

SHOW-ME ROCKHOUNDS

APRIL 2005 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS are held at the **WESTPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY** each month at **7:00pm**. The library is located at **201 Westport Rd. KCMO**. There is parking **on the side and in the rear of the library**. Dues are **\$10.00 per family and \$5.00 for individual memberships**. **Show-Me Rockhounds is a non-profit organization affiliated with the Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, Inc. and the Mid-West Federation of Mineralogical Societies**. **Our purpose is to further the study and awareness of the Earth Sciences amongst our membership and the public.**

OFFICERS: Marty Mueller President; Vice-President ????
Sharon Penner, Treasurer Secretary & newsletter Carol Ferguson.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

April. The middle month of change: March sees the end of winter and May is spring's full promise. To a rockhound April is the gate where our winter's pent up energy is much like a horse at Churchill Downs: oh so ready to burst out at a full gallop. We should have our collections settled and new plans in our hands. For rockhounds; we are looking at the New Year, a time for shows, visiting friends, and going into the field to collect God's gifts before they're lost through weathering, litigation, and subdivisions.

Hurray for us we have a very good quarry trip ahead this April. This is superior day trip collecting in karst limestone, where calcite crystals and fossils reside together as a gift for us to pick up.

Another hurray, this is for Marty Sorensen for getting this room for us to use for the rest of the year. All of us have felt the frustration with the inconsistencies we have weathered over the last two years: I am torn up with a feeling of power; the pent up energy from winter, the promise of spring, combined with having meetings set on the third Tuesdays. Programming is becoming a force because we have a set time, calls are going out and I want to carry our meetings through the summer instead of taking a break. I know the rockhounds have plans for trips, shows, and, and, and...yet there are enough of us to have meetings without this member or that member, so much of our time together is of community, a community of rockhounds.

While writing about meeting times I have to lay my head on the block because I lost track of the March meeting. I've just reread the Feb. newsletter where I said we had scored a meeting before the Gem show, gee wiz I feel so slow (such a moron) yet as I wrote here: we have a very large amount of potential energy added to the kinetic energy of the New Year, there is no way we can flop except through our own inaction.

I have several proposals that when added up seem daunting: for the Show-Me Rockhounds to have three to four weekend programs a year for in depth workshops, a year book or calendar with pieces from our collections, and the biggest bugaboo, a building for the Association of Earth Science Clubs.

The President's Soapbox:

The Association of Earth Science Clubs has a bank account of over \$150,000.00 and while it is split into five sections, I feel it is wasted through its nonuse. To me it is akin to the servant who had been left with one talent to take care of while his master was out of town: is this something we bury or hold onto as we become impotent as a community to be trotted out to prove our validity or virility. Or do we step up to build ourselves a future as a community. The needs of rockhounds will be bound to this building: a library for research, workshop, meeting rooms, photographic & darkroom space, museum, and more. Kansas City has not provided space for the strong earth science we want, so I feel beyond the many little arguments, it is now that we step up to build a future: a future having a big building with a parking lot. Please put your two cents worth in, I know Charley has told me “no way” and Rita is concerned with liability, still please write your opinion on this matter for the May newsletter (word file to be emailed to Carol by April 25th).

A last thought much like a post script is adding to the Association Picnic in August by making it into a rock swap. This would hearken back to the early days of any rockhound group.

Please enjoy life, Sincerely Martin

March Meeting Minutes:

Here we are again at the cozy Westport Coffeehouse sharing our hobby with those who care to eavesdrop from the other cafe tables! Carol & Ted, Sharon & Stuart, and Frank & Gayleen are the steadfast Show-Me Rockhounds who trooped from the Westport Library to the coffeehouse when we discovered yet again another snafu in the scheduling of our meeting room. We are now assured by our President that this will not happen again! The future meetings for April, May and June are solidly scheduled on the new Library scheduling system! So please do come to the meeting and be confident that we will be there!

In the absence of the President, Sharon brought the meeting to order. Sharon shared a letter of official recognition from the Mid-west Federation for the Show Me Rockhound Club. Once again we are members of the Federations! Treasurer report: \$1148.64.

Frank shared the details of the April field trip to the Garnett and Crawford Quarries in KS. Many thanks to Frank for the work he has done to gain access for our club to collect somewhere new where most of us have not had the opportunity to enjoy! Some of the specimens that can be found are large calcites, sphalerite and pyrite and fossils! Maps were passed out and if you have any questions—call Ted at 816-985-5624. Final details and discussion of this Field Trip will be at the April 12th meeting so be there! Other discussions this evening included the Granby field trip and the desire to go back there soon!

Association report: It was generally felt that the Show was a success. Ted and Carol have officially resigned from the Association Booth. Many thanks to all who have

helped out at the Booth for the past 10 years with us. Martin and Gil Parker are the nominating committee looking for new Association officers.

Calendar of Events:

April 9-10 Lincoln Gem & Mineral Show, Lincoln, NE Pershing Auditorium, 226 Centennial Mall South on 15th John @ (402) 792-2337

April 8-10 45th Annual Rock Hobby Club Show Machinists Hall St Louis
12365 St. Charles Rock Rd exit off I-70

Tues. April 12 **Tuesday Show Me Rockhound meeting**
7pm Westport Library-see you there!!

April 16 Saturday Field Trip Garnett, KS---More info at the meeting so y'all come to the meeting on Tuesday April 12th!!!!!!!

April 22-24, Wichita Annual Show Cessna Activity Center Wichita, KS

April 23-24 Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Show Putnam Museum IMAX theater Lecture Hall 717 W. 12th St., Davenport, Iowa

April 29-May 1 Northwest Arkansas Show Rogers Expo Center 225 Walnut St Rogers, Arkansas Info: Wayne Cox 1-479-254-0894

May 17th Tuesday Show Me Rockhounds Meeting 7pm Westport Library

Other upcoming events :

- Ellinwood Swap Ellinwood, Kansas May 20-22, 2005
- Park Hills Swap Missouri Mines in Park Hills, MO. 2nd weekend in June.
- **Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Show**, 41st Annual Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show Hosted by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society June 17-19, 2005
The theme will be "Pikes Peak, A Rockhounds Paradise", featuring Colorado Gems, Minerals and Fossils. **Five days of field trips will follow the show.** Information, 1-719-632-9686 email csmsshow@cs.com. Location: Phil Long Expo Center, 1515 Auto Mall Loop, Colorado Springs.
- **June 21 Tuesday Show Me Rockhounds Meeting 7pm Westport Library**
- August 19-21----AFMS/MWF show with the St Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs will be held at the Greensfelder Recreation complex in Queeny Park on 550 Weidman Rd; More to come....

The Pillsbury doughboy - Dead at 71

Veteran Pillsbury spokesman, the Pillsbury doughboy, died yesterday of a severe yeast infection and complications from repeated pokes to the belly. He was 71. Doughboy was buried in a slightly greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out, including Mrs. Butterworth, the California Raisins, Hungry Jack, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies, Captain Crunch, and many others.

The graveside was piled high with flours as longtime friend, Aunt Jemima, delivered the eulogy, describing Doughboy as a man who "never knew how much he was kneaded." Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with many turnovers. He was not considered a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes. Still, even as a crusty old man, he was a roll model for millions.

Doughboy is survived by his second wife, Play Dough. They have two children and one in the oven. The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes. *The Chatbox* 04/05

Words about words:

Lately I found my self in a small room reading portions of a book that had trivial information in it. The little I found my self reading, with a dawning idea of a silly exercise in pigeon holing or naming animals, was the naming of groups of animals when they congregate or appear with one another in groups gathered in more than three. Names such as a "dray" of squirrels or a "clouder" of cats were beyond my experiences yet some are recognizable such as a "pod" of whales and the ever popular "murder" of crows. There are others that really left me behind, no surprise there, yet some were very different, that is even based in concept.

Groups of apes or monkeys can be a "shrewdness". Excuse me? A "shrewdness", oh I guess when they've grabbed your camera and you have to buy a bag of peanuts from a local to swap out the camera, that's it "shrewdness". A number of animals had two names listed just in a general way; such as the difference between upland verses wetland points of view. Still there were some that carried different group names when they were busy in activities; ducks fly in "teams", swim in "paddlings", or hang out on the water in "rafts". Okay, right, it didn't take me very long to ask my self about rockhounds, what is a group name for us. I know we have different attributes while we are together.

First while we are in a parking lot, would that be a "pack", then once we get into the field we'd be a "scatter" of rockhounds? How about when someone finds a productive area for collecting, is that a "huddle" with a subset when we gather just to see a singularly nice find as an "envy" of rockhounds. What more can I guess at but that at the end of a day in the field a group of rockhounds would be called a "tired". Martin.