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## MAGNET COVE ARKANSAS



**Lodestone**

image courtesy of  
www.RockhoundingAR.com

Magnet Cove (located about 12 miles east of the city of Hot Springs, in Hot Spring County, Arkansas) is a ring-dike complex of alkalic rocks covering an oval-shaped area of about five square miles. The cove is made up of volcanic rocks which were injected through the crust mostly in a molten state. When it reached the upper crust, some of the magma had already begun to crystallize. Today we recognize around 100 mineral species from the cove. Many of the mineral types and combinations are of world-wide interest to mineralogists because

they are known to occur in only two other localities: (1) the Ural Mountains in western Russia, and; (2) the Tyrolean Alps in Austria.<sup>1</sup>

Magnet Cove mineral collectors come in two types: micromounters and collectors who love black or dark colored minerals.<sup>1</sup>

Micromounters discover unique crystals of many types and are not limited to a well known location to hunt for specimens. Any old rock will do, just so long as when it is broken, it contains cavities.<sup>1</sup> I'm sure the MAGS Micromounters will be studying minerals from the Magnet Cove Complex.

Rockhounds and collectors who like black minerals, sometimes perched on black minerals, can hunt for brookite crystals on smoky quartz, loose clusters of magnetite, perovskite, spinel, and hercynite in the soils overlying the carbonatite zones, single and small clusters of schorlomite garnet in the soils formed from the central core of ijolite, and rutile black from the presence of niobium and iron  
(see Magnet Cove Arkansas on page five)

## JULY EVENTS

July 2	6:30p Board Meeting: Barnhill's @ Eastgate Shopping Center
July 12	7:30p General Meeting: Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Rd., Memphis (bring displays and snacks) Adult Program: "Magnet Cove" presented by Mike Howard Youth Program: "Dreamcatchers" presented by Don Blalock
July 20	10:00a MAGS Rock Swap at the home of Carolyn Hays (see page 7)
July 20	9:00a DMC Field Trip: Union Mills, North Carolina (see page 6)
July 27	8:00a MAGS Field Trip: Magnet Cove, Arkansas (see page 3)

## 2001-2002 MAGS BOARD

**President--Louis White**

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**Historian--Idajean Jordan**

104 Plainview, Memphis, TN 38111  
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**Show Chairperson--W.C. McDaniel**

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901-274-7706

**Show Treasurer--Dick McKittrick**

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901-683-3235

MAGS Rockhound News is published monthly by and for the members of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Please send your comments and articles to Mike Baldwin, 367 N. Main St., Collierville, TN 38017.

## Greetings from the Prez

There were over 30 MAGS members on the Potoso trip. It was great to see so many of you collecting druse quartz. My three best pieces were stolen right out from under me. I left them by the road to go back and get some more and when I came back they were gone (along with my favorite collecting bag). I guess it just goes to show you that we need to be careful and look out for each other on our field trips. You never know who's lurking in the shadows.

We've started doing things a little bit different at the General Meetings. The business part of the meeting (field trip announcements, rock swap information, details about future programs and field trips, displays, etc.) starts at 7:30, then the program part of the meeting starts at 8:00 (or earlier if all the business is finished). All members meet together until program time. The youth are then dismissed to go to their area. After the youth program is finished they'll all come back and join the rest of us. Youth members, please remember to be extra quiet when you come back in, so you don't interrupt the speaker. We'll have a couple of rows of chairs set up just for you, so you don't have to scramble through the crowd to get to your parents.

Don't miss the Rock Swap at Carolyn Hays' house on July 20. Be sure to bring your favorite dish and bring some rocks to sell or trade if you want to.

see you at the meeting and bring a friend



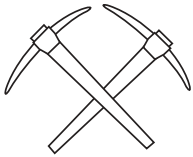
## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members to MAGS:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (1) Turner J. Cole<br>8728 Carrollwood Cove<br>Cordova, TN 38016<br>901-388-8901  | (2) Beverly Crockett<br>2067 Carr Avenue<br>Memphis, TN 38104<br>901-272-9963                                      |
| (3) Dana, Dean, & Rachel Griffin<br>955 Robin Hood Lane<br>Memphis, TN 38111<br>901-327-3643<br>DGriff1@midsouth.rr.com | (4) Don & Dr. Darrell Richardson<br>1960 N. Parkway, #406<br>Memphis, TN 38112<br>901-276-1387<br>donrich@juno.com |

## UPCOMING MAGS FIELD TRIPS

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>July 27</b>      | Magnet Cove, Malvern, Arkansas                   |
| <b>August 24</b>    | Tunnel Mine, Yellville, Arkansas                 |
| <b>September 21</b> | MAGS Host DMC, Vulcan Quarry, Parsons, Tennessee |
| <b>October 26</b>   | Richardson Landing, Millington, Tennessee        |
| <b>November 23</b>  | Birmingham Ridge, Tupelo, Mississippi            |



## MAGS FIELD TRIP MAGNET COVE, AR

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2002, 10:00am

FIELD TRIP LEADER DAVID McILWAIN (901) 465-7388

COLLECTING SITE: Magnet Cove, Arkansas

MINERALS: We will be collecting pyrite, calcite, rutile, mica, garnet, brookite and other rocks and minerals associated with pegmatite.

ESTIMATED DRIVING TIME: 4.5-5 hours from Memphis.

MEETING SITE: We will meet at the convenience store located just south of the exit where I-30 and Hwy. 270 intersect (Malvern, Arkansas).

DIRECTIONS: Take I-40 from Memphis to Little Rock, AR. At Little Rock, take I-30 south to Malvern, AR. At the Malvern AR Hwy. 270 exit, take Hwy. 270 East toward Malvern. Go to the convenience store on the left (just a few hundred feet from the exit) and look for MAGS members. At 10:15 SHARP we will convoy to the collecting site. Convoy rules apply: (1) turn on your head lights while in convoy; (2) keep the car behind you well within sight; (3) if the car behind you slows or stops, you slow or stop; (4) pay attention to the leader's instructions and itinerary.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL (1 EASIEST TO 10): Level 4.

TOOLS: Specimens will be found in rock, clay, creek bottoms, and on the surface. At times you may have to pry or chisel mineral out of rock. However, loose minerals can be found in clay or on the ground where no real digging is required. Digging tools may include small shovel, rock pick, chisels, crowbar or other similar tools. Gloves and knee pads are a good idea. Take collecting containers such as a bucket or box and newspaper to wrap specimens.

SAFETY: All safety rules must be followed. At this site, there is always the possibility of injury or an encounter with snakes, ticks, or poison plants. Be prepared. If a person performs an unsafe act that endangers him(her)self, others, or property, he(she) will be required to leave the site. All children must be supervised by their parent or guardian at all times. Any time eye hazards exist, safety glasses must be worn. If you want to collect in an area away from the group, advise the field trip leader and do not collect alone.

FIELD TRIP LEADER: David McIlwain (901) 465-7388; cell (901) 266-1446; email djmcilwain@earthlink.net. If you want to go, please sign the list. If you sign up and decide not to go, please contact David McIlwain ASAP.

PLEASE NOTE: This trip is open only to MAGS members and their guests.

### EDITOR'S NOTES

- [1] Thanks to John D. McFarland for a fantastic program on "Arkansas Fossils" in June. My apologies for listing his name wrong under program information in the June newsletter.
- [2] Due to overlapping events, the June Rock Swap listed for June 22 could not take place. Carolyn Hays has graciously agreed to host the July Swap on the 20th.
- [3] Thank you to George Loud for donating a box full of mineral specimens to MAGS.



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

July Birthstone is RUBY

- 1—David Barton
- 3—Connie Devine
- 3—Renee Rowland
- 3—Wayne Williams
- 6—Sherry Barton
- 7—Steve Huber
- 14—Sandy Ward
- 17—Andy Lewis
- 17—Melinda Warren
- 18—Kristina Spencer
- 19—Bill Scheffer
- 21—Susan Vaughn
- 22—Kathy Foster
- 23—Mary Gibson
- 23—Bill Norton
- 23—Doris Parsons
- 24—Michael Harris
- 25—Jenny Vaughn
- 27—Ken Lovelett
- 28—Roman Novarese



## SUNSHINE REPORT

FRANK & FRANCIS WALKER—  
**Roger Van Cleef** is back and doing great. He attended the June meeting and also held the first Micromounters meeting at his house on June 20. We wish **Breezy Levitch** well as she recovers from surgery on her hand. Breezy will be without the use of her hand for about eight weeks. Thank you Darryl for keeping us informed about Breezy.

*If you, or a MAGS member you know, becomes ill, please call Frances and Frank Walker at 372-6206 and let them know.*

## JUNE BOARD MEETING AT RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

In 2001 MAGS Show Chairman, W.C. McDaniel, presented the Ronald McDonald House with a check for \$1000.00 after the 2001 Show. In keeping with a tradition set in 2001, on June 5, 2002, W.C. presented the Ronald McDonald House with another check for \$1000.00 from proceeds of the 2002 Show.

The June MAGS Board Meeting was held at the Ronald McDonald House in conjunction with the presentation of the check. Board members talked with several of the children and helped them sort through polished rocks, sharks teeth, druse quartz, and crinoids to fill ziplocks bags to take home with them.

There were children there from Louisiana and Kansas and other parts of the country, but they all had two things in common: they were all a long way from home and they all loved rocks! Rather than spend their summer running and playing with their friends in their own backyards, these children and their families are at the Ronald McDonald House, hoping for miracles. Those little bags of rocks brought smiles to their fragile faces.

### Ronald McDonald House Mission Statement:

A strong mind. A strong body. And a safe, supportive place to grow. These are things that every child needs - and deserves - to have.



# TOP 10 REASONS TO TRY MICROMOUNTING

Micromounting is the study of minerals that require magnification for best appreciation. Micromounters generally use low-power (10-60x) binocular microscopes, and painstakingly mount the specimens in micro-mount boxes which are about 20 mm on edge. You know you're a micromounter when you find yourself mounting a half millimeter crystal on a toothbrush bristle. Sound cool? Read on!

1. **STORAGE:** While you probably can't fit a thousand micromounts on the head of a pin, you can sure fit them in a small box under your bed, making micromounting ideal for apartment dwellers or anyone who has heard the immortal phrase "Get those rocks out of here!"
2. **EASY COLLECTING:** Field collecting superb 10cm crystals of a rare mineral isn't particularly easy, but the micromounter can find something of interest almost anywhere.
3. **PERFECTION:** Micro crystals are perfectly formed and undamaged far more often than cabinet specimens. They are the peak of aesthetics.
4. **VARIETY:** There's only a few hundred minerals out there that come in nice big crystals, and almost no new species are found in sizeable crystals. Go to any mineral show and what do you see - table after table of aquamarine, quartz, and fluorite. Micromounters work with far more species than hand-specimen collectors, and are familiar with far more rarities.
5. **LOW PRICES:** The average price of a micromount is \$3. Really expensive ones are \$20. The initial expense of a good scope and proper light is pretty steep, but after that you're set.
6. **NO FAKES:** When a lot of money is changing hands for a fine cabinet piece, one has to be wary that the specimen hasn't been altered or faked in some way. Faking micromounts is not only extremely rare, it's nearly impossible, as a microscope easily reveals glue where it shouldn't be.
7. **CHEAP SHIPPING:** Sending 100 micromounts by airmail to Europe is far more affordable than 100 cabinet pieces.
8. **YEAR ROUND FUN:** A large part of what drives field collectors is the thrill of discovery. The micromounter with a good hoard of material doesn't have the constraints of a field season - no matter what the weather is like he can pull some rocks out of storage, trim them down, and find fantastic crystal-filled vugs never before seen by man. The micromounter can delve through his stock of material and find new stuff any day of the week, and he can go collecting in his basement even if it's 2:00 AM and 20 degrees below outside. It's a year round hobby.
9. **WEIRD AND WONDERFUL:** The micromounter sees things that aren't even imagined by 'macro' collectors. Things like spiral millerite crystals, Sweet Home Mine rhodochrosite rhombs with moving bubble inclusions, or minerals like rutile, pyrite, and boulangerite in ring crystals, to name a very few of the bizarre things seen by the micromounter.
10. **FREE STUFF!:** Last time you went to your average, garden-variety mineral show, did they have tables filled with fine cabinet specimens free for the taking? At micromount symposia, give-away tables loaded with interesting stuff are standard practice. Micromounters are a very generous bunch!

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## MAGNET COVE ARKANSAS

(continued from page one)

in the mineral's structure. Small dark brown kimzeyite garnets, along with shiny perovskite, contrast nicely with white calcite, yellowish carbonate-fluorapatite, emerald green biotite, and brown monticellite.<sup>1</sup>

There are also some interesting white and other colored minerals from the area, including fine-grained nepheline and potassium feldspar pseudomorphs after leucite, albite bowties after an unknown mineral (almost looks like it's after stilbite!), albite "rice grain" rose specimens, iron pyrite coated with molybdenite so it looks a little like galena to the unexperienced eye, masses of naturally magnetic magnetite (lodestone) and many others, too numerous to name.<sup>1</sup>

Magnet Cove is a 100-million-year old igneous intrusion (mass of igneous rock) of some rare and unusual rock types—all derived from a melt that was originally a CO<sub>2</sub>-rich basaltic liquid in the earth's upper mantle. The Magnet Cove Complex was intruded into highly folded Paleozoic sedimentary rocks during the Cretaceous time. 1 or 2 miles east of Magnet Cove these rocks are overlain by the Cretaceous and Tertiary sedimentary rocks of the Gulf Coastal Plain. The intrusion's piercing style resulted in a steep, near vertical contact with the country host rock, Paleozoic shales and novaculite. It is likely that the intrusion never reached the surface. Only one geologist in the 1930's described anything like a vent. It is probable that what he described, though volcanoclastic in appearance, was a steep-walled breccia pipe or explosion zone as has been noted in the smaller pipe at Potash Sulphur Springs, about 4 miles west of Magnet Cove.<sup>1</sup>

Magnet Cove was a large piercing body, some of which had already become a crystalline mush by the time it reached the elevations of its present exposure. It did not reach the surface, but caldera collapse resulted in injections of molten material into circular fracture zones. Caldera collapse happened several times. The resultant outcrop maps at the present level of erosion take on a somewhat circular pattern (sometimes called a ring-dike) for some of the major units.<sup>1</sup>

The silica-deficient molten liquids (no free quartz will form from these melts) underwent several stages of crystallization between injections and caldera collapse. And so, we have a series of igneous rocks with unusual compositions, all ultimately related to the mantle parent.<sup>1</sup>

Even though Magnet Cove (with its unique mineralogy—especially rich in titanium minerals) has been known to mineralogists and collectors since before 1850, the total amount of material in collections is small. Originally, most specimens were surface collected from the weathered soil and alluvium of the central Cove area. Since the late 1800's, mineral specimens have come from a few exploration and mining operations for titanium and vanadium, quarrying carbonatite, small-scale specimen digging and the Diamond Jo Quarry, noted for its microminerals.<sup>2</sup>

### Works Cited:

1. *Mike and Darcy Howard; Rockhounding Arkansas; <http://www.rockhoundingAR.com>; 1998-2000*

2. *Arthur E. Smith, Jr.; The Diamond Jo Quarry; "Rocks & Minerals", Vol. 64, No. 4; July/August, 1989*

For more information about Arkansas minerals, visit <http://www.rockhoundingAR.com>

## MAGS TRIP TO MISSOURI

W.C. McDANIEL—Over Memorial Day weekend twenty-five Magsters made the trip to Missouri in search of druse quartz, barite and lace agate. Saturday's trip took us to the Mark Twain National Forest where an abundance of good quality and pretty clean druse quartz was collected along the hills and dry streambeds and among the wildflowers, ferns, vines and a nice canopy of trees.

Sunday we returned to the previously visited site near Potosi in search of druse, barite and lace agate. Some good finds were made, although one can see that this is a heavily collected and visited site. A club from Illinois was there the day before we arrived. Recent rains had flooded an area that has produced some nice bladed barite in the past.

With several days in Missouri, Magsters made side trips to the antique malls, the mineral museum, a glass factory's field of glass and frequent visits to the local restaurants.

A couple of trip observations: [1] Magsters have strong opinions and feelings about snakes, poison ivy and ticks; and [2] observing trip departure times and using convoy guidelines assure all Magsters the opportunity to get to the collecting site in a safe and timely manner.



druse image courtesy of [www.osomin.com/dq7.jpg](http://www.osomin.com/dq7.jpg)

## SFMS CLUBS SHOWS/EVENTS

AUG 17, 2002

### 1st Annual Rock Swap

Rockingham County Gem and Mineral Society, Reidsville, NC  
Penn Civic Center, 324 Maple Ave.  
contact: picnshovl@aol.com

AUG 30–SEP 2, 2002 • 10am–6pm

### 21st Annual Gem and Mineral Spectacular

Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society • Whitmore Activity Building, Lily Pond Rd., Hendersonville, NC  
contact: Margaret Johnson, P.O. Box 6391, Hendersonville, NC 28739-6391 • 828-692-1249

AUG 31, 2002 • 9am–4pm

### Annual Micromount Symposium

Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society • Salvation Army Bldg., Grove St. between 3rd & 4th  
contact: Emily Adams, 355 Pelham Rd., Greenville, SC 29615 • 864-271-3877

SEP 6 & 7, 2002 • 10am–7pm

SEP 8, 2002 • Noon–6pm

### 31st Annual Gem & Mineral Show

Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club • Ed. Bldg, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Deacon Blvd., Winston-Salem, NC  
contact: Paul Burton, 2001 Walker Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27106 • 336-924-8510

*Class schedules and applications for Wild Acres and William Holland are available from Nancy Folden, MAGS Librarian, or from the SFMS website located at <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>*

## FEDERATION NEWS



**Dixie Mineral Field Trip: Hosted by the Henderson County [NC] Gem and Mineral Society**  
Saturday, July 20, 2002 • 9:00 am EDT  
Thermal City Gold Mine, Union City, NC

- \$5.00 panning fee for all day for DMC member clubs • Children allowed
- Small pets on a leash are allowed • Ample parking, bathroom facilities on grounds
- Camping available • Food two miles away
- Complete line of prospecting equipment available at the on-site store.

There are static mining displays and a small gift store/office. Panning material is brought to you from the creek. Bring your own equipment or rent/purchase on site.

There is a campground on-site which offers riverside camping, hot showers, and a place to pan, sluice, dredge and detect. Drugs, alcohol and firearms are not permitted.

**Rates are:** [1] Primitive \$ 7.00 per night; [2] Limited sites with electricity \$10.00 per night. For reservations call (828) 286-3016.

#### For area accommodations:

Park Inn: I-40 & 221 south (exit 85); Marion, NC; (828) 659-2567

Scenic Inn: I-40 & 221 south (exit 85); Marion, NC; (828) 659-7940

Days Inn of Forest City: Hwy 74 Bypass; Forest City, NC; (828) 248-3400

**Time to meet:** 9 AM, Saturday, 20 July 2002 at Thermal City Gold Mine, 5240 US 221, Union Mills, NC 28167

**Directions to the mine:** From I-40, take Hwy. 221 (Marion, NC to Forrest City, NC) south 9 miles. The mine is located on the left across from the Thermal City sign at 5240 US 221, Union Mills, NC 28167 or from I-85 at Spartanburg, SC take 221 north through Rutherfordton, NC, then 12 miles on right, across from the Thermal City sign. Polly Sprout Road is directly across the highway from the sign. Mine is at the Rutherfordton-McDowell County Line.

**Contacts:** email: jnaney@blueridge.net or Tim Barton at freedom23@citcom.net; Thermal City Gold Mine at [www.HuntForGold.com](http://www.HuntForGold.com)

**Notes:** DMC field trips are exclusively for DMC member clubs! This trip is closed to non-DMC clubs, their members, or members of the general public.

## GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETING IN MEMPHIS—MARCH 12-14, 2003

Combined Section Meeting of South-Central Section, GSA and Southeastern Section, GSA will be held at the University of Memphis, March 12-14, 2003.

**Pre-registration Deadline: February 5, 2003**

**Abstract Submission Deadline: December 10, 2002**

**University sponsors for the meeting:** University of Memphis Department of Earth Sciences, University of Mississippi Department of Geology and Geological Engineering, Arkansas State University Dept. of Chemistry and Program for Environmental Sciences. Visit <http://www.geosociety.org>

# MAGS REVIEW

## BOARD MEETING JUNE 6, 2002; 6:30pm

**RAYNEE RANDOLPH:** The June board meeting of MAGS was held 06/06/02 at Ronald McDonald House where a check for \$1000.00 was presented from the Rock Show. The following were present: Mike Baldwin, Don Blalock, Nancy Folden, Idajean Jordan, W.C. and Cornelia McDaniel, Dick McKitrick, Alan Parks, Raynee Randolph, Bill Scheffer, and Lou White. The secretary's minutes from the May board and general meetings were accepted and approved as written with one correction.

**FIRST VP REPORT:** The field trip June 29/30 will be Mt. Ida, Arkansas. See your newsletter for more details.

**2ND VP REPORT:** The adult program for this month will be "Arkansas Fossils" presented by John D. McFarland.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Scheffer presented the financial report. Motion made, seconded, and carried to approve reports, subject to audit.

**LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:** Work in progress. Library fines need to be published, posted, and put into effect.

**EDITOR'S REPORT:** Bill Scheffer will now be co-editor and Mike Baldwin will be the editor of the newsletter. S.C.R.I.B.E. asked Mike Baldwin to write articles for their quarterly newsletter about "putting newsletters together."

**YOUTH REPORT:** Youth program will be "Tumbling" presented by W.C. McDaniel. Field trip June 15th to Frankstown. Bring screens and shovels. Day camp has been canceled due to insurance concerns. Future Rockhounds of America pins will be distributed to each junior member. These pins come from the American Federation.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Motion made, seconded, and carried to accept the applications of four new families into the membership.

**SHOW REPORT:** W.C. has accepted the position of Show Chairman for the 2003 show. A suggestion was made that an understudy be appointed to work closely with W.C.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Paula Gunter will be our Rock Swap coordinator. The rock swap for June has been postponed until July 20th at the home of Carolyn Hays. July's board meeting will be Tuesday July 2nd at Barnhill's, Eastgate Plaza, 6:30pm.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Delta State is requesting a grant for the purchase of a fossil collection. Discussion will continue at the July meeting.

**SUGGESTIONS:** [1] Membership packets need improvement; [2] Club membership to Chucalissa being researched by Idajean; [3] Safety lectures should be given monthly. Poison ivy ID will be June; [4] Strategic plan should be ready for the three next goals. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

## MAGS ROCK SWAP SATURDAY, JULY 20, 10-2

*Bring pot luck dish, dessert or snack food and chairs. Bring a table if you plan to swap.*

The July Rock Swap will be at the home of Carolyn Hays, 222 N. Rowlett, Collierville, TN. Take Poplar Avenue (Hwy. 57) to Cooper Street. Turn south on Cooper, then east (left) on Rowlett. Carolyn's house is located between Cooper and Walnut Streets, on the left.

## GENERAL MEETING JUN 14, 2002; 7:30pm

**RAYNEE RANDOLPH:** The June meeting of MAGS was called to order by President Lou White at 7:40pm on Friday, June 14th, 2002 at the Shady Grove Presbyterian Church. There were 57 members present and 12 visitors. They were: Ann Waters, Michael Cates, James Butchko, Hunter Hill, Kimberle McElwain, Jade Powell, Kay Walsh, Chuck Hill, Emily Fox Hill, Denise Sartan, Michell White, and Shelby Ward.

**FIRST VP REPORT:** June 29-30 will be the dates for the Mt. Ida field trip. Please read page three of the June newsletter for complete details.

**2ND VP REPORT:** July program is "Magnet Cove" by Mike Howard.

**PROGRAM:** "Arkansas Fossils" presented by John D. McFarland.

**SAFETY LECTURE:** "Poison Ivy" by Don Blalock.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** [1] Rock swap for June has been canceled. July 20th rock swap will be at the home of Carolyn Hays. [2] Breezy Levitch will have surgery on her hand Wednesday, June 19th. [3] Micromounters class will meet Thursday, June 20th @ 7pm, at the home of Roger Van Cleef.

**DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:** Hunter Hill Jr., Melinda Warren, Mary Gibson, and Flo Seward.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm, followed by refreshments.

## WEB STATISTICS

Here's a brief look at our website ([www.memphisgeology.org](http://www.memphisgeology.org)) from 01.21.02 through 06..21.02:

Visits\* ..... 7,094  
Hits\*\* ..... 52,047  
Average visits per day ..... 46

\* visit= every time someone comes to the site

\*\* hit= every page viewed on the site



## THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER

### PARKIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL

**STATE PARK:** "Kid's Day" Sat., July 6; "Kid's Craft Series", weekdays through Aug. 3; "Saturday Kids In The Park" through Aug. 3; Hwy 64 and 184, west of West Memphis, AR.

**"SPACE STATION":** This feature IMAX film will show several times daily at the Pink Palace Museum in Memphis through November 15, 2002. You'll blast off into space with NASA astronauts from Cape Kennedy and Russian cosmonauts from Baikonur Cosmodrome for a journey to the ISS.

### "JOURNEY INTO AMAZING

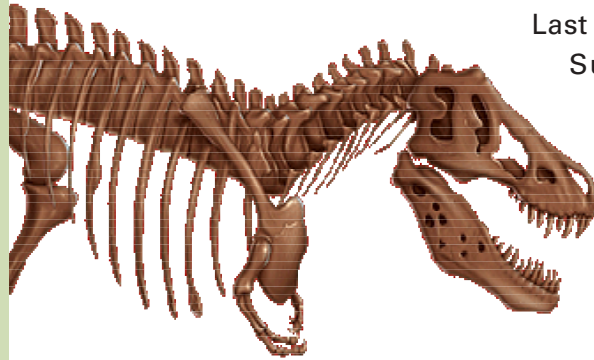
**CAVES":** This spine-tingling IMAX film will take you on an adventure into man-swallowing caves round the world. The film will show once daily through November 15, 2002 at the Pink Palace Museum in Memphis.

**CHUCALISSA:** Take a step back in time to explore the culture of a people who flourished before the first Europeans set foot in the Mississippi Valley. Learn about the lives of these people by visiting the Chucalissa Archaeological Museum near T.O. Fuller State Park in Memphis.

# YOUTH

## A VISIT WITH SUE AT THE FIELD MUSEUM: PART 2: THE DISPLAY

by Kelly Baldwin (MAGSYouth member)



Last month I told you all about Sue, the Tyrannosaurus rex, found by Sue Hendrickson on August 12, 1990. The skeleton on display at the Field Museum in Chicago is Sue's actual bones. It's not a plastic model, plaster cast, or a lot

of bones from different dinosaurs put together—it's the real thing. Sue is 13 feet high at the hips and from head to tail it is 42 feet long.

Sue's skull is 5 feet long and is one of the only pieces that is not mounted on display. Its 600 pound skull is too heavy to be held up on the steel armature. The armature holds together the rest of Sue's more than 200 bones. Since its skull is so heavy, the Museum installed a cast replica in its place. Sue's real skull is on the second floor balcony overlooking the Stanley Field Hall. Here, visitors can look at Sue's huge skull up close. The steel armature that Sue's skeleton rests in was specially constructed so that researchers can remove and study individual bones.

The position for Sue's skeleton was thought up by a mount maker who was working with the Field Museum scientists. After he drew out the design on paper, he gave it to a structural engineer to review. With that drawing they decided on the type of steel supports that should be used to hold up the bones.

[Sue at the Field Museum: Some Interesting Sue Facts](#); ©1997; Chicago Field Museum  
[The Field Museum GEO86129\\_49c](#); <http://www.fnmh.org/sue/discovery.html>; April, 2002

### PART 3: THE SKULL (next month)

## YOUTH NOTES

### FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA

Congratulations to the MAGS Youth for officially becoming part of Future Rockhounds of America [FRA]. MAGSYouth were presented with pins and certificates at the June meeting. If you didn't receive yours, come to the July meeting. MAGS is one of only about three dozen FRA clubs in the United States.

### DREAMCATCHERS IN JULY


The MAGSYouth will be making Dreamcatchers at the July meeting.




# PAGES WELCOME NEW YOUTH MEMBERS

Turner Cole and Rachel Griffin became new youth members this month. Welcome to the club and we hope you have a great time with MAGS!

**COLLECTOR'S CARDS:** Cut out the Dinosaur Card, and the Specimen-of-the-Month card, fold on the dotted lines, tape them closed and add them to your collection.

<b>Did You Know . . .</b>	<b>Velociraptor</b>
<p>Velociraptor was much smaller than the "Jurassic Park" variety. It had a long, thin snout and, pound for pound, Velociraptor was a very effective killing machine! Velociraptor had a "Killing Claw" on each foot. Each inside toe had a large (about 5 inches) hooked claw that is controlled by a strong tendon. This claw was held upward when the animal walked or ran. However, when it attacked, the tendon snapped tight and the claw snapped down with great speed and force. Velociraptor was probably a pack hunter, which allowed it to attack large prey. It was one of the smartest dinosaurs, with a very large brain. It was very light and very fast.</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; padding-right: 5px;">MAGS DINOSAUR CARD</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>Velociraptor mongoliensis</i>                  Pronounced: vel-Os-ih-Rap-tor                  Diet: Carnivore (Meat-Eater)                  Name Means: "swift robber"                  Length: 6 feet (3m)                  Height: 2 feet (.7m)                  Weight: 60 lbs. (25 kilos)                  Time: Late Cretaceous-67mya</p> </div>
©2002 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society	

<b>Did You Know . . .</b>	<b>Baculite</b>
<p>The mode of life of these straight ammonites is controversial: some paleontologists believe that they lived upright in the water, with the tentacles on the sea bed foraging for food; others believe that they had horizontal orientation and lived nearer the surface of the sea.</p> <p>In the Late Cretaceous genus, only the very earliest part of the shell remained coiled; the latter part grew into a straight shaft. Baculites can occur in vast numbers at some localities, often to the exclusion of other species, and could grow to over 39 inches (1 meter) in length.</p> <p>A typical baculite grew to be 4 inches (10 centimeters) in length.</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; padding-right: 5px;">MAGS SPECIMEN CARD</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Invertebrate Fossil                  Order: Ammonitida                  Family: Baculitidae                  Informal name: Ammonite                  Range: Late Cretaceous                  Distribution: Worldwide                  Occurrence: Common                  Locale: Baculite Mesa, Pueblo, CO</p> </div>
©2002 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society	

## FRANKSTOWN FOSSIL FINDS

On June 15, over 20 MAGSters met on the banks of Twenty-Mile Creek near Booneville, MS. As we peered over the edge, we saw a landscape that seemed almost extraterrestrial with huge, round boulders (perfect for climbing over and sitting on) dotting the creek. Some of them were one or two feet in diameter, but most of them were six feet or more, and all of them were just filled with little bitty Late Cretaceous fossils. One of the smaller boulders now has a new home with W.C. and Cornelia.

Everyone who journeyed to Frankstown came home with fossil treasures as a result of six hours of shoveling creek sand into screen boxes and sifting through to find sharks' teeth, dinosaur bones, fish teeth, oyster shells, and numerous other fossils.

Sherri carried her Frankstown fossils to the MAGS Micromount meeting on June 20 and asked Roger Van Cleef to help her find out what she had found. By careful examination and reference checking, Roger helped her determine that she had found a number of interesting fossils. Her list includes: (1) *Exogyra ponderosa* and *Ostrea* oyster shells; (2) mudworm burrows; (3) *Enchodus* fish teeth; (4) small hadrosaur bone; (5) shark coprolite complete with bone fragments and fish scales; (6) a lot of *Scapanorhynchus texanus* *Goblin* shark teeth; (7) and the neatest one of all, a little hollow pterodon bone.

## CHECK IT OUT

NANCY FOLDEN—For the past several months we have been filling out information sheets about all the books and videos that make up the MAGS Library. When this task is complete, all of our books and videos will be assigned a card catalog number, which will make it a whole lot easier to find what you need on our shelves. We are in the process of establishing some rules for using the library—how many items you may check out, when they must be returned, and what the fines will be for delinquent books. Those rules will be listed here next month. Check it out.

## MAGS TO TAKE A SCOOP



W.C. McDANIEL—MAGS has been invited to display its rock food table at the “Big Scoop Ice Cream Festival” on Saturday, July 27 at the Agricenter. We need volunteers to monitor the table and pass out club information. The festival runs from 11:00am until 4:00pm and benefits the Memphis Ronald McDonald House. Last year about 6500 people attended and this will be golden opportunity for the club. If you can help contact W.C. at 274-7706.

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**SFMS:**

- New Editor 1st Place—86
- New Editor 2nd Place—88, 97
- Certificate of Excellence—89, 90, 91, 92, 93
- Large Bulletin—87 • Art—77, 80, 81, 82, 86
- Original Articles—(4) 85, (6) 87, (2) 89, (2) 90, (5) 91, (3) 92

**AFMS:**

- New Editor 7th Place—95
- Jr. Article 3rd Place—98

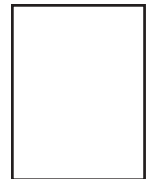
**DUES:**

- Family—\$20.00
- Single—\$16.00
- Junior—\$8.00
- Associate: \$13.00

The Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society’s main purpose is to promote and advance the knowledge of the Lapidary Sciences in the mining, identification, cutting, polishing and mounting of gems, minerals and fossils to the utmost of our geological and lapidary capabilities.

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MAGS Rockhound News  
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Collierville, TN 38017-2301



**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR  
TODAY**

**MAGS Meeting  
July 12**

**Rock Swap  
July 20**

**DMC Field Trip  
July 20**

**MAGS Field Trip  
July 27**

