MAGS and Chucalissa

Seven Decades of Collaboration   Melissa Buchner   June Program

In the early 1950s, the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society played a crucial role in the founding of Chucalissa. MAGS Members participated in excavations at the site and promoted development of the museum, working closely with the first director, C. H. Nash. In the following decades, MAGS continued to be involved with the museum in a variety of ways. This presentation will reflect on MAGS’s many invaluable contributions to the museum and update Members on what’s new and ex-

Continued, P. 3

SHOW VOLUNTEER PRIZES

Our 2019 Show was a success. Without all the help our Members gave we could not have put on such a great event. At our June Membership Meeting we will honor our volunteers. We will have our drawing for special gifts for those who signed up on SignUp Genius.

We know many of you worked more hours than were signed up for. There is one change

in the drawing rules. While we would like you all to come to the June meeting you do not have to be present to win. Winners’ names will be published in the July newsletter, and the winners will be responsible for claiming their prizes.

We appreciate our volunteers.

Carol Lybanon
MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ◇ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

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MAGS AND FEDERATION NOTES

MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Memphis, Tennessee

The objectives of this society shall be as set out in the Charter of Incorporation issued by the State of Tennessee on September 29, 1958, as follows: for the purpose of promoting an active interest in the geological finds and data by scientific methods; to offer possible assistance to any archaeologist or geologist in the general area covered by the work and purposes of this society; to discourage commercialization of archaeology and work to its elimination and to assist in the younger members of the society; to publicize and create further public interest in the archaeological and geological field in the general area of the Mid-South and conduct means of displaying, publishing and conducting public forums for scientific and educational purposes.

MAGS General Membership Meetings and MAGS Youth Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. on the second Friday of every month, year round. The meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall of Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 5530 Shady Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee.

MAGS Website: memphisgeology.org

MAGS Show Website: www.theearthiswideopen.com

We aren't kidding when we say this is a newsletter for and by the members of MAGS. An article with a byline was written by a MAGS Member, unless explicitly stated otherwise. If there is no byline, the article was written or compiled by the Editor. Please contribute articles or pictures on any subject of interest to rockhounds. If it interests you it probably interests others. The 15th of the month is the deadline for next month's issue. Send material to lybanon@earthlink.net.

June DMC Field Trip
WHERE: Thermal City Gold Mine, Union Mills, NC
WHEN: Friday, June 21, 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
COLLECTING: Gold; possibly moonstone, emerald, more
INFORMATION: Tim Barton, (828) 577-4505

Links to Federation News
AFMS: www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm
SFMS: www.amfed.org/sfms/
DMC: www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm
MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ◊ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

MAGS and Chucalissa citing at Chucalissa. If you have historic photos of MAGS Members at Chucalissa, please bring them for show and tell.

Editor’s Note: The replica house shown in the photo was built with help from MAGS volunteers.

First Of the Year
This notice appeared in last month’s MAGS Rockhound News and is reprinted here as a reminder.

June 2019 Rock Swap
Jane Coop
Cornelia and W.C. McDaniel will host the year’s first rock swap on Saturday, June 1st at 2038 Central Avenue in Midtown from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Please bring a tasty picnic type food. MAGS has the drinks and implements covered.

If you are going to sell/swap, please bring your own table.

Bring a small geologic treasure in a paper bag to swap with another Member. You get the same number of bags that you bring to swap. There may be other surprises!

Come join the fun!

June Meeting
W. C. McDaniel

While the adult program for June has been changed, we will continue with a special petrified wood display.

1. Displays: Show off your petrified wood display—wood found, bought, gifted, swap, or other means.

2. I found it: Select your best single found piece for display and Members will get to select the favorite. Special gift to the winner.

3. Petrified wood sale: Auction of several pieces.

Specimen Spotlight
WAVELLITE

Formula: Al₃(PO₄)₂(OH, F)₃·5H₂O

Color: Green to yellowish-green and yellow, greenish white, yellowish-brown, brown, brownish-black, blue, white and colorless; colorless in transmitted light.

Luster: Vitreous, Greasy, Pearly

Hardness: 3½-4

Specific Gravity: 2.36

Crystal System: Orthorhombic

Member of: Wavellite Group

Locality: Mauldin Mountain quarry, near Mt. Ida, Montgomery Co., Arkansas

There is some confusion about pronunciation of the mineral’s name. Wavellite is named for Dr. William Wavell, who discovered the mineral and brought it to the attention of the scientific community. So it is Wavell-ite (and it has nothing to do with waves).

Samples NC80327 and NC41973 in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History are wavellite specimens found in Montgomery County, Arkansas, near Mt. Ida (and NC40273 is wavellite found in Garland County, Arkansas, near Hot Springs). Wavellite is comparatively rare, but the mineral is abundant at those locations, only a few hours’ drive from Memphis.

Wavellite is a phosphate mineral that normally occurs as translucent green radial or spherical clusters. It was first described in 1805 for an occurrence at High Down, Filleigh, Devon, England. It occurs in association with cran-dallite and variscite in fractures in aluminous metamorphic rock, in hydrothermal regions, and in phosphate rock deposits. It is found in a wide variety of locations notably in the Mount Ida, Arkansas, area in the Ouachita Mountains.

The following information is extracted from Mike Howard’s “Rockhounding Arkansas” website (full details: http://rockhoundingar.com/wavellite.php).

WAVELLITE is perhaps the second best known collectable mineral in Arkansas, quartz being the first. Two specimen localities are well documented. The earliest collected site is near the community of Avant on the northeast end of Lake Ouachita in Garland County. It is called Dug Hill, because so many past collectors have pot-boiled the hillside.

The second locality

Continued, P. 4
Specimen Spotlight • Specimen Spotlight is the now abandoned Montgomery County quarry, northwest of Mount Ida some 2.5 miles. This location is also known as Mauldin Mountain. When operational in the 1980s and early 1990s, spectacular apple-green to yellow-green waveellite specimens, ranging up to cabinet size, were recovered by local collectors.

The first picture shows waveellite from the Avant mine. The second picture shows the specimen that is the subject of this article—collected at the Mauldin Mountain quarry during an October 2017 MAGS field trip to Mt. Ida.

Web Tip: Fossil Locations

A handy website contains a wealth of information about fossil collecting sites in the U.S. and Canada. Links to entries are arranged by state or (Canadian) province. For example, the page for Tennessee lists 98 sites. Information provided is location, county, state/province, age, geologic formation, fossils found there, geographic coordinates, and more. Fossils at sites are generally listed by genus. There are provisions for downloading information.

MAGSters and friends can find this useful resource at http://fossilspot.com/.

Field Trip Reports

Kim Hill

Hey Youuu Guuuyyyss! If you missed the Missouri Trip the first of May you missed another great trip. Pretty sure everyone found plenty of pretties. I know I did!

My husband Richard, my friend Anne, and I drove up on Friday to our first destination, Viburnum, Missouri, where we were to hunt for beautiful druzy quartz and calcite. Even smoky druzy quartz; you may find them together and it is a great place for yard rocks—large yard rocks.

Despite having three different methods of directions—GPS, computer printout, and our phones—we seemed to be trapped in some lost time zone, because it felt like it took forever to get there. The last part of the trip included many short sharp hills... errr, never mind that part (urp!).

We did eventually arrive and had a nice quiet evening in our room while it rained outside. I had watched the weather forecast for the last six days and it pretty much changed every day, and again changed this day. Rain doesn’t stop us from hunting but the next day did end up dry and beautiful.

We had arrived too late to eat at the hotel’s restaurant so we had dinner in our room, bought at a local convenience store. I had chicken noodle soup to Richard’s sub sandwich and Anne’s chili fries.

Saturday dawned foggy and misty wet. I know because my roommates were up at the crack of dawn. I am not a morning person. Being field trip director I get to schedule the meeting times and if I can I don’t schedule them at the crack of dawn.

After we all gathered at our meeting place, at a reasonable time of 9:30, we followed our guide, friend, and MAGS Member James Johnson to the first site of the day.

On our first trip to Viburnum my husband insisted on bringing his Altima, not my little truck PickemUp. He was on pins and needles the whole time because his car bottoms out on our driveway. These roads were worse. He also kept talking about weight limits; “We have to watch the weight limit,” he kept repeating. I had every pocket nook and boot filled up, he discovered when we got home and started unpacking.

This trip we brought my new truck, Lil Blue. We also brought my friend Anne, who is as rock-happy as I am. Again hubby kept mumbling about weight limits.

We hit the first site. There wasn’t as much exposed this time but I still almost filled up all my buckets—almost, I
2019 MAGS Show

The 2019 Memphis Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show is history. Thanks to your help, it was a great success. Here are a few pictures to help you remember it.
said. I had plenty of crates and nooks and crannies to put rocks in.

At the second site, at first I couldn’t see anything in the thick red dirt, but once we got out of our vehicles you could see beautiful blue smoky druzy all over the hillside. Found small pieces, large plates, and neat globes of druzy. Hubby stepped out of truck, looked down, and actually found two pieces of pyrite. Again Anne and I filled up a lot of buckets. We knew there would have to be some serious repacking to get everything to fit, like our luggage.

The third site didn’t produce as many pieces but what I found I was pleased with. Even if I hadn’t found anything what I got to see was well worth the trip. I clambered over to one of the walls at this site hoping a pocket would show itself; none did for me. James, however, couldn’t take a step without finding one. 😁

There were a number of holes I could peer into, one big enough to climb in. Inside the holes I could see beautiful druzy covering the walls along with calcite. It was an awesome site. There was just no way short of a jack hammer to get the stuff out. I know, I tried hard. I am so grateful that I got to see it, am so fascinated with Earth’s buried treasures.

After we finished up at the last site we caravanned over to a friend of James who has specimens for sale. Most of the collection he had this time was already sold but we got a chance to see some outstanding pieces worth several thousand dollars!

After leaving there we drove onto our next destination: Eminence, Missouri. We rented a nice little cabin style room and had dinner at the local Mexican restaurant that was celebrating Cinco de Mayo. We were pretty tired from our awesome day in Viburnum so we headed back to the room early to get some good sleep.

Sunday morning was much drier than Saturday and we all met up at the site, again at the reasonable hour of 9:30. James immediately began finding some nice pieces; the rest of us scattered around the area and begin searching. Hubby and I both found some nice pieces of orange, green, and red calcite. We hunted a few hours then thanked James, who was digging a pocket on top of the pile, and said goodbye. As tired as this old lady was I really wished I had climbed up there with him!

Back at the cabin Anne and I got the truck packed up more efficiently, making sure there was plenty of room for all our specimens. We left some small pieces on the porch of our cabin for the next people to stay there. Then we headed back to Memphis.

Again, despite having several modern ways of getting directions—GPS would say turn right, printout had you turning left—hubby decided to believe the printout and we did eventually end up back home in Memphis. But I’ll never know if right could’ve been the best way to go.

We had a second trip in the month of May and this one was to my favorite places, 20 Mile Creek, near Frankstown, Mississippi. We had a small group show up and we all hit the creek. The water was cold and deep in spots but I found a good place and begin digging. Found quite a few shark teeth, stingray teeth, and bony fish teeth plates, a few pieces of bone, a nice Indian point, and just other neat pieces that caught my eye. I’m waiting to see what everybody else found.

20 Mile Creek takes a particular method in hunting. You have to be OK about getting wet and being a little cold in the first of the season, and you need to be persistent. Find a place and dig, that’s how I’ve managed to find all my points and the good number of teeth that I find there.

The field trip I had planned for June didn’t work out so we have changed that to a trip to Crow Creek. Everybody enjoys Crow Creek. There’s lots of good stuff to find there: agates, great pieces of petrified wood, fossils, etc. There will be more information at the meeting in June.

Get Up, Get Out, Hunt Rocks!

Kim Hill

More pictures from the Missouri field trip are on P. 7
Missouri Field Trip Pictures

We visited four locations: the top of the dam, ...

... the new spot on the dam, ...

... the “Secret Spot,” ...

... and Eminence

Congratulations, Jan and Leo

Library Donations

Descriptions of Tennessee Caves, donated by Melba Cole
Roadside Geology of Tennessee, donated by Mike Baldwin

Hunting Dinosaurs by Louie Psihoyos, donated by Melba Cole
The Fundamentals of Gemstone Carving, donated by Melba Cole
Earth Science, 3rd Edition, donated by Melba Cole

Continued, P. 9
The Tennessee State Geological Survey published Carl Dunbar’s Bulletin 21, entitled “Stratigraphy and Correlation of the Devonian of Western Tennessee” in 1919, making this the centennial year for that tome (see last essay). Bulletin 21 is significant because Dunbar identified several new species and new variations of fossil organisms that inhabited what is today West Tennessee during the beginning of the Devonian Period (419 million years ago). New Devonian species listed in Bulletin 21 were actually originally described in another publication, the Transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, the previous year. Many of those species are “endemic” to West Tennessee, meaning they are only found in this region. I first introduced you to Carl O. Dunbar’s contribution to the paleontology of Tennessee in 2015, FTF #2 with his naming the tabulate coral Favosites foerstei, so I will continue along that track and look at the other corals that Dunbar named from the Birdsong Shale of West Tennessee.

Along with naming Favosites foerstei, Dunbar identified the tabulate coral genus Pleurodictyum during his collecting in the West Tennessee Devonian, considering it to be common in the Birdsong Shale, rare in Ross Limestone, and non-existent in the Bear Branch Member of his Ross Formation. The common Pleurodictyum species Dunbar identified was Pleurodictyum lenticulare (Hall). P. lenticulare is a small, unstalked coral, rarely larger than a dime in diameter, and less than a centimeter in height. It is easily recognized by its flat base when found solitary, having a circle of several (4-10 usually) large, polygonal-shaped, corallite openings on the top of the colony. The corallites are conspicuously absent of horizontal tabulæ, primarily because colonies of P. lenticulare can be found solitary (rare) directly on shale or as an encruster on brachiopods and crinoid stalks. The New York paleontologist James Hall first described this species in 1874 as Michelenia lenticulare for specimens he collected in Albany County, New York, but in 1891 (also in the Transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences) Charles E. Beecher revised the genus Michelenia, placing the species M. lenticulare within the genus Pleurodictyum (the genus Pleurodictyum had been erected by the German paleontologist Georg August Goldfuss (1782-1848) in 1829. So by the time Dunbar collected his Tennessee specimens in 1916-19, the name Pleurodictyum lenticulare (Hall) was being used (remember that when a species author’s name is surrounded by parentheses, it indicates that the taxon has been revised and most probably moved from the original genus to another genus, yet the original author’s name still follows the Linnaean taxonomy). The name has remained unchanged since that time.

Dunbar noted that a variant of Pleurodictyum occurred regularly in the Birdsong Shale member of the Ross Formation from his collections near Rockhouse, on Horse Creek, just south of Savannah, Tennessee. He also noted that this variant demonstrated decreasing abundance higher in the stratigraphic section. The regularity of the variant form prompted him to erect a new species. This new form of Pleurodictyum was much simpler in morphology, usually smaller than a dime, and begins with three corallites in forming the central and highest part of the coral colony, hence the epithet “trifoliatum”, but can then have additional rings of smaller corallites surrounding these central three and forming an outer margin for the colony. Pleurodictyum represents a very stable morphology of few cells and a fairly uniform corallum size which Dunbar rightly denoted represented attainment of sexual maturity for the colony. Pleurodictyum is the earliest and most simplistic species in the genus. Although he did not state it outright, this observation could be taken to indicate that the origination point for the speciation event itself occurred in the West Tennessee area. It has since been found in numerous...
In 1989, I co-authored with my advisor Tom Broadhead a paper in the journal *Lethaia* in which we argued that several of the Bird-song coral species displayed “determinate growth” features that made them well adapted to living on a muddy ocean floor setting within a disturbance-driven (constant storms) ecosystem. Essentially, colonies grow quickly, stay small, and become sexually mature before the next burial event arrives. While we did not specifically include *P. trifoliatum* in that study, it clearly supports our interpretations as additional examples. Search your Parsons Quarry collections for this enigmatic, often overlooked, but very important, fossil and give it a label fitting its status!

**Figure 1.** A. *Pleurodictyum lenticulare* showing oral view with abundant, regularly arranged corallites around a central initial corallite. B. *Pleurodictyum trifoliatum* with its characteristic three cells within the central portion of the colony (Photo by MAG from the UT Martin collections).

**MAGS Notes**

*Continued from P.7*

**Adult Programs**

*June:* Melissa Buchner, “MAGS and Chucalissa” (schedule change)

*July:* Dr. Ryan Parish, “Archaeology of Poverty Point, Louisiana

*August:* Indoor Rock Swap/Picnic

**Junior Programs**

*June:* Mike Baldwin, “Micro-minerals"

*July:* Mike Baldwin, “Caves and How They Form"

*August:* "Indoor Picnic" with the adults

**Field Trips**

*June 22: Crow Creek, Arkansas*

**New Members**

Debbie Greusel and Bill Behnke
Dan and Deborah Crowder and children
Billy and Stevie Kennedy and children
Dave and Heidi Kitkowski and son Will
Thomas and Connie Manns and children
Boo Sessions
Eve and Joel Webster and daughter Khloe
Judy Sterling

**June Birthdays**

1 Pat Judd
6 Amanda Nalley
Amy Coulson
14 Jan Harris
15 Matt Bonner
16 Ann Williams
18 Debbie Schaeffer
19 William Kratz
20 Judy Sterling
Roger Lambert
Jennifer Featherston
Danielle Schaeffer
Lauren Schaeffer

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MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ◊ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

MAGS Notes
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🎵 Want to Be a Member?

To become a MAGS Member, just go to our website at www.memphisgeology.org and print out an application form. There is a prorated fee schedule for new Members only. Mail the completed application along with the dues payment to the Membership Director shown on the form. If you are unable to print the application, you can pick one up at the sign-in desk at any of our Friday night Membership Meetings, or simply join at the meeting. Visitors are always welcome at our Membership Meetings but membership is required to attend our field trips.

The most important benefit of being a MAGS Member is getting to know and make friends with other members who have similar interest in rocks, minerals, fossils, and archaeology. All new Members will receive a New Member Packet, a MAGS ID card, and a monthly newsletter via email. Members are entitled to go on our monthly field trips and get free admission to our annual Show.

April Board Minutes
Mike Coulson
Called to order 6:36. Present: W.C. McDaniels, Charles Hill, Mike Baldwin, Kim Hill, Carol Lybanon, Matthew Lybanon, Bonnie Cooper, Bob Cooper, James Butchko, Nannett McDougal-Dykes, Mike Coulson, Jane Coop, Kay McLaughlin

Secretary: Distributed copies of March Minutes. Motion to accept. Accepted.
Treasurer: Only wrote one check, still have two outstanding checks made out to Southeastern Federation. Paid up through June on church rent.
Membership: Since last Board Meeting 1 new family and 1 new individual membership.
Field Trips: Batesville trip was a big success. Upcoming trips:
* April 20: Blue Springs/April 20, Family Fun Day, Chucalissa Indian Village, Memphis
* May 4:5 Viburnum and Eminence, Missouri
* May 20: Mile Creek
* June 22: Malvern, Ark.—confirmation pending
* July 20: Turkey Creek
* August 17: Parkin Museum
* Sept 27, 28, 29: Geode fest in Illinois

Adult Programs: All programs set up except for October.
* May: Randal Cox, Geology of the Mississippi River
* June: Dave Lumsden, Upland Complex Wood (tentative on petrified wood)
* July: Ryan Parish, Nonconnah Creek Conservancy
* August: Rock Swap
* September: Elizabeth Rhenberg, Crinoids
* November: Michael Gibson, Vulcan quarry

Junior Programs:
* April will be dedicated to building displays for Show youth table and recruiting volunteers to be present at the table.
* May: Last Ice Age
* June: Micro Minerals. Discussion over microscope availability and possibly purchasing one after the Show.

Library: Library cabinet keys made and given to Bob Cooper. Had a cart fall over, Nannett will check to see damage. Received several new books for the library. Would like to have some stickers “in memory of” for some donated. Roadside Geology of Tennessee new book. Mike Baldwin recommends purchasing for library.

Show:
* Setup Thursday, April 25. Will do grab bags around 12 or after lunch. Pizza for lunch.
* Show Dinner, Friday, April 26, 6:00 pm, “B” Wing, catered by Leonard’s Barbecue and MAGS Members.
* Saturday, April 27: Exhibitors may arrive at 7:30 am, Show opens to public at 9:00 am, closes at 6:00 pm.
* Sunday, April 28: Exhibitors may arrive at 8:30 am, Show opens to public at 10:00 am, closes at 5:00 pm
* Parking: Saturday and Sunday please park on northwest side of main Show entrance
* Please wear your exhibitor badge during Show hours.

Marketing
* Postcards were mailed on Wednesday, April 3, and started arriving in mailboxes next day.
* Website updated with Show Poster showing dates and times for Show.
* Information and postcard added to Facebook.
* Instagram account opened for Earth Wide Open.
* Slide presentation promoting Show at Membership Meeting created.
* Mike has designed and will print 1-day pass (white) and 2 day pass (yellow) for members to pass out. Complimentary Show tickets printed for Memphis Stone and Gravel and Cooper Moving.
* $5 MAGS buck designed.

Rock Swaps: June 1 rock swap at W.C.’s 11-3.

Editor: Specimen Spotlight section was added for the first time. Send adult programs. Ask presenters for a short description that can be added to newsletter. April 20

Continued, P. 11
April Meeting Minutes
Mike Coulson

April Meeting Minutes
Continued from P. 10 Need to get a blurb in for Rock Swap so it can be promoted.

Web: Website updated with April information and Show dates and times.

901 Rocks: Contact Bob’s Tie Yard and ask them to donate rocks for table. Want black rocks. Bob’s donated last year. Nannett has all the paints and brushes. Kay said she also has some paints that can be used. A table will be set up in the hall outside the Show so people can pick up their painted rocks as they leave. Adjourned 7:40.

April Meeting Minutes
Mike Coulson

Called to order at 7:05 by Dave Clarke.

Membership: No visitors, no new Members.

Library: Six books donated and six books purchased. Mike Baldwin has ordered Roadside Geology of Tennessee and Matthew Lybanon read a letter from an author who is offering a book at a discount.

New T-Shirts: Mike Baldwin reported that new T-Shirts were being printed and will be available at the Show. Carolina Blue and Black will be the new colors.

Field Trips: April 20, Blue Springs (Chucalissa Family Fun Day same day). May 4-5, Vibernum and Eminence Missouri. A trip to 20 Mile Creek is planned for May 18.

Displays: (01) Charles Hill displayed large Purple Calcite, some with fluorescence, from Batesville trip. (2) Kim Hill displayed Calcite, Fluorite with some Pyrite found on Batesville trip. (3) Leo and Jan displayed Nonconnah Agates and Fluorite from Batesville trip. (04) Carol Lybanon had a signup table for volunteering at the Show.

Adult Programs: Dave Clarke has secured speakers for the following membership meetings: May, Randal Cox, Geology of the Mississippi River, June, Dave Lumsden, Upland Complex Wood. June, tentative on petrified wood. July, Ryan Parish, Nonconnah Creek Conservacy.

Program: Review of Show. Its primary focus was to get Members involved in marketing and promoting the Show by handing out postcards, being active on posts in social media and by giving out tickets to increase attendance. Second objective: encourage Members to volunteer helping in various areas from Thursday and Friday setup through Monday takedown. Carol Lybanon went over SignUp Genius and also had a table set up after the presentation for signing up with areas of need highlighted. MAGS Bucks was introduced and given to 15 Members. Mike Baldwin reported that new T-Shirts were being printed and will be available at the Show. Adjourned 8:12.

Jewelry Bench Tips by Brad Smith

EMERY BOARDS

The sanding boards for doing your nails are one of my favorite finishing tools. I use the ones with a thin foam core. They have enough resistance to sand just the high points off a flat surface and yet give a little when you’re trying to smooth off a curved surface.

Plus they’re inexpensive and come in a variety of grits. Some grits are so fine they give an almost finished surface. Pick up a few at a beauty supply company or at your local drug store.

DENTAL FLOSS

When testing the fit of a stone in the bezel, it’s all too easy to get it stuck. If tapping the finding or opening up the bezel a bit with a knife blade doesn’t dislodge it, you might have to drill a small hole in the bottom and push it out with a needle.

To avoid all this frustration, use the old dental floss trick. Lay a piece of floss over the top of the bezel before you seat the stone. Then just pull on the string to remove the stone.

Dino Dance Floor
Matthew Lybanon, Editor

Sucre, Bolivia, is home to one of the largest collections of dinosaur footprints in the world. The footprints have been turned into a major tourist attraction with the creation of a dinosaur-themed park which includes a museum dedicated to the findings, and a collection of life-size dinosaur sculptures including the enormous titanosaurus. The highlight is this wall containing footprints of 294 different kinds of Cretaceous-era dinosaurs.
MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAGS Rockhound News ◊ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

MAGS At A Glance
June 2019

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Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society
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