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QUARTZ ABUNDANCE AND BEAUTY



Quartz crystals twinned at right angles

Photo courtesy of the British Museum of Natural History

MIKE BALDWIN: One of the most useful minerals found in the Earth's crust is also one of the most abundant . . . quartz. Over the years, MAGS members have journeyed to Mt. Ida, Arkansas many times in search of rock quartz crystals, and to Potosi, Missouri in search of druse quartz. In different situations, quartz takes on different colors and different names. The transparent quartz crystals found in abundance near Mt. Ida are called rock quartz. One form of quartz that I have found fascinating in the past few months is called cactus quartz. Cactus quartz begins as a long hexagonal prism, which then develops multiple, smaller terminated faces. The effect is

see Quartz: Abundance and Beauty on page five . . .

JUNE MAGS EVENTS

- | | | |
|-------|-------|---|
| 03 | 6:30p | Board Meeting @ Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue |
| 05 | 9:00a | DMC Field Trip to Chunky Gal Knob, Clay County, NC [see page 6 for details] |
| 11 | 7:30p | General Meeting @ Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Road, Memphis [bring refreshments and displays]
Program: "Pre-1862 Memphis Artifacts" presented by Lou White |
| 12 | 9:00a | Tour of Charlie McPherson's Collection [see page 8 for details] |
| 17 | 7:00p | M3 Micromounters Meeting at the home of Roger Van Cleef |
| 26-27 | | MAGS Field Trip to Mt. Ida, AR [see page 3 for details] |



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope everyone has recovered from the show and your newly acquired specimens have found their new display area. A show report is presented elsewhere in this newsletter. All indicators: attendance, income/expenses, and feedback from dealers and general comments made by club members, visitors and exhibitors indicate the show was very successful. Thanks to all the members who worked long and hard to represent the club and make the show a positive and rewarding experience.

As we move into the months of rising heat, MAGS will not take the summer off and will continue with a full compliment of events and activities. I hope some good collecting opportunities are part of your summer vacation.

We hope to be able to reschedule the trip to Black Rock to collect dolomite in the fall. Summer months in that area can be very hot and uncomfortable.

Auctions will return at our June meeting. We will have a silent and live auction. We have several boxes of material but I am not sure what will be up for auction. You just need to come and bring lots of money.

Be sure to make an effort to see Charlie McPherson's collection on Saturday, June 12. Charlie has assembled a large and impressive collection that is impressive and worth seeing.

Remember to bring your displays to the June meeting. Through the skillful buying power of Dana we will have some very good prizes to give away in December.

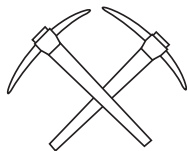
WC McDaniel

2004 MAGS FIELD TRIPS

DAVID McILWAIN: We have some great field trips planned for the remainder of 2004. Mark your calendars and clear your weekends. Here's what you have to look forward to:

JUN 12	Tour of Charlie McPherson's Mineral Collection
JUN 26-27	Quartz crystals; Quartz Crystal Mines; Mt. Ida, AR
JUL 17-18	Fluorite; Old Fluorite Mine; Cave-In-Rock, IL
AUG 21	Shark's teeth/fossils; W.M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park, Frankstown, MS
SEP 18-19	Fossils; MAGS hosts DMC at Coon Creek; Adamsville, TN
OCT 23	Agates, jasper, ice age fossils; Richardson Landing; Millington, TN
NOV 20	Fossils; Vulcan Quarry; Parsons, TN

JUNE 2004 MAGS FIELD TRIP



SATURDAY, JUNE 26 AND SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2004 • 8:30AM
MT. IDA, ARKANSAS • QUARTZ CRYSTALS
THIS FIELD TRIP IS OPEN TO MAGS MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS

COLLECTING SITES: We will be digging at two quartz crystal mines in the Mt. Ida area. There will be fees associated with these sites. Mine details and agenda sheets will be available at the June MAGS meeting online at www.memphisgeology.org.

MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Colonial Motel, 5403 Hwy 270 East, Mount Ida, AR 71957 • (870) 867-2431, Fax (870) 867-0159 E-mail: crystals@ipa.net • 11 units, pets extra, located eleven miles east of Mount Ida on Hwy. 270. Special group rate available for all MAGS members. No in room telephone available. Please make your reservations ASAP!

MEETING TIME/PLACE: Each day at 8:30 a.m., at Crystal Inn Restaurant, 3489 Hwy. 270 East, Mount Ida, AR 71957; (870) 867-2643. Six miles east of Mount Ida on Hwy. 270 near the Mount Ida/Bearce Airport. Please come earlier if you plan to have breakfast. We will be leaving promptly at 9:00 a.m., for the collecting site.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From Memphis take I-40 West towards Little Rock, then take the I-440 South, exit number 159, towards Arkadelphia/Texarkana. I-440 becomes I-30 South, then take AR-270 West exit number 98B, towards Hot Springs. Continue on AR-270 West

around Hot Springs to Mt. Ida. Allow approximately 5 to 5-1/2 hours driving time.

TOOLS: Bring leather gloves, buckets and small rake or small garden tools for going through tailing piles. For the serious rockhound, bring shovel and pry bar, also rock hammer and chisels for breaking crystal vanes.

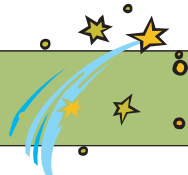
Also, bring newspapers for wrapping crystal specimens, to keep crystals damage free and beautiful.

SPECIAL NOTE: While in the mines, all children and junior members must be supervised by an adult member at all times. This is a requirement of The US Forest Service.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: 1 to 3 on a scale of 1 (easy) to 10 (hard). Please be advised that there is always a possibility for injury and/or poisonous snakes at these sites.

If you want to go, please sign the list. If you sign up and decide not to go, please contact David McIlwain ASAP.

David McIlwain, MAGS Field Trip Coordinator
305 Caitlin Drive • Oakland, Tennessee 38060-4259
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ROCK STARZ SHINE

CORNELIA McDANIEL: In this column, each month, we acknowledge the volunteer efforts of MAGS members who continue to make contributions to the overall success of our club.

This month we recognize the team of **Frank and Frances Walker**. The Walkers have continually supported their club for over sixteen years. Frank has served on the board of directors and Frances has long

provided 'Sunshine' services by keeping the membership updated when our fellow members experience illness. Frank and Frances are always there at the close of the monthly membership meetings to turn a tidy hand to restore the meeting hall to cleanliness.

Thank you, Frank and Frances, for all your hard work!

ASHEVILLE GEM FEST 2004 COMING IN JUNE

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION SCIENTIST TO SPEAK AT ASHEVILLE GEM FEST 2004

TOM WILSON (COLBURN EARTH SCIENCE MUSEUM, ASHEVILLE, NC):

Dr. Michael A. Wise from the Department of Mineral Sciences of the National Museum of Natural History will be the featured speaker on Saturday afternoon, June 19, at the Asheville Gem Fest 2004 sponsored by the Colburn Earth Science Museum. Both talks will take place in the Dianna Wortham Theater in Pack Place.

Dr. Wise has done extensive research on a number of world-wide pegmatites and will be discussing the mineralogy of two famous gem-bearing pegmatites in the Southeast:

1. The Morefield Mine in Amelia, VA. The mine is renowned for a number of minerals, but probably most famous for gem quality amazonite. The mine is featured in a display at the Smithsonian. This talk is scheduled for 1:30 PM.
2. The famous locality of Hiddenite, NC is the subject of the second talk. Dr. Wise has been researching the geological origin of the emeralds

from this area and may have some surprises to share with us. James K. Hill of North American Emerald Mines will be a special guest for this talk and will share information on his current mining efforts at Hiddenite. Scheduled for 3:00PM Saturday.

3. Admission to both presentations is free.

The Asheville Gem Fest will be held from Friday, June 18 through Sunday, June 20 and features quality dealers in gems and pearls, jewelry, mineral specimens, meteorites, and more. Children and adults will be able to search for crystals at an outdoor flume, pan for gold or discover crystal surprises with a geode cracker. The shows silent auction offers visitors a chance to bid on jewelry, minerals and gift certificates from many local businesses and restaurants. For more information, call the Museum at (828) 232-1329 or visit our website at www.colburnmuseum.org.

Admission to the Gemfest and the Colburn Museum is free during the weekend events.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NEWS, ARTICLES, ANNOUNCEMENTS,
OR PICTURES FOR THE JULY ISSUE OF MAGS ROCKHOUND NEWS IS **JUNE 19, 2004**

IN MEMORY OF ESTELLA JAMES

NANCY FOLDEN: Former MAGS member, Estella James passed away in May. Estella had not been a member of MAGS since she moved to the Lutheran Home several years ago, but she had many friends in MAGS. She was 91 years old.



SUNSHINE REPORT

CORNELIA McDANIEL: This month we send *CHEERS* to **Carolyn Hays, John Jones and Roger Van Cleef**. The first half of the year has been tough, so we look forward smoother times ahead.

All you poison ivy and mosquito bite sufferers, take care.

We also send our condolences to the families of **Edwin Rice and Estella James**.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Birthstone = Alexandrite

4 - Ruth Young	17 - George Fulghum	27 - Allyson Bethune
5 - Allen Thom	17 - Don Givens	29 - Jennifer Baldwin
6 - Sandra Ann Swink	19 - Norman Daniels	29 - Cornelia McDaniel
7 - Edward DeVoe, Jr.	20 - Melissa Johnston	30 - Sean DeVoe
13 - Sherri McCalla	20 - Vivian Sharpe	30 - William Sanford
15 - Matthew Huber	21 - Allen Helt	
16 - Ann Williams	25 - Doris Johnston	

QUARTZ: ABUNDANCE AND BEAUTY

... continued from page one

like a cactus with “pricklies” going out in all directions.

Smoky quartz is a term used to describe quartz ranging in color from pale brown to virtually black. This color results from natural radiation. Some of the finest smoky quartz crystals can be found in the small pegmatites of the Pikes Peak region of Colorado.

The most highly valued quartz is the lilac to deep purple amethyst. The deeper the color in an amethyst gem, the more valuable it is. Fine, deep-colored amethyst occurs in the quarries of Paterson, New Jersey. Druse amethyst, generally pale in hue, occurs abundantly in the silver mines of Guanajuato, Mexico. The color of amethyst is caused by trace amounts of Fe^{+3} . Golden colored quartz is called citrine. Citrine is found in the same localities as amethyst and formed under the same conditions. It is yellow to yellow-brown in color and resembles the gem topaz.

Rose quartz usually occurs as massive material in pegmatite dikes. Crystals are extremely rare, and usually poorly formed. The color of rose quartz is caused by trace amounts of titanium, and ranges from pale pink to a deep rose red. South Riverside County, California has yielded a considerable amount of beautiful deep-pink rose quartz.

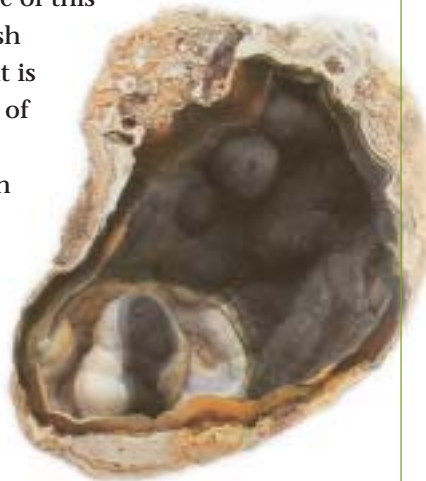
Milky quartz [milk white]; aventurine [glistening with enclosed scales of mica or hematite]; cat's eye [with opalescent asbestos inclusions]; tigereye [with lustrous yellow to brown parallel fibers] . . . all these are quartz, and the list goes on.

Last summer, I found a very unusual geode in the shallow surf of Honeymoon Island, Florida. The inside of this geode was filled with a waxy, purple-ish black, bubbly mass. Quartz. Actually, it is chalcedony, a microcrystalline variety of quartz. The bubbly inside is called a mammillary or botryoidal mass, which is the way chalcedony usually occurs. Many pseudomorphs of chalcedony after coral and shells may be found in the Tampa Bay/Honeymoon Island area of Florida.

Especially beautiful are the petrified trees of Arizona which have been replaced by chalcedony.

My favorite mineral specimen is a piece of chalcedony from Round Mountain, Hildego County, New Mexico. It is milky white and looks

see Quartz: Abundance and Beauty on page nine . . .



Botryoidal Chalcedony

Photo courtesy of Eyewitness Books: Rocks and Minerals by Chris Pellant

MAGS ROADCUT

WC McDANIEL: *Welcome to the MAGS ROADCUT. ROADCUT is designed to provide general information and news for rockhounds.*

fossil news . . . the University of Pittsburgh has announced the discovery of a T-Rex skull that is reportedly to be the most complete found to date. Within the same week an auction was scheduled in Los Angeles of what was described as the first T-rex found. I am not aware of the auction results.

smithsonite . . . the July edition of Rock and Gem has an excellent article on Smithsonite including material from the Rush, Arkansas area. It appears the writer, Bob Jones, would really like to have piece of the “bright-yellow Smithsonite casts after calcite.” Any MAGSters out there willing to part with one. It apparently is highly sought after and quite valuable.

agate names . . . the agate we call ‘banded’ is also referred to in various sources as river agate, Mississippi agate, Louisiana agate, Crowley’s Ridge agate and Mommy’s agate. The latter name was given because the finder found it on his mother’s property.

geode . . . the term is derived from the Greek word Geoides which means “earthlike.”

Send your MAGS Roadcut News to WC McDaniel at cfmcdaniel@worldnet.att.net

PROGRAM NOTES

The May program “Fossils of Arkansas” was presented by John David McFarland, Arkansas State Geologist.

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION NEWS



DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of the Northeast Georgia Mineral Society of
Cornelia, VA (Host) • 9:00 a.m. (EDST), Saturday, June 5, 2004
Chunky Gal Knob, Clay County, NC (Natahala National Forest)

FIELD TRIP DETAILS: We will meet at the intersection of US 64 and Buck Creek Road at 9:00 AM EDT. This spot is 16.5 miles west of Franklin NC. and 12.1 miles east of the intersection of NC 175 and US 64. Children, under close supervision, and pets, on a leash, are okay.

COLLECTING: Participants will be looking for smaragdite, a green chrome-rich amphibole and for corundum.

Corundum from this site occurs as: white/gray, pink, blue, or bronze. The pink corundum will fluoresce under UV. Tremolite has also been found at this site.

CONDITIONS: USFS regulations limit hole depth to 18".

BRING: Heavy shoes/boots, eye protection, 1/4" - 1/2" screens, buckets, shovel, sledge and rock hammer,

chisels, prybar. Also bring lunch, beverage/water, insect repellent and sunscreen.

ACCOMMODATIONS: There are a number of restaurants and motels, in Franklin and south of Franklin, on US 441 and NC 28.

CONTACTS: Kim Cochran (770) 979-8331

Ron Skvarka (706) 754-2418 amysk@hemc.net

Richard F. Walter (770) 532-8874

Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!

SFMS & OTHER CLUB SHOWS AND EVENTS

June 5-6, Birmingham, AL– Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society. 31st Tannehill Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show at Tannehill Furnace Historical Park near Birmingham, AL. Hours: 5th and 6th: 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Show admission free to public with \$1 to \$2 admission fee to enter the park. Contact Rick Kittinger, 1612 Coleburg Circle, Hoover, AL 35226 or rick.kittinger@bellsouth.com.

June 11-13, Charlotte, NC– Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club. Oasis Shrine Center, Charlotte, NC. The show is located in the university area just off I-85 at exit 45, a very short run off the interstate. Hours: 11th and 12th, 10:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.; 13th, 10:00 A.M.-5:00P.M. Contact: Dealer chairperson, Becky Strickland, 5110 Kistler Ave., Charlotte, NC 28205 or jsrskat@msn.com.

June 11-13, Park Hills, MO (Midwest Federation)–Rock Swap, Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society, Missouri Mines State Historic Site; Hwy 32, 1.5 miles W of US Hwy 67, Fri, Sat, Sun 9:00-6:00. Contact Lloyd E.Marler, 5084 Flat River Rd, Farmington, MO 63640, (573) 431-2951.

July 21-25, Franklin, NC–The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC. Macon County Community Building, 1288 Georgia Hwy., Franklin, NC. Hours: 21st-24th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 25th, Noon-5:00 P.M. Contact Fred Plesner at willa@dnet.net.

Dec. 10-12, Norcross, GA–Southeast Federation Annual Convention and Show. Host: Georgia Mineral Society.

MAGS REVIEW

APRIL 1, 2004 BOARD MEETING NOTES

RAYNEE RANDOLPH: The MAGS board of directors met April 1, 2004 at The Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue. The following were present: Mike Baldwin, Idajean Jordan, Cornelia and W.C. McDaniel, David McIlwain, Park and Terri Noyes, Raynee Randolph, Bill Scheffer, and Lou White. The secretary's minutes from the March board and general meetings were accepted and approved with corrections. The following reports were given: (1) **Treasurer:** The financial report was given, motion made, seconded, and the vote carried the motion to approve report subject to audit. (2) **1st VP:** April we will be going to Arkansas Crater of Diamonds State Park. A group of 20 or more will get us all in for half price. Sunday we will go to Magnet Cove, and then to collect Indian paint balls. I have info available of the swap in Missouri. May 22 we will go to the Black Rock Mine for pink dolomite and calcite. Steel toed shoes or boots, hard hats and safety glasses are required. Memorial Day my family will be going to Jet OK. Any one wishing to go, see me later. (3) **Program:** Mike Howard will have a program on "The Crater of Diamonds". More info later about the May program." (4) **Editor/Web:** *Loadstar* has a new editor. We are looking forward to some good articles. (5) **Library:** New library cards are being printed for our new members. A video will be purchased in memory of Mildred Laster. (6) **Juniors:** We will have a geode give away, talk about Dino cards and tell them to contribute their "stuff" for displays in the Rock Zone. (7) **Membership/Sunshine:** Condolences to Pam Crumpton. There could be recognition for the members that have turned "Lifetime and Honorary." – a special bio for the newsletter. Associate membership approved for Michael Bradshaw. (8) **Show:** April 5th will be the last meeting before the show. April 10th will be a grab bag stuffing day at W.C.'s. (9) **Old Business:** [a] We will have no lapse in insurance coverage but there will be a minimal increase in cost. [b] Elementary science fair will be judged April 27th. [c] Chucalissa huts to come down this year. MAGS could have a workday to rebuild for community service? (10) **New Business:** [a] We have a new TV stand for the TV. [b] Approval has been given for the new directories to be mailed to members by June.

APRIL 9, 2004 GENERAL MEETING NOTES

RAYNEE RANDOLPH: MAGS April General Membership meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on April 9, 2004, presided by President W.C. McDaniel. There were 56 members and 4 visitors present. They were: Diane and Maxwell Thornton, Pam Gwiley and Cecily Riley. (1) **Show:** Member tickets are here, take some and pass them out. Don't forget to sign them. Please sign the volunteer lists here on the table. This show cannot take place without volunteers. There is also a food list to sign. We feed a lot of people on Friday evening. SO SIGN UP! (2) **Field trips:** April 17th will take us to The Crater of Diamonds, AR. Leave the weekend of the 23-25 open for the show at the fair grounds. May 22nd we will collect pink dolomite from the Black Rock mine in Arkansas. Regulations of the mine REQUIRE steel-toed shoes or boots, hard hats and protective eye wear. This is a working mine. (3) **Programs:** Mike Howard is here tonight from the Arkansas State Geology Department on the Crater of Diamonds State Park. (4) **Displays:** **Adult:** Dennis Sanders – Meteors; **Juniors:** Megan Givens – Personal Collection; Charlie Thomas-- Quartz Crystals; Hunter Hill – Field Trip Material. **Winners** – Dennis Sanders and Charlie Thomas. There were three door prizes awarded and we dismissed @ 9:45 for refreshments.

2004 SHOW REPORT

As the club's show work moves into a short summer time recess we can look back and reflect on our April show:

- The measuring of a show's success is a fairly subjective process. So I used two basic criteria. First, did the show return a "profit" that maintains the financial viability for next year's show? It did very easily. Second, did dealers indicate a plan to return in 2005? All those that completed an evaluation form stated they will and some want to move from a small booth to a large booth. Our three new dealers reported a successful show and want to return in 2005.
- The comments and feedback indicated the crowd came on Saturday and a lot of the money came on Sunday. One dealer reported a \$4200 sale.
- The first dealer arrived on the parking lot about 10 Thursday morning. The last dealer left the inside of the Pipkin about 10:00 p.m. Sunday night (methodical packers).
- Grand door prize winners - Richard Beckwith won the Atocha coin and Alan Adams won the meteorite. Alan is a third grade student and last fall wrote a school paper on meteorites. Alan was very excited about winning
- The ROCKZONE rocked and roll all weekend. The new attraction of the "Rocks Around the Clock" was a successful addition. Two other positive indicators. First ,we just about exhausted are supply of gem dig material and income was almost double from the previous year

Special thanks to:

- Dana Griffin, Idajeon Jordan, Dick McKitrick, Doris Parsons, Raynee Randolph, Docia Lentz, Kim

Prud'Homme, Darryl Levitch, Lou White, Park Noyes and Alan Parks for the many hours of planning and working on the show committee

- Dana and Dean Griffin and Doris Parsons- for the show dinner and hospitality. The feedback and reviews were numerous and excellent.
- Carl Warren- Carl arrived at the Pipkin Building on Thursday morning and basically stayed until late Sunday afternoon.
- James Butchko- for making the display cases and working multiple shifts including late night security.
- Melinda Warren- for working multiple shifts throughout the weekend.
- Susan Thom- for supplying fresh cut flowers for the front ticket booth
- Bill, Casey, Raynee, Emily and Abbey Randolph, and Allen Thom- for work in the ROCKZONE
- Michael, Sherri, Jennifer and Kelly Baldwin, Carlene Bell, Barry Burns, Richard Butterick, Marilyn Free, George Fulghum, John, Don and Megan Givens, Richard and Paula Gunter, David , Sherri and Kristopher Helms, Hunter Hill, Alan Jacobs, Melissa Johnston, Matthew and Carol Lybanon, Cornelia McDaniel, David McLawin, Mike McNellis, David and Lenora Murray, Alishia Parks, Kim and Leah Novarese, Teresa Noyes, James Parsons, Mary Ramsey, Dennis Sanders, David Sanford, Renee South, Ronda Spears, David Vaughn, Frank and Francis Walker, Sandy Ward, Ed Underhill- for all your volunteer work during the show

And finally—Mark your calendar. The 2005 show will be April 23 and 24. In addition we will host the board meeting of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

MAGS SPECIAL EVENT

On Saturday, June 12 [9:00AM - noon] MAGS members will have the opportunity to view the collection of Charlie McPherson. Charlie, A life member of MAGS, died in January. Check the February edition of the newsletter for a story on Charlie and his collection. If you have not had the opportunity to see Charlie's collection or wish see one of the finest private collections in the South you are encouraged to mark your calendar. Charlie built his house which includes a fireplace made of petrified wood and a " museum" that displays his 70 years of collection. Charlie's place is located at 295 Hilltop Circle in Brighton. The most direct route is to take Austin Peay Highway (TN-14) for about 23-24 miles. Turn left onto Hilltop Circle. Charlie's house will be on your right. Dress casually as Charlie's museum is not air-conditioned.

MINI-MAGS NEWS [WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE KIDS]

POINTS

SPEARS, ARROWS AND STONE IMPLEMENTS



Archaeologists use the word “point” for the tip on a spear or an arrow. They also call a stone implement a point even when it served as a knife and not as the tip of a projectile. Examination by microscope often reveals whether or not a point has been used as a knife; certain wear-marks appear on it. Sometimes it is even possible to tell what kind of material was cut by the point.

If a stone tool was used as a scraper this too can be discovered by studying the edge with a microscope. The wear-marks left by scraping are very different from those left by cutting.

The three views above show a flint blade that has been turned into a point only 1-5/8 inches long. This delicate workmanship was done by pre-Eskimo craftsmen at Cape Denbigh in Alaska.

Reference [Information and Illustration]:

Folsom, Franklin and Rachel; America's Ancient Treasures; Rand McNally & Company, New York, NY; 1971.

Information gathered for educational purposes under the provisions of the "Fair Use Act of 1976."

QUARTZ: ABUNDANCE AND BEAUTY . . . continued from page five

like a kneaded bit of dough waiting to be baked into a fine pastry. But the quality that makes this piece so spectacular is its fluorescence. Under a short wave ultraviolet light, this piece of chalcedony fluoresces a brilliant green.

The color of chalcedony is highly variable, and may be white. Varieties of chalcedony include jasper [an opaque form]; agate [a form with concentric banding of different colors]; moss agate [with dark dendritic patterns]; chrysoprase [a green variety]; and onyx [in which the banding is parallel]. Carnelian is red to reddish brown and sard is light to dark brown.

If you have been on any of the MAGS field trips to Richardson's Landing or Nonconnah Creek, then you probably have a few fortification agates and jaspers in your collection. They are abundant on the sandbars of the Mississippi River and her tributaries.

Flint and chert are non-gem types of granular cryptocrystalline quartz. Flint can be whitish, dull gray, or smoky brown to black. Flint is found as isolated

nodules in chalk or marly limestones, commonly as fossil casts of invertebrate burrows. Chert is a chemical sedimentary rock which solidifies from the siliceous sediments which cover large parts of the seafloor, and are deposited onto the continents in areas where the earth's tectonic plates have collided.

Because of the ease with which they flake into useful shapes, and their strength and ability to hold an edge, flint and chert were used by early hunters and gatherers to fashion their tools and weapons. Many of these Native American points can be seen in the collections of MAGS members.

References:

[1] Chesterman, Charles W.; *National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Rocks and Minerals*; Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY; 1995.

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[3] Howard, Darcy and Mike; *Collecting Crystals: The Guide to Quartz in Arkansas*; A&I Studio Press, Little Rock, AR; 2000.

[4] Pellant, Chris; *Eyewitness Handbooks: Rocks and Minerals*; DK Publishing, Inc., New York, NY; 1992.

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IN MEMORY OF EDWIN RICE

EDWIN E. RICE, 85, of Memphis, retired chemical engineer, died Wednesday, May 26, 2004. He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church, Memphis Archeological & Geological Society, American Chemical Society, American Oil Chemists Society and Tau Beta Pi

Engineering Honorary Fraternity. Mr. Rice, the husband of Ruth Blume Rice for 60 years, leaves two daughters, Mary Trimmer of Plymouth, MI, and Ruth Cash of Winston-Salem, NC; two sons, Charles Rice of Jacksonville, IL, and Mel Roshanravan of Dallas, TX.

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