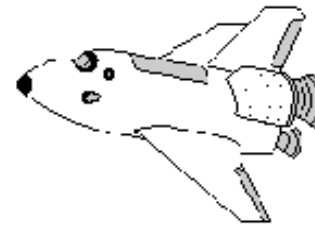
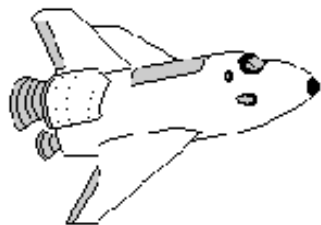


ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



The Monthly News Bulletin of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, Huntsville, Alabama

Volume 49 No. 1

"We'll go to the Moon for a Rock"

January 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Jewelry & Metalsmithing

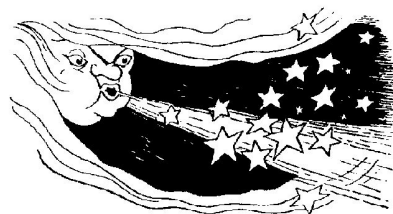
Corner.....	2-3
January Program	3
Chris Painter's Hogg Mine.....	4
Mineral of the Month.....	5
Pebble Pups	6
Fossil Feature	6-7
Brad's Bench Tips	8
DMC Field Trip	9
Jan/Feb Birthdays & Anniversaries.....	10
Lapidary Lab Schedule	11
2017 Officers & Committee Chairmen	11
Calendar.....	12

Bring Your Collection to the Meeting

We will feature the best of collections from families with last initial of A-H of their favorite rocks, slabs, cabochons of any shape, faceted gems, uncut specimens, minerals, jewels, fossils, or whatever for Show and Tell. See details on P3



Covered boxes will be available to protect valuable specimens while we circulate the room to OOOH and AAAH at others' treasures.



Visit us at www.huntsvillegms.org/ and www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleGMS



Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society (HGMS) 2017. Reprinting Rights are granted for all material (except for minutes of the meeting and copyrighted articles) to any organization officially affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) or Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS), provided credit is given to the author, the original publication, and this newsletter

HGMS Jewelry Crafts,

by Mindy Schell

The 2017 year is going to be a big year to learn jewelry craft skills and attend a number of classes. We now have a number of volunteer Instructors! Our goal is to get HGMS members together to share what we know. Some of these are considered rare and lost arts in regards to jewelry development, design, and the very many different types. We are quite blessed to have a handful of Advanced Artists in HGMS that are generous with their knowledge and time to educate our HGMS Jewelry Craft members as well as a number of us that are beginner students but want to make a difference by volunteering however we can. If you are a part of our Jewelry Classes, please thank your selfless instructors for all their time planning classes, kits, and their instruction. We also looking for volunteers to fill some empty slots to take some of the burden off of our instructors. If you are interested and can spare an hour or two a week please contact me.

Thank you, Mindy

Rocket City Jewelers

by Leslie Malakowsky

I'm thrilled to be your new jewelry activities group leader for beginning/intermediate/advanced jewelry fabrication classes. We are now calling us the Rocket City Jewelers! Everyone is invited to our 2017 **Kick-off Party on Tuesday, January 31st from 6:00p.m. – 9:00p.m. in the Paint Room at the Huntsville Senior Center.** There will be finished jewelry to see, fellow jewelry makers to meet, refreshments, door prizes and more!

We have a lot of fun projects in store for you! We'll start with basics and explore some new techniques. And it won't matter if you're a "newbie" or an experienced jewelry maker; our classes will appeal to all skill levels. But remember, this is YOUR Jewelry Group! It's a source of creativity for ALL HGMS members. If you have an idea for a class or a project, please bring it to the party or contact me directly at 256-755-0479 or lmalakow-sky@gmail.com.

I'm looking forward to meeting everyone on January 31st! With your help and the help of our volunteer instructors, we'll have a successful year! See you soon!
Leslie

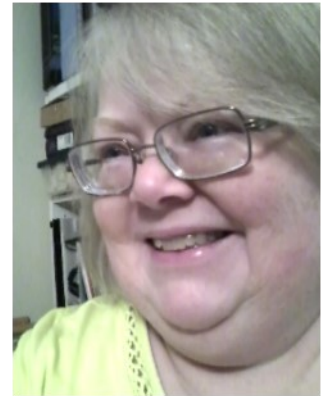
Metal Smithing/Silver Group

by Kathy Bowman

The Metal Smithing/Silver group is preparing for a busy 2017 with lots of projects and classes. We meet on Thursday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Huntsville Senior Center in the Lapidary Room.

Certification Classes: There will be a signup sheet available at the January 24th HGMS meeting for 2017 Certification Classes. In the event that more than 10 people sign up we will have a drawing to determine which people will be in the first classes on February 21st (Safety) and February 23rd (Project).

Those not able to sign up at the meeting can register by sending an email to Mindy Schell (mindy.schell@yahoo.com) by midnight Feb 1. The lottery drawing will be Feb 2. Those selected for the February class will be notified after Feb 2. Those who are not selected for February will be offered another opportunity the next month (dates TBD). The next class sign up opportunity will be at the May HGMS meeting. If you signed up for Certification classes last year and were not able to attend, please sign up on the Jan 24th list



February 2 - Pieced Pendant Project Class:

This will be the first project of the year. It is open to all HGMS members who have completed certification classes. We will have kits with all you need to complete 2 pendants in copper. We will have several designs available from simple, for those with little experience with the jeweler's saw, to complex for the Advanced/Experience members.

The cost of the kit is TBD. If you want to make the project in silver you may "bring your own" (24 and 26 gauge sheet silver and some 18 gauge wire for a jump ring). Tools are provided—or if you prefer-- bring your own tools



March 2 - Etching Project Class: (*Part 1- Etching with Ferric Chloride*) Open to all who have completed their certification. The cost of the kit is TBD

March 9 - Bezel Setting a Cabochon. This is for those who completed the Certification classes last fall but only completed your pendant project. You will need to bring a round or oval medium sized cabochon---nothing with corners or points. We will cover setting those type stones at another time. This class is also open to anyone who is certified and would like to take the class again. The cost of the kit is TBD.

Advanced/Experienced Group: The Advanced/Experienced Group will be meeting on the first *Thursday* of the month until further notice because the Paint Room is not available for us to use on Tuesdays. We plan several projects this year which will be of interest to our group which will also be open to everyone who is certified. We also have several classes planned for this year which will only be open only to the Advanced/Experienced Group.

Volunteer Positions

Program Manager/Treasurer Mindy Schell

Metal Smithing

Lead Instructor/Adv. Grp Leader Kathy Bowman

Project Instructors Shelley Curran & *Opening*

Safety Instructors Mindy Schell & *Opening*

Toolbox Sign-outs *Opening*

Inventory/Store Manager *Opening*

Kit Manager Shelley Curran

Rocket City Jewelers

Activity Group Leader Leslie Malakowsky

Kit Manager Shelley Curran

*Please note we are all volunteers and most of us have jobs outside of HGMS. Schedule is subject to change.



Left to Right: Kathy Bowman, Shelley Curran, Mindy Schell

Program for Jan 24th HGMS Meeting

Sharing the Stones: Show and Tell No. 1

At our January 24th Program, we want members whose last names begin with A through H to bring up to 3 (no more than 3) of your favorite rocks, slabs, cabs, or jewelry to a Show and Tell. By limiting the number of people and objects, each person gets to tell how they got the object, what it is (or to ask what it is), and to explain why this piece is important to the person. By allowing each person who brings something to share a few minutes to show off each piece, the club gets to know each person better as well as to ooh and aah at their pretties. Later in the year we will have 2 more Show and Tell programs where other members get their few minutes of fame.

All members are also encouraged to dig through your collection and pick out a few items to donate for the April HGMS Auction. Details as we work them out.

Chris Painter Discusses his Hogg Mine at LaGrange GA

Chris Painter gave us a presentation for the November HGMS meeting on the Hogg Mine and how to find minerals. Back in the early 1900's government workers found Beryl at the site, and it was re-opened off and on several times afterward to commercially mine that valuable ore. The abundant mica has also been commercially mined since the first discovery of the site, often being used in large "books" for windows in Henry Ford's early automobiles. Chris has been the operator for the past several years, opening it to the public for digging. Aquamarine is the gem most often found, this being the most attractive of the beryl family at the site. There have been 43 documented minerals discovered at the Hogg Mine, most of which are listed at <http://www.mindat.org/locdetailed-222793.html>.

Columbite/Tanzanite was recently found at the mine when a lady opened a kaolin ball (the white clay on the south wall) and out popped a perfect red translucent cubic crystal. The Smithsonian bought the prize specimen from her and put it on public display in Washington DC.

Don Aldridge had claimed for years that he had found a large chunk of Amazonite at Hogg Mine, but Chris was skeptical until his son also found a smaller but definite specimen. You can find moonstone, garnets, beryl, aquamarine, and pyrite on the left hand wall. The abundant rose quartz forms in dikes throughout the site. Mr. Painter said that most of the time the smallest part of the quartz will show a star. He gave several rose quartz marbles to meeting attendees, each showing a star.



Life's Treasures

Columbite Tantalite – Master Class Mineral – Life's Treasures

Andara Crystals First Magical Years 2002 – 2005

Chris cleans iron oxide stained quartz crystals with oxalic acid. It activates at 90 degree. You must use a respirator and gloves for safety. If it gets on your skin it acts like metal poisoning in your organs. Bar Keepers Friend (powdered oxalic acid) was recommended as a source. His eBay store is Crystal Empire. Chris drilled a test hole and found the same beryl-bearing clay more than 25 feet deeper than the present pit, from which he believes that there is another 25 years of digging left. His favorite gem find was a 129 carat aquamarine. The largest stone found so far was a 140 lb Beryl. Don't get discouraged if you don't find things - just keep your head down and keep digging.

In other nearby mineral sites, there are quartz micro-specimens at Indian Mountain, in Cherokee, AL on the Georgia line east of Gadsden. Most of this forms in granite fractures. There is also iridescent hematite.

Jackson Crossroads has beautiful Amethyst crystals- see <http://www.jxramethyst.com/home.html>.

Graves Mountain southeast of Atlanta boast a large variety of minerals. See the GMS website www.gamineral.org/ft/commercial/ftgravesmain.html for more details.



The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society offers occasional field trips to the Hogg Mine, and particularly keep a watch for information on the machine dig coming up around April next year.



The dig schedule for 2017 is found at <http://hoggmine.com/news.html>

From meeting notes by Dorothea Chism

Mineral of the Month – Snowflake Obsidian

By Leslie A. Malakowsky



Obsidian is mineral-like, but it is not a true mineral. It's a naturally occurring *volcanic* glass that forms as an extrusive igneous rock. (Glass is an amorphous, homogeneous material with a random liquid-like structure that generally forms due to rapid cooling.) Obsidian is sometimes classified as a *mineraloid*, a mineral-like substance that does not display crystallinity. Obsidian is a mixture of cryptocrystalline grains of silica minerals in a glass-like suspension, a super-cooled liquid. In the last stages of volcanic eruptions, when most of the other elements and the water in the lava are gone (burned up, ejected or flowed out), the remaining material chills at surface temperatures.

"Snowflake" obsidian is a variety of obsidian that is usually black with white, off-white or light brown snowflake-shaped crystal patches of the mineral cristobalite. Cristobalite is a silica polymorph (the ability of a solid material to exist in multiple forms or crystal structures) that, in the case of snowflake obsidian, forms as crystals or spherulites during partial crystallization as the glass cools. Other names for this variety of obsidian are "flowering" obsidian and "spherulitic" obsidian.

Obsidian was named after the Roman explorer Obsius because of its resemblance to a stone he found in Ethiopia that he named *obsianus lapis*. And the English translation of Natural History, an early encyclopedia originally written in Latin by Pliny the Elder, includes a few sentences about a volcanic glass called Obsidian.

Obsidian is commonly found within the margins of rhyolitic lava flows known as obsidian flows. Rhyolite is an igneous, volcanic rock of felsic composition. "Felsic" refers to rock that is rich in minerals that form feldspar and quartz. (Typically the silicon dioxide (SiO_2) content of felsic rocks is greater than 70%.) The high silica content induces the lava to have high viscosity and polymerization (a chemical process that binds molecules together with a tendency to form glass and semi-crystalline structures rather than crystals) that causes the obsidian to be hard and brittle. That is why obsidian has a conchoidal fracture with very sharp edges.

Obsidian is found all over the world; any place that has experienced rhyolitic volcanic eruptions. This includes (but is not limited to) Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Australia, Canada, Chile, Georgia, Greece, El Salvador, Guatemala, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Scotland, Turkey and the United States (in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Virginia, Pennsylvania and North Carolina).

No obsidian has been found that is older than the Cretaceous age. This is because obsidian is metastable (a condition in which the material spends an extended time in a configuration other than its state of least energy) at the Earth's surface, and over time it becomes fine-grained mineral crystals. When newly formed, obsidian has a low water content, typically less than 1% water by weight. Over time, when exposed to groundwater, it becomes progressively hydrated forming perlite.

Historically, obsidian was used in cutting and piercing tools such as arrowheads, scrapers and blades. Analyses of ancient obsidian artifacts is instrumental in understanding prehistoric cultures. Today, obsidian is used by some surgeons for scalpel blades, although this is not approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use on humans. Obsidian is also carved for ornamental purposes and it is a favorite gemstone for jewelry making.

References: Wikipedia, mindat.org

Pebble Pups - **New Year, New Place, New Ideas**

Thursday Jan 19th 6:00 to 7:00pm -

Madison County Senior Center Painting Room



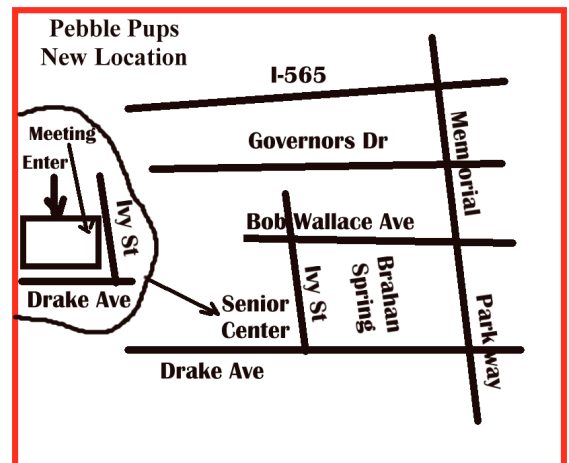
Please RSVP to Brian, **256-746-0641**,
bburgess771@gmail.com

With our new location in the Madison County Senior Center (see map), we will have a new opportunity for using hands-on activities—crystal growing; mineral, fossil, and rock identification kits: and many other ideas with the ability to keep projects on site from month to month. Parking access is improved, cost is much reduced (no extra Pups fee for participation), and the room is much friendlier (no outside noise). Enter the north center door and we will meet you to the room. If you already paid the extra, it will be reimbursed.

There will be lots of discussion about how programs and activities may be planned and conducted, so bring your ideas and dreams. This will be the best year ever.

Kids ages 8 through 13 are invited to join this Junior Rock Enthusiasts Group. All participating families must have Family-Member status (the \$20 rate) in the HGMS and an adult family member must be present during the meeting. Pups family membership is an additional \$10/year. **We are now meeting at the Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville AL. Thanks**

Meeting Schedule	Jan 19	May 18	Sep 21
	Feb 16	Jun 15	Oct 19
	Mar 16	Jul 20	Nov 16
	Apr 20	Aug 17	



A Journey Among Fossils, by Bill Friday

Most people are intrigued to some extent or another by fossils, shrouded in mystery while providing glimpses into the dim distant past of life on earth. This section will begin a regular feature in the newsletter covering different aspects of fossils – how and why they formed and clues which can be gleaned from studying them. I'll illuminate some of the more interesting creatures – a few of which are still represented on Earth today in living descendants.

This series will look at how fossils formed in the first place and how they have been discovered. A fossil by definition is a more or less faithful replica of a long-dead animal or plant, or even other lifeforms which were neither of these including bacteria, fungi, and some even stranger but otherwise unique life forms. The parts which survive are typically hard and durable in tough environments which tend to grind or dissolve softer parts, particularly muscles and skin. Shark teeth and clam shells being very durable may include original material. Most often what we find are imprints of original parts of organisms which have been replaced by minerals, but which preserve a creature's shape and size. Fossilized bony skeletons often give extremely good indications of how ancient animals lived and sometimes how they died.

Trace fossils are not really fossils at all, but things such as worm holes or lizard tracks found in rocks which were once mud showing evidence of living creatures. Even marks left by rising gas bubbles and the swish marks left by fish as they sped away from disturbances can tell stories of the environment where they were formed.



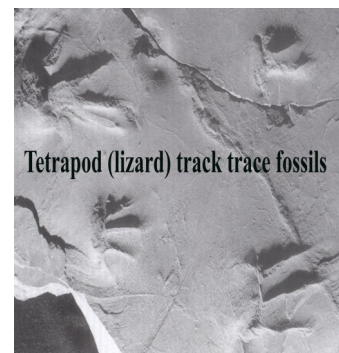
Fossils (continued)

Amber, which is simply ancient tree resin, very often entrapped insects and plants with such effectiveness that the poor creatures can be studied intact in great detail. The entire premise upon which the Jurassic Park movies are based started with extracting mosquitoes from amber, and then pulling dinosaur blood from the insects' guts. The DNA was cloned and replicated, yielding living dinosaurs. So far, scientists have not even been truly able to take DNA from a living creature in the lab and clone a living replica. In the case of the dinosaurs from mosquito guts – the truth is that DNA can be extracted to a point, but it is not viable, meaning that it is damaged beyond any hope of its cloning, even if such were ever possible. Maybe that is too bad, but as in the movies, living Tyrannosaurus Rex monsters rampaging through our suburban neighborhoods isn't a pretty picture.

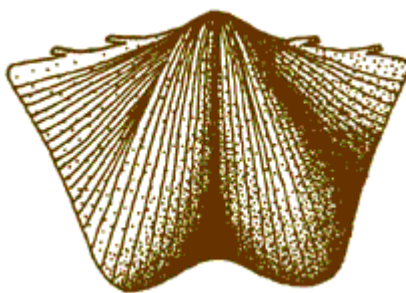
A more hopeful path toward bringing back live dinosaurs may lie in the discovery of what may be dead but well preserved tissue from the interior of a T-Rex bone at the Smithsonian Institution. See this story at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/dinosaur-shocker-115306469/?no-ist>.

I hope this introduction gives you some enticement to return each month for more and deeper explorations into the fascinating and ancient history of life on earth in all its forms. We will delve into the methods and exploits of the people whose careers have been spent peeling back the cloak of mystery that surrounds the origins and lives of our ancestors, all the way back to the single celled bacteria pulled from very ancient mud, and beyond.

The next installment of this series will look at shelled animals, including pelecypods (clams), brachiopods (oysters), nautiloids, gastropods, and other creatures more difficult to categorize such as the Hyolith shown below. These tough creatures evolved very early and preserved easily, thus spanning most of the periods when more complex lifeforms inhabited earth—reaching from 800 million years ago, with many changes but no breaks, to the present. They adapted easily to changes in their environments, exhibiting a vast range in shapes and sizes. This makes them one of the most reliable of what are called index fossils. With a nearly complete sequence of specimens over that span identified as to age, when one is found in a new location, its presence can be used to date the level in which it is found. Using this mollusk database, other fossils found with them can then also be fairly reliably dated on the evolutionary tree of life.



Tetrapod (lizard) track trace fossils



Brachiopod



Mystery Hyolith Haplophrentis

For Sale—Husky Model THD950LN Tile Saw with two 7inch diamond blades, a stand, water cooled with additive
Asking \$300

1.5 hp motor

Maximum Cut Depth @ 45 Deg. : 1.75 in

Maximum Cut Depth @ 90 Deg. : 2.25 in

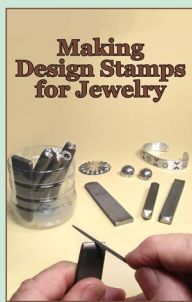
Excellent shape with very little prior use.

Call Bill Friday 256-527-8227 or bill.friday@earthlink.net



Brad's Bench Tips

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon www.BradSmithJewelry.com



Bradford M. Smith

Recommended as a good buy and good reading for all who like to have better lapidary skills. S.S. <http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/>
See all Brad's jewelry books at Amazon.com/author/author/bradfordsmith

=====

Announcing Brad's latest jewelry techniques book for those who like South-west-style stamped jewelry.

"**Making Design Stamps For Jewelry**" covers the step-by-step process of selecting best steels, carving the design, hardening the steel, and tempering the completed stamp to ensure a long service life. It describes the tools to use, gives examples for how to make several design stamps, and 78 close-up photos that illustrate the important details. Both Kindle and paperback editions are on Amazon at <http://amzn.to/2fvf58T>

SANDING/POLISHING IN TIGHT PLACES

Often you'll need to sand or polish an area that's impossible to reach with even a small wheel on a flexshaft. Other times it might be the bottom of a pocket or inside bottom corner of a box that needs to be finished. One trick for these nit-picky jobs may be left over from your last Chinese dinner - a chopstick.

I've found quite a few uses for these in the shop. Prepare the tip by simply sawing it off at a 45 degree angle. Then apply whatever abrasive grit you will need for the job or hold a strip of sandpaper around the end. Loose grit can be held onto the tip with a bit of vaseline or oil. Tripoli or rouge can be just rubbed onto the end of the chopstick.



OCHRE APPLICATOR

Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder won't flow on an area of your piece while you're soldering another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it.

I use recycled nail polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush applicator. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail polish remover, and they're ready to go.



**Club members are reminded to
bring back any show yard signs that
they have so they can be changed
for the next show.
Thanks, Tony Smith**

Membership Renewals were Due on January 1



Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc



The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve
DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
Copyright © All rights reserved.

An Official Field Trip of the Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society (Birmingham, AL) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

TRIP: Finally a trip near enough to north Alabama for us to easily access, and some pretty good material to collect. This is an old alluvial deposit containing rocks eroded from the Appalachian Mountains since their formation 400 million years ago. It is the site of an old gravel quarry that is now a producing natural gas field.

COLLECTING: Material at Brookwood is primarily water smoothed pebbles of mixed size from teeny to baking potato size. We will be looking for petrified wood, jasper, agate, crazy blue lace, and oolite. This site has an abundance of water smoothed quartz pebbles shaped like a double sided cabochon. Small amounts of many other types of rock are found including petrified wood, jasper, agate, marine fossils, Indian paint pots and any number of other unknown materials. Lots of great tumbling material but some is suitable for cutting.

BRING: Sack lunch, plenty of drinks, buckets or bags for specimens, hammer, screwdriver (or something similar to pry the rock out of the surface). No digging needed. Wear appropriate dress, hat, good gloves, and sunscreen.

REQUIREMENTS: All tools, equipment, and ponds are strictly off limits. The SFMS code of ethics should be strictly observed. The property owner has been generous to let us collect here for many years and we would not want anything to jeopardize that.

WAIVER FORMS MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE YOU DIG!!!

Please check out with me before you leave so we can keep count of who is there. We do not want anyone to get locked in the gate!!

EVERYONE MUST BE OUT OF THE SITE BY 3:00

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

McDonalds / Love's Truck Stop, 22183 Highway 216, McCalla, AL 35171

We will be meeting at McDonald's at exit 100 of I-20/I-59 South (heading from Birmingham towards Tuscaloosa). It is inside the Love's Truck Stop and can be seen while at the off-ramp on the right side. You will turn right onto Hwy. 216 and the Love's Truck Stop will be on your immediate left. This is about 145 miles from Huntsville by way of I-65.

Please be there between **8 - 8:30 a.m. CST**. We plan to pull out at 8:30 am so you need to get there to sign the waiver and attendance sheet. (So if you fall in a hole we know who to look for!!)

CONTACT: Lou Ann Newell newell.louann@gmail.com 205-482-3234.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL ME!

RSVP: Please let us know if you are planning on attending. This is a large site but we cannot manage more than about 75 visitors.

January Birthdays

3 Steve Tesh	16 Linda Riden
4 Wayne Hall	17 Neda Hastings
6 Cynthia McDaniel	18 Fritzie Young
8 Christine Tate	20 David Bath
8 Dorthea Chism	20 David Gulliver
9 Brian Burgess	21 Betty Zoller
10 Steven Tate	22 David Hosmer
11 Delora Ward	23 Lowell Zoller
12 Pat McKinney	23 Mike Wesley
13 Irv Brock	24 Evelyn Detwiler
14 Troy Haggerty	25 Nancy Burrows
14 Shannon Brantley	27 Clara Hayes
15 Jaxton Roberts	29 Marlene Allen
15 Lisa Watts	30 Wes Wells
16 Richard Poff	Jonathan Lear

Anniversaries - none

(that I know of yet)

February Birthdays

1 Ryan Flippo	10 Tony Smith
1 Darrell Murphy	11 Karin Bath
1 Briley Poff	12 Angie Gilchrist
2 Julie Eve	17 Eli Gilchrist
2 Michael Cape	17 Dave Kalange
4 Taylor Gulliver	17 Don Cooper
5 Alli Curran	17 Mary Lauren Thompson
6 Doran Adams	18 Wayne Falkenberg
6 Mike Goode	19 Ethan Hunneycut
6 Savanna Emerson	23 Mark Robinson
7 Antonio Bedard	25 John Cook
7 Lester Bartel	27 Rose Smith

Anniversaries

2 Dorthea Chism
12 Don & Marie Aldridge
18 Karen & Gary Thompson
19 Steven & Christine Tate
20 Ben Hunneycut & Brandy Hyatt

January 2017 - Senior Center Lapidary Lab Schedule

Lapidary, Silver Jewelry and Wood Carving—

No evening sessions during Christmas week

To use lapidary equipment, you must be certified unless a licensed instructor is present
- currently: B. Friday, & W. Falkenberg

Monday	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am- Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
Tuesday	Noon-4:30pm	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am—Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon -3:00 pm	Silver Jewelry- Terry Clarke, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	3:00pm-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Lapidary & Open Jewelry - certified HGMS 18+
Wednesday	7:30am-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Lapidary & Jewelry - certified HGMS 18+
Thursday	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am-11:30am	Silver Jewelry- Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon-3:00pm	Wood Carving - Copeland, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	3:00pm-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary -certified HGMS 60+
Friday	6:00pm-9:00pm	Metal Smithing & Jewelry Classes— HGMS 18+
	7:30am-12:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+

2017 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Mike Harrison 256-797-2435

wm.harrison.123@gmail.com

Vice President— Mark Habercom

mhabercom@energize.net

Recording Secretary: Dorothea Chism

dorotheachism@gmail.comTreasurer: [Clara](#) Goode, 256-883-9194clarag1964@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Bill Friday, 256-527-8227

bill.friday@earthlink.netDirectors at Large: Chris Kalange—ckalange@comcast.netBruce Kowalczyk—256-424-2197 arkowalczyk@aol.comMindy Schell , Ex Officio - mindy.schell@yahoo.com 334-790-0671Federation Liaison - Charlie Willhoite - 256-340-3448—cdwillhoite@yahoo.com

2705 Jarvis Street S. W. Decatur AL 35603

2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Bill Friday— 256-527-8227

bill.friday@earthlink.net

2508 Excalibur Dr. Huntsville AL 35803

Scrapbook: Dianna O'Dell, 256-828-1813

Librarian: Leslie Malakowsky, 256-755-0479

Club Publicity: open

Education & Craftsmanship: vacant

Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-746-0641

Hospitality: Caryl Nixon 256-426-5061

caryl.nixon@outlook.com

Mineral ID: Wayne Falkenberg—

falkenbergwp@comcast.net

(William Holland offers a class for this)

Property: Chris Kalange, 256-883-7627

ckalange@comcast.net

Program Chair—Myra Soroczak 256-446-9938 -

Soroczak@yahoo.com

Show Chair: Tony Smith, 256-603-3095.

Show Vendor Chair: Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803

Show Volunteer Chair: Open for a Volunteer

Show Publicity Chair: Tony Smith, 256-852-3210

Show Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194

clarag1964@gmail.com

PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY: The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society is a non-profit educational organization for people interested in mineralogy, geology, paleontology, and related lapidary arts. Its primary purpose is the education of the members and the general public in these areas. This purpose is accomplished through programs, shows, lectures to school children and organizations, and exchange of rocks, minerals and artifacts.

DUES: Annual dues are \$15.00 per person, \$20.00 per family, and are due on January 1st of each year

Membership Applications may be found at our webpage www.Huntsvillegms.org, at meetings, or the lab

MEETING PLACE: Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL at 6:30pm.

DATE: Fourth Tuesday of each month except for June picnic/rock swap, Christmas Dinner and major holidays.

Federation Liaison: Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, 2705 Jarvis St SW, Decatur AL 35603, Attn: Charlie Willhoite

The Society is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies ,
the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Dixie Mineral Council

Federation Newsletters:

SFMS: www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html

AFMS: www.amfed.org/news/default.htm

DMC: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm



2017 CALENDAR

24 Jan '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
28 Feb '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
28 Mar '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
Apr '17 - Annual Rock Auction— date & details to be finalized
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
23 May '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
17 Jun '17 - Annual HGMS Picnic—
Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville AL
25 Jul '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
22 Aug '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
26 Sep '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
13-15 Oct '17 - Fall HGMS Gem Jewelry Show -
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd

Deadline for Next Newsletter— February 17, 2017

Rocket City Rocks & Gems

Bill Friday, Editor
2508 Excalibur Dr.
Huntsville, AL 35803

HGMS January 2017



**Dated Material
Do not Delay**