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## Tomb discovered in Valley of the Kings by research team from the University of Memphis Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology

**UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS:** On February 9, 2006, the Supreme Council of Antiquities of Egypt announced the discovery of a new tomb in the Valley of the Kings. This tomb, designated KV 63, was found by a mission of the University of Memphis' Institute of Egyptian Art & Archaeology working in collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

The new tomb was discovered in the Valley of the Kings by a project focused on preserving and recording a tomb originally made for King Amenmesse (KV 10), but actually used for the burials of two queens, Takhet and Baketwerel. Work on the Amenmesse Tomb Project (KV 10) was begun by Dr. Otto Schaden, in collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities, in the early 1990s. In 1995 the project joined the Institute of Egyptian Art & Archaeology of the University of Memphis.

The entrance to the new tomb is located just to the east of the entrance to the tomb of Amenmesse (KV 10) and about 25 meters south of the tomb of Tutankhamon (KV 62). The tomb consists of a vertical shaft and a chamber directly adjacent to the shaft. The burial chamber holds seven wooden anthropoid ("human-shaped") coffins with painted faces, about twenty pottery jars, and other materials that will come to light as the clearing of the tomb progresses.<sup>01</sup>



**Inside the burial chamber of KV 63**

Image courtesy of LH Corcoran

Visible through a small opening in the blocks were seven intact anthropoid sarcophagi wearing colored funerary masks and a large number of large storage jars. The sarcophagi contain mummies that date to the 18th dynasty, which for an unknown reason they were buried rapidly in the small tomb. Eight pits have also been located and archaeologists have suggested

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## President's Corner WC McDANIEL

June deadlines arrived quicker than the summer heat. As a result, a more detailed report on the show will be presented next month. However, deadlines or no deadlines, MAGS continues to surge onward. One of those surges, membership meetings, is the focus of some news and requests.

MAGS has signed a new lease agreement with the church. The agreement doubles our monthly rent and requires us to clean up afterwards. We were aware of the pending rate increase and had budgeted for it in 2006. This was our first increase since moving our meetings to the church in 2000. A new wrinkle, or rather a return to what we used to do, is that we will need to clean up and organize the room at the conclusion of the meeting.

Each MAGS' member can help out in a couple of ways. Before you leave, return your chair (s) to the chair stacks and help fold and return tables to the racks. In addition, members have gotten a little messy with your drinks and food. So, when you finish, please discard them in the proper place.

A special appeal to the juniors and their parents. Recently there has been an increase in "horse play" during meetings. I would like to request that energy be focused on the club events and activities occurring during meetings.

Now, move beyond the meeting news, gripes and needs and focus on the really good things. MAGS' meetings are like a rock concert. You have to flicker the lights to get people to leave. Our meetings have been averaging around 70 people. The adult and youth programs have been very good, displays have been good and we continue to attract visitors who leave as prospective members. So keep up the support and good work.

WC McDaniel

## 2006 dates to remember

	<b>Board Meeting</b>	<b>Membership Meeting</b>	<b>Due Date for Newsletter Articles</b>
June	1	9	-
July	6	14	June 23
August	3	11	July 22
September	08/31	8	August 25
October	5	13	September 23

# Announcements

## We have a new co-editor

WC McDANIEL: Shelby Hartman has been named Co-Editor of the MAGS Rockhound News. Beginning in July she will assume the primary responsibility of publishing and distributing our newsletter. Many thanks to Shelby for volunteering to take these duties. Mike Baldwin will continue as Editor and devote much of his time to redesigning and maintaining our Web site. The newsletter and Web site are our two primary communication tools to members and our link to the world. These developments and activities will add to our ability to meet the needs of our members and the general public.

## MAGS Explorer youth newsletter is active

MIKE BALDWIN: Thanks to Sherida Helms for volunteering to be the youth newsletter editor. She published her first issue in May. Hardcopies of the newsletter are distributed to the youth on meeting night, but you can access the newsletter through the MAGS Web site.

## Two great field trips coming up

LOU WHITE: Mark your calendars for the June and July field trips. Saturday, June 17 is the date for our Crowley's Ridge, Arkansas trip to collect agates, petrified wood, fossils and selenite. Crowley's Ridge is located about an hour west of Memphis. On Saturday, July 22 we will travel to Frankstown Fossil Park in Mississippi to search for sharks' teeth and other fossils in 20-Mile Creek.

# June Roadcut

WC McDANIEL: Roadcut ran into a mental roadblock this month. So I went to checkout my rock bag to see if any subject would pop into view. It did. I had geodes from the Pharris Farm in Middle Tennessee, agates from Nonconnah Creek and petrified wood from Mississippi. The common denominator, beyond their generic name, was that have no identifying name. They are rocks with an identity crisis and we need to help them.

- Geodes – The geodes from the Pharris farm have a distinct shape, the interior crystal formations are robust and when the iron stains are removed the color is a sparkling white. Geodes this pretty deserve a name. I would like to propose they be called “Nameless Geodes.” Nameless is the name of town in the vicinity. It received its name due to the inability of the local folks to decide on a name.
- Agates – Throughout the gravel bars and pits of the south a fortification agate is found in abundance. They have been called Banded Agate, River Agate, Mississippi Agate, Louisiana Agate, Potosi Agate, Alabama Agate and Crowley Ridge Agate. I bet there are some other names floating around out there. The common denominator is that they are all found in the middle southern region of the country. I propose they be called “Mid-South Agates.”
- Petrified wood – Petrified wood is fairly common and found in multiple locations in the south. This makes it more difficult to come up with a single identifying name. It is generally found in or near water, colors are usually earth tones, lacking bold colors, and the texture/surface resemble real wood more than some other petrified wood. I propose that we refer to it as “Dixie petrified wood.”

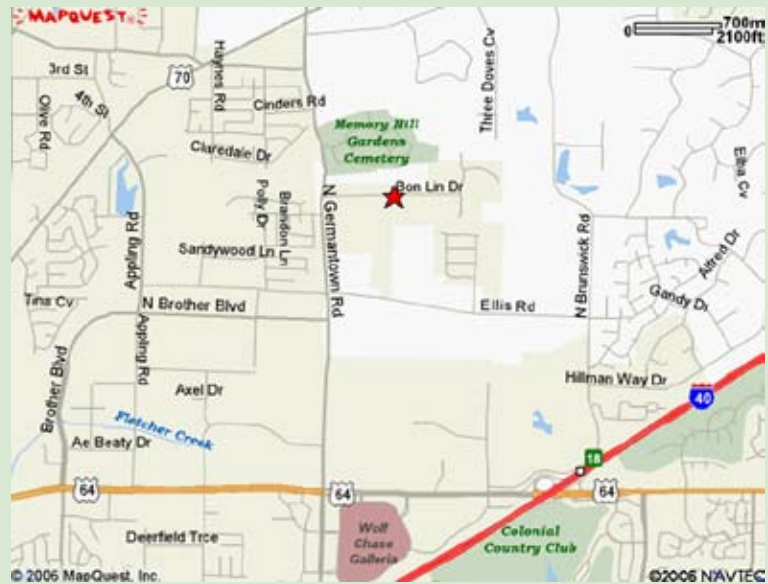
# June program, geode crack and swap

IDAJEAN JORDAN: The June 9 adult program will be a presentation on the Mining Cycle by Alan Parks. He will discuss the five principle phases of mining: exploration, planning, mining, processing and reclamation. The discussion will highlight how our economy is dependent on mining with an emphasis on construction aggregate. We will see photographs showing the types of equipment used in modern mining, including the largest excavator ever built. Alan will also discuss the local geology as it applies to our local natural mineral resources. The June meeting will feature a Geode Crack and Swap Roundup. We will have two geode crackers in operation. so bring your geodes to be cracked or to sell/swap. Also bring those geodes to show off and display. You will be given complete field trip information for Crowley's Ridge at the June meeting. Sign up sheets for this field trip will be available at that time.

# June rock swap at the home of Melba Cole

**SHERRI BALDWIN:** Mark your calendar for June 10. The second MAGS rock swap of 2006 will be under the backyard trees at the home of Melba Cole, 8280 Bon Lin Drive, Memphis, TN. The fun begins at 10:00 am and lasts until 2:00 pm. MAGS will provide the meat, condiments, paper plates and cutlery, but you will need to bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert (enough to feed your family and some to share with the rest of the group), enough drinks and lawn chairs for your family. If you plan to sell or trade at the swap, you need to bring a table and things to sell. Even if you don't sell, you can still buy. There will be a wide variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, and other goodies to choose from. If you need help finding Melba's place, please refer to this map. If you get lost, call Melba at 901-382-0344. You can park in the drive and on the street.

To get to 8280 Bon Lin Drive from Memphis, take I-40 toward Nashville, exit at Hwy 64. Turn west on 64, then north on North Germantown Road. Turn right on Bon Lin. From Germantown, take Germantown Parkway north past Wolf Chase Mall. Continue north on North Germantown Road, then turn right on Bon Lin. From points east, take I-40 to US Hwy 64. Turn west on 64, continue past Wolf Chase Mall, turn right on North Germantown Road, then right on Bon Lin.



# May rock swap well-attended and fun

**SHERRI BALDWIN:** 28 MAGS members and guests attended the first rock swap of the year. Thanks again to Jimmy and Hisami O'Neil for hosting the event at their home. Those in attendance were: Nancy Folden, Idajean Jordan, WC McDaniel, Cornelia McDaniel, James Butchko, Sherida Helms, David Helms Rhena South, Sherri Baldwin, Kelly Baldwin, Susan Thom, David McAlister, David Day, Rosie Crawford, Jimmy O'Neil, Hisami O'Neil, Barbara Reed, Dan Reed, Evelyn Carrico, Tom Miller, Kathryn Miller, Steve Hadju, Doris Jones, David Johnston (brother to Doris Jones) and Sandy, Kelly, Andrew, & Kevin. We all had a great time. Here are just a few pictures from the swap.

*Pictures by Kelly Baldwin*



## June birthdays

**CORNELIA McDANIEL:** Birthstone for June is Pearl.

- 3 Bruce Henry
- 5 Allen Thom
- 7 Edward DeVoe
- 10 Kristopher Helms
- 13 Sherri McCalla
- 16 Lisa Parks
- 16 Ann Williams
- 17 Don Givens
- 18 Debbie Schaeffer
- 19 Norman Daniels
- 19 Dan Reed
- 20 Melissa Johnston
- 20 Vivian Sharpe**
- 21 Allen Helt
- 25 Doris Johnston Jones
- 25 Michael Scilken
- 29 Jennifer Baldwin
- 29 Cornelia McDaniel
- 30 Danielle Schaeffer
- 30 Lauren Schaeffer

Bold type indicates lifetime members.

**Pearl:** Pearls are very different from most other precious gems, for several reasons. They are formed in oyster shells and harvested from the sea. A foreign particle (usually a grain of sand) in the lining of an oyster's shell causes it to secrete a calcium substance that coats the particle over and over, forming a pearl. Pearls do not need to be polished like other gems – they are naturally lustrous. Since pearls are much softer than minerals, they need to be handled carefully so as not to be scratched. Most natural pearls are found in the waters around the Middle East and Asia.

## New members

MAGS welcomes two new families. Please take a minute or two and add them to your 2006 directory.

**Evelyn Carrico** • 15085 Catalpa Road,  
Olive Branch, MS 38654  
ecmemphis@hotmail.com

**Frank and Gayden Schwartz**  
315 Lower Lake, Forrest City, AR 72335  
schwartz@cablelynx.com

## Contributions to the Roger Van Cleef Educational Fund

**CORNELIA McDANIEL:** Thank you to the following members for your thoughtful and generous donations to the Roger Van Cleef Educational Fund.

Nancy Folden  
Susan and Alan Thom  
George and Rhena Everett

## Web site statistics for May 2006

**MIKE BALDWIN:** Here's a brief look at our web site [www.memphisgeology.org] 01.21.02 through 05.28.06:

Visits.....	141,307
Hits .....	566,467 Hits
Average visits/day in past 30 days.....	427
Top pages in the past 30 days:	
homepage .....	783 hits
Explorer0203.pdf.....	657 hits
argon2003.pdf.....	577 hits
Explorer0604.pdf.....	549 hits
Explorer0403.pdf.....	531 hits
rocknews1002.pdf.....	413 hits
rocknews0506.pdf.....	385 hits

*A visit is every time someone comes to our web site. A hit is every page viewed once a user enters our web site.*

## Missouri update

**WC McDANIEL:** I trust everyone made it home safely from our four-day Memorial weekend adventure to Missouri. Now you can begin to enjoy your finds and buys from the weekend. Jim Hill, one of our hosts for the weekend, stated that the MAGS folks were the nicest people he had met. He was also very impressed with the juniors and their knowledge of and interest in rocks. Here's a quick trip recap.

- 33 MAGS members made the trip
- 5 collecting trips
- many trips to the glass dump
- picnic on the church grounds
- trip to the Mineral Museum
- sale at Jim's was super and MAGS members' checkbooks took a big hit

## Indonesian volcano shows increased activity



Indonesia's Mount Merapi volcano, located near the epicenter of a strong Memorial weekend earthquake, showed increased activity on Monday, May 29, belching lava and heat clouds and sending 78 lava trails running one mile down its slopes. Authorities declared a code red alert for the simmering volcano earlier this month, forcing the evacuation of thousands of villagers living on its slopes.

The volcano, one of the world's most active, lies 35 kilometers to the north of Yogyakarta, the main city hit by the May 27, 2006 earthquake, which killed nearly 5,000 people. Source: <http://www.terradaily.com/>

# June DMC Field Trip

The DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

Presents An Official Field Trip of:

the Forsyth County Gem and Mineral Club, Winston-Salem, NC (Host)  
and the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

**8:00 AM (Eastern time) until noon • Saturday, June 10, 2006**

**Vulcan Materials Company's Morganton Quarry, Morganton, NC**

Children over 12 years old can attend if supervised closely by parent or guardian. Children must wear appropriate safety gear. No pets allowed.

Contact Jim Stroud, if you have any questions concerning the fieldtrip.  
phone: 336-744-2940 or e-mail address: [stroudj@vmcmail.com](mailto:stroudj@vmcmail.com)

**COLLECTING:** This quarry has several rock types, which include augen gneiss, chlorite biotite gneiss, amphibolite, and pegmatite. The following collectable minerals have been found at this location: garnet, golden beryl, black tourmaline, apatite, sphene, feldspar, biotite and muscovite books, and siderite. The majority of these minerals are found in the pegmatite zones. Garnets are almandine variety and have been found up to silver dollar size. However, the majority of them are 1/8" to 1/4" in diameter imbedded in the pegmatite.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** This is an operating mine. All persons attending the fieldtrip will be required to sign a hold harmless agreement, take 15 minute hazardous training, and wear the required safety gear at all times. This includes a hard hat, safety glasses, and steel-toed boots. We will meet at the quarry office at 8 a.m., sign releases, receive instructions on boundaries and safety, and be lead into the collecting area. We must leave the quarry by 12 noon! In addition, all persons are asked to stay away from the quarry walls. There is plenty of material loose on the quarry floor. **VEHICLES WILL BE PERMITTED INSIDE THE QUARRY ON THIS TRIP** and parked until leaving. Bring hard hat, safety glasses, rock hammer, and something to carry and wrap samples.

**MAGS members:** If you plan to attend this field trip and need drivign instructions to the meeting place, please contact Mike Baldwin at 901-853-3603 or email [rockclub@earthlink.net](mailto:rockclub@earthlink.net).

*Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!*

*DMC Program/SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose: To collect field trip information from it's member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.*

# SFMS Shows

**June 3-4, 2006 • Birmingham, AL - Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society. 33rd Annual Tannehill Gem and Mineral Show.** From Birmingham: Take I-20/59S. To Exit 100. From I-450: Take Exit 1 and follow the signs. Hours: Both days, 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Rick Kittinger at [rick.kittinger@bellsouth.com](mailto:rick.kittinger@bellsouth.com).

**June 3-4, 2006 • Marion, KY - Clement Mineral Museum Show.** Foh's Hall, 205 N. Walker Street; dealers, collecting trips to fluorite and zinc mines (fee), fundraising auction, museum tours.

**June 9-11, 2006 • Charlotte, NC - Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club. 39th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral Show and Sale.** 2500 E. Independence Boulevard. Hours: 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 10th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; 11th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Jolene Falcon (Show Chair), 704.855.9815, [gemtrips@ctc.net](mailto:gemtrips@ctc.net). Website: [www.CharlotteGem.com](http://www.CharlotteGem.com).

**June 10, 2006 • Cartersville, GA - Weinman Mineral Museum RockFest.** Saturday 10-5.

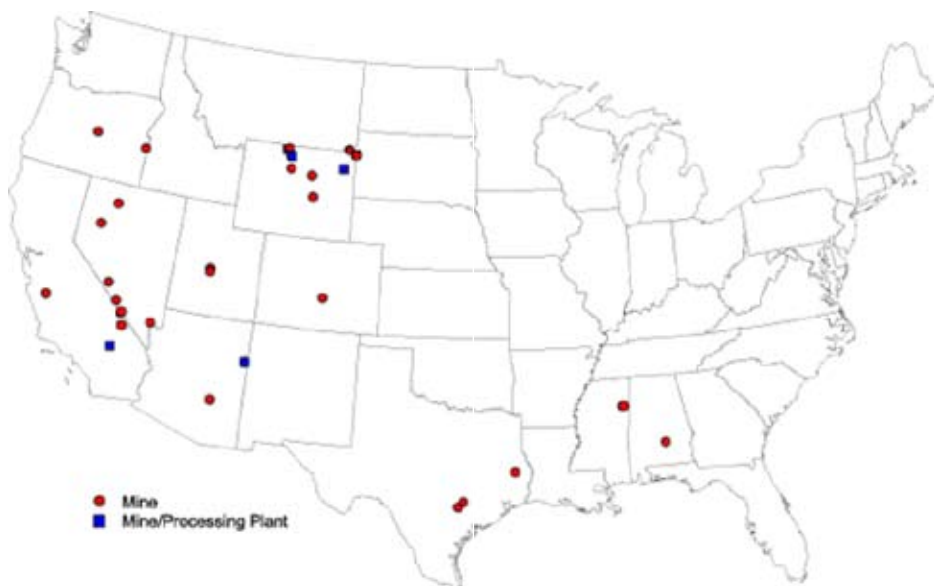
**September 8-10, 2006 • Winston-Salem, NC - Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club. 35th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Show and Sale.** Educational Building, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds. Hours: 8th and 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; 10th, 12 Noon - 6:00 P.M. Website: [www.forsyth-gemclub.com](http://www.forsyth-gemclub.com).

**September 23-24, 2006 • Hiddenite, NC - Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society. 18th Annual Hiddenite Gem & Mineral Show.** Hiddenite Educational Complex, Sulpher Springs Road. Hours: 23rd, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 24th, 12 Noon - 6:00 P.M. Contact: Patty Arnold at 828.465.2769.

# Bentonite production rising in the United States

Earth Science News: Sunday, May 21, 2006: Bentonite production is rising rapidly at many locations in the United States. High fuel prices are driving extensive exploration for oil, natural gas and coal-bed methane. All of this drilling requires the use of bentonite as a drilling mud. This high density mud is circulated down the well bore to cool the drilling tools and deliver cuttings to the surface.

In addition, more and more people are choosing to keep pets indoors and this activity drives the demand for pet waste absorbents - bentonite can absorb water equivalent to several times its weight. Although drilling muds and pet waste absorbents are the two main uses for bentonite it is also used in a wide variety of applications. These include: foundry sand; iron ore pelletizing; sealing and waterproofing; clarifying, decolorizing, and filtering liquids; animal feed and cosmetics.



Resource: [Bentonite In Demand for Drilling Mud and Pet Waste Absorbents](#); Earth Science News: Sunday, May 21, 2006; Earth Science Current Events: Geology News; <http://geology.com/news/> Accessed 05.29.2006. Image by USGS. Information used for educational purposes under the provisions of the Fair Use Act of 1976.

# Free Arkansas Thermal Springs Publication

Earth Science News: Wednesday, May 17, 2006: The United States Geological Survey has released a new publication: "Characteristics of Thermal Springs and the Shallow Ground-Water System at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas". This report summarizes the geology, history and value of these thermal springs and is free to download from the USGS website.

The thermal springs emerge from a gap between Hot Spring Mountain and West Mountain in central Arkansas and are fed by deep thermal ground water flow along with a component of cold, shallow water. They yield over 500,000 gallons per day of water that is approximately 60 degrees Celsius. The water begins as surface recharge and descends to a depth

of over one mile where it is heated before rising back to the surface through a deep fracture system.

The research undertaken to produce this report was done to understand the springs, monitor changes, and evaluate the ground water system that supports the springs. This information is important for protecting the springs and preserving them for future use.

Resource: Free Thermal Springs Publication from USGS; Earth Science News: Wednesday, May 17, 2006; Earth Science Current Events: Geology News; <http://geology.com/news/> Accessed 05.29.2006. Image by USGS. Information used for educational purposes under the provisions of the Fair Use Act of 1976.



## April 2006 Board Meeting Notes

**SUSANTHOM:** The MAGS board of directors meeting met on April 6, 2006 at the Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue, presided by WC McDaniel who opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. In attendance were: Mike and Sherri Baldwin, James Burchko, Melba Cole, Nancy Folden, Sherida Helms, Idajejan Jordan, WC and Cornelia McDaniel, Park and Terri Noyes, Raynee Randolph, Susan Thom and Lou White. (01) Treasurer's Report by Cornelia McDaniel. No news on church rent going up. (02) Membership Report by Cornelia McDaniel: The club has surpassed our membership renewals from last year. Only eighteen unrenewed memberships. We have had a low compliance of members to sign waiver form. (03) Field Trips Report by Lou White. In April we're going to Sugar Creek near Millington and possibly Richardson's Landing. (04) Adult Programs presented by Idajejan Jordan. Representative from the University of Memphis Earthquake Center is not available for this meeting. Lou White will give a program on Civil War artifacts. Future programs include east coast earthquakes, the Pacific ring of fire and Biblical archaeology. Vivianite has been discovered in Nonconnah Creek. This is a new mineral for Tennessee. (5) Youth Programs presented by Raynee Randolph. Awards will be presented in April. They will get an idea of what it is like to be an old-time miner with pack mules in April, followed by a dry sluice in May. They will learn about different types of mines in June. A field trip for July is in the works. (6) Library Report presented by Nancy Folden. "The Fossil Book: A Record of Prehistoric Life" added to the library in memory of Roger Van Cleef. Three Tennessee Department of Environment

and Conservation, Division of Geology bulletins have been placed in the library. (7) Web/Editor Report presented by Mike Baldwin. Directories are ready to print. Cornelia is proofing it. Of 132 memberships, only 41 do not have an email address. Directories will be emailed to members with email address. Hard copies will be provided to members without email. Over half the cost of printing and mailing will be eliminated by this process. The Web Site is being revised. (8) Sunshine Report presented by Melba Cole. Rena Everett is recovering in the hospital. Dick McKitrick fell-no broken bones. (9) Membership Applications for Shelby Hartman, David Carter, Bob Dorrough, and Kelly and John Gary. Honorary membership for Bill Prior (March speaker). (11) Show Committee Report presented by James Butchko. Postcards mailed. We need to put out posters. Give out admission cards. Don't forget to sign them. Still need RockZone and Rocks Around the Clock workers. Two dealers cancelled due to sickness. Those spots will be filled. (12) New business: (a) Thank you note from Harrison Co. Gem and Mineral Society, to whom we donated money to help rebuild their program after Katrina; (b) MAGS to send president to AFMS business meeting and Mike Baldwin to web/editor workshop at AFMS Convention; (c) we have an opportunity to purchase a 18.5 x 24.5 inch Arizona petrified wood and donate it to the Memphis Botanical Gardens for the Prehistoric plant/fossil trail; (d) MAGS to give landowners who grant us permission to collect on their property a monetary gift; (e) Financial assessment committee appointed to study MAGS finances and discuss at the May meeting.

## April 2006 Membership Meeting Notes

**SUSANTHOM:** The MAGS membership meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on April 14, 2006, presided by W.C. McDaniel. There were 66 members and 9 visitors: Madeline Day, Keith and Judy Gary, Linda Hendrix, Kim Prudhomme, Mike Smothers, Graydon Swisher, Dr. Shawn Tummelapaki and Sophie (no last name given). (1) Show update. Volunteers needed. Pick up show tickets, flyers and cards. Need dinner commitments by Friday. We will have BBQ catered by Leonards, but we need members to bring salads and desserts. Robert Enzerink's picture of our Rock Table was featured in The Downtowner Magazine and the Commercial Appeal. (2) New style MAGS t-shirts are available. (3) Field trip tomorrow to Sugar Creek. (4) Junior program tonight will be mining and singing lessons. Junior awards presented tonight to Kristopher Helms, Serena Enzerink, Karen Schaeffer, Zach Faddis, Danielle Schaeffer, Lauren Schaeffer, Charlie Thomas, Harrison Parks, Taylor Faddis, and Hunter Hill. (5) Directories are available for members without email. Advantage of email directory is that members will receive updated directories quarterly. Notify Mike Baldwin of corrections. Next email directory will be July. (6) Rena Everett is recovering. (7) Rock swap on May 13, 2006 will be at Jim and Hisami McNeil's. (8) Proposed by-law changes concerning membership (family membership) and officers (Treasurer) were adopted. (9) Lou White presented program on Civil War artifacts, with an interesting display of his collection from this area. (10) Door prize winners—Barry Burns and Cecil Perkins (members) and Linda Hendrix and Madeline Day (visitors); Adult display winner—Sherri Baldwin; Youth display winner—Charlie Thomas; Door Prize Question winner—Rachael Griffin.

# Tomb discovered in Valley of the Kings *continued from page one*

that they are stairs used by ancient Egyptians to enter and exit the tomb.<sup>02</sup>

According to Dr. Lorelei Corcoran, Director of the Institute of Egyptian Art & Archaeology and member of the team, “We do not know as yet the names, titles or status of the individuals who may have been buried there ... and will not know ... until we can examine and analyze the material thoroughly.”<sup>01</sup>

The tomb, believed to be some 3,000 years old, the time of the 18th dynasty, does not appear to be that of a pharaoh, said Edwin Brock, co-director of the team from the University of Memphis, that discovered the site.

“I don’t think it’s a royal tomb, maybe members of the court,” he told the Associated Press. “Contemporaries of Tutankhamun are possible—or of Amun-hotep III [also called Amenophis III] or even Horemheb.”

Egypt’s antiquities chief, Zahi Hawass, said, “Maybe they are mummies of

kings or queens or nobles—we don’t know. But it’s definitely someone connected to the royal family.”

At the bottom of an 11-yard-deep (10-meter-deep) pit, a narrow shaft leads down another 5.5 yards (5 meters) to the door, made of blocks of stone. A hole about a foot wide (30 centimeters wide) has been cleared from the door.

Inside the chamber—about 4.4 by 5.5 yards (4 by 5 meters)—alabaster pots, some broken, are lined up next to the sarcophagi. One of the coffins has toppled and faces the door, showing its white, painted face. Another is partially open, showing a brown cloth covering the mummy inside.<sup>03</sup>

Dr. Otto Schaden, project director and adjunct professor of the University of Memphis, has been working at the site for fourteen years, beginning with the clearance of the nearby tomb of King Amenmesse. In 2001, he discovered workmen’s huts to the west of the tomb. This season work continued on the excavation of

workmen’s huts of the 19th dynasty that lie to the east of Amenmesse. In the course of this excavation the top of a shaft was revealed that lead to a door that concealed the burial chamber containing multiple wooden, black painted, anthropoid coffins and numerous pottery vessels ... We will continue to work carefully to resolve the mysteries surrounding this tomb.”<sup>01</sup>

## Sources:

(01) “New Tomb Discovered in the Valley of the Kings”; University of Memphis Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology; <http://academics.memphis.edu/egypt/kv63.html>; February 2006; Accessed 29 May 2006.

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## Small opening in the blocks

(image at the far right) through which the artifacts of the burial tomb are visible

## Looking down into the pit

(image in the center column)

Images courtesy of LH Corcoran

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DUES: \$20 (Family); \$16 (Single); \$8 (Junior)

## JUNE 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- June 1    6:30P    MAGS Board Meeting - Blue Plate Café, 5469 Poplar Avenue
- June 9    7:30P    MAGS Membership Meeting - Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5535 Shady Grove Road • Bring displays and refreshments • Adult Program: "The Five Principle Phases of Mining" with Alan Parks plus Geode Crack and Swap Night • see page 3  
Youth Program: Mining with Raynee Randolph and Sherida Helms
- June 10    10:00    MAGS Rock Swap - at Melba Cole's • see page 4
- June 10    8:00A    DMC Field Trip - Morganton, North Carolina • see page 6
- June 17                    MAGS Field Trip - Crowley's Ridge, Arkansas • see page 3



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