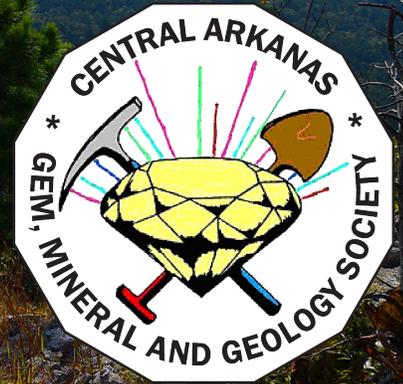


# ARKANSAS ROCKHOUND NEWS



## 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 (2015 Napa Valley Drive Little Rock, AR 72212) 6:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the month (except December)

NOVEMBER 2021

## *From the president...*

*by John Schoeneman, president*

I was looking over my mineral display and ran my UV light over a specimen I got a few years ago and one of the crystals lit-up in yellow. Mike thinks the crystal is Sphalerite and an internet search supports the id. Yellow is a little uncommon, but is one of the known colors and looking at the specimen today but in low light showed the dolomite on the specimen was also fluorescing in reddish-orange. I have always liked this specimen because it had 5 different minerals, now it has six minerals, the sphalerite was originally identified as Galena, and 2 of them fluoresce in long wave UV. I'll be reinspecting all my collection. I'll bring it to the meeting for show & tell.

We will also be electing club officers, come and participate. I am looking forward to the new year hoping we can find some good collecting sites. The Christmas party will be December 4th at the community room in David's Condo complex. Bring a \$5 or less dirty Santa gift.

## 2021 Officers & Committee Chairs

President, John Schoeneman  
501-679-4531, jschoeneman@hughes.net

Vice President, Mike Howard  
501-246-0964, jmichaelhoward@sbcglobal.net

Secretary, Lenora Murray  
501-346-5990, lenoramur@aol.com

Treasurer, Barbara Champagne  
501-258-2576, bachampagne@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster,  
Nikki Heck  
501-626-5440, nikkidheck@gmail.com

Show Chairs, David Murray  
870-255-3679, davidmur99@hotmail.com  
Lorrie Norwood  
501-650-4361, cagmags.showchair@yahoo.com

Swap, John Schoeneman  
501-679-4531, jschoeneman@hughes.net

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

Programs/Education, Stephanie Blandin  
501-590-5760

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

Submissions due by the  
28th of each month.

## Meeting minutes...

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October 26, 2021

-Lenora Murray, Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society was held October 26 at the Terry Library in Little Rock. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Mike Howard at 6:30 PM with 25 members and guests present. We welcomed new members, and guests. At the request of our speaker, we had our Program before the "Business Meeting". Program Chair Stephanie Blandin presented the speaker, Billy Jack Summerford, who was a recipient of our scholarship for the UALR Field Camp in 2021. His talk will be presented in a separate article. The secretary's report was read by Lenora Murray, and the treasurer's report was read by Barbara Champagne. A motion was passed to accept both reports. Copies were available for anyone interested.

David Hodge told us about the field trip October 23 and 24 to Potosi and Eminence Mo. 15 people were in attendance from Memphis and various rock clubs. They visited 3 different collecting sites. He found some interesting barite, druzi and other minerals and enjoyed the trip. But he hopes that more of our club members can participate in future field trips.

The Club Show report by Dave Murray was the wrap up for 2021. Lenora read his report, that also will be posted in the next newsletter. He announced we have a new venue for the 2022 show; the Event Center next to the Community Center in Cabot. Much planning will be needed, as the venue is larger, but there are fewer tables to rent. A meeting of concerned club members is needed to decide on layout, vendor costs, whether to charge admission, and other organizational information.

In old business, Secretary Lenora announced that we have sent our Form 1023 to the IRS requesting non-profit status for our corporation. In other old business the nominating committee of Stephanie Blandin, Bill Alcott, and Nikki Heck

presented the tentative slate of officers for 2022 to be voted on at the November meeting:

President: John Schoeneman  
Vice-President: Bill Alcott  
Secretary: Lenora Murray  
Treasurer: Mike Howard

Board members: Pat Kissire (3 yr), Jim Lybrand (2yr), Stephanie Blandin (1 yr).

After this year only one board member each year will be elected for a full 3 year term. In addition to the above to be voted on in November, they also presented a complete list of Executive Committee members as well:

Editor and Publisher of website: Nikki Heck  
Programs: Stephanie Blandin  
Collecting Field Trips: Jay Hester  
Education Field Trips: Stephanie Blandin  
Show chairs: David Murray & Barbara Champagne (Co-chairs)  
Swap Chair: Bill Alcott  
Sunshine: Irish Alcott & Debbie Bodeker (co-chairs)  
Library: Nikki Heck

Congratulations to our very busy committee on a job well done.

In other old business, Stephanie mentioned t-shirts are still available . Just check with her to order one. Also, library display table and cases are available for anyone who would like to set up a display. Thank you to Jay Hester, who had a very nice display in September, with flyers for our show available to the public. We still need volunteers to set up future displays at the library. In new business, the Spring Swap will be held April 30 at the Burns Park Elder Johnson Pavilion. Bill Alcott asked for advice on how to start advertising it now. Quite a discussion was held about various ad venues, many of which are free: State of Arkansas upcoming events, "Penny Saver" newsletter, "See Life" from southern Arkansas, online sources and others. Barbara Champagne is getting many phone calls for club-related advice. One was asking if anyone can cut a meteorite another was a request to give the

Girl Scouts a Merit badge class like she has done for Boy Scouts. She needs volunteers to help! We had some side discussions. One was about 'little rocks from Little Rock: Also, who keeps the membership forms, and should they be simplified.

The last big item was upcoming events. Mt. Home has a show December 11 and 12. And OUR big holiday party will be December 4 at David Hodge's complex. We will finalize plans for this at the November 23 meeting. It was moved and seconded to close the business meeting and hold the raffle. A short executive committee meeting followed the raffle. Written notes on the executive meeting will be available as requested.

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### *From the editor...*

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Can you believe it is almost Thanksgiving? 2021 has flown by and before you know it, we will be celebrating a new year.

I have begun some early work on cataloging the publications in our library. Wow, we have some great books! So far I've got them photographed and put into shelves. And read a couple! Be on the lookout for the list to come out in the newsletter soon. Do you have any books you would like to donate to the club? If so, just let me know.

Take note that there are a couple of local shows coming up in December, see page 9 for more information.

Thanks to those who are sending some items for the newsletter, I appreciate it and I know everyone loves to read about it. Please continue to do so.

I hope you can join us for the November meeting where we'll hear from Jay Hester and learn more about cabbing!

## Club news...

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FIELD CAMP 2021 through UALR  
Geology Department

*October CAGMAGS program presented by Billy Jack Summerford, recap prepared by Lenora Murray, secretary*

The speaker for the October 26th meeting was Billy Jack Summerford. Program chair Stephanie Blandin introduced him. Billy was the recipient of the CAGMAGS scholarship to the UALR Field Camp for 2021. Due to Covid restrictions, the group did not take the traditional trip to Colorado. Instead, the four-week camp, which was held in May, was partly live, and partly at the UALR campus with site visits conducted virtually.

Billy started his talk and slide presentation showing us information from Allsop Park in Little Rock, the first week's study. He discussed the various geological formations and showed the map they produced. This was done with visits to the park, and some work inside the classroom. The second week they traveled to Two Rivers Park, which can be seen from the I430river bridge. It is not as easy to get to, with all the construction on I 430. But the team still investigated the area, and mapped the interesting formations found.

The third week's project was about the Vertac Superfund Site near Jacksonville. They traveled around the edges of the site but were not allowed ON the premises. However, maps and drone pictures were used to remotely look at and examine data about the harmful chemical levels in and around the ponds and creeks. The buried 'containers' of hazardous materials have started leaking into the local water supplies, which is a major health concern for people in this area. He presented some of their information, but since it was a federal superfund site, could not disclose some of the findings their team reported. It was very interesting to find out from Billy how very hard the folks who are monitoring superfund

sites are trying to keep areas safe despite the potentially harmful chemicals in the ground.

The fourth week was all virtual, as they studied an area near Molas Lake by Silverton, Colorado. This was the area previous field camp students had stayed on their Colorado trip. He had maps of what they could deduce from aerial views. And he had stories of how, during the weeks, professors tried to make the 'field camp' experience more 'real' with unexpected pranks and challenges like the ones people camping out might experience. All in all, regardless of COVID, the Field Camp 2021 experience for graduating UALR geology students was declared a great success. Billy thanked all the members of our club for our financial support.

At the end of his presentation, we thanked the geology department members present for their continued support at our October show. And we all hope we can continue as partners with the UALR Geology Department.



## *Of interest...*

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### Geodes

A geode is a rock that's round in shape,  
The outside is ugly,  
The inside looks great!  
The beauty of the stone is inside the case,  
Some agate or calcite or crystals are in place.  
Each one is different,  
No two are the same,  
A lot like people I see every day.  
The outside is not perfect,  
No beauty in the face,  
But inside the soul is the beauty of his grace.  
Although we are not perfect in outside ways,  
Sometimes the soul is beautiful if we could see  
past the face.  
Some people cannot see past outside looks,  
And sadly, enough some of the good ones are  
miss took.  
Beauty is not seen from the very start.  
It's really seen when you look at the heart!

Stephanie Blandin  
9-16-1992

"I wrote this poem after I taught a Sunday school class of teenagers using a geode. When I asked them what they would do if they saw this rock, (it was together), on the ground, some said nothing, they wouldn't even notice it, others said maybe kick it but not one said they would pick it up to really look at it, until..... I opened it and they saw the heart!"



### Geodes, nodules & vugs by Stephanie Blandin, 6-21-2021

Geodes (Greek= "earthlike") are commonly independent spherical masses of resistant mineral matter that are usually hollow. Which usually means a round hollow rock.

After rock around the cavity hardens, dissolved silicates and/or Carbonates are deposited on the inside surface. Over time, this slow feed of minerals constituents from groundwater or hydrothermal solutions allows crystals to form inside the hollow chamber. (Example: Keokuk)

A nodule is a solid mass of mineral matter that has accreted around the nodule nucleus. Which usually means a solid round rock. (Example: septarian & thundereggs)

Meaning all nodules are geodes but not all geodes are nodules.

A vug is an irregularly shaped pocket, void, or cavity within a formation, often along a vein or in a breccia that cannot be independent of the host rock.

The world's largest known crystal vug is crystal cave, a celestine vug 35 feet (10.7 m) in diameter at its widest point, located near village of Put-In-Bay, Ohio, on the south bass island in Lake Erie.

Sources: geology in com & mindat



## CAGMAGS Show Pics...



We had a great turnout for the 2021 CAGMAGS show! Thanks to all those who attended and who worked the event!



## Brad's bench tips...

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### Marking Your Tools

It makes sense to mark your tools if you ever lend them to friends or take them out to classes or workshops. Question is how to mark them permanently. For metal tools, I use a very small ball bur running fast in the Dremel or Foredom to "engrave" my initials. Other times I'll form the initials with a number of hits with a center punch.



But for hammer handles and other wooden tools, the country boy in me came back and thought "Why not make a branding iron?" If you'd like to try one, all you need is a little scrap copper or nickel about 22-24 gauge, a piece of heavy brass or copper for a base, about 6 inches of metal rod and a piece of wood for the handle.

I formed my initials from a couple 4mm strips of sheet nickel. The "S" was one piece, but the "B" was three pieces soldered together with hard. (Remember to form the letters backwards). I then soldered the letters with medium onto a piece of 1/8 inch thick brass bar to act as a heat sink. Finally, I soldered a piece of 1/8 round rod on the back of the brass bar as a shaft to join to a wooden handle.

### No Scratch Vise Jaws

If your bench vise has replaceable jaws, there is a simple modification to customize it for bending sheet metal and holding jewelry pieces without worrying about the jaws leaving scratch marks.

I make a duplicate set of jaws from high density plastic such as Nylon or Delrin. Remove the jaws and use them as a template. Cut two pieces from a 1/2 inch sheet of scrap plastic. Then clamp the steel jaw over the plastic and drill through the steel side and into the plastic. Finally, use a larger drill to countersink the plastic for the screw heads.

Plastic can be obtained from the scrap bin at a local plastics store, can be purchased online from Ebay, or can be repurposed from an old kitchen cutting board.



Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems  
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

## Upcoming area shows...

### December 2021

3-5—EL PASO, TEXAS: Annual show; El Paso Mineral & Gem Society ; El Maida Temple , 6331 Alabama Street ; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; FREE ADMISSION; Rocks, minerals, gems, jewelry, beads, Fossils, chain saw wood carving, plus silent auctions, door prizes and more. Kids Activities, Educational Displays. ; contact Elizabeth Kosturakis , PO BOX 31516, El Paso, TX 79930, (915) 328-5488; Email: [ekosturakis@gmail.com](mailto:ekosturakis@gmail.com); Website: [epmgs.com](http://epmgs.com)

4-4—HIXSON, TENNESSEE: Annual show; Tennessee Valley Rock & Mineral Society; At the Pavillion Chester Frost Park, Chester Frost Park; Sat. 9-5; Free; contact BC Ozzie Osbonlighter, 1389 Penny Lane, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379, (423) 400-1796; Email: [bcoozzie@epbfi.com](mailto:bcoozzie@epbfi.com)

### January 2022

15-16—FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS: Annual show; Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Pioneer Pavilion, Hwy. 16 South, Ladybird Johnson Park; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Free; Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Carvings 7 Lapidary Equipment. Geologist to identify your "mystery rocks" Free door prizes.; contact Frank Rowell, 474 Lost Hollow Road, , Llano, TX 78643, (325) 248-1067; Email: [franksrowell@gmail.com](mailto:franksrowell@gmail.com); Website: [fredericksburgrockhounds.org](http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org)

21-23—TYLER , TEXAS: Annual show; East Texas Gem and Mineral Society ; Tyler Rose Garden Center, 420 South Rose Park Drive; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Children & Students \$1; The 25th Annual Gemstone and Jewelry Show. Several mineral, jewelry and craft displays, Silent Auction on Sat & Sun, Door & Grand Prizes, Kids Games, Demonstrations, The Rock Food Table, Vendors with gemstones, jewelry, minerals, fossils, geodes, and much more. Check [etgms.org](http://etgms.org) for show updates; contact Margaret Kilanski ; Email: [mlkilanski@yahoo.com](mailto:mlkilanski@yahoo.com); Website: [etgms.org](http://etgms.org)

## Little Rock Show

### Sale date and times:

**Saturday Dec 4 - 9am – 5pm**

**Sunday Dec 5 - 9am - 4pm**

- Face Mask State/County Covid Guidelines followed
- Customers Only
- - Questions? Fastest answer by email
- Admission = Free
- Parking = Free

Free Stone \$8 value for the first 1000 visitors / limit 1

Meteorites \$25 each/ limit 5

Small cabs \$5 each / limit 5

Beautiful Amethyst Cathedrals (5" to 5') up to 65% off - Request pictures as inventory too large for whole sale

1000 rocks and fossils for only \$5 each.

Specials

Forms of payment: Cash, Credit Card ++

Not on invitation to future events yet: Send us your email including zip code.

\*\*\*\*New Address\*\*\*\*

Hilton Garden Inn North Little Rock  
4100 Glover Ln, North Little Rock, AR 72117

Directions:

From Downtown Little Rock Take I-30 North. Then take I-40 East. Immediately take US 167 North. Exit A1 to McCain Blvd go east for ½ mile. Hilton Garden Inn will be on your left.

(Walk through hotel front door turn right. Walk directly to the Show Room)

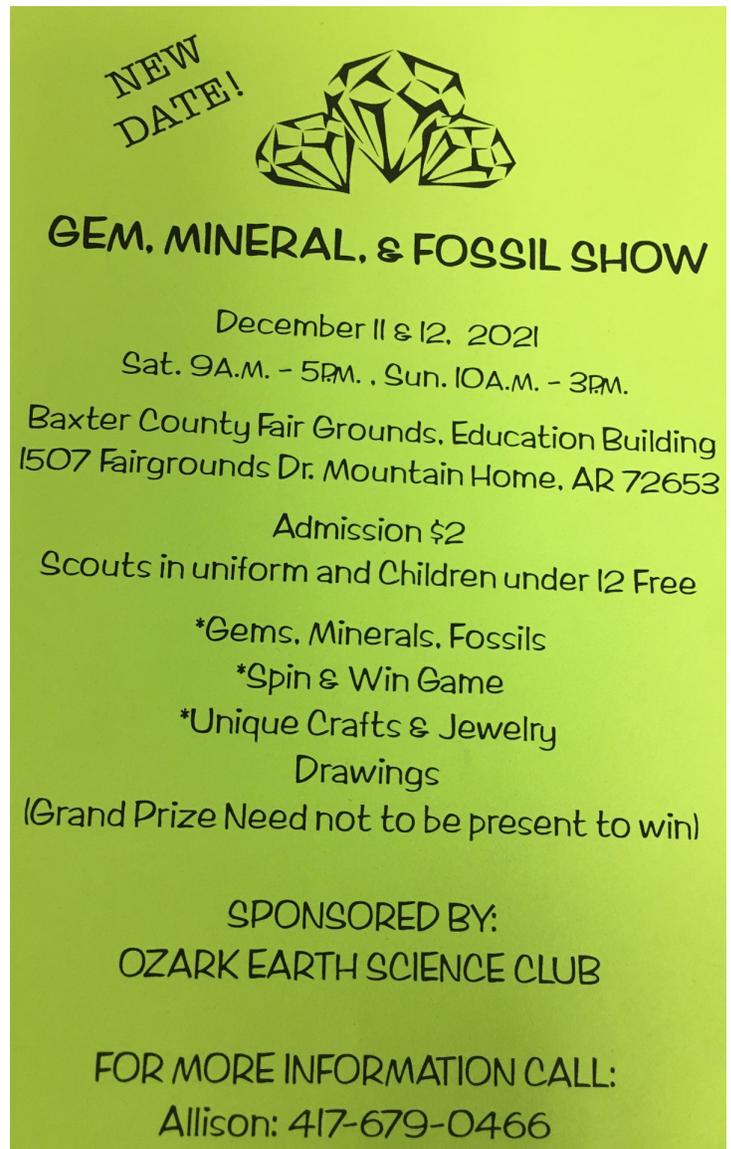
Gems and Cabs

Minerals - literally 1000(s) of exquisite minerals from around the world

Fossils - Beautiful specimens from around the world

Gems, Minerals, Fossils, and Lapidary rough

Check out these other Arkansas shows coming up in December!



**NEW DATE!**

**GEM, MINERAL, & FOSSIL SHOW**

December 11 & 12, 2021  
Sat. 9A.M. - 5P.M. , Sun. 10A.M. - 3P.M.

Baxter County Fair Grounds, Education Building  
1507 Fairgrounds Dr. Mountain Home, AR 72653

Admission \$2  
Scouts in uniform and Children under 12 Free

\*Gems, Minerals, Fossils  
\*Spin & Win Game  
\*Unique Crafts & Jewelry Drawings  
(Grand Prize Need not to be present to win)

SPONSORED BY:  
OZARK EARTH SCIENCE CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:  
Allison: 417-679-0466

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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 Barbara Champagne, P.O. Box 241188, Little Rock, AR  
72223**



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

Christmas Party!

December 4th

Don't miss it!

## 2021 Meeting Dates

We are back to  
meeting at Terry  
Library each  
month!

November 23rd

## Recent and Upcoming Birthdays...

### NOVEMBER

DAVID DODSON  
ANGELEE BROOKS - 11-4  
ANITA GRAY-MAJOR - 11-8

### DECEMBER

VIGINIA WILHELM - 12-25

### JANUARY

NIKKI HECK - 1-4  
DEBBIE BODEKER - 1-11