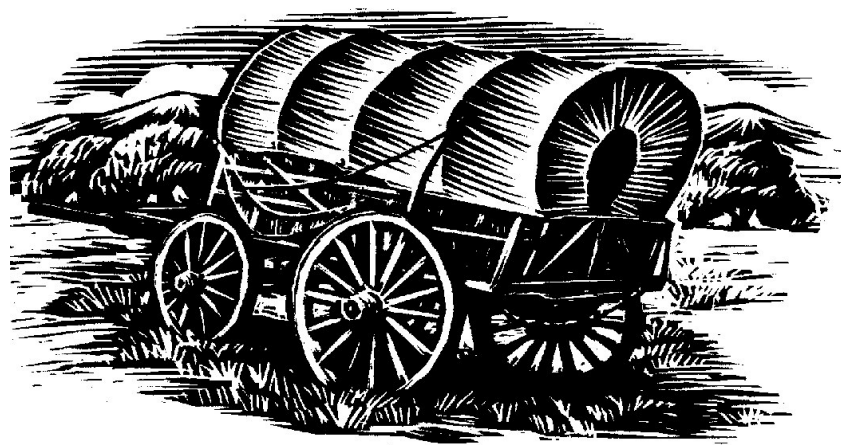


# **G THE M R O C K**

## **INDEPENDENCE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**

Independence Missouri



### **I.G.A.M.S**

**VOL. 56 NO. 9**

CHARLEY MAAZOUZ, Editor  
1600 E 80<sup>th</sup> St  
Kansas City, MO 64131

FIRST CLASS MAIL



# INDEPENDENCE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

The Independence Gem and Mineral Society was founded in February 1948 for purposes of generating interest in the field of Geology. Our purposes are to promote interest in Faceting, Fossils, Lapidary, Minerals, Art MetalCraft, etc, have classes, field trips and create public awareness and interest through our club programs, outreach to schools, libraries and Gem and Mineral shows.

**THE GEMROCK** is the official newsletter of IGAMS. Send articles and correspondence to:

Editor, 1600 E 80<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Permission for reprinting is granted if proper credit is given to the author and **THE GEMROCK**.

**MEETING PLACE:** Sept Meeting, Memorial Building, Room 4, corner of Maple & Pleasant, west of Downtown square.

**DUES:** Family \$15.00      Singles \$10.00      Juniors \$5.00

## **OFFICERS of IGAMS**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Ted Ferguson	3912 Queensridge, Independence MO 64055	816-985-5624
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT:</b>	Betty White	105 S. Oxford, Independence MO 64053	816-461-0945
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Kathy Tresenriter	P.O.Box 255, Oak Grove MO 64075	816-625-8140
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Molly Stinemetz	2706 S Cherokee, Independence MO 64057	816-795-1641

## **CHAIRPERSONS**

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	Ray Marlett	7201 Ash, Raytown, MO 64133	816-356-6788
<b>FIELD TRIPS</b>	Bruce Stinemetz	2706 S Cherokee, Independence MO 64057	816-796-1641
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Rebecca Bowen	20602 E Truman Rd, Independence MO 65056	816-796-3917
<b>JUNIOR LEADER</b>	Judy Oetting	223 Short St, Independence MO 64066	816-650-5692
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>			
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	Betty White	105 S. Oxford, Independence MO 64053	816-461-0945
<b>SUNSHINE</b>	Donna Housman	521 S Ralston, Independence MO 64054	816-254-2493
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	Ruby Henderson	633 Dickinson Rd, Independence MO 65060	816-252-4295
<b>EDITOR</b>	Charley Maazouz	1600 E 80 <sup>th</sup> St, Kansas City MO 64131	816-333-2328

## **ASSOCIATION DELEGATES**

<b>DELEGATE</b>	Bob Mansell	12137 E 48 <sup>th</sup> Terr, Independence MO 64055	816-353-0977
<b>DELEGATE</b>	Charley Maazouz	1600 E 80 <sup>th</sup> St, Kansas City MO 64131	816-333-2328
<b>ALTERNATE</b>	Mark Sherwood	P.O.Box 436, Oak Grove MO 64055	816-329-2551
<b>ALTERNATE</b>	Betty White	105 S. Oxford, Independence MO 64053	816-461-0945

**AFFILIATIONS:**      American Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
                                Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies  
                                Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City

**Meeting:** September 16, 2004

**Program:**

**Place:** Memorial Building Room 4  
Corner of Maple & Pleasant  
West of Downtown Square

**Mineral of the Month:** Agate

**Refreshments:** Bring finger foods

### **President's Message**

Fellow Rockhounds

The September meeting will be held at the Memorial building, room 4. This building is located just west of the down town square at corner of Maple and Pleasant. While this room is a good one, it is not viable long term. We do have another location that looks very promising and we hope to have it nailed down by the next meeting.

The meeting will be at our usual time and date " 7:30 pm on September 16 "

If there are any Questions, feel free the call me at my **NEW** phone number **816-985-5624**, or Email me at my **NEW** Email address [Tfergason@comcast.net](mailto:Tfergason@comcast.net)

The rock of the month is Agate. I hope to see you all there!

*Ted*

### **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF IGAMS**

**June 17, 2004**

The meeting was brought to order by our President Ted Fergason. Bruce Stinemetz reported \$1199.88 in the checking account with an outstanding bill for \$75. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes printed in the Gem Rock.

Bruce reported the weather for the Flat River field trip was pretty bad. They had rain, mosquitoes and lots of wind. Ted did manage to keep his tarp from flying away by tying it to his truck. He said the trip to the Oklahoma panhandle was very interesting for sight seeing and collectors did find a lot of fossils, but not petrified wood. Betty White reminded members anyone wanting to collect Lake Superior Agates at Moose Lake should attend Agate Days September 15 and the Lincoln Swap is scheduled for Sept 17, 18, & 19.

Betty started the Association Report by saying committees are being formed and volunteers are needed. The Association picnic will be held September 12 at shelter house 2 in Antioch Park starting at 12:00. Members are asked to bring side dishes, the Association will furnish meat, drinks, and table service. The members also voted to eliminate demonstrating dealers as a class and have the same charge for all dealers.

Finding a new meeting place was discussed and door prizes were won by Charley Mueller, Steven Collier, Bill White, Ralph & Donna Housman, Rebecca Bowen, Chuck Clevenger, Jacob Roberts, Anna Cox, Trevor King, Abbey Cox, Bob & Kathy Tresenriter.

The meeting was adjourned wishing everyone happy hunting this summer.

*Kathryn M. Tresenriter, Secretary*



## 2004 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Effective 3/11/04

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Material to Collect</u>
Colorado Tour	9/10 - 9/12	Various sites in CO, Denver Show
Tri-State District Joplin, MO (FM Trip)	10/2 - 10/3	Galena, Sphalerite, Calcite
Arkansas	11/13 - 11/14	Quartz

For further information contact Bruce Stinemetz (816)795-1641 evenings

---

### Dates to Remember:

- Sept 17-19      Lincoln Swap    City Park      Lapidary Field Trip for Mozarkite  
Potluck Dinner and Saturday night programs    Lincoln, MO
- Sept 24-26      Annual Gem Show of Johnson County  
6800 W 115<sup>th</sup> St, Overland Park, KS
- Oct 9-10      Mississippi Valley Chapter Friends of Mineralogy Symposium - Mineralogy of the MO-  
KA-OK Tri-State District, Joplin, MO. Contact Mark Sherwood, [msherwod@swbell.net](mailto:msherwod@swbell.net),  
816-690-8226. Pre-registration encouraged.
- Oct 22-23      3rd Annual GeoFest, the Indiana State Museum Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Show,  
Indianapolis, IN Sponsored by the Indiana State Museum Friday, Oct 22 2004, 9:00 am -  
4:00 pm; Saturday, Oct 23 2003, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Indiana State Museum, 650 West  
Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 - Show will include dealers, regional clubs, and  
kid's activities galore! Contact: Peggy Fisherkeller, 650 West Washington Street,  
Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-7172 E-mail Contact: [pfisherkeller@dnr.state.in.us](mailto:pfisherkeller@dnr.state.in.us)
- Oct 30-31      Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society Gem & Mineral Show. October 30, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
October 31, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Held at Tulsa Event Center, 2625 South Memorial Dr,  
Tulsa, Oklahoma – Working demonstrations of beadwork, faceting, jewelry, silver-  
smithing, wire-wrapping, lapidary, arrow-head making, sphere-making and more...door  
prizes, silent auction, exhibits, childrens events.

tip: *To remove a stone that has been epoxied to a mounting, place in a freezer overnight. Use a thin-blade knife to "pop" the stone loose in the morning.*

## THE ROCKHOUND QUIZ

A Priority Check from Dot Hussey

When you've been so busy going on field trips that your house is dirty, you:

- Clean house.
- Put the vacuum in reverse and blow out the dirt.
- Learn to live with it. It will only come back of removed.

When you are soaking rocks in the bathtub, kitchen sink and the lavatory and you need a bath, you:

- Remove the rocks from the tub.
- Bathe in the creek. Stay dirty.
- In a short time you will be digging rocks and getting dirty again.

You are given the choice of being a guest for a weekend at the White house *or* going on a rock hunt, you:

- Take the first plane to Washington.
- Ask the President to come to your house between rock hunts.
- Get out your shovel and hammer. There are places in the hills you haven't explored yet.

When your back aches so badly you can barely move, you:

- Visit an orthopedist.
- Stay in bed.
- Go rock hunting. There's no telling what goodies you will find.

When you have rocks on every surface of your furniture, tables, beds and chairs and all the cabinets, drawers and shelves, in the basement, attic, garage and the floors are covered except for small paths to the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom, you:

- Have a sale or give away a lot.
- Dump some on the driveway (you can still see and enjoy them).
- Build an annex and two more garages.

When you have been awarded a 30-day, all-expense trip around the world plus %50,000 spending money and the plane leaves on the same day as a rock hunt is scheduled, you:

- Ask if the date can be changed to winter when there are no field trips.
- When you find the date can't be changed, you catch the plane.
- Go rock hunting.

When you have won free housecleaning daily services for five years, you:

- Grab it, sit back and relax.
- Let them clean a room which has no rocks in it. They might suck of a priceless gem in the vacuum.
- Turn it down. If they take all the dust of the tables, etc, where would you write messages as to where you are rock hunting that day?

When you have broken your best hammer and shovel and you have the choice of buying new ones or the week's groceries, you:

- Buy the food.
- Go on a strict diet for a week.

- Move in and eat with your neighbors and buy the new tools.

When you have a one-day choice of buying a new vehicle at a large discount or rock hounding in a site where you have never been which is usually closed, you:

- Buy the new car.
- Take a long hard look at your old clunker which shows signs of being on its last legs.
- You go on the rock hunt. After all, it hasn't failed you in forty years of rock field trips.

When your kitchen floor is dirty, you:

- Mop it.
- Pretend it's a lawn and plant grass seed.
- Go rock hunting.

When the roof is leaking, you:

- Repair it.
- Pray for dry weather.
- Go rock hunting.

When your mother-in-law plans a visit, you:

- Meet her at the airport and tell her you are delighted to see her.
- Tell her it is up to her to clean the rocks off the bed.
- Leave town for a rock hunt.

When the kitchen sink is full of rocks and all the dishes are dirty, you:

- Put the rocks outside.
- Buy a small tube for rock cleaning.
- Use paper plates.

When you are offered a \$50-million diamond necklace for ten dollars, you:

- Buy it and put it with your other gems under the bed.
- Sell it and invest the money.
- Use the ten dollars for gas to go rock hunting. It's more fund to find your own gems.

When all your clothes are dirty, you:

- Stay home and wash them.
- Throw all of them away.
- Rotate them, wearing the cleaner ones first. After all, they will just get dirty again on a rock hunt.

When you have a broken arm and leg, you:

- Go to the emergency room.
- Drink herb tea and eat macrobiotic foods.
- Get a wheelchair. You still have a usable arm and leg left. Go rock hunting.

**SCORE:** All **a** and **b** answers score 0. All **c** answers score 5,000 points each. Add up your score. I'm too tired from rock hunting to work out a complicated formula such as that. If you scored less than 150,000, you need more indoctrination.



## |

## DATING FOSSILS



Dating individual fossils is a relatively straightforward (and approximate) process, outlined below. After that comes a more difficult process: estimating the existence-span of an species. Finding a fossil merely places one organism within a time span. Finding many organisms places the group within a time span. Determining the actual existence-span of the species is very approximate. If the fossils are relatively rare, the actual existence-span may be much greater than the fossil record indicates. Even if the fossils are relatively abundant during the species' heyday, the number of organisms may have been small during the time of its appearance on Earth and during its demise. At these important times, its fossil record might be sparse or nil, causing those times to be under-represented.



### DATING INDIVIDUAL FOSSILS

Paleontologists use many ways of [dating individual fossils](#) in [geologic time](#).

1. The oldest method is stratigraphy, studying how deeply a fossil is buried. Dinosaur fossils are usually found in sedimentary rock. Sedimentary rock layers (strata) are formed episodically as earth is deposited horizontally over time. Newer layers are formed on top of older layers, pressurizing them into rocks. Paleontologists can estimate the amount of time that has passed since the stratum containing the fossil was formed. Generally, deeper rocks and fossils are older than those found above them.
2. Observations of the fluctuations of the Earth's magnetic field, which leaves different magnetic fields in rocks from different geological eras.
3. Dating a fossil in terms of approximately how many years old it is can be possible using [radioisotope dating](#) of igneous rocks found near the fossil. Unstable radioactive isotopes of elements, such as Uranium-235, decay at constant, known rates over time (its half-life, which is over 700 million years). An accurate estimate of the rock's age can be determined by examining the ratios of the remaining radioactive element and its daughters. For example, when lava cools, it has no lead content but it does contain some radioactive Uranium (U-235). Over time, the unstable radioactive Uranium decays into its daughter, Lead-207, at a constant, known rate (its half-life). By comparing the relative proportion of Uranium-235 and Lead-207, the age of the igneous rock can be determined. Potassium-40 (which decays to argon-40) is also used to date fossils.

The half-life of carbon-14 is 5,568 years. That means that half of the C-14 decays (into nitrogen-14) in 5,568 years. Half of the remaining C-14 decays in the next 5,568 years, etc. This is too short a half-life to date dinosaurs; C-14 dating is useful for dating items up to about 50,000 - 60,000 years ago (useful for dating organisms like Neanderthal man and ice age animals).

Radioisotope dating cannot be used directly on fossils since they don't contain the unstable radioactive isotopes used in the dating process. To determine a fossil's age, igneous layers (volcanic rock) beneath the fossil (predating the fossil) and above it (representing a time after the dinosaur's existence) are dated, resulting in a time-range for the dinosaur's life. Thus, dinosaurs are dated with respect to volcanic eruptions.

4. Looking for [index fossils](#) - Certain common fossils are important in determining ancient biological history. These fossils are widely distributed around the Earth but limited in time span. Examples of index fossils include brachiopods (which appeared in the Cambrian period), [trilobites](#) (which probably originated in the pre-Cambrian or early Paleozoic and are common throughout the Paleozoic layer - about half of Paleozoic fossils are trilobites), ammonites (from the Triassic and Jurassic periods, and went extinct during the [K-T extinction](#)), many [nanofossils](#) (microscopic fossils from various eras which are widely distributed, abundant, and time-specific), etc.

