

OZARKS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

CHERT CHATTER

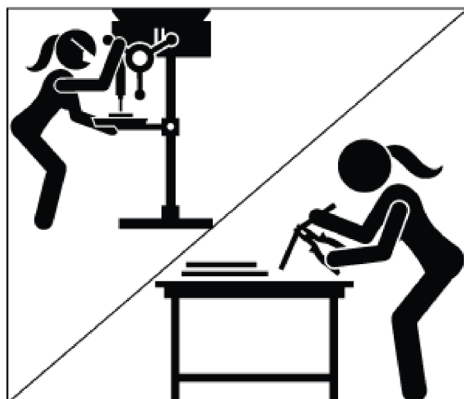
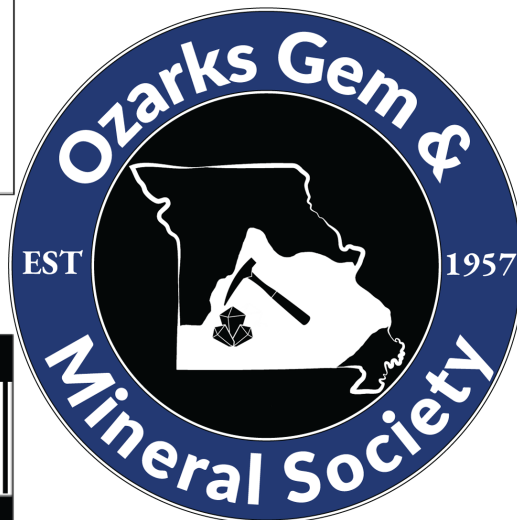
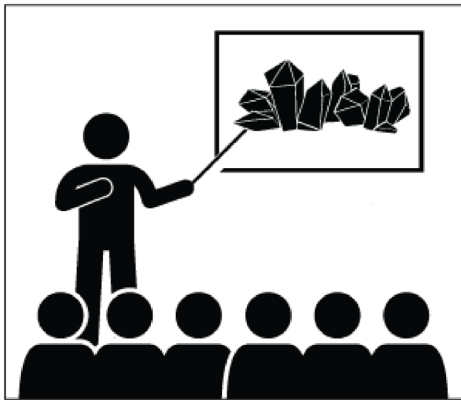




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CHERT CHATTER

May 2022

Ozarks Gem & Mineral Society

404 W. South Street
P.O. Box 2291
65714-9998

Email: omgms.57@gmail.com

Website: <https://ogms.rocks/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/omgms.57>

Officers

President: Amy Hinkler

Vice President: Angela Richie

Secretary: Greg Goodson

Treasurer: Rick Jackson

Editor: Angel Doran

Show Chairman: Mark Northrup

Field Trip Coordinator: Mark Northrup

Purpose: To study and promote an interest in earth science, geology, paleontology, and mineralogy. To study and promote lapidary and the jewelry-making art and conduct educational programs. To support youth activities and encourage interest in earth science and related areas on behalf of youth.

Monthly Board & Membership Meetings: We meet on the fourth Monday of each month at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (enter at the rear of the building – directions below). The Board meeting is at 5:30 PM; the General Membership meeting is at 6:30 PM. In lieu of a December meeting, we have a Holiday party instead.

If Springfield public schools are closed due to inclement weather, the Gem & Mineral Society WILL NOT HAVE A MEETING. If circumstances force us to cancel a meeting, we will post on our Facebook page and send out an email to the membership. Everyone attending is encouraged to practice physical distancing and sanitizing – please restrain from attending if you are feeling ill or have symptoms of COVID-19.

Membership: The club's year ends December 31, at which time dues are to be turned in or they are delinquent. Individual Membership dues are \$15, Couple dues are \$25, and Junior dues (16 and under, sponsored by a current member) are \$5. Please send dues to the address above.

New Officers & Board + Dues Due: January 1st annually

April Meeting Presentation: Isaac Davis (guest speaker) on Back to the Basics: The Art of Flintknapping

Future Presentations: June -

Contact Janis Dietrich to reserve a spot at an upcoming meeting or request a topic you would like to hear more about.

Chert Chatter Material: If you have any requests for items you would like to see in the Chert Chatter, please email them to OMGMS.57@gmail.com.

Directions to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church: 815 E Farm Rd 182, Springfield, MO 65810

From James River/Springfield: Go South on Campbell, turn East (left) on W Plainview Rd (W Farm Rd 182), Travel 0.5 mile and turn left into the Church. Parking and entrance for the meeting is at the rear.

From Republic: From 60/413 in Republic: Go East to 60 East Onramp toward Springfield. Exit At Campbell and follow the above directions.

From Nixa: Take MO 13/US160 toward Springfield. Turn Right on W Plainview Rd (Farm Rd 182). Travel 0.5 miles and turn left into the church parking entrance. Parking and entrance for the meeting is at the rear.

Board Meeting

April 25, 2022

Attendance:

Amy Hinkler, Angela Richie, Rick Jackson, Mark Northrup, Jan Dietrich, Jeff Mills, Rick Grills, Angel Doran

Call to Order:

5:32PM

Report of the Treasurer:

The Treasurer's Report was read by Rick Jackson. We had \$555 income for dues and expenses of \$1500 for a down deposit for the Expo Center and \$5 bank fee. There was discussion about a possible CD, but was tabled for discussion again later,

Motion: Angel D. Seconded: Rick G Motion Carried

Report of the Committees:

Field Trips (Mark):

Mark will continue to try to line up Bolee Agates as a possible trip. Not sure what is going on with Keokuk - will get an update at the next meeting. Scheduled date is June 11 & 12. Rick G will still be checking to see if the MO State Geology Department has some suggestions for trips and a possible presentation for the show. Also will be checking on the Monet Quarry.

Spring Gem Fair:

The Gem Fair is coming up quick. Amy will contact those who volunteered to help for the committee. We will be looking for volunteers to help man the club booth for selling shirts, drinks, and encouraging new members to join.

Friday evening after the show closes (at 5PM) we will get everything secured down for the night and congregate over on the east side of the church in the playground area for burgers, dogs, sides, and fun along with an auction. Be sure to plan on attending. The committee will be asking for volunteers for bringing sides - Keith brings baked beans; Amy will bring some pasta salad; the Dorans will bring onion-less potato salad. Please check with the committee to sign up.

Oct Show:

The contracts are out for the October show. The first installment payment has been paid to the Expo Center and the ball is rolling. We are going to leave the display cases as is. Still need a couple of volunteers to sign up to help coordinate the Federation events. Amy has sent off the package to the Federation for distribution and sign-ups will start to come in. The banquet will be held Saturday night at Big Whickey's just down the street from the Expo Center. Our seating is limited to 50 so as soon as we know how many available seats are left after the Federation folks sign up, we will open paid reservations for club members. Amy would like to encourage the club to participate in the Federation events, if possible (without leaving us short-handed for the show) to see what all they do.

We are looking at a possible Friday Field trip for fossils - more to come on that. Amy would like to get someone to video the presentations at this year's show for watching at club meetings over the winter months for those who couldn't attend. We have several presentations throughout the show for the show attendees to get in on.

Programs (Jan):

May - Isaac Davis (guest speaker) on Back to the Basics: The Art of Flintknapping. This will also be a potluck (finger foods). If we have time, we will fill rock bags.

June - ?

Unfinished Business:

Nothing at this time

New Business:

No new business

Closing:

Next Board Meeting: Monday, May 23 at 5:30PM

Next Member Meeting: Monday, May 23 at 6:30PM

Closed:

6:30PM

Motion: Rick J Seconded: Jeff M Motion Carried

Amy Hinkler - provided minutes



Membership Meeting

April 25, 2022

Call to Order:

6:37PM

Report of the Treasurer:

The Treasurer's Report was read by Rick Jackson. Income was \$555 in dues and Expenses were \$1500 for Expo Center down payment and \$5 bank fee.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented:

Motion: Lisa B. Seconded: Angela R. Motion Carried

Report of the Committees:

Amy read a thank you card to the club from Rick Jackson for everyone's thoughtfulness to him and the family on the passing of his wife. The card is still available for reading in the club room.

Field Trips (Mark):

Lisa Baker updated the club on the great work she's done arranging some new places to hunt Keokuk Geodes. The Field Trip will be Jun 11-12 - the 11th at the Amish site and 12th at Coopers. She must have at least a group of 10 committed to go to be able to access these sites. There is camping available at Hickory Haven or local hotels. \$25 per 5 gallon bucket.

Spring Gem Fair:

The spring fair will be looking for volunteers for the club booth to sell t-shirts, drinks, and encourage people to join us at the club. See one of our committee members (Angela Richie, Bill Ernst, Mike Prugger, or Ken Sexton) to sign up.

Oct Show:

We will not be doing any work to the display cases for the fall show.

Amy would like 2 people to volunteer to help coordinate the Federations events at the show. Someone to assist in guiding the group to the meeting room, grouping for the field trip (we already have field trip volunteers), guiding them to lunch in from delivery during their meeting, guiding them to the display cases if any are interested in showing a display, etc. Easy work, I just need someone who is free during the show to help coordinate.

Programs (Jan):

May - Isaac Davis (guest speaker) on Back to the Basics: The Art of Flintknapping. This will also be a club fun event with potluck (finger foods) so strap on your apron and bring on of your favorite finger foods to share with the group. If we have time, we will fill rock bags

June - ?

Unfinished Business:

Snow Globe class May 7th in the club rook at 2:00PM. Cost for materials is \$10. Must be a club member.

The church is also having a clean-up day on May 7th starting at 8:00AM and running until about 2:00PM. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

New Business:

Angel will have t-shirts and be accepting payment at the May meeting.

Closing:

Next Board Meeting: Monday, May 23 at 5:30PM

Next Member Meeting: Monday, May 23 at 6:30PM

Closed:

8:30PM

Motion: Keith S Seconded: Angela R Motion Carried

Amy Hinker - provided minutes

President's Message

Our spring gem show is quickly approaching! We have had a lot of interest this year so hopefully we will pull a great turn out. A big thank you to Angela Richie, Bill Ernst, Mike Prugger and Ken Sexton for volunteering for the Fair Committee!! We will be asking for volunteers for night security watch, club booth participants and volunteers for sides for the bar-b-que Friday night. Please contact a committee member if you can help in one or more of the above. It's a fun time and a lot more relaxed than the fall show so come on out and support your club. The Gem Fair is June 3rd and 4th from 9 to 5 both days.

We also have an exciting field trip coming up that Lisa Baker has been working hard at securing some great locations for Keokuk geodes. That trip is one week after the Gem Fair, June 11th and 12th. Come to the meeting this month to get more information on this trip.

We have a guest speaker this month, Isaac Davis, on Back to the Basics - the Art of Flintknapping. We are excited to hear this presentation. Directly following, we will have a potluck with finger foods so be sure to bring a pot luck dish to share of your favorite finger foods. If we have time afterwards, we may fill rock bags.

All that fun stuff being said, I've already had my first tick for the year so be sure if you're going out to protect yourself with a good insect repellent. I know everything has its place in this world, but those things are creepy! Ugh! Sunscreen too. You all know I'm a big proponent of protecting your skin from the sun. Cutting cancer out in the future is no fun, trust me.

Hoping to see everyone this month for the meeting but Covid is making another round in the area again so if you are not feeling well or have been around someone with symptoms, please pass the meeting. We will miss you but not think any less of you.

Amy

Special Requests

As always, please remember if you have extra rocks, minerals, or small fossils, you can donate them to the October Show's kid's corner activities (need to fit in the space of an egg in the egg crate). Throughout the year, gather smaller pieces for the kid's corner, so we can keep this treasure hunt going. If everyone collects 10 or more per rock trip and donates them, we can have 50 or more to put into the stock for the kids. We need about 200 every year. There are a lot of kids that come to our show looking forward to the events in the Kid's Corner, so let's not let them down.

Bruce Doran asked that we recognize Mandy Urban for her help in getting the library cataloged. Thank you very much Mandy!

Upcoming Shows Near Us

6/3 - 6/4: Springfield's Rock & Gem Fair. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 815 E. Farm Rd. 182, Springfield, MO. Fri 9-5, Sat 9-5. <https://ogms.rocks/>
6/3 - 6/5: State Line Gem & Mineral Society. Fulton County Fairgrounds, 8514 SR 108, Wauseon, OH. Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4. statelinegms.com
6/4-6/5: Coulee Rock Club of La Crosse Wisconsin. Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4.
6/11 - 6/12: Mid-Ohio Mineral & Fossil Group. Richland County Fairgrounds, Fair Haven Hall, 750 North Home Rd, Mansfield, OH. rrls.webs.com
6/24 - 6/26: Osage Rock and Mineral Club. Eldon Community Center, 309 E 2nd St, 14354 Hwy 64, Eldon, MO. Fri 2-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 9-3.
6/24 - 6/26: Shows of Integrity. KCI Expo Center, 11730 N W Ambassador Dr, Kansas City, MO. Fri 10-5, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. www.showsofintegrity.com
6/24 - 6/26: Lawrence County Rock Club. Lawrence County Fairground, Hwy 50, Bedford, Indiana. Fri 10-6, Sat 9-6:30 Sun 10-4. lawrencecountyrockclub.org

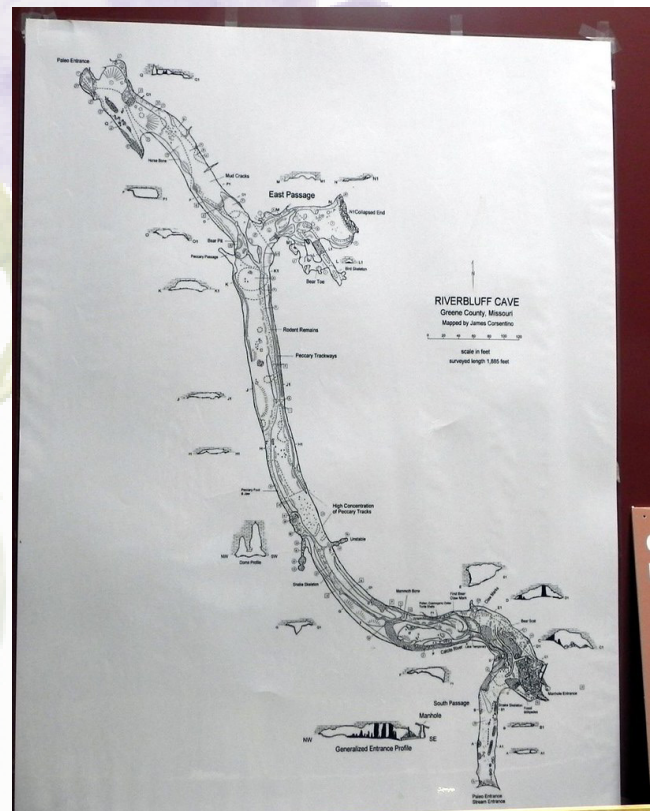
Riverbluff Cave

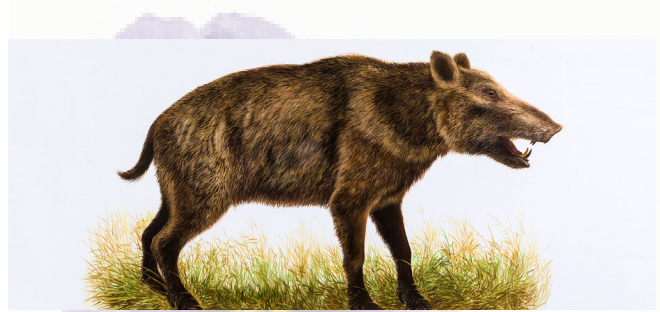
Since the club used to meet out at the Missouri Institute of Natural Science, many of you are already aware of why it was built. I recently started volunteering out there and didn't know the history behind it, so I thought I would share with those of us who are newer to the club.

On September 11, 2001, road construction crews had set charges to blast a new road (Cox Rd aka S Farm Rd 141) south of Springfield near James River. Before they could set the first ones off, the terrible events in New York City and Washington D.C. prompted a nation-wide ban on blasting. Since the charges were already in place and both leaving them there and attempting to take them out would be extremely dangerous, the crew was able to get special permission to set them off.

The blast opened up a hole in the ground that lead to a cave system full of fossils, claw marks, and tracks. To protect the untouched cave, the county covered the entrance and built an airlock to both guard against intruders and protect the cave from air, heat, and moisture.

Dating techniques determined the cave to be the oldest known Ice Age fossil cave in North America, having been used from about 830,000-55,000 years ago (this is a good 35,000+ years before humans probably reached North America, though they did exist on other continents).





Evidence of short-faced bears (thought to be the largest carnivores to ever live in North America), American lions, Armbruster's wolves, steppe mammoths, peccary, turtles, snakes, and small rodents have been found so far.

The cave is an invaluable research tool. For instance, peccary were thought to only have been dragged into caves as prey, but the peccary tracks clearly show a herd using a cave as shelter. The steppe mammoth bones were found in a layer of gray-colored rock thought to be from ash the last Yellowstone supervolcano explosion (640,000 years ago). Since mammoths aren't thought to have lived in caves, it's assumed they were trying to escape the asgh. There are also a plethora of animal dung that provide extensive information about what life was like then.

The cave is not open to the public. Only a very small portion of it has been excavated. The intention is to preserve it for many future generations to research, with the hope that technological advances will allow us to learn more from it than we can today.

Recognition of how important the discovery of the cave was, prompted the acquisition of ~50 acres of land around the cave for the purpose of preserving and protecting it. In 2003, the Missouri Institute of Natural Science was formed with the intention of creating a natural history museum. The Institute has installed a live broadcast fiber optic cable system in the cave, constructed an office, geologic library, and lab facility (November 2005) and the natural history museum (May 2009).

The museum not only contains items excavated from the cave, but numerous rock, mineral, and fossil specimens (many donated by members of our club - Charlie and Jan Smith also donated the wooden display cases), and the partial skeleton of the world's largest known Triceratops, Henry (excavated in Wyoming).

The museum is free and has one of the best places in the area to collect fossils. The top of the cave is covered in fossiliferous limestone with hundreds of thousands crinoid pieces in the limestone and covering the ground. The occassional brachipod or blastoid has also been found.

Angel D

Sources:

Riverbluff Cave <http://www.riverbluffcave.com/>

Missouri Institute of Natural Science <https://www.monatsci.org/>

Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riverbluff_Cave



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