



The Sooner ROCKOLOGIST

July 2008

Vol. 63 Number 5

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.

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OMGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2008

Members present: John Bode, Mark Brickmann, Joann Carroll, Paul Cinnamon, Wanda Manderscheid, Tom Manners, Joyce McBryde, Dottie Smith, and Bob Welch.

Guests: Oscar Carroll, Norma Cinnamon, Jeannie Manners and Dean Manderscheid.

Paul, vice-president, called the meeting to order at Denny's restaurant. There is a quorum. We will have no meeting in June. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Tom made a motion to accept the minutes; Joyce seconded; motion passed.

Correspondence: Received newsletters from other clubs.

New Member Applications: Two applications, Edgar & Marie Brand and Wes & Marilyn Davis were received. Joann made a motion to accept the applications; Wanda seconded; motion passed.

Joyce gave the treasurer's report. She made our regular \$50 contribution to the Federation scholarship fund and sent in a memorial for Al Wallraven. The report will be filed for future audit. Tom made a motion to approve Joyce moving the safety deposit box to Bank of America if one is available; Bob seconded; motion passed.

Old Business: Vern asked Mark to estimate the cost of the youth Merit Badge Program. Mark thought \$195 would cover the start up cost of books and materials. There was discussion of concerns about the program. It was thought that the sponsor must be present with the child at the sessions and is responsible for the child. Mark was given a debit card to pay for the web site. Mark asked if we could have paid advertisements on the web site, related to rocks and minerals—the legality of it, etc. This was tabled until the July board meeting so more information can be obtained. The By-Laws which are out-dated are on the web page. It was the opinion of the board that there is no need to have them on the web page and permission was granted to take them off. Tom has the questionnaire ready to hand out at the silent auction.

Paul asked how the Red Rock Canyon Swap came out. A sign was made by a

due. The editor will send any article by e-mail. Member contributions are welcomed and encouraged!

2008 Elected Officers

President
Vernon Dorton 405-485-9446
Vice President
Paul Cinnamon 405-262-6715
Secretary
Dottie Smith 405-672-2510
Treasurer
Joyce McBryde 405-677-6723

Board of Directors

Two year term:
Wanda Manderscheid
Doyle McBryde
Joanne Carroll
One year term:
Les Jones
Tom Manners
Arlene Burkhalter
Mike Holmes
Bob Welch
John Bode

Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Anniversary Picnic Donna Davis
Audio/Video: Mark Brickmann
Christmas Party OPEN
Property Custodians John Bode
.....Paul Cinnamon
Education: Mark Brickmann
Federation Activities Max &
.....Arlene Burkhalter
Field Trips Paul Cinnamon
.....Larry Shearer
Historian Joann Carroll
Hospitality Ambrosia Geffre
Librarian: Norma Cinnamon
Meeting Display Doyle McCown
Billie Marie Nedd
Membership Wanda Manderscheid
Omniplex Chet Hazelwood
.....Arlene Burkhalter
Programs OPEN
Parliamentarian Joyce McBryde
Publicity.....OPEN
Newsletter Editor Sue Smith
Scholarship Max & Arlene
.....Burkhalter
Show 2008 OPEN
Sunshine Donna Davis
Telephone Oveta Vermillion
Ways & Means Dean & Wanda

member of the Shawnee Club. He thought we need to do a better job than was done this year. We had participants from our club, the Shawnee, Stillwater, Ada and Enid clubs. A young man, 14 years of age, Levi Smith from Shawnee gave a knapping demonstration and Tom gave twist wire demonstrations. Paul will send a letter to thank the couple for the two lapidary units that they donated.

Committee Reports: Wanda gave a report on the silent auction.

Field Trip: Paul talked to the foreman at General Materials Gravel Pit and they are running way behind schedule so the field trip will probably be in July. Another field trip possibility is to visit the Elsing Museum when Golda's Mill is set up. John will check on this. The Shawnee Club is having a field trip to a Davis quarry to hunt for calcite on Saturday, May 17, other clubs are invited.

Meeting adjourned.

Dottie Smith, Secretary

OMGS REGULAR MEETING May 24, 2008

Vern Dorton, president, called the meeting to order. Ed Vermillion made a motion to accept the minutes as read; Tom Manners seconded; motion carried. Joyce McBryde gave the treasurer's report which will be filed for future audit.

Guests were introduced.

New Member Packets: Packets were picked up by Marie Brand and Wes & Marilyn Davis. They found out about the club from the internet.

Field Trips: Paul reported that we will probably get to take a field trip to General Materials Gravel Pit in July. The Shawnee Club invited other clubs to go on a field trip Saturday, May 17, to a Davis Quarry to hunt for calcite crystals.

Next month instead of a general meeting, we will have a picnic on Sunday, June 1.

Cookie volunteers for July are Dottie Smith, and Autumn Robards; kitchen volunteer is Lou Dorton.

Wanda Manderscheid gave directions for the silent auction.

Meeting adjourned with the silent auction instead of a program.

Dottie Smith, Secretary

Manderscheid
Doyle McCown
Workshop Mark Brickmann

All **December** meetings, including the Monday Work Night, will be replaced by our annual Holiday Party the first Friday in December.

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Editor's Note:

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.**

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BIRTHSTONE FOR JULY IS THE **RUBY**

The ruby is a varied color of the mineral corundum and is rare, as is the blue sapphire, which is another variation of corundum. Corundum tends to develop well-formed crystals. Tiny inclusions in either the ruby or the sapphire can give it a star effect when cut into a cabochon, which is very attractive.

Corundum is very high on the Mohs scale of hardness (9), second only to the diamond, which is a 10. Corundum comes in many colors, but when pure it is colorless. Corundum is a simple mineral made of the elements aluminum and oxygen. The closely packed atoms of aluminum and oxygen, bonded with great strength, give corundum its hardness.

When corundum is blue (a sapphire), it is because it has in it trace minerals of iron and titanium. Some of the finest sapphires occur in river gravels in Kashmir and originally formed in the rocks beneath the Himalaya Mountains. They usually form in igneous and metamorphic rocks at high temperatures and pressures and come to the surface through rising magma or prolonged erosion, or sometimes are washed into river gravels.

True red corundum, called ruby, derives its color from traces of chromium found in the corundum. The finest examples come from Myanmar (Burma), but other sources are Afghanistan and Pakistan. Rubies are most commonly found in river gravels. They are prized for their richness in color and for their rarity, which also makes them very expensive.

Because corundum is so hard, it is a useful mineral. Small grains of it are called emery and are used in sandpaper. Many watches are set with rubies to protect their moving parts.

CORUNDUM FACTS: Hardness: 9; SG: 4-4.1; Color: Colorless when pure; can be many other colors; has White Streak, is Transparent to Translucent, and has a Glossy Luster.

MINERAL FORMULA: Al_2O_3 .

(The above article was compiled by Sue Smith, editor, excerpting information from Pockets - Rocks & Minerals written by Sue Fuller, and Pockets - Gemstones written by Emma Foa.)

HINTS AND TIPS

Did you know you can tell manmade diamonds from natural ones by using a magnet? Synthetic diamonds will stick to a magnet, but natural ones will not.

Remove algae and lichen from rocks by soaking them in ammonia water, followed by use of a stiff brush. (Some materials, like calcite, will dissolve in ammonia, so check your chemistry before you do this.)

Wash fluorite specimens **ONLY** in cold water. If you use warm water, they will **LOSE THEIR SHINE**, and it will **NEVER** come back.

When storing gem materials outdoors, **BE CAREFUL**. Many colorful pink and purple materials are faded by intense sunlight. These include: rose quartz, amethyst, lepidolite, and fluorite. Fossil specimens may be destroyed by wetting, freezing, and thawing. Many fossils are clay-based, although there are some specimens that are in

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!

Sue Smith

If you have articles of interest that you would like to see printed in The Sooner Rockologist, please be sure to contact the editor either by e-mail at smith6081@sbcglobal.net or by phone number at 405-946-0307. Thank you.

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

INFLUENCE

There are little eyes upon you,
And they're watching night
and day;

There are little ears that
quickly

Take in every word you say;

There are little hands all eager
To do anything you do;

And a little boy who is
dreaming

Of the day he'll be like you.

You're the little fellow's idol;
You're the wisest of the wise;
In his little mind about you,

No suspicions ever rise;

He believes in you devoutly,
Holds that all you say and do,

sandstone sediment. Common opal, if left in the elements, will craze (weaken or make full of minute intersecting cracks, as the glaze of pottery), crack, and fall apart.

(Taken from the Shawnee Slate, which reprinted it from Rock Chips, July 2007)

WORK NIGHT JULY 7, 2008

I missed the last work night, but this month I did not. A great time was had by everyone, it appeared. Twenty-one club members showed up (what a turnout!) and got involved in various work projects, including beading, "cabbing," wire wrapping, and talking (most important of all!).

The attendees were Wes and Marilyn Davis, Dottie Smith, Sue Smith, Paul and Norma Cinnamon, Oscar and Joanne Carroll, Mark Brickmann, Jake and Zenda Jacobs, Tom and Jeannie Manners, Robert and Donna Davis, Lanny Cranford, Leon Neff, Gary Michie (new member), Vernon Dorton, David Read (past member), and Janice Mobley. We also had a drop-in visitor looking for a photography meeting that occurs the 2nd and 4th Monday, but he had his day wrong (we are the 1st Monday of each month except in June and December). His name was Paul Johnson and he wound up talking with some of us about rocks and photography and other subjects. I tried to pick his brain, as I like to take photographs, and I took some notes. Hopefully they will help down the road! Paul Cinnamon just told me this evening on the phone that this unintentional guest was thinking of joining our club. We can always use new blood.

Donna Davis, Joanne Carroll, and Norma Cinnamon worked on beading. At one point Norma dropped two of her beads and did not have any backup replacement beads for the project she was working on. I found one of them, and further into the evening Norma found the other one. Way to go, Norma!

Wes Davis made his very first cabochon while Paul Cinnamon supervised and instructed him. That was good of Paul, and Wes was very pleased with his very first attempt. It was very well done.

Sue brought a "rock" of a friend's for identification. Donna, Robert, and Paul concurred on it being obsidian (which is actually volcanic glass).

I (Sue) also wore a pair of wire-wrap earrings my husband made and a wire-wrapped rock to match. I asked some of the members' opinions about them, and one gentleman in particular said they were "excellent." My husband doesn't come very often to meetings, but he does things on the side at home. I am very proud of him.

Donna Davis confided she loves jewelry, and her husband pointed out she really knows her rocks! She would be a good source for identification of specimens, along with other members in our group.

Zenda has just started wire wrapping and modeled one of her new creations made with tumbled amethyst and silver wire. It was very lovely! Tom Manners has been instructing her and others in that craft. She also brought along one of her other wire-wrapping creations to show, which was also well done. Way to go, Zenda!

Dottie brought some very lovely samples of one of her latest projects, which is called Honeycomb beading. You can go to *Rockhound Days* to see more regarding how to make those. They are beads beaded into a hollow honeycomb shape with openings in them for stringing.

Janice Mobley encouraged Zenda, Dottie, and Sue to join her in making what is called "Party on your finger." It was a ring with attachments and quite cute, made with wire and beads, and Janice even shared her tools and wire and beads so we could each make one. I, Sue, made a sad attempt at the ring, whereas Janice's and Zenda's

He will say and do, in your way
When he's grown-up just like you.

There's a wide-eyed little fellow,

Who believes you're always right,

And his ears are always open,
And he watches day and night;
You are setting an example
Every day in all you do,

For the little boy who is waiting

To grow up to be like you.

...Author unknown

IF WE REFUSE TO FORGIVE, WE BURN THE BRIDGE OVER WHICH WE MUST PASS TO FREEDOM. (UNKNOWN)

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!

LAUGHTER--THE VERY BEST MEDICINE OF ALL!

Laughter lowers blood pressure, increases muscle

both turned out excellent. I, Sue, took my pitiful example home and showed it to my husband, then left it lying on the kitchen counter. Later that evening my husband brought it to me all fixed up! (He does some wire wrapping himself.) What a save!

Paul Cinnamon brought some various specimens of agate from Chihuahua, Mexico. Some of them Paul had sliced and then polished the cut surfaces. One I think was actually a geode, but the rest were not. They were absolutely stunning! He really knows how to turn an ordinary-looking rock into something extraordinary.

Janice also wore a three-stranded necklace she had made with small beads crocheted on wire. It was just lovely! If anyone is interested in learning how to crochet wire and beads together, you can find out how to do it at <http://www.craftypod.com/?p=71/crochet>, per Janice.

Janice also shared another web site where you can get the instructions on how to make the ring "Party on your finger." It is at www.tvweekly.com/main.php, and then you have to "select a channel," then choose "Plum and Verdigris." You can find good stuff on the archives, she said, if you click on the "archives" banner to view the list. Currently they are on hiatus for the summer.

For you wire wrappers out there (which includes my husband), Janice gave another web site: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Wire_Wrap_Jewelry. Janice is a wealth of information and very willing to share it! Thank you, Janice, on all of our behalf.

I took some photos of the attendees at the work night and wanted to add a few to this newsletter. Here goes...Please note the smiling faces. See what you missed?



I only recognize Tom Manners in the yellow shirt. I'm still trying to learn everyone's names. That's pretty bad, I know. Quit changing your outfits on me, will ya?

flexion, and triggers a FLOOD of beta endorphins--the brain's natural compounds that induce euphoria.

But laughter's MOST profound effects occur on the IMMUNE SYSTEM.

Gamma-interferon, a disease-fighting protein, rises with laughter; as do B-cells, which produce disease-destroying antibodies, and T-cells, which orchestrate the immune response.

Laughter also shuts off the flow of STRESS HORMONES--the FLIGHT-OR-FIGHT compounds that come into play during times of stress, hostility, and rage.

Stress hormones suppress the immune system, raise blood pressure, and increase the number of platelets--which can cause fatal blockages in the arteries.

The average child laughs HUNDREDS of times a day. The average adult laughs a DOZEN times a day.

We need to FIND these lost laughs--and use them to our advantage.

(Sources: American Association for Therapeutic Humor; Lee Berk, MD and Stanley Tan, MD, Loma Linda University) (Printed from American Consulting Engineers Council, Vol. XVII, No.4, Life/Health Insurance Plan, April 1997)

(NOTE: There are many passages in the Bible that address a merry heart. Three of them I like in particular are Proverbs 15:13, Proverbs 15:15, and Proverbs 17:22, but there are many others.

There are also many, many Bible regarding anger, most of



That is a nice smile, Norma!



This is Tom Manners' wife Jeannie. She is smiling too. She wore a yellow shirt also. Why, I think it had the same design or words on her shirt as her husband's! Fancy that. Oops. I guess you can't tell it in the actual printed newsletter, since it is in black and white. If you go on line, though, you can see everything in living color!!

which talk about it in a negative vein.)

The Editor

APOLOGY

I want to apologize for the last newsletter sent out in May. There was an edited version of that newsletter that was not printed; the original was printed instead. My deepest apologies if anyone was offended. Haste makes waste, I always say. Best not to be in too much of a hurry to get something done. That way you don't have to retract anything.

The Editor

RESPECT

RESPECT IN A RELATIONSHIP IS...being accepted for self, being cared about, having opinion asked/and valued, not subject to ridicule, having consideration, showing manners, being and having a non-judgmental attitude, being seen, not taken for granted, being cherished, having equal power, giving equal surrender, being and getting honest, give and take, being heard and validated, given time of self, being trusted, being allowed to be different, being allowed to make mistakes, being allowed to succeed, being supported, being encouraged, being talked "with."

(Taken from Handout received by Sue Smith a number of years ago)

One bright beautiful Sunday morning, everyone in the tiny town of Johnstown got up early and went to the local church.

Before the services started, the



This was a sneak shot of Dottie Smith in the pantry in the refreshment area. (I don't even know if she knows I took it.) Dottie saved the day by bringing some shortbread cookies for the hungry and making caffeinated and decaffeinated coffee and also setting up the area for the attendees.

Thank you, Dottie, for your services. You are much appreciated!

ROCK HOUND HINTS AND TIPS

(These tips and hints are from various sources and have not been tried by this editor or the editor of McCurtain G&M Club News, May 2008. Try at your own risk, and good luck!) (PS: Dottie Smith thought everyone might like to know about these. Thank you, Dottie.)

Toothpaste with fluoride has the unique characteristic of penetrating stone, ceramics, bricks, terra cotta, and then flushing the dirt away with water.

If you have Chrysocolla and would like to bring out the blue and green, also any copper, put it in full-strength chlorine bleach for as long as it takes. This really works and you will get good colors. Remember the hazard of mixing bleach with any acid. It releases a poisonous gas!

(Above via Arrastra 11/1998)

I asked one time, "How do you clean your quartz crystals?" The answer given was, "I use Iron Out." I bought some from the local hardware and sure enough, the crystals came clean. I thought nothing could take the iron stains out of them, but now I have some very beautiful crystals. Iron Out contains sodium hydrosulfite and sodium bisulfite. So keep it away from children and be careful when you use it, and follow the directions on the bottle.

(Paul W. Good, SCFMS Newsletter, 09/1998)

townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking about their lives, their families, etc. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from the evil.

Soon everyone was evacuated from the church, except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew, not moving, seemingly oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence.

Now this confused Satan a bit, so he walked up to the man and said, "Don't you know who I am?" The man replied, "Yep, sure do." Satan asked, "Aren't you afraid of me?" "Nope, sure ain't," said the man. Satan was a little perturbed at this and asked, "Why aren't you afraid of me?" The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for over 48 years!"

(From *The Tattler*, 1/24/99)

OMGS CALENDAR UPDATE

JULY 19, 2008: Shawnee Public Library is holding the Rockhound Days this coming Saturday! It is Free to the public from 10 AM to 3 PM at 101 N. Philadelphia in Shawnee. Dottie Smith said you would take I-40 East to Shawnee (approximately 35 miles from OKC), take the Kickapoo Exit South to Main Street, and go East about 5 miles. You can also call Dottie Smith for directions, or for information or questions, call 580-925-3336. The Shawnee Rock Club members will be displaying lapidary arts, there will be rock painting for juniors, small fossils and polished rocks will be given to junior rock hounds, and there will be rock working and jewelry making demonstrations.

AUGUST 2008: I asked Paul Cinnamon when the field trip to the General Materials Pit would be occurring, and he said it had to be delayed again and most likely will happen in August or even as late as September. The company is behind in supplying their customers' needs and due to their temporary shutdown earlier, our field trip has to be put on hold. They also don't have much for us to dig for yet. Paul is going to call them back the first part of August to follow up on that.

RESPECT

RESPECT IN A RELATIONSHIP IS...being accepted for self, being cared about, having opinion asked/and valued, not subject to ridicule, having consideration, showing manners, being and having a non-judgmental attitude, being seen, not taken for granted, being cherished, having equal power, giving equal surrender, being and getting honest, give and take, being heard and validated, given time of self, being trusted, being allowed to be different, being allowed to make mistakes, being allowed to succeed, being supported, being encouraged, being talked "with."

(Taken from Handout received by Sue Smith a number of years ago)

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