DECEMBER FIELD TRIP: RICHARDSON'S LANDING

SATURDAY, December 11, 2011 . 9:00AM [CANCELLED DUE TO HIGH-WATER] AGATES, JASPERS, ICE AGE FOSSILS . RICHARDSON'S LANDING, TN

MARC MEULLER, 2011 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

Collecting site: Richardson's landing on the Mississippi River, Shelby County, southwest of Millington, TN. This trip is open to all MAGS members. Collecting is free at this site.

Specimens: Banded agate, Lake Superior agate, red jasper, petrified wood and ice age fossil bones. These specimens may be found on Mississippi River gravel bars, on or just below the surface.

Meeting Time/Place: 9:00 a.m., The east end of the parking lot of the Millington Wal-Mart Supercenter. Located at 8445 US Highway 51 North, near Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits Restaurant.

Please sign the MAGS attendance sheet when you arrive. We will convoy to the Richardson's landing. [Remember to turn on your headlights when you are in the convoy, and keep an eye on the car behind you. If the car behind you slows down or stops, you slow down or stop, so we won't loose anyone along the way. Parking will be by roadside on a rural road.

Tools: Bring rock pick, screwdriver, small garden tools and leather gloves, etc. Newspapers for wrapping specimens are optional. Collecting containers such as buckets, clothe rock bags or backpacks are helpful.

Special Note: Please wear hiking boots or other comfortable walking shoes. Walking sticks are optional. This trip will require walking approximately 4 miles round trip while carrying equipment and the specimens that you've collected. Don't go on this trip if you have walking, heart, or breathing difficulties.

Safety Note: While at this site, 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, also be aware the possible of poisonous plants and snakes, ticks and chiggers at these sites. Sorry, no pets please. Follow AFMS safety rules, code of ethics and collect courtesy code.

Please bring plenty to drink such as soft drinks, fruit juices, water, Gatorade, etc. Dress for extended time outdoors in Dec. Difficulty Level: 4 to 6 on a scale of 1 (easy) to 10 (hard).

Driving Directions: From Memphis take the I-240 East towards Nashville/Jackson MS and/or I-240 West towards Memphis/ Little Rock, AR. Then take exit number 2A onto US-51 North towards Millington/Covington. Continue on US-51 through downtown to North Millington. Turn left into Wal-Mart parking lot just before the traffic signal at Wilkinsville Road. Driving time: Approximate 40 min.

Marc Mueller, MAGS Field Trip Coordinator
7784 Commodore Road, Millington, Tennessee 38054
Cell (615) 491-5110 • Office (901) 874-3783 • email: skydancer2992@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NEWS, ARTICLES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR PICTURES FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE OF MAGS ROCKHOUND NEWS IS **DECEMBER 28, 2010**.

END OF YEAR MESSAGES

JUNIOR PROGRAMS

CAROL LYBANON, 2011 YOUTH DIRECTOR: There will not be a Junior program in December. Our Juniors will join with the adults to celebrate the holidays. Junior Members, MAGS is giving holiday bags, so come to the meeting on December 10. Bring your parents and a dish to share.

In January the new Juniors Director, Carol Lybanon, will begin the year with an introductory program and a discussion about what our young Members are most interested in learning about. The February program will be led by Herb Nicholson. The subject will be "What Are Rocks?".

Carol and Assistant Director Kimberly Loveland will soon have the year mapped out and will keep our Members up to date. Have a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year!

DISPLAYS

MATTHEW LYBANON, 2011 EDITOR: Everybody likes to see displays of specimens MAGS Members have acquired by rockhounding, swapping, or purchasing. Displays make the meetings more interesting.

Display presenters haven't always followed the suggestions for monthly themes, but this is a democracy. Each month we've had some great displays, and sometimes the competition for prizes has been fierce. All the Members get to vote for their favorite adult and Junior displays; ballot box stuffing is encouraged.

Next year Alan Schaeffer will take over, and he promises some new innovations. That's good, but mainly it's up to you. Thanks for cooperating, and keep those outstanding displays coming.

2010 IN PHOTO RETROSPECT



From three MAGS events in October: [top left] Memphis Rocks! at the Botanic Gardens; [top right] along the banks of Dale Hollow Lake in middle Tennessee; and [right] standing on top of a gravel mountain at Memphis Stone and Gravel's Olive Branch mine.

Images in this article taken by Mike Baldwin





SOUTHEAST FEDERATION NEWS



DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee Official Field Trip of the The Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club (Winston-Salem, NC) (Host)

9:00am until Noon [EST] Saturday, December 11, 2010 Vulcan Materials Company's Morganton Quarry, Morganton, NC

CHILDREN: Over 12 years old can attend if supervised closely by parent or guardian. Must wear appropriate safety gear. No Pets

CONTACT NUMBERS: Contact Jim Stroud, if you have any questions concerning the fieldtrip: phone: 336-744-2940; e-mail address: stroudj@vmcmail.com; mail address PO Box 4239 Winston-Salem, NC 27115

COLLECTING: This quarry has several rock types, which include augen gneiss, chlorite biotite gneiss, amphibolite, and pegmatite. The following collectable minerals have been found at this location: garnet, golden beryl, black tourmaline, apatite, sphene, feldspar, biotite and muscovite books, and siderite. The majority of these minerals are found in the pegmatite zones. Garnets are almandine variety and have been found up to silver dollar size. However, the majority of them are 1/8" to 1/4" in diameter imbedded in the pegmatite.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: This is an operating mine. All persons attending the fieldtrip will be required to sign a hold harmless agreement, take 15 minute hazardous training, and wear the required safety gear at all times. This includes a hard hat, safety glasses, and steel-toed boots. We will meet at the quarry office at 8:45 a.m., sign releases, receive instructions on boundaries and safety, and be lead into the collecting area. We must leave the quarry by 12 noon! In addition, all persons are asked to stay away from the quarry walls. There is plenty of material loose on the quarry floor. VEHICLES WILL BE PERMITTED INSIDE THE QUARRY ON THIS TRIP and parked until leaving.

BRING: Hard hat, safety glasses, rock hammer, and something to carry and wrap samples.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

Where we will meet: We will meet at the quarry at 8:45 am and be allowed to collect until just before 12:00.

Directions to our meeting place: From Interstate 40, take Highway 18 North at exit 105. At the fourth traffic light, turn right on Fleming Drive. Continue to end of road at Route 64/70 (dead end at Bi-Lo Food Store). Turn left on Route 64/70, travel under the railroad bridge. Immediately after crossing under bridge, at the Viscotec plant, turn right on Kirksey Drive. Make another right on Quarry Road. Quarry entrance is 1/4 mile off Quarry Road. Vulcan Materials Company

Causby Quarry Road Morganton, NC 28655

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

2011 DMC Field Trips include: January-Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society (Jacksonville, FL); February-Rome Georgia Mineral Society (Rome, GA); March-Gaston County Gem, Mineral & Faceting Club (Gastonia, NC); April-Cotton Indian Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (Stockbridge, GA); May-Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club (Charlotte, NC); June-Northeast Georgia Mineral Society (Cornelia, GA); July-Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC (Franklin, NC); August-OPEN; September-Georgia Mineral Society (Atlanta, GA); October-Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society (Memphis, TN); November-Aiken Gem and Mineral Society (Aiken, SC); December-Athens Rock and Gem Club (Athens, GA)

MAGS REVIEW

October 2010 Board Meeting Notes

NEVILLE MAYFIELD for CAROL and MATTHEW LYBANON: The MAGS Board of Directors met September 30 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: Mike Baldwin, Ron Brister, Doris Jones, Neville Mayfield, and Alan Schaeffer. Excused: Carol Lybanon, Matthew Lybanon, W. C. McDaniel, Marc Mueller, and Nannett McDougal-Dykes.

Secretary: The September minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer: Doris Jones reported that Robert Duncan has made the first payment on the equipment he was leasing/purchasing. The Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted, subject to audit.

Field Trips: Mike Baldwin reported that the next field trip will be on October 2 to a Memphis Stone & Gravel Co. quarry in DeSoto County, Mississippi. Later in October, October 23-24, there will be a field trip to collect geodes and crinoids. On October 22 many of the participants will travel to the Cookeville, Tennessee, area to spend the night. The next day they will meet at the Davis Watts store in Nameless, and hunt for geodes on several farms. On October 24 they will go to Dale Hollow Lake for crinoids and other fossils. Details will be published in the next newsletter.

Adult Programs: The October program will be Dr. Gerrit Verschuur's presentation, "Journey to the Top of the World," on Arctic geology.

Junior Programs: Juniors will wrap mosasaur teeth. Library: Ron Brister said there was nothing new.

Newsletter: Mike Baldwin reported that henceforth he will not mail newsletters. He will bring printed copies to Board and Membership Meetings for distribution to those without email.

Historian/Rock Swap: There will be a pot luck rock swap at Lou White's house next Sunday, October 3, 1:00-5:00 P. M.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P. M.

October 2010 Membership Meeting Notes

CAROL AND MATTHEW LYBANON: The MAGS Membership Meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on October 8. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 P. M. by Paul Sides, in the absence of President W. C. McDaniel. 45 Members and 7 visitors were present. The visitors are Marilyn Hicks, Eric Marbury, Tyranny Smith, Ashly Medlin, David Von Boeckman, Konrad Von Boeckman, and Lisa Edwards.

Carol Lybanon reminded Members that all the minutes are published in the newsletter. Doris Jones reported that Treasurer Reports were available for inspection. Neville Mayfield welcomed visitors and announced three new memberships. Marc Mueller reported that about 30 people went on last month's field trip to the Coleman Mine in Arkansas, and found lots of quartz. Later this month (October 23-24) there will be a trip to the Livingston, Tennessee, area for geodes, and Dale Hollow Lake for crinoids. He recommended that people stay at hotels in the Cookeville area. On November 6 there will be a trip to Cumberland Furnace (near Nashville) for slag glass. This is a DMC field trip. Information sheets for the next two field trips are available. Ron Brister announced that tomorrow will be a volunteer day at Chucalissa. Display presenters described their displays. Presenters and their displays were:

- Adult: Kim Hill, "Crystals" (Hot Springs), Kelly Buckholdt, "Quartz" (Arkansas)
- Junior: Danielle Schaeffer, "Quartz" (Arkansas);
 Emma Conrad & Juliet Buckholdt, "Quartz and Geodes" (Jessieville, AR; Grant Shafer)

The winners were Kim Hill (adult) and Danielle Schaeffer (Junior).

Next, Juniors went to their program. Paul Sides announced the adult program for November, "The Sloan Dalton Cemetery (the oldest known cemetery in the Western Hemisphere)," to be presented by Dr. Julie Morrow. Then Paul introduced tonight's speaker, Dr. Gerrit Verschuur. Dr. Verschuur's presentation was "Journey to the Top of the World," about an unusual cruise that visited several Arctic locations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 P. M.

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society presents the 32nd annual Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show • April 23-24, 2011 • Memphis Agricenter International

MIKE BALDWIN, EDITOR: When you think back over the years, how many meetings do you remember that WC McDaniel was not there? And how many of those meetings can you think of where he was not at the front of the room? And how many Memphis Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Shows do you remember when WC was not totally involved in the planning, coordinating and execution of those

shows? Thank you WC for all the countless hours, thousands of emails, dozens of programs, expertise, planning, sharing of knowledge, and volunteering that you have done and continue to do for MAGS. WC has served three terms as MAGS president and eight as show chair, two of those concurrent

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AFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS:

New Editor 7th—95 • Small Bulletin Honorable Mention—04, 05, 06 • Adult Article 10th—04; Honorable Mention – 05 (x2), 06 (x2) • Junior Article 3rd— 98; 8th—03 • Special Pub 4th—03

SFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS:

New Editor 1st-86; 2nd-88, 97 • New Editor (Explorer) 4th-03 • Certificate of Excellence-89, 90, 91, 92, 93 • Large Bulletin 1st—87 • Small Bulletin 1st—04, 2nd - 06, 4th—03, 3rd —07 • Special Publication 2nd—03 • Art 77, 80, 81, 82, 86 • Junior 07; Honorable Mention-03, 04, 07 • Adult Poetry -07

DUES: \$25 (Family); \$20 (Single); \$10 (Junior)

MAGS Rockhound News 367 North Main Street Collierville, TN 38017-2301

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Board Meeting December 2

Holiday Party **December 10**

DMC Field Trip **December 11**

Dues Are Due **January 1**

No MAGS Field Trip in December due to high Mississippi River water level