



## August - Annual WGMS Auction



Mary Clough selling raffle tickets



Vanna I and Vanna II (otherwise known as Leo and Lyle) displaying the merchandise!



Up that bid



Sandy Whiting preparing to tally the damage.

WGMS members raising money for the scholarship fund and having a great time!



Member of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



## 2011 - 2012 Officers

### Board of Directors

President .....	Tony Giardina.....	316-214-8227 karen@van-m.com
Vice-President .....	Peggy Maggard.....	316-742-3746 gandpmaggard@wildblue.net
Secretary .....	Monica Turner-Williams.....	316-744-1568
Treasurer .....	Sandy Whiting .....	316-744-8848 hoglips@aol.com
Membership .....	Susan Bannon .....	316-689-8256
Editor .....	Carolyn White.....	316-250-6182 carolyn.white1@cox.net, editor@wgmsks.org
Field Trip .....	Lyle Koerper .....	316-722-7115
Publicity.....	Leo Heidebrecht.....	316-260-4591 leomar@cox.net
Show Chair .....	Gene Maggard.....	316-742-3746 gandpmaggard@wildblue.net
Finance .....	Bob Haines.....	316-683-9021 bobh67218@yahoo.com
Director 2012.....	Naomi Matney.....	316-265-2665
Director 2013.....	Ardis Cruz.....	316-218-0250
Director 2014.....	Don Atherton.....	316-685-2725

### Appointed Officers

Cheer .....	Open	
Curator.....	Greg Weisbrod .....	316-686-1810
Federation Rep.....	Bill & Janet Smith .....	620-296-4652 beetlebill@kanokla.net
Gifts .....	Paul Radial .....	316-777-4174
Historian .....	Mary Clough .....	316-943-1785
Hospitality .....	Debbie Winton .....	316-841-8773 cwinton@pixius.net
Insurance/Property....	Peggy Maggard .....	316-742-3746 gandpmaggard@wildblue.net
Junior Leader .....	Elizabeth Hixon.....	316-651-0054 junior@wgmsks.org
Librarian .....	Jim Yanda .....	620-455-2419 oxford@oldwiz.net
Webmaster.....	Diane DeGood.....	316-794-8391

### Dues:

Club Year September 1 - August 31	
Adult Membership .....	\$10.00
Junior Membership (13-17) .....	\$ 5.00 (must have adult sponsor)
Quarry Quips Subscription ONLY .....	\$ 8.00

Please send dues to: **WGMS Treasurer,**  
c/o Susan Bannon, 11825 E 1st St N, Wichita KS 67206-2732

Our Annual show will be:  
**April 20, 21 & 22 2012**  
***Rocky Mountain Minerals***

## About our Club

The Wichita Gem and Mineral Society Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt, educational organization. Our purpose shall be exclusively educational and scientific; (a) to increase and disseminate knowledge of the earth sciences pertaining to minerals, gems, rocks, artifacts, and fossils and similar subjects; (b) to promote and perpetuate knowledge of the lapidary arts; © to encourage field trips to study the earth sciences, particularly of geology and mineralization in place and (d) to encourage greater public interest and education in gems, fossils and minerals, cooperating with established institutions in such matters.

The Wichita Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. meets the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in Room 101, Geology Building, Wichita State University. - Except - January (Anniversary Party); April (Annual Show); August (Picnic & Auction). (November and December meetings are subject to University holiday closings.) Times and locations to be announced/published. WGMS does NOT offer classes or workshops.

Board meetings are held on the Monday preceding the General meeting at places announced and/or printed in the Quarry Quips, the official bulletin of the Society. ALL members are urged to contribute material for publication in the Quarry Quips, the deadline for ALL articles is the Friday following the General meeting. All articles should be submitted by e-mail to: editor@wgmsks.org or snail mail to:

Carolyn White  
2225 N. Fountain  
Wichita KS 67220

Club mailing address:

Wichita Gem and Mineral Society Inc.  
PO Box 1464  
Wichita KS 67201-1464  
Web Address: www.wgmsks.org



The Quarry Quips is published monthly by the Wichita Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. Articles printed in this newsletter are the experiences and/or opinions of the individuals submitting them, they do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Wichita Gem & Mineral Society or the editor. We are not responsible for their authenticity, safety, or reliability. Caution and safety should always be practiced when trying out any new idea. Articles written without a byline are written by the editor.

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Exchange Bulletins Welcome

## Membership News

Our new year starts in September. That means it is time to pay your annual dues.

You can mail your dues to :

Susan Bannon  
Membership Chair  
11825 E 1st St N,  
Wichita KS 67206-2732



You can pay your dues to Susan Bannon at the September general meeting. Please make your check out to WGMS Treasurer. If you are paying in cash please have the exact change.

Dues are as follows:

Adult Members: \$10.00

Junior Members: \$5.00

I will be printing the new Membership phone directories in October. If your dues aren't paid by the September meeting, I can't put you in the phone directory so lets get them paid on time!



W.G.M.S. Life Member H.R. Curley Clough passed away Aug.1, 2011 with complications from multiple myeloma cancer.

Curley and his wife Mary joined the club in 1974 after cutting a coupon from the newspaper to attend an annual show.

His service to the club includes show chairman, director, field trip chairman and being "on call" for many other W.G.M.S. activities and members. Curley always carried W.G.M.S. information about the annual show and membership, never missing an opportunity to share his interest in our hobby and club.

Many will remember Curley as the "sphere maker" that demonstrated at our annual show, other gem and mineral shows and schools, others will remember that he loved to find solutions to many of our problems but all of us will miss our good and faithful friend.

## Proposed Changes to Bylaws

*By Don Atherton*

In September we will be voting on a change to the bylaws at the WGMS meeting. All members are encouraged to attend and cast their vote.

Article III. Membership, Section 2. currently says....

(3) Life Membership - Any member in good standing with at least twenty(20) years of continuous membership who has attained the age of at least eighty (80) years may obtain life membership status by submitting a request to the Board of Directors for approval. Requests may be submitted by the member or by any member in good standing. Such members shall have voting and office holding privileges.

Proposal #1:

(3) Life Membership - Any member in good standing with at least **thirty (30) years of continuous adult membership** may obtain life membership status by submitting a request to the Board of Directors for approval. Requests may be submitted by the member or by any member in good standing. Such members shall have voting and office holding privileges.

Proposal #2:

(3) Life Membership - Any member in good standing with at least **twenty five (25) years of continuous adult membership who has attained the age of at least seventy (70) years** may obtain life membership status by submitting a request to the Board of Directors for approval. Requests may be submitted by the member or by any member in good standing. Such members shall have voting and office holding privileges.

## The Year Ahead



### General Club Meetings

Sep 25	WSU Geology Bldg, Rm 101	2 pm
Oct 23	WSU Geology Bldg, Rm 101	2 pm

### Board Meetings

Aug 22	Community of Christ Church	7 pm
Sep 19	Community of Christ Church	7 pm
Oct 17	Community of Christ Church	7 pm

### Field Trips

Sep 19	Gypsum Creek Field Trip
Oct 01	Melvorn Lake Field Trip



## WGMS Board Meeting Minutes

The August board meeting of the Wichita Gem & Mineral Society was called to order by president Tony Giardina. Carolyn White, Susan Bannon, Tony Giardina, Joe & Ardis Cruz, Don Atherton, Sandy Whiting, Leo Heidebrecht, Lyle Koerper, Naomi Matney, and Gene & Peggy Maggard were present. Guests Debbie & Chris Winton, and Mary & Patty Clough were also in attendance.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Don Atherton, Vice President, recommended that when we vote on the bylaws change in September, that we vote first on one new motion, take a tally, then vote on the next new motion and tally votes again due to the stipulation that a change to the bylaws must receive votes from 2/3 of the members present at the meeting to pass.

Sandy Whiting, Treasurer, presented the following vouchers for payment:

- \$1346.00, The Hartford Insurance
- \$14.00, Intrust, safe deposit box
- \$50.00 RMFMS, memorial for Curley Clough and Stanley Ayers

Susan Bannon, Membership, asked the president if he would pick up mail from the drop box prior to Saturday's meeting.

Carolyn White, Editor, announced that she had received the awards for the winners of the AFMS Bulletin Contest and will present them at the auction on Saturday.

Lyle Koerper, Field Trip, asked the board to review the field trip liability release form. Gene Maggard moved that the form be approved, Ardis Cruz seconded, motion passed. Lyle announced that the October 1 field trip to Melvern lake would also include a trip to the Burlington museum and a quarry outside Burlington. We will be joined by the local 4H group. Lyle presented the idea of inviting the McPherson club to join us also. The board was in favor of the idea. Lyle asked for a Wichita coordinator to take RSVPs from WGMS members and to serve as the Wichita coordinator. Tony Giardina volunteered. Carolyn White will assist.

Ardis Cruz announced that she and Joe have set up a fossil display at the Andover library. WGMS information is available at the display. They will give a presentation at the library on September 24 from 1 pm to 2 pm. Ardis asked about inviting others to join us on the October field trip. Lyle clarified that non-members can come as a guest of a club member.

Old Business: Ardis asked for clarification was asked regarding whether or not the auction is open to the public. The public is welcome at the rock sale and auction, just not at the pot luck lunch.

## General Meeting

The General Meeting of the Wichita Gem and Mineral Society was brought to order by Tony Giardina following the rock sale and pot luck.

Lyle Koerper reminded members of our upcoming field trips and asked members to contact Tony Giardina or Carolyn White to RSVP for the October trip to Melvern Lake.

Carolyn White announced presented awards in the RMFMS and AFMS bulletin contests.

The annual WGMS Auction was held. Proceeds go to support the annual scholarship that WGMS provides to a WSU Geology student.

## Snack Sign-up



We need volunteers to bring snacks for the social hour following the meeting. Please contact Debbie Winton at 316-841-8773 or cwinton@pixius.net

## 4th Annual WGMS Rock Sale

*By Peggy Maggard*

We had a "Hot Time on the Ole Town" for our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual WGMS Rock Sale. We had 5 different dealers, who all reported they had a good sale.

As the incoming WGMS Vice President I thought I would throw out some "FOOD FOR THOUGHT" ideas about 2012 WGMS ROCK SALE.

Proposal One-Let's move the date to mid September when it "probably" would not be so hot.

Proposal Two-Let's try to find some place with trees and lots of parking.

Proposal Three-Let's change the time from 9:30 a.m. – Noon to 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Proposal Four-Let's keep the August WGMS meeting on Saturday so we could have our Pot Luck-Social Time and Auction. This is a good time to meet new members.

Proposal Five-Let's start advertising the Rock Sale much earlier.

## Show Report

By Gene Maggard

We had a Show Committee meeting on August 22. Important decisions made were:

**2012 Dealers** – Drop Mélange Jewelry. Add Silver Pearl as a demonstrating dealer (demonstrating silversmithing and sphere making). Replace our gem tree demonstrating dealer, Naida House, with Angela White – You know, the pretty blonde Junior that (generally) has a pleasant smile and a kind word. Angie spent quite a lot of time with Naida last year and has become quite an accomplished gem tree maker. Naida has decided not to return as a dealer. Invite Ebersoles (Leonard Ebersole) to return. Leonard had requested to be considered to return to our show.

**Show Budget** – Developed and approved. Pretty much the same as last year.

### Junior Rock Pile Work Days –

- Saturday, October 15
- Saturday, Nov. 5.

We need both workers and rock donations. Bring your donations to the workdays. It will be the same drill as previous year. Meet at the DeGoods. Bring food for the potluck lunch. For the hardy, bring your crack hammer and safety equipment and be ready to bust rocks. For the not so hardy, Carolyn will lead the inside activity of stuffing mineral specimens into bags for the Grab Bags. Start time is 9am and stop time is when everyone (especially Alan and Gene) are too tired to continue.

**Show Committee Meeting** – We will meet after lunch at the DeGoods on October 15.

**New Show Committee Member** – Hooray!! I somehow convinced Ardis Cruz to take the Volunteer Coordinator position. This is not an easy job and requires hours of telephoning towards the end of March to fill all the holes in the volunteer signup sheets. THANK YOU, Ardis.

## AFMS Bulletin Contest



The winners in the RMFMS bulletin contest were entered into the AFMS contest. We had two winners there also.

- Angela White's poem RUBY took 2nd place in the Junior Poetry division
- Lawrence Skelton's article Sedimentary Structures and Trace Fossils took 7th place in Advanced Adult Articles.

## 2011 Show Committee

Note: Additional people are needed to serve on the Show Committee.

If you are interested in any way, please call Gene Maggard, show chair, at 742-3746. Ideally we'd like to have 2 people in each spot.



Don't know what you'd enjoy helping with? That is ok, pick one. Next year try something else! Some one already assigned to the area you are interested in? That's ok too. We like to share!

### Current Show Committee Members

Chairman	Gene Maggard	316-742-3746
Admissions	Peggy Maggard	316-742-3746
Announcer	Lisa Scheibmeir	620-727-5590
Dealers	David Hardin	316-946-0008
Demonstrators	Debby Moore	316-524-6001
Electrical	Greg Weisbrod	316-686-1810
Fluorescents	Scott Norton	316-258-7954
Gem Hunt	David Hardin	316-946-0008
Grab Bags	Carolyn White	316-250-6182
Hospitality	Debbie Winton	316-841-8773
Junior Rock Pile	Alan DeGood	316-794-8391
Education Day	Pat Clough-McCombs Mary Clough	316-210-7380 316-943-1785
Security	Tony McClafflin	785-489-2248
Set Up	Lyle Koerper	316-722-7115
Silent Auction	Larry Skelton	316-722-1267
Special Exhibits	OPEN	
Special Programs	Peggy Maggard	316-742-3746
Volunteer Coord	Ardis Cruz	316-218-0250
Wheel	Marci Fleeker	316-262-8392
President	Tony Giardina	316-214-8227
Membership	Susan Bannon	316-689-8256
Publicity	Leo Heidebrecht	316-260-4591
Secretary	Monica Williams	316-708-3488
Webmaster	Diane DeGood	316-794-8391
Editor	Carolyn White	316-250-6182

## Get Your Feet Wet; Field Trip Sept. 17

By Lyle Koerper

Start the new Field Trip year by actually getting your feet wet.

When: Sat, Sep 17, 10 am

Where: Gypsum Creek, Wichita KS



**How to find Gypsum Creek** -- Go to 1842 S. Woodlawn and park in the west section of the parking lot of Birds of Paradise. Then, carefully walk across to the west side of Woodlawn where you will find a walkway leading south to Gypsum Creek. Walk east under the bridge. After about 200 yards you will see the gypsum in the creek. I hope to be there before you arrive. We'll say hi, and sign you up for the special contest.

We'll tell you about this area possibly being a battle ground for fighting dinosaurs. I got this information several years ago from a native who spent many days of his childhood along the creek with imaginative buddies. Most of the gypsum is clear or cloudy. But some is blood red. And blood is the reason. This must have been an area where the dinosaurs met in combat. The evidence was clear to the early creek explorers, and to this day I have no reason to doubt their reasoning.

**Our contest is a simple one.** You bring to the September regular meeting your prize finds along Gypsum Creek along with a story. Their will be a prize for the best report.

Gypsum is a common Kansas mineral. Selenite is the crystalline variety of gypsum. It takes its name from the ancient Greek goddess, Selene -- but this is not a tell all article so we won't tell you about Selene. Satin spar is another variety of gypsum. All of this is found along Gypsum Creek. We'll have much more information about gypsum and what to look for.



Dragon shaped selenite formation  
found by Carolyn White at Gypsum Creek, Wichita KS

## WGMS Field Trip Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011, Melvern Lake, a Museum & Rock Quarry

By Lyle Koerper

**If you are planning to go on this field trip, please contact Tony Giardina (phone 214-8227) or Carolyn White (Carolyn.white1@cox.net or leave msg at 316-250-6182) between Sept. 18 and 28 providing name, telephone number and how many will be with you. This will allow field trip leaders to notify you of any changes in plans, especially if the trip is cancelled for any reason.**

On Saturday, Oct. 1, meet by 10 a. m. at the Melvern Lake overview parking area. From Wichita take the Kansas Turnpike to Emporia. Go east on I-35 to Lebo Junction, exit 148. Then go north on Highway 75 about 4 miles to the Melvern Lake overview. If you go over the bridge across the lake you have gone too far. The parking area is on the west side of the road.

You will hunt for gastropods, brachiopods, coral, crinoids, pelecypods and perhaps fossilized plants. There will be some hiking, often over rough ground.

Bring lunch, ample water, simple tools, collecting bucket or bag and what you will need to be outdoors most of the day. Have hiking shoes. Be mindful of the weather.

Around 1 p. m. return to Beto Junction and take Highway 75 south to Burlington, KS, to visit the museum. The drive will take about 30 minutes. At the second stoplight in Burlington turn right (west) and go about 5 blocks to the museum. You will see lots of interesting stuff from really old fossils to what is involved in operation of a modern nuclear electric generating station.

At about 2:30 the action shifts to a rock quarry east of Burlington. You will go east of town on the main street road ½ mile, then ½ mile north, and then east for another mile. Look for brachiopods, pelecypods, coral, and sponges.

This field trip has been arranged by Tony McClaffin. This is a family friendly trip suitable for children. A full day is scheduled. Tony says that at the lake you will be searching along the shoreline; he hopes the water level will be down for easy going.

There will be 4-H children and leaders on this trip, and members of the McPherson Gem and Mineral Club have been invited to participate. Your guests will also be welcome.

**Remember: It will be very helpful if you will indicate your plans for going to Carolyn and Tony by Wednesday, Sept. 28. You will "sign in" at the gathering point at Melvern Lake. And, if at any time you decide to leave the organized trip, notify field trip leaders that you are "checking out."**

# 4-H'ers Dig Geology

By Lyle Koerper

Alan DeGood, a WGMS member since 1991, will explain at the Oct. 23 meeting how the Kansas 4-H Geology Project gets kids involved in rocks, fossils and minerals.

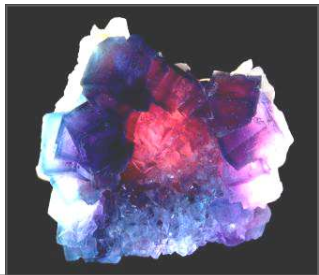
Alan is a professional geologist in the oil and gas industry. He has provided leadership in several programs to inform teachers and students about the geology of Kansas and how to identify rocks, fossils and minerals. Yearly he is involved with the 4-H Geology Project judging exhibits at the State Fair as well as planning and conducting field trips for the 4-H rock hounds.

From time to time 4-H members have exhibited at the Wichita Gem & Mineral Show. Those who have inspected the 4-H exhibits at the State Fair are impressed with the variety and quality of specimens.

## Blue Fluorite

Two minerals that collectors can still find in New Mexico in abundance and with good crystals are fluorite and staurolite. Fluorite is found in various parts of the state but the best is known to come from the Blanchard Mine and the various mines and prospects near Bingham, New Mexico. This month we will focus on fluorite, specifically the blue fluorite found near Bingham, in Socorro County, New Mexico.

Gemmy blue and purple zoned Bingham fluorite, Hansonburg District, Socorro County, New Mexico. Photo courtesy of Frank Daniels ©



Fluorite is one of the most popular minerals amongst collectors because of the beauty of the specimens. The most widely known examples are pink octahedrons from Switzerland, deep purple cubes from Spain, the very fluorescent violet cubes from Cumberland, England, beautiful green octahedrons from Westmoreland, NH, and pale blue cubes from Bingham, New Mexico. Fluorite is the state mineral of Illinois, which was once a large producer of fluorite. Mexico has now become the leading fluorite producer in the world. Fluorite is used in the production of hydrofluoric acid. The fluoride in toothpaste has its origins in this mineral.

Information for this article was found at:  
[www.mineralsocal.org/bulletin/2005/2005\\_aug.htm](http://www.mineralsocal.org/bulletin/2005/2005_aug.htm) and also  
at [www.answers.com/topic/fluorite](http://www.answers.com/topic/fluorite)

Via *Pick N Hammer News*, Jan 2010

A little girl ran to her grandfather, jumped into his arms and gave him a big hug. Then she ran her fingers in his balding hair and down the side of his wrinkled rough cheeks.

"Did God make you, Granddad?" she asked. "Yes honey, He made me." She felt her own cheeks then asked. "Did God make me too?" she asked. "Yes honey, He made you too."

"Well," she shrugged "Don't you think He is doing a better job now than he used to?"

Via *Cutting Remarks*, Jan 2010

## Puzzles of Stone

By Michael Wingo

A lost and vanished race of saurian giants  
They ruled the earth, these massive tyrants.  
The eons passed and they were its witness  
Their rule on the planet seemed limitless

Sharp of tooth and mighty beak,  
Massive in size, awesome and sleek.  
The terrible lizards held the earth as their stage  
As they acted out their primordial rage

Some were massive and mighty of stance,  
Eaters of meat, or chewers of plants.  
Others much smaller or given flight,  
Some lived by day, others by night.

Then they were gone, imbedded in stone.  
Puzzles for us to sort, made of their bone.  
What was their lesson, and what do they teach?  
These animals lone gone, so far out of reach.

Is there something to learn from these ancient times?  
The long lost tyrants and their silent minds.  
Can they ask us a question or pose for a thought.  
Do they live in our imagination or is it all for naught.

A poet would say they have a story to tell  
One made of more than just bone, or rocks or shell  
Whether we learn from their fossils and broken bones  
Or the chapters written of their end preserved in stones.



Photo and Dinosaur Bone Sphere by Michael Wingo

# The Day the Sky Fell

By Michael Wingo

Approximately sixty five million years ago, a massive asteroid is said to have slammed into the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, effectively ending the dinosaurian reign and ushering in a new age in which the mammals arose to claim dominance over the earth. The evidence for this impact scenario was first suggested by Walter Alvarez and his father, Nobel prize physicist Lou Alvarez, who found in secondary research unrelated to the extinction, that the K-T boundary or the level of sediment which represents the end of the Mesozoic era and beginning of the Tertiary period contained a much higher level of iridium than should be normal for earth's crust. Calculations suggest that this anomaly could only be caused by a massive cometary fragment impacting the earth. Levels of Iridium thirty times the background average were measured in the boundary clay. The only problem the scenario imposed was the missing impact crater. Then a likely candidate was located in the Mexican peninsula, at a fishing village called Chicxulub. The impact site was<sup>1</sup> located along a coastline, half on land and half underwater roughly and seemed to be an elongated horseshoe shape. The estimated size of the impacting object was guessed at 10 km, or roughly the size of Manhattan. The impact crater itself is over 180 miles across. It has all the classic features of an impact site, including a central rebound peak and raised edges with collapsing sides. Shocked quartz was located in the area, a phenomenon that occurs only in either a volcanic or impact event of major size. The iridium signature for the impact site seems to match that of the K-T boundary as well. Scientists were quick to jump on the bandwagon and announce the smoking gun, the dinosaur killer had been found. We could all rest easier now knowing what had subdued the giant saurians into extinction. Or, could we?



Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico  
Photo from NASA.



Albertosaurus model.  
Photo and model by Mike Wingo.

There are a few problems with the theory as it stands. During the Mesozoic there were many asteroid or bolide impacts worldwide...over the course of the dinosaur's reign. Many were significantly larger than the supposed villain. None had ever so selectively destroyed all the largest animals existing as this impact supposedly did. Another argument that damages the impact theory badly is the concept that seldom, if ever, have dinosaur remains been found within or directly beneath the K-T boundary clay. If the impact were responsible for their deaths then the expected result should be a level choked with dinosaur skeletons, and the fallout from the impact, including the iridium anomaly. Dinosaur remains seem to be buried far deeper than the impact event and its evidence. In the narrow isthmus of Mexico is a natural

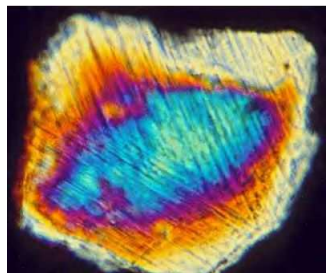
depression called the San Juan Valley, that is located not so very distant from the impact site. And yet, dinosaur remains here are plentiful long after they were supposed to have gone extinct. Scientists argue some of this material is reworked, having washed out and then reburied. However, some of the skeletal elements are articulated, or are rather massive sauropod bones not given to washing or movement with ease.

The evidence suggests a longer term extinction, that was not rapid and as geologically instantaneous as was suggested by the Chicxulub crater theory. A more gradual, but just as thorough, killer appears to be the culprit - or perhaps some form of serial killer is at work here. The fossil record suggests at least eleven major extinction events, however only roughly half of them align with known cometary impacts.

To add further to the complexity of the issue, there is an area in India known as the Deccan plateau or steps, that is formed entirely of basalt flood rock from volcanic eruptions<sup>2</sup>. It is the largest existing volcanic feature on Earth today. At one time the formation covered half of India, but even today it is 2,000 m thick and covers an area of 500,000 km and a volume of 512,000 km or essentially 123,000 cubic miles of volcanic rock. At the end of the Cretaceous period, or approximately sixty eight million years ago the traps began erupting and likely lasted for ten

million years. This massive eruption was directly responsible for placing tons of dust, soot and various chemical poisons into the atmosphere that would tend to reduce sunlight levels, obstruct plant activity and generally lower the oxygen content.

Having established this ecological disaster in the making as already ongoing, move forward to the end of the Cretaceous, and the cometary impact event. However, let's imagine a much larger object than first proposed, as our villain. As it is captured by the planet's gravity and impacts our atmosphere, it splinters. Rather than a single impact, the object rains debris down over the entire global ecosystem. There are at least 3 other known impact



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shocked\\_quartz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shocked_quartz)

sites that date favorably to this event....including the site in northern Russia, the Boltysh crater. The North sea has an impact site called Silvertip. Finally there is Shiva, the mother of all craters, named for the goddess of death. This crater lies directly off the coastline of India and would have been from an object roughly 40 km in size<sup>3</sup> or four times the comet site found in Mexico. A few red flags that suggest this was one of the main impacts. The boundary clay in India is well over a foot deep, and thicker than any other location in the entire world. The rebound peak at the center of this feature is taller than Mount Everest. Shocked quartz is found in association with this feature as well. Scientists are not fully in agreement this site represents an impact, but given the iridium signature it has, the mantle shattering in the area, and geological faults that radiate from the area, it would seem a matter of time before this will be accepted as another impact site.

Could the Deccan traps, followed by these comets have been the one, two punch that was required to destroy the dinosaurs? The earth was already undergoing massive changes as Pangea, the massive supercontinent continued to separate, and the large shallow continental oceans slowly disappeared. The climate was cooling rapidly, and tectonic plate shifts were forcing mountains to rise. The entire surface of earth was in a state of constant agitation and change. Against this background the combination of volcanic and astral forces brought to bear against the ecosystem might well have stressed the dinosaurs to the breaking point.

Is it possible the cooling trend coupled with the impacts and eruptions combined to lower the oxygen level to the point the dinosaurs were simply unable to cope? The effect would be much more gradual and prolonged and just as deadly. It also would suit the evidence far better than the current theory. Is there evidence to reinforce this suggestion?

In un-cracked amber bubbles scientists find clues. The evidence suggests that during the mid-Jurassic the oxygen level was roughly 35 percent. By the end of the Jurassic that level had dropped to less than 29 percent. Further by the end of the Cretaceous, the oxygen level was at or below 25 percent. Today's ecosphere holds a mixture that allows for 21 percent oxygen. The amber bubbles tell a tale of lowering oxygen levels since the mid Jurassic. When you compare that trend to a chart of the extinction events that have occurred there does appear to be a correlation between animal size and oxygen level. As the level of oxygen has fallen the fauna and its general size levels have dropped, which makes great sense. The larger an animal, the higher its oxygen requirements.

We may never definitely resolve what was the cause for the loss of the dinosaurs, and why after their 250 million year reign they were singled out for extinction. We can study the mechanisms at work and perhaps learn and prepare for the day our own "sky falls".

#### Sources:

- The End of the Dinosaurs . Charles Frankel c. 1999 University of Cambridge
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deccan\\_traps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deccan_traps)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shiva\\_crater](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shiva_crater)

#### Further reading:

- The End of the Dinosaurs . Charles Frankel c. 1999 University of Cambridge
- The Dinosaur Heresies, Robert T. Bakker, Ph.D 1986 Zebra Books
- Hunting Dinosaurs, Louie Psihoyos 1994 Random House New York

If you missed Mike's presentation in July, he will be giving it for the McPherson club on October 11th at 7pm. Their meeting is held at the McPherson Senior Center at 112 E Euclid. Take highway 35 to highway 56, then 2 blocks to Euclid, then one block east.

# LOCAL COUPLE SHARE FOSSIL FINDS AT THE ANDOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Elma Broadfoot, Edited by Ardis Cruz



Seventeen years ago, Joe and Ardis Cruz jumped out of their car and into a Kansas field looking for rocks and fossils. They now have collected thousands of items and they're showing about 150, including shark teeth, dinosaur bones and 50-pound land tortoise, at the Andover Public Library through September.

"We had no idea what we were looking for," noted Ardis Cruz as she talked about that first field trip with the Gem and Mineral Club. But they learned a lot about Kansas fossils and are still learning.

Eleven years ago, they spent their vacation with the Paleo Prospectors, a group that leases land from ranchers in several states and prospects for fossils. "We know how to look for clues that might lead us to some kind of fossil," Ardis adds. That something has included a bison skull that "is a few hundred years old", petrified wood, fossilized leaf plates and dinosaur

bones. Hunting dinosaurs is a particular focus of the Paleo Prospectors.

The Andover couple has made friends from Florida to Washington and Puerto Rico. We'd love to take a trip to Florida where we can wade in creeks and hunt whale vertebrae and Ice Age animal fossils," Ardis explained.

They are excited about sharing some of their finds at the Andover Library because "you never know what might trigger the next geologist or paleontologist," Ardis adds. They've turned their home basement into a museum with cases and shelving to display their finds, and show by appointment only to groups such as Scouts or 4-H by calling 733-8727.



Please continue to keep WGMS member Greg Weisbrod in your thoughts and prayers. Greg has been moved to Select Specialty Hospital, located at Via Christi Hospital on St. Francis in room 5108. He is having therapy and is still on IV and tube feedings but is making progress. Joyce sends her thanks for the flowers, notes and prayers.

## AFMS ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT BY RICHARD D. JAEGER, RMFMS ENDOWMENT FUND CHAIR

The AFMS Endowment Fund raised \$5,960 this year; that is an excellent total. In addition, there were 36 prizes donated for the drawing. I am happy to report that four of those prizes were won by members of our Rocky Mountain Federation. Two of the prizes were won by brothers in the Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society; their grandfather bought them the tickets. **Austin Grayson** won a mineral specimen with sphalerite and calcite crystals, and **Mickey Grayson** won a wood burl clock w/copper slabs. **De-Lane Cox** of the Northwest Arkansas Club won a copper pendant and tie tack. A member from Arizona (sorry, I don't have the name) won an opal ring.

We had increased participation for the RMFMS this year; about twice as many tickets were bought as in the previous two years. I certainly want to thank our Federation members for that. Hopefully, this trend will continue next year, and we will come out with even more winners. Pam Hecht, the AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing Chair, did an excellent job in promoting this function and getting people to donate prizes. Perhaps some of you will donate a prize next year and support the Endowment Fund in that fashion. I will let you know more information early next year when it becomes available.



vua Rocky Mountain News Sept 2011



## Member Birthdays

### September:

- 01 Caelan Schuman
- 04 Pat McCombs
- 07 Robert Carr
- 08 Diane Degood, Tony McClafin
- 09 Miklos Lorik
- 10 Joyce Weisbrod
- 13 Venetta Nutter, Jim Meier
- 16 Tex Gough
- 17 Diana Whisler
- 20 Steve Hurlock
- 21 Marvin Lundquist
- 22 Elizabeth Hixon



### October:

- 01 Janet Biven, Bill Smith, Colin Workman
- 02 Quentin Askey
- 05 Alice Piper, Frankie Cabrales
- 06 John Rhodes, Angela White
- 10 Ray Adams, Delbert Ebersole
- 11 Diana Greep
- 12 Joan Breit
- 13 Jerry Estep
- 14 Peggy Stambaugh
- 17 Don Rider
- 18 Marci Fleeker, Colby Woods  
Monica Turner-Williams,
- 23 Kimberly Elkins
- 25 Charles Hooker
- 27 Ray Baratti
- 28 David Fleeker
- 30 Ann Ebersole
- 31 Damon Lingafelter



## You are Invited to a "Beading Bee"



Do you like to bead? If so, you are invited to come to Marci Fleeker's on Wednesdays for an evening of beading fun. Sessions are subject to cancel without notice so check with Marci to confirm.

Come anytime after 4pm. Bring your own beading project to work on in the company of other people who like to bead. We won't be teaching any lessons, or providing any food or drinks, we'll just be having fun and hopefully learning from each other.

If you don't have a beading project but want to fellowship anyway, feel free to join us with a project of your choice

2166 S. Topeka  
262-8392

## Show Calendar

For a more complete list of all shows go to:  
<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>  
or refer to a copy of Rock & Gem Magazine.



### SEPTEMBER:

**16-18—ENID, OKLAHOMA:** Annual show and sale; Enid Gem & Mineral Society; Oak Wood Mall, 4125 W. Owen K. Garriot Rd. (Hwy. 412W); Fri. 10-9, Sat. 10-9, Sun. 12-6; free admission; contact Billy Wood, (580) 234-5344 or (580) 402-5568; e-mail: baronladislaus@att.net

**24-25—SOUTH SIOUX, NEBRASKA:** 46th annual show; Siouxland Gem & Mineral Society; South Sioux City Senior Center, 1501 W. 29th St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$1.50, students 12 and older 50 cents, children under 12 free; contact Bob Powell, (712) 378-2775

**27-2—IDABEL, OKLAHOMA:** Show and sale; McCurtain Gem & Mineral Club; Museum of the Red River, 812 SE Lincoln; Tue. 9-5, Wed. 9-5, Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 11-4; free admission; contact Henry Moy, 812 Lincoln Rd., Idabel, OK 74745, (580) 286-3616; e-mail: motrr@hotmail.com

### OCTOBER:

**1-2—OMAHA, NEBRASKA:** 56th annual show; Nebraska Mineral & Gem Club; Westside Community Center, 108th and Grover St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Tim Kautsch, (402) 397-9606; Web site: [www.nerockgem.us](http://www.nerockgem.us)

**8-9—FORT WORTH, TEXAS:** Annual show; LMRA Stone Steppers; Lockheed Martin Recreation Association, 3400 Bryant Irvin Rd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-6; free admission; contact Steve Shearin, 860 Stafford Station Dr., Saginaw, TX 76131, (817) 733-5368; e-mail: [steve.l.shearin@lmco.com](mailto:steve.l.shearin@lmco.com)

**15-16—GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO:** 64th annual show; Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club; Two Rivers Convention Center, 1st and Main; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children 12 and under free with parent; contact Wayne McMackin, 191 Lumley, Grand Junction, CO 81503, (970) 640-9271; e-mail: [wcmackin@msn.com](mailto:wcmackin@msn.com); Web site: [www.grandjunctionrockclub.org](http://www.grandjunctionrockclub.org)

**15-16—SEDONA, ARIZONA:** Annual show; Sedona Gem & Mineral Club, Sedona Red Rock High School, 995 Upper Red Rock Loop Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; contact: Gayle Macklin, PO Box 21222, Sedona, AZ 86341, (520) 921-0100; e-mail: [gayleis@gmail.com](mailto:gayleis@gmail.com); Web site: [www.sedonagemandmineral.org](http://www.sedonagemandmineral.org)

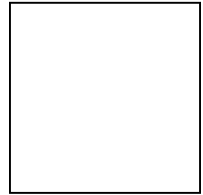
**21-23—AUSTIN, TEXAS:** Annual show, "Gold"; Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors (60 and over) \$4, students (13-18) \$1, children (6-12) 50 cents; contact Susan Postlethwait, 6719 Burnet Ln., Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; e-mail: [showchariman@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:showchariman@austingemandmineral.org); Web site: [www.gemcapers.com](http://www.gemcapers.com)



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TIME VALUE  
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Are your Dues paid?

**Next Meeting:**

Sunday, September 25th, 2pm  
WSU Geology Bldg, rm 101

«Name»

«Name 2»

«Address»

«City State zip» «Sort Field»

**Next Field Trip:**

Saturday, Sept 17, Wichita, KS  
Saturday, Oct 1st, Melvern Lake

## What's in this Issue

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Quarry Quips Article Deadline: Friday, Sept 30th  
Send articles to Carolyn White. Contact information at top of page.

