

# The Sooner Rockologist

Vol. 64 Number 5

May 2009

## Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society Purpose

- *The purpose shall be an educational relationship among the members for the study of rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, and lapidary techniques, and for the exchange of the results of such studies and classifications with similar societies and the public. (We have fun, too!)*

## Membership & Meetings

*General Membership meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (with the exception of June and December when we celebrate with an anniversary picnic in June and a December Christmas party in lieu of regular meetings). Guests are welcome!*

*On the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (except on holidays), we meet for a Demonstration & Work Night to give members an opportunity to share information and teach each other and assist each other with various personal projects.*

*Meetings and work nights are held at the Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Building, 3400 N.W. 36th Street in Oklahoma City. Annual dues are \$10.00 for a single membership and \$15.00 for husband and wife (children also). A \$1.00 per person initiation fee applies to new members, subject to application and approval.*

## Dodrill Museum Field Trip



Top: Dodrill Museum, Center Left: David Read helps a young visitor view florescent materials. Center Right: Oscar and Jo Carroll sort through shelves of excess material as Donna Davis looks on. Bottom Left: Bob Welch looks at some of the displays. Bottom Right: President Paul Cinnamon and VP Donna Davis examine a specimen that was for sale.

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**2008 Elected Officers**

**President**

**Paul Cinnamon 405-262-6715**

**Vice President**

**Donna Davis 405-760-6566**

**Secretary**

**Jeannie Manners 405-577-2029**

**Treasurer**

**David Read 405-789-2997**

**Board of Directors**

*One year term:*

*Vernon Dorton*

*Wanda Manderscheid*

*Doyle McCown*

*Joanne Carroll*

*Two year term:*

*Darla Wood*

*Elaine Welch*

*John Bode*

**Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons**

**Anniversary Picnic: Donna Davis**

**Audio/Video: Tom Manners**

**Christmas Party: Dottie Smith**

**Property Custodians: John Bode & Paul Cinnamon**

**Education: vacant**

**Federation Activities: Arlene Burkhalter**

**Field Trips: Ed Vermillion**

**Historian: Joann Carroll**

**Hospitality: Ambrosia Geffre**

**Librarian: Norma Cinnamon**

**Meeting Display: Doyle McCown  
Billie Marie Nedd**

**Membership: Wanda Manderscheid**

**Programs: Vernon Dorton**

**Parliamentarian: John Bode**

**Publicity OPEN**

*(Editors Note: The following article was published in the Enid News and Eagle on April 18, 2009 and is reprinted here with permission .)*

## Crystal dig to open Saturday

The Salt Plains Wildlife Refuge Selenite Crystal Dig Area will re-open at 8 a.m. Saturday.

The dig area has been closed since April 2007 when vials from Chemical Agent Identification Sets were found in the area by a Boy Scout. The vials were used to train troops during World War II to recognize chemical agents. The vials contained diluted mustard, lewisite, chloropicrin and undiluted phosgene.

Army Corps of Engineers conducted a remedial investigation of the dig area. A total of 171 intact vials were found and removed as well as incendiary bomblets and other metal debris.

The final report from the Corps of Engineers recommended the use of educational materials to warn the public of potential hazards. The report stated "it is unlikely that munitions and explosives of concern or Chemical Agent Identification Sets remain at the project site. It cannot be stated with certainty, however, that no MEC or CAIS remain."

The education materials will include two signs at the dig area, insert in the selenite crystal brochure and information on the Salt Plains Web site. This information will depict munitions and chemical vials which have been found in the dig area and actions to take by visitors if anymore are found.

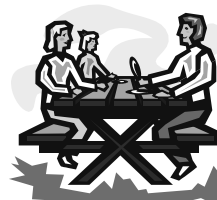
The area will not re-open until Saturday to allow the refuge to produce and display the education material.



**63rd Anniversary Picnic Time**

**Sunday - June 7th**

**Buck Thomas Park - Moore**



The Club will provide meat - bottled water - ice tea - lemonade - plates, etc.

Bring your favorite covered dish. Come at 12:30 to setup and we'll eat at 1:00. Bring a pocket size "Show & Tell or "What is it?" If you have an extra specimen or gem, etc. in your collection, bring it for a door prize.

**Directions:** Take exit # 118 off of I-35. Go East on NE 12th St. for about 1 3/4 miles. Turn left at the water tower, then right at the playground.

**Be There or Be Hungry!**

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Paul Cinnamon

I have procrastinated writing this month, partly due to all the things going on in our personal life. I usually try to not dwell much upon the happenings in our life, but sometimes things we have little or no control over seem intent on overwhelming us.

In January, we purchased a new vehicle to replace a perfectly good Jeep Norma had driven for the past 10 years. Less than 2 weeks later, we were among the unlucky few who were caught in the thunderstorm that produced the tornado that passed through Yukon and into the Piedmont area. We were westbound on I-40, and got caught in the hail storm in front of the tornado. Within 3 miles, we sustained about \$10,000. in damages to our new vehicle. Fortunately, we had good insurance, and within about a month, our damaged vehicle once again looked almost as good as new. As we had not traded in Norma's old car, we had it to drive while the new one was being repaired. As soon as we got the new vehicle returned, we started thinking about finding a buyer for her Jeep. About a week ago, one of our club members expressed interest in test driving it, and we drove it into OKC, where they took it for a couple of test drives. As we left their home, Norma mentioned that the Art Festival was going on down town, so we went there and spent a few hours enjoying the art work, sights, and sounds. We started home about dusk. Instead of taking the rough and dangerous I-40 route home, we decided to go straight west out Reno Street, which intersects our road about ¼ mile from our home. As we traveled west, the traffic light at Sara Road turned to red, and we stopped. About 30 seconds later I saw headlights approaching from the rear, but I thought they were slowing, and turned my attention back to the light, expecting it to soon turn green. About a second later, our vehicle was forcefully struck in the rear propelling us into the northbound lane of Sara Road. Fortunately, neither of us, or the young mother and her son who were in the other vehicle was injured, but both vehicles sustained substantial damage. As it turned out, this young woman was driving on a revoked license, had no insurance, and her vehicle had an expired tag. Fortunately, we have uninsured motorist coverage. After several days, we received word from the insurance adjuster that the vehicle was totaled.

By the way, I have not mentioned that the same hail storm that damaged our car also passed over our home, where we sustained additional damages.

The good news is that despite this incredible run of bad luck, neither of us has received any physical injuries, and our insurance company assures us that as none of the losses have been our fault, we will not see an increase in the cost of our insurance, or a cancellation of coverage.

We truly hope the happenings in your lives have been much more pleasant.

The open house and sale at the Dodrill Museum was well attended, not only by members of our club, but many from other clubs within the region, with rockhounds from as far away as Kansas and Missouri present. The Dodrill's thank you for making it successful.

*Newsletter Editor:* Tom Manners  
*Scholarship:* Arlene Burkhalter  
*Show 2009:* Vernon Dorton  
*Sunshine:* Donna Davis  
*Telephone:* Oveta Vermillion  
*Ways & Means:* Dean & Wanda Manderscheid  
Doyle McCown  
*Workshop:* Mark Brickmann

*The Sooner Rockologist*  
*April 2009, Vol. 64, No. 4*

**OMGS**

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*Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2084*

*(permanent mailing address)*

*Our Website is:*

*www.OMGS.org*

*Editor*

*Tom Manners 405-577-2029*

*Email: trmanners@sbcglobal.net*

*If you have articles of interest that you would like to see printed in The Sooner Rockologist, please be sure to contact the editor.*

*Please submit your contributions no later than the first of each month. Your submissions may be edited for punctuation, clarity and space. If you have an announcement or a trip report to share, please e-mail me or give it to me at the monthly meetings. E-mail attachments in MS Word are appreciated so as to prevent retyping the information. Unless otherwise noted, articles are written and/or contributed by the Editor.*

*If you owe membership dues, please mail your check to:*

**OMGS**

*Attn: Jeannie Manners*

*P. O. Box 2084*

*Oklahoma City, OK*

*73101-2084*

***NOTE:*** We would like to receive input from each and every one of our members on what you would like to see happening during our work night the first Monday of each month, so we can determine who will give instruction in those particular areas of interest. Thank you

**A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER.**

*Regarding health issues, Donna Davis is on our sunshine committee. She said she hasn't been receiving any notifications lately of folks being ill or having difficulties. In that regard, no news is good news!*

*But if you don't know who to contact to tell about these things, she is the person. She asked that I be sure to remind everyone.*

*Her phone number is 760-6566, and her e-mail is*

*robertdavis3@cox.net.*

*Please be sure to keep her abreast of these issues so our club can help out if needed. Thanks!*

I'm certain you are aware that there will be no Rockologist published in June, and our regular meeting will be replaced by our annual club picnic. (See details on page 2.)

OMGS is planning a large rock and equipment auction Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. It is scheduled to be in our regular club meeting room at the Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Building, 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup>. Tentative time of the sale is scheduled from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. It will consist of a myriad of good items from the collections of two long time rockhounds. One is deceased, and the other now rendered unable to continue to pursue his hobby due to his loss of eyesight. The club will receive a generous percentage of the proceeds of the sale.

Plans and preparations are progressing nicely toward our November 7-8<sup>th</sup> show. We are nearing the number of quality dealers we need to help make the show successful. I encourage each of you to begin planning for a display of items that you can showcase for the enjoyment of all those attending. If you don't own an appropriate case, OMGS will gladly loan you a lighted case with liners for your use.

Until next time, Happy Rockhounding!

## **Board Meeting Thursday, April 9, 2009**

**Members present:** Paul Cinnamon, Donna Davis, Jeannie Manners, David Read, Vernon Dorton, Wanda Manderscheid, Doyle McCown, Joann Carroll, Darla Wood

**Guests present:** Norma Cinnamon, Robert Davis, Tom Manners, Lou Dorton, Dean Manderscheid, Oscar Carroll

Chairwoman Davis brought the meeting to order.

The minutes printed in the *Rockologist* were discussed; certain items were clarified, but not changed. Wanda moved, Doyle seconded that the minutes be accepted; approved.

Treasurer's report was given.

**Correspondence** – We received a letter about the liability insurance [we now have coverage again, but it won't cover the show]; several show announcements; several newsletters; and several financial items for David.

**New member applications** – We received an application from Kevin Riley. Joann moved, Wanda seconded that we accept the new member; approved.

Jeannie will create a list of directory additions quarterly, and make 30 copies for distribution at our meetings.

**Committees** – Show committee – We have a few more dealers signed up.

Wanda says the silent auction table is in desperate need of more donated items.

The annual picnic will be held on Sunday, June 7, 12:30 – 3:30, at the same location in Moore. We need door prizes; members can bring items for display.

**Old Business** – The insurance situation was discussed earlier. David has invested our funds in a CD at the Bank of Oklahoma, which

has the best rate right now. We might want to change the ByLaws to allow investing with credit unions (which have a better rate), insured by NCUA.

The show cases, and storage building door, need to be repaired soon. A tentative date of Saturday, May 9, has been planned.

The name tags that were ordered last month are ready. More will be ordered this month. We have plastic holders available, which can be used for members who can't afford the purchased name tags. The holders might also come in handy for show volunteers.

New Business – Tentatively, we may be hosting an estate sale/auction in May.

Field Trip – This weekend is the Enid field trip to Vici. Our field trip is coming up the following Saturday – directions are in the *Rockologist*.

Meeting adjourned.

Jeannie Manners  
Secretary

## OMGS General Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 16, 2009

Paul Cinnamon, President, called the meeting to order.

Reminders were given: Sign up for a door prize. See Jeannie Manners to pick up your 2009 membership card and directory. See Donna Davis to pick up your name tag, or place your order for one. We will have an auction right before our break this evening. Ovetta Vermillion made a motion to accept the previous minutes as published in the *Rockologist*. John Bode seconded, motion passed. David Read gave the treasurer's report which will be filed for future audit.

Correspondence was shared – invitations to shows, newsletters.

Wanda Manderscheid introduced our guests – Pam Mowen, Mike Bosler, Joe & Retta Cornforth, & Dean Hopkins. We have a silent auction at every meeting.

Displays: Tom & Jeannie Manners – geodes from New Mexico trip; flyers about the Red Rock Swap this weekend; Robert Davis – petrified wood; Loretta Nelson – drussy pendant and earrings wrapped by Jim Myers; Bernie Possenreide – lab created gems display; Leon – Quartzite material; David – what is it?

New Members: Kevin Riley received his new member packet.

The Red Rock Canyon Swap is this weekend. Also, this Saturday is our field trip to the Dodrill Museum in Cushing, OK.

New Business: The date for the Enid club May field trip is Saturday, May 9.

Sunshine Committee – Max Burkhalter is home from the hospital. Elaine's daughter is better. Connie Hefley is at home recovering. John's daughter is doing well following an auto accident.

Paul is currently working on a rock sale which may occur on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is a tentative date for 1 or 2 estates to be sold.

The Wichita Show is coming up April 24-26.

Thanks to Dottie Smith for kitchen help, and to Donna Davis and Sue Smith for cookies tonight. Volunteers for next month: Cookies – Beverly Hibbler and Ovetta Vermillion; Kitchen – Joanne Carroll.

The door prize provided by Sebastian Geffre was won by Dean Manderscheid.

An auction was held for a Ray tech saw, tumbler, rock clamp, polish and grit bags, polish sets, and a Hi tech saw.

The meeting adjourned for refreshments and the program.

Jeannie Manners,  
Secretary

## **Insurance At Last**

**By Arlene Burkhalter, Insurance Chair RMSMS**  
(Reprinted from the Rocky Mountain Federation News issue 5, May 2009)

As many of you know, we lost our liability insurance last February 1st. Neither Fireman's Fund or Brown and Brown bothered to notify us in writing, telephone, or email that our insurance contract would not be renewed. We found out when I contacted a new agency here in Oklahoma City that we would like to get an Agency transfer closer to home and they wrote to Fireman's Fund with their Transfer to Oklahoma and were informed then that Fireman's Fund was not renewing.

This new agency started searching for a policy for the Rocky Mountain Federation that would provide the necessary services. They found Hartford Insurance and we thought we were set, but Hartford wanted to insure each club separately and, while the premium was relatively inexpensive, many of the smaller clubs would have had a big increase in costs. Gene Maggard, our treasurer, started to search in Wichita, Kansas, and found an agent, Jeanie Johnstone, and agency, Signature Select, who was willing to work for us and with us. I have asked Jeanie to write the "RMFMS General Liability Insurance Summary" listed on that follows, in layman's terms telling us what our insurance covers. I think this article will explain the coverage very adequately. I have blanked out the cost per member (and we will be quoting "per member"), since the Executive Board will have to decide the cost to the clubs which will include a small cost for postage etc by Gene and myself.

Thank you for your patience and we feel for those clubs who had shows earlier and had to find their own insurance. You should have received your club certificate and will be receiving Additional Insured Certificates shortly for those who have already requested them. We will be returning the money for those who have sent requests for additional coverage.

### **RMFMS General Liability Insurance Summary**

**Philadelphia Insurance Companies effective 3/25/2009-3/25/2010**

This insurance policy is a Commercial General Liability policy and includes Professional Liability. The RMFMS is the first named insured. All member clubs purchasing this optional insurance, and their individual members with respect to their duties as members, are also named insureds. An additional insured will be added to any club's certificate when requested. There will be no charge for certain types of additional insured's such as for Managers, Landlords or Lessors of Premises as respects that part of the premises leased or rented to you as long as you or someone on your behalf are not conducting structural alterations, new construction or demolition operations.

#### **Coverage amounts:**

- Each Occurrence Limit \$1,000,000
- Personal and Advertising Injury Limit \$1,000,000
- Aggregate Limit \$2,000,000
- Products/Completed Operations Limit \$2,000,000
- Professional Liability Each Occurrence Limit \$1,000,000
- Professional Liability Aggregate Limit \$2,000,000
- Rented to You Limit \$1,000,000
- Medical Payments \$20,000

The insurance pays sums that RMFMS, RMFMS Officers, individual members when conducting official RMFMS business, and member clubs who have elected to take this optional insurance and their individual members when conducting official club business, are legally obligated to pay as damages because of bodily injury or property damage to which the insurance applies including the right

and duty to defend against any suit seeking those damages as long as the occurrence takes place in the coverage territory (USA including territories and possessions, Puerto Rico and Canada and occurs during the policy period). There are certain exclusions in the policy and each club should review those exclusions and understand the impact on their particular operations.

For example, Bodily Injury to any insured is not covered. This is not an accident policy. It is designed to protect member organizations and individual members from alleged harm to third parties. Use of any automobiles, airplanes or boats (except non-owned watercraft less than 58 feet long) in club activities is not covered. There is an abuse or molestation exclusion that means the insurance does not apply to bodily injury or property damage or personal and advertising injury arising out of actual or threatened abuse.

Certain types of events are automatically covered. However, the insurance company will need to be notified of the following exceptions to determine if coverage can be provided or if an additional charge should apply:

- Parades sponsored by the Insured • Aircraft • Motorcycle runs and automobile rallies • Fire works – exhibitors operated by the Insured. • Firearms • Animals – other than house pets • Carnivals and fairs with mechanical rides sponsored by the Insured • Rock, Hip-Hop or Rap concerts – with admission over 500 people • Events including contact sports • Rodeos sponsored by the Insured • Political Rallies • Any event lasting more than 5 days (including other wise acceptable events) • Any event with greater than 500 people at any one time • Any event with liquor provided by the Insured if a license is required for such activity. • Any activities by third party telemarketing, direct mail, or internet advertising firms

Premium for 2009-10 - General Club and individual member coverage - per member  
Additional insured certificates are no charge. Waiver of Subrogation - \$150

## **Red Rock Annual Swap**

By Mark Brickman

The Shawnee Mineral & Gem Society recently sponsored the annual Rock Swap at Red Rock Canyon . Over the three days numerous local and interested rock hounds showed up to share stories and “swap” rocks. A few folks from the Ada club even showed up.

On sale were ammonites, amazonite, selenite, quartz crystals, staurolite crystals and numerous types of cut slabs, petrified wood and colorful copper minerals. One displayer showed various polished spheres that he had produced. They were quite nice.

The weather was dynamic and variable with clouds, sprinkles, sun, and some wind, but nothing to spoil the event. Saturday night I was invited to eat dinner with those who were spending the night there. It was an enjoyable and adventurous weekend for this writer.

## **Nell Wallraven's Donation to OMGS**

by Paul Cinnamon

Last year, several members of our club assisted Norma & me in organizing a sale of rocks and associated materials from the collection of our deceased member, Al Wallraven. Although it involved some physical work, it was a labor of love, and appreciation of Nell and the Wallraven family in allowing our club members and guests from other clubs to purchase some of Al's unique rocks and specimens.

Recently, Nell presented a generous check to OMGS in loving memory of Al, and in appreciation to all those who participated and made the sale successful.

On behalf of the club, we wish to say a sincere thank you, Nell.

## **OMGS Calendar**

**May 4 - OMGS work night**

**May 7 - Show Committee meeting**

**May 11 Enid club field trip, Prague - Fossils, Quartz, Jasper**

**May 14 - OMGS Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 21 - General Meeting, Program - Program To Be Announced.**

**June 7, 12:30 – 3:30 - Annual picnic will be held on Sunday,**

**June 13 - Enid club field trip, Hardtner, Bill White's Museum**

**June 12 -14 - Shows of Integrity Gem and Bead show at the OKC Fairgrounds 10:00 to 7:00 Friday & Saturday, 10:00 to 5:00 on Sunday. Admission is \$5. If you would be willing to help demonstrate a part of hobby please contact Donna Davis, Tom Manners or Paul Cinnamon**

**November 7-8 OMGS Show "River of Gems" Oklahoma State Fairpark, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5**

**If you have changes, corrections or additions to the OMGS Calendar, please e-mail me at [trmanners@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trmanners@sbcglobal.net) or call me at (405) 577-2029.**

**For a complete listing of ALL the rock and gem shows around the nation please go to the web site;  
<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>**

**If you would like to go on any of the field trips with the Enid club please contact Stan Nowak at 580-234-3126.**

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