



The Sooner Rockologist

February 2007

Volume 62, Number 1

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 our anniversary picnic and Christmas party are held in lieu of regular meetings. Guests are welcome.

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

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

The Sooner Rockologist is the official publication of the Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society, Inc. and is published each month, except January and July. Non-profit, hobby newsletters may freely use the material in this newsletter, unless used by permission. Please give credit where credit is due. Editor will send any article by email.

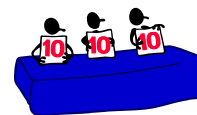
State Council Exhibitors & Judges Seminar

The Oklahoma State Council sponsored, hosted by OMGS, Exhibitors and Judges Seminar will be March 31 from 9:00 until 4:00 at the Energy Building on the OU Campus located at 100 W Boyd, Norman.

We will have sessions dealing with AFMS Competitive Rules and a session on displaying. Whether you want to enter Competitive or not, this information is valuable in learning to display your material to the best advantage.

It doesn't cost to attend, and what you learn will help you to show off your "rock & mineral goodies". We would like a nice crowd. Mark your calendars!

Arlene Burkhalter



Mini Miners Monthly Slated for March Release

From Larry Shearer –

A friend of mine is starting a 12 page mineral/rock monthly publication (Mini Miners Monthly) and has plans to make it a 16- page publication designed for the young mineral collector. The first issue will be this March. Our club will be buying a subscription and will be using some of the contents of this publication in our FIELD NOTES (our club newsletter). We will run a free ad for this publication in our newsletter as I think it is going to be a great publication for the children in our club. We are trying to get families involved in our club and are succeeding in this. Please consider mentioning this in your newsletter and at your next meeting.

Subscription cost is \$19.95 for 12 issues. Scribes who give an e-mail address with their subscription will also receive at least one bonus mineral activity each month via e-mail, such as mineral cross word puzzles, mineral word searches, coloring pages, cut and fold crystal models, and more.

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As I said, "I think this will be great for kids."

Bob King, President, Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society



2007 Elected Officers

President

John Bode 580-336-2996

Vice President

Vernon Dorton 405-324-7664

Secretary

Dottie Smith 405-672-2510

Treasurer

Vi Holmes 405-834-0765

New Board of Directors

Two year term:

Arlene Burkhalter
J.C. Brown
Mike Holmes
Joyce McBryde
Bob Welch

One year term:

Sebastian Geffre
Les Jones
Mark Brickman

Finishing as one year Board of Directors

(elected for two-year term in 2005)
Billie Marie Nedd
Oscar Carroll
Paul Cinnamon

New officers were not installed at the January meeting per our by-laws due to the Jan. meeting being cancelled due to ice storm.

Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons

I do not have a new list yet. Check this column next month for the new inductees.

If you have not yet made a commitment to a project or committee, now is the time to step up to the plate! **The participation of all members is needed for a successful club year.**

Thanks to all who contributed to our club's success in 2006 by serving as officers, committee chairpersons and volunteers supporting our many projects!

Welcome new members!

**Billy Parker
Tyone Lone Elk
Anunkasen Tobaeco
John & Nan Bevins**

OMGS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES • December 8, 2006

Les Jones, Vice-president, opened the special board meeting. There was a quorum. A motion was made to accept the applicants, Billy Parker & Tyonne Lone Elk, and son, Anunkasen Tobaeco and John & Nan Bevins; seconded; motion carried. The meeting adjourned.

Dottie Smith, Secretary

OMGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES • January 11, 2007

Members present: Arlene Burkhalter, Vi Holmes, John Bode, Oscar Carroll, Paul Cinnamon, Vernon Dorton, Les Jones, Billy Marie Nedd, Donna Davis and Dottie Smith. Guests: Max Burkhalter, Norma Cinnamon, Bob Welch, Henry Nedd, and Robert Davis.

Vice-president, Les Jones, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Denny's restaurant. The minutes of the last board meeting (November 2006), and the special board meeting December 8, 2006 were read. Paul made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Arlene seconded, motion passed. Vi gave the treasurer's report. Paul made a motion to accept the report until audit, Donna seconded, motion passed.

Correspondence: Several bulletins from other clubs were received and will be given to our editor. A flyer for the Tucson Show January 27 to February 10 was received.

Old Business: The rent for the meeting room for 2007 was paid. The projector and the case was put on the silent auction table and were bought.

Show Committee: Arlene reported that they have received several checks for booth space and that it was decided to go with a commercial firm to do our publicity. They need to have a name for the show before they can put it in the different publications.

Scholarship: Arlene reported that three students applied for the 2006 scholarship and she brought the paperwork. Donna made a motion to award Matthew Totten the \$600 scholarship, Paul seconded, motion carried.

New Business: Les received an E-mail from Mark Brickman that he intends to resign as chairman of the Education Committee. Les let him know that he should inform the incoming president of his intention.

Vi noticed that the receipt for the room rent for 2007 has a mistake. The Christmas dinner is 12/7/07 not 2006. Will need to have this corrected at our general meeting.

Announcements: The Judges and Exhibitors Seminar will be March 31, 2007. Arlene is trying to get it scheduled at the Energy Center at OU. The American Federation and Rocky Mountain Federation combined show is at Roswell, NM,

Tips & Hints

From Backbender's Gazette 12/06

Cleaning copper and brass: Your copper and brass jewelry has turned that brackish green color with black spots. Just rub thoroughly with barbeque sauce and wash with soap and water.

Orangewood stick: This tool (sold for manicuring nails and cuticles, found in most department stores) is soft enough to not mar gold or silver, yet is hard enough to use as a pushing tool in setting prongs. It will not scratch gems and reaches into impossible places.

Wipe a piece of chalk over your jeweler's files: The chalk keeps the file from clogging, and you can blow it off. Toss a piece of charcoal or chalk into your tool box. It will keep your tools rust free. You can also put that chalk in your jewelry box. Tarnish is caused by sulfur gases in the air. Chalk absorbs the gases.

Shining Cabs: To make cabochons really shine, wipe them with eyeglass cleaner and polish until dry.

From Golden Spike News 6/00

Fluorescent Labels: Fluorescent labels can be read in the dark by using ink made by mixing quinine and water. It glows bright blue under black light.

How can you get rid of Iron stains on your other rocks? Try Iron-Out®. Members have found that it removes stain from quartz, dolomite, fire agate, chalcedony roses, some amazonite, ceramics, cloth and carpet. Super Iron-Out® works better than bleach does on rust because bleach oxidizes iron, which turns to rust. Iron-Out® deoxidizes iron into a clear solution that easily rinses away and will not harm fabric as bleach does.

"Optimists convert stumbling blocks into stepping stones."

W. Howard Wight, Jr.

June 7, 8, 9 and 10. June 5 is the Rules Committee meeting and June 6 is the American Federation meeting at Roswell. Howie Whiting from their club is planning to have 150 exhibits. Need to encourage our members to go to the seminar to help them set up a case and review rules.

The Red Rock Canyon Swap has been changed to April 27, 28 and 29.

Vernon needs ideas for programs for the coming year.

Dottie Smith, Secretary

Congratulations are in order!

On December 30th, one day shy of the second anniversary of their first date, our own Dale Moore married Connie Fox at St. Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have recently moved to a new home in Guthrie, Oklahoma. For our newer members who may not know Dale yet, he is a devoted rockhound and silversmith. He has held several offices and was the editor and printer of our newsletter for two years. He has given a lot of his time and energy to our club and couldn't be a nicer guy. And now that Dale has retired from The Oklahoman, we hope to see a lot more of them in 07.

Congratulations to them both!



The lovely
Newlyweds...



Gem Stone of the Month

AMETHYST

Overview: Amethyst is a form of quartz, with a silicon dioxide composition. The primary ingredient is sand. The majority of quartz samples are clear, but amethyst derives its beautiful purple appearance due to small amounts of iron impurities in the crystal lattice.

Usage: Amethyst is one of the best stones to use for meditation. It is a stone of divine love. It guides the awareness away from self-centered thought patterns as it lures the mind towards a deeper understanding. Because of its calming mental effect, amethyst is a stone that can be used for over-worked, over-stressed, or overwhelmed mental states, and it gives protection to those who wear it. It is one of the best stones to use for tension or migraine headaches. It's good for people who tend to be easily angered or suffer from recurrent nightmares. It brings you a peaceful balance of mental and emotional energies. A good stone for insomnia and intuitive awareness. It will bring you mental peace and harmony.

Legend: Amethyst was considered to preserve sobriety in ancient Greece and adorned wine goblets to prevent drunkenness. Leonardo Da Vinci wrote that Amethyst dissipated evil thoughts and quickened intelligence. Amethyst is a noticeable adornment in the British Crown Jewels, and the color purple has come to be symbolic of royalty.

Amethyst was believed to promote piety and celibacy, and it was a popular ornamentation for religious purposes in the Middle Ages.

Occurrence: Amethyst occurs



OMGS MAIL – via Larry Shearer and Dottie Smith

From Faye Hornbaker -

"Hi, this has been a very changing year for me. In January, I went to live with my daughter, Kathy. She lives in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Around March, I had to have surgery and went to a rehab for a while and then had to go to Rebold Manor in Okmulgee.

I have to have help with my walking and taking care of myself. I can't write so I'm sending a typed letter. Kathy is typing it for me.

I sure do miss getting to see and talk to all of my friends. I think I'll have to be at Rebold Manor for a long time or maybe forever. Kathy lives only a few blocks away and comes every night to help me. She makes sure I'm getting good attention and takes care of all of the things I need done. I have a private room so it's not too bad. I can at least have some privacy. My day consists of watching TV and on some days I play Bingo. My address is: Faye Hornbaker 1512 E 9th, Okmulgee, OK 74447."

From George & Marilyn Max -

Enclosed is a check for \$15 for our family membership in OMGS. We enjoy The Sooner Rockologist and the meetings we get to attend when we are in Oklahoma. Our daughter lives in Edmond. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

From Dorothy Deitchler -

[Editor's note] Dorothy has been a very busy girl this past year and sent a nice long missive telling us all about it, including a page of pictures. Due to space constraints, I will put her holiday letter on the display table so all of you can read it at the February general meeting. Hopefully all the ice and snow will be melted by then!



If you're going crazy trying to find something new to do with the kids or grandkids during this inclement weather, read on...

Pebble Candles for Pebble Pups

Did you ever try to make candles? It is an unusual way to show off those pretty stones you picked up at the beach (or tumbles).

You will need paraffin, a pan for melting it over hot water, a utility household candle, a frozen juice concentrate can, pebbles and a blow dryer.

Set the utility candle upright in the can and fill the space around it with pebbles. Melt enough paraffin to fill the mold and pour carefully around the pebbles, shaking to fill all the spaces.

When the paraffin has cooled, strip off the sides of the can. Then set the candle in a pan to catch dripping wax and with the blow dryer melt off the outer paraffin so the pebbles are exposed as you want them to appear.

For safety sake, be very careful when melting paraffin, it is hot and flammable.

in Africa, Australia, Russia, South America, Brazil, and Uruguay.

Paraffin may be colored. Molds can be used of any size or shape. Old candles or candlewicking may be used for wicks.

From Montana Council Reporter, April, 2001

Physical Properties

Color	Lilac-Purple
Refractive Index	1.54 – 1.56
Chemistry	Sio2
Hardness	7.0
Density	2.66
Crystal Group	Hexagonal



A candle is not dimmed by lighting another candle. Author unknown

LIBRARY NOTES from Norma Cinnamon

As we have not had a regular club meeting since November, I wish to remind the following members who have library books or video tapes checked out, that they need to return these items at our next meeting on February 15th.

Amethyst

Modern birthstone, Traditional birthstone, Mystical birthstone and Ayurvedic birthstone for Aquarians (Feb).

Pisceans - Lucky Charm

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*By her, who in this month
January was born,
No gem save Garnets
should be worn.*

*They will ensure constancy,
true friendship and fidelity.*

Gemstones as Mascots

Agate - Farmers, Gardeners

Amethyst - Hunters, Lovers,
Businessmen, Sportspersons

Aquamarine - Sailors,
Sweethearts

Bloodstone - Farmers, Soldiers

Cat's Eye - Gamblers

Coral - Children, Mothers

Emerald - Sailors, Fishermen

Garnet - Travelers

Jade - Gamblers

Lodestone - Sailors

Sapphire - Lovers

Turquoise - Lovers, Married
ones, Horse riders

Patricia Khaouri Mahir - 1. Jewelry Concepts and Technology, 2. Gemstones of the World, 3. Lapidary Carving for Creative Jewelry, 4. Jade.

Marinel Kelley - 1. AFMS Uniform Rules

Mark Brickman - 1. Australian Opals 2. Rhodochrosite Red Treasure of Rockies, 3. Beautiful Opals

Leon Neff - 1. Faceting

Ed Vermillion - 1. Agate

Sue Smith 1. - Audubon Society Field Guide 2. Encyclopedia of Jewelry Making Techniques

Marie Lenfestey - 1. The Beauty of Banded Agates 2. The River Runs North

Larry Shearer 1. Rock Book

The next time you hear a politician use the word "billion" in a casual manner, think about whether you want the "politicians" spending your tax money. A billion is a difficult number to comprehend, but one advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into some perspective in one of its releases.



A. A billion seconds ago it was 1959.

B. A billion minutes ago B.C. time was changing to A.D.

C. A billion hours ago our ancestors were living in the Stone Age.

D. A billion days ago nothing &/or no-one walked on the earth on two feet.

E. A billion dollars ago was only 8 hours and 20 minutes, at the rate our government is spending it.

Editor's Beatitudes

Blessed are ye who do not snicker at the typos and goofs in the bulletin – you shall find mercy.

Blessed are ye who offers constructive criticism – you shall receive justice.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Feb 8-11 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Tucson, AZ

Feb 17 Tulsa Swap & Sale

Feb 25-26 Wickenburg Annual Gem & Mineral Show & Sale, Wickenburg, AZ

March 23-25 Ada GMF Club Annual Swap, Show and Sale Free Admission. Contact Ed Vermillion 405-527-6431

Directory update: Please add apt #512 to Jean McKissick's address in your directory; it is causing delays in getting her mail.



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Editor's Note: Submit your contributions no later than the first of each month please! Submissions may be edited for punctuation, clarity and space.

If you have an announcement or a trip report to share, email or give it to me at the meetings. Email is preferred, so I don't have to retype it. Unless otherwise noted, articles are written or contributed by the Editor. **Thanks to all of you who contributed to this issue!**



Blessed are ye who contribute articles and share your expertise and experience – you shall receive praise and glory!

Blessed are ye who read the bulletin and remember it – you shall gain knowledge and wisdom – and THANKS from your editor!

From The Sooner Rockologist Oct '96 via the T-Town Rockhound. Thanks Mary Watts! This was before my time. Does anyone know who wrote this???

OMGS CALENDAR UPDATE

- Feb 5 Work Night 6:00
Education Committee Meeting 6:00
Show Committee Meeting 6:30
- Feb 8 Board Meeting (dinner @ 6) 7:00
(members/guests are welcome)
- Feb 15 General Membership Meeting 7:00
- Mar 5 Work Night 7:00
Education Committee Meeting 6:00
- Mar 8 Board Meeting (dinner @ 6) 7:00 (Denney's - 63rd & May Ave)
- Mar 15 General Membership Meeting 7:00
- Mar 31 **Exhibitors and Judges Seminar** – see page 3 for more details
- Apr 27-29 **Red Rock Canyon Swap**, sponsored by Oklahoma State Council, Hosted by OMGS (dates changed to avoid conflict with the Pond Creek and Wichita Shows).



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



FIRST CLASS MAIL – DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

