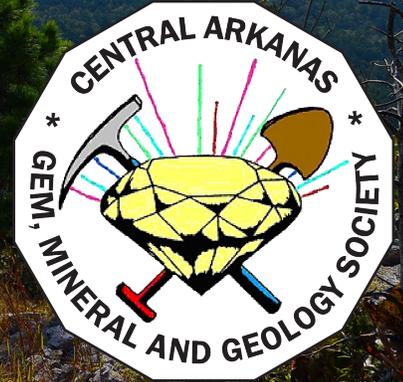


ARKANSAS ROCKHOUND NEWS



JUNE 2019

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

AFMS news...

Rockhound Soapbox (AFMS News, May 2019)

*by John Martin, AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee
afmsclc@antelecom.net*

S. 47: John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act became Law on March 12, 2019. Law: Pub.L. 116-9

Natural Resources Management Act Summary

This bill sets forth provisions regarding various programs, projects, activities, and studies for the management and conservation of natural resources on federal lands.

Specifically, the bill addresses, among other matters

- land conveyances, exchanges, acquisitions, withdrawals, and transfers;
- national parks, monuments, memorials, wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, historic and heritage sites, and other conservation and recreation areas;
- wildlife conservation;
- helium extraction;
- small miner waivers of claim maintenance fees;
- wildland fire operations;

continued on page 3...

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.

2019 Officers & Committee Chairs

President, Barbara Champagne
501-258-2576, cagmagsprez@gmail.com

Vice President, Sharron Walter
weewiddlewalterwake@gmail.com

Secretary, Vacant

Treasurer, Sarah Dodson
501-223-8372, dodsonsr@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster,
Nikki Heck
501-626-5440, nikkiheck@windstream.net

Show Chair, John Schoeneman
501-679-4531, schoeneman@hughes.net

Membership, Mike Howard
501-246-0964, jmichaelhoward@sbc-
global.net

Field Trip Coordinator/Library
David Hodge
501-837-6713, dc42hodge@yahoo.com

Sunshine, Anita Gray Major
501-227-7853, anitagraymajor@gmail.
com

Publicity, Virginia Wilhelm
501-821-2440, nevadasmith7777@yahoo.com

Programs, Amy Thor
501-909-3022, mysticrose10069@gmail.
com

Meeting minutes...

April 23, 2019

Submitted by Barbara Champagne

The monthly meeting was opened by President Barbara Champagne at approximately 6:50 pm at Larry's Pizza on Bowman Road. No one volunteered to be Secretary.

Mike Howard read the meeting minutes from March, with the correction of the spelling of a name, the minutes were passed by unanimous vote.

Sarah Dodson confirmed the Treasurers report was all good.

Old Business:

Lori N presented the types and styles of shirts that can be available with the logo. She also presented the color options Blue & Grey, with and without pockets, collar or collarless. T's were tried on and modeled by several club members. Lori took orders and will take additional orders email and include a phone number! shadowbearvision@aol.com Costs remain very reasonable.

The field trip to the Pfeiffer Museum was discussed. Stephanie has brochures if you are interested. If you plan to attend, the Center provides a free lunch and the number of attendees is needed. Therefore, we will need your commitment by the July 23rd meeting.

New Business:

Anita has some equipment for sale, she provided a list and requested it be posted in the Newsletter and available at the Memphis Show.

Stephanie recently read a book "the Bone War of Curtain Co. OK" She brought it to the meeting for loan. She said it was a fascinating read about the discovery of a dinosaur bones and the story of their possession, it is a true story. It was snatched up quickly but will be available for others soon.

Professor Mike D. informed the group that the faculty of UALR will be offering a Geology class this summer for 'Life Quest of Arkansas'. The

program will be an introduction to all areas geology: fossils, microscopes and thin sections, oceans, etc. This program runs from July 10th-August 1st. For more information: www.lifequestofarkansas.org

Field Trip to Leslie was announced. Saturday, May 5th. Meeting at 9:00am in Leslie at the cross roads of 65/AR66. If you are looking for somewhere to go for lunch, the Skylark Restaurant was recommended.

Club members were reminded that the next meeting will be back at Terry Library and AUCTION DAY! The meeting was adjourned.

continued from page 1...

- the release of certain federal reversionary land interests;
- boundary adjustments;
- the Denali National Park and Preserve natural gas pipeline;
- fees for medical services in units of the National Park System;
- funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund;
- recreational activities on federal or nonfederal lands;
- a national volcano early warning and monitoring system;
- federal reclamation projects; and
- Search-and recovery-missions.

In addition, the bill reauthorizes the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program and the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program.

How the law may affect Recreational Rockhounding

This change in the law has an effect on Public Lands in all 50 states. Some of these legislative changes will and do have an effect on how and where Recreational Rockhounding activities may be accomplished.

The bill (S-47) and the enacted law are 260 pages and too large to print here or to go into very much detail. However, just in California

alone 118,653,020 acres of BLM-managed lands have been converted to wilderness areas including some areas near the Hauser Geode Beds. This land has no motorized access, but collecting may be allowed provided it can be collected without wheeled access or any mechanical collecting devices. The National Park Service managing Death Valley National Park and Joshua Tree National Park added 92,525 more acres where no Recreational Rockhounding is allowed and the USFS added 7,141 acres to existing wilderness areas. This land, most of which is removed from Recreational Rockhounding, equals over 185,551 Square Miles of Public land. There were some positive effects of the law in California. Six OHV areas were declared in the law and can not be changed by any future legislation, and several Wilderness Study Areas, (WSA) were removed and returned to public multi-purpose usage, where Recreational Rockhounding is again temporally permitted. The BLM has 2 years to create a Management Plan in which Recreational Rockhounding must be included as a recognized Recreational Activity or the Rockhound Community may lose access to these collecting areas. The fate of collecting lies in the hands of the Rockhound Community.

If you are interested in learning about any of the Public land actions in your state or area, the bill (S-47) and law may be read at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-116s47enr/pdf/BILLS-116s47enr.pdf>.

Currently over 87 bills before Congress may have an adverse affect on your ability to exercise your right to collect Rocks, Minerals and Fossils for your personal use. All Recreational Rockhounds need to join together and speak.

Social Media Allows Rockhounds to Stay Connected

*Donald Baumgartner, Assistant Chair
MWF Paleontology Committee
published in the May 2019 MWF News*

Certainly, we rockhounds have a passion for minerals and/or fossils, and continually seek that “fix” through field trips, club activities, live auctions, shows, eBay/Etsy purchases, educating school children, and more. In years past, particular email host sites (Yahoo, Google) also allowed the formation of email group lists so we could further share our passion/addiction and disseminate information, but the use of these groups has faded with the advent and widespread acceptance of social media [Facebook (FB) specifically].

If you are not connected these days to FB and the numerous rockhound groups out there, you are missing out on various announcements, reports on new discoveries, amateur and professional dialogue, occasional sales of specimens, and more. Certainly, there are numerous silly and non-informative posts to sift through on the rock groups’ pages, but I bet that daily you will discover something new and of interest.

You do not have to have a huge number of “friends” to use FB. Over the years, I have reduced my FB friends to a mere dozen, and I use FB mostly to satisfy my fossil hobby interests.

As a “fossil nut,” I am a member of several FB fossil groups that interest me. I enjoy reading the posts about new discoveries and new research, or just viewing fantastic specimens that people show off. The professionals have their own FB pages on which they post at times, and occasionally you can monitor or engage in professional discussions.

Many geological clubs and professional

associations have FB pages and post interesting news and announcements. In fact, some clubs rely only on FB for member communications, announcements, and show advertisements. The following are some FB groups that may interest fossil lovers like myself (list of member numbers current as of March 6th). FB also hosts groups for minerals and crystals. That stuff really has no interest to me, but may to you.

Association of Applied Paleontological Science (1,213 members)
Dinosaurs (17,094)
Fossils and Minerals for trade/sale (779)
Fossil Collectors (6,760)
Green River Fossils (1,523)
Midwest Federation (391)
Paleoartists (11,838)
Paleontology (34,747)
Pleistocene Megafauna (260)
The Cambrian Period (233)
The Carboniferous (2,115)
The Devonian (2,100)
The Ediacaran Period (899)
The Jurassic (774)
The Ordovician (2,134)
The Precambrian (522)
Trilobites (7,546)



Skeleton of *Smilodon fatalis* at the University of Michigan Exhibit Museum. Photo by Matt Rolfes, via the Pleistocene Megafauna Facebook page.

Membership in groups varies, depending how the group was set up and the preferences of the site manager. Some groups are instant access when you hit the “like” or “join” buttons. In others, you have to petition the site manager to join, and wait for acceptance. And there are groups you can join, but in which you are not allowed to post. The

latter I personally dislike the most as those sites are limited in content by the feelings of a single person and there is no possible engagement or discussion/involvement. Several groups really dislike posts by members that have nothing to do with the group subject, are vulgar and disrespectful, foul-mouthed, or who just express political views. Those “bad” members are often booted off the group immediately.

So, in conclusion, if you still live in the dark ages and fear social media, it is about time you pushed yourself and caught up to the 21st Century! Try it and I am sure that you will like it. Learning and challenging yourself is shown to keep us young (at least in mind). And for you seniors out there, just ask a friend or younger relative to help get connected. You will love it – I guarantee it! Face the truth. You are addicted, as am I. Anyone reading this has to be a “rock-head,” just looking for that next “fix” to get high!

Donald Baumgartner is a Medical Entomologist employed as a Life Scientist in pesticide regulation at the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Chicago. Donald is also Adjunct Faculty in Biology at W.R. Harper College in Palatine, Illinois, and is president of a small fossil retail company named The Fossil Hut Ltd., through which he sells common and unusual fossils throughout the upper Midwest at club rock shows.

Brad's bench tips...

Ring Size Variations

The numerical sizes marked on ring gauges and ring mandrels are often not the same across different manufacturers. If you're using a ring gauge to measure a customer, be sure to compare the markings on the gauge with the markings on the mandrel you use to make the ring. They may not be the same.

Also, you may have to adjust a little for the width of the ring shank. If you're making a wide shank ring, the ring generally has to be a little bit larger in diameter than the ring gauge size in order to get a comfortable fit.

New Melting Dish

A new melting dish or crucible must be given a protective coating of borax before its first use. Borax extends the life of the ceramic material. Once done, it generally does not have to be repeated.



The procedure is straightforward. Heat the new melting dish to red with a large torch. You'll need plenty of heat. I use an acetylene/air Prest-O-Lite torch with a large #5 nozzle.



When the dish is hot, sprinkle in a half teaspoon of borax, let it melt, and spread it with a carbon rod over all of the interior surface of the dish. Add more borax if needed.

Sometimes you will have to hold the dish at an angle to coat the sides up to the rim. And don't forget to coat the pouring spout itself.

See all Brad's jewelry books at [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

Of interest...

Minerals Unique to Arkansas - A talk given to CAGSMAGS

By J. M. Howard

There are 13 minerals first discovered and scientifically described for science from Arkansas, making them unique to the State: schorlomite (1846), rectorite (1891), laubmannite (1949, discredited 1990, P. Dunn), miserite (1950), kimzeyite (1961), benstonite (1962), kidwellite (1979), eggletonite (1984), strazcekite (1985), delindeite (1987), lourenswalsite (1987), mahlmoodite (1993), haggertyite (1998), and artsmithite (2003). In upcoming newsletters we will look at each of these minerals beginning with the earliest discovery.

Delindeite

The Diamond Jo quarry has as many stories as it does minerals, but for now, we'll talk about the minerals. In the mid-1970's, Charles Stone and I, both geologists for the Arkansas Geological Commission, along with Charles Milton, visited this quarry on the south rim of Magnet Cove for the purpose of collecting samples of rock containing the unusual mineral labuntsovite. Dr. Milton, a research professor at The George Washington University, had identified labuntsovite from specimens I collected as a budding rockhound and had managed to send him some 20 years later. The material we recovered consisted of a highly altered xenolith that contained a number of small gas cavities. Charles Milton planned to study the minerals associated with labuntsovite.

Upon detailed laboratory examination, two unidentified minerals were discovered in these gas cavities. Dr. Milton enlisted the aid of several USGS and Smithsonian co-workers to collect data on the two new minerals. The descriptions of delindeite and lourenswalsite were published in 1987, 12 years after their original recognition as undescribed new species.

Delindeite occurs as microscopic crystal aggregates, commonly sheave- or mushroom-like in habit. It is light pinkish gray and has a resinous to pearly luster. Delindeite is an alkaline element titanosilicate and is associated with pyroxene,

titanite, pectolite, barite, sphalerite, K-feldspar, labuntsovite, and lourenswalsite.

Delindeite was named after Henry S. DeLinde, owner of the Diamond Jo quarry and amateur mineralogist, who also happens to be my close personal friend and collecting buddy.



Delindeite, Diamond Jo Quarry, Magnet Cove, AR

Refs:

Appleman, D.E., Evans, H.T., Jr., Nord, G.L., Dwornik, E.J. and Milton, Charles, 1987, DeLindeite and lourenswalsite, two new titanosilicates from the Magnet Cove region, Hot Spring County, Arkansas: *Mineralogical Magazine*, v. 51, p. 417-425.

Smith, A. E., Jr., 1989, Minerals from the miarolitic cavities at the Diamond Jo quarry, Magnet Cove, Hot Spring County, Arkansas: *Rocks and Minerals*, v. 64, no. 4, p. 300-307.

Lourenswalsite

Discovery of this new mineral was made by Charles Milton coincidental with another new species, now named delindeite, in the mid-1970s. The report of lourenswalsite, along with delindeite, was published in 1987. Lourenswalsite is a potassium barium titanosilicate. It occurs as very thin hexagonal plates forming rosettes, the edges of the plates are often curved like the edges of some book pages that have gotten wet and, while drying, wrinkled. The mineral is silver-gray to light brownish gray.

Lourenswalsite formed in miarolitic (gas) cavities in reacted xenoliths and is commonly associated with delindeite, barite, pyroxene, K-feldspar, titanite, sphalerite, pectolite, and labuntsovite. The gas cavities containing these minerals are usually no larger than the head of a pin, less than 1 mm.

It took 12 years from the time of discovery to publication due to difficulties encountered when working with small aggregates of the tiny crystals. Lourenswalsite has not been reported from any other locality in the world. The mineral was named after Dr. Lourens Wals, a Belgium citizen and well-known mineral collector.



Lourenswalsite, Diamond Jo Quarry, Magnet Cove, AR

Refs:

Appleman, D.E., Evan, H.T., Jr., Nord, G.L., Dwornik, E.J. and Milton, Charles, 1987, DeLindeite and lourenswalsite, two new titanosilicates from the Magnet Cove region, Arkansas: *Mineralogical Magazine*, v. 51, p. 417-425.

Smith, A.E., Jr., 1989, Minerals from the miarolitic cavities at the Diamond Jo quarry, Magnet Cove, Hot Spring County, Arkansas: *Rocks and Minerals*, v. 64, no. 4, p. 300-307. (the Arkansas issue)

Mahlmoodite

This mineral was another one of those “unknowns” found in the central Arkansas area. During a mineral collecting field trip at the North Wilson pit at Potash Sulphur Springs in Garland County, Dr. Buford Nichols and Meredith York spotted some tiny white spheres in the pyroxenite vanadium ores. Again, samples were sent to Dr. Charles Milton, who did an enormous amount of research on these unusual Arkansas minerals, and he recognized these spheres to be a new species. Charles Milton, J.J. McGee, and H.T. Evans, Jr. published the mineralogical description of mahlmoodite in 1993.

Mahlmoodite occurs as small creamy white spheres, usually perched on black sodic

pyroxene. In this SEM (scanning electron micrograph, USGS), mahlmoodite is perched on bladed kolbeckite. It always appears to be the last mineral formed in the cavities. Mahlmooodite is a ferrous zirconium phosphate. The spheres are composed of radiating fibers, much like wavellite. Several attempts to directly synthesize this mineral were unsuccessful, although cation base exchange produced this compound in the laboratory previously. Mahlmooodite may be associated with kolbeckite, titanite, and strontio-pyroxchlore in the host pyroxenite. This mineral has not yet been reported from any other locality.

The mineral was named after Bertha K. Mahlmoood, long-time secretary and administrative assistant of the Branch of Analytical Laboratories, US Geological Survey.



Mahlmooodite, North Wilson pit, Potash Sulphur Springs, Garland Co, AR

Refs:

Howard, J. M. and Owens, D. R., 1995, Minerals of the Wilson Springs vanadium mines, Potash Sulphur Springs, Arkansas: *Rocks and Minerals*, v. 70, no. 3, p. 154-170.

Milton, C., McGee, J. J., and Evans, H. T., Jr., 1993, Mahlmooodite, $FeZr(PO_4)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$, a new iron zirconium phosphate mineral from Wilson Springs, Arkansas: *American Mineralogist*, v.78, p. 437-440.

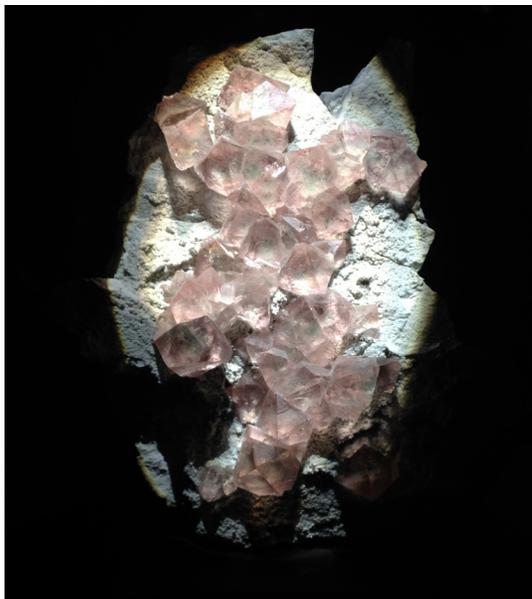
Smith, A. E., Jr., 1993, Mahlmooodite - a new mineral from Wilson (Potash Sulphur) Springs, Arkansas: *Mineral News*, v.9, no. 6, p. 1-2.

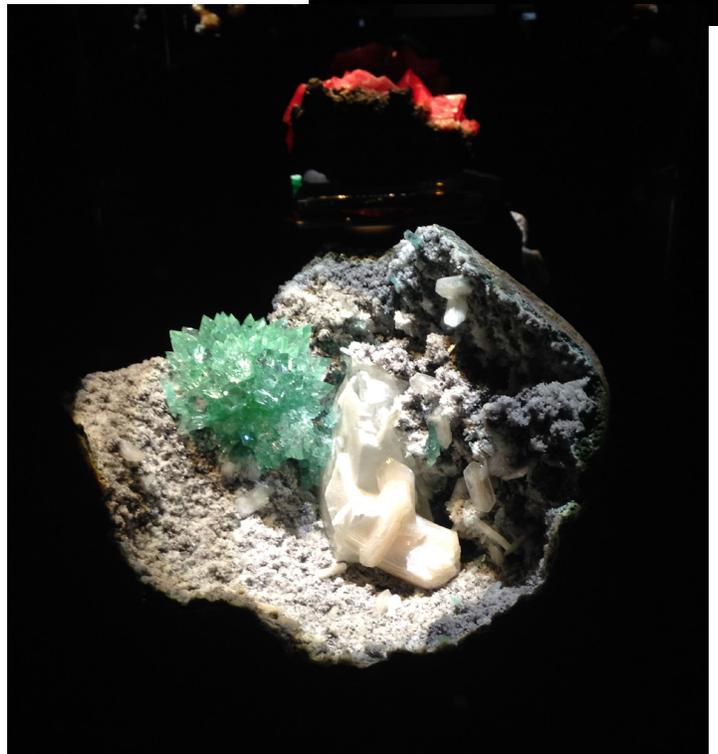
Kids Corner...

Brandon Heck is the Assistant Editor of Arkansas Rockhound News. He is 11 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.

Houston Museum of Natural Science

Have you ever been to the Houston Museum of Natural Science? No? Well, you should definitely make plans to attend! Brandon spent a few hours there over Spring Break and had a blast. Not only do they have lots of cool interactive displays, but they also have exhibits on history, wildlife and our favorite, minerals and fossils! They have an excellent gem, mineral and fossil display. It is not to be missed! Photos by Brandon Heck





Upcoming area shows...

June 2019

28-30—ELDON, MISSOURI: Annual show; ORMC Rock and Mineral Club; Eldon Community Center, 309 E 2nd St.; Fri. 2-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-3; free admission; Dealers with displays and offering custom jewelry, geodes, cabochons, rocks, and fossils; fluorescent mineral display, activities for children; contact Roger Varvel, 14354 Hwy 64, Lebanon, MO 65536, (417) 533-2788; Email: ormc2019show@centurylink.net

29-30—GRAPEVINE, TEXAS: Annual show; Arlington Gem and Mineral Club; Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$6, seniors and children over 12 \$5, free admission for children under 6, boy and girl scouts in uniform, and active and retired military with ID ; Vendors selling artisan and fine jewelry, gemstones, geodes, minerals, rough cut polished rocks, petrified wood, fossils, demonstrations, and activities for children; contact Amy Kubes, 1408 Gibbins Rd., Arlington, TX 76011, (817) 300-6946; Email: agmcadvertising@gmail.com; Website: www.agemclub.org

July 2019

5-7—RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Treasures of the Earth, Inc.; North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd.; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5 (tickets are good for the entire weekend), and free admission for youth 16 and under; Vendors offer faceted gemstones, loose stones, beads and findings, rocks, fossils, and lapidary jewelry, demonstrations, displays, and jewelry repairs; contact Ellen White, PO Box 59, Gloucester Point, VA 23062, (804) 642-2011; Email: Ellen@treasuresoftheearth.com; Website: <http://www.TreasuresOfTheEarth.com>

13-14—TULSA, OKLAHOMA: Annual show; Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society; Tulsa Fairgrounds-Exchange Center, 4145 E. 21st St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, free admission for children 12 and under with paid adult admission; Vendors offering rocks, minerals, jewelry, fossils, beads, crystals, demonstrations, fluorescence room, and activities for children; contact Martha Rongey, 612 W. 120th St. S., Jenks, OK 74037, (918) 230-1094; Email: m_rongey@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.tulsarock-andmineralsociety.org

21-28—ARDEN, NORTH CAROLINA: 16th Annual Western North Carolina Rockhound Roundup; Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association; Camp Stephens, 263 Clayton Road; daily 8:30-5; \$40 for adults, free admission for children 12 and under; Participate in digs to local mines, visit the numerous gem and mineral shows in Franklin, North Carolina daily, and demonstrations; contact Richard Jacquot, PO Box 542, Leicester, NC 28748, 828-779-4501; Email: rick@wncrocks.com; Website: <https://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/admin-update.php?ShowDateID=6010>

24-28—FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Echo Valley Gem Show; Echo Valley Gem Show (across from GLW), 6456 Sylva Rd.; Wed. 9-6, Thu. 9-6, Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6; free; Additional hours are 9am - 5pm on Sunday.; contact Damian; Email: mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointinc.com

July 2019-August 2019

27-4—SPRUCE PINE, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Parkway Fire and Rescue; Parkway Fire and Rescue event grounds, 136 Majestic View; daily 9-6; free; 35th Annual Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show, a fundraising event for the Parkway Fire and Rescue unit, featuring more than 60 dealers with a variety of objects; contact Donna Collis, 136 Majestic View, Parkway Fire and Rescue show grounds, Spruce Pine, NC 28777, (828) 765-5519; Email: collisdonna@yahoo.com; Website: <http://www.grassycreekgemshow.org>

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

Spring Auction
May 28th after the
business meeting!

2019 Meeting Dates

June 25th
July 23rd
August 27th
September 24th
October 22nd
November 26th

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

Join CAGMAGS!

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

Visit www.centralarrockhound.org
to learn more!