



Arkansas Rockhound News



Official Newsletter of the
Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral and Geology Society

February 2008

**Next Meeting: February 24th, 2009
6:30 PM - Terry Library**

Well this is a slightly abbreviated version of the newsletter, due to a cancelled meeting in January and just a lack of things going on over the Christmas holiday.

**Welcome New Members
Mike & Joanne Douglas
Toni Bowden**

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

February 24th is our next meeting and it is also the annual auction! Please make plans to attend the monthly club meeting and bid on some very nice specimens. Last years auction was very good and a lot of members came away with some nice stuff.

2009 Meeting schedule

**January 27
February 24
March 24
April 28
May 26
June 23
July 28
August 25
September 22
October 27
November 24**

April Swap in North Little Rock at Burns Park has been scheduled for April 18th – the Saturday after Easter – at the Shelby Pavilion

Please call James to find out the latest field trip he has planned. He should have something exciting planned.

CAGMAGS

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Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral, and
Geology Society
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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

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: TBA

Membership: TBA

Field Trips: James Burns & Mike Casey
501-568-0315 / 501- 796-6570

Show Chair: TBA

Editor/Webmaster [Mark Cato](#)



President's Message Jim Schenebeck

Fellow Rockhounds:

I am sure you know our January meeting was put off because of weather. We did not want anyone, especially out of towners, to show up and the predicted ice move in on everybody.

With that said we did have Mr. Weldon do down to the library just in case someone did not get the word and we did have some non-members who are now New-members show up.

Thanks Weldon, dedication like that is very hard to come by these days.

Not much to report this time but please be there for the next meeting because it is our annual auction and in the past it has been a very very succesful event with everyone coming away with some beautiful treasures. I am not sure about the field trip this month so contact James Burns for further information. That is about it for now. Stay safe and happy rock hunting.

Jim Schenebeck

February Birthstone Amethyst



Amethyst is a violet variety of quartz often used as an ornamental stone in jewelry. The name comes from the Ancient Greek a- ("not") and methustos ("intoxicated"), a reference to the belief that the stone protected its owner from drunkenness; the ancient Greeks and Romans wore amethyst and made drinking vessels of it in the belief that it would prevent intoxication. Recent work has shown that amethysts' coloration is due to ferric iron impurities. Further study has shown a complex interplay of iron and aluminium is responsible for the color. On exposure to heat, amethyst generally becomes yellow, and much of the citrine, cairngorm, or yellow quartz of jewelry is said to be merely "burnt amethyst". Veins of amethystine quartz are apt to lose their color on the exposed outcrop.

**CENTRAL ARKANSAS GEM MINERAL
AND GEOLOGY SOCIETY
Meeting Minutes January 27, 2009**

The January meeting was called off due to icy weather. Members were e-mailed and those who had attended the last three meetings were called.

Weldon opened the room at Terry Library to be there in case anyone new came.

Mike and Joanne Douglas came with rocks to show from Utah. They joined the club and plan to attend in February.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Kissire



Bulletin Board

Pearl Roth will teach a class on wire twisting at her home in Hot Springs. She needs 3 and can go up to 8 people to make a class. She will have some tools and will make an order for those who need them before the class. **Call her at 501-623-7753.**

John Peeler will teach those interested in **making tied rock key ring clips.** Call him at (501) 758-1352.

Carol and George Sterpka are offering **Lapidary** classes in Sherwood and Cabot. Call them at **501-628-7782.**

If you have something to announce on the bulletin board, let the webmaster know.

MINERAL of the Month

by Jerry Savage



Vivianite: This mineral is best known as short tabular crystals with either a deep green or blue green color. It is generally found as a secondary mineral in the oxidation zone of iron deposits associated with some form of phosphates, however it can also be found in sedimentary deposits associated with fossil remains of some bones and shells. When found in large quantities, vivianite is used as a cheap coloring agent. Vivianite is usually found as druzes but can also be found in crystals up to 1 meter long. Basic physical properties for vivianite include:
Hardness: 2.0

Density: 2.6 - 2.7

Streak: white to faint light blue

Luster: vitreous to pearly

Fracture: perfect in flat lamellar plates

Vivianite is most readily identifiable by both its green to greenish blue color, its flat-platey cleavage and the flexible nature of its crystals to bend under very little pressure. The best large crystals, like the one pictured in this article, are currently found in Bolivia

March 2009 Show Dates

1--ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS: Show; Philip Rock; Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravinia; Sun. 9-4; adults \$2, kids 12 and under free; jewelry, fossils, minerals, beads, demonstrations, mineral identification; contact Philip Rock, (815) 315-3719

7-8--BIG SPRING, TEXAS: 40th annual show; Big Spring Prospectors Club; Howard County Fair Barn; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; dealers, demonstrators; contact Jerald Wilson, 707 Tulane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432) 263-4662

7-8--ROBSTOWN (CORPUS CHRISTI), TEXAS: 47th annual show; Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Club; Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds, U.S. 77 and Rte. 44; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children under 12 free; minerals, fossils, jewelry, kids' wheel, silent auction, door prizes, dealers and demonstrations; contact Jerrold Simpson, (361) 851-8788

13-15--AUGUSTA, GEORGIA: 21st annual show, "Aiken-Augusta Gem & Mineral Show"; Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society, Augusta Gem & Mineral Society; Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad St.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5; contact Herman Kunis, 4433 Pierwood Way, Evans, GA 30809, (706) 855-7357; e-mail contact a-a.gmf.show@att.net

13-15--CLEVELAND, OHIO: Show; GemStreet USA; Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Bagley Rd. entrance, 0.5 mile west of I-71 and Bagley Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$7, seniors (60+) and students (12-17) \$5, under 12 free, ticket good all weekend; fine gems, jewelry, mineral specimens, fossils, beads, findings, display items, Scout badges, discount coupon on Web site; contact Jane Strieter Smith, (216) 521-GEMS (4367); e-mail: spi@stratos.net; Web site: www.gemstreetusa.com

14-15--MACOMB, ILLINOIS: 29th annual show; The Geodeland Earth Science Clubs; Western Illinois University, Student Union Ballroom, Murray St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; dealers, minerals, fossils, jewelry, equipment, silent auction, rock, mineral, fossil and artifact identification, activities for kids, Spin & Win game, door prizes, live and recorded programs, lapidary demonstrations, earth science displays, fluorescent mineral display, geode cracking, grand door prize; contact Dennis Bomke, (217) 546-4096; e-mail: dbomke@comcast.net

21-22--SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS: 48th show, "Fiesta of Gems"; Southwest Gem & Mineral Society; Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$4, seniors and military \$3, students \$2, children 50 cents; minerals, gems, jewelry, fossils, lapidary, exhibits, silent auction; contact Robert Bowie, 1324 Kings Point Dr., Canyon Lake, TX 78133; e-mail: krbotx@gvtc.com; Web site: www.swgemandmineral.org

28-29--LINCOLN, NEBRASKA: Show, "Gembalaya"; Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club; Pershing Center, 226 Centennial Mall S.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children under 12 free with adult; rocks, gemstones, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, exhibits, displays, demonstrations, programs, dealers, youth activities; Charles Wooldridge, Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, P.O. Box 5342, Lincoln, NE 68505, (402) 416-3233; e-mail: mamamar@windstream.net; Web site: www.lincolngemmineralclub.org

Due to space, I've only put the closest shows to Little Rock. Go here for the full list:

<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp#FEBRUARY-MARCH%202009>

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.