



Volume 60 ♦ Number 12 ♦ December 2014 ♦ A monthly newsletter for and by the members of MAGS

# MAGS Holiday Party

*At the December 12 Membership Meeting*



Your invitation is on P. 3 of this issue. The party will replace the program at our December 12 meeting, and the only business will be having fun.

As the invitation says, MAGS will provide the meat and table decorations. The other food will

be potluck. We would like to prevent having 10 chip and dip trays and not enough veggies and desserts, so please bring a dish based on the initial letter of your last name, as detailed in the invitation.

It's a great way for MAGSters to end the year. See you there!

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## 2015-2016 MAGS BOARD

At the November Membership Meeting we elected the Board of Directors that will serve MAGS for the next two years. Here are the results:

- ★ President: W. C. McDaniel
- ★ First Vice President—Field Trips: Charles Hill
- ★ Director—Assistant Field Trips: Barbara Milka



- ★ Second Vice President—Adult Programs: Carol Lybanon
- ★ Director—Assistant Adult Programs: Kim Hill
- ★ Secretary: Mike Baldwin
- ★ Treasurer: Bonnie Cooper
- ★ Director—Youth Programs: Jim Butchko

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# MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

## 2013-2014 MAGS BOARD

### President—Paul Sides

1062 CR 739, Wynne, AR 72396 ♦ (870) 400-9060

### 1st VP (Field Trips)—W. C. McDaniel

2038 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104 ♦ (901) 274-7706 ♦ [w.c.mcd@att.net](mailto:w.c.mcd@att.net)

### 2nd VP (Adult Programs)—Ron Brister

3059 Old Brownsville Road, Bartlett, TN 38134 ♦ (901) 388-1765 ♦ [bristerr@bellsouth.net](mailto:bristerr@bellsouth.net)

### Secretary—Carol Lybanon

2019 Littlemore Drive, Memphis, TN 38016 ♦ (901) 757-2144 ♦ [sgcarol@earthlink.net](mailto:sgcarol@earthlink.net)

### Treasurer—Bill Gilbert

8588 Thor Road, Cordova, TN 38018 ♦ (901) 569-1725 ♦ [billis4rox@comcast.net](mailto:billis4rox@comcast.net)

### Director (Asst. Field Trips)—Charles Hill

2887 Forest Hill Irene Road, Germantown, TN 38139 ♦ (901) 626-4232 ♦ [hunter3006@aol.com](mailto:hunter3006@aol.com)

### Director (Asst. Adult Programs)—Amber Dunn

201 North 7th Street, West Memphis, AR 72301 ♦ (870) 732-3073 ♦ [amberdunn8958@gmail.com](mailto:amberdunn8958@gmail.com)

### Director (Youth Programs)—James Butchko

4220 Dunn, Memphis, TN 38111 ♦ (901) 743-0058 ♦ [butch513j@yahoo.com](mailto:butch513j@yahoo.com)

### Director (Asst. Youth Programs)—Bonnie Cooper

8695 Baylor Road, Arlington, TN 38002 ♦ (901) 377-0900 ♦ [rocks4us@hotmail.com](mailto:rocks4us@hotmail.com)

### Director (Librarian)—Ron Brister

3059 Old Brownsville Road, Bartlett, TN 38134 ♦ (901) 388-1765 ♦ [bristerr@bellsouth.net](mailto:bristerr@bellsouth.net)

### Director (Membership Services)—Bob Cooper

8695 Baylor Road, Arlington, TN 38002 ♦ (901) 377-0900 ♦ [rocks4us@hotmail.com](mailto:rocks4us@hotmail.com)

### Director (Historian)—Nannett McDougal-Dykes

♦ 106 Maple Street, Stanton, TN 38069 ♦ (901) 634-9388 ♦ [redchesty@yahoo.com](mailto:redchesty@yahoo.com)

### Newsletter Editor—Matthew Lybanon

2019 Littlemore Drive, Memphis, TN 38016 ♦ (901) 757-2144 ♦ [lybanon@earthlink.net](mailto:lybanon@earthlink.net)

### Webmaster—Mike Baldwin

367 North Main Street, Collierville, TN 38017 ♦ (901) 853-3603 ♦ [mbaldwin05@gmail.com](mailto:mbaldwin05@gmail.com)

### Show Chairman—James Butchko

4220 Dunn, Memphis, TN 38111 ♦ (901) 743-0058 ♦ [butch513j@yahoo.com](mailto:butch513j@yahoo.com)

## MAGS AND FEDERATION NOTES

### December MAGS Field Trip

WHERE: Hedger Aggregate, Jonesboro, Arkansas

WHEN: Saturday, December 13

Contact Field Trip Leader W. C. McDaniel for details, at (901) 274-7706 or [w.c.mcd@att.net](mailto:w.c.mcd@att.net).

MAGS General Membership Meetings and MAGS Youth Meetings are held at 7:30 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, TN.

MAGS Website: [memphisgeology.org](http://memphisgeology.org)

We aren't kidding when we say this is a newsletter for and by the members of MAGS. If an article has a byline the author is a MAGS Member, unless explicitly stated otherwise (we welcome articles by nonmembers). If there is no byline, the article was written or compiled by the Editor (a MAGS Member). Please contribute articles or pictures (everybody likes 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](mailto:lybanon@earthlink.net).

### December DMC Field Trip

WHERE: Gray Fossil Site, Gray, TN; Bristol Caverns; Douglas Lake

WHEN: December 6 and 7, 2014

COLLECTING: (Saturday—"Behind the scene" tour of Gray Fossil Museum, visit to Bristol Caverns). Sunday—double terminated quartz crystals

INFORMATION: Daniel Miller, (423) 273-0487 or [miller@jtek.com](mailto:miller@jtek.com)

### Links to Federation News

- ➔ AFMS: [www.amfed.org/afms\\_news.htm](http://www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm)
- ➔ SFMS: [www.amfed.org/sfms/](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/)
- ➔ DMC: [www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm)



**You're Invited**  
**to the MAGS Holiday Party**

**December 12, 7:30 PM, Shady Grove Presbyterian Church**

MAGS will provide the meat and table decorations. You are requested to bring a potluck salad, vegetable, entree, or dessert. Come early to help decorate and prepare the hall for our party.

**Last Name A-F: Entrees      Last Name G-P: Desserts**  
**Last Name Q-Z: Appetizers or Vegetables**

**Gift Exchange**

Adults: If you wish to participate in the gift exchange please bring a wrapped, hobby-related gift appropriate for either a man or a woman, valued at \$10.

Juniors: The Juniors program will provide a gift for each Junior.

**Lots of good food!      Lots of fun!      Lots of door prizes!**

# MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

## 2015-2016 MAGS Board Continued from P. 1

- ★ Director—Assistant Youth Programs: Chris Scott
- ★ Director—Membership Services: Bob Cooper
- ★ Director—Librarian: Ron Brister
- ★ Assistant Librarian (not an official Board position): Marc Mueller
- ★ Director—Historian: Nannett McDougal-Dykes (Editor, Show Chairperson, and Web Coordinator are appointed Board positions).

MAGS thanks the outgoing Board Members (some of whom are returning) for their years of service. And welcome to the new Board! MAGS has been around for over 60 years, largely due to the efforts of people like you.

## SFMS Meeting Report

Nancy Roberts



(L) Incoming 2015 SFMS President David Wayment,

(R) Outgoing President James Darnell

I attended the SFMS annual meeting in Pascagoula, Mississippi. The Federation voted to raise the dues to \$1.75 per club member for 2015. The dues previously were \$1.25 and had not been raised for seven years. The Federation's liability insurance pre-

mium per member will be going up also, but the amount per member was not available at the time. The SFMS also voted to raise the liability amount for show insurance coverage to \$2,000,000. That premium will go up also.



(L-R) 2015 Officers President David Wayment, 2nd VP Teresa Polly, 3rd VP Mark Easterbrook, 2014 President James Darnell, Banquet Host Buddy Shotts

The SFMS also decided to eliminate the stamp program due to the fact that stamps just weren't generating enough funds to make the program viable anymore.

Both photos are by Nancy Roberts.

## Area Shows

### 44th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show

December 5-7, 2014

Alcazar Shrine Temple  
555 Eastern Boulevard  
Montgomery, AL 36117

Free Parking, Free Admission,  
Door Prizes

Show Times

Friday—Noon-6 P. M.

Saturday—10 A. M.-6 P. M.

Sunday—11 A. M.-5 P. M.

[www.montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com](http://www.montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com)

### MTGMS 34th Annual Earth Treasures

Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, Fossil

Show & Sale

December 13 & 14, 2014

Ag Expo Park

4215 Long Lane  
Franklin, TN 37064

Admission

Adults \$4 (2-Day Pass \$6)

Students, 18 and under, \$1

Children under 12 with adult and Scouts in uniform, FREE

Show Times

Saturday—9 A. M.-6 P. M.

Sunday—10 A. M.-5 P. M.

[www.MTGMS.org](http://www.MTGMS.org)

## 90 Million-Year -Old Turtle

MAGSters are very familiar with Hot Springs, Arkansas. New Mexico also used to have a Hot Springs. But the town changed its name.

In 1950, Ralph Edwards, the host of the radio quiz show *Truth or Consequences*, announced that he would air the program from the first town that renamed itself after the show. You guessed it. Hot Springs, New Mexico, won the honor. Edwards visited the town during the first weekend of May (the event was called "Fiesta") for the next 50 years.

This is an interesting bit of history, but is there any other reason for MAGSters to pay attention to this small southwestern town? Yes, there is.

The Las Cruces (New Mexico) *Sun-News* reported that Jeff Dornbusch, a volunteer with a Truth or Consequences museum, investigated a pile of rocks he had spotted on a hike years ago. Something about the pile

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## At Least Five Reasons To Go To Texas for Fossils



If you missed the last trip to Valley View, Texas, to hunt for ammonites and other fossils, here is another chance.

This trip will require some planning, and coordination between people here and in Texas. So we would like to have commitments from at least 10 people before we continue with the plans. We understand that things happen, but please only sign up if you are really interested in making the trip.

We are looking at two date ranges: February 26-March 2, 2015, or March 20-23 (including two travel days). It's a 500-mile drive, but that's where the ammonites are. Contact Matthew or Carol Lybanon, (901) 757-2144 or [lybanon@earthlink.net](mailto:lybanon@earthlink.net), to let us know.

Please sign up now and pick the date range you favor. And click this link to view a video of the 2013 Texas Fossil Marathon.

[tinyurl.com/o4ht3xd](http://tinyurl.com/o4ht3xd)



*90 Million-Year-Old Turtle* of rocks intrigued Dornbusch, and he searched until he located it again. He alerted a regional Bureau of Land Management scientist, James Renn, who visited the site with Dornbusch in February.



It wasn't just another pile of rocks. There were fragments of a prehistoric turtle, dated at about 90 million years old. Tom Suazo, fossil preparer for the New Mexico Museum of Natural History,

said the fossilized turtle's age can be estimated because of the surrounding dirt. The site is part of what's known as the Crevasse Canyon formation, dated to the late Cretaceous Period.

A series of high-profile fossils have been found in southern New Mexico this year. In early June, a bachelor party at Elephant Butte Lake stumbled across a 3 million-year-old fossilized stegomastodon skull. The fossil of the stegomastodon, an elephant-like creature, was excavated and taken to the state's natural history museum.

A much-younger fossil of a mastodon was found in January in the foothills of the San Andres Mountains. In July, a team of experts carried out a five-day trip to the site, located on White Sands Missile Range, to gather informa-

tion about the fossil and stabilize it for a future excavation.

## October Board Minutes

*Carol Lybanon*

The MAGS Board of Directors met October 2 at St. Francis Hospital, 5959 Park Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P. M. by W. C. McDaniel; President Paul Sides arrived a little later. Present were: Mike Baldwin, Bob Cooper, Bonnie Cooper, Bill Gilbert, Charles Hill, Carol Lybanon, Matthew Lybanon, W. C. McDaniel, Paul Sides.

**Secretary:** The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted, subject to audit. Remark: Bill requested that the check depositing issue should be re-discussed. W. C. said the proper place for that was in Old Business.

**Membership:** Bob is *Continued, P. 6*

*October Board Minutes* working on a  
*Continued from P. 5* New Mem-  
ber package.

W. C. will look at the old package and help Bob with updating. Bob and Mike are working on a new design for membership cards. Bonnie reported that there will be one new Life Member in 2015. The membership list now has a column that indicates the year that a Member becomes a Life Member. Carol will write a volunteer letter for the new member package.

**Field Trips:** The Vulcan Quarry trip was successful, and it opened the possibility for future trips to that site. On October 11 there will be a field trip to Memphis Stone & Gravel's Anderson Plant. On November 8 and 9, Magnet Cove Trip (in the planning stage).

**Adult Programs:** Alan Parks will give the program in October. Michael Gibson will be the November presenter. The holiday party will round out the year.

**Junior Programs:** Bonnie reported that Jim will present a fossil dig for the October program.

**Show:** W. C. reported that Jim published a Show Committee meeting schedule. All dealer contracts are out, and a completed one has already been returned.

**Library:** No report.

**Newsletter:** Matthew thanked Bob and Bonnie for the new, cleaned-up email list. He added a birthday list to the latest newsletter, which was published today. If we are to include a sunshine list, someone needs to get him the information in time to get into the newsletter.

**Webmaster:** Mike wanted everyone to know that he is not abandoning the website. He will continue as webmaster until a qualified replacement is found. He will post the October newsletter in a few days.

**Historian/Rock Swap:** A reminder: October 25 is the date of the Shelby Farms picnic. Nannett will need help

setting up.

## Old Business:

- ▶ Carol said that the club pins have been ordered. She was not able to order the desk-size plaque because the price was too high.
- ▶ Discussion of the check depositing issue was tabled because the Treasurer had to leave early.
- ▶ Paul reported that the nominating committee was working on a slate of nominees to present at the October Membership Meeting.

## New Business:

- ▶ W. C. found a good deal from Diamond Dan. The Board decided that this issue should be discussed by the Show Committee.
- ▶ Bonnie said that we need more shelving units in the storage shed. The Board agreed. Charles volunteered to help with the building of these units.
- ▶ A question was raised whether MAGS should reimburse a representative to attend a Federation meeting. After some discussion the Board decided it was not beneficial for our club to pay to send a representative.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P. M.

## October Meeting

### Minutes

*Carol Lybanon*

The MAGS Membership Meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on October 10. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P. M. 33 Members and 6 visitors were present.

**BUSINESS:** W. C. McDaniel announced the upcoming field trips. Carol Lybanon told the Members about the October 25 picnic. She also introduced the slate of nominees for the Board, since Nannett was out of town. Paul Sides reported that we received a thank-you letter for the MAGS donation to Chucalissa, and that he had also presented a check to

Ronald McDonald House. Treasurer Bill Gilbert reported that our rent had been paid through December, and that he had received a letter of thanks from Ronald McDonald House. Matthew Lybanon said that any changes to email addresses should be reported to the Membership Director, who maintains the master list of contact information. This will ensure that Members will continue to receive their newsletters on time. Jim Butchko reported that we have just received a large donation of rocks for grab bags. The rocks need to be cleaned and sorted. Let him know if you are willing to help. He also said there is room for more volunteers on the Show Committee. Let him know if you are willing to help. Ron Brister said that there are many new books in our library. Every Member should take advantage of our library collection. Charles Hill made a plea for more volunteers. This is a great club, and our Members need to help to make it even better.

**DISPLAYS:** There was one adult display, from a new Member, of things she collected in Shelby Forest.

**PROGRAM:** The meeting was adjourned and turned over to the program at 8:00 P. M., to Alan Parks.

## Jewelry Bench Tips by *Brad Smith*

### TAKE BETTER PHOTOS

Most digital cameras these days have the ability to take a good picture of your small jewelry items, but setup is important. There are four major items to control—background, lighting, camera motion, and focus control.

Lightly colored papers from an art store make reasonable starter backgrounds. Try experimenting with other products later like glass or colored plastics. *Continued, P. 7*

*Jewelry Bench Tips* Avoid fabrics because the weave can often be distracting at high magnification.

Outside lighting is the easiest. In fact, for close-ups flash never works well. Turn off your camera's flash. Choose a bright but overcast day or a lightly shaded area when the sun is full. For inside use, two gooseneck desk lamps can be used with 75 watt bulbs. Whatever you use, be sure to set the camera to match the type of lighting you use or else the color will be off.

You'll be shooting up close, so turn on the Macro mode. Now at this range, if the camera moves even a little bit during the shot the picture will be blurry, so it's essential to use a tripod. Used ones are available inexpensively from eBay, yard sales or some camera shops. And even with a tripod, I put the camera on the self-timer mode so that any vibration from when you click the button settles down before the camera takes a picture.

In order to get the largest part of your jewelry in focus, you have to close the lens down to the minimum aperture (highest f-stop number). This is done by taking the camera off of "Auto" mode and selecting Aperture Priority, usually denoted by "Av," and then setting the aperture to the largest number, which is f8 on my camera. You'll probably have to get out the book or go back to the store to ask about this, but it's really worth it.

That's it. In recap, here are the camera settings I use:

- Set the lens to Macro for a close-up shot.
- Move the camera in close enough for the item to cover at least ¾ of the frame.
- Look for adverse reflections from the jewelry surface.
- Try to minimize reflections with changes of light position, camera angle, or white background paper.
- Carefully check for any fingerprints or dust that might be on the piece.
- Make any final tweaks with light and arrangement.
- Turn the camera's flash off.
- Select "Av" for aperture priority mode.
- Set the lens opening to the highest number for max depth of field.
- Set the lighting to match what you're using (daylight, overcast, lightbulb, fluorescent, etc).
- Set the timer to delayed shooting, either 2 seconds or 10 seconds, to avoid camera movement. The delay also gives you time to hold up a piece of white paper to reduce any final reflections.
- Take the shot.

[www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/](http://www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/)

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on [Amazon](http://Amazon).



## December Birthdays

2	Andrew Phillips
3	Diane Pence
5	Juliet Buckholdt
6	David McAlister
	Lynn Spencer
7	Mary Ann Odom
	Daniel McMahan
8	Alan Schaeffer
	Tina Wallace
9	Grant Doherty
	Angela Underhill
11	Conner Buck
12	Marc Mueller
13	Hongbing Wang
14	J. Barry Gilmore
	Denny Doherty
	Denny Baker
15	Kathy Baker
	Jerry Seamans
16	Spencer Herrington
18	Alexandria Barnett
19	Erma Phillips
	Mike Plowman
	Paula Gunter
20	Ed Underhill
21	Yeh Hsueh
	Kristen Fleming
24	Allen Grewe
26	Arthur Landrum
28	Walter Heger
29	Bebe Buck
	Brandon Mayer
31	Ricky Odom, Jr.

## GIFT FOR THE HOLIDAYS

It's often difficult to find a nice gift for a friend who makes jewelry. The Bench Tips book has earned over 25 Five Star reviews, was ranked Number One in Amazon's Top 100 list for Jewelry, and named by Amazon as one of the Best Books in 2014. Get a copy at

## Blue Springs Field Trip

Photos by Marc Mueller



### 2015 Adult Programs

Carol Lybanon

As January approaches I am busy selecting topics for next year. In January, Bill Gilbert will present a program about pyrite cube collecting. In February, Beth Day will talk about stone carving. In March, David Hanes will present a program on his dinosaur fossil hunting.

In April we will focus on our Show and its history. In May, Elizabeth Cruzado Carranza will tell us about her archaeological work in Peru.

Put these programs on your calendar. You won't want to miss any of them.

If there is any subject that you would like to hear about, let me know and I will try to get a

speaker. Contact Carol Lybanon, Adult Programs Chair, at (901) 757-2144 or [sgcarol@earthlink.net](mailto:sgcarol@earthlink.net).

### 2015 Dues Are Due

Membership Director Bob Cooper has spent many hours updating our membership list, filling in missing information. Now he's ready to start 2015. You can renew your membership starting today. This is also a good time to verify that your contact information is up to date. Bob hopes to get everyone to renew before January 31.

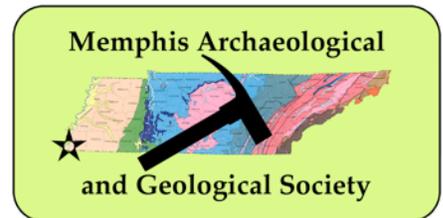
**Renew your membership now.** Send checks to

Bob Cooper  
8695 Baylor Road  
Arlington, TN 38002.

Categories are:

- Family: \$25

- Individual: \$20
- Junior (under 18): \$10



You can also purchase one (or more) of the new MAGS pins from Bob. They cost \$2 each.

### Rare Mineral In Meteorite Crater

Aaron Cavoisie, a geochemist at the University of Puerto Rico in Mayagüez, was the lead author of an intriguing paper presented at the 2014 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting in October. In a meteorite impact crater in *Continued, P. 9*

## Rare Mineral In Meteorite Crater

*Continued from P. 8*

Wisconsin, they found a rare mineral previously known from just three other massive meteorite impacts.

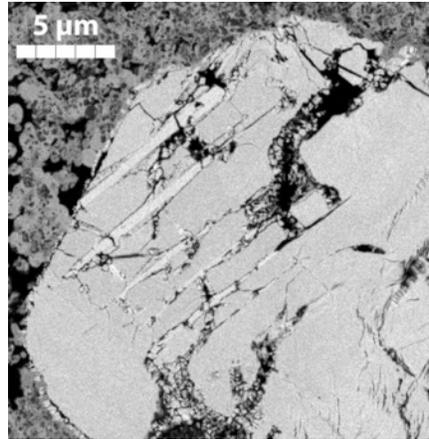
The researchers discovered the mineral, called reidite, at the Rock Elm impact structure in western Wisconsin. Reidite is a dense form of zircon. According to Cavoisie, this is the oldest reidite ever found. The Rock Elm meteorite crater is 450 million to 470 million years old, he said.

Scientists first discovered the unusual high-pressure zircon in a laboratory in the 1960s. Reidite was finally identified in nature starting in 2001, at three impact sites: the Chesapeake Bay Crater in Virginia, Ries Crater in Germany, and Xiuyan Crater in China.

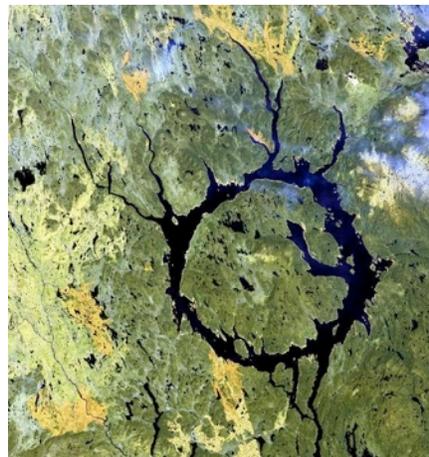
Cavoisie was collecting zircons to establish a more precise impact age for the Rock Elm crater. "No one in their right mind would have looked for reidite in sandstone," he said in an interview. The Rock Elm crater was gouged out of carbonate rocks and sandstone that contains tiny fragments of quartz and zircon. The earlier reidite discoveries were all in impact melt breccias—a mix of rock that melted and cooled into glass during the impact and unmelted rock fragments.

Zircon is transformed into reidite when shock waves from meteorite impacts increase pressures and temperatures to extreme levels, similar to those deep inside the Earth where diamonds form. The pressure makes minerals tightly repack their molecules into

denser crystal structures. Reidite has the same composition as regular zircon but is about 10% more dense.



Cavoisie saw the tiny fragments of reidite during microscopic examination of zircons that were fractured during the Rock Elm impact. Electron scattering tests confirmed the presence of reidite. It takes incredible pressure to transform zircon into reidite, so the mineral's presence means the Rock Elm crater underwent much higher shock pressures than originally thought.



The transition to reidite takes place anywhere between 30 and 80 gigapascals. Earlier pressure estimates from the crater's shocked

quartz topped out at 10 gigapascals. Any impact crater carved from sandstone will also have zircon, and Cavoisie now thinks reidite is likely more common than scientists previously thought.

**Ref: Cavoisie, A., Erickson, T. M., and Timms, N., Reidite and Shock-Twinned Zircon in Polymict Breccia from the Ordovician Rock Elm Impact Structure, USA, Paper No. 290-6, 2014 GSA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia (19-22 October 2014).**

## MAGS15

*W. C. McDaniel, President-Elect*

Over the next year, **MAGS15** will serve as the caption as the club and Members look toward and forward to the New Year. The new Board, elected by you, assumes office on January 1 and will start planning (a lot of planning and scheduling is already underway) for membership events and activities. The major activities include newsletter, web, library, Membership Meetings, which includes adult and junior programs and displays/exhibits, field trips, show and your membership and participation in each of these major activities. You can start by paying your dues, participating in club activities and making a commitment to help when called. So look for the caption **MAGS15**, as it will be making a regular appearance.



# 7000-Year-Old City



Archaeologists in Croatia have unearthed what they say is the largest Stone Age city ever discovered in the region. The new find is believed to be roughly 7,000 years old.

The find was made a few kilometers west of Vinkovci, a Croatian city of roughly 35,000 and the largest town in the coun-

try. About 30 inches below the surface, the researchers came upon a treasure trove of ancient materials. As they continued the excavation, the dig unfolded into a site about 100,000 square meters in area. For now, the researchers are concentrating on a smaller area of about 3,000 square meters. In that spot alone, they've found 325 archaeological objects, including fences, wells, and kilns for ceramics.

The culture present in the area in the fourth and fifth millennium BC was called the Sopot culture, and it stretched across what is now Croatia, Bosnia, and Hungary.

## Calendar

### **December 4, 2014**

Board Meeting, St. Francis Hospital, 6:30 P.M.

### **December 5-7, 2014**

MGM Show, Montgomery, AL

### **December 6 & 7, 2014**

DMC Field Trip, Gray, TN

### **December 12, 2014**

Membership Meeting/Party, Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 7:30 P.M.

### **December 13, 2014**

MAGS Field Trip, Hedger Aggregate, Jonesboro, AL

### **December 13 & 14, 2014**

MTGMS Show, Franklin, TN

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society  
2019 Littlemore Drive  
Memphis, TN 38016

