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Geology as a science is changing

from observation to experimentation

MIKE BALDWIN: As our children begin a new year in school or college this year, I thought it might be good to look at the science of geology--the study of the planet Earth. Geology deals with the origin of our planet, the material makeup of the Earth, its history and the processes that act upon it to affect its historic and present change. Geology considers the chemistry of its materials; the record and age of its past as revealed by the organic remains that are preserved in the layers of its crust. Clues to the origin of the Earth are sought through the geology of extraterrestrial bodies and their atmospheres that may hint at an earlier stage of this planet, or whose history may share the events and forces that created the Earth. Geology is used to discover useful materials within the Earth and to help us determine the dangers associated with the forces of a dynamic Earth.

It is important for each of us to know how Earth works, especially during this time of heightened awareness of how critical our fossil fuel resources are, and also how vulnerable we are to the forces of nature. Those forces, such as Hurricane Katrina, not only change the geology of our landscape, but they change the way we interact with nature. Whether we are trying to find a better way search for mineral and hydrocarbon deposits, or trying to determine how to construct a better levee system, we must use a progressively more sophisticated practice of geology today than we did a century ago. The knowledge of geologists is more important today than ever better, as we work to protect our overused environment.

Geology, as a science, has undergone a major transition during the last three decades and continues to change rapidly. What was once an

>>see *geology as a science is changing* on page seven>>

September MAGS events

- 01 6:30p MAGS Board Meeting • Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue
- 09 7:30p MAGS Membership Meeting • Shady Grove Presbyterian Church
5535 Shady Grove Road • Bring refreshments and display
- 10 Rock Sale at the home of Doris Jones [see page 3]
- 10 9:00a DMC Field Trip to Woodbury, TN [see page 6]
- 17 MAGS Field Trip to Richardson's Landing [see page 2]

Our September adult program will be "Paint Rock: Tennessee Agates". Youth program will be "Indian Lore" presented by Mike Baldwin.

2005-2006

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President's corner: WC McDANIEL



August been a "Yikes and Wow" month. "Yikes" at the cost of gas. I sure hope the word "fossil" doesn't become a bad word as the cost of gas continues to escalate. Its impact is very measurable. Makes you rethink some of your field collecting locations and plans. "Wow" is the continued decline in the Mississippi River stage. I have not heard of any major finds with the low river. If the river stage stays down into the fall, maybe the cool weather will give people a chance to do some exploring. Our September field trip will be to Richardson's Landing.

April 23 is not to far away as James Butchko has started putting together a planning and working committee for the 2006 show. As part of that planning and looking toward the future we are going ask you to help us by participating in a discussion at the September membership meeting titled "2006 and beyond."

The 4th annual Mid-Summer indoor rock swap and picnic held during the August membership meeting was a big success. Our last swap of 2005 will be in October. Alan Parks has already started warming up the catfish frying pan.

Our theme display for the September meeting will be Missouri minerals. I'm sure with the number of field trips the club has made to that "show me state" that you should have some specimens to show and display.

WC

September MAGS field trip

LOU WHITE: The MAGS field trip for September will be on Saturday, September 17, to Richardson's Landing near Millington. We will be collecting agates, jasper, petrified wood, ice age fossils, and gravels. Specific field trip meeting times and locations will be available at the September membership meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can contact Lou White at 901-937 8522 or WC McDaniel at 901-274-7706 (or w.c.mcd@worldnet.att.net) for details. Mark your calendar!

Museum needs help!

Decatur County, Tennessee is building a new municipal building and in this building there will be a county museum. If you can offer suggestions, or donate artifacts found in Decatur County (Parsons), or if you know anything about a rumor that a plesiosaur was excavated in this county, please contact Scott Norris at ssn@nutrionics.com.

September program and sale

On September 9, the MAGS adult program will be "Paint Rock: A Slide Program on Tennessee Agates Featuring the Late John Jones". Saturday morning, September 10, Doris Jones will have a sale of John's minerals, geodes, cutting material, a 20" saw, and some tools. The sale will be held at the home of Doris Jones, 409 Bradford Trail Cove, Collierville, TN. Come to the September meeting for details.

ArcheoFest 2005 in September

September 17-18, 2005 ArcheoFest at Pinson Mounds Archeological Park in Madison County. This annual event is an educational celebration of the Native Americans culture with various tribal representation from across the United States. ArcheoFest features Native American dancers, singers, storytelling, traditional foods and various crafts. Contact: Sandra Battaglia, (731) 988-5614 or www.tnstateparks.com/pinson

MAGS Member Address Change

Please make this address change in your MAGS Membership Directory:
Alan, Alishia, Harrison and Noa Parks
831 West Powell Road
Collierville, TN 38017
901-853-6898

Make a note of this very important address . . . the Parks will be hosting the MAGS October Rock Swap and Fish Fry! Details in the October newsletter.

Dates to remember

	Board Meeting	Membership Meeting	Due Date for Newsletter Articles
Sep	1	9	—
Oct	6	14	September 25
Nov	3	11	October 23
Dec	1	9	November 20
Jan	5	13	December 18

July field trip by the numbers

W.C. McDANIEL: Take a look at the MAGS July Field Trip to Mississippi by the numbers:

- 0 number of snake attacks and/or bites
- 1 Number of people walking the creek that were not part of the club. A nearby resident heard noises in the creek and came down to check things out.
- 2 No report
- 3 Number of reported snake sightings, one described as "very big"
- 4 Number of reported bee/wasp stings
- 5 Number of horseback riders that came by (road, not the creek) on four horses
- 6 Discarded and/or portions of bikes in the stream.
- 7 Number of vehicles (on the trip, not in the stream)
- 8 Number of reported falls, slips. Steve Hadju wins gold medal for the best, scariest and no injury fall.
- 9 Number of pieces of wood that weighed more than 40 pounds each
- 10-11 No reports
- 12 Number of rockhounds on the trip
- 13-779 No reports
- 800 Number of estimated pounds of wood collected

Dear MAGS friends

Thank you so much for your prayers and words of encouragement during this time. I am getting stronger every day, and am able to do quite a bit now. I still have a lot of physical therapy to do and the prospect of more surgery in the future. Hopefully, Jean will have been moved to a real rehabilitation hospital by the time you get this note, and she will be able to make some real progress. Thank you for your concern and continued prayers.

Elissa Powell

Dear MAGS members

The family of Alfred E. Klug, Jr. acknowledges with deep appreciation your kind expression of sympathy. Thank you for donating a book in my Dad's name to the library. What a wonderful remembrance.

Sincerely,
Susan Thomas
and family

Website statistics for August

MIKE BALDWIN, MAGS WEB COORDINATOR:

Here's a brief look at our website [www.memphisgeology.org] from 01.21.02 through 08.30.05:

Visits 118,304
Hits 513,931
Avg visits/day past month 253
Top pages in the past 30 days:
Home page 762 hits
rocknews0805.pdf 410 hits
Explorer0203.pdf 249 hits
rocknews1002.pdf 233 hits
rocknews0705.pdf 222 hits
links 206 hits

A visit is every time someone comes to our website. A hit is every page viewed once a user enters our website.

Sunshine and caring

MIKE BALDWIN—EDITOR: I have found it almost impossible to concentrate on getting this issue of the newsletter ready to go to press. As I write this column, I am watching the news. I can hardly believe the devastation I am seeing in the New Orleans area of the Gulf Coast. Hurricane Katrina has left our neighbors to the south without homes, jobs, or even a city to return to. The entire city of New Orleans is being evacuated as I write. If there has ever been a time to reach out to our fellow man, it is now. Relief efforts are underway, but for hundreds of people, relief was not fast enough. Many who chose to ride out the hurricane, perished in the storm surge and levee breaks.

There are many ways you can help the people of southern Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Our church is working with the city of Collierville to open our gymnasium up to refugees as a shelter and soup kitchen. Donate to the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, donate clothing to the Salvation Army, take food to your neighborhood Food Pantry. If you don't know where to start, call your church or town hall. If you own a business, offer a temporary job to a storm victim. If you own a restaurant, offer a meal or a discount. These folks need our help and our prayers. Their lives will never be the same. Help any way you can!

If you have news about MAGS members, please send them to Melba Cole at JMcCole@aol.com or give call her at 382-0344.

September Birthdays

MELBA COLE: Birthstone for September is Sapphire.

3 - Lenette Mewborn

5 - Barry Walther

10 - Alishia Parks

13 - Fred Anderson

15 - Gaben DeVoe

16 - Barry McCalla

18 - Natalie Prodanovich

18 - Anne Warren

19 - Karen Schaeffer

20 - Adam Scilken

21 - Rachel Griffin

21 - Carolyn Hays (deceased)

23 - Ron Aycocock

23 - Park Noyes

24 - Cecil Perkins

25 - Terri DeVoe

25 - William Randolph

Bold type indicates lifetime members.

September Sapphires

The deep blue of the sapphire recalls the sky on a glorious September day. Sapphires are a gem variety of corundum, the same mineral that produces rubies. Although blue sapphires are the most valuable, the gem comes in a variety of colors—pink, yellow, or violet. Lesser quality sapphires, which are extremely hard, are used for the same industrial purposes as diamonds, emeralds, and rubies. September's birthstones are found in nearly every continent, but the best gems come from Myanmar, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Australia.

Reference: Laurie Steding; Birthstones; Nancy Hall, Inc.; 1995. Information used for educational purposes under the provisions of the Fair Use Act of 1976.

WC McDANIEL: The September Roadcut focuses on our theme display for the September membership meeting, "Missouri Minerals"

- Missouri, the "Show Me State", could easily be called the "Cave State" as it has around 5,500 documented caves.
- The state mineral is galena, the state rock is mozarkite (a type of chert) and the state fossil is a species of crinoid.
- Some common minerals from Missouri collected by MAGS' members include barite, calcite, and galena
- Barite: Mohs hardness scale is from a 3 to 3.5. Barite is a very heavy (dense) material. Missouri's barite is extremely pure and is used principally for medical purposes. Most recent publications indicate there are no current active barite mines operated in Missouri.
- Calcite: Mohs hardness is 3. Calcite is found in a variety of colors including white and pale colors of gray, yellow to red, green to blue and brown. Calcite is transparent and can be fluorescent. Calcite comprises about 4%, by weight, of the Earth's crust. (not verified)
- Galena (lead): Mohs hardness scale is a 2.5. Approximately 90 percent of lead produced in the United States comes from Missouri, ranking it first in the nation. About 80 percent of mined lead goes into making vehicle batteries. Approximately 1,000 pounds of rock containing galena must be mined and processed for the 30 pounds of lead in each car battery. Lead is not used in pencils. Pencils are made from mineral called graphite.

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc

Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"

8 am to 6 pm, Friday, October 7, 2005

8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, October 8, 2005

8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, October 9, 2005

MAGS is invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location! The mountain will be open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart type vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks: An area will be available in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for a daily rock swap. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact the caretaker at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of this event. Don't forget to bring some extra money to buy a special "Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

Contact Information: Clarence Norman Jr. • 706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)

DIRECTIONS: From Atlanta's I-285, take I-20 east to the exit for Washington, GA SR 78 (SR 10, SR 17) and turn left. Travel north to Washington, turn right onto SR 378 and drive 11 miles to the Graves Mountain area. The entrance to Graves Mountain is on your right about 8/10 mile past the Lincoln county line sign. The entrance is a paved road that goes through a gate and up a hill. There will be someone at the gate to hand out a liability release form to sign and to take a donation for the portable bathrooms, etc.



DMC program of the SFMS field trip committee An official field trip of Middle Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society 9am • Sept 10, 2005 • Woodbury, Tennessee

COLLECTING: Tennessee quartz geodes and a visit to the MTSU Gem, Mineral and Fossil Museum

FEE: \$5.00 per person

The site is four miles from the square in downtown Woodbury and will only take a few minutes to drive. We will park on the owners property and then "hay ride" on a tractor and trailer to the site. This is a new site! The owner has recently bulldozed the hills. There should be a number of geodes showing at the surface. As always, there are some solids, but hollows are to be found. Even the solids are attractive when slabbed. Some opened geodes will be available to show the group. We can stay as long as we wish. No breaking of the geodes on site as this leaves very sharp fragments that can ruin tires and injure livestock. There will be a disclaimer sheet for all to sign.

SPECIAL TRIP: After the hunt there will be an added attraction—the Gem, Mineral and Fossil Museum in Murfreesboro. It is on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University which is a few miles from the geode site. Directions to the museum will be provided. This museum has one of the world's finest displays of exquisite calcite, fluorite, barite, and sphalerite specimens from the Tennessee Elmwood zinc mine.

BRING: You may want to bring a rock pick if you need to dig out any larger geodes that are mostly beneath the surface. As always, bring, sunscreen, a hat, gloves, sturdy shoes, newspaper, 5 gallon buckets w/lids, bug spray, plenty of water/fluids and lunch or a snack.

WHERE TO MEET: We will meet at the town square in Woodbury Tennessee.

Contact: Lewis F. Elrod, CFE • lfelrod@yahoo.com • 615-893-8270 • Cell 615-579-1386

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!

Upcoming shows and other events

Sept 30 - Oct 2 — KEOKUK, IOWA: Festival, "Geode Fest" Keokuk Area Convention and Tourism Bureau; Victory Park; guided geode hunts, geode cracking, identification, swap area, daily contests; contact Keokuk Area Convention and Tourism Bureau, (800) 383-1219; e-mail: keokukia@interl.net; Web site: www.keokuktourism.com.

Oct 1 - 2 — JACKSONVILLE, ARKANSAS: Show; Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society; Jacksonville Community Center, Main Street, Hwy. 67/167 Exit 9; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-6; adults \$2, children under 12 free; kids' dig area, displays, dealers from around the country; contact Ms. Pat Kissire, (501) 821-2346; e-mail: pawk@aristotle.net

Oct 6 - 8 — MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: 19th annual contest, "World Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Contest" Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds; Thu. 9-3, Fri. 9-3, Sat. 9-3; an international event, register ahead of time; contact Maureen Walther, (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mtidachamber.com

Southeast Federation Shows

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September 2-5, 2005, Hendersonville, NC - Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society • 24th Annual Gem and Mineral Spectacular & Sale • Whitmire Activity Building, Lily Pond Road • Hours: 2nd-4th: 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., 5th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. • Contact: Margaret L. Johnson, P.O. Box 6391, Hendersonville, NC 28739-6391, 828.692.1249, and email at mgt.j.ed@brinet.com.

September 3, 2005, Hendersonville, NC - Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society • 16th Annual Micro-mount Symposium • Salvation Army Building, Grove Street between 3rd and 4th Avenues • Hours: 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. • Contact: Emily Adams, 355 Pelham Road, Greenville, SC 29615, 864.271.3877.

September 9-11, 2005, Winston-Salem, NC - Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club • 34th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Show and Sale • Educational Building, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds • Hours: 9th & 10th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; 11th, 12:00 Noon - 6:00 P.M. • Contact: www.forsythgemclub.com.

CANCELED September 10-11, 2005, Clemson, SC - Upstate Gem Fest. • Pendleton District Gem & Mineral Society • Campbell Geology Museum South Carolina Botanical Garden.

September 24-25, 2005, Jacksonville, FL - 17th Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Bead Show & sale • The Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. • Sat: 10:00 am-6:00PM; Sun: 10:AM-5:00PM. • Morocco Temple 3800 St. Johns Bluff Road South Jacksonville, FL • 40+dealers Club displays • Show Contact: Mary Chambliss, (904)269-4046 E-mail: IvoryTowers@msn.com

September 24-25, 2005, Hiddenite, NC - Western Piedmont Mineral and Gem Society • 17th Annual Hiddenite Gem & Mineral Show, • Hiddenite Educational Complex, Sulpher Springs Road, Hiddenite, NC. • Hours: 24th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., 25th, 12 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Rock Swap , 26th, 12:00 noon - 4:00 P.M. • Minerals Only! NO DEALERS! • Contacts: Jerry Hedrick, 828.396.4576 and/or Linda Moser, 828.459.7622.

October 1-2, 2005, Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky • 15th Annual Show • National Guard Armory, Airport Road • 1st, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 2nd, 12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M. • Contact: Bekki Miracle at 502.868.0258.

October 7-9, 2005, Dallas, NC - Gaston County Gem and Mineral Society • 27th Annual Gem and Mineral Show • Dallas park (Biggerstaff Park), right off Hwy 321, Hwy 279-Dallas Cherryville Highway • Hours: 7th and 8th, 9:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 9th, 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

October 14-16, 2005, Knoxville, TN - Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society • 15th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show • Kerbela Temple at 315 Mimosa Avenue • Hours: 21st and 22nd, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 23rd, 11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. • Contacts: Travis Paris at 865.691.8228 and Eileen Price at 865.694.4071.

November 4-6, 2005, Reidsville, NC - Rockingham County Mineral Club • 14th Annual Show • Wentworth Recreation Center, intersection of Gibbs Road and Hwy 87 • Hours: 4th and 5th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 6th, 12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M. • Contact: Iris Conner at 336.342.3958.

November 5-6, 2005, Winter Haven, FL - Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society • Gem, Mineral and Fossil Extravaganza! • The Nora Mayo Hall, 500 3rd Street NW • Hours: 5th, 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.; 6th, 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. • Show contact: Susie Percefull, Show Chair at 863.858.1846 or Misubrea@aol.com.

July 2005 board meeting notes

Susan Thom, MAGS Secretary

The MAGS board of directors meeting met on June 30, 2005 at the Blue Plate Cafe, 5469 Poplar Avenue, presided by President W.C. McDaniel who opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The minutes from the Board and Membership meetings were presented, seconded, and approved with the following corrections: In 2008, MAGS will probably host another DMC meeting. In attendance were-Mike & Sherri Baldwin, James Butchko, Melba Cole, Nancy Folden, Idajean Jordan, W.C. and Cornelia McDaniel, Park Noyes, Raynee Randolph, and Susan Thom.

(1) Treasurer - Report was presented, seconded, and approved subject to audit; (2) Field Trips - Creek near Eupora, Mississippi on July 16th to find petrified wood in creek and situ. W.C. McDaniel gave report in absence of Lou White and David McIlwain; (3) Program - Dr. Daniel Swann, a cultural anthropologist and director of Chucalissa Museum, to give program; (4) Rock Swap - July 9th at the David & Beth Day's home; (5) Youth - Sixteen kids attended last month. Program in June was on state rock & gemstone. July program will concentrate on safety rules on field trips and what to look for--like poison ivy! No youth program for August (4th annual indoor picnic and rock swap). September program will concentrate on Indian lore presented by Mike Baldwin; (6) Library - Book in memory of John Jones entitled Jewelry Fundamentals of Metalsmithing by Tim McCreight. Soldering book donated by Melba Cole. Lapidary Journals need home in air conditioned storage; (7) Membership/Sunshine Report - Roger Van Cleff is recovering from surgery. Jean Helt is rehabilitating from a fall causing several broken bones, and husband, Allen Helt, is recuperating from pneumonia; (8) Membership- 2 applications -- Anne Fordyce and the James and Danielle Burns family; (9) Web/Editor - Looking for future editor of MAGS newsletter. This would be a good time to begin training with Mike; (10) Show - No report; (11) Old Business - Club & church will split cost of television. TV needs a decent cart. Motion to purchase tv (half of tv cost) and cart out of Show Fund approved, seconded, and carried; (12) New Business - Indoor rock swap/picnic at August meeting. Silent auction and door prizes. Board meetings bring canned drinks. Idajean Jordan and Nancy Folden attended the silversmithing class of the William Holland School during the Southeast Federation sessions. More attendees are needed to fill the classes. The class was \$280 and lots of fun. Supplies @ \$100. There are two sessions--one in June and another in October. W.C. thanked Idajean for presiding over the June membership meeting -- good job! A motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and the vote carried the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

July 2005 membership meeting notes

Susan Thom

The MAGS July membership meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on July 8, 2005, presided by W.C. McDaniel. There were 39 members and 4 visitors--Barry & Joanne Gilmore and David & Linda Waddell. (1) Rockswap--July 9th at David & Beth Day's in Bartlett; (2) Field trip to Turkey Creek in Mississippi to collect marcasite specimens; (3) MAGS 4th annual indoor picnic and rockswap (no formal meeting); (4) Pink Palace behind the scenes tour with Ron Brister--register on sign up sheet tonight/limited space available. August 13 and 14; (5) Show--was successful!!!; (6) Program--Dr. Daniel Swann, from Chucalissa spoke about Indian Christian culture on the Osage Reservation; (7) Display Winners--Lou White-adult. Door Prizes - David Waddell (visitor) and Ivon Clark (member). Meeting adjourned @ 8:30 p.m.

Badges of Merit

Mike Baldwin

MAGS Youth have hit the big time! . . . thanks to the efforts of Raynee Randolph and Sherida Helms. The American Federation's Future Rockhounds of America Merit Badge program was featured in the September 2005 issue of "Rock and Gem" magazine. Part of that article was an interview with Sherida about the MAGS youth program. There are very few clubs across America that have enthusiastically active youth programs. Ours just happens to be one of them. We have had a vital youth program for several years now, thanks in great part to Don Blalock, Idajean Jordan, and our current youth director and associate director, Raynee and Sherida. Without leadership and vision, youth programs can be slow and uninteresting to the kids.

Combine the leadership of our local club with the foresight and energy of Jim Brace-Thompson, the current AFMS Junior Activities Chair, and you have a successful Merit Badge program. The kids have been working on a different merit badge every month since the beginning of this year. Jim's premise for creating the merit badge program was threefold: [01] people learn by doing; [02] they are motivated by goals that are attainable; and [03] you must offer tangible rewards and recognition.

The best programs are the ones where the children, youth and adults work together to accomplish their goals. By energizing our youth, we are insuring the future of our club. I am proud of the accomplishments of the MAGS youth. Keep up the good work kids (and leaders).

In January 2005, two MAGS youth became the first juniors in the United States to earn Merit Badges in the FRA program. Rhena South earned 6 six badges in January, and Kristopher Helms earned 4. Rhena's tally of 6 badges earned her the distinguished honor of being the first to graduate from the Merit Badge program and become an official Rockhound.

The fun continues this month in the MAGS youth program as the kids will be learning about their Native American heritage, looking at some Native American points and regalia (kids--look that word up, be the first to tell Mike Baldwin the meaning of the word on Friday night and win a special prize), learning a Native American dance or two and finding out how the Native Americans used rocks in their culture. Don't miss out on the fun on September 9!

Geology as a science is changing <<continued from page one<<

observational study, has changed to include much more experimentation and predictive science. During this period of change geology has reaped the benefits of advanced concepts of physics, chemistry and mathematics to solve geological problems which were previously unsolved. For example, geologists study the present and future availability of Earth resources; the nature, classification, and mode of occurrence of mineral deposits; exploration, development, and extraction of mineral resources; the economics of mining; distribution of oil, gas, coal and base-metal deposits; and the evaluation of the effects of mining operations on the environment.

The scientific study of the Earth has expanded to include fields of study such as geophysics and geochemistry. Today, geology can be called Earth Sciences or Geosciences, but it is still geology--the study of the planet Earth. The scope of geology has broadened to the point that most geologists now specialize in one or more aspects of geology, in much the same way engineers specialize in various fields of physical science such as mechanical, biological, civil, or aerospace.

RESOURCE: *Geology Today*; Concordia; Montreal, Quebec, Canada; <http://artsci-ccwin.concordia.ca/GEOL/geol1.html>; September 1, 2005. Information used for educational purposes under the provisions of the Fair Use Act of 1976.

Guide to soil problems and problem soils

Understanding Soil Risks and Hazards, a USDA publication can be downloaded for free from the USDS website. This publication has detailed information, maps and photos related to acid sulfate soils, chemical heave and expansive salts, compaction, contamination by metals, corrosion, drought, dust, earth collapse of soil pits and trench excavations, erosion by water and wind, erosion and sedimentation on construction sites, erosion of streambanks,

expanding soils and shrink-swell potential, falling rock, floods, frost action, gypsum in excess, hydro-compactible soils, karst landscapes, landslides, liquefaction of soils by earthquakes, permafrost-affected soils, postfire runoff, radon potential, saline seeps, subsidence of organic soils, and water-saturated soils. For your copy, go to <http://soils.usda.gov/use/risks.html>

Information from: Geology News: Sunday, August 28, 2005; <http://www.geologynews.com>

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