



# Arkansas Rockhound News



Official Newsletter of the  
Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society

March 2009

**Next Meeting: March 24th, 2009  
6:30 PM - Terry Library**

**Welcome New Member  
Jason Meyers**

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**2009 CAGMAGS Annual Show  
October 3-4, 2009  
More info to come!!**

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#### **2009 Meeting schedule**

**March 24  
April 28  
May 26  
June 23  
July 28  
August 25  
September 22  
October 27  
November 24**

**April Swap in North Little Rock at Burns Park  
has been scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> – the  
Saturday after Easter – at the Shelby Pavilion -**

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**Please call James to find out the latest field trip  
he has planned. He should have something  
exciting planned.**

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**The Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral  
Society is hosting its Spring, 2009 Gem &  
Mineral Show.**

**When: Saturday April 4, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday, April 5, 10 a.m. 5 p.m.**

**Where: Siloam Springs Community Center  
110 N. Mt. Olive Street Siloam Springs,  
Arkansas**

**How Much: Adults \$3; Students 12-18 yrs.-\$2;  
Children under 12 free with parents**

**What Else: Good dealers in rocks and  
minerals; Light lunch available for purchase;  
Door Prizes; Children's Grab Bags - \$1.00;  
Demonstrations; Educational Displays**

# CAGMAGS

The Arkansas Rockhound News is  
Published monthly by the  
Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral, and  
Geology Society  
Colors: Blue and White

**Website:**

[www.centralarrockhound.org](http://www.centralarrockhound.org)

**Member of:**

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

**Time and Location of Meetings:**

4th Tuesday of the month  
(January-November)  
6:30 PM  
Terry Library  
2015 Napa Valley Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72212  
(Non-smoking)

**Visitors are always Welcome**

**Membership**

Dues \$15 Individual  
\$25 Family

**Mission Statement:**

The Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society is dedicated to promoting interest in mineralogy and the related sciences, interest in lapidary and the related arts; to encourage field trips and the enjoyment of collecting and preserving minerals as they occur in nature, and the study of geological formations, especially those of our Natural State of Arkansas.

We are a small group of people that enjoy getting together to share our common interests.

**2009 Officers:**

**President: Jim Schenebeck**  
501-223-3668  
[jsjimstone@yahoo.com](mailto:jsjimstone@yahoo.com)

**Vice President: Mike Austen**  
[steelpony@aol.com](mailto:steelpony@aol.com)

**Past President: David Murray**  
870-255-3679  
[davidmur99@hotmail.com](mailto:davidmur99@hotmail.com)

**Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Kissire**  
4900 Sparks Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72210  
501-821-2346  
[pkissire@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pkissire@sbcglobal.net)

**Committees / Chairs**

**Programs:** TBA

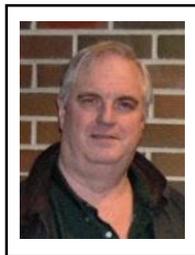
**Library:** TBA

**Membership:** TBA

**Field Trips: James Burns & Mike Casey**  
501-568-0315 / 501- 796-6570

**Show Chair:** TBA

**Editor/Webmaster** [Mark Cato](#)



## President's Message Jim Schenebeck

Rockclub members:

Wow, we just finished up our annual auction and with over 40 members present and some new members signing up we had a great time. It is my understanding that we auctioned off over 80 items and actually more because some items were flats full of great specimens.

The auction ran late but we were able to get all items out to their purchasers. I had several members ask about another auction during the year and Mr. Weldon had the same happen to him. We are going to look into having more auctions so let me know what you think and also if we should add them to our regular meetings or hold separate times for them.

I think we had more interest and more bidders than I have ever seen. We kept the business part of the meeting short and we were missing our secretary, Ms. Pat, but Ms. Lenore, Ms. Angeline and several others pitched in and made everything run smooth. Thank you ladies, we really could not have done it without you. Mr. Dave and Mr. Weldon ran the auction at full speed but we were still short on time. We may have to cut the amount of items a little. Don't forget our annual Spring meeting this April since it looks to be a good one. We have had several inquires about it and our swap chairman has already made arrangements for the location and sessions. Bring whatever you would like to swap and for those who just want to purchase I understand there will be an assortment on the tables. Also, if you need a table be sure to let us know ahead of time. I look forward to a great time like we had last year. I hope everyone is well and we look forward to seeing you at the meetings and the swap. Jim Schenebeck, President.

## March Birthstone Aquamarine



Aquamarine is a beryl with a hexagonal crystal structure and a chemical formula of  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$ , a beryllium aluminium silicate mineral. It has a specific gravity of 2.68 to 2.74 and a Mohs hardness of from 7.5 to 8. Aquamarine typically is on the low end of the specific gravity range, normally at less than 2.7. The pink variety exhibits a high specific gravity of around 2.8. Refractive indices range around 1.57 to 1.58. It occurs at most localities which yield ordinary beryl, some of the finest coming from Russia. The gem-gravel placer deposits of Sri Lanka contain aquamarine. Clear yellow beryl, such as occurs in Brazil, is sometimes called aquamarine chrysolite. When corundum presents the bluish tint of typical aquamarine, it is often termed Oriental aquamarine.

In the United States, aquamarines can be found at the summit of Mt. Antero in the Sawatch Range in central Colorado. In Wyoming, aquamarine has been discovered in the Big Horn mountains, near Powder River Pass. In Brazil, there are mines in the states of Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo and Bahia. Colombia, Zambia, Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania and Kenya also produce aquamarine. The biggest aquamarine ever mined was found at the city of Marambaia, Minas Gerais, Brazil, in 1910. It weighed over 110 kg, and its dimensions were 48.5 cm long and 42 cm in diameter.

**CENTRAL ARKANSAS GEM MINERAL  
AND GEOLOGY SOCIETY  
Meeting Minutes February 24, 2009**

This years Annual Auction was a huge success. We had a full house and several new members signed up. I saw and spoke to at least seven new faces, and of course most of the regulars showed up. It is always nice to see familiar faces. This year I think we had a record number of items up for auction. I spoke with Weldon Kissire prior to the auction and he told me that there were eighty items going up for bid. He added that Pat, his wife, said he should limit the auction to fifty items, so as not to run past our time limit at the library. Well, Weldon and Dave Murray decided to give it a try, and it is much to their credit that they were able to finish and the monies were collected with time to spare. Of course they had help. Lenora Murray and Angelee Peeler helped keep track of the sales, while our newer member Teresa Carruthers kept the items going up for bid and those that sold organized, which I am sure eliminated much confusion. I helped by carrying the next items going up for bid around to the members to view one more time so they would know what they were going to bid on next. It was a team effort, that was well organized and items went fast and the bidding was good. I haven't talked to Pat about the total, but I think it must have been a record auction for the club. I want to say personally I had a very good time, and the enthusiasm of the people I spoke to after the auction told me they had a good time too. Hope to see every at the next meeting. We have a glass bead making demonstration scheduled.

- George Sterpka (In Pat's absence)

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**April Meeting note---**

**Angela Chandler from the Arkansas Geological Survey, will give a presentation on the geology of the Ozark Plateau Region.**

**MINERAL of the Month**

**by Jerry Savage**



Calcite: A very commonly occurring mineral that can be found in many different crystal shapes. Calcite is transparent but can be opaque depending on what inclusions are present. Calcite comes in a variety of colors ranging from colorless, white, pink, green, yellow to gray.

Calcite is a common accessory mineral in sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. Calcareous rocks make up nearly 40% of the earth's crust. Calcite crystals can range from micro-crystals to crystals weighing several pounds and is found on every continent of the world. Basic physical properties for calcite include:

Hardness: 3

Density: 2.71

Streak: white

Luster: vitreous to pearly

Fracture: perfect rhombohedral cleavage

Calcite is readily identified by its shape; perfect cleavage, and hardness. Although it is not identifiable by color alone, the most common specimens found are clear to white and are easily identifiable. Golden Calcite crystals from Elmwood, TN are highly prized by collectors.

### April 2009 Show Dates

4--DOTHAN, ALABAMA: 2nd annual show; Dothan Gem & Mineral Club; 4329 S. Brannon Stand Rd., at Hwy. 52W; Sat. 9-5; free admission; door prizes, demonstrations (flint knapping, rock tumbling, faceting, cabochon cutting, flat lap, trim saw, sphere machine), silent auction, vendors, minerals, fossils, cutting rough, slabs, jewelry; contact Arnie Lambert, 920 Yorktown Rd., Dothan, AL 36301, (334) 792-7116; e-mail: arlambert@comcast.net

4-5--CANTON, OHIO: Show, "A 'Flintastic' Weekend"; Stark County Gem & Mineral Club; Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave N.W.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; collectors' displays, dealers, minerals, gems, fossils, finished jewelry, lapidary arts, supplies, mineral identification, children's games, silent auction, door prizes; contact Dave Behringer, 2930 Mason St. SW, Massillon, OH 44646, (330) 830-1578; e-mail: daro@att.net

4-5--SILOAM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS: Spring show; Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society; Siloam Springs Community Center, 110 N. Mt. Olive St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; contact Thomas Morrow, (479) 936-0394; e-mail: info@nwarockhounds.org

11-12--ABILENE, TEXAS: Show; Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Abilene Civic Center, N. 6th and Pine St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, ages 6-12 \$1.50, children under 6 free with adult; gems, jewels, slabs, rough, lapidary tools and supplies, demonstrations, fluorescent display, silent auction, wheel of fortune, sand art, door prizes, grand prize drawing; contact Sallie Lightfoot, (325) 692-4642; e-mail: slightfoot@aol.com; Web site: www.txol.net/rockclub

17-19--ALPINE, TEXAS: 20th annual show, "Treasures of West Texas"; Chihuahuan Desert Gem & Mineral Club; Highland Events Center, Hwy. 90, across from Sul Ross State University; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 11-5; free admission; 2nd annual Collegiate Geology "Box of Rocks" Competition, Kids' Corner, door prizes, rock food table, Rock For Life dance, Grub Run Rally, field trips (Woodward Ranch, Shafter Silver Mine, Red Rock Ranch); contact Donna Trammel, (432) 426-2924; e-mail: rocklady2002@sbcglobal.net

17-19--JOPLIN, MISSOURI: 3rd annual outdoor swap meet, "Sping Rock Swap"; Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society; Redings Mill Inn, intersection of Hwy. 86 and Hwy. NN; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; contact Joplin Museum Complex, (417) 623-1180; contact Christopher Wiseman; jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net

17-19--KENNER, LOUISIANA: Show, "New Orleans Gem, Jewelry, Bead, & Jazz Fest"; AKS Gem Shows; Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, classes in beading, PMC, chain maille, and more; contact Kay Schabilion, (504) 455-6101; e-mail: info@aksshow.com; Web site: www.aksshow.com

18-19--FORT DODGE, IOWA: Show; River Valley Rockhounds; Opera House, Fort Museum, west on Bus. Hwy. 20; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 11-4; free admission; displays, dealers, rock equipment demonstrations, new and used equipment sales, silent auction, children's area, door prizes; contact Robert Wolf, 3521 10th Ave. N, Fort Dodge, IA 50501, (515) 955-2818; e-mail: midnightwriter@frontiernet.net

24-25--IRVINE, KENTUCKY: 46th annual show; Bluegrass Gem & Mineral Club; Mountain Mushroom Festival/Agate Hunt; Estill County School System Central Office, 253 Main St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; agate hunting in local creeks for \$10 per person, flint knapping demonstration; contact Phillip Daly, 10330 Forkland Rd., Parksville, KY 40464, (859) 854-0418; e-mail: phillipdaly@bellsouth.net; Web site: www.orgsites.com/ky/bggamc/

**Due to space, I've only put the closest shows to Little Rock. Go here for the full list:**  
<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>

## CLUB T-SHIRTS

They are a Royal Blue with a large Club logo and the established club date.

Sizes are Medium, Large, X-Large, and XX-Large Price is \$8 each.

Contact George-916-221-1568

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 Dave and Lenora Murray are now OFFICIAL Arkansas dealers

for the GEM SCOOP . (Now known as the TREASURE SCOOP)

We have the old standby 36" and a new 42" scoop. Both will be

available at the rock show in October, along with great rock hammers.

Or, call us , and we can bring yours to the club meeting. That's

**D.L.M. GEM 'N' STEM** at 870-255-3679.

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 In November 2006 John, Obe, and Aaron Willix acquired the Rock & Mineral collection created by Hughey Howard Killough. Over 5000 rocks (moss agates, fossils, copper ore, petrified wood, chalcedony, plume agates, thunder eggs, rose quartz, wulfenite, halite, amethyst, quartz, jade, tiger eye, etc.), four agate windows, a large Brazilian agate, a large Arkansas quartz crystal, 7 large antique oak display cabinets, one ring cabinet, over 156 pieces of jewelry, lamps, stands and various other misc. items.

Presently the collection is on display in Magnet Cove, Arkansas and can be seen by appointment. Anyone with an interest in rocks and minerals is welcome.

Just call or email **John** 501-351-0049 or [jwillix@newcopiers.net](mailto:jwillix@newcopiers.net), **Obe** 501-804-2331, or **Aaron** 501-337-0511. The best times for us are Wednesdays all day or Saturday after 1 PM. Please feel free to visit us. We would like to share the collection with everyone. Prices anywhere from give away to trade to \$1 to \$2500. We are open minded and just having fun.