

# The Sooner Rockologist

Vol. 65 Number 3

March 2010

## 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.*

## January(?) Field Trip

By Tom Manners

It isn't often that a field trip to an indoor location has to be postponed due to weather, but Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society's January trip was. The people that planned this trip thought that going to A & S Forever Rock Shop in Lindsay, OK would be better than an outdoor field trip. Mother Nature decided to attend also. Not only were the roads bad, but Sebastian and Ambrosia Geffre, our hosts, were without power.



Sebastian chatting with Jeannie Manners

Fast forward to Thursday, February 18. The program at the general meeting was given by Sebastian.



Some of the Amethyst cathedrals and agate on display

He showed a slide presentation of one of his family trips to Brazil to buy rocks. After watching and listening to the presentation I became excited about the planned make up field trip on the 27th.

Saturday dawned with clear skies and just a nip in the temperature. Jeannie and I had a pleasant drive to Lindsay and had no trouble finding A & S Forever Rockshop.

When we walked in the door we immediately recognized many members of OMGS. Some were sitting at table munching on cookies and drinking a cup of coffee. The majority were looking at the display of rock that the Geffres had set up for the field trip. There were agate slabs, many spheres, carved rocks and mounted pieces of amethyst. Spread around the display area were several amethyst cathedrals that varied in size from small to large. Of course Jeannie found a cathedral that she was sure that "I" couldn't live without. I protested, but ...

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**2010 Elected Officers**

**President**

**Donna Davis** 405-760-6566

**Vice President**

**Dale Moore** 405-834-0765

**Secretary**

**Jeannie Manners** 405-577-2029

**Treasurer**

**David Read** 405-789-2997

**Board of Directors**

**One year term:**

**Paul Cinnamon**

**Darla Wood**

**Elaine Welch**

**John Bode**

**Two year term:**

**Bill Chaney**

**JC Brown**

**Joann Carroll**

**Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons**

**Anniversary Picnic:** Donna Davis

**Audio/Video:** Tom Manners

**Christmas Party :**

**Property Custodians:** John Bode & Paul Cinnamon

**Education:** John Luna

**Federation Activities:** Arlene Burkhalter

**Field Trips:**

**Historian:** Joann Carroll

**Hospitality:** Ambrosia Geffre

**Librarian:** Norma Cinnamon

**Meeting Display:** Doyle McCown  
Billie Marie Nedd

**Membership:** Wanda Manderscheid

**Programs:** Vernon Dorton

**Parliamentarian:** John Bode

**Publicity** Open

it is now sitting in my living room. To tell the truth, I did want one and have for some time.

Thank you, Sebastian and Ambrosia, for sharing your collection and a wonderful day with us.



The above pictures give you an idea of the size of the Geffres Collection. If you are not looking at color pictures of these displays go to the OMGS website at [www.omgs-minerals.org](http://www.omgs-minerals.org), click on the Rockologist link on the homepage and then follow the links to the March issue.

**From the President's Desk**



Hi!

It's hard to believe March is here already - before we blink it'll be April 1st - no foolin! Hopefully, everyone who went to the Geffre's got lots of good stuff. If you haven't been, there's still time to get down to Lindsay. Be sure to call first and let them know you're coming so Sebastian will be there.

We had a great turnout for the Monday workshop - 41 people! There's a lot happening, so keep your eye on the calendar. Robert and I have to attend a birthday party on the 6th - in Marble Falls, TX - so we can't go to General Materials.(waa) When you sort thru your finds, please remember to set aside a donation for the silent auction in May. The end of the month will be busy with the Ada club's show, and the OKC Bead Market. We've been invited to set-up a booth at the Bead Market - so if you can help us out, contact me or the Cinnamons.

Happy St. Patrick's day and remember the reason we celebrate Easter.

Donna

p.s. Did you know? Old rockhounds never die, they just petrify.

**Newsletter Editor:** Tom Manners  
**Scholarship:** John Bode  
**Show 2009:** Open  
**Sunshine:** Donna Davis  
**Telephone:** Open  
**Ways & Means:** Dean & Wanda Manderscheid  
Doyle McCown  
**Workshop:** Open  
**Web Master** Open

*The Sooner Rockologist*  
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**OMGS**  
P. O. Box 2084  
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2084  
(permanent mailing address)  
Our Website is:  
www.omgs-minerals.org

**Editor**  
Tom Manners 405-577-2029  
Email: trmanners@sbcglobal.net

*If you have articles of interest that you would like to see printed in The Sooner Rockologist, please be sure to contact the editor.*

*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.*

*If you owe membership dues, please mail your check to:*

**OMGS**  
Attn: Jeannie Manners  
P. O. Box 2084  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73101-2084

## Board Meeting Thursday, February 11, 2010

**Members present:** Dale Moore, Donna Davis, Paul Cinnamon, Jeannie Manners, John Bode, Darla Wood, David Read, Bill Chaney, Elaine Welch

**Guests present:** Robert Davis, Norma Cinnamon, Tom Manners, Brenda Hibbler

Chairman Moore brought the meeting to order at the IHOP in northern Oklahoma City.

Copies of the previous board meeting minutes were handed out. Donna moved, David seconded that the minutes be accepted as read. Approved.

**Correspondence** – We have been receiving newsletters and dues payments. Coleen Lumly's note was read. We received info about the upcoming Ada show.

Treasurer's report was given by David and will be filed for future audit. The letter from Arlene, concluding the 2009 audit, was read. Elaine moved that OMGS open an account and move the CD's to Tinker Federal Credit Union; Donna seconded. Approved.

**New member applications** – We have received 8 applications. The applications of Brandi Agnew, Don & Lynne Jones, Carl B. Johnson, Larry & Gloria Jones, Johnnie M. Geoghegan, Kenton Dalton, Larry & Kathy McNabb, and Max & Kevyn Holdcraft were discussed. Paul moved, Elaine seconded that we accept the new members; motion passed.

**Committees** – Field Trip committee – The trip to General Materials is scheduled for Saturday, March 6. We have the Geffre's openhouse rescheduled for February 27 & 28.

Show committee - The check will be given to the club next week at the meeting.

**Old Business** – The directory is getting worked on. The website was discussed.

**New Business** – There will be an auction on Saturday, March 13. Our calling committee needs a chairman.

Donna moved that we increase the scholarship amount from \$600 to \$750, and expand the application process to include any student in an Oklahoma university pursuing a degree related to the earth sciences. Elaine seconded; approved.

Meeting adjourned.  
Jeannie Manners, Secretary

## OMGS General Meeting Minutes February 18, 2010

Donna Davis, President, called the meeting to order.  
Wanda Manderscheid introduced our guests: Chuck Anderson,

**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*

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

*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!*

Marti Brindley, Valerie Quinn, Pat Geoghegan, Cindy Brown, and Mabel L.

Oveta Vermillion made a motion to accept the January minutes as published in the *Rockologist*, Debbi Cunningham seconded, motion passed.

David Read gave the treasurer's report which will be filed for future audit.

**Correspondence:** We have received newsletters from other clubs, dues payments, a note from Coleen Lumly, a note from the Truesdells, and information about the Ada show and the Kansas City show.

**Displays:** Doyle told about the displays, brought by Robert W., Billie Marie N., Doyle M., David R., and Valerie Q.

**New Members:** Larry & Kathy McNabb, Johnnie Geoghegan, and Don & Lynne Jones received their new member packets.

Vi Holmes announced that she had some items to share.

**Committees:** Education committee – Due to room availability, John Luna announced that the silversmithing class will only be able to meet at our monthly work nights. Please contact John if you are interested in helping judge exhibits at science fairs.

Field trip committee – Paul Cinnamon gave information about the upcoming trip to General Materials on Saturday, March 6. We will also host an auction on Saturday, March 13.

Show committee – Vernon Dorton, chairman of our show last November, gave a final report and a check to OMGS.

Sunshine committee – Bob W.'s wife is recovering from surgery.

We are in need of several committee chairmen – Christmas party, field trip, telephone and program; please contact Donna if interested.

**Old Business:** The board voted to increase the scholarship amount to \$750.

The May meeting will consist of our silent auction – please consider items to contribute.

**New Business:** A bead show, Bead Market, is coming to town March 27-28, and would like our participation. The Shows of Integrity will be back in June as well.

This evening's program will be presented by Sebastian Geffre, showing pictures of his trips to Brazil.

The Gold Prospectors of America will be at the fairgrounds May 22-23.

Thanks to Scott & Debbi C. for kitchen help, and Pam for cookies tonight. Volunteers for March: Kitchen help – Lou Dorton; Cookies – Nell Walraven and Melissa Perry.

Next month's program will be provided by Jesse Carlucci, our scholarship recipient.

The door prize donated by Sebastian and Ambrosia was won by Jake Jacobs.

The meeting adjourned for refreshments and the program by Sebastian.

Respectfully,  
Jeannie Manners, secretary



## New Members

OMGS President Donna Davis welcomes new members Don and Lynne Jones, Johnnie Geoghegan and Larry McNabb

## General Materials Field Trip

The weather was good. With an overcast sky and a cool southern wind we had a perfect day for rock hounding at General Materials. The day began at the quarry about 7:30 am with people from all over the state of Oklahoma signing in with buckets, bags, shovels, rock hammers and squirt bottles in hand. Jeannie and I arrived “fashionably late”, shortly after the 8:00 start time. People continued to arrive until about mid-morning. The final count on the sign-in sheet was 62.

There were some very good “finds” during the day. Larry Jones, a newer member of OMGS, found three huge teeth that were still attached to the bone. The piece was about the size of a man’s fist. (*See the picture below.*) Larry told me that he was just walking up to one of the rock piles and looked down and there it was.

Also Norma Cinnamon found a piece of Aragonite, more commonly called “Indian money.” David Read found several petrified buffalo bones. Jerry Cannedy picked up a small piece of Obsidian. There was a lot of alibates flint, rosebud agate, petrified wood, and some Oklahoma jade.

Jeannie and I left about 11:00. I told her that I enjoyed the fellowship with the other rock hounds as much as I did going through the piles of rock. She agreed. The thing is you can’t find a group of people that is friendlier than rock hounds and there are not friendlier rock hounds than the Oklahoma rock hounds.



Paul Cinnamon getting ready to work the rocks



Dianna Davis checks a rock to see if it is a leverite.



Larry Jones with his partial. Three teeth and a piece of jaw bone.



There were two piles of the larger material and they were both covered with people.



Sandy Combs just loves hunting for rock. Sandy you don't know where that rock has been.



Tim Wolfe fitted an old army trenching tool with a longer handle to help him look through rock

## Geodes

Step into a rock museum or collector's shop and you will immediately light on the geodes. Resistance is futile. These are among the most enchanting and puzzling of Earth's creations.

There are conflicting views about how geodes form but most geologists agree that they begin as bubbles in underwater limestone sediments or in a lava flow. Occasionally they form around the body of a sea creature on the ocean floor. Over time the bubble is cast in a hard shell of silica, and water containing dissolved material is trapped inside. The precipitate that results is composed of a variety of minerals, usually quartz or calcite, but also aragonite. Many thousands of years later, weathering lifts the hard little silica orb away from the surrounding rock.

The Exterior of the sphere appears dull and pitted, which is no doubt why the Greeks called them geodes, meaning "Earthlike". However, on the inside, they can look heavenly. The precipitate forms a lining of inward projecting crystals and, since different materials harden at varying temperatures, the material forms layers.

Sometimes a cavity may be completely filled by layers. Purists refer to these geodes as nodules. Crack open a nodule and instead of a hollow crystalline core, you might find haloes of brilliantly hued agate, produced where chalcedony-laden water precipitated within the shell.

The best locations to look are in deserts in the Western US, especially Arizona, Utah and Nevada. BC is well known for its own brand of geodes known as Thundereggs.

Geodes come in many sizes, from marble sized to as large as 18 inches in diameter. Once you uncover a geode, tap it firmly as you would test a watermelon for ripeness and listen for the telltale hollow sound. Then, with a well-placed blow, split the rock to unlock its secrets.

*Summarized from Rocks and Minerals by Discovery Channel, via Port Moody Newsletter and The Rock Vein, March/April, 2001. Via The Rockcollector 9/01*

## Road Trip - Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

After a couple of days delay due to an Oklahoma winter snow storm Louise and I left Blanchard to attend the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. Not knowing what to expect, we were surprised and a bit overwhelmed by all of the activity that was going on there when we arrived. Since we were late getting out there we could see we were going to have to have a little organization if we were going to be able to take in very much of the show.

Organization is not our long suit so we made the decision not to try to do it all. As most of you know, I was recovering from a broken leg and other injuries (pride) so was restricted to not much walking or climbing. That ruled out chasing around all the shows that were being held in the motels and there were several of them. We spent most of our time at two shows, the ones at Electric Park and The Sports complex. These shows were more geared to the average rock hound. there were a lot of rough rock slabs, equipment and material from around the world. Just to be honest we have never seen so much and such a variety in all the years we have been involved in this hobby.

I picked out several prize rocks that I knew would be priceless once I got them home cut up and polished. Ok so I don't know that much about rocks, but we had a lot of fun looking and we will have to go back next year so we can see the rest of it.

### Vernon and Lou Dorton



*Editors's Note: The above pictures are some that Vernon took while at the Tucson Show. When I ask what these pictures were of Vernon said, "I am not sure, I just shot pictures of things that interested me."*

## ***OMGS Calendar***

**March 11 - OMGS Board of Directors Meeting**

**March 13 - OMGS Equipment and Rock Auction, 9:00 a.m. inspection and sale beginning at approximately 9:30 a.m.**

**March 13 - Tulsa rock club Annual Pot-Luck, Auction and Swap at Bob and Nancy Hicks' rock farm near Collinsville, OK.**

**March 18 - General Meeting, Program - Jesse Carlucci, the OMGS 2009 Scholarship Recipient.**

**March 26-28--ADA, OKLAHOMA: Show, "The Rock 'n Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show 2010"; Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club; Pontotoc County Agri-Plex, NE corner of state Hwy. 99 and Richardson Loop Bypass; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission**

**April 23 -WICHITA, KANSAS: Show; 57th annual show; Wichita Gem & Mineral Society; Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd.; Fri. 9-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children \$1; annual Rocky Mountain Federation meeting**

**April 11 - OMGS Board of Directors Meeting**

**April 18 - General Meeting, Program - To Be Announced.**

**May 8 & 9 - Bead Jamboree Bead Show , Oklahoma State Fair Grounds. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**If you have changes, corrections or additions to the OMGS Calendar, please e-mail me at [trmanners@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trmanners@sbcglobal.net) or call me at (405) 577-2029.**

**For a complete listing of ALL the rock and gem shows around the nation please go to the web site: <http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>**

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