



Jasper Jack says:

Greetings to everyone, Well it's the beginning of a new year , there will be a lot of interesting and fun things to do this year. With your help we can explore the areas around us for future field trips.

The Rockhound Gazette
1116 S. Gray
Stillwater, OK 74074



OFFICERS for 2010—2011

November 1, 2010 to October 31, 2011

President: Jim Gunkel , , , 13123 W. 80th Coyle, OK 73027, PH:405-466-2493, Alt:405-650-9134 , WJGunkelJr@aol.com
Vice President: Connie Scott, 323 S. Stallard St., Stillwater, OK 74074, PH: 405-269-1691, E-mail: ladyrose@brightok.net
Secretary: Janet Cayot, 1212 E. Walnut, Cushing, OK PH: 580-382-1725 -, E-mail: ldcayot@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Wilma Ramming, 3504 East 19th Ave., Stillwater, OK 74074, PH: 405-624-3448, E-mail: wramming@juno.com
1 Year Director: Karen Mitchell , , 1511 N Hartford Stillwater, OK 74075, PH: 405-820-3829, E-mail: Karen.mitchell23@yahoo.com
2 Year Director: Susan Rodieck , , 3217 E.2nd, Stillwater, OK 74074, PH: 405-334-9358, E-mail: srrodieck@yahoo.com
Past President: Jerry Cayot, 1212 E. Walnut St., Cushing, OK 74023, PH: (918) 225-0327, CELL: 580-382-1726
Federation Representative: Dan Lingelbach, 1116 S. Gray, Stillwater, OK 74074-5446, PH: 405-372-8635, E-mail: dan_osu@juno.com
Historian: Carol Holman, Rt. 2, Box 23B, Tryon, OK 74875, PH: 918-374-2615, E-mail: sandland@brightok.net
Co-Editor: Daleene Caldwell, 3417 N. Jardot, Stillwater, OK 74075, PH: 405-747-7111, E-mail: daleene1@juno.com, daleene@okstate.edu
Co-Editor: Connie Scott, 1214 E. 6th Ave., Stillwater, OK 74074, PH: 405-269-1691, E-mail: celticrose09stwok@gmail.com
Reporter: Ruby Lingelbach, 1116 S. Gray, Stillwater, OK 74075, PH: 405-372-8635, E-mail: dan_osu@juno.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS for 2011

Artist: Ruby Lingelbach	Name Tags: Dan Lingelbach	Lapidary – Charles & Wilma Ramming,
Bulletin Labels: Bob Biven	Education: Perkins/Tryon – Carol Holman	Dan & Ruby Lingelbach,
Bulletin Mailers: Bob Biven	Mannford—Bill Timmons	Bill & Rose Edwards, Bob Welch
Janet Biven	Cushing—Richard Dodrill	Faceting – Jay Bowman, Gordon McDowell
Dan Lingelbach	Stillwater—Wilma Ramming	Minerals – Mike Shaw, Ken Bell,
Courtesy: Evelyn Copley	Ponca City—Don Hopkins	Lee Whitebay
Crafts: Rose Edwards	Guthrie—Ruth Williams	Fossils – Carol Holman
Directory: Ruby Lingelbach	Programs: Bill Edwards	Petrified Wood – Ruby Lingelbach,
Field Trips: Charles Ramming	Telephone: All SM&GS Members	Bob Hicks, Jerry Cayot
Host/Hostess: Rose Edwards	Yearbook: Carol Holman	
Junior Rockhound Group: vacant	Resource Personnel —If you need advice,	
Library Display: Michael Shaw	contact one of these members	

SMGS MEETING DATES for 2011

Jan. 3 (Mon.) - Board Mtg.	May 2 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	Sept. 5 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
Jan. 27 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Shop Safety Hosts - Connie Scott & Lori Schaub	May 26 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Ruby TBA Hosts- Karen Mitchell & Rammings	Sept. 22 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Hosts – Leta Fox & Timmons
Feb. 7 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	June 6 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	Oct. 3 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
Feb. 24 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Ar buckle Stones – Karen Mitchell Hosts - Jerry Cayot & Joyce McKee	June 23 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Prog. Hosts: _____ & _____	Oct. 27 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Mike Shaw - Minerals Hosts - Bivens & Wordens
Mar. 7 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	June 27 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	Oct. 31 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
Mar. 24 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Craft Night Prog. Hosts- Carol Holman & Susan Rodieck	July 28 (Thur.) – Reg. Mtg. Summer Picnic Hosts: SM&GS Members	Nov. 17 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. “Camp Experiences” – Hicks Hosts – Copleys & _____
Apr. 4 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	Aug. 1 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night	Nov. 28 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
Apr. 28 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Flint Knapping – Leon Reeder Hosts – Daleene Caldwell & Edwards	Aug. 25 (Thur.) – Reg. Mtg. Prog.: Hosts – Ruby Linglebach & _____	Dec. 15 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Christmas Party Hosts - Board Members
	Aug. 30 (Tues.) – Sept. 3(Sat.) - Payne County Fair	

SMGS PROGRAMS for 2011

Jan. 27 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Shop Safety Charles Ramming	July 28 (Thur.) – Reg. Mtg. Summer Picnic
Feb. 24 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Ar buckle Stones Karen Mitchell	Aug. 25 (Thur.) – Reg. Mtg. Program TBA
Mar. 24 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Craft Night Prog.	Sept. 22 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Program TBA
Apr. 28 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Flint Knapping Leon Reeder	Oct. 27 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Mike Shaw - Minerals
May 26 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Ruby TBA	Nov. 17 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. “Camp Experiences” – Hicks
June 23 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Program TBA	Dec. 15 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Christmas Party

SMGS FIELD TRIPS

Field trips:
 Our field trip chairman, Charles Ramming welcomes your suggestions for field trips. Please send your ideas to him at:
 Charles Ramming
 3504 East 19th Ave., Stillwater, OK 74074
 PH: 405-624-3448
 E-mail: wramming@juno.com



The **ROCKHOUND GAZETTE**
 January 2011 Volume 45 Number 1
STILLWATER MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY, Inc.
 1116 S. Gray, Stillwater, OK 74074
 Winner of the Small Bulletin AFMS Trophy for 1984, 1989, 1993, 1996, and 2000



The **PURPOSE** of the Society is the promotion of the study and appreciation of rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils and to expand the knowledge of lapidary techniques and to exchange information and cooperation with other similar societies. All the assets, properties, and funds of this corporation shall be devoted exclusively to the furtherance of the primary objects and purposes of the corporation. Its works, purposes, and objectives are purely scientific and educational and, to the extent, incidental thereto, social and recreational.

Stillwater Mineral & Gem Society is a member of:

- The Oklahoma State Council of Mineralogical Societies
- The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineral Societies
- The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Annual Membership Rates –
 Subscription only—\$10
 Single membership—\$15
 Family membership—\$20

Workshop –
 The SMGS workshop is set up at Charles and Wilma Ramming’s farm. If you are willing to teach, or want to learn a specific facet of our hobby, let it be known so an instructor can be arranged.

Future Conventions & Shows

Source: http://www.amfed.org/fed_shows.htm#Future

SCFMS—South Central Federation, Dec. 11-12, 2010 DeRidder, LA

AFMS—Eastern Federation, July 14-17, 2011, Syracuse, NY

MWF—Midwest Federation, Sept. 8-11, 2011, Toledo, OH

RMFMS—Rocky Mountain Federation, December, 2011, Colorado Springs, CO

EFMLS—Eastern Federation, Sept. 16-17, 2012, Harrisburg, PA

AFMS—Eastern Federation, July 2012, Minnesota

.....

WHAT: The SMGS January Regular Meeting
WHEN: Thursday, January 24, 2011
TIME: 6:00 pm—9:00 pm.
WHERE: First United Methodist Church, 7th & Duck, Rm 111
HOSTS: Loretta Schaub and Connie Scott
PROGRAM: Workshop Safety—Charles Ramming

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

December 2010 SM&GS Meeting

Minutes taken by Janet Cayot

The December meeting was our annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner. There were 37 members present and 1 guest, Estee Robinson. A short meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Jim Gunkel to see if the club would like to donate \$300 to FUMC again this year.

Janet Biven made a motion that the donation be given. Faye Worden seconded. Motion carried. Jerry Cayot moved to adjourn. Rose Edwards seconded. Meeting adjourn. We then had our gift exchange, a sing along to 12 Days of Christmas and an unique telling of Twas the Night Before Christmas.

Mineral Folklore

Raining Rocks

Meteorites are rocks from the solar system that have bumped into Earth. The biggest meteorites weigh many tons, but most are far smaller. About 20,000 fall from the sky each year. Here are just a few that have been recorded.

Hoba meteorite—Namibia, 80,000 years ago—over 58 tons.

Shergotty meteorite—Bihar State, India, 1865— 11.1 lbs

Williamette meteorite— Oregon, 1902-13.7 tons

Y000593 meteorite-Antarctica, 2000-30.3 lbs.



Minutes of the January Board Meeting

January 3, 2011 at Charles and Wilma Ramming's house

Minutes: taken by Janet Cayot, secretary

Meeting was called to order by Jerry Cayot at 6:15 p.m.

Members present: Karen Mitchell, Susan Rodieck, Wilma Ramming, Jim Gunkel

Visitors: Daleene Caldwell & Charles Ramming, Rose Edwards, Past President Jerry Cayot.

December minutes were accepted after a change of FUMS to FUMC

TREASURER: Wilma reported on the bank balance and has paid the church donation. She will be also be sending a thank you letter to Phyllis Mayberry for her generous donation to the club. Jerry moved to accept the report. Susan seconded. Motion carried.

EDUCATION: None

CRAFTS: We will not be working in the workshop til it warms up a little bit. Still need new ideas for projects. Start thinking about a Saturday work day in Feb. or Mar.

JR. ROCKHOUNDS: Karen will be having a program at the Jan. meeting. It will be an overview of programs to come.

FIELD TRIPS: None were scheduled. But if you would like to take a trip to the Dodrill Museum in Cushing on Sat. Jan. 29. Let Charles know at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: It was discussed how long we should let people take to pay their dues. It was decided if you do not pay by the end of Jan. You will not be in the directory or receive a newsletter. **NEW BUSINESS:** The latch on the workshop door is broke. Charles was asked to buy a new latch and repair it. Susan moved to adjourn. Daleene & Karen seconded. Meeting adjourned.

NEW BUSINESS: The latch on the workshop door is broke. Charles was asked to buy a new latch and repair it. Susan moved to adjourn. Daleene & Karen seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Safety Matters

From Betsy Martin
via EFMLS Newsletter



Permission granted by the artist for reproduction
in non-profit club newsletters
via AFMS Newsletter 2/00

SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR DONATIONS

A special thanks goes out to those who donate their time and materials to help promote the education of minerals and gems.

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Birthdays



- Isaiah Copley—1/4
- Evelyn Copley—1/16
- Susan Rodieck—1/15
- Stephen Rowlett—1/20
- Loretta Schaub—1/26
- Matthew Schaub—1/7

February Birthdays

- Richard Dodrill—2/29
- Jim Gunkel—2/22
- Masato Kumauchi—2/24
- Taniaki Kumauchi—2/11
- Noriki Kumauchi—2/15
- Heather Schaub—2/3
- Stephen Schaub—2/15
- Ruth Williams—2/4

We will be doing something different with the birthday and anniversary list. We have in the past displayed the current months birthdays and anniversaries, after this month you will be seeing the upcoming months listing. That way if you wish to send a card or call you will not be doing so after the fact.

If we missed reporting it please contact Daleene Caldwell or Connie Scott

A THANK YOU NOTE

Thanks to each of you in remembering my mother with the "Memorial" sent to the National Mineral and Gem Society. All of you were special to her when she was part of your club. Mother always enjoyed telling rockhound jokes.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Fuller, for the family of Opal Blasingame
(Milous and Opal were Charter Members of SMGS)

If you know of any one who is sick or just in need of prayer please contact any of our officers, or Evelyn Copley who is our courtesy person (she will send out the appropriate card as needed.)

Up Coming Shows In AZ

Taken from RMFS Nov. Newsletter

January 1-31, 2011 Quartzsite, AZ Show, "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show"; Desert Gardens RV Park, 1064 Kuehn St. (I-10 Exit 17, south side); 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon or Sandy, 1064 Kuehn St., Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; info@desertgardensrvpark.net, www.desertgardensrvpark.net.

January 22, 2011 Quartzsite, AZ
The annual meeting and officer installation of SCRIBE will be held at the Senior Center on Moon Mountain Road in Quartzsite.

February 10-13, 2011 Tucson, AZ
2011 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™, February 10-13, 2011 "Minerals of California", Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Sunday; 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. contact tgms@tgms.org or see www.tgms.org.



Let us know

This is your chance to speak and be heard.

We are interested in knowing why you attend rock and gem shows and swap events.

What interesting items have you picked up.

What stories have you have or have heard from fellow rockhounds.

We also would like to know what you would or would not like to see in future issues of the Gazette.

You can email us at either: daleene1@juno.com or celticrose09stwok@gmail.com

Do you have.....

Do you have equipment you want to sell, swap, or trade? Is there something you are looking for, a piece of equipment, some special material? Club members can place an ad for Lapidary related equipment only, in the SMGS gazette for free.

Contact Daleene Caldwell or Connie Scott

THE BACKBENDER'S GAZETTE DECEMBER 2005**Tips & Hints****Torch Safety Tips:** *from Golden Spike News 6-7/2005, via SCFMS**Newsletter 7-8/2005***Don't**—use oil on torch equipment.**Don't**—leave the torch on if you leave the area, no matter for how short a time.**Don't**—leave pressure on regulators when shutting down.**Don't**—hesitate to ask for help or instructions if you are unsure about equipment or technique.**Don't**—attempt to save money when buying hoses.**Don't**—take chances—your life may depend on it.**Polishing Guide** by Carl Childers**Cerium Oxide on Felt:** *from the Rockytier 6/2005, via SCFMS Newsletter 7-8/2005*

Use approximately 30 ml dry cerium with enough water to make a slurry. Stir with a stick, and apply to wet pad. Polish your stone. Try different speeds, but fast is not necessary. If the pad dries out, spritz with a water bottle so that the polish does not ball up on your stone. Two to four minutes should suffice.

Heat Treating Agates: *from Golden Spike News 7/2004, via Huntin' & Diggin' 7/2005 and SCFMS Newsletter 7-8/2005*

Some agates respond well to heat treating to restore colors. For example, many Lake Superior agates have lost their vivid reds and oranges. The structures are intact, but the color has faded to almost uniform light tans and browns. Heating them restores much of their original vibrancy. Some other stones that especially benefit are the Brazilian agate and carnelian. To treat, place a layer of clean sand or kitty litter 1/2 inch deep in a Pyrex™ dish. Place a layer of rocks (slabs) in the dish. Cover thinly with sand or kitty litter. Repeat until all rocks are used. Place in oven at lowest setting (150 degrees) for two hours. This drives out the moisture that could cause the stones to explode. Then raise the temperature 50 degrees every 1/2 hour until 500 degrees is reached. Leave on for two hours at 500°, then turn off the oven to let cool—preferably overnight... NO PEEKING! Allow container to cool completely to room temperature before opening the oven door. This process takes approximately 10 hours.

SAFETY FIRST - LIFTING SAFETY**by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chair**

By our very nature of being rock hounds, we get involved with moving heavy specimens and equipment around, in addition to lifting items in our daily lives.

Prior to lifting an item, it is a good idea to consider any number of things.

1. How heavy or bulky is the item to be lifted or carried?
2. How good a shape are you in and have you had any back problems in the past after lifting? Many back problems are of a cumulative type, where a repeated minor injury will flare up and become worse.
3. How much space is there around the object to be lifted and how much space is around where it is to be deposited.
4. What kind of obstacles are there along the transportation route, such as trip hazards, holes, overhangs, etc.? If any of these questions create a concern, or if in doubt, get help or use an aid such as a dolly, hand truck, or even forklift. Statistics show that 80% of back injuries occur in people between 30 and 50.

Be sure to utilize appropriate safety equipment such as safety shoes and work gloves when lifting. The use of back belts, as seen at some stores and outlets, has not been shown to prevent back injuries according to recent studies. Prior to the lift, make sure you have adequate clearance for your hands and arms. Stand close to the load with your feet apart and toes pointed out to provide firm footing. Bend your knees, not your waist. Grip the load firmly with a "full palm grip". Do not place your fingers under the load. Tighten your stomach muscles and then lift head and shoulders first, and then with your back straight, use the strength of your legs to slowly and smoothly push up.

"Jerk-lifting" a load will multiply the stress to your lower back. Keep the load close to your body at all times with your back upright. Never hold the load away from your body. Make sure you can see over the top of the load. If you should have to change direction with the load, move your whole body with your feet. Do not twist your body, which can be especially dangerous for your back. To raise the load above shoulder height, first lift to waist height and rest on the edge of a ledge, hip, or stand, and then shift hand positions so the load can be boosted after the knees are bent. The knees should be straightened as the object is lifted or shifted to the shoulders. If the load is to be placed on a table or shelf, first set it on the edge, and then push it far enough onto the support so it will not fall. The load should be released gradually as it is set down and then pushed into place with your hands in front. When setting the load down, keep the back straight and upright, bending the knees. Lower the load slowly and smoothly. Don't add the weight of your body to the load.

Vol. XXXV No. 8 CRACK 'N CAB October 2005

For Beginning & Junior Rockhounds

Submitted by CRScott
The final postings

CLEANING FOSSILS;

As with rocks, the most important thing to remember about cleaning fossils is that most of the things you can try are potentially dangerous, so always seek help from an adult first - someone who is **right there** to help you like your parent or teacher. The second most important thing to remember is that most fossils are fragile, so be gentle with them.

There is no one set of steps to remove fossils from rock, because there are many different kinds of rock, and many different kinds of fossil preservation. Each presents its own opportunity for cleaning. Some fossils cannot be removed from the rock. Most of these are trace fossils, like footprints, and they are simply impressions in the rock itself; they are not made out of different material. Most plant fossils are carbon films that are very fragile, and they are usually preserved in shale. Any preparation beyond splitting the rock to reveal the fossil could easily damage the fossil. **DO THIS ONLY WITH ADULT SUPERVISION!** Fossils in soft sandstone or soft shale are the easiest to prepare. Some fossils, like shark teeth, tend to pop right out of the rock, especially if they are preserved in soft, poorly cemented sandstone. Fossils in soft sandstone can often be cleaned with a small brush. A used toothbrush works well. Sometimes soaking soft shale in water, or water plus detergent, will loosen the fossils, or even make the shale disintegrate without harming the fossils. Most sea shells are made of calcium carbonate, which is the

same thing limestone is made of. However, the shells are often just a little bit harder than the surrounding rock. The best way to clean this kind of fossil is using a toothbrush, distilled vinegar and water. Soak your fossil in the vinegar for 1 minute. Remove from vinegar. With toothbrush and water gently scrub you fossil, removing the extra debris. Repeat as often as necessary. Once again I must add: **DO THIS ONLY WITH ADULT SUPERVISION.**

~Susan Postlethwait, Junior Chair

Fossil Websites

<http://www.fossilsites.com/>

<http://www.fossilsites.com/STATES/OK.HTM>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fossil_sites



WEBSITES FOR KIDS

Here are some great websites - for kids but we rockhounds just might find it interesting too. Check them out and enjoy.



- <http://www.kidsgeo.com/geology-games/rocks-game.php>
- <http://www.bestcrystals.com/kids.html>
- <http://www.rocksforkids.com/>
- <http://homeschooling.gomilpitas.com/explore/rocks.htm>
- <http://rockhoundtips.com/>
- www.pbandjadventures.com/Things/Rockhounding/Rockhounding.htm
- <http://richardsontribe.net/>

There are many more out there, just type "kids rockhounding sites" into a search engine like google, etc.

You Never Know

You never know when someone may catch a dream from you.
You never know when a little work or something you may do
May open up the windows of a mind that seeks the light.
The way you live might not matter at all, but you never know—it might.
And just in case it would be that another's life, through you,
Might possibly change for the better, with a broader and brighter view,
It seems it might be worth a try at pointing the way to the right.
Of course, it may not matter at all, but then again—it might.

A foot is a device for finding a rock when you are looking the other way! OUCH

via Golden Spike News 8/01

T'S JUST DUST—ISN'T IT?

By Peter Girado, PhD. SCFMS (South Central) Safety Chair, 1998
 From AFMS Newsletter 2/98 Via T-Town Rockhound 12/2000
 Submitted Ruby Lingelbauh

Whenever we grind or polish anything we make fine dust -- fine particles called particulates. In our clubhouses some particulates can be seen in the air, but some are too fine to be visible. We don't worry about them they "are not there" (we can't see them). We grind with water or oil, which keeps down the dust. We also wear aprons to keep the spray from our clothes. When the droplets dry out, then we have particulates on our aprons. We wipe them off and that takes care of the problem.

What about the particulates that sprayed into the air instead of onto our clothes? They dry out and end up as solid particulates. So even if we grind wet, there are solid as well as liquid particles produced in the air.

Fine particulates are defined as solid or liquid matter in a finely divided state, specifically smaller than 0.0001 meter (or 10 micrometers) in size. "Dust" this size is breathed easily all the way into the lung, down to its deepest parts. Coarser particles are caught in the nose and throat, and are expelled. They are generally no problem. With the fine particles we are not so lucky. Once deep in the lung they take up residence and cannot be removed. These are the ones to worry about, especially when they are less than 5 micrometers in diameter.

All particles will settle out to the ground eventually, so perhaps we can just wait and they will go away. – Not so, because such fine particulates stay suspended in air almost indefinitely. Part of the reason is that they are similar in size to large molecules and are kept in motion by the impact of air molecules that are also in constant motion. Tests made recently in California measured the particle left in the air from fireworks. Particles were still left from the air from fireworks. Particles were still detected on July 19 from the July 4 fireworks.

Why worry about these fine particulate? They're inert, aren't they? That depends on the chemical nature of dust. Many of our capping or faceting materials are silicates -- the most abundant minerals on the face of the earth -- and most silicates contain free silica. Silica is the worst because of the way the body tries to accommodate the deposition of such dust in the deep lung.

The reaction of the body is to try to protect itself. It creates a sack around the particle that is on the surface of the lung. The growth of cells to produce the sac is risky in that it may produce cells randomly and end up as cancer. That takes years for the slowly developing forms of silicosis, but eventually your body or mine may or may not be able to adapt successfully to the situation. Slowly developing forms of "dusty lung disease", bronchitis or silicosis are the ones most artists and craftsmen need to worry about.

The conclusion is that it is a risk I don't care to take. As an example: I have a number of uncut opals over the years, but had never cut one until I recently had a ventilation hood installed over my cutting area. Opals are silicates. Many other minerals are not silicates but their dust is toxic for different reasons. The same criteria apply to them as far as breathing the dust is concerned, but that is the topic of another safety article and so is asbestos, a silicate.

Which silicates are toxic? Crystalline silica is highly toxic, causing silicosis. After about 10 or 20 years, chest x-rays begin to show scar tissue. The first symptoms are a dry cough and shortness of breath. Lung function tests change. After a certain point, the disease becomes progressive, even with the elimination of further exposure to silica dust. Emphysema, smoking, aging, and increased susceptibility to lung infection are complicating factors. Trydimite and cristobalite forms are more toxic than quartz and tripoli forms of silica. Silicates such as soapstone, talc, vermiculite, and clay usually contain bound silica, but may have large amounts of free silica, hence may be toxic. Silicates themselves are slightly toxic by inhalation.

There is no substitute for good personal hygiene in the workshop.

REFERENCES:

- The Artist's Complete Health and Safety Guide, Monna Rossol, Allworth Press, NY 1990.
- Artist Beware, Michael McCann, Lyons and Burford Publishers, NY 1992.
- Environmental Chemistry, Colin Baird, W. H. Freeman & Co., NY, 1995. Addendum:
- Milous Blasingame, the 3rd President of SMGS, made his living by inscribing tombstones. He died of silicosis. Dan Lingelbach started cancer treatment for lung cancer caused by rock and/or sawdust particles in his lungs, on January 13, 2011. Neither one of them smoked.

We also would like to know what you would or would not like to see in future issues of the Gazette.
You can email us at either: daleene1@juno.com or celticrose09stwok@gmail.com

Poem of the Month

ODE TO AN AGING ROCKHOUND

*by Delores E. Rose
First Place AFMS Adult Poetry*

Oh, to have the enthusiasm I had then,
The wonder of a polished stone
Or my first gift of fossil bone,
When I was just a rockhound of ten.

Oh, to have the energy I had aplenty,
To hunt for agates through the day.
And carry my bag all the way.
When I was a rockhound of twenty.
Oh, to have been able to dig and get dirty,

Fossils to find in our Badlands,
Scrounging in mud and sifting sands.
When I was a rockhound of thirty.
Oh, to have the adventure of feeling sporty,
My trusty hammer, pick and awl.

Shale split trilobites...what a haul!
When I was a rockhound of forty.
Oh, but today my life is not very nifty
With pains in the knees and shoulder.
And stiff hands are getting older,

Now that I am a rockhound of fifty.
Oh, but my future hunting may be quite a chore,
But I shall cherish my treasures
For the memories and pleasures,
When I am a rockhound of sixty or more.

*from G. I. Nuggets, Dec. 04 via AFMS News, Nov 05
November 2005 CRACK 'N CAB Vol. XXXV No. 9*

Investigations are underway in a city to find out what caused a train to run wild down the tracks. They'll find that it had a loco motive. (A clipping on my desk)**

SHOP



TIPS

Next month we will continue this. Since this months program is on shop safety most of this newsletter is on this topic.

DANGER – SUNSHINE
By Mel Albright, AFMS Safety Chairman, 2003

One of the fastest increasing diseases today is skin cancer. It is caused by too much sunshine. It does not appear right after you get too much sun, though; it will appear 10, 20, or 30, or more years later. So the only such protection is to start now to develop good habit to avoid sun damage to your skin, then keep on being careful.

The basic cause of damage from the sun is through ultra-violet radiation. Recent research reports that sunscreen does not protect against skin melanomas – the deadliest cancer. In my area our TV weathermen report the UV exposure factor. They include the safe exposure time. In summer it typically is something like 8 minutes for fair skin people, 14 for medium skin people, and 22 for dark skin people.

The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends the following as ways to prevent and control skin damage from the sun.

*Stay out of the sun during the most dangerous times – 10 AM to 2 PM (11 AM to 3 PM daylight time).

*Wear a hat, a long sleeve shirt, and long pant of a tight-knit or woven cloth when in the sun.

*Use at least a 15 spf sunscreen on all exposed skin. That means it takes 15 times as long to reach the same exposure as with no sunscreen.

The higher the altitude, the more UV comes to you and the more sunscreen is needed.

*Cloudy days do not protect you – UV comes right through clouds. If you work outside, use sunscreen daily. A tan does NOT protect you. *Some medicines, drugs, cosmetics and birth control pills make you more sensitive to sun damage.

*If you develop an allergy to one sunscreen, change to another one.

*Watch out for reflective surfaces – sands such as White Sands Monument, snow, and water. Staying in the shade doesn't help around these.

*Stay out of tanning parlors, and keep infants out of the sun. Start using sunscreen on children when they are 6 months old. Teach your children sun protection early and insist they follow the rules.

(Ruby's note: Mel knew from personal experience these facts. He was very fair and had some abrasion scars on his hands and face.)

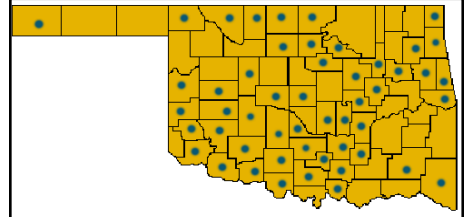


Do you have any shop tips you'd like to share? If so send an email to either:daleene1@juno.com or celticrose09stwok@gmail.com

2011 SMGS Calendar (Update January 2011)

Interesting and Informative Websites

Jan. 3 (Mon.) - Board Mtg.
 Jan. 27 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Shop Safety Hosts - Connie Scott & Lori Schaub
 Jan. 29 (Sat.) - Field Trip - Dodrill Museum - Cushing
 Feb. 7 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Feb. 21 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Edwards
 Feb. 24 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Arbuckle Stones – Karen Mitchell Hosts - Jerry Cayot & Joyce McKee
 Feb. 26 or 27 (Sat. Sun.) - Poss. Field Trip
 Mar. 7 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Mar. 21 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Edwards
 Mar. 24 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Craft Night Prog. Hosts- Carol Holman & Susan Rodieck
 Mar. 25, 27 (Fri. – Sun.) - Ada Show
 Apr. 2,3 (Sat. -Sun.) - N.W. Ark Show downtown Siloam Springs
 Apr. 4 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Apr. 11 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Apr. 15, 17 (Fri. – Sun.) - Wichita Show
 Apr. 18 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Apr. 25 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Apr. 28 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Flint Knapping – Leon Reeder Hosts – Daleene Caldwell & Edwards
 Apr. 30 (Sat.) or May 1 (Sun.) - Possible Field Trip
 May 2 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 May 6-8 (Fri. – Sun.) Enid Swap McPherson, Ks Swap
 May 9 & 16 & 23 & 30 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 May 26 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Ruby TBA Hosts- Karen Mitchell & Rammings
 May 28 or 29 (Sat. or Sun.) - Poss. Field Trip
 June 6 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 June 13 & 20 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 June 19 (Sun.) - RMFMS Convention Colorado Springs
 June 23 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Prog. _____ Hosts: _____ & _____
 June 24 - 26 (Fri.-Sat.) - RMFMS Show Colorado Springs
 June 27 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 July 11 & 18 & 25 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 July 28 (Thur.) – Reg. Mtg. Summer Picnic Hosts: SM&GS Members
 July 30 or 31 (Sat. or Sun.) - Poss. Field Trip
 Aug. 1 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Aug. 8 & 15 & 22 & 29 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Aug. 25 (Thur.) – Reg. Mtg. Prog.: _____ Hosts – Ruby Linglebach & _____
 Aug. 30 (Tues.) – Sept. 3(Sat.) - Payne County Fair
 Sept. 5 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Sept. 12 & 19 & 26 (Mon.) - Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Sept. 16 – 18 (Fri. – Sun.) Denver Show
 Sept. 22 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Hosts – Leta Fox & Timmons
 Sept. 24 or 25 (Sat. or Sun.) - Poss. Field Trip
 Oct. 3 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Oct. 10 & 17 & 24 Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Oct. 27 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Mike Shaw - Minerals Hosts - Bivens & Wordens
 Oct. 29 or 30 (Sat. or Sun.) - Poss. Field Trip
 Oct. 31 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Nov. 7 & 14 & 21 Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Nov. 17 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. “Camp Experiences” – Hicks Hosts – Copleys & _____
 Nov. 19 or 20 (Sat. or Sun.) - Poss. Field Trip
 Nov. 28 (Mon.) - Board Mtg. & Craft Night
 Dec. 12 & 19 Craft Night 7 PM Workshop
 Dec. 15 (Thur.) - Reg. Mtg. Christmas Party Hosts - Board Members



The dots on the above map of Oklahoma represent a county that has been reported to have various mineral specimens. The map on the website will not have the dots, I used PSP to place dots on this map to show that there are many places around Oklahoma to look for treasures.

To find out more about what each one has and possible search sites please visit the below website.

<http://www.brightok.net/~rockman/Images/OkIndex.htm#Cimarron%20County>

If you are interested in finding other collecting sites in the USA check this website out.

<http://www.42explore.com/rocks2.htm>

UNITED STATES ROCK CLUB LIST

For those of you who like to and have the time to travel here is a website that you might want to look into.

<http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/clublist.shtml>

Mineralogical, Lapidary and Fossil oriented clubs and associations are the most valuable resources created and enjoyed by the rockhound community.