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**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/Proof Reader</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>

**Members of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogy.**

**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: On 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.**

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### **The President's Message**

We have just had two marvelous field trips in adjacent with the Northern Mississippi Club, and everyone who went on them had really good luck. I think it is wonderful when clubs invite other clubs on field trips and would like to see our club do the same in the future. At our last meeting **Sharon Waddell** brought up the fact that we plan, yet many can not go due to working or just not being interested, and many signed lists so that they can be notified for a field trip at the last moment. If you feel we can plan one ahead a couple of weeks or so, please let me know so that I can, at least, notify the Northern Mississippi Club and reciprocate.

Warmer weather is in full swing now and it is very important that you remember all the safety aspects of being out of doors in the sun; using sun screen, drinking plenty of water, resting often, watching for snakes, and not over doing. We want to have fun but must always be safe about it.

Everything is looking up as far as our upcoming show is concerned, but we still need help in many of the jobs. Please set aside time to help out, and begin getting the word out to all you come in contact with that we will be having a show in August. It is never too early to advertize and one of the surest ways of advertisement is word of mouth.

**The President's Message continued –**

**Harvey** and I recently updated the club program on Rush, Arkansas, and had the slides done on a DVD-R Video by **Bob Ketchum** at Cedar Crest Studio. We have sent one to the MWF for the library. The narration was updated and some of the old references taken out. We also donated copies to our club library (**Ed** will be showing it in the future as a program), and to the Karl & Matilda Pfeiffer Museum for their educational programs.

Remember to tell all your neighbors about our meetings too. We need more members.

**Brenda Johnson**

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**The Minutes of the April, 2010 Meeting**

There was a short Executive meeting held before the club was brought to order to discuss the plans for our show in August.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:15 by President **Brenda Johnson**.

**Ed Hakesley** provided delicious refreshments for all.

A motion was made by **Sharon Waddell** and seconded by **Ed Hakesley** to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2010 meeting.

**Dorothy Hess** gave the treasurers report: Club Balance \$1270.78

A guest, **Mr. Helgison**, brought a stone he was hoping to have identified. He stated he found the stone in the desert in Arizona. It was thought the stone could be a meteorite.

**Brenda** and **Harvey Johnson** donated a DVD-R of the Rush Mineral field trip for the Club's library.

The program, "Capturing Minerals", was presented by **Ed Hakesley** and featured mineral photographers, Michael Bainbridge and Joe Bud. The photographers explained the techniques used in photographing minerals and different stones, and showed various pieces from museums and private collections.

**Sharon Waddell** gave an updated report concerning the club's show that is scheduled for August. There are four vendors set to display minerals and fossils, along with four to display jewelry. Sharon is also contacting a flint knapper to possibly show his expertise. Room is becoming limited for dealers. People are still needed to assist in the operations, such as setting up and clean up. A sheet was made available for individuals to sign up for various duties. July is scheduled to put together the grab bags and Spin and Win prizes.

Field trips were discussed and tentatively planned for May, June, and July. **Sharon Waddell** provided sign up sheets for different trips. All who are interested please sign up! The field trips included; Black Rock, geode trip to Illinois, Park Hills for drusy quartz, Oklahoma for selenite, and Mount Ida for quartz.

The micromount meeting in March was another success with **Dorothy Hess** stating it is an exciting and different way to view specimens. Any and all interested in attending please contact **Brenda Johnson, Ed Hakesley** or **Sid and Aradasa Johnson**.

The raffle was won by **A. J.** and **Sid Johnson**, and **John Bouck**.

The second annual Rock Tumbling Contest is gearing up; anyone interested may contact **Brenda Johnson** for details.

Our Show-and-Tell table was full. **Rodger Long** presented specimens, malachite and amethyst he had found at yard sales.

**Sharon Waddell** presented various fossils and interesting cat tales.

**Brenda Johnson** presented her and **Harvey's** recent acquisitions from their trip to Alabama.

**Gretchen Neal** shared information concerning Healing Stones and literature she brought in.

**Edward Hakesley** presented a broad display of carbonates.

The meeting concluded at 9:00 p.m.

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### **May Program**

**Erica Doerr** from the Arkansas Geological Commission, Little Rock, will speak this month on Arkansas minerals and show a slide presentation. You are asked to bring in minerals and fossils from Arkansas for the Show-and-Tell table.

**SAFETY- Chosen by Safety Chair, Aradasa Johnson**

Field Trip Safety

**SAFETY FIRST**

*by Bill Klose EFMLS Safety Chairman  
Submitted for the June 2001 EFMLS News*

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

"SAFETY RULES FOR FIELD TRIPS" were expertly laid out for us decades ago in Chapter One of the "AFMS SAFETY MANUAL". As the field trip season gets underway, it behooves us all to review the 17 items listed. I have repeated these rules as written and added a few comments within or after a few in brackets.

1-- Never go on a Field Trip alone. Have some one along who can help, or summon help if necessary. Make sure someone knows where you went and when to expect you back. Carry a cell phone to expedite communications.

2-- Should there be children, have the child within seeing and talking distance. A child not only could get lost, but could encounter a snake, scorpion, etc., or have an accident of some sort.

3-- Do not collect directly above or underneath people where there might be danger of falling rock.

4-- Park so that all cars can get out. Do not block the roadway.

5-- Should you leave the Field Trip early, notify the person in charge.

6-- Make sure all fires are out and wet down with water or smothered with dirt completely.

7-- Break all matches in fingers before discarding, and be careful where they are thrown.

8-- Break any cigarette before discarding and then crush it on the bare ground.

9-- Do not throw rocks, and do not allow children to do so.

10-- Avoid old mine tunnels. Never go into a mine alone. Carry a flashlight and a candle. Carbon dioxide or other gasses may be present. There may even be a lack of oxygen. Mines are also havens for snakes, scorpions, spiders, rodents and their feces, etc... Mines also may have uncovered deep shafts and pits.

11-- Respect property rights and signs. Obtain permission to enter property if owned by private persons or company owned. Attend Company safety briefings and sign releases if required. Pay attention to and practice Company safety policies.

**Safety continued-**

A-- Inquire if there are vicious animals in the fields.

B-- Never walk or drive RV's like 4 wheelers on newly planted or cultivated fields without special permission.

C-- Be extremely cautious in hunting near abandoned buildings. You may stumble into a deep well or cesspool not properly covered.

D-- Refill any deep hole you dig, so people or animals might not fall in. Do not dump dirt and other debris into streams.

12-- Respect another's diggings. If a person has left for lunch or for any reason with the intention of returning, and has left a pick, coat, or definite marker, find another place.

13-- Leave any place in good condition. Don't leave papers, cans, etc., lying around to mar the beauty of the place, and to tell others you have been there.

14-- Close all gates you may have opened.

15-- Never eat wild berries or anything else unless you are absolutely sure they are safe. Carry bottled water and do not drink from streams or wells that have not been recently tested.

16-- Be able to recognize Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, etc. Should there be any doubt, don't touch!

17-- Always be alert for snakes, scorpions, ticks, spiders, rodent infestations etc. Be very cautious where you put your feet and hands.

As you can see, a lot of hard gained practical experience has been incorporated into these safety rules. To these I would add the following rules.

Do not over exert or stay in the direct sunlight or heat too long. Take a rest in the shade from time to time and drink plenty of fluids.

Properly wear appropriate safety equipment, sunscreen, and clothing.

Bring and use the appropriate well maintained and inspected tools. Don't expect others to provide tools for you.

Have your vehicle in proper working order with appropriate emergency supplies and equipment.

Use proper lifting and carrying techniques to bring home your finds. Do not overload your vehicle.

Many of these safety rules are covered in greater detail in other chapters of the AFMS Safety Manual and on the AFMS web site. Have a safe field trip season and see you all at the EFMLS gatherings at the Syracuse Show this summer

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### **Member's Success at Last Field Trip**

Some people are just natural born successes, and we have one in our membership!

While at the Parson's Quarry, in Parson's, Tennessee, on our last field trip, **Sidney Johnson** wasn't having a really successful hunt over all. He didn't give up hopes though of finding the really big, beautiful find of the day.

**Member's Success continued -**

We had been asked to vacate at 11:45 in order to get everyone out by noon, as that is when the gates are closed for the weekend. **Harvey Johnson** drove to the top where most of the members had ended up; informing them that it was time to leave. **Sidney Johnson** frantically kept looking for parts of a cephalopod he had found, hoping to find what went with the end portion. When he got home and they had rested, Aradasa, who loves puzzles, began matching pieces of crinoid stems and so on. As she worked, she realized that the parts of cephalopod **Sidney** had found all fit together, except for two pieces. Below are pictures of his find.

We are proud of you Sid!



**The following is what Sid had to say about his find:**

“I had discovered the first piece 30 to 45 minutes before noon, with a nice dome head, and then found another piece without a dome. After finding several other pieces which appeared to be missing their dome head's, I kept going back through the dirt pile for any parts that I may have missed. (Turns out several were part of the fossil). So when Harvey came by to tell us it as time to go, we were still searching through the dirt pile for more parts. Luckily, a few of the pieces went together, as they wouldn't have been much with just the center pieces (without a dome head).

This 5-piece fossil measures: Base size, 55 x 40 mm, Point Size, 45 x 35 mm, Length, 12-1/8" (310 mm). Another smaller three-piece fossil with the siphuncle is: Base w/o matrix 51 x 35 mm, Point size 45 x 38 mm, length, 138 mm.”

### **A Rockhounds Suggestion**

**By C.E. Johnson**

Have you ever wondered whether you could find for yourself, those same types of minerals you are paying to dig for at those various sites? I'll bet you did, and if you were curious enough you probably asked the sites owners/operators questions such as; where did those minerals come from?, what kind of rock formations are they in?, and how did they get there?, how were they formed? If you couldn't get the real answers there, try doing a little research on-line or in libraries, etc. about the origins & natures of those types of minerals you're digging for, and others. A better alternative to that or in addition to that, why not take a short course on minerals geology somewhere like a local community college, or extra-curricular class at a High School, etc. ? There are other sources out there, but you need to make inquiries to seek them out.

When you find the answers to such questions, of course you will have learned what kind of places are most favorable for those types of minerals, and others, right?, but what now?, where do you go from there?, how do you find out where those places are? (to find them on your own without having to pay to dig for the minerals, of course, and to experience the thrill of making your own discoveries in new places). Actually this is fairly easy.

In a few words, you can find those favorable places with the help of GEOLOGIC maps, and those favorable places may be closer than you think.

In serious rockhounding and prospecting, rocks are the key; we wouldn't have mineral deposits without them; certain igneous rocks "breed" certain minerals, and the other two basic types provide many other minerals of their own; and geologic maps show rock formations, along with whatever other information is relative and helpful, such as any minerals "occurrences" reported by U.S. Geologic Survey teams or by someone else in the areas shown, or "prospect" diggings and/or mining activity, etc. It's simply a matter of finding areas on the maps that show the same geological conditions as the collecting sites you are visiting. In the meantime, learn enough about minerals-geology to know which minerals occur in which rocks (and vice-versa, which rocks contain which minerals).

These geologic maps are available at places such as the U.S.G.S. offices and their STATE affiliates, some office & stationary suppliers, some state geology departments, bureaus of land management offices, etc. If they don't have them, they probably will direct you to the most likely sources that have them on hand.

I recommend that those who are computer-wise log in on <usgs.gov> and follow the links to what

**A Rockhounds Suggestion continued** - you need. It's easy if you do it right. If that's not an option, you can call 1-888-ASK-USGS to get the necessary information, or write to USGS Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225. Exploring on your own does of course require an able, healthy person with a free-spirit and a sense of adventure & independence.

I strongly recommend that anyone doing this, even with a friend, inform family or friends of your plans and destinations and be well-prepared and cautious at all times and as an extra precaution, inform any local authorities such as national forest rangers, of your presence.

I have done this sort of thing for many years and have not regretted a day of it, including the unproductive ones. Happy-hunting, however you do it.

Via S.C.R.I.B.E via Sooner Rockologist April 2010

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### **Arkansas Earthquake History**

The northeast section of Arkansas is located in the New Madrid seismic zone and was seriously affected by [great shocks](#) that occurred in that zone, in 1811 - 1812. Arkansas' 40-mile-long, half-mile-wide Lake Saint Francis was formed by these earthquakes.

The Mississippi embayment - fall line area, in which the New Madrid seismic zone is located, extends from Cairo, Illinois, south through northeastern Arkansas, western Kentucky, and Tennessee, then westward to include the lowland area of southern Arkansas, the eastern Oklahoma - Texas border area, and northeastern Texas. Major historic seismic activity has been limited to a line extending west of the Mississippi River, from Cairo to west of Memphis. Several damaging earthquakes have occurred along this line, in addition to the New Madrid shocks mentioned earlier. Indian tradition and geologic evidence indicate an earlier history of severe earthquakes in the same area.

Outside the Mississippi Embayment, the first shock listed for Arkansas occurred in October 1882. Since few reports were received from the region most affected, the epicenter of this shock is not well known, and several investigators have placed the origin near El Reno, Oklahoma, instead of western Arkansas. The shock threw bricks from chimneys at Sherman, Texas, and shook houses strongly at Fort Smith, Arkansas. Its felt area covered parts or all of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, and Missouri, about 135,000 square miles.

An earthquake occurred near Melbourne, about 95 miles northeast of Little Rock, in December 1883. Rockslides occurred on a railroad cut, and thunderous earth noises were heard. Glassware and crockery broke, and buildings shook at Melbourne.

A shock in March, 1911, about 40 miles south of Little Rock, was so severe at Pine Bluff that hundreds of excited residents crowded into the streets in panic; windows were broken in several sections of the city. At one school, walls cracked, and plaster fell on pupils. "Glasses were shaken from counters in

**Arkansas Earthquake History continued** – confectionery stores and dishes were broken in many kitchens," the record notes. The shock was felt throughout southeastern Arkansas and in adjacent States.

During the period 1911 to 1933, two *local* intensity V earthquakes centered in the Black Rock - Pocahontas area of northeastern Arkansas; two additional intensity V tremors were noted, one near Little Rock, the other near Marked Tree, and both were felt over 30,000 square mile areas. None of these caused property damage, but they alarmed much of the populations near their centers.

The early morning of December 9, 1933, brought another minor tremor to Arkansas. Many residents of Manila, Mississippi County were awakened by a sharp earthquake that broke windows in several homes.

Very light tremors in 1937 and 1938 in the northeastern part of Arkansas were felt over 25,000 and 90,000 square miles of Arkansas and several surrounding States. Neither was damaging. This region is noted for relatively light-intensity shocks being felt over extremely large areas.

One of the few earthquakes to center in southwestern Arkansas occurred in June 1939. It cracked plaster in buildings at Arkadelphia, and was felt throughout the southern portion of Arkansas.

After the 1939 earthquake, only light tremors (all under intensity V) were noted until January 25, 1955. The 1955 tremor centered in northeastern Arkansas near the Missouri - Tennessee border, and caused some property damage in the bordering States. At Dyersburg, Tennessee, a brick pillar supporting a porch was thrown down; at Finley, plaster, walls, and ceilings cracked. Windows cracked in the small town of Haiti, Missouri. Thousands of residents over a 30,000 square mile area were awakened by this early morning event.

Arkansas was again relatively quiescent seismically for 14 years, until New Year's Day of 1969. During this period, however, three shocks in northeastern Texas and southern Missouri caused some damage in Arkansas; the strongest of the three centered in southeastern Missouri in March 1963. It cracked windows, plaster, concrete, and walls in several Arkansas towns.

On January 1, 1969, a tremor centered about 19 miles northwest of Little Rock and caused much commotion in the area. In Little Rock, plaster cracked, and furniture was moved about in some homes; and trees and utility wires swayed and shook throughout a wide area. The shock was also noted by residents in southern Missouri and western Tennessee.

Abridged from *Earthquake Information Bulletin, Volume 2, Number 4, July-August 1970.*

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**APRIL 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Dorothy Hess, Treasurer**

**Last Report Balance: (March 8, 2010)**

**\$ 1,236.51**

**Transactions for the Reporting Period: (March 9, 2010 – April 12, 2010)**

Financial report continued -

Income:

Membership dues	\$ 40.00
Raffle sales	<u>\$ 28.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 68.00</b>

Expense:

April club website fee	\$ 29.95
Publish April club newsletter (5 copies)	<u>\$ 3.78</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 33.73</b>

Check Book Balance as of April 12, 2010: \$ 1,270.78

**REAL ANSWERS FROM EARTH SCIENCE EXAMS-[www.neptune.com](http://www.neptune.com)**

Wegener found matching bedbugs on opposite sides of the Atlantic.

The main problem associated with limestone aquifers is Lyme disease.

We don't have rock salt on Guam because that forms from evaporation of oceans and we don't have oceans on Guam.

Erie, Pennsylvania has no volcanoes because it's too cold there.

The most important agent of landscape formation on Guam is greyhounds - they are intelligent.

We know that the sun is much farther away from us than the moon is, because we can see stars between us and the sun, but not between us and the moon.

The rear end of a trilobite is called a trilobutt.



We'll be on our way in no time Agnes  
You unload the rocks and I'll change the tire

by Bill Mittlebeeler via Dust & Grit 2/00  
via Golden Spike News 4/00

Via Rockwood Rockhound Newsletter 4/10

**Refreshments are by Julia Blanchard this month**

## **Mysterious Desert Lines Were Animal Traps**



**Mysterious lines on the deserts of the Near East are massive ancient hunting tools, made up of low stone walls.**

**By Larry O'Hanlon** (via: <http://www.discoverynews.com>)

### **THE GIST:**

- A series of low, long walls are cleverly constructed traps that used the landscape.
- Gazelle, ibexes, wild asses and other large herding animals were the targets.
- No one is sure why the kites were abandoned.

British RAF pilots in the early 20th century were the first to spot the strange kite-like lines on the deserts of Israel, Jordan and Egypt from the air and wonder about their origins. The lines are low, stone walls, usually found as angled pairs, that begin far apart and converge at circular pits. In some places in Jordan the lines formed chains up to 40 miles long.

Were they made by some weird kind of fault? Ancient astronauts?

A new study of 16 of what are called desert kites in the eastern Sinai Desert confirms what many researchers have long suspected: The walls form large funnels to direct gazelle and other large game animals into killing pits. What's more, the kites are between 2,300 and 2,400-years-old, were abandoned about 2,200 years ago and are just the right size to have worked on local gazelles and other hooved game.

"The research shows that the construction of the kite was actually more sophisticated than it seemed before, their use was more diverse than we thought, and the ancients' knowledge of animal ethology was deeper and more intimate than one would think," said Uzi Avner of Ben-Gurion University-Eilat, in Israel.

"We have no doubt at all that the kites were built for hunting, not for any other suggested function."

## **Some People Just Aren't Very Smart!**

**April 21, 2010**

**KPTV OREGON:** "More than \$250,000 worth of gold nuggets was stolen from a geological museum over the weekend, deputies said. Washington County sheriff's deputies were called to a burglary at the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals on Northwest Groveland Drive at about 10:50 p.m. Friday. Linda Kepford, the museum's assistant director, told authorities that someone broke into the building and took several gold nuggets, one of which weighs 42 ounces and is worth more than \$50,000, from a locked display safe in the master gallery."

**BILL DAMERON:** "The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, in Hillsboro, Oregon, just outside of Portland, housed a stunning collection of 107 (mostly) crystallized gold specimens in all sizes; many of these were wire thumbnail size pieces from the famous Ace of Diamonds mine, Liberty, Washington.

Most of these treasures, some cabinet specimens from Breckenridge, Colorado, a 42 oz leaf gold from The Alabama claim, Jamestown, California and a few others were stolen the evening of Friday, April 16, 2010. Ninety three of the specimens in the collection formerly belonged to John Barlow, and the loss to the mineral collecting community is great.

While it is not likely they will be offered for sale on the collector market, please be on the lookout and notify curator **Rudy Tschernich (tschernich(at)msn.com)** if you learn of anyone offering for sale or trade similar specimens without a well documented history.

**April 22, 2010**

The great-grandson of the couple who founded Washington County's Rice Museum is accused of burglarizing the facility last week, breaking into a safe and stealing gold nuggets.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office this morning announced the arrest of Jeffrey Ryan Harvey, 28, of Portland. Harvey is the great-grandson of Richard and Helen Rice who founded the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks & Minerals in the 1930's. Harvey is the grandson of Bill and Sharleen Harvey who donated most of the gold to the museum, authorities said.

Washington County detectives and members of the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force tracked down Harvey at his home Wednesday and questioned him about the burglary. He was eventually arrested and taken to the Washington County Jail where he was booked on burglary and theft charges. He is being held on \$750,000 bail.

Authorities said the investigation led them to a Tigard apartment, where they recovered most – and possibly all – of the gold taken in the heist.

-- **The Oregonian** via [www.The-Vug.com](http://www.The-Vug.com) and [www.oregonlive.com](http://www.oregonlive.com)

**Dates to Remember**

**May 7-9--COLUMBIA, MISSOURI:** Show and sale; Central Missouri Rock & Lapidary Club; Boone County Fairgrounds, 5212 N. Oakland Gravel Rd.; Fri. 1-8, Sat. 8-5, Sun. 9-3; adults \$5, students \$3, good all three days, children 11 and under free; demonstrations, mineral exhibits, special kids' mine; contact Robert McConnell, 1601 N. Earthland Rd., Columbia, MO 65202, (573) 445-5415; e-mail: bobmc@socket.net

**June 10-12--PARK HILLS, MISSOURI:** 13th annual swap and sale; Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society; Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs; Missouri Mines State Historic Site, Hwy. 32; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; free admission; rocks, minerals, fossils, lapidary; contact Lloyd E. Marler, (573) 431-2951, or Missouri Mines State Historic Site, P.O. box 492, Park Hills, MO 63601, (573) 431-6226

**June 20 – 21 OZARK, MO** (*Sunday, Saturday*) Time: 9:00 - 6:00 Sat., 10:00 - 4:00 Sun.  
Location: Finley River Park *GEM FAIR* - sponsored by the Ozark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society.

**Dorothy Hess, Publisher  
Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club  
1177 County Road 1084  
Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653**

