



# A VIEW FROM THE ARBUCKLES

The Newsletter of the Ada, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club, Inc.

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 11

EDITOR, BILL LYON

NOVEMBER 2011

Bill Lyon, Editor  
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Ada, OK 74820-7217

THE ADA GEM, MINERAL, AND FOSSIL CLUB, INC. (A.K.A. -THE ADA HARDROCK & FOSSIL CLUB, INC.) is an educational organization dedicated to the advancement and enhancement of rock, mineral, and fossil collecting; the study of local geology and earth science; the development of the lapidary arts; and the exchange of ideas, information, and comradery between individuals and other groups with similar interests and purposes. The club is affiliated with the OKLAHOMA STATE COUNCIL OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, the ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, and the AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES.

Regular meetings are held the 2nd THURSDAY of each month at 7:00 PM, at the ADA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 124 S. Rennie. July & December meetings are sometimes held at other locations. Call information numbers at right to verify location of each meeting.

THE CLUB ADDRESS IS 2706 N. County Rd 382, Wetumka, Ok 74883. A VIEW FROM THE ARBUCKLES, the official newsletter of THE ADA GEM, MINERAL, AND FOSSIL CLUB, INC., is published monthly preceding the regular monthly meeting.

Materials to be published must be received by the Friday before the regular meeting. Please give proper acknowledgment for copied materials.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THIS NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME  
OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011

PAST PRES -Ed Vermillion  
PRES. - Bill Lyon  
SEC/TREAS - Melody Ulanowski

DIRECTOR - Bill Rushlau  
DIRECTOR - Vacant (Patton)

PLEASE MAIL EXCHANGE  
BULLETINS TO:

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For club information call  
(580) 332-8666;  
Membership: \$15 single, \$20 family

STANDING COMMITTEES  
Field Trip Coordinator - David Goza  
Program Coordinator - Vacant  
Education - Bill Lyon  
Pub/memb - Bill Lyon (WGL)  
Sunshine -Ovetta Vermillion  
Juniors - Tawana Townsend  
Historian - Sue Patton

Telephone Hot Line - Vacant  
St. Council Representatives - Ed Vermillion  
Fed. Activities - Vacant  
Club Website:  
<http://www.freewebs.com/agmfc/index.htm>  
Dennis Swing webmaster

## Membership 2011

**Due be due be due!**

**Dues for the new year are due in December 2011, and will be accepted at the Christmas Party (\$15 single, \$20 family).** Please check your mailing label for your current membership status, and take action accordingly. (If we are mistaken about your name, your membership status, your address, your email address, your planet of origin, or even your darned birthday; **please do** send us a note or an email so we can make an appropriate addition or correction!)

Membership dues can be mailed to the treasurer at our club address:

**Ada Gem, Mineral and Fossil Club  
c/o Melody Ulanowski, treasurer  
2706 N. County Rd 382  
Wetumka, OK 74883**

If you have an **email address** we would appreciate having it so we can send out club information quickly, EVEN if you still prefer to receive a lousy B&W newsletter by snail-mail.

**Please note address for all exchange bulletins:**

William G. Lyon, editor  
*A View from the Arbuckles*  
112 N. Hillcrest  
Ada, OK 74820-7217

Please address email communications about our newsletter to [jblyon@cablone.net](mailto:jblyon@cablone.net) Ideas for articles or even actual articles (!) are welcome. Also welcome: news items about our members, rock-related jokes, puzzles, headlines, pictures from field trips or rock shows, flyers for rock shows, notices of stuff for sale, etc.

### Minutes of the October Picnic

No formal meeting was held for the month of October.

We had our annual picnic on October 15th. It was an absolutely beautiful day to be at Wintersmith Park for a picnic. There was lots of good food and good company. We had a bit of show and tell and then all headed over to the Lyon's residence to take a look at a wonderful mineral collection.

We will elect officers for 2012 at the November meeting. The following slate of officers was proposed at the picnic:

President: Ed Vermillion  
Vice-President: Bill Lyon  
Secretary/Treasurer: Melody Ulanowski

Those listed have agreed to serve for 2012.

We have new members: Please welcome Edgar & Marie Brand to the Ada club. They are from Arcadia, Oklahoma.

Respectfully,  
*Melody Ulanowski*

**Sun Shine Club  
Ovetta Vermillion**



### November Birthdays:

November 11 Don Clark  
November 12 Ed Vermillion

### November Events and Holidays:

November 11 Veteran's Day  
November 24 Thanksgiving

**Birthstone:** Topaz

### Quotation Corner

Nothing that you have not given away will ever be really yours.

**C. S. Lewis**

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

**Dwight D. Eisenhower**

Until one has loved an animal a part of one's soul remains unawakened.

**Anatole France**

When fascism comes to America it will be wrapped in the flag and carrying a cross.

**Sinclair Lewis**

I am not a lover of lawns. Rather would I see daisies in their thousands, ground ivy, hawkweed, and even the hated plantain with tall stems, and dandelions with splendid flowers and fairy down, than the too-well-tended lawn.

**W.H. Hudson**

## Nearby Events

(For even more listings, see -show dates at <http://www.rockngem.com/showdates/>)

### 2011

**November 5-6.** Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society, Inc. Presents: ROCKlahoma. The 2011 Mineral and Gem Show At the Modern Living Building, State Fair Park OKC. November 5. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; November 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, [www.OMGS-Minerals.org](http://www.OMGS-Minerals.org) or Show Chairman Vernon Dorton (405) 823-0517 [vdorton@yahoo.com](mailto:vdorton@yahoo.com) or Dealer Chairman Paul Cinnamon (405) 262-6715 [pcinnamon@yahoo.com](mailto:pcinnamon@yahoo.com).

**November 19-20.** DALLAS, TX. 54th Annual Dallas Gem and Mineral Show: The Crystal Craze. Saturday, November 19th 10am-6pm; Sunday, November 20th 10am-5pm. Rodeo Center Exhibit Hall, 1800 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, Texas 75149 (I-635 @ Military Parkway, Exit 4). Adults: \$8.00, 12 & under: \$3.00, 3 & under: FREE! Family of 4 or more: \$20.00, Scouts & Leaders in uniform FREE! [www.DallasGemAndMineral.org](http://www.DallasGemAndMineral.org)

**December 10.** Ada Gem, Mineral and Fossil Club, Annual Christmas Party. We are tentatively set to have this at the Mill Creek Senior Citizen's Center as usual. More details at the next meeting.

### FIELD TRIPS FOR FALL 2011

David Goza has volunteered to be the field trip chairman/coordinator. **Three Cheers for David!** Please come to meetings to help us organize these trips and to receive last-minute information on getting there. **Please volunteer to lead field trips.** (Note that field trip chairman is not synonymous with field trip leader!)

Responsibilities for field trip chairman will comprise 1. finding out from members what kinds of trips would be of interest, 2. Recruiting a field trip leader to gather information on a particular site of interest, and to lead the trip, 3. Writing up a brief description of the trip for the newsletter including date, time, place, equipment list, & restrictions if any. 4. Recording information on landowners and contacts in our field trip notebook so we will know these essential data for the next time. Items 3 and 4 can also be delegated to the field trip leader. Finally, an article on each field trip should appear in the next newsletter following the trip. Pictures from the trip contributed by club members are always appreciated to help illustrate the article. Write-ups about our field trips are perhaps the best recruiting tool that we have.

The insurance for our field trips now appears to be set up through the Federation. **This means, in general, that many times guests will not be allowed on collecting trips unless they are members of clubs in the Rocky Mountain**

**Federation.** This is especially true of quarries and other commercial sites where legal waivers must be signed in order to collect.

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**Take a Look at our Rock Club's Website:**

<http://www.freewebs.com/agmfc/index.htm>

**Send any comments to Webmaster Dennis Swing,** [dennis.swing@okc.gov](mailto:dennis.swing@okc.gov) or save them for our next meeting.

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## President's Message

As I close out my year as your president, I'd like to thank everyone that helped in our various activities such as the show, field trips, picnic, etc. These are the very things that attract the new members that we need to keep this club alive. Critical mass for a club such as ours is that roughly 10% of the membership who are willing to do extra things for the club. That means, if we are having trouble finding three people to serve as club officers without recycling the same folks again and again, we are still short of the active membership needed to keep the club alive. Thus, recruiting and retaining new members remains a top priority. What can we do to improve?

One untapped source of interested potential members might be the students at East Central University. I have many times encountered students in my Earth Science classes that have collected rocks and are interested in our club; however, many things get in the way of their participation, especially time and money. We do need to remove what obstacles we can for students. For example, we might want to consider student rates for membership, including student *family* membership. How about *free* student memberships?

Another recruiting hang-up has been having to be a member already to go with us on many field trips. We need to discuss how to include some open-to-all field trips in our mix, which will not present significant liability issues for the club. Certainly public places like museums do not significantly increase our risk, nor does our club's insurance likely indemnify such public places that charge admission against destructive acts by our members during visits. What are *your* thoughts on this?

Bill Lyon

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**COROLLARY TO MURPHY'S LAW:** If it turns out that a mineral you collected and finally identified turns out to be interesting or rare, either the site where you collected this unique specimen will no longer be open to collecting or it will be buried under a landslide...

David Goza's big find from Arkansas:



2011/10/16 13:16:49 Picture: 0065-20111016\_141649.bmp



2011/10/16 13:19:43 Picture: 0068-20111016\_141943.bmp

In each of the above two views of the same specimen, there are two unknown minerals visible on quartz matrix. The most prominent crystals are bluish, tabular hexagonal crystals (truncated hexagonal bipyramids) with a drusy background of a yellowish-tan micaceous mineral. The largest blue crystal is somewhat larger than 4 mm across.

The Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society had a show Nov. 5th and 6th at the OKC fairgrounds, and some of our members both attended and participated. Both Ed and Ovetta Vermillion were there, and Donnie and Connie Hefley. Jean and I visited briefly Saturday morning, and bought a few affordable things. Prices on minerals have definitely not fallen lately.



**Lots of Beads**



**Ed Vermillion in a Largely Non-violent Demonstration!**



**Wayne Mauser (Tulsa Club) Making Marbles**