



Arkansas Rockhound News



Official Newsletter of the
Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society
Next Meeting: August 25, 2009, 6:30 PM - Terry Library
Call James to find out about the September field trip to Magnet Cove.

September 2009

2009 CAGMAGS Annual Show
October 3-4, 2009
More info to come!!

2009 Meeting Schedule

September 22

October 27

November 24

There is an IMPORTANT Executive Committee Meeting Thursday Sept 10 at 6 PM at the WHOLE FOODS (former Wild Oats). There's a meeting room in the far left back corner of the store.

President Jim Schenebeck is giving an open invitation to ANY club member who IS or who WANTS to be more involved in the club decision making process.

We have various committee positions that need to be filled, and of course we need show workers. So, PLEASE come !!!
WE VALUE YOUR INPUT.

CAGMAGS

The Arkansas Rockhound News is Published monthly by the **Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral, and Geology Society**
Colors: Blue and White

Website: www.centralarrockhound.org

Member of: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Time and Location of Meetings:

4th Tuesday of the month (January-November) 6:30 PM Terry Library, 2015 Napa Valley Drive, Little Rock, AR 72212,
(Non-smoking) **Visitors are always Welcome** **Membership** Dues \$15 Individual \$25 Family (Yearly)

Mission Statement:

The Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society is dedicated to promoting interest in mineralogy and the related sciences, interest in lapidary and the related arts; to encourage field trips and the enjoyment of collecting and preserving minerals as they occur in nature, and the study of geological formations, especially those of our Natural State of Arkansas. We are a small group of people that enjoy getting together to share our common interests.

2009 Officers:

President: Jim Schenebeck 501-223-3668 jsjimstone@yahoo.com

Vice President: Mike Austen steelpony@aol.com

Past President: David Murray 870-255-3679 davidmur99@hotmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Kissire, 4900 Sparks Rd., Little Rock, AR 72210, 501-821-2346,
pkissire@sbcglobal.net

Committees / Chairs **Programs:** TBA **Library:** Ann Austen **Membership:** TBA

Field Trips: James Burns 501-568-0315 **Show Chair:** TBA

Editor/Webmaster: Barbara & Phillip Nierstheimer phillspa@hotmail.com

President's Message

Dear members:

Wow, we have just about finished another month, where does the time go..

I might add that this was the most agreeable month as far as the weather goes when it is usually blistering hot, but I like it this way. Now to business, we only have one month to go before our big show and I hope everyone is ready. We will be discussing some of it at our next meeting but keeping it short because of our program by Mr. Mike Howard so come if you can, it promises to be a good one. We still need help in several areas of the show so please let me or Weldon know that you want to help. The show is sold out and the fun begins soon so make your plans.

I hope everyone is feeling good and in good health. Mark you calanders for the show and get ready to come for a good time.

Jim Schenebeck



September Birthstone: Sapphire

Sapphire is one of the two gem varieties of corundum, the other being the red [ruby](#). Although blue is the most well known hue, sapphire is any color of corundum except red. Sapphire may also be colorless, and it also occurs in the non-spectral shades gray and black. Pinkish-orange sapphire is known as *padparadscha*.

The cost of natural sapphire varies depending on their color, clarity, size, cut, and overall quality as well as geographic origin. Significant sapphire deposits are found in Eastern Australia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, East Africa and in the United States at various locations (Gem Mountain) and in the Missouri River near Helena, Montana. [\[1\]](#) Sapphire and rubies are often found together in the same area, but one gem is usually more abundant.[\[2\]](#)

Color in gemstones breaks down into three components: [hue](#), [saturation](#), and [tone](#). Hue is most commonly understood as the "[color](#)" of the gemstone. Saturation refers to the vividness or brightness or "colorfulness" of the hue, and tone is the lightness to darkness of the hue. [\[3\]](#) Blue sapphire exists in various mixtures of its primary and secondary hues, various tonal levels (shades) and at various levels of saturation (brightness): the primary hue must, of course, be blue.

Blue sapphires are evaluated based upon the purity of their primary hue. [Purple](#), [violet](#) and [green](#) are the normal secondary hues found in blue sapphires. [\[4\]](#) Violet and purple can contribute to the overall beauty of the color, while green is considered a distinct negative. [\[4\]](#) Blue sapphires with no more than 15% violet or purple are generally said to be of fine quality. [\[4\]](#) Blue sapphires with any amount of green as a secondary hue are not considered to be fine quality.[\[4\]](#) Gray is the normal saturation modifier or mask found in blue sapphires.[\[4\]](#) Gray reduces the saturation or brightness of the hue and therefore has a distinctly negative effect.

The 422.99 carats (84.60 g) [Logan sapphire](#) in the [National Museum of Natural History](#), Washington D.C. is one of the largest [faceted](#) gem-quality blue sapphires in the world.

Red [rubies](#) are corundum which contain [chromium](#) impurities that absorb yellow-green light and result in deeper ruby red color with increasing content.[\[5\]](#) Purple sapphires contain trace amounts of [vanadium](#) and come in a variety of shades. Corundum that contains ~0.01% of [titanium](#) is colorless. If trace amounts of [iron](#) are present, a very pale yellow to green color may be seen. If both titanium and iron impurities are present together, however, the result is a magnificent deep-blue color.

Unlike localized ("interatomic") absorption of light which causes color for chromium and vanadium impurities, blue color in sapphires comes from intervalence charge transfer, which is the transfer of an electron from one transition-metal ion to another via the [conduction](#) or [valence band](#). The iron can take the form Fe^{2+} or Fe^{3+} , while titanium generally takes the form Ti^{4+} . If Fe^{2+} and Ti^{4+} ions are substituted for Al^{3+} , localized areas of charge imbalance are created. An electron transfer from Fe^{2+} and Ti^{4+} can cause a change in the [valence](#) state of both. Because of the valence change there is a specific change in energy for the electron, and [electromagnetic energy](#) is absorbed. The [wavelength](#) of the energy absorbed corresponds to yellow light. When this light is subtracted from incident white light, the complementary color blue results. Sometimes when atomic spacing is different in different directions there is resulting blue-green [dichroism](#).

(Birthstone and mineral of the month courtesy of www.wikipedia.com.)

Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society
Minutes for August 26, 2009

President Jim Schenebeck called the meeting to order. There were 23 present including members and 4 visitors – Whitney & Keith Stone and Reese & Sharon Watson.

Reese & Sharon Watson joined the club and signed up to help with the October show. What a great way to start as members!!

The Minutes and Treasury's report were approved as posted.

Weldon announced that October Show tables had been filled but one dealer canceled leaving 4 tables available. (Two were sold at the meeting leaving only two open).

Flyers are available and need to be distributed. If you have yellow show signs call Pat – 821-2346 so we can get a count.

A motion to hold the 2010 Show at Jacksonville Community Center the first week-end in October passed.

A new book "Fossils of Iowa" has been added to the library.

The July field trip was to Cove Creek. Ten members found pyrite, brookite, smokey quartz and 1 more brick for Lenora's patio. It was a fun trip for all.

Mike Austen had recently collected selenite crystals from Oklahoma and Tom Sharp had geodes from Crowley's Ridge and petrified wood for Show and Tell.

Best of raffle winners were Weldon Kissire – Azurite, Barbara Nierstheimer – Egg, and Angelee Peeler -Petrified Wood.

Mike Howard read a statement about the need for the club to have a voice in the upcoming regulations - S796 Hard Rock Mining and Reclamation Act, HR 699 Hard rock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2009 and S868 The Fee Repeal Act and Expanded Access Act of 2009 - this will effect collecting.

A motion was made and passed for our club to join the American Land Access Association (\$50 yearly) as a source of current information.

Mike Howard's presentation "A Mineral Tour of Arkansas" had slides of specimens from various regions of Arkansas. He is currently making a digital catalog of the pictures available from the Geological Commission available to the public. Thanks, Mike.

Meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Kissire, Sec/Tres.



MINERAL of the Month: **Wavellite**

Wavellite is a [phosphate mineral](#), normally translucent green. It is found in fractures in [aluminous metamorphic rock](#), in [hydrothermal](#) regions and in phosphate rock deposits.

Named after William Wavell (?-1829) of England who discovered the mineral in a quarry in [Devon, England](#) in 1805. It is found in a wide variety of locations notably in the [Mount Ida, Arkansas](#) area in the [Ouachita Mountains](#).

Club T-shirts

They are a Royal Blue with a large Club logo and the established club date.

Sizes are Medium, Large, X-Large, and XX-Large Price is \$8 each.

Contact George-916-221-1568

 Dave and Lenora Murray are now OFFICIAL Arkansas dealers for the GEM SCOOP . (Now known as the TREASURE SCOOP)
 We have the old standby 36" and a new 42" scoop. Both will be available at the rock show in October, along with great rock
 hammers. Or, call us , and we can bring yours to the club meeting.

That's **D.L.M. Gem 'N' STEM** at 870-255-3679.

 In November 2006 John, Obe, and Aaron Willix acquired the Rock & Mineral collection created by Hughey Howard Killough. Over
 5000 rocks (moss agates, fossils, copper ore, petrified wood, chalcedony, plume agates, thunder eggs, rose quartz, wulfenite,
 halite, amethyst, quartz, jade, tiger eye, etc.), four agate windows, a large Brazilian agate, a large Arkansas quartz crystal, 7 large
 antique oak display cabinets, one ring cabinet, over 156 pieces of jewelry, lamps, stands and various other misc. items.
 Presently the collection is on display in Magnet Cove, Arkansas and can be seen by appointment. Anyone with an interest in
 rocks and minerals is welcome. Just call or email **John** 501-351-0049 or jwillix@newcopiers.net, **Obe** 501-804-2331, or **Aaron**
 501- 337-0511. The best times for us are Wednesdays all day or Saturday after 1 PM. Please feel free to visit us. We would like
 to share the collection with everyone. Prices anywhere from give away to trade to \$1 to \$2500. We are open minded and just
 having fun.

Carl Hill has for sale the following items, tumbling grit, oxalic acid, vibrating lap 15 " Lorotone with new motor and 2 pans \$350, and a
 1/3 HP motor with 1/2" shaft 115/230V \$50.

2009 Show Dates**SEPTEMBER**

5-6--ARLINGTON, TEXAS: 51st annual show, "Nature's Kaleidoscope"; Arlington Gem & Mineral Club; Arlington
 Convention Center, 1100 Ballpark Way; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, seniors and children \$3; dealers, jewelry, beads,
 gems, minerals, fossils, Kids' Korner, Rock Food Table, professional gem identification, silent auctions, hourly door
 prizes,; contact Karen Cessna, 1408 Gibbins Rd., Arlington, TX 76011, (817) 277-2286; e-mail: cessnak@ont.com; Web
 site:www.agemclub.org

11-13--MARIETTA (ATLANTA), GEORGIA: Show; Frank Cox Productions; Cobb County Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta
 Pkwy.; Fri. 1-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; gems, jewelry, beads; contact Frank Cox Productions, 755 S. Palm Ave. #203,
 Sarasota, FL 34236, (941) 954-0202; frankcox@comcast.net; www.frankcoxproductions.com

12-13--SILOAM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS: Annual fall swap; Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society; clubhouse,
 Hwy. 43, just north of Siloam Springs; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; kids' gem wash, auction; contact Dave
 Leininger, (479) 263-1324; e-mail: Hulagrub@aol.com; Web site: www.nwarockhounds.org

18-20--ENID, OKLAHOMA: Show; Enid Gem & Mineral Society; 4125 W. Owen K. Garriot Rd., 1705 S. Johnson St.;
 Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; contact Billy Wood, 1705 S. Johnson St., Enid, OK 73703, (580) 234-5344; e-mail:
baronladislaus@att.net

18-20--JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA: 21st annual show; Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society; Morocco Temple, 3800 St.
 Johns Bluff Rd.; Fri. 1-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; rock, gem and mineral displays; contact Tom Frame, 3133 Chapelwood
 Ln., Jacksonville, FL 32216, (904) 400-3818; e-mail: jgms_show@hotmail.com; Web site: www.jaxgemandmineral.org

18-20--LINCOLN, MISSOURI: 50th annual show; Mozarkite Society of Lincoln; Lincoln City Park; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6,
 Sun. 9-3; free admission; dig-your-own mozarkite, displays, silent auction; contact Linville Harms, (660) 827-4143, or
 Larry Twenter, (660) 826-1324

25-27--JOPLIN, MISSOURI: 11th annual show, "Rock-a-thon"; Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society; Memorial Hall, 212
 W. 8th St.; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-3; free admission; door prizes, live auction, demonstrations; contact Chris
 Wiseman, P.O. Box 555, Joplin, MO 64802, (417) 623-1180; e-mail: jmc-cwiseman@sbcglobal.net