

CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Volume 39 Issue 3

November 2012

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Election of Officer

The Director position held by Leonard Moellers for many years will become available this year. The Nominating Committee of Sharon Sonnleitner, Joy Cummings, and Toby Jordan have reported the following candidate for consideration:

Jeff Kahl

Club Holiday Party On December 11

Dell James will continue the tradition of bringing the turkey. The club will provide drinks. Please bring one or two side dishes to share. Don't forget to bring your own table service.

The Christmas party will once again be held at the Guaranty Bank in Fairfax. Its address is: 300 80th Street Court. Easy access is west of Cedar Rapids on Hwy 151 towards Fairfax. It is approximately 3 miles west of Westdale Mall. If you get to Casey's, you've gone too far. Map of the bank's location is on page 8.

Family Christmas Baskets

Our club will be providing Christmas baskets for 2 HACAP families. Please check the website or look for an e-mail for more information.

Mount Mercy Grotto Donation

Jane Gilmer, Project Director of Our Mother of Sorrows Grotto Preservation Project has asked the club for a financial contribution to help fund the Grotto's restoration and conservation efforts. A motion was made for a \$250 donation to be considered.

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Please visit the website for the latest news and updates:

www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org

November 20th Meeting — Featuring Christopher Soldat

Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society will meet on **Tuesday, Nov. 20th**, at 7:15 PM at **Rockwell Collins 35th St. Plant Cafeteria**, 855 35th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA. The cafeteria entrance is located on the NE corner of the complex. The doors face 35th St. Karen Desmarais and Dennis Schlicht will be the hosts.

Our featured host will be Christopher Soldat. Christopher is a science consultant for the Grant Wood Area Education Agency and is actively involved with the Van Allen Science Teaching (VAST) Center. His presentation will be on **"Developing Student Understandings about Earth Science"**. He will highlight some of the big ideas that a K-12 school system should develop in Earth Science and how teachers provide curriculum and instruction to develop students' scientific understanding. The Cedar Valley Rock and Mineral Society has played a role in developing scientific understanding because of the sponsorship to VAST.



The next **Board Meeting** will be held **Tuesday, November 6**, at 7:15 PM at the home of Marv and Sue Houg.

Thank You Letter from Adam Tross

Dale,

Thank you very much for the generous scholarship from the Cedar Valley Mineral Society. *Geology* is a passion of mine, and to be recognized for my efforts in field camp has motivated me further to continue working hard both academically and professionally. I look forward to meeting yourself and the rest of the Cedar Valley Mineral Society sometime this fall, and sharing what I learned over the summer. Thank you again for the scholarship and have a great day!

Sincerely,

Adam Tross
B.S. Geoscience
University of Iowa

Club Donation from George W. Small

George W. Small passed away on December 19, 2010. He and his family enjoyed the CVRMS auctions so much that his wife and son Tom donated most of George's collection to the club for this year's auction. The stipulation was that the proceeds were to be used for scholarships, education programs, etc. Dale Stout and Les Engler picked up the material this past summer from Wapello and stored it in Darren's warehouse, where it was sorted at the workday in early September in preparation for the auction. The material brought \$1454 at auction.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Small family for their generous donation to a worthy cause. The club currently supports scholarship program at the University of Iowa (\$2500) and Cornell (\$2000). In recent years we have also been supporting the Van Allen Science & Technology (VAST) program through the Grant Wood AEA, which sends science kits to area schools (\$2000).

*Cedar Valley Rock and Mineral Society Monthly Meeting
October 16, 2012
Hosts Toby and Julie*

Call to order: 7:25 p.m. by Marv Houg, President.

Introduction of new members or guests- Ryan Clark, JJ Buchholz, Kim Henna, Geo Arthur

Minutes: Minutes of last meeting reviewed. Motion to approve made by Julie, second by Pappy. Minutes approved as reviewed.

Treasurer's report by Dale: Checking account total \$3321.23. Motion made to approve treasurer's report by Tom, second by Michelle. Treasurer's report approved.

Auction report was reviewed with discussion. Net income from Auction approximately \$4550.00.

Correspondence

Dale is taking orders for the agate calendars.

Also, received a thank you note from the Adams family for the auction.

Sue Fiala, an active club participant and regular attendee, died suddenly this past month. The club extends condolences to her family and friends.

**Monthly Program
The Midcontinent Rift System in Iowa
By Dr. Ray Anderson**

Door Prize: Whale bone (Looks like vertebra) donated by Travis and won by Toby.

Old Business

Show report for **March 16-17, 2013:** Fossils from Iowa with title of "Fabulous Fossil Finds of Iowa". Cards and flyers are printed and ready for distribution. Marv spoke with Tiffany and Ray Anderson about the fossils we were hoping to get from the Fields Museum. Unfortunately, because of their fragile status, we won't be able to get the Delta fossils but the museum will put together a photo display.

Vendors for the show remain the same.

New Business

There was field trip to Conklin Quarry in conjunction with MAPS on October 14. Great stuff was discovered even though it rained.

On Saturday, October 20, there will be a trip to Hamilton, Illinois for geodes sponsored by Waterloo club. Let Glen Roca know if interested.

Once again, it is getting more difficult to obtain access to quarries. The Dingleberry Quarry is not a good source so will not be an outing.

Christmas party will be held on **December 11, second Tuesday, at the Guaranty Bank in Fairfax**. Note that this is different than the regularly scheduled meeting date. Motion to approve the date change made by AJ, 2nd by Michelle. Motion approved. The club will pay for turkey, Dell will cook and the rest is pot luck. More to be discussed at board meeting. Watch the newsletter for info.

Other Business

Host/hostesses signup sheet available. Next month hosts will be Karen Desmarais and Dennis Schlicht. May is still open and Len and Connie could use someone for January.

Travis announced that he has too many rocks, specimens etc. and only one wife. He asks that people please avail themselves of the materials he brought to the meeting.

Bill introduced the wooden dinosaur made and donated by Jack Neuzil. Board will discuss what to do with it.

Adjournment

Motion made by AJ, second by Tom. Meeting adjourned 9:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dell James, Sec.

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2012

Local Calendar of Events — Provided by Dale Stout

- 1) Sat. - Nov 10 Don Johnson - "When Mammoths roamed Iowa" MNH 2 pm
- 2) Sat. Nov. 10 MAPS meeting & program 1 pm Trowbridge Hall U of I:
"Cenozoic stratigraphy and tectonics along Alaska's southern convergent margin" - Emily Finzel
- 3) Wed. - Nov 14 "Geology of the Grand Canyon"- Richard Baker- 7-8 pm West Branch
- 4) Thurs. - Nov 15 Explorers Seminar - Chris Brochu - MNH 7 pm "In and Out of Africa - The Horned Giants That Ate Our Ancestors"
- 5) Tues - Nov. 20 - 7:15 November meeting of CVRMS - Rockwell Collins 35th St. Cafeteria - Chris Soldat from the VAST center
- 6) Sat. - Nov 17 Don Johnson - "Become a Paleo Private Eye" MNH 2 pm
- 7) Sat. - Sun. Nov 17-19 Mankato estate rock sale - flyer attached on page 7.
- 8) Place your orders for the 2013 Gem Shop Calendars
- 9) Wanted: Someone in town to take over club library

1) Fossil Guy: "When Mammoths Roamed Iowa"

Saturday, November 10, 2:00 p.m.

Museum of Natural History, Macbride Auditorium

What is the difference between a woolly mammoth and a Columbian mammoth, and did both live in Iowa? Learn about other animals living in Iowa during the Ice Age including the giant short-faced bear, the American lion, gray wolf, giant ground sloth, and more!

2) The November MAPS (Mid-America Paleontology Society) meeting will be held in Room 125 of Trowbridge Hall at the University of Iowa on November 10. A program entitled " Cenozoic stratigraphy and tectonics along Alaska's southern convergent margin" will be presented by Emily Finzel - (a new geology professor at the University of Iowa) will start at 1:00 p.m. The regular business meeting will follow at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Reference :http://www4.uwm.edu/lets/lets/geosciences/dept_life/featured_students/may_2012/emily_finzel_alumni.cfm

3) Geology of the National Parks

Wednesday, November 14, 2013: 7:00 PM—8:00 PM

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site

In recognition of President Herbert Hoover's interest in geology and conservation, Dr. Richard Baker will present a series of four lectures about geology in our national parks, focusing on Yellowstone (October 24), Grand Canyon (November 14),

Glacier (January 23), and Dinosaur and Badlands (February 27). Dr. Baker is a professor emeritus in the Geoscience Department at University of Iowa. He completed his doctorate research at Yellowstone National Park. He has traveled to many of our national parks and has taught a course on them at the University of Iowa. The lecture series is free and meets at the visitor center of Herbert Hoover National Historic Site from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Before he became famous as a humanitarian and later as President of the United States, Herbert Hoover and his wife Lou Henry Hoover graduated from Stanford University with degrees in geology. Herbert Hoover turned his formal education into a successful career as a mining engineer, and wrote books and articles about mining. The two Hoovers even

(continued on page 6)

Local Calendar of Events — Continued

(continued from page 5)

translated from Latin the 16th century mining book *De Re Metallica*, published one hundred years ago in 1912. Herbert Hoover enjoyed also outdoor recreation and valued conservation of natural resources. During Hoover's presidency from 1929 to 1933, the size of our national forests expanded by more than two million acres, and the land area of our national parks and monuments increased by 40 percent.

4) UI Explorers Seminar: Christopher Brochu
Thursday, November 15, 7:00 p.m.
Museum of Natural History, Biosphere Discovery Hub

Christopher Brochu, Department of Geoscience, will be hosting a talk titled "In and Out of Africa - The Horned Giants That Ate Our Ancestors".

5) Tues - Nov. 20 - 7:15 November meeting of CVRMS - Rockwell Collins 35th St. Cafeteria - check newsletter or website for more details. Chris Solvak from the VAST center.

6) Fossil Guy: "Become a Paleo Private Eye"

Saturday, November 17, 2:00 p.m.

Museum of Natural History, Macbride Auditorium

How do you properly collect and preserve fossils? What can we learn from fossilized bones, eggs, skin, footprints, poop and more? A special focus will be placed on the world of Late Cretaceous dinosaurs, and on the world of Oligocene mammals from the White River Badlands.

7) Sat. - Sun. Nov 17-19 Mankato estate rock sale - flyer attached

8) Place your orders for the 2013 Gem Shop Calendars

I didn't get a huge response before so I will try again. Let me know if you want any at the next meeting (November 20) or email me (dhstout55@aol.com). The cost is dependent on the number of orders but it will probably be about \$7.50.

9) Wanted: Someone in town to take over club library.

Leslie Blin has been our long time librarian but she is unable to make it to the meetings anymore and would like to pass on the library to someone else - someone preferably in the Cedar Rapids metropolitan area that has room for it. If you are interested - let one of the board members know. (You will make her son very happy because he would like to re-claim the space)

Hosts and Hostesses Still Needed for 2013

The following months need a host or hostess:

- ◆ January 2013: One (1) host or hostess
- ◆ May 2013: Two (2) hosts or hostesses

Duties include bringing a drink and a dish (cookies, dip, etc.) to share with the club at the monthly meeting. If interested, please tell Dell James so she can update the signup sheet. Thank You!

New Members — Welcome!

Scott Barsema
1122 10th Ave.
Fulton, IL 61252
563-357-7186
Hobbies: Rock Hunting

Jason Estes
125 E. Dovetail Dr.
Coralville, IA 52241
319-341-4346
estesjdt@hotmail.com
Main Interest : Geo History

Cindy & Todd Griffith
Children: Nolan
239 Sunrise Ln
Geneseo, IL 61254
(H) 309-933-0265 (W) 309-333-0016
Main Interest: Geodes, Fossils

Bret & Michele Henderson
Children: Caitlyn
511 11th Ave, Apt. #7 Box 791
Orion, IL 61273
309-626-0107

Richard Holm
children: Tyler
2763 Freeland Circle
Naperville, IL 60564
630-904-2801
rich@holmteam.net
Main Interest: Trilobites. Paleozoic

Lauren Kirik
3419 49th St.
Moline, IL 61265
(H) 309-736-7778 (W) 309-756-7047
laurenkirik10@augustana.edu
Main Interest: Minerals

Brian Kohneke
446 S. Lombard Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
630-773-9017
bkonecke@yahoo.com
Main Interest: Research

Steven Trent
439 N. 8th St.
Eldridge, IA 52748
563-271-7127
stevenraytrent@gmail.com
Main Interest: Research, Education,
Minerals
Hobbies: Singing

Grant A. Wick
6602 WCR 84, Ft. Collins, CO 80524
970-218-4026
grantwick10@augustana.edu

Items For Sale

ENTIRE COLLECTION

**Rock
Gem
Mineral
Fossil**

Estate Sale

411 N Riverfront
Mankato, MN
56001

**Nov. 17 & 18th 2012
9AM to 6PM**

Enquiries: Meggy Becker
507-388-8469 mbecke1@hickorytech.net

Blane (Pappe) Phillips has a Large **Rock Saw** and **Air Abrasive** unit for sale. - Please call **Pappe** for details at **319-363-2924**.



An air-abrasive tool uses compressed air to fire abrasive powder and is an ideal tool for the preparation of certain fossils. The air compressor links to a pen, similar to an air-brush, which allows the compressed air to be aimed with precision. Abrasive powder is delivered to the pen and sprays out with the compressed air.

How to Pick a Rock Saw

By Joshua Black, eHow Contributor (http://www.ehow.com/how_7629957_pick-rock-saw.html)

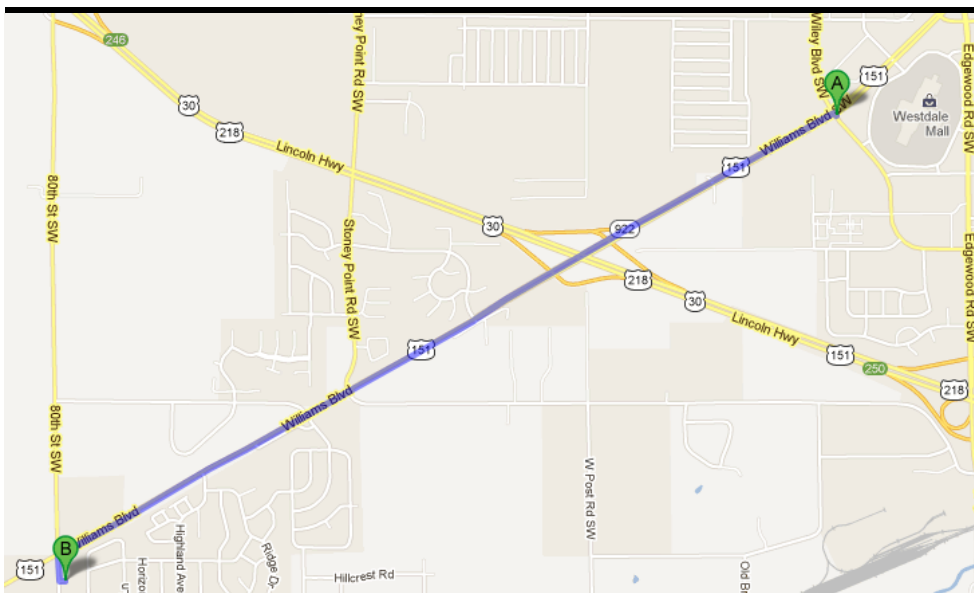
If you are rock hobbyist and interested in everything that has to do with the world of lapidary, you will want to invest in a quality rock saw. Most of the rocks you find will need to be sawed in half to bring out their inner beauty. When you are purchasing a rock saw, there are a few rules of thumb that you'll need to keep in mind so that you end up with a saw that will serve you for years to come.



Instructions

1. Select a saw with a blade diameter that is three times larger than the biggest rock you plan on cutting. For example, if you want to cut a four-inch rock you will need a 12-inch blade. The reason for this is that you can only cut up to a diameter of a little less than half the size of the blade. If the diameter of the rock gets too close to half the size of the blade, it could bind up the saw.
2. Choose a variable speed or power feed (fixed-speed) saw. If you know that you want to make the same types of cuts repeatedly, then you may want to opt for a power feed saw, because you can set everything up and allow the saw to do the work as you wait. However, if you have multiple angles and different types of cuts that you want to make, across multiple types of rocks, then you will want a variable-speed saw.
3. Purchase the heaviest blade you can afford. The heavier the blade, the straighter the saw cut. Thin blades tend to flex as the saw puts pressure against the rock, causing the blade to wander off course slightly. Thinner blades also wear out faster when cutting harder rocks.
4. Ensure that the saw has safety devices installed. Most rock saws have automatic shutoffs if you are to open the lid while the saw is running. Check for a grounded outlet, and it is recommended that you purchase a saw that has an automatic shutoff if there is a problem with the feed platform, which could damage the saw if allowed to keep moving when the rock is stuck in the wrong position.

Map Directions to Guaranty Bank — From Westdale Mall



Guaranty Bank & Trust
300 80th Street Court
Fairfax, IA 52228

"A" - Head west from the intersection of **Wiley Blvd SW** & **Williams Blvd SW** (W of Lindale Mall)

Travel approximately 2.9 miles.

Turn left onto **80th St SW**

"B" - The bank is on the left.

November Calendar of Events — Courtesy of MWF

- 2-4: CLEVELAND, OH.** Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Micromineral Symposium; Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, University Circle; Fri. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3; CONTACT: Dick Green, 1745 13th St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223, 330.929.2395, jgreen2@neo.rr.com.
- 3: TAYLOR, MI.** Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society's Annual Auction; Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd.; Sat. 10-5; CONTACT: Leonard Swischer, 30 Orchard, River Rouge, MI 48218, 313.841.1606, skyhook1932@aol.com.
- 3-4: MIDLAND, MI.** Mid-Michigan Rock Club's Annual Show, Midland Convention Center, 1500 W. Wackerly St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; CONTACT: Deb Acord, 55 Star Rd., Sanford, MI 48657, 989.689.4840, jackdanred1@aol.com.
- 3-4: STURTEVANT, WI.** Racine Geological Society's Annual Show; Fountain Banquet Hall, 8505 Durand; Sat. & Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: John Lowman, 3223 Spruce St., Racine, WI 53403, 262.554.5370.
- 10-11: FREEPORT, IL.** Northwest Illinois Rock Club's Annual Show; Highland Community College Student Conference Center, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; CONTACT: Brian Green, P.O. Box 396, Warren, IL 61087, 815.745.2228, bgreen57@hotmail.com.
- 10-11: LEAVITTSBURG, OH.** Show & Auction; Johnson Community Center, 800 Gillmer Rd.; Sat. & Sun. 9-6; CONTACT: Tamara Crosby, 34 Peach Lane SW, Warren, OH 44485, 330.306.0305, crystalgazer@aol.com.
- 12: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI.** Michigan Mineralogical Society's Annual Auction & Sales Event; Cranbrook Institute of Science Auditorium (lower level), 39221 N. Woodward Ave.; Mon. 6:30 p.m. viewing & table sales, 7-8:30 Auction; CONTACT: Mildred Hurt, 1211 E. Maxlow, Hazel Park, MI 48030, 248.398.6693, e-mail George at george-matyas@att.net.
- 15-18: CEDAR RAPIDS, IA.** Blue Stone Gems will be set up at the Hawthorne Suites in the Conference Room, just off the lobby, for 4 days. They will be open from 10 AM to 8 PM on November 15th — 17th and from 10 AM to 6 PM on the 18th. Hawthorne Suites is located at 4444 CZECH LN NE which is just off Center Point RD NE between Collins RD NE and 42nd ST NE.
- 17-18: MADISON, WI.** Madison Gem & Mineral Club's Annual Show; Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: Nevin Franke, Bernie's Rock Shop, 901 E. Johnson St., 608.251.2601, burniesrockshop@gmail.com.

Submission of Articles

Please send submissions for publication in the Cedar Valley Gem newsletter to the Editor no later than the first day of the previous month. For example, August 1 for the September issue. Advance items are appreciated.

Material may be e-mailed to Toby Jordan at rejordan79@msn.com, or submitted via the U.S. Mail:

Toby Jordan
1827 Oak Knolls Court SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Acceptable e-mail formats include:

Microsoft Word (.DOC & DOCX), Adobe (.PDF), rich text format (.RTF), or plain text (.TXT). Pictures must be in png, jpg, tiff, or gif format. If e-mailing an article, it may be included within the body of the e-mail message or sent as an attachment.

Looking forward to receiving an article from you!

TOBY JORDAN, EDITOR
Cedar Valley Gems
1827 Oak Knolls Ct SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

November 2012

Postage
Required

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**



Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society was organized for the purpose of studying the sciences of mineralogy, geology, and the arts of lapidary gemology. We are members of the Midwest (MWF) and American (AFMS) Federations. Membership is open to anyone who professes an interest in rocks and minerals.

Dues are \$15.00 per family per calendar year and can be sent to:

Dale Stout
2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403.

Visit us on the web at:
www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org

The club meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from September through November and from January through May at 7:15 PM at the Rockwell Collins 35th St. Plant Cafeteria, Cedar Rapids, IA. The December meeting is a Christmas dinner held on the usual meeting night. June, July, and August meetings are potlucks held at 6:30 PM at area parks on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.