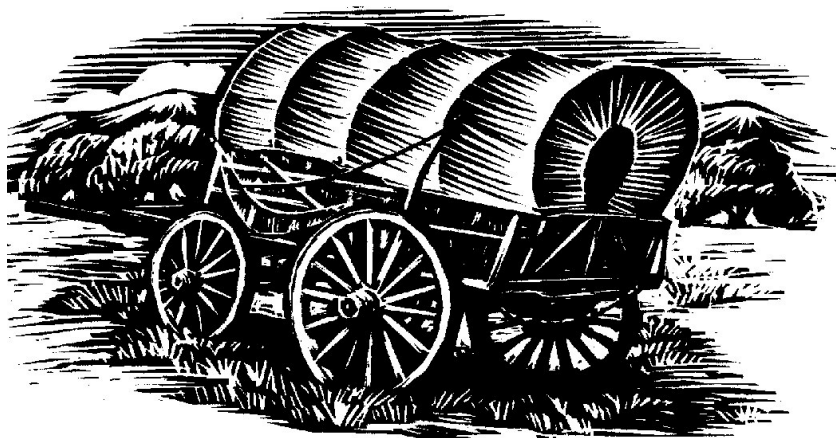


G THE M R O C K

INDEPENDENCE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Independence Missouri



I.G.A.M.S

VOL. 58 NO. 06

CHARLEY MAAZOUZ, Editor
1600 E 80th 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 80th Street, Kansas City, MO 64131.

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MEETING PLACE: June 15 Meeting, Greenbriar Fountains. 2100 Swope Drive, Independence, Missouri 64057

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

AFFILIATIONS:

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Submissions for the September newsletter to the editor no later than **August 25, 2006**

For information on our club, please e-mail our webmaster at:

igamsinfo@yahoo.com



MEETING: June 15, 2006
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: Greenbriar Fountains

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

There was no President’s Message received for the June newsletter.

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MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF IGAMS



May 18, 2006

Rebecca brought the meeting to order at the George Owens Nature Park with 36 members and 2 visitors present. Kathy read the minutes and Molly reported \$1793.92 in the checking account. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

Bruce started the Association Report saying a proposal to change the by-laws to remove the requirement for the treasurer be bonded had been discussed. He reported removing the requirement would save the Association \$500 to \$600 a year and the accounts would be covered by the \$100,000 FDIC insurance on the account. A motion was made by Bruce that IGAMS support the proposal to remove the bonding requirement from the by-laws. Dave seconded the motion and it carried. Bruce reported a review committee of Nancy, Kim, Gill, and Bruce had been appointed to review the by-laws and an audit of the books was being done. He reported there had been a long discussion on moving the March Show back to Front Street. Kim was waiting to hear back from MODOT on the status of the 435-interchange construction planned for next year, they were arranging a tour of the facilities on Front Street, and they were consulting a lawyer on the ramifications of breaking the contract on the Expo Center.

Dave donated some mirrors for members to use displaying specimens and he shared the contents of the box received from the Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society in North Bend, Oregon in exchange for the Missouri specimens Dave sent to them. Dave suggested donating the specimens for use in the children’s display area. There were no objections.

Tim & Emily reported they found cone-in-cone pyrite and barite rose specimens on the recent field trip. They reported the very low level of the lake gave them more opportunities to find specimens. A trip to Cherokee is planned this month to collect Selenite.

Ray, Sandy, Ruby, Bruce, Terry, Kaitlin, Alyssa, Scott, Wilburn, Kathy, Karen, Arnold, Bob, Tony & Jim won door prizes.

Our program on Minerals of the Illinois-Kentucky area was presented by Bruce on his favorite mineral, Fluorite, and the places he has been to collect specimens. His enthusiasm and expertise were evident by his inability to finish before the Nature Center closed for the evening. All members are encouraged to share their favorite mineral specimens and their experiences in collecting them.

Rebecca adjourned the meeting..

Kathy T., Secretary

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PROGRAM NOTE

Our program this month is scheduled to be presented by Mark Sherwood.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- August 18-20 SFMS/AFMS Show, Nashville, TN
- August 19-20 Greater St Louis Association 14th annual show, 1001 Veterans Memorial

Parkway, St Charles, MO.
rrcode@nothnbut.net

August 27 Association Picnic. Antioch Park. Silent Auction, Rock Swap, FOOD, FUN, FRIVOLITY!!!!!! Watch for a flier coming to your mailbox the first of August with details. Get your donations for the Silent Auction ready, proceeds of the Silent Auction benefit your club!



ASSOCIATION REPORT

The final report on the 2006 Show was presented. Income generated was \$64,175.14, expenses were \$60,447.61, leaving a net profit on the show of \$3,727.53. Not a bad year!

The By-Laws Change related to whether to remove the requirement for bonding the Treasurer failed to pass; the Association treasurer will continue to be bonded.

The libraries received checks for the Association's 2004 and 2005 donations, the 2006 donation will go out before the end of June.

The Association Picnic will be on August 27 at Antioch Park. The Show-Me Rockhounds will be hosting the Silent Auction/Rock Swap with proceeds from Silent Auction donations to benefit the donor's club.

The 2008 Spring Show will be at the Business & Technology College on Front Street. This is the location the Association Show was held at for many years, and with the improvements and remodeling at that facility it promises to be a triumphant return for our clubs. The current contract with the KCI Expo Center has one more year to run, and our show in March 2007 will be at the KCI Expo location. There was a lot of discussion regarding Special Exhibits for the 2008 show, and advance publicity in the 2007 Show Program advertising our return to Front Street.

There was a motion passed to establish the hours of the March 2007 Show back to the 2005 hours, i.e, Friday 9-8, Saturday 10-7, and Sunday 10-5.



FIELD TRIP REPORT

Did you make it to the Salt Plains to experience the convection oven known as summer in Oklahoma? After a late start, we arrived around noon-thirty. Not seeing anyone from IGAMS, I am assuming that the heat and wind was enough and even the strongest of heart would have retreated by that time.

Not to be daunted, we smeared ourselves with SPF 1000 sun block (okay, maybe not 1000), tied our hats firmly onto our noggins (fried brains not being something to desire), put on our long-sleeve shirts and lashed them firmly around our bodies and set off. Two steps forward, get blown back one step by the wind (it was REALLY windy). Found a likely looking spot (that meaning, nobody else happened to be there, somebody else had started a hole, and there were broken pieces of crystal lying around).

Seven-year olds get bored so quickly, the demand to "I want to go to another hole where there are crystals" began to echo relentlessly off of my by now slow-baking noggin. Off we went, allowing the child who was sure she could "sense" the "good holes" lead the way. A few lessons in what I figure would have passed for common sense, (No, don't stand in front of me digging a hole and tossing the sand when the wind is behind you and blowing right at me) convinced me that I was the one who needed the lesson and I just moved out of her way.

Alas, even the mostly firmly lashed hat sized for an adult head could not be locked securely on a pint-sized noggin, (especially when it has a big brim and you stand with the wind behind you so it gets under the hat and

WHOOSH, the hat is headed back to Kansas at an impressive 35 mph. This grandma figures it's only a hat and I am sure not going to go running across the flats to get that darn thing back (even if it was one of my favorite rockhounding hats). Not to fear, a young man who was far more gallant than sensible took off after it. I watched him, not having anything to judge distance by, it sure looked like a good ¼ mile to me. He caught it. Probably the only stub of a branch between where we were and the Kansas State Line, but the hat got caught just enough for the athletic youth to snatch it up. Explained again to young female rockhound that you must not let the wind get under your hat, or it surely will make it to Kansas the next time.

Martin managed to distance himself from all the excitement, him being far too sensible to get anywhere near an ambitious sand-throwing child. From his frantic arm waving we deduced that he wanted us to join him (no way we could hear a word he was yelling). Yes, he had found a "good spot", where the mud was far enough below the sand and the water was high enough to foster a good growth of the most beautiful clear hourglass selenite crystals I have seen in a few trips. Okay, they were small, but size isn't everything (ever hear that before?). Enough to please the pebble pup, satisfy my pathologic need to get broiled despite the slathering of sun block, screening by hat and long sleeves, and call it an afternoon.

We did see some friends from the Show-Me Rockhounds. Missed David entirely, although he did provide enough detail for me to fully believe that he was there and had left just before we got there. David reports that he thinks he spotted some of our people leaving as he was arriving. You know, that is the problem when you work a night job and can't get off – it makes it hard to get somewhere very early in the morning, especially when you have to drive four hours to do it. We did get a late start and apologize to anyone we missed. I hope you had half the fun we did, did not get half as sun-burned as I did, and found twice

as many crystals! The location is open until October, and the wind is sometimes not quite as invigorating as it was when we were there. If you did not get to go, put it on your list of things you ought to do at least once.

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Our next Newsletter will be the September issue. Please try to write something to share with your club members. Have you thought about just writing about how you got into this wonderful hobby of ours? We could probably feature at least two stories every month, and I bet there are things you would be willing to share that other members don't know about you or your expertise in the hobby.

We have a lot of new members. We welcome each and every one. Keeping our club alive and interesting will keep attracting new members, even as across the nation clubs are falling by the wayside for lack of involved members.

We have one of the most active clubs in Kansas City. Share some of your stories, share some of your knowledge. Tell us about "how field trips used to be" or "that was the year we had a really great show".

Got a "pet" specimen? (Admit it, we probably all have at least one that we are really attached to). There has got to be a story behind that! Where did you get it? How long did you search for "just the right one?"

Please have a safe summer. We hope to have field trips through the summer, close-by and easy to get to so our pebble pubs can get out in the field and get excited about what they find. Make sure Martin, Charley or Bruce have your phone number or e-mail if you want to be notified when "something comes up".

