



Notes From The Presidents Desk

January 21, 2012

Happy New Year NMGMS! Just as it takes me a week to get readjusted to the time change, it will take me a week to get used to writing 2012! In my Dec. notes for The Nugget, I recounted the 2011 programs, activities and accomplishments of our organization and its members. I am hoping that for 2012, we will continue in this vein for our club, but I am also hoping that we'll go one step further as we proceed on into our second decade as a rock and mineral organization.

Last year, (Was it really? Seems like just yesterday!) NMGMS and its junior members instigated the Future Rockhounds of America program thru the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. It took us half of last year to help our junior members get their group organized and off to a good start. Now we all need to work together, adults and juniors alike, to help the Rockheads as they work towards earning the FRA badges. Our goal for 2012 is to help more junior members become Junior Rockhounds of the Year and to make our junior group a very viable part of NMGMS.

Our organization is not just about getting together once a month to talk about rocks, minerals and fossils, which is fun and enjoyable by the way, but we are also about education. Those of us who collect, want to learn more about what we are collecting, those of us who are lapidary artists, want to learn new techniques and creative venues, those of us who are interested in the earth, want to learn more about this dynamic planet and the list goes on and on. By working together, we will continue to learn and grow, not only as individuals, but also as an organization, as we share our interests and knowledge with our members and the community.

So, please take the time to look over the FRA badge program on the www.amfed.org website to see where you might be able to help out with some of the badge requirements.

Come up with some ideas for activities and programs for the junior group. If you have a particular interest, skill or expertise, mentor a junior member who shares that interest. Also, take time to help out with the scout and school programs that our club has been doing these past years. This is a fantastic way to reach out to the community, not only to let them know about us as an organization, but also to share our knowledge of and enthusiasm for geology and the earth sciences. If your interest is more artistic, then volunteer to help out at the club's workshops and classes. In other words, get involved. Hey, we learn by doing and if you haven't found out by now, learning at NMGMS is fun! Sincerely, Nancy Roberts



What's Inside

Field Trip
Vulcan Quarry
Parsons TN
Page 2

Christmas Party
Page 3

Meeting Minutes
Page 4

Upcoming Events
Calendar
Page 5

Announcements
Rockhead News
Useful Websites
Page 6

Membership
Renewal Form
Page 7

Next Meeting

January 21, 2012
Tupelo Library 1-3pm
"Polymorphs and Pseudomorphs,
What Are They"
By Dr. Terry Panhorst
University of Mississippi
Geology Department



Know what this is?
See pg 6

What We're Doing

Field Trip

Site: Vulcan Quarry, Parsons TN.
Decatur County
Formation: Ross
Member: Birdsong Shale
Lower Devonian



Parsons, TN.... a Fossil Collectors Paradise!

Another fabulous field trip to the Vulcan quarry in Parsons, TN with "Goldilocks" weather; not too hot and not too cold was accomplished on Dec. 3, 2011. Yes, we did have a really great day, even tho Jim and I were very tired when we got home that night. We left home at 5:15a.m. and didn't get back until almost 6p.m.!

We had a good turnout at the quarry too; there were 19 of us! 4 MAGS members came, 2 Huntsville members, 1 member of the Nashville club and NMGMS members from as far away as Jackson, MS were in attendance. Everybody loves going to Parsons! We had good luck finding trilobite pygidiums of course, along with lots of brachiopods, corals, bryozoans, some cephalopods and gastropods, not to mention the vast amount of crinoid pieces! I filled a couple of small buckets with the crumbly shales for Robert Langford to sift thru; he loves those microfossils! I was so sore from all of that bending over. I don't think I had ever been so tired after a field trip and I didn't have to do any of the driving!! Maybe that was because we did some of the highway roadcuts after lunch and we hiked up on top of one of the big bluffs this time. Shawn, from Nashville, found a little rhombiferan (cystoid) at the road cuts. We also managed to collect some nice dolomite crystals, as well as some unusually shaped quartz geodes. A few more trilobite pygidiums were found and many of the same brachiopods as at



Nancy and Matthew with the quarry behind them By Roger Lambert



Breakdown? Hardly! Hunting fossils By Roger Lambert

the quarry. There are some different bryozoans found at the roadcuts that I have not found at the quarry and the brachiopod specimens are much better preserved as well as very "clean". Some even seem to be pinkish from the dolomite! We collected until the sun got low in the sky and the shadows were long, making spotting the fossils difficult. It's always hard to call an end to a good field trip, but you've got to save something for the next time! Nancy Roberts.



Roger and his envy inducing Crinoid basal plate By Roger Lambert

Trilobite Pygidiums By Nancy Roberts



Cephalopod By Nancy Roberts

A Fistful of Crinoid Stems Starring Brittani by Roger Lambert



Favosites Coral By Nancy Roberts



Christmas Time!

NMGMS Celebrates

Matthew as a gift. Jim with an actual gift



Andrew got a dinosaur



Abbey directs Justin in piano playing

Mary laughs over molasses- it's good stuff after all



The annual NMGMS Christmas party was held on Dec. 17th after the short business meeting. Those members attending, enjoyed lots of good food, good company and a fun gift exchange. The club purchased 2 hams, which were succulently prepared by Robert Langford and club members provided a variety of salads, pies and other goodies to complete the feast. NMGMS members also brought canned goods and toys for the local community's food and toy drive. The library provided the meeting room with a very beautifully decorated Christmas tree, adding to the festive feeling of the day. A very "Merry Christmas" time was enjoyed by all. Nancy Roberts



Anne showing off her chicken tote

Dana and Robert prepare for battle



Belinda prepares to stop them

Victoria with Presto Dots



All photos by Jim Roberts

NMGMS Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2011

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by junior members Brittani, Robin, Remy and Victoria
Introduction of guest.... Larry Robinson, Cheryle Langford's step father
Motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting as printed in The Nugget was approved and seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Closing Balance as of ___ today \$1846.00

Review of the committees:

Field Trips: No field trips scheduled for Jan., yet. We will look into doing one to Luxapillila Creek, weather and creek level permitting. There was discussion regarding the possibility of doing a trip to the bentonite mine with George Phillips in the future.

Publicity: Bob Reinhaus will be our new publicity chair.

Membership: Nancy asked if anyone knew of a place where we could get more of our club patches made for a good price. Dana Jones volunteered to check on this.

Hospitality: Jan.: Justin Hobart and Nancy Roberts

Feb. Belinda Loyd and Robert Langford

Dana Jones volunteered to get the birthday cake for the March meeting.

Website: (John Byzet) Check us out at www.nmgms.org

Stamps: Stamp chair, Kathy Westbrook was on hand to take any stamps that were turned in.

Historian: Nancy noted that among the things for the yearbook, was a photo of Ann Byzet and Cheryle Langford taken at the Oren Dunn Museum's Fall Festival in October. The photo appeared in the Tupelo magazine "Invitation".

Newsletter: (Dana Jones) Dana would like the Rockheads to make up a logo for their section of the newsletter. Nancy asked the junior members to work over their Christmas vacation on drawing up some possibilities and then they can vote on one at their next Rockheads meeting. Mary Reed mentioned that in the earlier issues of The Nugget, there was a "Dog and Bone" graphic.

Youth Members: (Kendal Bullock) Two NMGMS junior members entered the SFMS Junior of the Year competition. Matthew Lambert took second place out of 8 and Brittani Lambert received recognition for participating. Nancy presented them with their certificates and award specimens from the Federation.

NMGMS had one junior member who earned the club's "Junior Rockhound of the Year" award and that was Matthew Lambert. He was presented a certificate and chose a Riker mount display case as the award. The other junior members who had been working towards this achievement were given certificates of merit. Certificates were presented to Brittani, Robin, Remy, Victoria and Andrew.

Old Business:

The 2012 officers:

Pres. Nancy Roberts, VP. Roger Lambert, Treas. John Byzet, Sec. Belinda Loyd

2012 dues are due! \$10 for an individual and \$15 family Nancy noted that members who joined after our summer break and paid full price, need only pay half price dues to renew.

New Business:

NMGMS members will be teaching the Boy Scout Geology Merit Badge at the Harrisburg Baptist Church in Tupelo on Jan. 28th from 1 to 4. Robert Langford, Justin Hobart and Bernice Burkeen, our club geologists, will be teaching this. Nancy reported that she and Bernice, along with the help of Roger and Matthew Lambert, taught a Cub Scout Geology Belt Loop program the previous weekend and really enjoyed doing it for the scouts.

Robert Langford reported that he could possibly get us permission to do some collecting at some of the MDOT highway expansion project sites. He'll get back to us on this.

Reminders:

The Jan. 21, 2012 meeting will be at the Tupelo library from 1 to 3p.m. and the program will be "Polymorphs and Pseudomorphs, What are they" by Dr. Terry Panhorst of the University of Mississippi's Geology Dept.

Meeting adjourned

2011 Officers:

President/Field Trip Chair:

Nancy Roberts
25 Amber Lane
Counce, TN 38326
(731)689-5336

therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Roger Lambert
1817 CR 700
Corinth, MS 38834
(662)286-3750

roger.lambertjr@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Belinda Loyd
7834 Cherry Valley
Southaven, MS 38671
(662)280-1317

bloyd_utlady@yahoo.com

Treasurer/Webspinner:

John Byzet
1209 Queensgate Dr
Tupelo, MS 38801
(662)844-9841

wa4iax@comcast.net

Appointees:

Membership:

Ann Byzet
1209 Queensgate Dr
Tupelo, MS 38801
(662)844-9841

annbyzet@comcast.com

Hospitality:

Robin Langford
121 Willow Creek Rd
Saltito, MS 38866
(662)869-2278

Nugget Editor:

Dana Jones
1868 HWY 310
Waterford, MS 38685
(662)551-0468

nuggeteditor@gmail.com

Historian:

Susan Curry
P.O. Box 61
Mathiston, MS 39752
(662)312-1988

sgcurry@netdoor.com

Stamp Chair:

Kathy Westbrook
2753 Hwy 82W
Starkville, MS 39759
662-324-1601

westbrook2010@hotmail.com

Publicity Chair:

Bob Reinhaus
150 Wright Lane
Counce, TN 38326
(662)872-0461
gulfssouthern@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

January 28-29, 2012 Panama City, FL
21st annual show; Panama City Gem & Mineral Society
 Bay County Fairgrounds
 2230 E. 15th St.
 Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4
 free admission; exhibits, door prizes, gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, beads,
 lapidary art, wire wrapping, silversmithing
 contact Joseph Schings
 224 Collinfurst Square
 Panama City, FL 32404-8530, (850) 871-1846
 e-mail: mojo3002@comcast.net

January 28- February 11 — Tuscon, Arizona
 Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show
 Martin Zinn Expositions
 Ramada Ltd.
 665 N. Freeway
 Thu. 10-6 daily
 free admission; more than 400 dealers, free shuttle among locations
 Artists' Gallery at the Hotel Tucson City Center
 contact Martin Zinn Expositions
 PO Box 665
 Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665
 e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

February 25 and 26, 2012
 Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society's
 53rd Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show
 Trade Mart Building, State Fairground, Jackson, Mississippi
 1200 East Mississippi Street.
 Jackson, MS
 Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 Donations, Adults \$5.00; Students \$3.00
 Dealers for every aspect of the rock Hobby
 Educational and hands on booths, demonstrators, raffle, door
 prizes, fun for all.



George and Rena Everett

The George Everett lapidary
 supplies will be on sale at the
 MGMS rock and mineral show in
 Jackson MS.

2012 Meeting Dates

January 21
 Tupelo Library from 1 to 3pm
 "Polymorphs and Pseudomorphs,
 What
 Are They"
 By Dr. Terry Panhorst
 University of Mississippi's Geology
 Dept.

February 11
 Tupelo Library from 1 to 3pm
 "Crystal Form and Mineral Habit"
 by NMGMS member Myra Sorozcak
 from Muscle Shoals, AL

March 17
 Tupelo Library from 1 to 3pm
 Annual Birthday Party
 Presentations and Displays
 By NMGMS Members

April 21
 Tupelo Library from 1 to 3pm
 "The Fascinating World of Fluprescent
 Minerals"
 NMGMS Member Floy Hawkins

May 19
 Tupelo Library from 1 to 3pm
 "The Role of Science Museums
 Today"
 By George Phillips
 Paleontologist
 Mississippi Museum of Natural
 Science
 Jackson, MS

**June Meeting Date, Place and
 Program TBA**

(library is not available)

July and August-NO MEETINGS

September 15 TBA

October 27

Annual Picnic and Rock Swap

Location TBA

November 17 TBA

December 15

**NMGMS Christmas Party and
 Luncheon**

Location TBA

Announcements

Cecil Perkins

Our fellow club member, Cecil Perkins of Memphis passed away very suddenly at his home this week. He has been a club member for quite awhile and was an avid fossil collector. He was on our Dec. 3rd trip to Parsons. Cecil's brother David Perkins of Symrna, TN is also a club member. Cecil was also a member of MAGS.

A memorial service for Cecil Perkins will be held:
Saturday, January 14 2:00 pm
White Station Church of Christ, Memphis
1196 Colonial Road
(just south of Park and Colonial)

NMGMS Lapidary/Beading Workshop

Saturday January 28, 2012

Conference room, Lee County Public Library from 11:30 to 4:00p.m. We can't eat in this room, so be sure you eat lunch before you come. You can have a water bottle in the room however. At this workshop, we will be introducing the fine art of Kumihimo, a Japanese form of weaving. This process is a very good way of using up all of those beads that you have been collecting that didn't seem to work into anything else. Weaving kits with the disk and 8 bobbins available for \$4. So mark your calendars and come join the fun! If you are planning on coming or have any questions contact Nancy Roberts therockhoundlady@yahoo.com/(731)689-5336

Rockhead News



Matthew took second place in the SFMS Junior of the Year competition, Brittani received an honorable mention. Remy, Britanni, Robin, Victoria, Andrew, and Matthew receive club recognition.

Rockheads! You need a logo, please see Nancy or Dana about details.

Useful Links

www.trilobite.info

Large site dedicated to trilobites

<http://www.nashvillefossils.com/fieldtrips/parsonsfieldtrip/parsons.html>

<http://www.memphisgeology.org/images/Devonian%20Fossils%20of%20West%20Tennessee.pdf>

This sites help identify the fossils from the Parsons Quarry.

You may also go to http://www.memphismuseums.org/coon_creek-overview/ and download an online book Devonian Fossils of West Tn.

Be aware it is nearly 8MB, so it takes a while to download on some servers, but it is well worth the wait. It IDs the trilobites too.

What is it?

This bone fragment was found in Twenty Mile Creek under the bridge last May. If you'd like to see it, or a larger photo, or know what it is contact nuggeteditor@gmail.com.

2012 is here and it's time to renew your NMGMS membership! Please renew at the January meeting, or you can make checks payable to NMGMS and mail them along with an application form to: NMGMS, P.O. Box 1445 , Tupelo , MS 38802 . Thank you and don't miss out on another great year of NMGMS activities!

North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society
Affiliated with the
Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Application for Membership: ___\$10/yr(ind) ___\$15/yr(family)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____

Email: _____

Interests: minerals ___ fossils ___ field trips ___ beading ___ cabbing ___

faceting ___ wire wrapping ___ dichroic glass ___ PMC ___ soldering ___

silver jewelry ___ chain making ___ other _____

Talents, field of expertise, or hobbies: _____

If applying for a family membership: Name

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Make checks payable to: NMGMS (North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society)

Mail to: NMGMS attn. Treasurer P.O. Box 1445 Tupelo, MS 38802

Sign: _____ Date: _____

Treasurer: Date pd _____ cash _____ check# _____
amt. _____