

Please remember that if there is no school because of weather, we will not be having a club meeting that evening.



<http://www.ozarkearthscience.org>  
<http://www.ozarkearthscience.org/news.htm>

**Meeting**  
**Second Tuesday of each month**  
**Van Matre Senior Citizens Center**  
**1101 Spring Street**  
**Mountain Home, AR**

<b>President/Editor</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Brenda Johnson</b>	<b>Edward Hakesley</b>	<b>Janel Cotter</b>	<b>Dorothy Hess</b>
<b>1424 CR 18</b>	<b>821-1 Alexis Circle</b>	<b>467 CR 7320</b>	<b>1177 CR 1084</b>
<b>Mountain Home, AR</b>	<b>Mtn. Home, AR 72653</b>	<b>Bakersfield, MO 65609</b>	<b>Mtn. Home, AR 72653</b>
<b>508-481-5697</b>	<b>870-424-0956</b>	<b>417-274-1392</b>	<b>870-481-5944</b>

**Sharon Waddell: Liaisons Officer - 417-256-8948**

**MWF Assistant Micromounter: Brenda Johnson**

**OBJECTS:** To study and promote an interest in the earth sciences; Geology, paleontology, mineralogy, archaeology and the lapidary arts.

**Meeting:** The second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Van Matre Senior Citizens Center, 1101 Spring Street (Cooper Park), Mountain Home, Arkansas

**Dues:** Active adults \$12.00 per year or family membership of \$20.00 per year. Junior membership is \$4.00 per year. Nonresident membership is \$8.00.

**The President's Message**  
**If This Gavel Could Talk**



If this gavel could talk I wonder what stories it would tell? It might reminisce about the many meetings it called to order in the old Oakland Community Center on Hwy. 62 East when membership bounced upward of 150 members or of members who gave programs then, or bragged on finds while on productive fieldtrips to the Old Rush Mining District. It might tell of a young member who went on his first trip to the Murfreesboro Diamond Mine and was left there by a club president for the day, finding a diamond. It might even tell us of the hands of competent people such as Howard Knight, Howard Clark, Freeman Everett, Jessie Gibson, Harvey Johnson, Edward Hakesley, and Sharon Waddell, among many others, that have held it

tightly while calling meetings to order over the years. Or, it might even talk about meetings that were held at the old Methodist Church on Main Street, or in the library of the Middle School at the end of Main, or in the Farm Bureau Building. It could even tell us of a vacation it took for a while when one president misplaced it. Finally, it might tell you it is anticipating the hand of a new president; one who herself is apprehensive about following in the footsteps of such capable predecessors.

You have put your confidence in me by nominating me and voting me into office. I promise to do my best to not let you down. But, I must once again remind everyone that this is **your** club. No one person can do, nor should they be expected to do, everything on their own. I have confidence in you; that you will help in everyway to make this a growing club. I know that if we all pull together and work hard, we can make our annual show so successful that we will be sought out by others asking to become members.

Help me make this club one that this gavel would be so proud of it would shout when people walk into the room, "Come be a part of the greatest club in the area."

Thank you again for your vote of confidence. I look forward to working with you in the upcoming months.

**Brenda Johnson**

---

### **Minutes of the December 8, 2009 Meeting**

A short business meeting was called to order shortly before 7:00 P.M. by President **Sharon Waddell**. A list of persons from the nominating committee was asked to be read by **Brenda Johnson**, for vote of the upcoming 2010 officers. All offices were filled except the presidential spot. They were:

#### **Officers**

President: Open

Vice President/Program Chair: **Edward Hakesley**

Secretary: **Janel Cotter**

Treasurer: **Dorothy Hess**

Safety Chair: **Aradasa Johnson**

Historian: **Keith Blanchard**

Liaison: **Sharon Waddell**

**Minutes continued –**

**Committees**

Show-and-Tell: **Sidney Johnson**

Editor: **Brenda Johnson**

**President Waddell** asked for a nomination from the floor for a presidential nomination. **Gretchen Neal** nominated **Brenda Johnson**, and **Harvey Johnson** seconded the nomination. **Brenda** accepted the nomination and the vote for all officers and committee persons was unanimous by the members.

Awards were then awarded for the Rockhound of the Year to **Ernie Confer** and **Madelyn Anderson**, and a service award was given to **Dorothy Hess**. **Edward Hakesley** presented **Sharon Waddell** with a plaque for her service a President.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$1,527.79 in the club account.

The meeting was then adjourned with all enjoying a Christmas Potluck and games.



**OESGM&F Club Rockhounds of the Year  
Ernie Confer and Madelyn Anderson**

Every now and then, a couple comes along that fits so well together that it is difficult to differentiate them individually and they are thought of as a pair. Although one of this pair has held office in the club in the past, their work behind the scenes has helped this club grow and function smoothly for a number of years. Not only have they accepted duties with a cheerful attitude when drafted, they have also volunteered countless hours in ensuring our club and shows run efficiently and successfully. Without being prompted, they have improved our Spin-and-Win

**Rock hounds of the Year continued –**

set up, have upgraded, bagged and identified specimens for Spin-and-Win and the grab bags, as well as storing the materials left over from year to year. Like others, they have kept our badge prize boxes, for both adult and juniors, full from finds from their numerous winter western field trips. Their boundless energy making and distributing signs and doing the show advertizing has greatly enhanced our attendance at our annual show. Their dedication has not gone unnoticed. We are very proud to have them as members of our club.

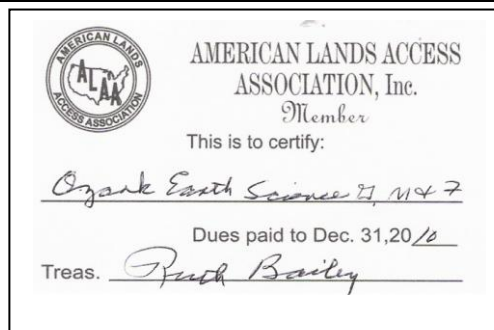
---



**Service Award Recipient Dorothy Hess**

Our service award went to **Dorothy Hess** for her hard work. For several years her efforts have helped make the club run smoothly. She has gone the extra mile and volunteered for small but important duties such as being a go between with the Senior Citizens Center. She has handled correspondence with the MWF in a timely and judicial manner. Finally, she has competently held the position of treasurer for several years; thank you **Dorothy** for your eagerness to help.

---



Our club has received our membership card into the ALAA. As members we should all pull together to voice our concerns about bills that are being, or trying to be, introduced and passed as

**ALAA continued-**

law in our government. Just because we are a paid member of the ALAA doesn't mean that we should not continue to fight for our cause to keep lands accessible for collecting.

---

**[The following was brought to my attention by Dorothy Hess.]**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Forest Service**

**RIN 0596-AC91**

Proposed Directives for Forest Service Concession Campground  
Special Use Permits

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of proposed directives; request for comment.

-----

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service is proposing changes to its directives governing permits for operation of campground and related Granger-Thye concessions (concessions with Government-owned improvements) on National Forest System lands. The proposed directives would reduce from 50 to 10 percent the camping fee discount campground concessioners (concessioners) are required to offer to holders of Senior and Access Passes and Golden Age and Golden Access Passports. Additionally, the proposed directives would allow concessioners to propose camping fee discounts above 10 percent for these pass holders in their applications; would require concessioners to offer a 10 percent discount to holders of Senior and Access Passes and Golden Age and Golden Access Passports for standard amenity recreation fee (SARF) day use sites that they operate; and would require concessioners to provide free use to holders of Annual and Volunteer Passes at SARF day use sites they operate. Furthermore, existing concessioners could request amendment of their permit to incorporate all of these changes, as well as an increase in their land fee for the remaining term of their permit if their gross revenue increases significantly due to the reduction in the camping fee discount. Alternatively, the proposed directive changes would allow existing concessioners to continue operating under the terms of their current permit until it expires. Public comment on the proposed directives is invited and will be considered in development of the final directives.

**DATES:** Comments must be received in writing by February 1, 2010.

**Dept. of Agriculture continued -**

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments electronically by following the instructions at the Federal eRulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Comments also may be submitted by mail to U.S. Forest Service, Attn: Carolyn Holbrook, Recreation and Heritage Resources Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1125, Washington, DC 20250-1125. If comments are sent electronically, please do not send duplicate comments by mail. Please confine comments to issues pertinent to the proposed directives, explain the reasons for any recommended changes, and, where possible, reference the specific section and wording being addressed. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, will be placed in the record and will be available for public inspection. The public may inspect comments received on these proposed directives in the Office of the Director, Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources Staff, 4th Floor Central, Sidney R. Yates Federal Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250.

---

**From the Safety Chair of Aradasa Johnson****Safety Shoes****SAFETY FIRST**

by *Bill Klose EFMLS Safety Chairman*  
*February 2000 EFMLS News*

[http://www.amfed.org/a\\_safetyEFMLS.htm#shoes](http://www.amfed.org/a_safetyEFMLS.htm#shoes)

The wearing of safety shoes is not only required throughout U.S. industry, mines, quarries, and gravel pits, but is just plain common sense. This point was driven home for me many years ago when a young man on my production team had an eleven hundred pound steel roll from a toilet paper rewriter fall on his foot. The resulting blow caused his safety shoe protective cap to explode and thus expend the momentum from the roll, and produced a nasty looking and painful set of blood blisters and black and blue marks on the top of his foot, but no broken bones or loss of toes.

Today's safety shoes are available for many functions, in many styles, and are quite affordable. In selecting a pair of safety shoes, consider what you will be doing in pursuit of our wonderful hobby. If your passion is the art of the lapidary, slabbing rocks, or the sale or display of rocks, minerals, or fossils, a nice pair of low cut safety shoes with protective tips (steel or nonmetallic), such a sneakers, oxfords, penny loafers, even slip-ons, may provide you with the protection you need from a dropped specimen or hand tool. If you attend field trips or walk over rugged terrain, you should consider safety shoes that support the ankles and provide protection from sharp sticks, thorns, stones, abrasion, temperature, moisture, and walking impact. A pair of waterproof boots that lace over the ankles would be ideal for this purpose. Higher lacing boots would be advised for areas where thorn bushes, cactus, or snakes are found. Full grain leather or

**Safety continued -**

waterproof safety shoes will provide moisture protection for normal weather encountered, however for extensive wear in water, such as creeks, beaches, snow, mud, etc., I strongly recommend that over boot or waders be used over the safety shoes. The soles of safety shoes should provide solid grip traction, but not clog or chew up the trail. A properly fitted set of safety shoes with a liner and foot bed inside will provide ventilation, insulation from heat or cold, protection from rubbing, and absorption of walking impact, and all day comfort.

The wearing of wool socks (or other materials recommended by the manufacturer) in the safety shoes will wick perspiration away and protect the feet from extreme temperatures and disease. Tucking the bottoms of your trousers and shoelaces into the top of the boots will keep insects, stones and other undesirable items from getting up your pant legs and down into your safety shoes, and will reduce the chance of you tripping over your shoe laces. Please note that general issue army boots do not have protective tips and thus are not safety shoes. Only certain army personnel, like mechanics, are issued safety shoes.

Today safety shoes are available from most shoe stores. Tell your shoe store salesperson what your needs are, and find the style that you like. You may find that you are wearing them everyday for safety.

---

**Correction: Last month I wrongly listed guest's last names as Treece and Terrell. One should have been Tries and the other Torell.**

**Welcome to new members Pattie Jane Torell and Judy Clark.**

**Interesting Money Trivia**

From Golden Spike News 3-07 via Strata Gem 6/07 as seen in T-Town Rockhound 12/09

The U.S. coins migrate, causing a problem for the Federal Reserve banks. Half-dollars tend to collect in New York, and pennies in Pittsburgh and Dallas. Quarters congregate in San Antonio, Little Rock and Cincinnati. Nickels and dimes find their way to Baltimore, Louisville and Nashville. The Federal Reserve Bank experts say that the coins follow these patterns year after year, but nobody seems to know why.

**Treasurer's Report for December, 2009****Dorothy Hess, Treasurer**

<b>Last report balance: November 9, 2009</b>	<b>\$1,666.45</b>
--	-------------------

**Income:**

November raffle	19.50
Donation for mailing newsletters	5.00
Donation for ALAA membership fee	<u>10.00</u>

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 54.50</b>
--------------	-----------------

**Expense:**

Salvation Army food bank donation	25.00
Van Matre Senior Center donation	50.00
Plastic bags for next year's show	22.33
American Land Access Assn. membership fee	50.00
Publish December newsletter (12 copies)	15.88
December club website fee	<u>29.95</u>

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 193.16</b>
--------------	------------------

<b>Check Book Balance as of December 7, 2009</b>	<b>\$1,527.79</b>
--	-------------------

---

**NOTICE – Fossils Stolen**

**Fossils stolen from Johnston Geology Museum at Emporia State University (Emporia, Kansas) on or around October 12, 2009 are:**

Part & Counterpart of an acanthodian fish, juvenile from the Hamilton Quarry locality.  
 Part & Counterpart of an acanthodian fish, adult from the Hamilton Quarry locality.  
 Part & Counterpart of a Xenacanthus, an early shark-like creature from the Hamilton Quarry locality.

If you have any information regarding the missing specimens or see the specimens, please contact Dr. DeWayne Backus chair of Emporia State University or Physical Sciences at either (620) 341-5330 or [dbackhus@emporia.edu](mailto:dbackhus@emporia.edu).

From the Rock Post, November, 2009

## Garnet Birthstone for January

**For those born in January Garnet is the classic birthstone.**

**By Maire Loughran**

Garnet gets a bad rap simply because the garnet set in inexpensive jewelry is usually a dull brownish red color. I saw some garnet beaded bracelets at a craft show a few weeks ago that were so lifeless and unattractive I could not imagine offering them for sale - even at \$12 each.

Garnet is mined in many different colors. But if garnet is your birthstone and you want a red colored gemstone you do not have to settle for a dull brownish stone - true jewelry quality garnet is available as a clear, fiery red gemstone. Look for the **pyrope** species of garnet. As a bonus - not only is pyrope a beautiful red color - it is very affordable.

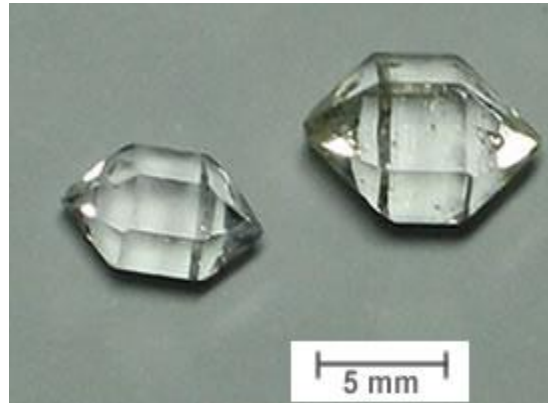
Garnet is the magical substitution for ruby and I honestly prefer using ruby if a red gemstone is needed. Along these lines - be advised - if a red gemstone is being advertised as an 'American Ruby', 'Arizona Ruby' or 'Cape Ruby' you are being sold a red garnet. This is a deceptive practice and I would not purchase any jewelry, gemstone or otherwise, from this vendor.

A few years ago I hand crafted a line of friendship jewelry using garnet and lapis lazuli. Historically garnet has been exchanged between good friends who are parting (moving to different cities, finishing up college, switching jobs) and lapis is a very powerful fidelity charm. The combination of the two makes for a nice piece of jewelry with a purpose.

Depending on where it is naturally found garnet is mined in a myriad of colors. My favorite variety of garnet is **tsavorite garnet**. This grossular species of garnet is a vibrant, intense green. Tsavorite garnet is found in Kenya, Tanzania and Pakistan. Its beautiful hue is due to the fact that it contains vanadium and chromium.



Read more at Suite101: [Garnet Birthstone for January: For those born in January Garnet is the classic birthstone. | Suite101.com](http://jewelry.suite101.com/article.cfm/garnet_birthstone_for_january#ixzz0ZxH3x8L8)  
[http://jewelry.suite101.com/article.cfm/garnet\\_birthstone\\_for\\_january#ixzz0ZxH3x8L8](http://jewelry.suite101.com/article.cfm/garnet_birthstone_for_january#ixzz0ZxH3x8L8)



### Who Discovered Herkimer Diamonds?

The Herkimer Diamonds of New York are not a recent discovery. The Mohawk Indians and early settlers knew about the crystals. They found them in stream sediments and plowed fields. These people were amazed with the crystals and immediately held them in high esteem.

Herkimer Diamond Mines Some of the best places to find Herkimer Diamonds today are located along New York State Route 28 in Middleville, New York. (When visiting this area it is important to remember that all land in New York either belongs to the government or is private property. Collecting minerals from government lands is illegal in New York and collecting on private property always requires permission in advance.)

There are two commercial mines on New York State Route 28 at Middleville, New York. These are: [Ace of Diamonds Mine](#) and [Herkimer Diamond Mine](#). Both allow collectors to enter and prospect for a nominal fee. Both locations also rent equipment such as hammers, wedges and other small tools. They also have small exhibit areas where you can view and/or purchase specimens.

From [www.geology.com](http://www.geology.com)

Our program this month will be the third part of the Nova fossil series narrated by David Attenborough, entitled "Dinosaurs."

## **Glacial Sediments Add to Louisiana Coastal Subsidence The Weight they Add to the Mississippi River Delta Contributes to the Sinking**

**A NASA News Release from January 31, 2008**

A study by NASA and Louisiana State University scientists finds that sediments deposited into the Mississippi River Delta thousands of years ago when North America's glaciers retreated are contributing to the ongoing sinking of Louisiana's coastline. The weight of these sediments is causing a large section of Earth's crust to sag at a rate of 0.1 to 0.8 centimeters (0.04 to 0.3 inches) a year.

The sediments pose a particular challenge for New Orleans, causing it to sink irreversibly at a rate of about 0.4 centimeters (0.17 inches) a year, according to data from a network of global positioning system stations and a model of sediment data collected from the northern Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi Delta.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 focused national attention on the Gulf coast's vulnerability to hurricanes due to loss of wetlands and sea level rise. These new findings add another factor for scientists, government agencies and the public to consider when assessing the vulnerability of the region to hurricanes and large storms.

A science team led by Erik Ivins of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., hypothesized that Earth's very slow gravitational flow response to the weight of the sediments, combined with a 130-meter (427-foot) rise in sea level that took place thousands of years ago, are contributing to the sinking of a 199,000-square kilometer (77,000-square-mile) section of coastal Louisiana.

To test their theory, the team developed a physical model of sinking caused by both the weight of the sea level rise and the flow of glacial sediments into the Gulf of Mexico following the retreat of the great ice sheet that covered much of North America some 22,000 years ago. The model spanned the past 750,000 years. Results were compared with actual global positioning system measurements and other geophysical data for southern Louisiana and the Gulf, collected from multiple sources over the past 60 years.

The scientists found the model results were in good agreement with the actual geophysical data, predicting sinking of between 0.1 centimeters (0.04 inches) and 0.8 centimeters (0.3 inches) a year. The highest sinking rates were observed where coastal land loss is greatest, near the center of the Mississippi and Atchafalaya River Delta complexes.

From [www.geology.com](http://www.geology.com)

For our Show-and-Tell table this month please bring, if you have them, examples of Sulfides and Sulfosalt minerals such as galena, sphalerite, arsenopyrite, molybdenite, chalcopyrite and cinnabar.



### **Ametrine Gemstones**

#### **Bicolor Amethyst - Citrine Gemstone**

Ametrine is the name used when a single crystal of [quartz](#) has zones of gemstone quality amethyst (purple) and gemstone quality citrine (golden) in contact with one another. The words AMETHYST and CITRINE were combined to yield ametrine. Sometimes the name trystine is used in reference to these purple / golden gemstones.

#### **Cutting Ametrine Gemstones**

The artists who cut ametrine plan their cutting to produce gemstones that display both the purple amethyst and golden citrine. The most popular cut is a rectangular gemstone that is close to 50% amethyst and 50% citrine. There is often a slight color gradient area between the amethyst and citrine. Because of this tiny stones of only a few millimeters are rarely cut. They are not large enough to show both purple and golden color. It takes a stone of at least several millimeters in size to show a strong amethyst purple on one side and a strong golden citrine on the other. Rough with a sharp transition between purple and golden is the most desirable.

#### **What Gives Ametrine Its Color?**

The colors of natural ametrine are produced by iron impurities within the quartz. The purple and golden colors are a result of different oxidation states of iron impurities. Some purple/golden ametrine is produced in a laboratory by heat treating natural amethyst to alter the oxidation state of the iron in parts of the rough. Sometimes a color change is induced by irradiation or irradiation followed by heating.

---

**Dates to Remember**

**January**

1- Feb. 28 Desert Gardens 9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, Quartzsite, Arizona.

12 **OESGM&F Club Meeting, 7:00 P.M., Van Matre Senior Citizens Center, Mountain Home, AR.**

**February**

11 -14 Tucson Gem & Mineral show, Tucson, Arizona

**March**

26-28 Ada Gem & Mineral Show, Pontotoc County Agri-Plex, Ada, OK

**Dorothy Hess, Publisher  
OESGM&F Club  
1177 CR 1084  
Mountain Home, AR 72653**

