

SHOW-ME ROCKHOUNDS

FEBRUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER

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. Monthly club meetings (Now on the 3rd Saturday from 11:15am-12:15pm are at the Plaza Library in the Large meeting room. Our purpose is to further the study and awareness of the Earth Sciences amongst our membership and the public.

OFFICERS: Martin Mueller, President; Rolland Smith Vice-President
Sharon Penner, Treasurer; Secretary & newsletter, Carol Ferguson.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

It is February, the month my youngest sister was born, yet with two sisters; the youngest is the younger of the two. I have this marked on my year long calendar, the one I didn't have even two short weeks ago.

That was my deep excuse for missing the January meeting; I missed it more than you missed me. Really I missed the meeting a lot, no fooling, I was the fool. I apologize.

The year long calendar is starting to fill up and I'm surprised for the number of "early" meeting dates. Go ahead and look them up, please do; I see the 15th, 17th, the 19th and the latest being the 21st of June. I always thought the third Saturday would be anywhere from the 18th to the 26th, gee I was wrong. Look to your calendar again, now add the dates for the March show, the fall show that starts in October this year, and throw in the fall show in Denver during the second weekend of September. Thank goodness you've been working on your labels.

Our meeting on the 16th will be a help for filling in calendars, and reminders for the March show. The regular sign-up sheets for each area we have at the show will be at the meeting for us to pick where we can help out. I have been working the Association booth for a few years, yet to meet everybody, working the ticket booth or keeping up with the school children on Friday; that is a big step into the hobby. Food, drink, children and song: Still you will get more out of the experience than what you put in, something like networking.

I am working on the April field trip to K.U. and my program about Calcite and Colemanite. Maybe I can put something together for the "Federation" of geological associations, you bet, but how about you?

See you at the meeting, and that includes Jerry and Robin. After all I got your Dino poop cut months ago. Sincerely Martin

Calendar of Future Events:

Feb 16th- 12:15pmnote time change*** Show Me Rockhound club**
Plaza Library -- Video program

March 7-9 KC Association Annual Gem & Mineral Show @ the BTC Center on
Front St Aka "the old location" www.kcgemshow.org

March 15- 11:15am Show Me Rockhounds club Plaza Library Discussion program

March 28-30 Rock Hobby Club of Greater St. Louis Gem & Mineral Show Machinist Hall 12365
St Charles Rock Rd I-270 AT St Charles Rock Rd Exit contact Willis Smith 314-521-8896

April 19th ...field trip to KU museum

May 9-11. ROCK SWAP Boone Co Fairgrounds Columbia, MO contact Deb Booker 573-356-5897

May 17th ...11:15am to 1:15pm large room

June 20-22 Lincoln, NE club show Lincoln, NE & MidWest Federation Show Pershing Center
26 Centennial Mall South

June 28-29 Osage Rock and Mineral Club Show Point Arrowhead Resort Lake of the Ozarks

Oct 31- Nov 2 Rocky Mtn Fed show with the Tulsa Club Show, Tulsa OK

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LAPIDARY CLASSES **April 7, 9, 14 and 16, 2008** from **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**
at the **Roger T. Sermon Community Center** in Independence, Missouri. Learn
to cut and polish stones and create gems of your own! There is a \$20 fee for the class
payable to the Sermon Center and a \$5 fee for materials that you will need to pay the
first night of the class. Don't wait...call now to sign up.

Contact: Roger T. Sermon Community Center: (816) 325-7370

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January Meeting Minutes: 4 Rockhounds and 1 guest Arnold Aprill attended today meeting on this brutally cold day. We got right to the videos. Arnold was unable to bring the Sweet Home Mine video but did provide one called The Gemstones of America narrated by Efram Zimbalist Jr who we did not know was an avid rockhound! The other video was a self promoting piece about the Newmont Gold Mining Company. Arnold promised he would bring the Sweet Home Mine video at some other time. Sharon shared that only Bert & Rita had paid dues to date. She said the balance is less than \$1K at this point and really encourages everyone to put cases in the show. Sharon says she has 2 cases she will lend to anyone who might want to display but does not have a case. Call her at 913-341-6159. Also send your dues to her at 4302 W. 93rd Terr Prairie Village, KS 66207. Dues were paid this month to the MidWest Federation for our club for this year. Association news—the meeting has been moved to 6000 Lamar in Johnson County KS—call Bruce at 816-741-1641 for more information or directions. Email Mark Sherwood at markdsherwood@comcast.net if you need a badge. Rolland shared some Google Earth pictures of a local Worthenia collecting site. Hope to see you next month. Carol

Sharon Penner
4302 W. 93rd Terr
Prairie Village, KS 66207

The address to send your dues or come to the meeting and pay up there!

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'Missing Link' Croc Displayed in Brazil

Internet

SAO PAULO, Brazil — The 80 million-year-old remains of a land-bound reptile described as a possible link between prehistoric and modern-day crocodiles were displayed to the public for the first time on Thursday.

The fossil of the 5 1/2-foot-long predator was found in 2004 near the small city of Monte Alto, 215 miles northwest of Sao Paulo, paleontologist Felipe Mesquita de Vasconcellos said after presenting the find to a news conference at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

"The long-limbed and extremely agile animal, dubbed "Montealtosuchus arrudacamposi," roamed arid and hot terrain that is now Brazilian countryside. As a missing link to prehistoric crocodiles, it offers us an excellent opportunity to study the evolutionary transition of these animals," Vasconcellos said. "It has a mix of morphological traits common in prehistoric crocodiles and in the ones that exist today. We have very little evidence of terrestrial crocodiles, so the example from Brazil could form a missing link of a whole evolutionary diversity."

Two years ago, paleontologists from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, announced the discovery of a fossil of a prehistoric crocodile which they called Uberabasuchus Terrificus, or the "terrible crocodile of Uberaba." Uberabasuchus lived 70 million years ago and was smaller than today's crocodiles — only about 10 feet long and weighing about 650 pounds.

