



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

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

November, 2011

President/Editor	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer/Proof Reader
Brenda Johnson	Edward Hakesley	Janel Cotter	Dorothy Hess
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We are a member 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.

The President's Message

Our silent auction has come and gone and we had a nice turnout for it. Thanks to all who contributed and attended. It was nice to see some from the public come in and participate also.

Cold weather is just around the corner, and gun deer hunting season will soon be in force. If you are going to go hunting minerals or fossils anywhere there might be hunters, it is imperative that you purchase and wear a hunters orange vest for your own safety. This is something we have never pushed as a safety tool in the past, but it would really be to all of the members benefit who fieldtrip to wear an orange vest when out, even together, just so we can keep tabs on each other.

The President's Message continued –

Some of us just returned from our Kansas fieldtrip and their leader supplied vests for all when we were along the highway collecting. We need to think of safety first always.

I just heard on the radio news where two people fell from a high area and were hurt, while hiking in one of our state parks, because they **just had to go a bit further** than the marked trail to look at a cave. Please make sure if you are in a marked area you do not go beyond where you are supposed to go. The brother and sister team could have very easily been killed from the fall. Rules and regulations are set in place for our safety. Please adhere to them, as we represent all the rock clubs within the American Federation when we are out, whether by ourselves or with a group.

I hope to see you at the meeting.

Brenda

**Minutes of the August Meeting
By Sharon Waddell for Janel Cotter**

The August club meeting began at 7:05. There were two guests, **Joe Colasanti** from Dora, MO, and **Erceil Haughn**, from Mountain Home.

The program was on the creation of Yosemite Park.

Refreshments were provided by **Mark Medley**.

Dorothy Hess gave a treasurer's report indicating a club balance of \$1712.82. \$561.30 was the income from the August show. She also reported that we have four new members.

Field trip reports:

Brenda Johnson reported on an Oct 22 field trip to eastern Kansas for fossils. **Ed Hakesley** reported on an up coming trip on Oct 15. He indicated that updated hard hats were a must. In addition each person should have a fluorescent vest, hard toed shoes, and safety glasses. Hard rock tools were recommended. We will meet at the quarry at 8:00 a.m.

Brenda indicated that in the near future the show committee needed to meet regarding this years, and next years show. She suggested we needed to build upon the success of this years show.

The Treasurer's Report continued -

Expense:

Aug. show expenses (postage, flyers, signs, badges)	\$ 159.91
Publish October newsletters	\$ 9.83
October club website fee	<u>\$ 29.95</u>
Total	\$ 199.69

Check Book Balance as of October 10, 2011: \$ 1,582.38

From the desk of Safety Chair, Aradasa Johnson

Back Safety

SAFETY FIRST

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

http://www.amfed.org/a_safetyEFMLS.htm#back

As I got into my winter routine of reorganizing my collections, I started to notice a little persistent lower back pain related to the constant lifting and carrying of loaded boxes of rocks and fossils. I have had extensive training in proper lifting techniques in the military and industry; however a review is always enlightening.

Prior to lifting it is a good idea to consider a number of things. How heavy or bulky is the object to be lifted and carried? How good a shape are you in and have you had any back problems in the past after lifting? Many back injuries are of a cumulative type, where a repeated minor injury will flare up and become worse. How much room is there around the object to be lifted and how much room is around where it is to be deposited? What kind of obstacles are there along the transportation route, such as trip hazards, holes, overhangs, etc.? If any of these questions create a concern, or if in doubt, get help or use an aid such as a dolly, hand truck, or even fork lift. Statistics show that 80% of back injuries occur in people between 30 and 50.

Be sure to utilize appropriate safety equipment such as safety shoes and work gloves when lifting. The use of back belts, as seen at some stores and outlets, has not been shown to prevent

Safety continued –

back injury according to recent studies. Prior to the lift, make sure you have adequate clearance for your hands and arms. Stand close to the load with the feet apart and the toes pointed out to provide firm footing. Bend your knees, not your waist. Grip the load firmly with a "full palm Grip". Do not place your fingers under the load. Tighten your stomach muscles and then lift head and shoulders first, and then with your back straight, use the strength of your legs to slowly and smoothly push up. "Jerk-lifting" a load will multiply the stress to the lower back. Keep the load close to your body at all times with your back upright. Never hold the load away from your body. Make sure you can see over the top of the load. If you should have to change direction with the load, move the whole body with your feet. Do not twist your body which can be especially dangerous to the back. To raise the object above shoulder height, first lift to waist height and rest on the edge of a ledge, hip or stand, and then shift hand positions, so the object can be boosted after the knees are bent. The knees should be straightened as the object is lifted or shifted to the shoulders. If the object is to be placed on a table or shelf, first set it on the edge, and then push it far enough onto the support so it will not fall. The object should be released gradually as it is set down and then pushed into place with the hands and body in front of the object. When setting the object down, keep the back straight and upright, bend the knees, and lower the object down slowly and smoothly. Don't add the weight of your body to the load.

Lift safe and stay healthy.

From Program Chair, Edward Hakesley

The November program will be on a basic method for "recognizing" mineral specimens, based on location and some simple and inexpensive tests. Show-and -tell will be a mineral specimen or two for identification using the program's materials. Please bring a mineral specimen that has some crystal form, preferably in matrix that you won't mind it being tested.

LOCATION is very important. Do NOT bring lapidary, jewelry, or polished specimens, fossils, or just rocks.

Refreshments are by Dorothy Hess this month.

Welcome to new members, John and Angie Colasanti ; and Steve and Marge Ann Lemmons and Ralph and Bonnie Harris .

**Minutes of the September 13, 2011 Meeting
Brenda Johnson, for Janel Cotter**

The meeting was called to order by President **Brenda Johnson** at 7:05 P.M. Tables were set up for the silent auction.

President Johnson told all that **Sharon Waddell** had graciously taken the spot for securing officers for 2012 and would be contacting members.

There were six guests present; **Pat Garey, Arden Edwards, Faith Guyne, Ed Srutowski, Ralph and Bonnie Harris**, who joined at the meeting, and new members, **Steve and Marge Ann Lemmons** also attended.

The meeting then progressed to the silent auction with all being encouraged to bid.

The meeting disbursed at 8:45 P.M.

**Pectolite
By Dorothy Vaughn**

The Dominican Republic's Ministry of Mining records that on 23 November 1916 Father Miguel Domingo Fuertes Loren of the Barahona Parish requested permission to explore and exploit the mine of a certain blue rock he had discovered. Pectolites were not yet known in the Dominican Republic and the request was rejected.

In 1974, at the foot of the Bahoruco Range, the coastal province of Barahona, Miguel Méndez and Peace Corps volunteer Norman Rilling rediscovered Larimar on a beach. Natives believed the stone came from the sea, and called it Blue Stone. Miguel took his young daughter's name Larissa and the Spanish word for sea (mar) for the colors of the water of the Caribbean Sea, and formed the name Larimar.

Pectolite is found in many locations, although none have the unique volcanic blue coloration of larimar. This blue color, distinct from that of other pectolites, is the result of cobalt substitution for calcium. The Los Chupaderos mine is located on a single mountainside, now perforated with approximately 2,000 vertical shafts, surrounded by rainforest vegetation.

Pectolite continued -

Most jewelry produced is set in silver, but sometimes high-grade larimar is set in gold. Quality grading is according to coloration and the typical mineral crystal configuration in the stone. Larimar can be found in green and even with red spots, brown strikes. Higher intensities of blue with contrasts in the stone are higher quality. The blue color is photosensitive and fades with time if exposed to too much light and heat.

Via the Lake Rocker, October, 2011

CLEANING STEEL SHOT

Steel shot in a vibratory or rotary tumbler works great to burnish up your finished silver pieces. Surfaces are shined and hardened by the shot impinging on it. Carbon steel shot can get rusty and even stainless steel can develop a blackish coating that's hard to remove. My solution of choice to clean the shot is Classic Coke. Just pour an ounce or two over the shot and let the tumbler run for an hour or so. A bad case might require a second cleaning. I'm no chemist, but I've heard that it's the phosphoric acid in Coke that does the trick.

While you're waiting for the shot to clean up, just settle back and enjoy the rest of the Coke.

More BenchTips by **Brad Smith** are at www.groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or www.facebook.com/BenchTips

Our leader on our fieldtrip to Kansas gave us this poster she made of fossils we could find while on our hunt.

It was so nice to know what we found by just looking at the poster.



Fieldtrip News

There were only four of us who went to the Black Rock Quarry to check it out since they have the new foreman. Our collecting there wasn't good at all as they are not allowing anyone to go near the walls anymore and we were only allowed to collect from the berms along the roadway that were there to keep us away from the walls. It really wasn't worth the trip down. Very little was found at all.

There were four of us who went on the trip to Kansas for fossils on October 22; **Ed Hakesley**, **Sharon Waddell**, and **Harvey and Brenda Johnson**. We met our guide, **Lois Larson**, and the rest of the group at a rest area about 60 miles from Independence. We had five stops during the day. **Lois** works with the McPherson 4H club and many of the collectors were 4H'ers.

Though the day was very long and at times very hot, all found a large amount of Pennsylvania aged fossils, and had a lot of fun.

Our last stop was so late that we only had a few minutes before it got so dark that we couldn't see. So on Sunday morning, **Sharon, Harvey and I** returned to stops five and six and collected along the roadway. Both proved to be productive and we came home with enough fossils that we will be researching all winter and sharing with the kids for our spin and win too. We hope someday to go back for another hunt when we have more time at some of the areas we were at.

Below is a photo of the group who was along at the five stops we made.



Membership dues may be paid now for the year of 2012. If you want to pay early and get it out of the way, please fill out the following and return it to **Dorothy Hess** at the meeting, or mail it to her at: **1177 CR 1084, Mountain Home, AR 72653.**

MEMBER NAME _____

BIRTHDAY (Month & Day only) _____

RELATED ADULT _____ **BIRTHDAY** _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY STATE
ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ **E-MAIL** _____

SPECIAL INTERESTS (CIRCLE): MINERAL LAPIDARY FOSSILS
FACETING JEWELRY FIELD TRIPS

Willing to help by:

- serve as officer serve on committee help with the show
 presentation or teaching study groups social functions

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

ANNUAL DUES (January-December) ARE: \$12.00 per year single member \$20.00 per year per family or \$4.00 per year per junior.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: OESGM&F Club

“The Story of Victoria Stone”

by *Vyonne Mack-WGMS Club Member*

Victoria Stone is also known as “Imori Stone”, named after its Japanese creator, Dr. Imori. It is not an artificial or fake stone. What Dr. Imori was able to accomplish was to actually blend several different minerals using a special process known only to him to come up with an Imori Stone, commonly called Victoria Stone. This beautiful reconstructed gem is mineralogically similar to Nephrite Jade. It has a hardness of six, specific gravity of 3.02 and a refractive index of 1.62. It was laboratory produced from natural raw materials such as quartz, feldspar, magnesite, calcite, fluor spar, etc. for a total of seven different minerals-fused together under high pressure and a high temperature and again mineralized to make this gem by adding special crystallizers and habit regulators. This is not an imitation or synthetic but is a reconstructed natural stone.

The boule of Victoria stone was slowly cooled down for 35 to 40 days to make it crystallize into the pretty fan shapes. Victoria Stone is mineralogically similar to nephrite jade, but the arrangement of the actinolite crystals is different. Instead of the crystals interlocking and tying together as they do with jade, they have crystallized in fan shapes to provide the beauty of the stone. As a result of this difference, the rough stone is more likely to crack or splinter if overheated. Victoria Stone could be bought by the boule or in slices when it was produced in 15 different colors from 1960 to the 1980’s –green, sky blue, reddish purple, yellow green, blue green, sky indigo, chocolate, yellow, deep indigo, white, quiet green, quiet yellow, quiet blue, grey and black.

To cut Victoria Stone, cut it first lengthwise, and then let it set for 24 hours; then you can go ahead and slice it using normal cutting procedures, using plenty of water to keep it cool so it won’t shatter. First sand on sharp 220 grit sanding cloth, then sharp 320 cloths, with a final sanding on a worn 320 cloth. A quick and easy polish can then be obtained finishing on a dry leather buff with tin oxide.

The transparent Victoria Stone that is used for faceting is composed of di-silicates or tri-silicates of earth elements and alkali metals. The hardness is 5.5 to 6, specific gravity of 3.02 and a refractive index of 1.12. It was quickly cooled down in one day so that it wouldn’t crystallize into patterns. The faceted Victoria Stone came in 8 colors, including sapphire blue, emerald

Victoria Stone continued -

green, amethyst purple, ruby red, topaz, aquamarine, garnet and peridot green. Dr. Imori died without confiding in anyone how the process worked and no one has been able to duplicate it. There is only a limited supply of Victoria Stone in existence, when this material is used up to make jewelry and cabochons, it will become scarcer and about impossible to find.

Via GCLFS Newsletter, September, 2011

Colorado STATE MINERAL - RHODOCHROSITE

It was adopted on April 17, 2002, and decided that the deep red to rose pink manganese carbonate ($MnCO_3$) mineral, Rhodochrosite, is associated internationally with the state more than any other mineral. It is found in some gold and silver ore-bearing veins



Via Mozarkite
August, 2011

Editor's note: Rhodochrosite is one of the most beautiful minerals one can find and comes in many shades of pink.

A Celebration of Agates

News • July 2012

Only a year away! The Minnesota Mineral Club is hosting the four-day agate show July 26 to 29, 2012, at Lindbergh Center at Hopkins High School, located in Minnetonka, Minnesota. Thousands of people are expected to attend the event, the first of its kind to be held in Minnesota. Plans are under way for informative speakers on the seminar day and spectacular exhibits the three days of the show. A monthly newsletter will be-mailed out to those who sign up for information on the Minnesota Mineral Club website: www.minnesotamineralclub.org.



Find information about A Celebration of Agates on social network sites, such as Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/A-Celebrationof-Agates/174714759237403>), MySpace (Celebration Agates) and Twitter (@celebrationagat). Follow these pages to get the latest news about A Celebration of Agates.

Via CentrIll Gems, July 2011

Lapidary Tip

There is a good article about making your own magnetic tumbler at <http://www.rchristopher.com/tech/tumbler.html> from the person reporting this on the Yahoo Groups

Jewelry Casting list says he's made two units from these plans and they work very well. In addition to the primary job of burnishing and polishing finished pieces, he also uses the units for cleaning investment from castings. The stainless steel pins are available from either Gesswein or Rio Grande.

More BenchTips by **Brad Smith** are at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or facebook.com/BenchTips

Dates to Remember

November

- 5 C. L. Dake Auction:** University of Science & Technology, McNutt Hall, Rm. 204
- 8 Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club Meeting:** Van Matre Senior Citizens Center, 1101 Spring Street, Mountain Home, AR, 7:00 P.M.
- 4 – 6 Cleveland, OH:** Annual Micromineral Symposium, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval.
- 13 Freeport, Illinois:** Annual show, Highland Community College Students Center, 2998 W. Pearl City Road.

**Dorothy Hess
1177 CR 1084
Mountain Home, AR 72653-6203**

