

THE SHAWNEE SLATE

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SHAWNEE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

**NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2013 6:30PM
FIRST UNITED BANK
912 E. INDEPENDENCE ST.
SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA**

VISITORS WELCOME

Club Officers For 2013

President

Shanda McDonald

Vice President

Dianna Morris

Secretary

Robin & Anne Elliott

Treasurer

Tracie Portrey

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The Shawnee Gem & Mineral Club is a non-profit organization. The purpose is to promote the study and appreciation of rocks, gems, minerals and fossils. We teach any and all relevant techniques and the AFMS CODE of ETHICS. We have a club library that is listed in the club directory. These books can be checked out on club nights by prior arrangement. Kept for a month and returned or pay an overdue at rate agreed on by the club.

It is new and interactive! Check it out every month.

**Shawnee Gem & Mineral Club
Web Site**

<http://www.sgams.net>

Club Information

Meetings

Regular meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, held at the First United Bank conference room. 5:30 for juniors and 6:30 for the regular membership meetings. The First United Bank is located at 912 E. Independence Street, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

The Shawnee Gem & mineral Club is one of the clubs that make up the **OKLAHOMA STATE COUNCIL of MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES.**

It is a member of **THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION of MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES** and **THE AMERICAN FEDERATION of MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES.**

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Single membership.....\$15.00

Family membership.....\$20.00

Junior membership.....\$6.00

Newsletter only.....\$9.00

The Shawnee Slate is now available for free download on the club web site listed below. It is in the PDF format. Any photos or graphics in the newsletter can only be seen in color in the electronic version. There will be a year printed on your mailing label. This is the year for which your dues were last paid. Please check the year and be sure your dues are up to date. Also notify the editor if there is any mistake in your name, address, email address or dues paid status.

EXCHANGE BULLETINS WELCOME

For exchange newsletters contact the club via mailing address listed above.

Permission is granted to reprint articles only if proper credit is given to the author, Shawnee Slate and the date.

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2013

February Birthdays

Arlene Collins	11 Feb
Gary McDonald	9 Feb
Braydon Nelson	11 Feb
Mandir Briant	6 Feb

February Anniversaries

Bobby & Charlotte Rogers	18 Feb
Shanda & Gary McDonald	18 Feb

Our Sick Members

Please let the editor know if you or someone we know is sick.

Special Intentions

For those who are ill and ones we don't know about. For friends and family we have lost. Those who have gone on to Rock Hound Heaven. (Our prayers are with you).

Condolences**February Refreshments**

Drinks	Other
Shanda	Arlene Cillins

Save canceled stamps

(bring to the membership meeting)

Some people have ask me what this is for. Found a person in the RMFMS Susan Athens and ask her. She said (What I do is collect them for the Federation. We will find someone that will need them for medical help. For Example time on the kidney dialysis machine.) So; if you bring them, I will mail them to her and maybe they will help some unfortunate person in some way.

Up Coming Shows and Events

Jan 25 Feb-17—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Annual show; Elliot Glasser; Executive Inn; 333 S. Drachman St.; Daily 9-5; free admission; more than 130 showrooms, buy, sell, trade; contact Elliot Glasser, 6060 E. Thomas Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251, (602) 620-3999; e-mail: EGlasser@cox.net; Web site: USGRC@USGRC.BIZ

Jan 31 Feb-17—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Eons Expos LLLP; large tent; 22nd St. at Interstate 10; Daily 9-6; free admission; 180 dealers, minerals, fossils, articulated dinosaurs, meteorites, petrified wood, amber, gems, jewelry; contact Christine Perner, (516) 818-1228; e-mail: lowellcarhart@yahoo.com; Web site: www.22ndStreetShow.com

Feb 1-28—QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Desert Gardens RV Park; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1055 Kuehn St.; Mon. 9-6, Sun. 9-6; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon (manager), 1055 Kuehn St., Quartzsite, AZ 85346-2818, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

Feb 16-17—PLAINVIEW, TEXAS: Annual show; Hi Plains Gem & Mineral Society; Ollie Liner Center; 2000 South Columbia, Business I-27 South; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, children \$1; silent auction, kids' wheel, geode cutting, demonstrations, hourly door prizes, grand prize; contact Josephine Macha, 2298 FM 788, Plainview, TX 79072, (806) 293-8572; e-mail: josefcmacha@aol.com

March 8-9—ADA, OKLAHOMA: Annual show; Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club; Pontotoc County Agri-Plex; Hwy. 1 & 377/state Hwy. 99 & Richardson Loop; Fri. 8-6, Sat. 9-5; free admission; dealers, kids' activities, fossil dig, spinning wheel, fluorescent rocks, silent auction, demonstrations; contact Ed Vermillion, PO Box 782, Purcell, OK 73080, (405) 527-6431; e-mail: okieed42@windstream.net; Web site: www.freewebs.com/agmfc/index.htm

Here are current listings for all over the country. When you are on vacation, you might just be near a really great show. Check it out. <http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>

President's Message

Gearing up for an exciting year!

Watching last meeting's DVD presentating of Carlsbad Caverns has gotten me itching to get out there and dig...(no, not for bat quano).

I'm super excited! Our field trip committee had it's first annual meeting last Tuesday, and we've come up with some wonderful ideas for fieldtrips this year, starting with Saturday, March 16th to the Linsday Rock Shop. (We'll talk more about that at the February meeting). We hope to finalize plans for a calcite crystal gathering in Davis and quartz crystal gathering in Arkansas before the heat of the summer hits. Summertime will be inside fieldtrips (museums, workshops) and site scouting. (If you want to be on the scouting committee, let Mandie know and she'll put your name on the contact list). In the Fall, we'll pick back up on group outdoor activities. (TBA)

Don't forget to mark your schedules for Rockhound Days at the Choctaw Library on March the 2nd. It's always a fun and joyful event. Bring your rock projects to show. (I'm bringing my big red tumbler and hope to have a batch of shiny blue and gold New Mexico agate to present.) **Also, our Vice Prez and entertainment coordinator wanted me to remind you to bring a special rock to our upcoming February meeting for a very special presentation. (No rocks will be harmed during this presentation and will be returned safely to their owners).** Hope to see you there!!!!
Happy hunting, and cutting, and cabbing, and faceting, wrapping, and goodness knows what else,
Hugs, Shanda

"Always do right – this will gratify some and astonish the rest." - Mark Twain, 1835-1910

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." - Eleanor Roosevelt, 1884-1962

"People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing." - Dale Carnegie, 1888-1955

"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book. - Groucho Marx

"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them." - Albert Einstein

"Die when I may, I want it said of me that I plucked a weed and planted a flower where ever I thought a flower would grow." -Abraham Lincoln

Meeting Minutes January 8, 2013

18 members present-----42 members total-----A quorum is present

President Shanda McDonald **called the meeting to order** with a welcome to 2013 saying that our club is going to have a great year! A field trip committee has been formed and will be meeting soon to discuss field trips for this year.

There were no **minutes** to accept for December 2012 because the club enjoyed a Christmas celebration instead of its usually business meeting.

Treasurer's report given by Tom Morris. The bank statement and amount of funds in the club account doesn't yet reflect checks written for dues, insurance, or scholarships. The office of treasurer is in transition and will move from Tom Morris to Tracie Portrey soon.

Dianna Morris is currently our "**Sunshine Report**" reporter, but will be appointing this job to another in the club soon. Birthday and anniversary wishes were extended to all who had reason to celebrate for the month of January. See the January newsletter for a list of these people.

Old Business Club shirts are in and ready to be paid for and picked up from Diana Morris. Hats are also in and can be bought also.

Rock Hound Days at Choctaw Library will be March 2, 2012. More information can be found on the web page. George will have a rock display in the library for the month of March and will also be teaching another wire wrapping class.

George Finley brought up the idea of creating a Juniors' page for the club newsletter. George suggested that our young members also contribute to the RMF newsletter.

Dianna and Tom Morris requested that all members bring a quarter-sized rock of interest to the February meeting. They have planned an activity but said that you will be able to take your rock back home with you. So bring an interesting rock and be prepared to have some fun! A Gem and Bead show will take place at the OKC Fairgrounds the weekend of January 12-13. George is collecting bottle tops (the ones that have the wavy edges from glass pop and beer bottles) for a project he is planning.

Thinking about field trips for Sasakwa and the Salt Plains.

Correspondence Llewellyn was contacted by Barbra and she and Kenny are in Quartzite, Arizona. We will look forward to hearing about their trip and seeing some of the treasures they bring back.

Members should sign up to bring drinks or snacks for our club meetings.

An interesting video about Carlsbad Caverns was presented after the business meeting.

Drinks for the January meeting were provided by Tony Knox and the snacks were provided by Shanda McDonald. For February: Drinks by Shanda And Snacks by Arlene Collins

If you missed the meeting, you missed a couple of hours of good fellowship, interesting information, and tasty food and drink, and we missed you!

Meeting adjourned for snacks and Carlsbad video.

Robin Elliott, Secretary

If you have not paid your dues.. Now is the time!!

My January Arizona Trip By Llewellyn

As all of you know 2012 was a most difficult year for me and at times if it were not for my very dear friends I'm not sure I would have made it. I just wanted to say Thank You to each of you who reached out to me and offered assistance. You are wonderful friends.

Another long time friend from my AF days reached out to me and insisted I had to come to visit her in Phoenix in January. She would not take NO for an answer. Even said my two kitties were welcome in her house!!! So on the 12th I loaded the kittens and my stuff in the VW Beetle and headed for Arizona. Was a long two day trip, I could have done it non-stop but I worried that the kittens needed a break from the car so stopped in Albuquerque on the way out to give them a rest. Got there early afternoon the next day.

The following day Evelyn and Jim had made reservations at an RV park in Quartzsite. So we loaded their RV, complete with kittens, and headed west. When we came down the hill heading into Quartzsite it was totally amazing how very few RVs were camped in the desert, so unlike other times I had been there. The desert floor should have been white with RVs. It was like nothing was happening in Quartzsite.

The next day Evelyn and I took off to walk the Tyson Wells event. Neither E. or J. had any interest in rocks, they just went for me. All day long E. walked with me looking and buying things I wanted. E. was just content to carry bags for me. I have to say there were not a lot of people at the show either. A lot of venders I talked to said it was a very slim year. So sad, seems gas prices and the economy are going to take a toll on another rockhound fun event.

The second day, I had E. to just drop me off at Desert Gardens event. She and Jim were going on a bicycle ride in the desert. I walked through that area all day long. Bought more stuff and had to carry it myself. Very few people were visiting the booths and the venders were willing to talk to anyone who had time, so I spent a lot of time visiting with people about rocks and how slow the events were. It was still delightful to be there and I saw a lot of venders I remembered from the 3 other times I had been there. I basically bought tools and things I wanted for classes and rocks that I did not have or thought I could not live without. Looked every where for small crystal points like I got there last time but could not find any. I did not buy any large chunks because my hands are not strong enough to work the saws that I have. Will have to find another way to get my rocks cut. Maybe I'll find a young hunk somewhere that likes rocks and will work the saws for me..

We left the next day, not near long enough time in Quartzsite, but a lot better than not going at all. We headed south to Yuma, AZ. I'm not sure what the Mexican border town there is called but that's where E. and J. go to get their teeth fixed and get glasses. It is an amazingly nice place for a border town, clean and not at all scary. I was impressed. I even got myself two pair of new glasses at about 1/4th the price they would have been here. Spent the night at a casino park and another day across the border to finish the dental work. I got in a lot of shopping. Mostly gifts for people who took care of my house and my old dog while I was away.

The rest of the time we spent in the Phoenix area. Got to visit with another old AF friend. Evelyn decided I needed some new clothes for my "new life" so we did some shopping, which I hate to do. But got me a few nice outfits and she willingly altered ones that needed some help for me.

I wanted to get out of town and walk in the desert so one afternoon we went out to White Tank Mountain recreational area and hiked a couple miles to where there was supposed to be a waterfall but it had no water. But it was fun just to get out of town and see the cactus and be in nature. Being stuck in Phoenix reminded me how much I don't like big cities. And how lucky I am to live in the woods.

It was a wonderful trip and ego booster that I can do things alone and succeed. E. & J. treated me like royalty and waited on me hand and foot. Fed me wonderful home cooked meals, and tolerated my pesty kittens. I am so fortunate to be blessed with true, loyal and wonderful friends. Llewellyn