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## PYRAMID OF THE MOON

### BURIAL SITE SHOWS CONNECTION WITH MAYANS

**OCTOBER 28, 2002**—ASU—Were the rulers of the great ancient Mesoamerican civilizations related? Of these civilizations, Teotihuacan, the 2,000-year-old, metropolis that was the first great city of the Western Hemisphere, has long been a mystery.



#### Pyramid of the Moon

This is the oldest monument at Teotihuacan, Mexico.  
Photo courtesy of Saburo Sugiyama, ASU

Located 25 miles northeast of the current Mexico City, this ancient civilization left behind the ruins of a master-planned city grid with immense pyramids covering eight square miles and having a unique culture. But even the Aztecs, who gave the city its present name, did not know who built it. They called the monumental ruins “the City of the Gods.”

Though Teotihuacan at its height was roughly contemporary with the early stages of the Mayan cities located far to the south in the jungles of southern

Mexico and Guatemala, archaeologists have long noted pronounced differences between the cultures and only minor evidence of interaction. Now, startling new evidence from an excavation still in process at Teotihuacan’s *Pyramid of the Moon* is revealing a Mayan link with the great city’s aristocracy—and may soon be sending reverberations through foundations of Mesoamerican archaeology.

The excavation, directed by Saburo Sugiyama, professor of archaeology at Aichi Prefectural University in Japan and research professor at Arizona State University, and Ruben Cabrera of Mexico’s National Institute of Anthropology and History, has

(see Pyramid of the Moon on page five)

## DECEMBER EVENTS

Nov 29 – Dec 1 DMC Field Trip/Rock Swap: Diamond Hill Mine, Antreville, South Carolina [see page 6]

Dec 5 6:30p Board Meeting: Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue

Dec 13 7:30p Annual Holiday Party: Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Rd., Memphis [bring an exchange gift for each person in your group; bring your favorite appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert; and bring a friend or two]

No M<sup>3</sup> Micromounters Meeting in December

No MAGS Field Trip in December

## 2001-2002 MAGS BOARD

**President--Louis White**

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901-382-0344

**Director--Darryl Levitch**

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901-323-0678

**Director--Dick McKittrick**

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**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.

## From the Prez

Well, this is it. This is my last letter to you as president. I've had a great time over the past two years, and I hope you can say the same. As a club, we have grown over the past two years. We've grown in numbers as more and more families and individuals have found MAGS, thanks in part to our website, but thanks in bigger part to the efforts of all our members to make this an active club in our community.

We've grown in vision. Thanks to Alan Parks for introducing us to the benefits of a long-range plan. Thanks to W.C. McDaniel for expanding our show beyond the walls of the Pipkin Building at the Mid-South Fairgrounds by sharing our proceeds with the Ronald McDonald House, Delta State University, and Chucalissa. Thanks to Raynee and Bill Randolph for stepping up to the plate with great ingenuity and leadership in the Rock Zone. Thanks to David McIlwain for many hours of scouting and planning to provide us with outstanding field trips. We've had a fantastic turnout by members and visitors for almost all of our trips ... and the September Dixie Mineral field trip to Vulcan Quarry was nothing less than spectacular. Thanks to Don Blalock and Idajean Jordan for providing our kids with quality programs and outstanding field trips like Frankstown, Chucalissa, and behind the scenes at the Pink Palace. Thanks to Bill Scheffer for holding a tight reign on our finances, and Cornelia McDaniel for keeping tabs on our membership, and Raynee Randolph for keeping minutes and taking notes.

We have grown intellectually. Thanks to Paul Sides for bringing us some of best speakers to be found anywhere [Gary Patterson, Guy Weaver, Mike Howard, Dr. Michael Gibson, and Dr. Vershuur just to name a few]. Thanks to Roger Van Cleef for organizing the MAGS Micromounters and holding the monthly meetings at his house. Thanks to Mike Baldwin for expanding our reach into the world by manning our website and our newsletter and linking us up by email. Thanks to Nancy Folden for revamping our library and making it more accessible to our members by way of our new mobile cabinets [and a great big thank you to Nancy, and her friend Beverly Hammond, for providing us with a better way to get down to the river at Richardson's Landing]. Thanks to all the MAGS kids who come month after month ready to learn and who add an extra spark of energy and enthusiasm to our club.

We have grown socially. Thanks to Idajean Jordan for taking charge of our party every December. Last year's violin music was great. Thanks to Connie Devine for making sure we had refreshments at every meeting. Thanks to folks like Carolyn Hays, Charlie McPherson, Marilyn Free, and Alan and Alishia Parks for opening their

yards to us for rock swaps. To all of you that served on committees, worked on projects, lead field trips, volunteered at the show, brought food, shared your displays with us, made phone calls, attended meetings, and took part in field trips .... thank you!

*You make MAGS great.*

*See you at the party,  
and bring a friend.*

## WEB STATISTICS

Here's a brief look at our website (www.memphisgeology.org) from 01.21.02 through 11.18.02:

Visits\* ..... 27,270  
Hits\*\* ..... 150,987  
Average visits per day in Nov ..... 189

\* visit= every time someone comes to the site

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



**MAGS HOLIDAY PARTY**  
 SHADY GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 FRIDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 13, 2002, 7:30 PM  
 IDAJEAN JORDAN, COORDINATOR

Mark your calendar now for the Annual MAGS Holiday Party. Idajeane Jordan is coordinating the party again this year. If you would like to help, please call Idajeane as soon as possible. Her number is 901-452-4286.

- [1] You and your family are invited to the party. You are welcome to bring a friend or two with you. Attire for the evening will be casual to semi-formal.
- [2] Please bring a potluck dish big enough to share. Turkey, ham, drinks, condiments and dinnerware [plates, cups, utensils, and napkins] will be provided by MAGS. The dish that you bring can be an appetizer, salad, side dish, bread, or dessert.
- [3] Please bring an age and gender appropriate gift to exchange. Ladies, bring a lady's gift. Men, bring a man's gift. Girls, bring a girl's gift. Boys, bring a boy's gift. Please mark on the gift whether it is for a woman, man, girl, or boy. Please bring a gift that you would be happy receiving if it came from someone else. The minimum value of your gift should be \$10.00. Bring one gift from each person in your group. If there are four of you, bring four gifts. If you bring guests, please bring a gift for your guest to exchange. The gifts will be collected and numbers will be assigned to each person in attendance. These numbers will be used to draw names for gift exchange and to draw names for door prizes. *If you bring "extra" gifts, please make sure that those gifts are also valued at least \$10.00. All gifts should be related to our hobby.*
- [4] The names of the monthly display winners will be placed in a drawing to determine who will win first, second, and third place gifts, provided by MAGS.
- [5] Entertainment for the evening will be provided. If you have a talent that you would like to share with the rest of us, please call Idajeane. If you would like to help decorate the tables, arrange the room, decorate the tree, or help in any other way please call Idajeane as soon as possible. The table centerpieces will be available for you to purchase after the party.

Come to the party on December 13, and let's enjoy food, fun, and fellowship together.

**MEMBER ADDITIONS AND CHANGES**

Please make the following changes to your MAGS directory.

[additions] **Barry Burns**, P.O. Box 666, Atoka, TN 38004 • 901-829-4246

**Michael Kingsley**, 1742 Lawrence, Apt. 2, Memphis, TN 38112  
 901-276-2086 • email: kingsleymichael@hotmail.com

[change] **Carlene Bell**, 780 Pecan Gardens Circle E., Memphis, TN 38122  
 901-452-3760

[correction] **Sara R. Mitchell's** email address is saraymth@bellsouth.net



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

December Birthstone is TURQUOISE

- 2 - Mildred Laster
- 6 - Horace Roane
- 6 - Lynn Spencer
- 8 - Diane McIlwain
- 8 - Martha Rannels
- 9 - Marilyn Free
- 10 - Docia Lenz
- 15 - Jerry Seamans
- 17 - Viola Gunter
- 17 - Natalie Horowitz
- 19 - Paula Gunter
- 21 - Joel Huber
- 23 - Jimmy McNeil
- 24 - Allen Grewe
- 25 - Leland Vaughan
- 26 - Keith Dulin

DID YOU KNOW that MAGS depends on you to bring refreshments to the General Meetings during your birthday month? December babies, you are lucky, because we all bring food to the December Party.



**SUNSHINE REPORT**

FRANK & FRANCIS WALKER—

It was great to see **Charlie McPherson** and **Roger Van Cleef** at the November General Meeting.

To **Wayne Williams, Martha Rannels, and Breezy and Darryl Levitch**, your friends at MAGS wish you well. We hope to see you very soon.

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

## MOUNT ETNA RUMBLES AGAIN

The first recorded eruption of Mount Etna, in Sicily, was in 1500BC. Major eruptions occurred in 122BC, 1669AD, and 1787AD. The 1669 eruption almost completely destroyed the city of Catania. Mount Etna volcano is one of the world's most active volcanoes. Dormant periods are extremely rare. During 2000 there was a series of over 60 eruptions from the SE crater. Eruptions began again in June 2001 from a slightly different location. The most recent eruptions, which began in October 2002, were accompanied by a series of earthquakes ranging from 3.0 to 4.3 in magnitude. Streams of lava flowed down the southern and northern slopes of the volcano setting pine forests on fire. Residential areas were not threatened.

—Boris Behncke, [www.vulcanoetna.it](http://www.vulcanoetna.it)



### Mount Etna in Sicily

Photographed on 18 February 1998, the intracrater cone (at left) has grown tens of meters above the 1990 crater rim, and lava is overflowing onto the southern flank of the SE Crater cone. (photo: Carmelo Monaco).

**SOUTH SISTER** volcano in the Cascade Mountain Range is showing signs of awakening after several thousand years of slumber. Although indications are that an eruption is not likely to occur anytime soon, scientists are increasing their vigilance of the volcano, located approximately 22 miles from Bend, Oregon.

—Ann Cairns, *Geological Society of America*

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM THE MAGS MICROMOUNTERS [M<sup>3</sup>]

## THE ROCKHOUND'S CHRISTMAS

by Irene Wylie

from *The Hound's Tale*, 12/95

“Twas the night before Christmas  
At this rockhound's house,  
Not a creature was stirring  
Not even a mouse.  
I set out my boots  
Instead of my socks  
'Cause there's no way  
My socks would hold rocks.  
When up on the roof  
I heard such a clatter,  
But I knew right away  
What was the matter.  
The sleigh was loaded  
With rocks of the best,  
And all of the reindeer  
Lay down to rest.  
Coming down the chimney  
Was too much of a chore,  
So he brought my rocks  
In through the front door.  
He sat on the hearth  
And rested a while,  
Then he jumped up  
And left with a smile.  
The reindeer all  
Took off with a bound  
As I heard Santa say

“MERRY CHRISTMAS ROCKHOUND”

*Note from Roger Van Cleef: Make it easy on Santa, start collecting micromounts.*

## MICRO MINUTES

JENNIFER BALDWIN—MAGS Micromounters [M<sup>3</sup>] met on November 14 in Roger's lab with Roger Van Cleef, Cornelia and W.C. McDaniel, Kelly, Jennifer, Sherri and Mike Baldwin in attendance. Cornelia gave each person a little ziplock filled with sand from Richardson's Landing, while Roger distributed Aegirite specimens, Alabama aluminum slag, and fluorite/calcite specimens to all the members. Containers of quartz crystals from Jeffrey Quarry, Arkansas were also distributed. We enjoyed an evening of viewing our new specimens under the microscopes. Roger showed us a container full of Ancient Roman coins from the days of Julius Caesar, Augustus Caesar and Mark Anthony. There will not be an M<sup>3</sup> meeting in December. *Happy Holidays!*



## PYRAMID OF THE MOON

(continued from page one)

found a distinctive burial in the pyramid, one of Teotihuacan's oldest and largest structures, containing three ceremonially positioned bodies, other ceremonial items, and jade artifacts that appear to be of Mayan origin.

Some of the jade objects found are believed to have Guatemalan origins. The symbols on these objects were carved in Mayan style and were often used to represent rulers or royal family members in Mayan societies. These findings strongly suggest a direct relationship between the Teotihuacan ruling group and the Mayan royal families.

Among the items is a spectacular jade statuette of a person with relatively realistic features and big eyes. Jade is a rare and precious material in Central America. The nearest and most likely source of the stone is located in the Motagua Valley in Guatemala, which seems to further confirm the objects' Mayan origins.

The burial site is located at the top of the fifth of the pyramid's seven layered stages, and appears to have been created as an offering during the construction of the sixth stage, which is dated around 350AD, near the time of Teotihuacan's greatest power and prosperity.

The bodies found in this tomb offer further evidence that the burial is a unique and important find. Since 1998, Sugiyama and his team have excavated several other human burials in the *Pyramid of the Moon* containing symbolically important animals (such as pumas, coyotes, eagles and serpents), large shells, weapon points and artwork, but the human remains in the earlier discoveries all appeared to be bound captives - offerings dedicating stages of the pyramid. The current discovery is somewhat similar in its ceremonial and symbolic

objects, but differs significantly in the positioning of the human remains. The three bodies found in the current excavation did not have their hands tied. They were also found in a cross-legged, seated position, which is very rarely, if ever, found in burials here. Similar body positioning has also been found in burials at Kaminaljuyu, a Mayan site in the Guatemalan highlands. Archaeologists have, in fact, found indications of noble Teotihuacan visitors and of their possible influence on government in the art and records of a number of Mayan cities. Some evidence has also been found for the presence of Mayan visitors in the common residential and commercial districts of Teotihuacan.

"The archaeological evidence appears to point towards Teotihuacanos intervening in Mayan politics," said ASU archaeologist George Cowgill, an authority on Teotihuacan. "But many people still dispute that there was really any significant influence because they were two distinctly different cultures".

These three people found were evidently from the highest socio-political status group of Teotihuacan. They were all male, and estimated to be approximately 50 years of age at burial. The bodies were lavishly adorned with the richest ornaments ever found in a burial at Teotihuacan after more than one hundred years of research.

The excavation of the *Pyramid of the Moon* ended in mid-October, but will resume in August, 2003.—MAGS EDITOR

*Information in this article used by permission from Arizona State University, James Hathaway, author. October 28, 2002*

*Sugiyama and Cabrera's research is sponsored by the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science, the National Science Foundation, the National Geographic Society, Arizona State University, and Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History.*

## ARTIFACTS FROM THE EXCAVATION

The *Pyramid of the Moon* is the oldest monument at Teotihuacan. The structure we currently see was actually built in several stages (archaeologists currently have evidence for seven stages), with each succeeding pyramid being built on top of the previous stage. The current structure is 151 feet high and its walls are precisely aligned with the walls of every other structure in the city.



### Jade Figurine

from Pyramid of the Moon Tomb, excavated in September 2002. Partially uncovered figurine, carved in jade, found in connection with three unbound, seated bodies and other objects at the top of the pyramid's fifth stage (the offering was presumably made in the construction of the sixth stage), circa 350 AD. This object is notable in that it is carved from jade that originated in Guatemala, and appears to be Mayan in style. Other jade objects on top of the figurine are beads and earspools. (photo: Saburo Sugiyama, Arizona State University).



### Obsidian Figurine and Shell

Also found in the tomb were various animal skeletons, large shells (like the one above) and this obsidian figurine. Unlike the jade, the obsidian was probably local in origin. (photo: Saburo Sugiyama, Arizona State University).

Used by permission from Arizona State University.

## SFMS CLUBS SHOWS/EVENTS

DEC 6, 2002 • 9am-7pm

DEC 7, 2002 • 10am-6pm

DEC 8, 2002 • 11am-5pm

### **32nd Annual Gem and**

### **Mineral Show** • Montgomery

Gem and Mineral Society • Garrett  
Coliseum, Montgomery, AL •

Contact Jane Barkley-334-277-2722

DEC 13-14 • 10am-7pm

DEC 15 • Noon-5pm

### **9th Annual Gems and Mineral Holiday Show** •

Georgia Mineral Society • North  
Atlanta trade Center, 1700 Jurgens  
Ct., Norcross, GA • Contact Anita  
Westlake-404-761-7849 or email  
libawc@emory.edu

FEB 7, 2003 • 1pm-6pm

FEB 8-9, 2003 • 10am-5pm

### **Annual "Symphony of Gemstones"** • Central Brevard

Rock and Gem Club • Kiwanis  
Island Park, 950 Kiwanis Park Rd.,  
Merritt Island, FL • Contact Sue  
Nickolopoulos-321-453-8024

FEB 7-8, 2003 • 10am-6pm

FEB 9 • Noon-5pm

### **27th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show and Sale** •

Pinellas Geological Society •  
Largo Cultural Center, 105 Center  
Park Drive, Largo, FL • Contact  
Hugh Sheffield-727-894-2440

### **Junior of the Year**

*The deadline for submitting  
entries for the "Junior of the  
Year Award" is December  
31, 2002. If you need more  
information, please contact  
George and Rena Everett  
69 Jeff Street  
Oxford, MS 38655  
662-234-8561*

## FEDERATION NEWS



**Dixie Mineral Field Trip: Hosted by the  
Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society  
Fri., Nov. 29, 2002 - Sun., Dec. 1, 2002  
Diamond Hill Mine, Antreville, SC**

**Announcing the Grand Re-Opening of the Diamond Hill Mine Thanksgiving Day Weekend!** Plan to spend Thanksgiving Day with your family and then come on out Friday for three days of digging, rock-swapping and camaraderie. Jack and Ruth Browning will be joining us Saturday afternoon for Bar-B-Q and will be helping point folks in the direction of some of the more productive digging areas. Jim Haege, field trip leader and new owner of the Diamond Hill Mine, will be doing the cooking Saturday. Please bring your own beverages for dinner.

The Diamond Hill Mine has been producing skeletal, amethyst and smoky quartz crystals as well as quartz scepters and an assortment of pegmatite minerals for many years. You will need to bring a pick and shovel as well as hard rock tools and safety glasses. Be sure and bring plenty of newspaper to wrap your finds in. A lot of the quartz has iron-staining on it. There will be oxalic acid on hand for sale along with directions for those who wish to remove the stain, but frequently the stains vary in color from face to face on the crystals and make for very attractive specimens *AS LONG AS YOU DON'T DING THEM UP!* If you knock the tip off a crystal it will show bright white and stick out like a sore thumb.

**Fee:** There will be a small fee to offset the cost of this event. The fee will include free primitive camping Friday and Saturday nights, rock-swap, tailgating and a Bar-B-Q dinner Saturday. Children under 13 are free. A supplier for the port-o-pottys will have to be found before the actual fee can be fixed, but it will be for the whole weekend and will be less than the normal daily charge of \$10 for this event.

**Directions:** We will meet at the mine. There is a big church at the intersection of Highway 284 and Highway 28 1/2 mile south of Antreville. Turn onto 284 and go 2.3 miles and take a right on Suber Road, SC road S-01-508. Be careful not to turn into the folks' driveway just before the road here. Go seven tenths of a mile and you will see on your right a gravel road, Diamond Mine Road, SC road S-1-538. Turn right and go half a mile and the mine entrance will be on your right. Large RV's will have difficulty in making this turn, please find Jim and we'll get you in!

**Special Considerations:** It is the intention of the new owner to carry on the Browning's tradition of having a nice, quiet place in the woods where everyone has a chance to dig fine quartz crystals. The fee will not change, nor the availability of the mine. However, everyone visiting the property will be required to obtain a signed liability release before digging. This release also includes some hazard training as now required by the nice folks at MSHA, should they ever come by and decide that we are "mining". Contact Jim Haege @ 706-253-5920 jimhaege@mindspring.com if you need more information.

**NOTE:** 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.

# MAGS REVIEW

## BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 29, 2002; 6:30pm

RAYNEE RANDOLPH: The Nov. board meeting of MAGS was held 10/29/02 at Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Ave. The following were present: Mike Baldwin, Nancy Folden, W.C. and Cornelia McDaniel, David McIlwain, Dick McKitrick, Park and Terri Noyes, Alan Parks, Raynee Randolph, Bill Scheffer, and Lou White.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP:** October 26<sup>th</sup> trip was at Richardson Landing. Lots of treasures were found. A special thanks goes to Beverly Hammond for graciously permitting the use of her property by the club. November trip will be Birmingham Ridge, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2002.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP:** Adult program is tentative.

**Treasurer:** Financial report presented, motion made, seconded, and carried to approve report, subject to audit. Connie Devine will audit the treasure's reports from 2001, 2002. The board voted unanimously to keep the dues the same for the year 2003.

**Library:** An additional cabinet has been ordered to add extra storage to the library. Delivery will be 4-6 weeks. There will be books available for the Juniors to check out of the library. They also will have their own library cards.

**Web/Newsletter:** Statistics are now up to 120,000 hits. The Juniors will now have their own newsletter, which will be distributed during the general meeting. If you are absent the newsletter is available on the website to be printed at your convenience.

**Juniors:** Idajeon will give the Juniors program about "Cretaceous Fossils of Mississippi." In the event the Juniors program is finished before the adult program, the Juniors will QUIETLY sit in the additional chairs set up in the back rows. At the conclusion of the adult program the refreshments will be served. "The Junior of the Year" program will be coming to a close the end of December for 2002, but January 2003 will be a brand new year. Attendance will be important next year and will be awarded accordingly. There will be a Junior rock swap in February, so start compiling your material to swap and sell. Juniors to vote on what they want to be called. Specimen boxes to hold 12 specimens of the month for each Junior coming soon. Information cards are printed in the *Explorer* newsletter for references to the specimens.

**Membership:** Two new membership applications have been accepted: [1] Michael and Angela Cates, and [2] Sara Mitchell.

**Show:** Nov. meeting to be held Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> at the McDaniel home. Seven contracts have been accepted. Dr. Cole's sale will be Nov. 2-3 from 9-4pm.

**Announcements:** [1] Board elections will be held in December. A special thanks goes out to the nominating committee for all their hard work. [2] The Christmas party will be December 13<sup>th</sup>. [3] Nashville Gem and Mineral show will be the same weekend as our Christmas party. [4] Next board meeting will be December 5<sup>th</sup> at Blue Plate Café. [5] Meeting adjourned 7:45pm.

## MAGS BOARD NOMINATIONS

Officers for the 2003-2004 term will be elected and installed at the December Party. You will have an opportunity to nominate members from the floor on December 13. You must contact your nominee prior to December 13, insure that she/he is willing to serve for two years, and your nominee must be present on December 13. The MAGS Nominating Committee [Park Noyes, Chair] present the following nominations for your consideration:

- President—W.C. McDaniel
- 1st Vice President [Field Trips]—Park Noyes
- 2nd Vice President [Programs]—Paul Sides
- Secretary—Raynee Randolph
- Treasurer—Bill Scheffer
- Directors—Lou White, David McIlwain, Idajeon Jordan, Kim Prudhomme, and Teresa Noyes

## GENERAL MEETING

NOV 8, 2002; 7:30pm

RAYNEE RANDOLPH: MAGS Nov. General Membership meeting, held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, was called to order by President Lou White at 7:35pm on Friday, November 8, 2002.

There were 53 members and 5 visitors present. Visitors were: Don, Megan, Jim and John Givens, and Barry Burns.

**1st VP: David McIlwain:** Nov. Field Trip will be to Birmingham Ridge, near Tupelo, Mississippi for huge fossil shells.

**Library:** Library cards are still available. You must pick them up before checking any items out of the library. The book "70 Wonders of the Ancient World" has been purchased in memory of Lucile Cox and is now available to be checked out.

**Program:** Paul Sides introduced program of "Flint Napping" with Bill Metcalf.

**Juniors:** Idajeon Jordan presented the MAGS Youth Program on "Shell Fossils of North Mississippi".

**Treasurer:** The annual dues are due.

**Sunshine:** Martha Rannels is recovering from an upper respiratory infection, Darryl and Breezy are both ill at home.

**Show:** You will be able to purchase "Show Gift Bags" for \$15.00, which will contain gift certificates and assortment of tickets.

**Nominating Committee:** Nominations of officers for the next 2 years were presented. Next month, nominations will be accepted from the floor.

**Christmas Party:** Idajeon Jordan has the plans for our annual Christmas party well under way. Christmas tree and poinsettia centerpieces will be auctioned off. Details on page three.

**Announcements:** Dr. Cole's sale was very successful. There will be another sale in the future.

**Displays:** [1] Mary Gibson—Fall leaves from Mena, Arkansas; [2] Sherri Baldwin—Material from Richardson's Landing; [3] Paul Sides—Catlinite pipe (self carved); [4] Jennifer Baldwin—Staurolite crosses.

**Display Winners:** Adult—Sherri Baldwin and Junior—Jennifer Baldwin  
Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm followed by refreshments.

## TID BITS AND TIPS

Double the life of your diamond saw blade by keeping the oil clean and keeping the feed on low. Adding 1/2 cup of liquid detergent to the oil acts as a coagulant and holds the grit to the bottom in a tight ribbon.

Water stained bottles and glass can be cleaned by soaking in a Sani-Flush solution. This is good for dessert glass collectors.

A paste of baking soda and water removes bug spatters on your car without injuring the finish.

Clean and polish gold mountings with denture cream—not toothpaste.

Here's a quick, safe way to remove a cabochon that gets stuck in the bezel of a finding when grinding for a perfect fit. Don't start picking and prying—take it to the kitchen, and have a towel or wash cloth handy. Put a cup or two of water into a small pan and bring to a boil. Take a pair of needle nose pliers or tweezers and dip the offender in the hot water [one or two minutes is usually enough]. Remove and tap it gently with a pencil over the towel. It should drop out free and unharmed. The trick is very simple. The metal of the finding will expand more quickly than the stone, so the stone drops out.

Via *Ozark Earth Science News*, July 2002

# SHOW 2003

W.C. McDANIEL: As we anticipate the arrival of the holidays and making sure our Christmas list is all in order, the show committee is meeting and planning it's own long list of tasks for the 2003 Show, set for April 26-27.

**GIFT BAGS:** You have the opportunity to purchase a show gift bag for only \$15.00. The bag includes \$10.00 worth of gift certificates, four admission tickets, two tickets to the gem dig and two extra door prize registration tickets. That's \$24 worth of show goodies for only \$15. The gift bags will be available at the December meeting.

**DEALERS:** We anticipate having a full complement (30) of dealers. We will have at least one new dealer, as *Inspiration Originals of North Carolina* will be unable to return this year. Look for the list of dealers in coming months.

**CLUB TABLES:** The club tables will relocate to the west end of the building and the old area will become a curtained hospitality room for dealers and club members. The outside of the walls will be for exhibits and displays and the sliding door by the concession stand will be opened.

**EXHIBITS:** A display on the "Treasures of the Midsouth" will emphasize earth treasures found within 300 miles of Memphis. Idajean will be contacting members soon for your exhibit contributions and participation. Exhibitors from outside of MAGS will include: [1] Delta State, returning with an exhibit of *Ice Age Fossils*, and [2] University of Tennessee—Martin, returning with exhibits including a small display of meteorites which have been found in Tennessee. Also, the show will be one of the first opportunities to see and purchase a book on Coon Creek [if it is published on time]. This book is a collaborative effort of Dr. Michael Gibson, the Pink Palace and the Black Hills Institute.

**CLASSES [a new feature at the show]:** Kim Prudhomme is putting together a series of classes to be held during the show. Class plans include wire wrapping, beading, and building your own necklace by making everything from scratch. Specific class details will come later.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** As you plan your weeks and months ahead keep the show in mind and leave the weekend of April 25-27 free to work and enjoy the show. We need lots of member participation.

### WORTH THINKING ABOUT ... AT LEAST ONCE!

Via *The Rock Dobber*, Dec 1998

Money doesn't bring you happiness, but it enable you to look for it in more places. Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places. Misers aren't much fun to live with, but they make great ancestors. Be careful what rut you choose. You may be in it the rest of your life. The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket. Two wrongs don't make a right, but two Wrights made an airplane.

# MAGS YOUTH

## SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Kids, the deadline for submitting paperwork for the Junior of the Year Award is December 31, 2002. Pick up your application at the December Party [see Raynee Randolph]. The requirements are on our website at [www.memphisgeology.org/images/JuniorAward.pdf](http://www.memphisgeology.org/images/JuniorAward.pdf).

**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.

## WHAT'S UP WITH THE KIDS

**MEETING NIGHT:** There were 13 members at the October MAGS Youth meeting presented by Idajeane Jordan. The youth were given an opportunity to see a variety of Cretaceous fossils similar to fossils they will be collecting on the November MAGS field trip to Birmingham Ridge, Mississippi. In addition to having their own newsletter, the youth now have their own library. Library cards will be issued in January. The kids will be choosing a name for their group. Name suggestions are being collected and the kids will vote on a name in the near future. Some of the names on the list for consideration are "MAGS Juniors", "Mini MAGS", "Mighty MAGS", and "The Diamond Hunters". If you have a name idea, or an idea for kids' activities, programs, or field trips, call Idajeane Jordan at 901-452-4286 or email MAGS at [rockclub@earthlink.net](mailto:rockclub@earthlink.net).

**YOUTH NEWSLETTER:** You will receive your copy of the *December MAGS Explorer* newsletter at the December party. If you miss the party, you can read it online or download it from <http://www.memphisgeology.org/images/explorer1202.pdf>. If you have artwork, articles, games, puzzles, poems, experiments, or anything you would like to see printed in the newsletter, send it to [rockclub@earthlink.net](mailto:rockclub@earthlink.net) or give it to co-editors Jennifer Baldwin, Emily Randolph, Kelly Baldwin, or Abbey Randolph. *MAGS Rocks!*

Did You Know . . .	Ankylosaurus
<p>Ankylosaurus was like a tank, with lots of thick, bony armor on its body. It also had a nasty weapon, a heavy club on the end of its tail, which it could swing around and smash into an attacking dinosaur. There probably weren't many creatures, even a big T. rex, who would want to mess with this guy.</p> <p>As a defensive creature, Ankylosaurus was one of nature's most perfect designs. It was almost impervious to being bitten from above and its long, strong tail muscles would have been able to swing its club with great force. It was the last and largest of this family of armored dinosaurs. It walked fairly upright on all four legs.</p> <p><small>©2002 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society</small></p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>MAGS DINOSAUR CARD</b></p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>Ankylosaurus magniventris</i>                      Pronounced: n-Kie-low-Saw-rus                      Diet: Herbivore (Plant-Eater)                      Name Means: "stiff-jointed lizard"                      Length: 22 feet (7 m)                      Height: 5 feet (1.8 m)                      Weight: 4 tons (3500 kilos)                      Time: Late Cretaceous - 70 mya</p> </div>

Did You Know . . .	Staurolite
<p>Staurolite is a silicate of iron and aluminum, also called cross-stone and fairy stone. Its name derives from a Greek word meaning "cross," because the mineral usually occurs as two crystals intergrown at right angles. The translucent crystals have a dull or glassy luster and are red-brown to light black.</p> <p>Staurolite commonly occurs in crystalline schists and in slates, often with garnet, kyanite and tourmaline. It has been found in Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia, embedded in schist or as weathered detritus. Other occurrences include Switzerland, Scotland and Brittany. A transparent Brazilian variety is used as a gem.</p> <p><small>©2002 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society</small></p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>MAGS SPECIMEN CARD</b></p>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Classification: nesosilicate                      Composition: <math>FeAl_4Si_2O_{10}(OH)_2</math>                      Hardness: 7-7.5                      Specific Gravity: 3.65-3.83                      Crystal system: monoclinic                      Fracture: conchoidal                      Streak: white                      Color: red, white, brown, or black</p> </div>

## DUES ARE DUE

BILL SCHEFFER—Dues are due before January 1, 2003.

The easiest way is to write a check and drop it in the mail to me. I won't be collecting dues at the December party, but we don't want you to miss out on any of the great things happening in MAGS. Prices are: [1] Family—\$20.00; [2] Single—\$16.00; [3] Junior—\$8.00; and [4] Associate—\$13.00. Make your checks out to MAGS and send them to Bill Scheffer, 2959 Sky Way Drive, Memphis, TN 38127. Thanks in advance for paying your dues.

## 2002 DISPLAY WINNERS

Adult display winners in 2002 were: [1] Martha Rannels—January; [2] Lou White—February; [3] Mike Cannito—March; [4] Allen Helt—April; [5] Nancy Boucher—May; [6] Mary Gibson—July; [7] Doris Parson—September; [8] W.C. McDaniel—October; and [9] Sherri Baldwin—November.

Youth display winners in 2002 were: [1] Kelly Baldwin—February; and [2] Jennifer Baldwin—November.

Congratulations to all the winners. Their names will be placed in a drawing for prizes at the December Party.

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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

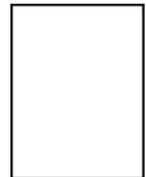
Junior—\$8.00

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**

**DMC Field Trip  
Nov 29-Dec 1**

**Holiday Party  
December 13**

**DUES ARE DUE  
01.01.03**

**Send your check  
to Bill Scheffer  
Today!**

