

# Smoke Signals



**Black Hawk  
Gem and Mineral  
Club, Inc.**

**May 2008**

**Volume 53**

**Number 5**

# Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

## 2008 Officers and Directors

<b>President</b>	<b>Kellie Moore</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Bret Henderson</b>	<b>(309) 626-0107</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Connie Huber</b>	<b>(563) 355-7131</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Shelly Henderson</b>	<b>(309) 626-0107</b>
<b>Director (3-year)</b>	<b>Craig Moore</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Director (2-year)</b>	<b>Delores Bates</b>	<b>(309) 796-0616</b>
<b>Director (1-year)</b>	<b>Lori Johnson</b>	<b>(563)-441-0149</b>

## Committee Chairpersons

<b>Membership</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Craig Moore</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>Joelle Henderson</b>	<b>(309) 626-0107</b>
<b>Field Trips</b>	<b>Bret Henderson</b>	<b>(309) 626-0107</b>
<b>Displays</b>	<b>Bret Henderson</b>	<b>(309) 626-0107</b>
<b>Rock Show</b>	<b>Kellie Moore</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Scholarship</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	<b>Lori Johnson</b>	<b>(563) 441-0149</b>
<b>Property</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Ways and Means</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>(563) 445-3034</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Delores Bates</b>	<b>(309) 796-0616</b>
<b>MWF Liaison</b>	<b>Shirley Coven</b>	<b>(309) 743-2653</b>

The purpose of this non-profit organization is to promote interest in collecting, studying and working with gems and minerals and fossils. Organized in 1955, the Black Hawk Club joined the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies in 1959. It is also a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, September through May at 6:00P.M. in the Hauberg Civic Center, 1300 24th Street, Rock Island, IL. Picnics are held at various locations during June, July, and August. Annual Dues: Individual Membership: \$15.00, Senior Couples: \$12.00, Senior Individual: \$10.00, Family: \$20.00.



# Smoke Signals

Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

May 2008

May's Meeting was the last before our summer break during which there will be no official meetings at Hauberg and no newsletter. During the Summer we will be having various picnics and field trips.

Though there will be no official newsletters until we reconvene in September, keep an eye out for any fliers or 'post cards' we may send out once more information is available on the summer's events. I hope to see you all there.

(If you want to make sure you are informed of field trips as soon as possible, be sure we have a current email address for you or inform us if you would like to be contacted by phone)

## Upcoming Events

**May  
24&25**

**WHEATON, IL:** Chicagoland Gems and Mineral Association (CGMA) 32ND ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW, DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 W. Manchester Road. Sat. & Sun., 10-6 (Memorial Day Weekend). This year's theme: "A Gem of a Show." This show is the joint effort of 10 rock clubs. Admission: Adults \$5, Students (13-17) \$3, Seniors \$3, Children (under 13) FREE. FREE parking. **CONTACT:** John Good (630) 483-2363, [cgma@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cgma@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.chicagolandgemshow.org](http://www.chicagolandgemshow.org)

<p><b>May 31- June 1</b></p>	<p><b>COLUMBUS, OH:</b> CENTRAL OHIO MINERAL, FOSSIL, GEM, AND JEWELRY SHOW, Veterans Memorial, 300 W. Broad Street. PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATES!! Sat. 10:00-6:00, Sun. 11:00-5:00. Sponsored by the Columbus Rock and Mineral Society and the Licking County Rock and Mineral Society. Theme: "The Angry Earth: Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Crashing Continents." 27 quality mineral, fossil, and jewelry dealers, ID booth, swap area, educational/children's area, silent auctions, exhibits, demonstrations, and displays. Talk by Dr. Mike Barton on the 1783 Laki (Iceland) Volcanic Eruption! Admission: \$7 (2-day pass, \$12), Golden Buckeye (Senior) Discount, \$3 for Youth 6-16 (under 6 FREE), Scouts &amp; 4-H Members in uniform FREE. <b>CONTACT:</b> Ken Harsh, (614) 433-9778, karmakenha@aol.com, or Sue Guirl, (614) 262-1484, srguirl@yahoo.com.</p>
<p><b>May 31- June 1</b></p>	<p><b>VIROQUA, WI:</b> Coulee Rock Club 15TH ANNUAL SHOW, Viroqua Jr. High School, 100 Blackhawk Drive. Sat. 9:00-5:00, Sun. 9:00-4:00. 14 dealers will be offering fossils, minerals, jewelry, carved stone, agates, and lapidary equipment (new &amp; used.) Geode cracking will go on all day, and there will be wire wrapping demonstrations. Phil Oliver will bring two special exhibits: an exhibit of fabulous banded agates from his private collection and a Braille Mineral Exhibit, where all labels are in Braille. The attendees can feel the minerals. For Kids, the special Kids Table will have grab bags and special children's activities. There will be a silent auction, door prizes (about every 15 minutes!), and food. Admission: FREE; donations are accepted. FREE parking! <b>CONTACT:</b> Gary Krause, 606 E. Court Street, Viroqua, WI 54665, (608) 632-0973, garyjkrause@yahoo.com.</p>

<p><b>June 7</b></p>	<p><b>CHICAGO, IL:</b> Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society INAUGURAL GEODE FEST. (See Pg 7)</p>
<p><b>June 14</b></p>	<p><b>Fairfield, IA:</b> The Sac &amp; Fox Lapidary Club Annual Swap. Howard Park one block North of the Courthouse on the corner of Main &amp; Grimes. Sat 8am - 1pm. Free admission. \$5.00 permit to sell (please bring your own table). <b>Contact:</b> Florence Stevens (641) 470-1517</p>
<p><b>July 10-13</b></p>	<p><b>Menasha, WI:</b> Wonderful World of Agates 2008 - Weis Earth Science Museum - University of Wisconsin Fox Valley, 1478 Midway Rd, Menasha, WI 54952. Visit <a href="http://www.weismuseum.org">www.weismuseum.org</a> and click on Agate Show 2008 for show updates and information. Our special display area will contain items rarely seen and of great value-even the Smithsonian will be there! More than 30 dealers will have all things agate for sale. <b>Contact:</b> Gary (920) 832-2925 or e-mail <a href="mailto:garold.richards@uwc.edu">garold.richards@uwc.edu</a>.</p>
<p><b>Aug 23 &amp; 24</b></p>	<p><b>Peoria, Il :</b> Peoria Academy of Science Geology Section 2008 Gem, Mineral &amp; Fossil Show. Itoo Hall Banquet Hall 4909 W Farmington Rd. Free Admission &amp; parking. Sat 9am-5pm Sun 10am-5pm <b>Contact:</b> Jim Travis (309) 645-3609 or Dave Hoggatt (309) 678-7306 <a href="http://www.pasgeology.com">www.pasgeology.com</a></p>
<p><b>Sep 5-7</b></p>	<p><b>Fairfield, IA:</b> The Sac &amp; Fox Lapidary Club Annual Gem Mineral &amp; Fossil Show. "Treasures of Southeast IOWA". Fairfield Art &amp; Convention Center, North of the Square, Main &amp; Briggs. Fri 6pm-9:30pm, Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm Admission donation kids 6-8 \$.25, Adults \$2 <b>Contact:</b> Betty Morris (319) 385-9584 <a href="mailto:emorris@lisco.com">emorris@lisco.com</a></p>

# Welcome New Members:

*Holly, Jeff, and Ash Vermeire*

*John Searl and Family*

*Chris Gordon*

*Jack and Janice Martin*

*Norman Cole*

*Dana Moline*

*Mike Moeller and Family*

\*\*\* >00\~~XXXXXXXXXX~~/00< \*\*\*

First I wanted to let those of you who attended our May meeting that the field trip that we were hoping to get set up for Memorial Day weekend was not possible. The location required more notice for a group to come in.

\*\*\* >00\~~XXXXXXXXXX~~/00< \*\*\*

## Field Trip:

**June 1<sup>st</sup> 9-Noon.**

**Collinson Quarry, Milan, IL**

Coming in on Hwy 67 N with HyVee on the right and a gas station on the left, make a right turn onto 10<sup>th</sup> Ave - go 3/10 of a mile. Entrance to the Quarry is on the right side marked by 2 boulders. If you get to the Indian Bluff Rd/Knoxville Rd exit you have gone too far.

# As Field Trip season arrives, Please remember your supplies!:

In Quarries as well as some other collecting areas  
You **MUST HAVE** (or you will NOT be allowed in!):



## Hard Hat Safety Goggles

-----



It's best to bring these on every field trip just to be safe. Some Quarries also require **Steel Toed Boots** to get in, so be sure to ask!

Depending on the nature of your outing, here are some other things that you may want to bring along:

- ❖ **Bottled Water**
- ❖ **Gloves** (I prefer the fingerless ones for collecting)
  - ❖ **Knee pads or kneeling cushion**
- ❖ **Hammer or rock pick** must wear safety goggles when using these
  - ❖ **Buckets or backpack/sturdy bag**
  - ❖ **Rain Slicker** (just in case)
- ❖ **A roll of masking tape** if you are hunting geodes (to tape the halves together so they won't get lost)
  - ❖ **A hat and/or sun block** for skin protection

(Most of these things can be picked up at about any home improvement store like Menards, Lowes, Home Depot, etc.)

## **FECES FIND QUESTIONS HUMAN TIMELINE IT'S OLDEST INDICATOR OF PEOPLE IN AMERICAS**

BY MARC KAUFMAN – WASHINGTON POST

Scientists have found and dated the oldest human remains ever uncovered in the Americas, a discovery that places people genetically similar to American Indians, in Oregon more than 14,000 years ago.

Working with radiocarbon dating and DNA analysis, an international team concluded that fossilized feces found five feet below the surface of an arid cave are almost 1,000 years older than any previous human remains unearthed in the Americas.

The samples were discovered in 2002 and 2003 close to a crude dart or spear tip chiseled from obsidian, as well as bones of horses and camels that were then common in the region. The researchers described their finding as a “smoking gun” in the long-running debate over when and where humans first inhabited the New World.

“What’s so exciting here is that we have cells from real people, their DNA, rather than samples of their work or technologies,” said Dennis Jenkins, of the University of Oregon in Eugene, who oversaw the cave site dig. “And we have them on the Oregon landscape 1,000 years before what used to be the earliest samples of human remains in the Americas.”

The discovery, published last week in the online edition of the journal *Science*, is a blow to the widely held theory that the Clovis culture, named after a site in New Mexico, where its distinct artifacts and fluted spearheads were first identified in the 1930s, was the first human presence in North America.

Jenkins said that while the human DNA found in Oregon could be from ancestors of the Clovis culture, none of the distinctive Clovis-era technology has been found in the region.

The “Clovis-first” theory has been challenged by almost a decade of discoveries from Canada to the southern tip of South America that indicate human were present before the time of the Clovis civilization, generally dated at about 13,000 years ago. Yet the



new report is considered key because it is the first to involve datable human DNA.

The discovery, however, is not without its critics. The cave has been excavated in the past, leading some to wonder whether the newly found samples were contaminated and mixed with other material. In addition, some of the fossilized feces, called coprolites, contain canine DNA.

“I don’t think we know for sure whether these are dog coprolites or human,” said Gary Haynes, an anthropologist at the University of Nevada in Reno. “We know that Native Americans have used these sites for centuries, and so their DNA could have gotten into the older dog feces through urination.”

The team rejects this possibility, saying there is too much human protein found in the oldest coprolites to be explained by later human activities. They also say the presence of human hair in the coprolites makes it almost irrelevant whether they came from humans or dogs because the two appeared to be living together in the early times, established by radio-carbon dating.

\*\*\* >00\/00< \*\*\*

The Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society will be holding their **INAUGURAL GEODE FEST** on June 7 in CHICAGO, IL., Salvation Army - Irving Park Corps, 4056 N. Pulaski. Sat, 1-5.

This is the CRMS's first ever geode-only show. It's truly a family show, with an emphasis on things kids like. There'll be a video presentation giving basic geode info and what minerals you can find inside, details on where to look for geodes in our area, how to recognize one when you see it, and how to open a geode. The main event will be the on-going geode cracking! Club members will have lots of geodes, opened and whole, for sale. Many unopened geodes will be on sale for as low as \$1.00, so children can pick their own and get it cracked right at the show! Members will identify minerals found inside any geode, and will even identify rocks brought from home. What a great way to spend an afternoon! Snacks will be available.

Admission: FREE, FREE parking.

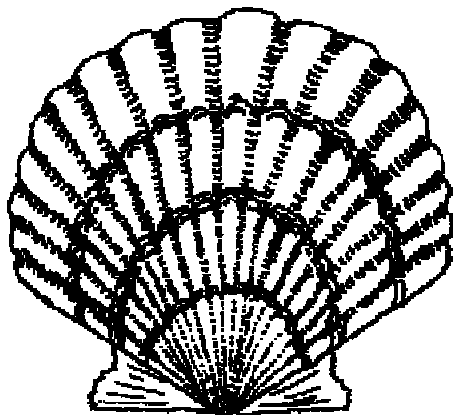
**CONTACT:** Craig Heinze, (847) 584-8637, cheinze@flash.net

## Spring Show Thank you

Thanks to the 16 members who helped at the front entrance table and club sales table at our April Show, we had good reports from show visitors and I was very happy so many got involved. It was the best response for several years. It was good to see some of the new and younger members getting acquainted with some of us "veterans" of the club. I really appreciated all the help.

Thank You!

Delores Bates, veteran of 33 years.



### Newsletter

If you have an article you would like to see published let us know! You can e-mail the President at:

**[kalsinean1@aol.com](mailto:kalsinean1@aol.com)**

**Contributions:** Submissions (announcements, photographs, notes, letters, articles, etc.) are actively solicited from BHGMC members. Submissions from non-members may be included at the discretion of the Editor. Copyrighted material submitted for publication must be accompanied by a written release from the copyright holder. All material submitted is subject to editing. Unless previously arranged, all submissions become property of the Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. When requested, original and personally-written articles will be published with a copyright notice in the author's name, otherwise all submissions will be published without individual copyright. No anonymous submissions will be considered; however, the submitter's name will be withheld or a pseudonym may be used at the submitter's request.

**Please send all submissions to the editor.**

**Deadline:** The deadline for all submitted work is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month before it is to be published. Late and/or unused entries may be published in later issue.

**Disclaimer:** The conclusions and opinions expressed in *Smoke Signals* are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Officers, Editor, or members of the club.

**Exchanges:** Free reciprocal exchanges for the bulletins of other gem and mineral clubs are welcomed. **Please send all exchange bulletins to the Editor.**

**Editor:** Lori Johnson c/o Kellie Moore 718 Franklin Ave, Davenport, IA 52806.

**Email – [SmokeSignals@hotmail.com](mailto:SmokeSignals@hotmail.com)**

*Smoke Signals* is published monthly and is sent to all members of the Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. as part of their membership.

Copyright © 2003 by the Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. With the exception of items that are specifically copyrighted by their authors, other clubs may use material published in *Smoke Signals* as long as proper credit is given and the meaning or sense of the material is not changed.

**Affiliations**

**Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies**

<http://www.amfed.org/mwf/>

**American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**

<http://www.gamineral.org/afms.htm>

# *Smoke Signals*

Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

Lori Johnson - Editor  
c/o Kellie Moore  
718 Franklin Ave  
Davenport, IA 52806  
[SmokeSignals@hotmail.com](mailto:SmokeSignals@hotmail.com)