

# CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

MARCH 2012

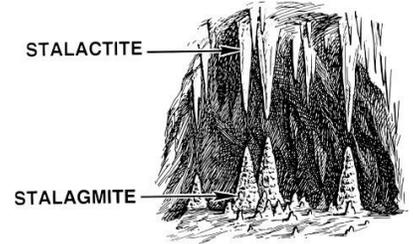
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## MARCH 20 MEETING — 7:15

Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society will meet on **Tuesday, Mar 20th**, at 7:15 pm at **Rockwell Collins 35th St Plant Cafeteria**, 855 35th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA. (The cafeteria entrance is at the inside corner of the complex, and the doors face 35th St.)

**Hosts:** Bill & Karen Desmarais and Dolores Slade.

**Program:** Two Cornell College students, Dan Cleary and Mike Barthelmes, will give a talk based on their research into northern Australia stalagmites: "Stalagmite Records of Extreme Rainfall Events over the Last 1000 Years in Northern Australia." Mud layers in stalagmites formed in caves in northern Australia when extreme rainfall events flooded the cave, mobilizing sediment which coated the tops of stalagmites. Extremely high-precision dating of these stalagmites allows us to determine the age of the mud layers and thus the age of the flooding. This talk will discuss the field work in remote northern Australia during the summer of 2011 (including a python encounter deep in one cave), the dating of these samples at the University of New Mexico, and the implications for our understanding of climate and extreme weather events over the past 1000 years.



**Board Meeting:** The next meeting will be held **Tuesday, April 3**, at 7:15 pm at the home of Marv and Sue Houg.

**Since the office of editor is vacant**, an abbreviated newsletter will be sent with show information in February and March. If you would like to take on the position of Newsletter Editor, please contact a board member. This is a board position, which involves reporting club news and collecting public domain articles for publication ten months of the year. Member

### BUS TRIP TO FIELD MUSEUM PROPOSED:

Sat., Oct 20, is proposed for a bus trip to Chicago's Field Museum. Minimum of 20 required. Cost will be between \$56 and \$70, depending on the number going. Leave about 5:00 a.m. Return about 10:00 p.m.

Contact Bill Desmarais if you are interested:  
365-0612 Desmarais\_3@msn.com

### ROCK SHOW MARCH 17-18 GEODES—NATURE'S GRAB BAGS

Also featuring

### Stegodon and Cave Bear Skeletons

Courtesy of Michael & Barbara Sincak  
from Pennsylvania

**Hawkeye Downs, Cedar Rapids**  
**Set-up Saturday Mar 16 starting at 8:30**  
**Potluck Saturday night**

**Hours:**

**8:30 - 6:00 Sat**

**9:30 - 5:00 Sun**

See p. 2 for details; p. 3 for flyer



**Dues were due in December:** Check your mailing label to see when your dues expire. Dues are \$15 per family. Please pay at a meeting or send dues to Dale Stout. His address is on p. 4. If your dues are not paid by April 1, your membership will lapse.



### OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

**Gil Norris** on the death of his wife Gerry on March 6.

## OUR 38TH SHOW IS MARCH 17-18

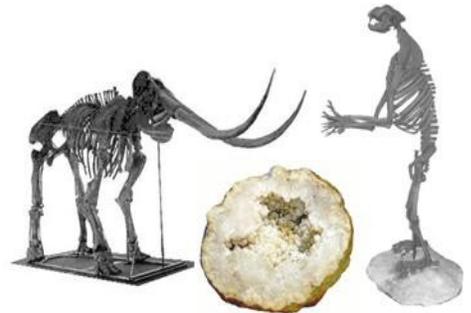
The countdown is on for our show featuring **Geodes** and a special exhibit of **Stegodon and Cave Bear Skeletons** (courtesy of Michael & Barbara Sincak, Pennsylvania) the weekend of March 17 and 18, with set-up on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Door Prizes & Silent Auction:** We give out many door prizes each day, and the silent auction runs throughout the show, so we need **LOTS** of rock-related items for both. If you have something to donate, but don't know which is the best place for it, bring it in, and the chairs of the those committees will decide.

**Pebble Pit:** The Pebble Pit for the children is always a very popular place. If you can go through your collection and do some high-grading, please set aside those specimens which don't quite measure up to your standards. We need **LOTS and LOTS** of material for the Pebble Pit.

**Cases:** New this year, we are offering a "community case" - if you don't have enough items to fill a display case, bring a specimen or two (mineral, fossil, jewelry, etc.) with a label and your name and we will put it with others to make a full case.

**Raffle:** The raffle has been canceled due to delay in getting a license (unless the paperwork comes through unexpectedly).



### SET-UP DAY FRIDAY—THINGS TO DO AT SET-UP

#### Starts at 8:30 a.m. March 16

- Set chairs in the booths
- Put ribbons on Name Tags
- Clean glass inside and outside display cases with Windex
- Spray inside of display cases with Febreze, if smelly
- Straighten out cloth for case liners
- Cover tables when set-up has been checked and electric cords laid out appropriately
- Use Wide Paper for skirt & Narrow for top OR the opposite – somebody try it and see which is best
- Help carry material to pebble pit & silent auction areas
- Help set up Bone dig area
- Help Dealers move in

### POTLUCK FRIDAY NIGHT AT 6:30

Friday night we invite our dealers to be our guests at a pot luck at 6:30. Because we will have extra people eating, plan to bring a large dish or two to share. Drinks will be provided. Our members and dealers always rave about our great pot lucks, so we have a reputation to uphold every year.

### CATERED DINNER SATURDAY NIGHT AT 6:15, FOLLOWED BY A PROGRAM

HyVee will cater a dinner right after the show closes Saturday. The menu will include beef and chicken, party potatoes, green bean casserole, seven-layer salad; dessert and drinks furnished by the club. Cost is \$11.00. **Please let Marv know if you are planning to attend the dinner (364-2868). Reservations are required. Ray Anderson will present a program, "Geodes, More than Just a Rock," after the dinner.** Ray's programs are always outstanding, so plan to attend.

**WANTED: VOLUNTEERS TO BRING DESSERTS:** To hold down the cost of the catered dinner, we are looking for a few members who can't help in other ways during the show or who just like to cook to bring desserts. We expect 40-50 for the dinner, so 5 or 6 people bringing a dessert should cover it. Please contact Dell James (cycladelics@netins.net; 319-446-7591) if you can help.

### MSHA SAFETY TRAINING CLASS MARCH 15

#### CEDAR RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY AT WESTDALE MALL, LOWER LEVEL NEAR PENNEYS



The club is paying expenses for John McArdle, Minneapolis, to come a day early for our March show and teach two MSHA-certified safety classes on March 15, the Thursday before our show. Forty-six are signed up for the 2 classes—2:00 and 6:00. Each class lasts 2 hours, ends with a test required for certification. If you are renewing certification, remember to **bring certificate and book to class.**

Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society

Presents its

2012

# GEM, MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW

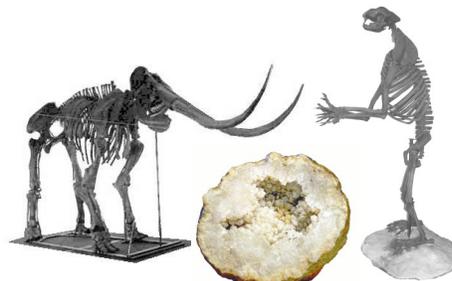
Saturday March 17 - 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 18 - 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Hawkeye Downs Expo Center**

**4400 6th Street SW**

**Cedar Rapids, Iowa**



## GEODES—NATURE'S GRAB BAGS

**ALSO FEATURING CAVE BEAR & STEGODON SKELETONS**

**COURTESY OF MICHAEL & BARBARA SINCAK, TREASURES OF THE EARTH**

### PROGRAMS

Programs on Geodes and other aspects of the theme.

Call ahead or check our web site for Speakers & Times.

### DEMONSTRATIONS

Tumbling, Faceting  
Glass Bead Making  
Cabbing, Beading  
Silversmithing  
Flint Knapping  
Geode Cracking

### PEBBLE PIT FOR KIDS

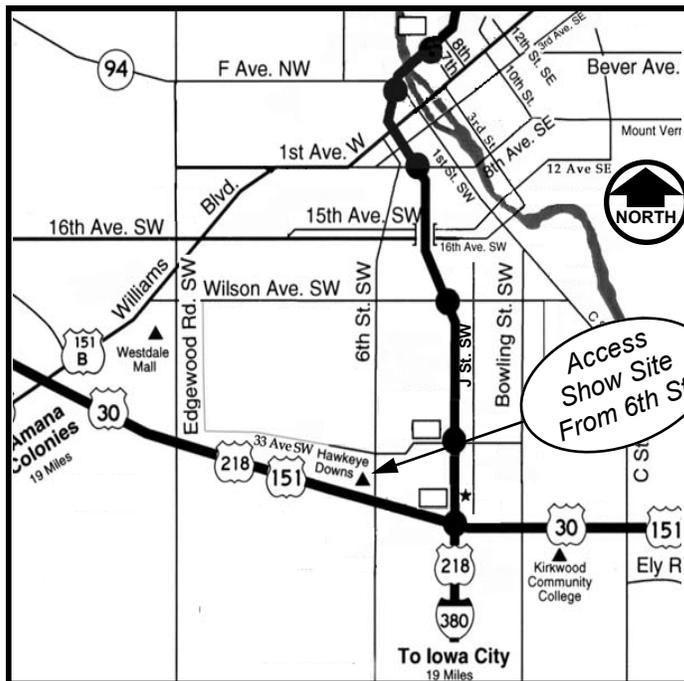
1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, & 50¢ Items  
\$1 Rock & Mineral Kits

### SILENT AUCTION

Geodes, Minerals, Crystals, etc.

### HOT FOOD

**PROFITS GO TO  
SCHOLARSHIPS**



### DISPLAYS

Geodes  
Stegodon & Short-Faced Bear  
Agates  
Fossils  
Minerals  
Amethyst  
Petrified Wood  
Polished Stones  
Artifacts  
Spheres

**NOT RESPONSIBLE  
FOR ACCIDENTS**

### DONATIONS

Adults.....\$2.00  
Students .....\$1.00  
(12-18)  
Children ..... Free  
(Under 12)  
Youth Groups ..... Free  
(w/adult)

### SLUICE FOR GEMS

#### MANY ITEMS FOR SALE, INCLUDING:

Books	Fossils	Jewelry	Minerals	Book Ends
Opal	Agates	Carvings	Seashells	Petrified Wood
Slabs	Geodes	Crystals	Tumblers	Lapidary Equip.
Gems	Beads	Spheres	Meteorites	Jewelry Findings

**For Additional Information. Contact:**

**Marvin Houg (319-364-2868, m\_houg@yahoo.com);**

**Sharon Sonnleitner (319-396-4016, sonnbl@aol.com); Tom Whitlatch (319-362-0684, whitlatcht@gmail.com)**

**For program, dealer, and show updates, check: [www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org](http://www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org)**

**CHILDREN MUST BE  
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT**

### Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs

President.....	Marv Houg <m_houg@yahoo.com>	.....364-2868
Vice Pres. ....	Bill Desmarais <desmarais_3@msn.com>	.....365-0612
Treasurer .....	Dale Stout <dhstout55@aol.com>	.....365-7798
Secretary .....	Dell James <cycladelics@netins.net>	.....446-7591
Editor .....	Vacant	
Liaison .....	Joy Cummings	.....981-2482
Imm. Past Pres.	Sharon Sonnleitner <sonnb@aol.com>	.....396-4016
Director '12 .....	Leonard Moellers <leonardmoellers@yahoo.com>	721-1650
Director '13 .....	Andrew Halfmann	
Director '14 .....	Tom Whitlatch <Whitlatcht@gmail.com>	.....362-0684
Historian.....	Leslie Blin <bblin@bser.com>	.....377-3339
Sunshine.....	Dolores Slade<dslade733@aol.com>	.....351-5559
Hospitality .....	Jeff Kahl.....	.....455-2201
Webmaster .....	Sharon Sonnleitner <sonnb@aol.com>	.....396-4016

Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society was organized for the purpose of studying the sciences of mineralogy, geology, and paleontology and the arts of lapidary and gemology. We are members of the Midwest (MWF) and American (AFMS) Federations. Membership is open to anyone who professes an interest in rocks and minerals.

**Dues are \$15.00 per family per calendar year and can be sent to Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403.**

Visit us at:  
[www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org](http://www.cedarvalleyrockclub.org)

The club meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from September through November and from January through May at 7:15pm at the Rockwell Collins 35th St Plant Cafeteria, Cedar Rapids, IA. The December meeting is a Christmas dinner held on the usual meeting night. June, July, and August meetings are potlucks held at 6:30pm at area parks on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Show March 17-18



Sharon Sonnleitner,  
 4800 Sunset Dr. SW  
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52404