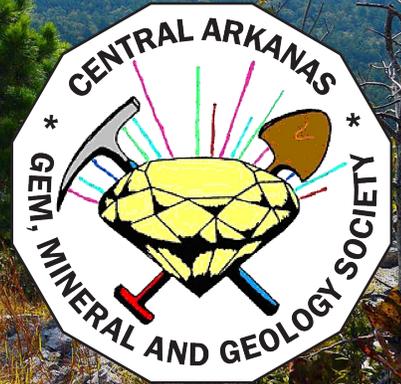


ARKANSAS ROCKHOUND NEWS



APRIL 2016

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.

Regular meetings are at the Terry Library 6:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the month (except December)

Terry Library is located at:

2015 Napa Valley Dr.
Little Rock, Arkansas
72212

From the president...



Rock hounding, is a true adventure. We had a great time at our last meeting. Auction night seems to lend itself to some interesting events. Thank you everyone who participated.

This spring will be a busy time for our group. We have the Rock Swap on the 9th, a chance to sell or swap amongst the group and to the public. A chance to visit with other group members and enjoy a beautiful day in the park. The Memphis show, which always promises a good time and great opportunity to pick up some treasured Specimens at the end of the month. If you haven't had the opportunity to go, please try to make plans to attend this year.

I am sure we will be off on a fun adventures this spring and summer on some fun field trips. This is a great chance to explore this great state and see what nature has left for us to discover. If you are going on digs or are looking for someone to go with you on your adventure, please make sure you take a buddy. Safety is so important when you are with a group on your own.

We have an opportunity to teach the next generation on May 7th beginning at 9:00 am until noon at UALR. The Quapaw University for the Boy Scouts has invited representatives of our group to present the Mining in Society merit badge. I am still looking for volunteers to assist me with the program. Please let me know if you are interested.

*We are still in need a Program Coordinator: someone to arrange and organize programs for our meetings: Please consider helping out OR If you would like to present a program please let myself or Lenora Murray know and we can make sure that you are put on the schedule.

See you at the Dig!

Barbara

ARKANSAS ROCKHOUND NEWS is the official newsletter of the Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society. It is published monthly. To submit information, articles or photographs please email Nikki Heck, nikkiheck@windstream.net.

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Programs, Vacant

Meeting minutes...

March 22, 2016

Submitted by Lenora Murray, secretary

It was great to have all the members of the Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society back at Terry Library for our March meeting. President Barbara Champagne called the meeting to order with 26 members present. We had one new member, Mary Elliott. The secretary's report is to be amended as Mike AUSTEN's name was misspelled by Lenora (Sorry Mike). The secretary and treasurer's reports were both accepted as printed. David Hodge, librarian, had many magazines and a few books to check out. He also gave a field trip report: Our swap will take the place of an April field trip. But he and Stephanie Blandin are working in trying to get into Black Rock in May. Mike Austen mentioned the Tyler Texas club will be going to Ron Coleman's mine March 26, and our club members are invited.

Various members reported on our field trip March 19 to Bauxite. Mike Austen brought samples of the rough bauxite, and some polished pieces. Barbara had thank you cards for the museum director and the McGeorge staff who led the collecting trip at the Alabama Mine. We all found really nice samples for our collections. But one mishap occurred as Cindy Lynn fell down a rather steep tailings pile and broke her arm. We wish her a speedy recovery. The field trip ended for most with a great meal at Whole Hog Café in Bryant. Thanks Stephanie Blandin and David Hodge for a great outing.

Mike Austen gave a short report on the swap April 9. Virginia Wilhelm has sent out local ads and Mike contacted other clubs to join us. He had a few fliers for members to pass out. It was agreed the club will furnish drinks, water and chips. Members are welcome to bring food to share if they wish. We hope for a great turnout at Burns Park, Elder Johnson Pavilion on April 9! In other old business, Barbara mentioned two places we still need club members to help: the Memphis show April 23-24, where we will have a booth. Even an hour will help a lot! And The

Boy Scout Merit Badge U at UALR on May 7. It's only from 9 to 1, but members are definitely needed. Lenora mentioned that the UALR display case is now done, featuring mineral collecting sites in Arkansas. Thanks to John and Connie Schoeneman, David and Sarah Dodson, Barbara Champagne and Dave and Lenora Murray for loaning sample for this display, and especially to Connie who got the ball rolling to finish this project!

In new business, Tom Sharp mentioned all but 2 dealers have paid for their booths at our annual show in October. Barbara is working on setting up a short Boy Scout badge program for the show. She also mentioned Carl Hill is home and doing well without a walker. Great news, Carl. We hope to see you at the swap! Mike Austen had a neat bauxite sphere and other samples for show and tell. He also brought a copy of the recent news article about Rush, AR, where 2 men were arrested for possession of minerals from National Park land. He also had an old 1945 pamphlet from the Frisco RR about Minerals of Arkansas. George and Anita Gray Major and Stephanie Blandin took a trip to the Mississippi Petrified Forest State park, then attended the Jackson MS Gem & Mineral Show. George brought fliers from the show and Anita had a gorgeous necklace from there. They all agreed it was a very well run show and well worth the time to attend.

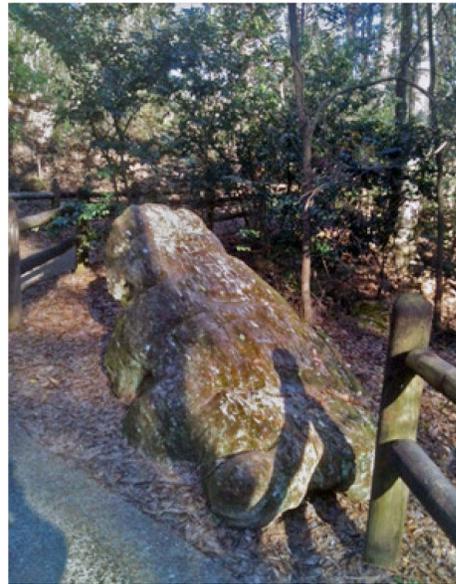
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned for the AUCTION: David Murray and Mike Austen team-tagged to auction off (over 50??) items by many club members. Quite a few spirited bidding wars were exchanged, with lots of silly moments. It was capped off when David Hodge finally outlasted David Dodson for the best item of the night – an awesome quartz cluster with inclusions that looked like it came straight from the “fortress of solitude”. After the meeting treasurer Sarah Dodson announced we sold 57 items which, including donations, earned the club \$76.00, and gave many members some beautiful pieces to start—or add to—their mineral collections. We trust a good time was had by all.

Member feature...

A Mississippi Road Trip

By George Gray Major

On Friday, February 26th, three “Rock hounds” left Little Rock on a beautiful sunny morning driving to Flora, Mississippi to see the Mississippi Petrified Forest located 17 miles North of Jackson, MS. Arriving at their destination around 1:30 in the afternoon, they spent quite a while looking over a myriad of beautiful specimens for sale in the Gift Shop before heading out to



see the many petrified log sections along a nature trail approximately six blocks long (according to their literature.... Stephanie and Anita both swore they walked five miles). Most of the petrified logs were within reach from the trail,

in fact, some were so close you could actually sit on them! Many spots along the trail had signs identifying each point of interest. All along the nature trail you could hear and see birds singing and an occasional squirrel scampering about. At the end of the nature trail you enter a different door to the visitor's center/gift shop and go into a fantastic earth science museum with petrified



wood examples found in every state and foreign petrified wood represented as well along with a museum collection of gorgeous minerals and spectacular fossil specimens including dinosaur footprints, whale bones, turtle shells and even a complete cast of a prehistoric camel.



After we left the Petrified Forest, we headed down Hwy. 49 into Jackson and drove to the motel just off I-20 where we had reservations for the night. The next morning after a restful night's sleep and a good breakfast, we headed to the 57th annual Mississippi Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry show at the Trade Mart Building located in the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson very close to I-55. The show opened to the public at 9:00 am and we were there when the doors opened. I must say that this was a very impressive show with 44 booths of dealers from all over the country as well as booths manned by individuals from the Mississippi Office of Geology, Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Mississippi State University, University of Southern Mississippi, University of Mississippi and the Mississippi Archaeological Association.

We didn't have time for it but they sell bags of "mine muck" in the gift shop where you can take it out on the Gem Mine Flume rock patio to wash and screen the "mine muck" and watch for real gems that you can keep whatever you find.



They also have a campground that features 11 full hook-up RV camp sites with water, sewer and electric (20, 30 and 50 Amp service) and a tent camping area that include 4 sites with water and electricity. Showers and restrooms are located in the secluded wooded area as well as a dump station. Also, you will find a large 30' X 60' covered pavilion with lights, water and electricity that can accommodate groups of 200 or more for family gatherings, weddings, birthday parties or any special event.



They also had a very impressive “Rock Food Table” setting. They had one booth teaching young people how to make Gem Trees, another demonstrating “cabbing” and lapidary techniques, one with “touch and see” for children and another with membership information for interested viewers. All and all, it was a very impressive show for all ages of viewers.



This house was built out of Crinoid Stems

After about 4 hours looking and making purchases, we hit the road for home stopping along the way for a dinner at a Chinese Buffet and arrived home safe and sound that evening excited to go over the treasures that we bought.

WE WILL GO BACK NEXT YEAR!

Join CAGMAGS!

Membership Dues - \$15 Individual,
\$25 Family (Yearly)

Visit www.centralrockhound.org
to learn more!

Brad's bench tips...

Pre-made bezel cups

As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 - 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things. First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.



Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they're not dependable for stones with steep side walls.

Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with stones that have a sharp edge around the bottom. Burnishing the bezel over one of these stones will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).

“Bench Tips for Jewelry Making” and “Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry” by Brad Smith are available on Amazon.

(ed. note-I recently connected with Brad Smith, having read his tips in past issues of newsletters. He has been kind enough to add me to his distribution list for tips, I hope you find them as interesting and helpful as I do.)

Field trip report...

April 19, 2016 Field trip to the Bauxite Museum & mine submitted by Stephanie Blandin

There were 18 people who came to the Bauxite Museum. Mr. Steve Harris at the museum answered our questions & gave a talk about the mining town of Bauxite (and the bauxite teeth!). We had 16 people go to the mine. After we took the scenic route to get to the Alabama mine we met up with Mr. Chuck Jones & his lovely wife & son. We surface collected for about 3 hours! I think everyone took home a good haul. I know I did! After that 11 of us went and "pigged out" at Whole Hog BBQ for good food and more rock talk! Thanks to everyone for a good time!



Mineral News...

Announcing the Carbon Mineral Challenge: A Worldwide Hunt for New Carbon Minerals

December 16, 2015

New research predicts at least 145 of Earth's carbon-bearing minerals remain undiscovered. How many can collectors find by 2019?



The hunt is on for Earth's undiscovered carbon minerals. Scientists, using statistical calculations, now know how many are out there. They even have some ideas about where to look. But to find them, they need the help of the world's mineral collecting community.

The Carbon Mineral Challenge sets the stage for both professional and amateur mineral collectors to make their mark by discovering never-before described minerals.

Why carbon minerals?

Carbon is one of the most chemically diverse elements, and occurs in compounds with almost every element of the periodic table. Some carbon-containing minerals form ores, which are mined for metals such as iron, nickel, and copper. Carbon-bearing minerals can contain rare Earth elements, critical components of smart phones and tablets. Carbon also becomes coal and diamond. And, most importantly, without carbon, there is no life.

Given the scientific value of potential new carbon-bearing mineral discoveries, the Deep Carbon Observatory (DCO) is challenging both amateur collectors and professional mineralogists around the world to find these rare specimens.

DCO is a global community of multi-disciplinary scientists unlocking the inner secrets of Earth through investigations into life, energy, and the fundamentally unique chemistry of carbon. A key goal of DCO is to identify the forms of carbon in

Earth. Any new carbon minerals discovered as part of the Carbon Mineral Challenge will address this important scientific question, and add to our growing understanding of Earth's unique chemical makeup.

Earth is the only known planet that supports life. Life on Earth has interacted with rocks over billions of years, generating a telltale geobiological footprint. Such a footprint should be visible on other life-supporting planetary bodies.

"Figuring out the mineral signature of a life-supporting planet is a really exciting prospect," says Robert Hazen, Senior Staff Scientist at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, USA and Executive Director of the Deep Carbon Observatory. "Without life, fewer than a third of the different kinds of minerals we see on Earth would exist. Our new projections will inform planetary investigations, with probes tuned to detect mineralogical signs of life."



Rhodochrosite (the red crystal pictured here) is a carbonate mineral first described in 1813. Discovered in the silver mines of Romania, rhodochrosite is currently mined in Argentina to produce manganese for stainless steel manufacturing. Credit: Smithsonian Digital Studios

Today, mineralogists recognize 406 carbon minerals out of more than 5000 known mineral species on Earth. Since 2010, the International Mineralogical Association has reported the discovery of an average of about four new carbon minerals every year for the past five years. However, DCO researchers now estimate

there are at least 145 more carbon minerals still awaiting discovery.

Hazen and his colleagues, including mathematician Grethe Hystad of Purdue University Calumet, used a type of analysis called Large Number of Rare Events (LNRE) modeling to formulate this prediction, and will share the work in *American Mineralogist* in early 2016 (a preprint is available here) as well as during the Friday morning poster session at the 2015 AGU Fall Meeting (V51C-3039 and -3040).

“Imagine reading a book,” says DCO’s Hazen. “Some words you read over and over throughout, such as ‘and’ and ‘the.’ These common words are everywhere and easy to spot. On the other hand, there are words that may appear only one or two times in an entire book. Earth’s missing minerals are like these rare words; we haven’t found them yet because they formed only in very few places and in very small quantities.”

The LNRE model also predicts that the majority of the carbon-bearing minerals awaiting discovery are hydrous carbonates, a potentially challenging fact for collectors.



Smithsonite, or zinc spar, is a carbonate Zinc ore. This mineral was named in 1832 after English chemist and mineralogist James Smithson (founding donor of the Smithsonian Institution). Credit: Smithsonian Digital Studios

Where are these undiscovered minerals and what do they look like?

Hazen’s team predicts finding missing carbon minerals will challenge even the most dedicated mineral collectors. To have remained hidden for so long, these minerals must reside in remote localities and in small quantities. In some cases the minerals are likely ephemeral in nature. Many of the carbon species on Hazen’s list, including hydrous carbonates, are potentially colorless, poorly crystallized, or easily dissolved in water.

While Hazen and colleagues have not identified a treasure map for finding the missing carbon minerals, there are some potentially rewarding localities to consider. These include the Poudrette Quarry in Canada, Kukisvumchorr Mountain in Russia, and Clara Mine in Germany, where collectors have already found a diverse array of carbon minerals.

“There’s something magical about mineral collecting that’s hard to put into words,” said Hazen’s colleague and DCO early career scientist Daniel Hummer. “You’re collecting fundamental constituents of the natural world that only exist because life has interacted with rocks over millions, or even billions, of years.”

“One of the most exciting prospects,” Hummer continues, “is we might even stumble upon minerals we didn’t predict in our analyses. We could be in for a surprise!”

In fact, some of the missing carbon minerals might be hiding in plain sight, sitting in a museum drawer.

“As a PhD student at the University of Arizona, I work on the development of the RRUFF mineral database in (co-author) Professor Robert Downs’ lab,” said Barbara Lafuente. “It’s quite possible we’ll find one or two new carbon minerals in our university’s mineral collection, now that we know what we’re looking for.”

How does the Carbon Mineral Challenge work?

Amateur and professional mineral collectors should follow the procedures outlined by the International Mineralogical Association Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification. Once the commission has approved the new mineral, the team responsible for its discovery and verification should submit their entry to the Carbon Mineral Challenge via mineralchallenge.net.

Interested collectors may contact Carbon Mineral Challenge International Advisory Board members in their region with questions about mineral analysis and verification. Mineralchallenge.net also contains comprehensive guidelines, useful links, a photo gallery of known carbon minerals, and a list of FAQs for potential participants.

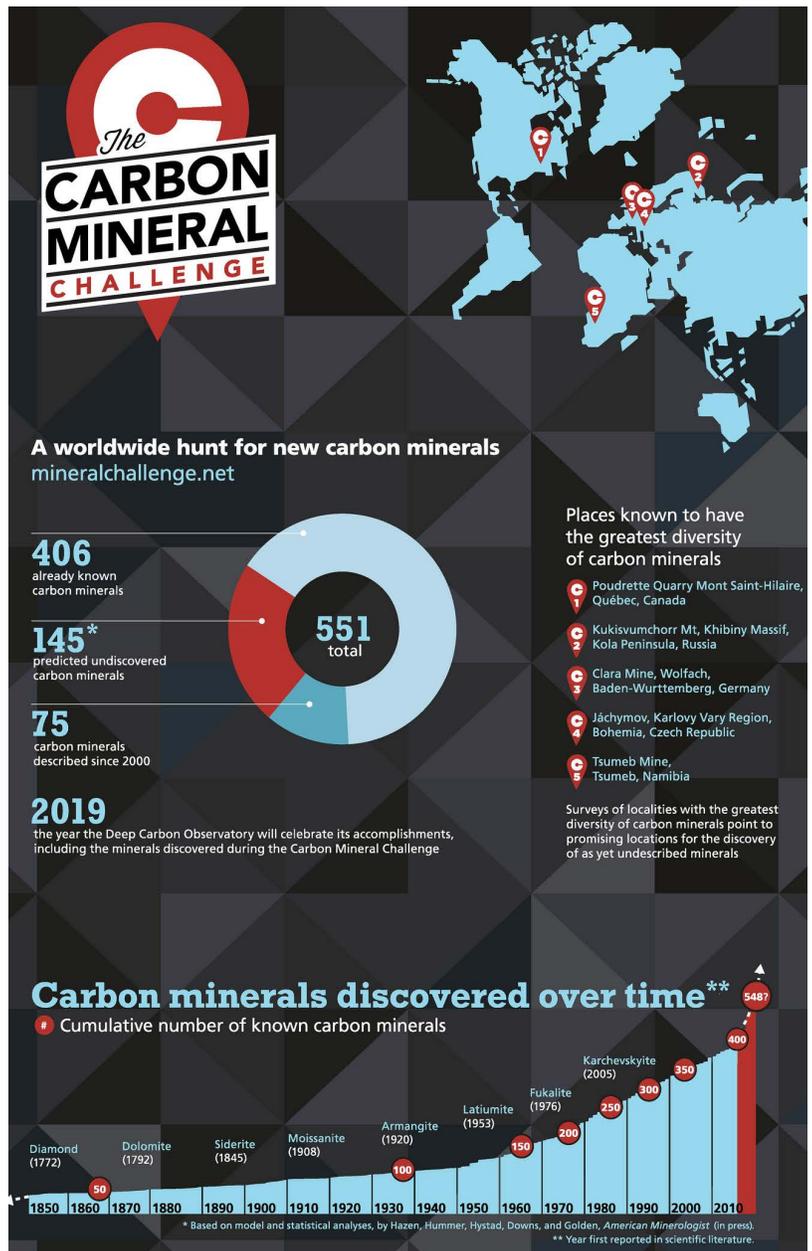
The Carbon Mineral Challenge will continue until September 2019. DCO will publicly recognize each discovery as it happens and celebrate the final suite of newly discovered carbon minerals at the culmination of its decadal program in late 2019.

The Carbon Mineral Challenge shines a light on a very specific, but important, subset of minerals. Over the next four years, and with each new discovery, a new piece of Earth's mineralogical puzzle will fall into place.

Follow [@deepcarb](https://twitter.com/deepcarb) and [#DCOChallenge](https://twitter.com/DCOChallenge) for updates on Twitter, and visit mineralchallenge.net for more information. You can also like DCO on Facebook and check out the DCO YouTube channel for videos from the field, the lab, and workshops around the world.

Reference:

Hazen RM, Hummer DR, Hystad G, Downs RT, Golden JJ (2015) Carbon mineral ecology: Predicting the undiscovered minerals of carbon. *American Mineralogist*, in press. Preprint available [here](#).



Credit: DCO/Josh Wood

HELP!
Send in your:
stories, articles, tips,
photos
suggestions or questions!

Submissions due by the
28th of each month.

From the editor...

Another month has passed, we're getting closer and closer to summer. What a great month we've had though. Brandon and I started our spring break off right with the field trip to Bauxite on Saturday the 19th, then we took off for south Texas on the following Tuesday. (Sounds like the auction was a blast! I really hate that we missed it!) We had a great trip! And since it is fresh on my mind I suppose that I'll write about at least part of it in my note here. Actually it was Brandon's idea, for his section this month you'll find some of his photography of the rocks we collected. He had a little fun with the set up, you'll see. I took a few photos as well of some findings. Mineral photography is more difficult than most other photography I've done- wildlife, flowers, scenery- all outside things. Inside is a different ballgame, but hopefully you can get the idea from our crude setup.

South Larremore Ranch

We left Tuesday afternoon so that we could drive a ways and stop for the night. You know Texas is soooo big and takes days (it seems) to drive through. A straight shot to Alpine, TX would be about 13 hours in case you're wondering. We spent the night in Weatherford and made it to the area with enough time to spare that I thought we'd just head on down to the Stillwell Ranch first. But for today, I'm going to talk about our trip to the South Larremore Ranch, if anyone is interested I'll talk about the Stillwell some other time (and I didn't take pics of those rocks yet).

We spent the next two nights in Alpine at the Antelope Lodge. This is neat little place owned by our rockhounding guide Teri Smith and her husband. Thursday morning we headed out for the South Larremore Ranch which was about 40 miles due south of Alpine toward Big Bend National Park. Our guide for the day was actually to be the ranch owner (the wife) as Teri had to be away unexpectedly this week. Well, something else came up and our guide ended up being Mr. Larremore himself. A true Texas cowboy. He was really neat to visit with and truth be told my husband (Brad) would have rather spent the day
ARKANSAS ROCKHOUND NEWS

talking to him about ranching (we raise cows as well) than rockhounding! But Mr. Larremore showed us (my parents were with us as well) and another couple of folks where to go and turned us loose.



Now, looking at where we were on the drive into the ranch, we wondered where exactly were the rocks? The area of the ranch is in an alluvial plain and the (seasonal) Calamity Creek runs through the property. So while it looks flat, there are rocks, you just have to search them out! That is defiantly where Brad came in handy, he can see much better, further away, than I can. As for what can be found on the ranch- agate (plume, moss and fortification), petrified wood, jasper, chert and some fossils.



We all pretty well split up and searched around that morning then snacked and moved a bit north. Here I struck out following behind Brandon and Brad. I actually wanted to go another way but he said he could see what looked like a ridge of rocks much



further north. So we walked. And walked. Along the way picking up rocks of course and Brandon was just as happy with the other objects he found- two horseshoes, a tin can, some steeples and some little buckle Brad

said probably came off of horse reins. We finally made it to the ridge, right at the fence line, and wow! I nicknamed it agate ridge. Loads of pretties for us to gather.

It was getting late afternoon, and my bag was way full, so we decided to head back. Again I wanted to go a different way but Brad said, "I really hate to tell you, but there's another one of these



rocky ridges over there" (opposite direction- did I mention that my bag was full??). All we could do was walk through it, we were on an old road by then. I was stuffing every pocket on my jeans, my jacket that I had tied around my waist and in my hands of course that I could! I was so sad to not have anywhere else to put anything!



We passed yet another dang ridge before making it back to the truck, sigh. At least on this one we spotted a horned toad, Brandon had never saw one so he was pretty

excited about that. It was late afternoon and we had to go or I would have hightailed it back out there, but we had a great day! Hopefully I will some of this stuff cut soon, but since we're working on a new shop, for both of us, I don't

have much time to work on anything right now. Brandon will have some in the tumbler soon though and he's excited to share them.

Hopefully you've enjoyed some of my ramblings and the photos, please let me know if you have any questions about the area down there!



Kids Corner...

Brandon Heck is the Assistant Editor of Arkansas Rockhound News. He is 7 years old and has enjoyed rockhounding since he could walk. In each issue he will share information about minerals that he loves and about his adventures in rockhounding.

A selection of minerals (and tractors) from Brandon's recent trip to the South Larremore Ranch that he wanted to share. He loves to take photos as well, so he was learning about using the macro function in some of these images. And we couldn't just take photos of rocks, we had to design a "scene." The darker piece in the yellow truck is a arrowhead, or so we believe. He is very proud of that!



Upcoming area shows...

April 2016

9-10—SILOAM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Northwest Arkansas Gem and Mineral Society, Community Building; Mt. Olive Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Admission \$3.00, Free admission for children; Demonstrations, displays, silent auctions, dealers and gem wash. Contact Dave Leininger, 14029 White Oak Lane, Bentonville, AR 72712, (479)-721-1579; e-mail: hulagrub@aol.com; Web site: www.nwarockhounds.org

9-10—MARION, ILLINOIS: Annual show; Southern Illinois Earth Science Club, Pavilion of the City of Marion; 1602 Sioux Drive; Sat. 10 -6 , Sun. 10 -5 ; Adults/Seniors \$2, Students/Children Free Admission; Exhibits: Gems, Minerals, Fossils, Lapidary and Artifacts. Special exhibits from Clement Mineral Museum and the Middle Tenn. Earth Science Museum. Fluorescent light shows, silent auctions, raffle and more. Contact Michael Chontofalsky, (618)-532-0455; e-mail: chontofalsky@att.net; Web site: www.siesclub.org

9-10—DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS: Annual show; Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, Des Plaines Park District Leisure Center; 2222 Birch St; Sat. 9:30 -5:, Sun. 10-4:; Adults \$3, Seniors \$2, Students \$1, Children under 12 free; 51st Annual Rock Gem Jewelry Fossil show. Fine gem, mineral, fossil and jewelry dealers. Kid's room, live demonstrations, educational exhibits, raffles, silent auction and gold panning. For dealer info call: Karen Schuster 773 791-9653 kschuster921@aol.com; contact Lois Zima, (847)-298-4653

9-10—ABILENE, TEXAS: Annual show; central Texas Gem & Mineral Society, Abilene Civic Center; 600 Pine St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$3, Students 6-12 \$1.50, Children under 6 free; Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society presents its 2016 Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. There will be exhibits, wheel of fortune, fossils, rare minerals, cut and uncut gems, fluorescent display, lapidary supplies and rough, jewelry making equipment, beads, Crack your own Geode, Silent Auction, door prizes, grand prize drawing; proceeds benefit scholarship program. Contact Kay H McDaniel, 3118 Woodglen Cove, Abilene, TX 79606, (325)-668-8558; e-mail: kmcdaniel23@suddenlink.net; Web site: www.calichetimes.com

15-17—ALPINE, TEXAS: Show and sale; Chihuahuan Desert Gem and Mineral Club, Alpine Civic Center; 801 W. Holland (Hwy. 90); Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6; Free Admission; contact Paul Graybeal, PO Box 1111, Alpine, TX 79831, (432)-729-4526; e-mail: paulgraybeal@sbcglobal.net

16-17—DULUTH, GEORGIA: Annual show; Intergalactic Bead Show, Gwinnett Center; 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$4-\$5, Children free; Do you love great quality and prices? Then shop The Intergalactic Bead Show! Our shows provide attendees with the world's finest and rarest beads, precious stones, gems, freshwater pearls and an exquisite collection of finished jewelry. Shop quality. Contact Shawna Whitson, (888)-729-6904; Web site: <http://beadshows.com>

16-17—DECATUR, ILLINOIS: Annual show; Central Illinois Gem & Mineral Club, Lester Building, Progress City; One College Park; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5, Seniors \$3, Students/Children free ; Merchants will showcase jewelry, gemstones, lapidary, beads, fossils, and mineral specimens from all over the world. Demonstrators will show silver-smithing, fused glass, wire wrap, lamp work and making cabochons. Special 4H Day on Saturday. Hourly and Grand Door Prizes will be awarded! Contact Tony Kapta, 1483 E Wood St, Decatur, IL 62521, (309)-830-6516; e-mail: cigmc@comcast.net; Web site: <http://cigmc.earthinsync.com/>

16-17—CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA: Annual show; Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Hawkeye Downs Expo Center, 4400 6th Street SW; Sat. 8:30-6, Sun. 9:30-5; Adults \$3.00, Students \$1, Children under 12 free; 52nd annual show featuring petrified wood and fossil plants. Family and education oriented show with multiple vendors, displays and programs. Demonstrations include tumbling techniques, glass bead making, cabbing, silversmithing, flint knapping, geode cracking plus many other areas of interest. Pebble pit for the kids, sluice, bone dig. Silent auction, door prizes, raffles. Profits go to scholarship fund. Food on site. Contact Marvin Houg, 1820 30th St Dr., Cedar Rapids, IA 52403, (319)-364-2868; e-mail: m_houg@yahoo.com; Web site: www.Cedarvalleyrockclub.org

22-24—PORTLAND, OREGON: 59th Annual Rock and Gem Show; Mt. Hood Rock Club, Jackson Armory; 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd. ; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; One free rock to each child 25+ Vendors selling: minerals, rocks, beads, jewelry, fossils, tools and more. Activities will include: Kid's corner with games and activities, Door prizes, Raffle prizes, Demonstrations in lapidary & wire wrapping, Silent Auction bargains, Many Displays & Exhibits, Oral Auction Sunday @ 1pm. Contact Wayne King, (503)-284-7195; e-mail: mhrshow@gmail.com; Web site: www.mthoodrockclub.com

22-24—IRVINE, KENTUCKY: Annual show; Mountain Mushroom Festival, Estell County School's Central Office Gym; 253 Main Street; Fri. 9 -6 , Sat. 9 -6 , Sun. 10 -5 ; Free Admission; Agates, gems, rocks, fossils, minerals, demonstrations, dealers. Contact Francine Bonny, Irvine City Hall, 101 Chestnut Street, Irvine, KY 40336, (606) 723-1233; e-mail: mushroomfestival@irvineonline.com; Web site: www.mountainmushroomfestival.org

22-24—WICHITA, KANSAS: Annual show; Wichita Gem & Mineral Society, Cessna Activity Center; 2744 George Washington Blvd.; Fri. 9 -6 , Sat. 10 -6 , Sun. 10 -5 ; Adults \$5 , Ages 12-17 \$1, Children under 12 free ; Hosting the Annual Convention of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies; Education Day program on mineral identification Friday 9 am to 3 pm; program for scouts Saturday; vendor showing gemstones, minerals, fossils, meteorites, beads, jewelry, lapidary supplies; displays and demonstrations; gem hunt; silent auction Saturday and Sunday; for children -- grab bags, junior rock pile, gem wheel. Contact Gene Maggard, 8318 SE Highway 77, LEON, KS 67074, 316 742-3746; e-mail: gandpmaggard@gmail.com; Web site: www.wgmsks.org

22-24—HOUSTON, TEXAS: Annual show; Fine Mineral Show, Embassy Suites Hotel; 2911 Sage Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; contact Dave Waisman; e-mail: info@finemineralshow.com; Web site: www.FineMineralo-Show.com

23-23—MADISON, TENNESSEE: Show and sale; Middle Tennessee Rockhounds, Amqui Station; 303 Madison Street; Sat. 10-4; Free Admission; 3rd Annual "Dig it Music City". A fun family exploration of the Earth's rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems. Presentations, activities for kids, free mineral and fossil ID, rock, mineral, fossil, slab, rough, & gem vendors. Contact Wayne Ramsey, Nashville, TN, (615)-491-2293; e-mail: Swap@RockHound.org; Web site: www.RockHound.org

23-24—TROY, OHIO: Annual show; Brukner Gem and Mineral Club, Miami County Fairgrounds; 650 N. County Rd. 25 A; Sat. 10 -6 , Sun. 10 -6 ; Adults \$2, Seniors \$2; Dealers with Gemstones, jewelry, minerals, fossils, mineral 7 crystal paintings, wire wrapped jewelry, meteorites,& beads ; demonstrations on gold panning, sphere making, & rock polishing; geode cracking, gem sluice,& silent auction. Contact Judy Burton, 912 Kent Lane, Troy, OH 45373, (937) 339-1966; e-mail: jleeburton@woh.rr.com; Web site: Brukner Gem and Mineral Club

23-24—MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE: Annual show; Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society , Memphis International Agricenter; 7777 Walnut Grove Rd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Children over 12 \$2, Children 12 & under free; Rockzone a Kids Area with a gem and fossil dig, "Rocks around the Clock" and Geode Bowling . Grand Door prizes and hourly prizes. Contact WC McDaniel, 2038 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104, (901)-274-7706; e-mail: w.c.mcd@att.net; Web site: www.TheEarthWideOpen.com

23-24—MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, OHIO: Annual show; Intergalactic Bead Show, Cuyahoga Fairgrounds; 19201 East Bagley Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$4-\$5; Do you love great quality and prices? Then shop The Intergalactic Bead Show! Our shows provide attendees with the world's finest and rarest beads, precious stones, gems, freshwater pearls and an exquisite collection of finished jewelry. Shop quality. Shop Intergalactic Bead Shows. Visit www.beadshows.com for more information. Contact Shawna Whtson; e-mail: Info@beadshows.com; Web site: www.beadshows.com

23-24—CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO: Show and sale; Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society, Emilio & Sons Expo Center; 48 East Bath Rd; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Seniors/Students \$4, Children \$1; 40th Year Celebration.; contact Sandy Shorter, 8510 Grouse Ridge Dr, Chardon, OH 44024, (440)-479-0069; e-mail: Gymboree@outlook.com

24-24—WATERLOO, IOWA: Annual show; Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Society, Waterloo Center for the Arts; 225 Commercial St; Sun. 12-5; Admission free will donation; Many vendors, demonstrations, and exhibits. Fun and activities for the whole family. The show also includes a silent auction and door prize drawings. Contact David Malm, IA, (319)-266-6433

30-1—WACO, TEXAS: Annual show; Waco Gem and Mineral Club, Extraco Event Center; 4601 Bosque Blvd; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; \$5 Admission, Children \$1.00; Scouts in uniform get in free to our 56th annual show. Contact J. Bennett, 1238 Kirkland Hill Rd., Axtell, TX 76624, 2545486839; e-mail: showchair@wacogemandmineral.org; Web site: www.wacog-emandmineral.org

30-1—FORT DODGE, IOWA: Annual show; River Valley Rockhounrd Inc, ICCA East Campus; 2031 Quail Avenue; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 11-4; Admission \$1, Children free; There will be displays, door prizes, and free specimens for children. Contact Robert Wolf, 3521 10th Ave. North, Fort Dodge, IA 50501, (515)-955-2818; e-mail: midnightwriter@frontiernet.net

May 2016

6-8—FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Carpenter Building; 1288 Georgia Rd.(US441); Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Finished gold and silver jewelry, silver and gold findings, minerals, fossils, cab & facet rough, demonstrations, and much more. Contact Norman Holbert, 180 Camelot Estates Road, Franklin, NC 28734, 828 634-0350; e-mail: normholbert@comcast.net; Web site: www.fgmm.org

6-8—MCPHERSON, KANSAS: Show and sale; McPherson Gem & Mineral Club, 4-H Building and Grounds; 710 W Woodside; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10:30-3; Free Admission; McPherson Gem & Mineral Club's 24th Annual Show and Sale. Vendors from across the US featuring precious and semi-precious gems, minerals, fossils, petrified wood, handcrafted jewelry, lapidary work, slabs, cabs and much, much more. Hourly door prizes and a kids spin all three days. Auction Saturday at 7:15 PM. Contact Kim Vasper, 1489 Janasu Road, McPherson, KS 67460, 620755415; e-mail: kimvasper@yahoo.com; Web site: www.wedigrocks.org

6-8—HALLSVILLE, MISSOURI: Show and sale; Central Missouri Rock and Lapidary Club, Bob LeMone Building; 500 Route OO; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$6, 60+ and youth 12-18 \$3.00, Seniors/Children 12-18 \$3, Children 11 and under free; Demonstrations and mineral exhibits and rock ID. Special children's activities and kidz mine. Many dealers from the Midwest. Fossils, gemstones rare and precious, stones for cabbing and rough along with findings and jewelry ready to wear. Geode cutting is available at time of purchase. Silent auctions will be held every day along with door prizes and a snack bar with hot food is available. GPS will bring you right to the front door. Only 15 minutes north of Columbia. Contact Esta Helms, Columbia, MO, (573)-567-0237; Web site: <http://cmrlc.org>

6-8—MARIETTA, GEORGIA: Annual show; Georgia Mineral Society, Cobb County Civic Center ; 548 South Marietta Pkwy SE; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; Free Admission; The Georgia Mineral Society's 48th Annual Mother's Day Weekend Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show. Door Prizes! Special door prize for students! Win a great prize for yourself and for your school! Contact Shelley Stubbs, (678)-612-7293; e-mail: mayshow@gaminal.org; Web site: www.gaminal.org

7-8—LUBBOCK, TEXAS: Annual show; Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society, Lubbock Memorial Civic Center; 1501 Mac Davis Lane; Sat. 10-06, Sun. 10-05; Adults \$4, Seniors \$3, Students \$2, Children free; 58th Annual show and Sale; This year the Lubbock Gem & Mineral Society is Hosting the South Central Federation Convention (SCFMS), at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. Vendors with jewelry, loose stones, rough, cabs, slabs, geodes, beads, gemstones, mineral Specimens, crystals, fossils, spheres, and lapidary tools. Hourly door prizes. Our kid's area will have games and grab bags, and we will feature displays by our youth. Proceeds support the LGMS (501(c)(3) organization), and scholarships in the Earth Sciences at Texas Tech. Contact Walter Beneze, 4204 45th Street, Lubbock, TX 79413, 806-797-5832; e-mail: walt@lubbockgemandmineral.org; Web site: www.lubbockgemandmineral.org

13-15—JOPLIN, MISSOURI: Annual show; Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society, Joplin Museum; 504 Schifferdecker Ave; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3; Free Admission; 10th Annual Spring Rock Swap. Show will be held inside Joplin Museum this year. Located in historic Schifferdecker Park at the intersection of 7th street and Schifferdecker Ave. Joplin MO 64801. For information please email, I am deaf. Contact Chris Wiseman; e-mail: jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net

14-14—ARLINGTON , TEXAS: annual swap meet; Arlington Gem and Mineral club, Arlington club house; 1408 Gibbons Rd; Sat. 7-2; Free Admission; Outdoor swap meet with all things lapidary/jewelry/metal-smithing/glass. Equipment, saws grinders and no telling what else, rocks to cabochons, crystals, metal working equipment and no telling what all. Pot luck in the clubhouse at noon. Contact Jack Spinks, 661 E Main Ste #200, Apt 236, Midlothian, TX 76065, (469)-515-6358; e-mail: jlspinks@sbcglobal.net; Web site: www.agemclub.com

14-15—NORTH OLMSTED, OHIO: Annual show; Parma Lapidary, Soccer Sportsplex; 31515 Lorain Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$6; Join us as the Parma Lapidary Club hosts it 48th Annual Cleveland Gems and Jewelry Show! Tickets are good for both Saturday and Sunday. The show will include jewelry arts, gems, minerals, fossils, geodes, custom & handmade jewelry, and beads available for purchase. There will also be exhibits, live demo's, kid's corner, silent auctions and much more. On Sunday (1p to 3p) an expert in vintage jewelry will identify and give you a verbal est. of value for your jewelry pieces for free! Contact Karl Creed, 273 Finchfield Circle, Macedonia, OH 44056, (330)-840-9422; e-mail: cjm101@hotmail.com; Web site: www.parmalapidary.com

28-29—FORT WORTH, TEXAS: Annual show; Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club, AmonG. Carter Exhibit Building, Will Rogers Memorial Center; 3401 W. Lancaster; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, seniors \$4, Students \$4, Children under 16 free; 65th annual Gem, Jewelry, Bead, Fossil and Mineral Show and Sale. Exhibits, kid's games. Hourly door prizes, silent auction and grand prize raffle. Contact Steve Hiliard, PO Box 418, Decatur, TX 76234, (817)-925-5760; e-mail: fwgmc@embarqmail.com; Web site: www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org

28-29—BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI: Annual show; Harrison County Gem and Mineral Society, Joppa Shrine Temple; 13280 Shriners Blvd, N Ex 41 off I-10; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Adults \$5, Children under 12 free; There will be demonstrations, displays, door prizes & kids' activities. Contact William Smith, (251)-937-3529; e-mail: gulfportgems@gmail.com; Web site: www.gulfportgems.org

The Earth Wide Open

April 23 & 24, 2016



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Memphis Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show

Sat. April 23, 9-6 • Sun. April 24, 10-5

Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove, Memphis TN

Adults -\$5, (2 day pass \$8), 12 & under - \$2,

Scouts in Uniform- Free

Grand Door Prize

50 Million Year Old

Diplomystus Fossil Fish from the
Green River Formation, Wyoming



Exhibits & Demonstrations

Lapidary Demonstrations of Wire Wrapping, Cabochons,
Beading and Fossil Cleaning

Exhibits of Mineral and Fossil displays, Fluorescent Rocks,
Local and Regional Schools and Museums

Kids Area

Gem Dig

Rocks around the Clock

Geode Bowling



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YOUTH POSTER CONTEST
MIDWEST FEDERATION YOUTH POSTER CONTEST 2016
“AMAZING AGATES”

Sponsored by the Summit Lapidary Club of Ohio

THEME: “Amazing Agates” A poster illustrating any type of agate, what it looks like, and where it can be found.

ELIGIBILITY:

1st through 8th grade. Each grade will have a winner .

PRIZES:

Ribbons awarded 1st through 4th place, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will also receive a prize.

CONTEST RULES:

1. All entries must be presented on paper 12”x 18”
2. Include name and address, age, and school grade of participant on back of entry.
3. No three-dimensional posters accepted.
4. The title may be on front or back.
5. List the name of the agate, a brief description of what it looks like, and WHY you chose it.
6. Artwork on posters can be pen, ink, crayons, magic marker, paint, or any other artist’s medium.
7. All entries become the property of MWF and the Summit Lapidary Club.

SCALE OF POINTS:

Originality and Art Work - 30 points

Design - 25 points

Title - 25 points

Listing of Agate type, what it looks like, and where it is from - 20 points

DEADLINE:

Entries must be postmarked by April 15, 2016.

SEND TO:

Poster Contest

617 Wooster Rd. W.

Barberton, Ohio 44203

Winners will be announced at the MWF Convention in South Bend, Indiana, August 20, 2016.

If you have questions, e-mail SLC.youth.poster.contest@gmail.com.

For more information, visit the MWF website <http://www.amfed.org/mwf>

On-Line MEMBERSHIP FORM
Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society
Membership Dues: \$15 / year Individual; \$25 / year Family

Make checks payable to: "Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society".

Name: _____ Date _____
Business Name: _____ Birthday: Mo. _____ Day _____
Address: _____ Anniversary: Mo. _____ Day _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone No. _____
Cell Phone _____
Email address: _____ Occupation _____

How would you like your Club Newsletter delivered? U.S. Mail _____ Download From Club Web site _____

Editor notifies members by email, with a link, when the Club Newsletter is Posted on the Web site.

Family Members are considered as all of those living at the above address .

Please list their names, Birthday Mo./Day, if applying for a Family Membership.

Because of limited space, only one name will appear on the newsletter mailing label.

How did you hear about our Club?

How long have you been interested in this hobby? _____ Do you have any equipment? _____

I would be interested in Attending _____ Hosting _____ work shop in _____ (subject)
on _____ (day of week)

Please circle your club interests:

Mineralogy Lapidary Fossils Field Trips Geology Carving
Collecting Jewelry Making Casting Silversmithing Beading Wire Wrap

Other _____

Outside Interests: _____

These will be listed in the Membership Directory, so that members can find others with similar interests.

In what areas would you be able to assist the Club:

Social Publicity/Advertising Educational Junior Programs Membership

Annual Show Committee Work Newsletter Articles Mineral Display

Other: _____

What would you like to see the club focus on in the coming year? _____

_____ I do not want my name to appear in the Club Directory.

_____ My name and address can appear, but NOT my Phone Number.

_____ Please do NOT include specifically the following info about me: _____

Please Mail to:

CAGMAGS, c/o Sarah Dodson, P.O. Box 241188, Little Rock, AR 72223



Central Arkansas Gem,
Mineral & Geology Society
PO Box 241188
Little Rock, AR 72223

2016 Meeting Dates

April 26th

May 24th

June 28th

July 26th

August 23rd

September 27th

October 25th

November 22nd

**Note- any changes of
meeting location will be
announced via email and
phone**

CAGMAGS 2016 Spring Swap

April 9th
Elder Johnson Pavilion
Burns Park
North Little Rock
9AM-4PM
Buy, Sell or Trade

Rocks, Minerals, Fossils and other related items
Limited tables available- bring your own or tailgate
There is no charge to set up or attend
Take the Military Drive exit off I40, the swap is
located next to the visitor center

For more information contact Mike Austen
501-868-4553 or steelpony@aol.com