

**THE SHAWNEE SLATE**  
**LLEWELLYN ALSPACH, EDITOR**

**RESIDENCE: 46989 TOOLRY ROAD KONAWA, OK 74849**

**MAILING ADDRESS: P.O.BOX 53 SAINT LOUIS, OK 74866**

**EMAIL: LLEWELLYN53@HOTMAIL.COM**



**SHAWNEE GEM & MINERAL CLUB**

**NEXT MEETING**  
**TUESDAY JULY 9, 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

### Editor

Llewellyn Alspach

Email: [llewellyn53@hotmail.com](mailto:llewellyn53@hotmail.com)

### Contributing Editor

George Finley & Mandie Briant

### The Club Mailing Address

Shawnee Gem & Mineral Club

c/o Tom Morris

111 West Hickory

Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804

405-386-2314

[tomor@mcloudteleco.com](mailto:tomor@mcloudteleco.com)

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.

**When you are hiking or rock collecting and you run into an area of suspected illegal marijuana growing, Take a GPS reading and leave the area immediately. Gowers are armed and dangerous. Telltale signs are trash and 1" size black plastic tubings on the ground used for irrigation. Report the findings to the local Department of Public Safety.**

## 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.

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

**Shawnee Gem & Mineral Club  
Web Site**

<http://www.sgams.net>

2013

Junly Birthdays

Robin Elliott	7 July
Nikki Rimmer	6 July

July Annivesaries

None that I know of

Our Sick Members

Tom is slowly getting better and hopes to be able to make the meeting on the 9th. Talked to Bobby, he says he is doing well, plans to be at the meeting also. Saw where Chuck Kaser fell and banged up his other knee. Wishing him healing without another total knee required.

**Please pray for our sick members a speedy recovery.  
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

July Refreshments

<b>Drinks</b>	<b>Other</b>
Tracy Portrey	Robin Elliott

**Up Coming Shows and Events**

**July13-14**—TULSA, OKLAHOMA: Annual show; Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society; Exchange Center I; Tulsa Fairgrounds, 21st and Yale Ave.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, Scouts, military, fire and police in uniform free, children (under 12) free with adult; gems, minerals, jewelry, fossils, fluorescent minerals, beads, findings, dealers, silent auction, spinning wheel, grab bags, displays, working exhibits, programs, kids' area, door prizes; contact Finis Riggs, 1331 S. Atlanta Place, Tulsa, OK 74104, (918) 587-4400; e-mail: lriggs1331@cox.net; Web site: ttownrockhound.org

**August8-11**—BUENA VISTA, COLORADO: 30th Annual Contin-Tail Rock & Gem Show; Contin-Tail LLC; Rodeo Grounds; Gregg Dr. and Rodeo Rd.; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; more than 100 dealers, rocks, minerals, gemstones, fossils, beads, jewelry, lapidary tools and equipment, free rocks for kids, fluorescent mineral display; contact Carolyn Tunnicliff, 1130 Francis #7010, Longmont, CO 80501, (720) 938-4194; e-mail: ctunnicliff@comcast.net; Web site: www.coloradorocks.org

**August 16-17**—TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA: Annual show; Tahlequah Rock & Mineral Society; Tahlequah Community Bldg.; 300 W. 1st St.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-5; adults \$3, children (under 18) free; rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, lapidary, demonstrations, educational exhibits, children's area, auctions; contact Sara Brasel, 14236 Cross Timbers Rd., Tahlequah, OK 74464, (918) 284-5770; e-mail: rockhoundsally@aol.com

**August 9-11**—FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS: Annual show; Exhibit Group Inc.; Fort Smith Convention Center; 55 S. Seventh St.; Fri. 11-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; admission \$3; beads, fine jewelry (gold, sterling silver), diamond jewelry, fine jade jewelry, bead supplies, findings, pewter findings, gift items, free beading class; contact john Su, 13337 South St., Cerritos, CA 90703, (714) 494-4546; e-mail: egi168@hotmail.com; Web site: www.egishows.com

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>

### •Happy July Amazing Hounds!

- Hope you have plans to celebrate our country's 237 birthday in style...(or at least with a large glass of chilly, iced tea!)
- I also hope everyone is thinking of what they might want to bring to (and how to participate for) the September, Pott County Free Fair. It won't be long now!!!
- I've had a busy month with music. My band was not only invited to play for a super-amazing folk triple dance in Austin TX, but for a reenactment of Jane Austen's Netherfield Ball (Pride and Prejudice) in Dallas, and for the 62nd National SquareDance Convention's "kick-off contra dance" in OKC. Even tonight, we're to play in Norman for the Scissortial Traditional Dance Society's Friday night Contra! Whew! I love playing music, but it hasn't left me much room to hunt for rocks, however I did have a rock related moment this last month.
- When in Austin, our band was hosted by the beautiful artist/rock collector/dancer Brenda. Her house was a display of colorful water colors, agates, and petrified wood. It was a joy to rehearse and sleep in this lovely space. As part of my hostess gift to her, I added to her collection by sharing specimens of NM blue and gold agate, OK barite roses and spheres, and even daringly offering her a Tecumseh mud ball. (A Rock Club Prez should always travel with rocks, right?!?!?) In return, she shared with me a beautiful (and portable) specimen of "Honeycomb Limestone" (aka "Texas Holey Rock") native to the Austin area. It was a lovely and elegant formation of limestone with holes created by minerals, acid and erosion. (Here is a link to a webpage describing Honeycomb Limestone > [http://www.cichlid-forum.com/articles/tx\\_holey\\_rock.php](http://www.cichlid-forum.com/articles/tx_holey_rock.php) ). These are amazing rocks, and can be very large. Many people use them in aquariums and landscaping. In fact, many yards in Austin displayed large hunks of Honeycomb Limestone. Come to think of it, I wouldn't mind having a few big pieces in my yard here in Shawnee.
- (Note to Fieldtrip Committee re: Fall fieldtrip idea- Possible leg of a Texas Adventure - Down to Austin for holey rocks?!?!?)
- It's going to be a hot month, so at next meeting, let's talk about visiting an airconditioned museum for our July outing. Bring your ideas!
- I hope everyone has an amazing month! Please stay cool and drink plenty of water!
- See you soon,
- Shanda

## THINGS NEEDED and IDEAS FOR FREE FAIR 2012. By George

Listen up everyone Our Free fair chairman has spoken! All need to pitch in and make this a successful event!!

1. GRAB BAGS. (Need more for this year.) *? Have about 50.*  
Be sure to save some things from field trips. Put in bag and label so we know what we have.
2. SURPRISES. (Need some.) We go through a lot of these.  
Start saving your T. P. Rolls.
3. MINERAL CARDS????
4. POLISH STONES. (Can always use these.)
5. NEW IDEAS FOR NECKLACES. (We used most of Necklaces last year.)  
I have came up with about (will guess), 200 so far. I will use some in other things.  
The Pop Can and Cat and Dog Food pull Tabs are coming along great. Thanks for the donations from the members.
6. DISPLAY IDEAS. The new club display will look great.
7. = 3 or 4 TABLES ON CORNOR SO CAN HAVE WORKING DEMOS'.
8. NEED TO WORK ON WRITE UPS IN LOCAL PAPER.  
We need a write up so members can take to other town Weekly Newspapers.  
Let others know we will be at the Free Fair and something about us.
9. NEED EXTRA TABLES IN BOOTH TO PUT THINGS ON AND UNDER.  
9A. It cost about five dollars extra for each table for three days.
10. NEED MORE OF OUR MEMBERS TO DONATE A COUPLE HOURS.  
We had a good turn out last year. Be great if it is even better.
11. ANY IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR PUT IN WRITING AND BRING TO MEETING. PLEASE!
12. NEED TO REDO PASSSOUT ABOUT OUR CLUB, HOURS, DATE, LOCATION, CONTACT PERSON AND WEBSITE , for newspaper and etc.  
If we do not honk our on horn then it will not get blown. You are the club.

("IF YOU HAVE ANOTHER IDEA THAT WE CAN USE, WRITE IT DOWN AND BRING TO THE MEETING. YOU JUST MAY HAVE A GREAT IDEA.")

### **A Rockhound Weekend and Mud Wrestling**

Miss Mandie outdid herself entertaining us on the weekend of June the 8th. First she had a nice cook out get together at her home for the club. She provided the hotdogs and a nice patio environment for us to enjoy. Everyone brought something to add to the meal which turned out to be a feast. Think everyone got overstuffed.

Other than our ailing members and a few others, we had a large turn out. Even were honored by our Arkansas members, Ken and Ed along with a grandson, who elected to come all that way to join us. So nice to have them with us. The visiting and catching up time with all our friends was a very welcome event. Never have enough visiting time at the meetings.

I was not in on the planning, but somehow an impromptu fieldtrip to hunt mudballs south of Tecumseh came to be for Sunday. Think our visitors from Arkansas may have brought that event about. Shawnee hospitality..

Ed, Ken and grandson were Mandie's overnight guest and we all met at the mudball place at 9:AM on Sunday. This hunt always tends to be spectacular in some fashion. I remember the "Hotter Than Hell Mudball Hunt" back in June of 2006, the temperature was 103\* and everything that could go wrong ..did.. This trip was somewhat the opposite. Not sure if it was good luck or not, but Tecumseh got a good rain on Saturday night so it was relatively cool. We all stated down the hill to the hunting place. For those of you who may not remember, the mudballs are found at the bottom of a ditch. Today the ditch had an ample amount of water in it which would make for easy digging. That is, if you were not rapidly sinking in the red mud. We all jumped right into the ditch and it quickly looked like a mud wrestling event rather than a rockhound field trip in Oklahoma. The mud was so sticky it sucked the soles right off my shoes and my white socks were permanently dyed red. That did not dampen the enthusiasm hardly at all, everyone was finding really nice mudballs and quickly the 5 gallon buckets were full.

Now for the fun part, with 10 pounds of mud stuck on each foot and up to the knee, it was time to start carrying the heavy full buckets back up the hill to our vehicles. It didn't seem so cool now, think we all broke into a lovely "glow" before we got to the cars, some making two or more trips.

We had some water and snacks while we spent a considerable amount of time visiting, laughing and scraping enough mud off of us to feel clean enough to get back in our vehicles.

I think everyone who was able to attend the week end events had a wonderful time and would join me in saying Thank You Mandie!!! Llewellyn

**Legal Info that may be of Importance to You**  
by Terry Proctor

Many HGMS members (like myself) are up a bit in years, and as an attorney who does a good deal of probate of estates, I find that many clients do not know things that they really do need to be aware of. So I am providing a few ideas for you to consider.

- 1) Probating an Estate without a Will is considerably more expensive than probating an Estate with a Will. This means having a Will is cheap after all.
- 2) There is a Statute of Limitation on the probate of a Will. A Will is only good for FOUR YEARS after a person dies (not four years from date written, but four years from the date of death). After that, a Will cannot be probated in Court. The Will essentially becomes invalid, and the Estate has to be probated under the Texas laws of Descent and Distribution (the Estate goes by Texas Law thereafter, not by the Will,). So if you have a Will of a deceased person, don't wait more than four years to probate it, or it is no longer valid. If you have a Will, make sure the persons named in your Will know this fact, so your Estate is handled in the way you want it to be handled, instead of in the way the State law provides. I mention this as many folks are unaware of this and have come to me only after the Will's validity has passed. This is a vital fact to know.
- 3) A husband and wife each should have their own Will. Do not use joint Wills as they complicate things.
- 4) When you have a Will drawn, also create four other documents which are very important while you live.
  - a) Directive to Physician (pull the plug and let me die a natural death without eating up my Estate by keeping me alive artificially)
  - b) Designation of Guardian (who you want and who you don't want to be your Guardian)
  - c) Durable Power of Attorney for Business Decisions
  - d) Durable Power of Attorney for Medical Decisions. A regular power of attorney ceases to be valid if the person becomes mentally incompetent. A Durable Power of Attorney, by law, remains effective even if the person become mentally incompetent.

There are many other things about Wills and Probate, but these points were important enough and come up so often in my practice that I wanted to provide this information to our HGMS members. From Backbender's Gazette, 2/09

**Editors Note:** There may be differences in specific laws between Texas, where this came from. Please use this as a guideline and consult a lawyer for specifics.

## SHAWNEE FREE FAIR

**SEPTEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>. (4pm-10pm), 6<sup>th</sup>.(10am-10pm), 7<sup>th</sup>.(10am-10pm)**

**EXPO CENTER 3 MILES SOUTH OF I-40 ON 177.**

**VISIT WITH THE SHAWNEE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY.**

**THE SHAWNEE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY HAVE HAD A BOOTH IN THE SHAWNEE FREE FAIR EACH YEAR .**

**“THIS WILL BE OUR twenty second YEAR STRIGHT.”**

**IF YOU LIKE OR INTERESTED IN ROCKS, MINERAL, FOSSILS AND ROCKHOUND MADE CRAFTS OR HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THEM. THEN STOP BY AND VISIT WITH THE CLUB MEMBERS AT THE BOOTH.**

**THERE IS SPIN THE WHEEL FOR 50 CENT WITH A WIN EACH TIME OF EQUAL PRICE OR MORE.**

**DISPLAY OF ROCKS AND CRAFTS BY THE MEMBERS.**

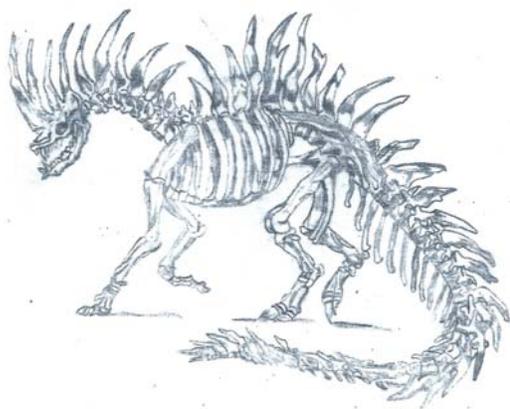
**DISPLAY OF ITEMS MADE BY THE MEMBERS FOR SALE WITH THE MONEY GOING FOR THE COST OF BOOTH SPACE AND ANY EXTRA GOING INTO GENERAL FUND.**

**FOR SCHOLARSHIPS DONATIONS TO OKLAHOMA STATE COUNCIL AND THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION AND ETC.**

**IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SHAWNEE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, VISIT OUT WEB SITE.**

**[www.sgams.net](http://www.sgams.net)**

**Check Club home page for information. Guest are Welcome.  
Come and visit us.**



## Junior Dragons

## Our June Rock Hunting Adventures

By The Briant Kids

This month has been a fun and busy month. On the 2nd of June we went to a family reunion in Ada. There was a pile of rocks next to the building where we were at and we did some easy rock hunting. We only took a couple each. We found boleleys, chert, and some kind of green rock in the pile. They were all small rocks.

On the 8th we had a rock club cookout at our

house. It was so much fun. We ate hotdogs and played with our rock club friends. Then the next day we went and hunted Mud Balls in the Mud! We had a lot of fun. Rebekah had to be careful because she had to get 24 stitches on the 7th because she fell on broken glass. The rock guys from Arkansas stayed the night with us so that they could go rock hunting. And, I think they had fun. We each found a couple Mud Balls!

On the 15th we went with the Ada Rock Club to the Byers Geode Pit. We met a few new people and had so much fun. We found geodes, hematite (some with fossil imprints and stems), raisin rocks (barite crystals). Lillian found raisin rock that was huge. The leader of the trip said it was the find of the day. We loved it there and can't wait to go back. We left there when it started raining. Then we did some road hunting for Boley Agates. Joshua found a turtle and Lillian found a lot of Petrified wood. We got rained out again, so we headed home.

Our mom and Nana went to Draper Lake and we are happy to report that it isn't all under water. There are still tons of rose rocks to hunt! This month has been a lot of fun! It is getting hot now and we hope the rivers and creeks go down, that way we can hunt them and play in the water.

Cont. from pg 08

Lou and Bob celebrated their anniversary sometime in June and Lou shared with us why they are not sure about the actual date. It was interesting and amusing. If you weren't there, you missed it!

The issue about the club paying entry fees for field trips has been tabled until a later meeting when more members are present.

Meeting adjourned for refreshments and presentations on diamonds by Sean and Anne.

Secretary,  
Robin Elliott

**Shawnee Gem and Mineral Club  
Meeting Minutes June 11 2013**

Members Present 12 Guests 0 A quorum is present

Shanda McDonnald, club president, called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone to the June meeting of the Shawnee Gem and Mineral Club. Shanda updated the club on Tom's condition. He is doing well after being in the hospital with a perforated colon.

Motion to accept the May minutes was made by Tony Knox and seconded by Darla Woods. Minutes were accepted by the club members. Tracie gave the treasurer's report stating, "We have money in the bank."

The recent field trip, hunting Oklahoma mud balls, was discussed by those who attended. Everyone had fun even though they got really, really muddy. Some of our Arkansas members joined us and Dustin helped many of our members carry their finds by "traversing the ravine," three times (pulling a dolly and carrying buckets)!!! We thank you very much, Dustin and glad you, Kenneth and Ed were able to participate. Llewellyn lost the soles of both of her shoes while Kenneth only lost one shoe. The mud was very formidable. Tony brought some mud balls that he had Lou slice with a tile saw. Good idea, Tony! Dottie reminded members that these balls usually fluoresce. This led members to begin discussing the idea of building a small, walk-in tent with a florescent light for people to go in to look at some of our rocks that fluoresce; something that needs to be done before the Pott. County Fair.

Everyone gave a hearty "Thank You" to the Briant family for hosting a club cookout at their home. It was fun and everyone had a good time. Thank You, Mandie, for setting this up for us.

Field Trip Report was given by Mandie Briant:

The Ada club will be sponsoring a field trip to the Clay Stone Geo Pit near Byars, Ok. Our club has been officially invited. We participated last year. It was very fun. This location has, in the past, not been open to the public because it was reserved only for the OU Geology students.

Llewellyn reported that the Rocky Mountain Federation no longer needs cancelled postage stamps.

George Finley thanked the Junior members for helping make articles for the Free Fair and said he will be bringing more materials to work on for the next meeting. Remember to save toilet paper rolls to be used for the fair. If anyone has small items that the club could use at the fair, please bring them to the next meeting. There will only be two more meetings for us to get everything done before the fair.

Many members brought rocks to give to Mandie for the rock exchange. The club voted on and agreed to pay postage for the Junior members to mail the rocks to Nebraska. Motion was made by Robin and seconded by some male member at the back of the room. (I didn't write down his name. Oops!) It was decided that we would wait until the June meeting to let the kids pick their rocks from the rocks sent to us from the Lincoln Nebraska club.

Shanda initiated discussion about the merit badge program which is sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Federation. Many people were interested. This would be a great program for our Junior members to participate.

Shanda gave the Sunshine Report and members sang to all who had birthdays and anniversaries in June.

Cont. on Pg 07