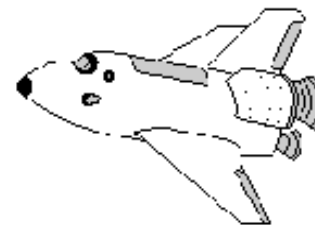
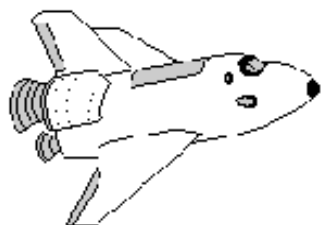


ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 49 No. 8

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

August 2017

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August Program

Steve Young will be our speaker for August. He will talk about experiences he and his wife Fritzie have had at various mines across the country.

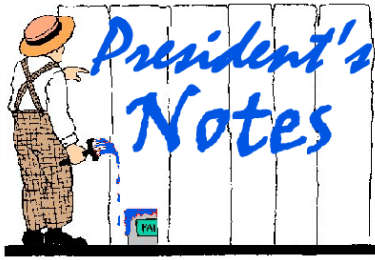


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For those who missed the July meeting, the proposed budget was accepted unanimously.

You also missed an excellent program given by Bill Friday on Yellowstone National Park. One of the most interesting things about the Park, aside from its natural beauty, is its seismic history—past, present, and, most likely, future. A mere 600,000 years ago there occurred a gigantic volcanic blast that is one of the largest known in geologic history—Mt. St. Helens was a mere peashooter by comparison. Given that the Park area is still slowly travelling over a “hot spot,” another such blast is probably coming, so try to plan your visit around it.

The 50th annual Gem Show is rapidly approaching. Even though the actual event is Oct 13-15, many activities precede the show. Volunteers are needed for these activities as well as for the show itself. We will discuss these activities and how you can help at the August and September meetings.

One of these activities will be a bagging party for making up bags for the flume. This will be held Saturday, September 9 at 9:00 at the Hampton Cove Self-Storage, 7250 Highway 431 S. It usually takes a couple of hours, so no one will miss their favorite college football game. Refreshments will be provided.

Sign-up sheets for the various needs are on the table at the front. Feel free to sign up for more than one activity. If you can help for specific times, please note them; that will help the chairman make appropriate assignments. Thanks.

Minutes of the July 25, 2017 Meeting

President Mark Habercom opened the meeting at 6:33p.m. He reminded us to see the display cabinet at the Huntsville main library before July 31st. Also don't forget that the show is Oct. 13th – 15th. Sign-up sheets for volunteers are available tonight.

2017 Budget

We voted to accept the proposed 2017 budget as published in the June 2017 newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Clara Goode reported the current bank balance, up due to the income from the auction.

Metalsmithing News

Joe Bonin (on behalf of Shelley Curran and Kathy Bowman) announced that sign-ups are being taken for metalsmithing certification. You must be certified by an HGMS metalsmithing instructor to take metalsmithing classes.

Rocket City Jewelers News

Leslie Malakowsky announced that RCJ has tomorrow night, July 26th, off. She is taking sign-ups for the August 2nd class which is a wire and stone bead bracelet. Kit cost is \$4.00 and you can pay on the 26th.

Future Programs

Myra Soroczak announced that in September, Steve Young will share information about the mines he's visited. Myra will bring in books to give away, and she'll discuss what to look for in books about rocks. In October, we'll have the last installment of HGMS members' show-and-tell! Members who's last names begin with R-Z (and folks who missed their original night) may bring in their favorite items.

(Minutes Continued Next Page)

July Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Lapidary Shop Report

Bill Friday reported that he bought oil and tools for the shop. Joe announced that he will open the shop on Wednesday nights from 6-9p.m. while Chris Kalange is recovering from surgery.

Show News

Tony Smith, our show chairman, announced that he is working with the same group as last year to place billboards advertising the show for \$270.00. Flyers are available tonight – take some! Tony will post the flyer PDF on the HGMS website so it can be printed when needed. (The official HGMS website is huntsvillegms.org.) For the first time, we will have an ATM machine at the show.

Lowell Zoller announced that this year's show will be our 50th show! The best advertisement is word of mouth. He will ask the vendors to provide something special for the anniversary. Myra suggested that we give local radio station staff show tickets as a special thank you for advertising the show. Mike Soroczak suggested that we invite local radio stations to set up in the Jaycee's building parking lot. Thelia DeMoor announced that WLRH can interview spokespersons for the show. The contact person is Beth Norwood. To help with the show, see Joe Bonin, our show volunteer chairman.

Pebble Pups Stuff

Brian Burgess reported that he and Bill are taking the pups to the William Brown State Park this Saturday. They'll meet at 20 Mile Creek. Please email Brian for directions.

Picnic Follow Up

Caryl Nixon thanked everyone who worked on the picnic while she was on vacation, especially Laura and Shelley. (Caryl has lingon berries to share that she brought back from Sweden.) She has sign-up sheets for the vendor/volunteer dinner. Food will be potluck side dishes with the club providing the meat. Food must be delivered to the Jaycee's building by 4:30p.m. Sign up to bring food, set up and/or clean up. If you can't bring food, please consider a monetary donation. Please sign the get well card for Chris. Caryl is also getting prices for a 50th anniversary cake for the show. Please recycle cans and plastic bottles and cups from tonight's meeting.

Program

Bill gave an excellent program about Yellowstone National Park. Here are some of the highlights. Yellowstone was the first national park, designated by President Ulyses S. Grant, on March 1, 1872. Convection of semi-solid rock under the Earth's crust causes hot spots on Earth's surface. (The Loihi Seamount is a new Hawaiian island resulting from a hot spot.) The basalt magma intrusion zone causes 3 calderas formed by ground collapse with explosive volcanism. There is a new caldera called West Thumb forming at the left edge of Yellowstone Lake. The upper and lower falls are caused by water eroding soft rock underneath a layer of harder rock. Yellowstone features geysers, mudpots, fumeroles, hot springs, 2 kinds of bears, 3 or 4 ungulates, fish and birds. Cyanobacteria can also be found in the park. There are many geysers and hot spots all over the world, all near active volcanoes. Thank you, Bill, for a very interesting program!

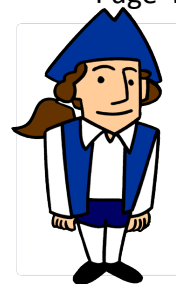
Meeting adjourned at 7:40p.m.

We welcomed 3 visitors – Greg Ellis, Donna Reed and Brenda Cummings, who selected gift rocks – and there were no new members in attendance. We enjoyed refreshments!

Report submitted by Leslie Malakowsky, acting Recording Secretary

Metal Smithing/Silver Group by Kathy Bowman

Certification Classes: The date for the classes will be Thursday, August 31. **Please Note: The Certification classes will start at 5:30 pm instead of 6 pm so that we can have safety certification before we start the pendant.** Any student that is not able finish the pendant can come back on Sept 14th and continue to work on it at our regular Thursdays work sessions. Instructors will be there to help you. We apologize for the wait between the certification class and the work session but we currently have only 2 instructors and a limited amount of tool boxes available so we are not able have a work session to finish the certification pendant on September 7th,



Upcoming Project Class:

The next project class will be September 7, 2017. We will be making a wire frame pendant with prongs for a square or rectangular cab. The signup sheet for this class will be available at the **August** HGMS meetings and on Thursday nights from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. I will have some cabs available to purchase if you don't have one that is suitable for the project. This is not a good first project for total beginners, but it is not difficult if you have a little previous experience soldering a few pieces before attempting this class.

On nights that we do not have an official project class scheduled anyone who is certified is invited to join us to work on your projects. Instructors are available for "one on one" instruction and help on individual projects on work session nights. Anyone who missed a particular project we have had in the past and would like to work on that project. Please notify Shelly or me and we will provide you with the kit and instructions so you can work on it during our work session nights.

Rocket City Jewelry News will be distributed by email to active members

Volunteer Positions *

Class Instructors:

Toolbox Sign-outs
Inventory Manager
Store Manager

Kit Manager

Webpage & Social Media Management

Kathy Bowman

Shelley Curran

Chris Kalange

Beth Durham

Opening

Shelley Curran

Deb Neis & Linda Haynes



***Note: We are all volunteers so the schedule is subject to change.**

Fall Show Heads UP

The show will be October 13, 14, & 15, with setup on the 12th. This will be our 50th show. It has been suggested that we try and do something special for this show because it is our 50th, more drawings, more activities, etc.. If you have any ideas please let Lowell or me know so we can decide which ones might be best. The more additional things we do, the more help we will need to do them. We will talk more about this at the July meeting. We need to start planning for work session(s) at the storage unit and for the mining flume (if needed).

Please return any Show Yard Signs. These need to be updated to read 2017, and some of the wire frames need to be re-welded. Thanks. Tony Smith tsmith@erc-incorporated.com 256-603-3095 Lowell Zoller Lzol@comcast.net (256) 534-8803 & Joe Bonin sixjsonef@yahoo.com 256-859-9711

Brad's Bench Tips

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

Announcing Brad's latest jewelry techniques book for those who like Southwest-style stamped jewelry. Both Kindle and paperback editions are on Amazon at <http://amzn.to/2fvf58T>



FIND THE BALANCE POINT

With odd-shaped pendants or earrings it's often difficult to find the right place to attach a bail or loop so that the piece is balanced and hangs straight. A quick way to make a tool for this is to modify a set of tweezers. Any set of tweezers will work. Spread the tips, sharpen them with a file, and bend the tips at a right angle to point towards each other. To use the tool suspend the pendant or earring between two sharp points to see how it will hang.



DRILL BREAKAGE

Using a small drill is difficult for a beginner, especially if it is hand held in a flexshaft or Dremel. They are easily broken if you push too hard or if you tilt the drill while it's in the hole.

Most problems, however, are the result of buying cheap drills that suffer from poor quality steel or inaccurately ground cutting edges. A good drill from jewelry supply companies is well worth the price.

Remember that drilling always goes easier with lubrication. A little wax or oil is all you need. Almost anything will work - Three and One, beeswax, mineral oil, injection wax, car oil, olive oil, or one of the commercial cutting waxes. The lubricant helps to move chips out of the hole and reduces friction of the drill against the side of the hole, keeping the drill cooler.

Wayne Ramsey's Annual Patio Sale

Location: 303 Loretta Drive, Goodlettsville, TN 37072
615/491-2293
wramsey205@comcast.net

Time: 9:00am till 3:00pm Central, October 21st

What you will find:

- Mineral specimens
- Specimens from 3 recently purchased collections
- Elmwood specimens (individual or flat)
- Massive fluorite Illinois
- Specimens from personal collection
- Dealer inventory clearance
- Yard rocks
- Whole flats, individual specimens, bagged by weight or whole lots.
- Lot of items to choose from, too much to list

Fee: FREE There is no restriction to how much you can take home!

All Welcome!



Pebble Pups -

Thursday Aug 24, 6:00 to 7:00pm

Madison County Senior Center Cafeteria

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

If anyone has any questions, please contact Brian or Bill

Slabs, Cabs, & Crystals

We will examine a selection of rocks and minerals which have been prepared for making jewelry.
There will be an open discussion about what we do with the rocks we find.

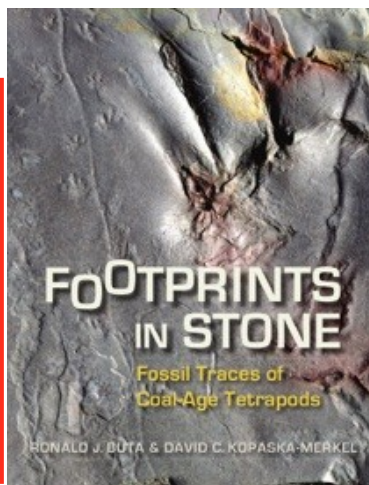
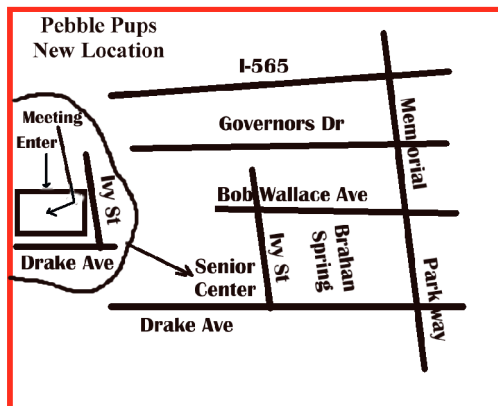


Steven Minkin Tracksite near Jasper AL September 9th .

We carpool from the Senior Center at 8:30, and will take Hwy 231 south from Huntsville to Arab AL, then AL Hwy 69 to Jasper, including a short section on Interstate 65.

We will re-group at the Jasper AL WalMart on AL Hwy 5, GPS 33°50'39" 87°15'15" and will further carpool from there to the mine.

The Steven C. Minkin Paleozoic Footprint Site in [Walker County](#) is the most prolific source of vertebrate trackways of its age in the world. It is an important resource for scientists for a number of reasons: the [fossils](#) found within it are well-preserved, abundant, and diverse, and thus scientists can study multiple examples of a given species or behavior; the deposit records the footprints of some of the earliest reptiles;



Twenty Mile Creek Field Trip - Booneville MS - 29 July 2017

Cool(er) day, clear skies, water just right, and shark teeth hiding under the sand and boulders.

Brian Burgess had presented a great program to our Pebble Pups group on fossil teeth from sharks and other Cretaceous (60 million years old) critters, with a case of named examples and slide show. The highlight was the tub of sand and gravel with a large cache of shark teeth mixed in. Each attendee was handed the scoop and a sifter, and was allowed to keep the teeth extracted by this method. And everybody found plenty!

With that information background, the Pups headed to Twenty Mile Creek just south of Booneville Mississippi, to dig for these same fossils in the sandy bottom. This area was a shallow ocean floor when the original inhabitants swam, hunted, and died. Armed with scoops and screens, one at a time folks sang out that they had found a specimen. The highlight find wasn't made by one of our members, but was still very special—a vertebrae of some long lost marine reptile. The young man had been in the water for less than ten minutes when he held this up. There were also barracuda teeth, stingray barbs, oyster shells, and many mystery bits to be studied later to get hoped-for identification. These fossils continually weather out of the creek bank, but most are already in the sand waiting for a lucky searcher to bring them to light. Even with the heavy activity in this popular site, there are still specimens to be found. The rounded boulders are stromatolites, fossil colonies of cyanobacteria, which are descended fairly unchanged from the inhabitants of the earliest oceans on earth, 3.5 billion years ago.

This will likely be an annual event.



Mineral of the Month – Calcite

By Leslie A. Malakowsky

Calcite is a carbonate mineral and the most stable polymorph (a solid material that exists in more than one form or crystal structure) of calcium carbonate with the formula CaCO_3 . The minerals aragonite, travertine, and vaterite are also polymorphs of calcium carbonate.

Calcite can range from transparent to opaque. It can be colorless, white and varying shades of gray, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet, brown, or black, especially when impurities are present.

Calcite crystals are trigonal-rhombohedral, though actual calcite rhombohedra are rare as natural crystals. They occur in a remarkable variety of crystal habits including crystalline (acute to obtuse rhombohedra, tabular forms, prisms, and various scalenohedra); fibrous; granular; lamellar; stalactitic; concretionary; and massive. The largest documented single crystal of calcite originated from Iceland and it measured $7\text{m} \times 7\text{m} \times 2\text{m}$ and weighed about 250 tons.



Calcite crystals also exhibit several twinning types. Crystal *twinning* occurs when two separate crystals share some of the same crystal lattice points. This intergrowth of two crystals results in a variety of symmetrical configurations.



Additional physical properties include: cleavage - usually in three directions parallel to the rhombohedral form; fracture - conchoidal; hardness – a defining hardness of 3 on Moh's scale; specific gravity - 2.71; and luster - vitreous in crystallized varieties. Calcite may occasionally show phosphorescence or fluorescence. (Fluorescence is the emission of light by a material that has absorbed light or other electromagnetic radiation.

Phosphorescence is a type of photoluminescence related to fluorescence in which a material does not immediately re-emit the radiation it absorbs.)

The name calcite is derived from the German word *calcit*, a term coined in the 19th century from the Latin word for lime, *calx* (genitive *calcis*) plus the suffix -ite used to name minerals. The variety of calcite called "Iceland spar" is used for optical purposes. It is also a favorite of rock food hobbyists (those who collect rock and mineral specimens that resemble food) because this form of calcite resembles ice cubes. Acute scalenohedral crystals of calcite are sometimes called "dogtooth spar" while rhombohedral crystals are sometimes called "nailhead spar". A fibrous, efflorescent form of calcite is called lublinit.

Single calcite crystals display an optical property called birefringence (double refraction). This strong birefringence causes objects viewed through a clear piece of calcite to appear doubled. (I have an Iceland spar in my personal collection that displays this property. As children, we called it "TV rock".) This birefringent property was first described by the Danish scientist Rasmus Bartholin in 1669. At a wavelength of $\sim 590\text{ nm}$, calcite has ordinary and extraordinary refractive indices of 1.658 and 1.486, respectively.

Calcite is a very common mineral. It's a primary constituent of sedimentary rocks, especially limestone (approximately 10% of sedimentary rock is limestone). Much limestone is formed from the shells of dead marine organisms such as plankton, the hard parts of red algae, some sponges, brachiopods, and echinoderms, some serpulids, most bryozoa, and some bivalves. One spectacular example of natural formations of calcite based on microorganisms is found in the Snowy River Cave of New Mexico. Trilobites, which became extinct a quarter billion years ago, had unique compound eyes that used clear calcite crystals to form the lenses. Calcite is the primary mineral in metamorphic marble. It also occurs as a vein mineral in deposits from hot springs, and it occurs in caverns as stalactites and stalagmites. Calcite may also be found in volcanic or mantle-derived rocks such as carbonatites, kimberlites, or rarely in peridotites.

High-grade optical calcite was used in World War II for gun sights, specifically in bomb sights and anti-aircraft weaponry. Calcite created by dead marine organisms has a wide range of applications, such as soil remediation, soil stabilization and concrete repair. Calcite obtained from an 80 kg sample of Carrara marble, is used in mass spectrometry.

A humorous note about Iceland spar: Next time you enjoy your favorite beverage "on the rocks" be careful – those ice cubes might just be real rocks!



Fossil Sharks by Bill Friday

Sharks are sometimes referred to as "living fossils". Ancient sharks lived in the oceans long before animals colonized the land. Their history goes back to at least 400 million years ago, making the 2 million year history of humans seem quite insignificant by comparison.

Most fossil evidence of early sharks exists as fossil teeth along with a few skin impressions. The earliest known evidence of sharks are fossil scales that date over 420 million years ago during the early Silurian. During the Carboniferous Period, sharks went through a period of diversification resulting in the evolution of many new forms. Many of these became extinct during the Permian with the remaining sharks undergoing adaptive radiation during the Jurassic, when the skates and rays first appeared. Modern forms of sharks evolved during the Jurassic Period about 150 million years ago, during the time of the giant dinosaurs.

Between 2,000 and 3,000 ancient shark species have been described based on the fossil evidence. Ancestry of sharks dates back before the earliest known dinosaur. Dinosaurs are long gone, sharks still live on.

Fossils are remains, traces, or impressions of ancient life preserved in rocks. These include mineralized bones, teeth, and shells as well as casts of foot prints, scales, skin, hair and dung. Certain conditions must exist for fossilization to occur. It requires insulation from microbial destruction of the tissue along with a supply of soluble minerals to take the place of the tissues. If conditions are right, the once-living tissues may be replaced very slowly to create a cast in stone of the original structure. However, since these conditions rarely exist, most organic material dissolves leaving an incomplete fossil record.

Fossil Shark Teeth - What are shark teeth made of anyhow?

Shark teeth are the most common type of fossil for a number of reasons. First, shark teeth, like most teeth, are made of dentin, a hard calcified tissue that does not easily decompose. Dentin is harder and denser than bone. In a tooth, the Dentin is surrounded by a very hard enamel shell.

Secondly, to maintain a sharp smile, shark teeth are designed to regularly fall out and be replaced. This is shown in figure 1. If a shark has 40 or 50 teeth in its front dentition, and that dentition is replaced every few weeks, it takes no leap in logic to realize a shark can go through tens of thousands of teeth in a lifetime. Different estimates for different sharks range anywhere from 25,000 to 50,000 teeth lost in a lifetime. Now multiply that by millions of generations of sharks over tens of millions of years, thus shark teeth are the most common fossil.

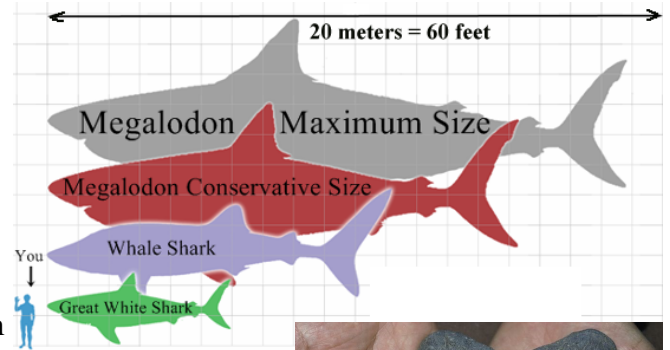
Shark Skin: Dermal Denticles Dermal denticles are the scales on the shark's skin. Denticles give the skin of a shark a silky smooth texture when rubbed one way, but a sandpaper like texture when rubbed the other way. The streamlined denticles give the sharks hydrodynamic advantage over other fish.

They resemble miniature teeth, having a "root" like section, with an enamel tip sticking out. This part, made of bone, anchors the scale to the skin. Denticles are usually a millimeter or so in size, and are often overlooked.

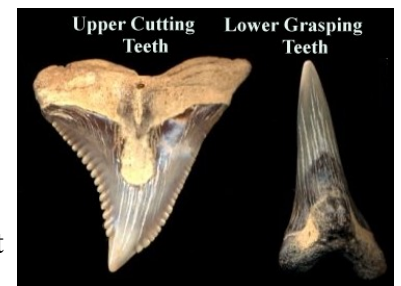
Fossil Shark Vertebrae Shark skeletons are composed of cartilage. Cartilage, the stuff your ears and nose are made of, is much softer than bone, and rarely survives fossilization. Because of this, entire fossilized skeletons of sharks are, generally, a rare find. The centers of vertebrae are the densest part of the shark skeleton and sometimes fossilize. Vertebral centra are disk shaped. Processes would have come out of the large grooves in the sides of the centra, but they almost always do not survive fossilization. Vertebra centra range dramatically in size. Centra from a baby shark may only be 1/8" in size, while C. megalodon centra may be around 5 or 6 inches in size.

<http://www.fossilguy.com/gallery/vert/fish-shark/remnant.htm>

<https://www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/fish/discover/sharks/fossil-sharks/fossil-vs-modern/>



Great White Shark left





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
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An Official Field Trip of the Gaston Gem Mineral and Faceter's Club (Gastonia, NC) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, Huntsville AL

Saturday, August 26, 2017, 8:30AM - 4PM Eastern
Propst Farm, Lincoln County, NC

TRIP: The property recently reopened after several months following the passing of Mrs. Propst. The property has been producing **corundum**, since the 1960's. Digging will take place in front and behind the barn as well as other possible areas designated by the current owner, Ronald Lineberger

FEE: \$25 per person

COLLECTING: Some large and unusual corundum specimens have been coming out of the ground recently including a large Kyanite included specimen and a small clear ruby. Good specimens of magnetite and quartz crystals are occasionally found. The ground is hard packed red clay. Digging can be easy or moderately hard depending on the location and depth of the hole you dig.

BRING: Long and short shovels and small or large buckets minimum. 1 inch and half inch classifiers, small picks, tarps and probing tools may come in handy. Bring water or soft drinks and snacks. An extra change of clothes may be needed as the ground is red clay.

REQUIREMENTS: All collectors will be required to sign a permission / liability form and pay \$25 before setting up to dig. Digging is allowed in the designated areas only. All holes **MUST** be filled in before you leave the property.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Parking is on the grass near the dig area

CHILDREN: Allowed with parental supervision.

PETS: Allowed on leash only.

FACILITIES: There is no toilet but there is a service station with facilities at the exit of HWY 321 and Startown Road.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Address: Propst Farm - 3668 Startown Road, Maiden NC 28650

Lodging: Rooms are available in nearby Lincolnton NC or Hickory NC.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

About 13 miles south of I-40 via US321 and Startown Road or

About 26 miles north of I-85 via US321 and Startown Road

Dig is on residential land, pull in between 2 brick houses - Look for a sign on road where to turn in. **GPS 35°33'16" 81°16'11"**

CONTACT:

Lorell Dunlap, Field Trip Chair – Gaston Gem Mineral and Faceters club. Phone: 704-692-1272 E-Mail: Lorell_Dunlap@yahoo.com





Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

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The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve
DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
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An Official Field Trip of the Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society (Knoxville, TN) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, Huntsville AL

Saturday, September 30, 2017
Clarkesville, GA
10:00 AM Eastern (9 am Central)
Fee: \$10 per person

TRIP: This location is located in a band of kyanite bearing material. The material has been moved around so the kyanite is not in situ. Small blades are easy to find, but digging and some perseverance is required to find the larger specimens. This site is fun and productive site for all ages.

COLLECTING: Kyanite blades and cobbles, small mica books, and graphite specimens (rare). The kyanite ranges from gray to pale blue and may contain graphite. Some of the blades can be polished and, because of the graphite, they have a curious depth and shimmer when they are polished.

BRING: Small blades can be found weathering out onto the surface. Bigger blades and cobbles are found by digging 8" to 24" deep. You will need scratching tools and baggies for surface collecting, and a shovel and pick for digging. All holes must be refilled. This site can be muddy at times, so a change of clothes would be good too.

FACILITIES: There are no bathroom facilities at the site, but there is a McDonald's Restaurant in Clarksville and also restrooms at a public park a few miles from where we will be collecting. The Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society members will have free water and snacks available for everyone.

CHILDREN: This field trip is suitable for children but they must be supervised at all times

PETS: Because this is a working farm, pets are not allowed.

SAFETY: There are electrified fences on the farm so do not touch any fences. Field trip leads will open and close gates. This is a working farm and there may be animals present – do not approach any of the animals. Do not enter pastures where animals are present.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

GPS Coordinates: 34.603124,-83.517801

Ingles Market (the only Ingles in Clarkesville)
199 East Louise Street (US Old/Historical 441)
Clarkesville, GA 30523

CONTACT: Daniel Miller: 423-273-0487

Directions From Atlanta, take I-985 North towards Gainesville GA. I-985 will transition to GA 365/US 23. Continue on GA 365/US 23 to GA 197. Take GA 197 north to Clarkesville (about 3.5 miles). Ingles is on the right. We will meet in the parking lot close to the highway



August Birthdays

1 Lawana Cowart	17 Mary Lauren Thompson
2 Joyce Walters	18 Will Bryan
2 Lawrence Nelms	18 Karen Ryan
4 Brooks Glover	19 Barbara Decklman
6 Devona Hawkins	19 Jimi Sitko
6 Kayla Wilson	20 Johanna Bray
8 Monica Vosper	20 Emily King
10 Steven Basham	21 Hunter Raines
10 Jackson Herman	22 Scott McCoy
11 Ray Hunt	22 Steven Priest
12 Mike Elrod	24 Karen Allen
13 Randy Kilgore	25 Debora Neis
14 Larry Schreckengost	25 James Raines
14 Mary Spaulding	28 John Burford
15 Howard Kuettner	28 Evan O'Dell
15 Jan McGee	30 Ivy Pline
17 Marlene Hopkins	31 Lauren McCullough

Anniversaries

1 Clara & Mike Goode	19 Julie & Tim Eve
3 Brian & Karen Allen	25 Jim & Ola Ann Lee
4 Florence Mims	26 Chris & June Kalange
9 Lowell & Betty Zoller	27 Elizabeth Lewis
18 Julia & Steven Priest	29 Samantha & James Steele
18 Jacob & Teresa Roberts	30 Chris Stewart

September Birthdays

1 Jennifer Pinkley	15 Phuong Le
1 Andy Bedard	15 Karen Thompson
1 Gayle Joyce	16 Charlie Willhoite
1 Wayne Hastings	16 Eric Emerson
2 Michael Bedard	16 Michael Ray
3 Lola Flippo	16 Yamile Nuckels
3 Gerdy Wyatt	18 Samantha Lindberg
4 Pat Allen	18 James Steele
5 Elke Ardal	19 Becky Fikes
6 Ivey Cook	19 Mitzi Cartee
7 Aubrey Eve	19 Susan Horway
7 Mike Harrison	20 Erica Emerson
8 David Lehner	21 Laura Carroll
9 Sophia Herman	22 Bonnie Tanner
10 Marie Aldridge	23 Renee' Gunnink
12 Rodney Lane	24 Donia Zavala
13 Mark Falkenberg	29 Dan Greene
14 Larry Augsburg	29 Linda Lindberg
14 J. P. McCullough	30 Jonathan Lear
14 Sheila Tesh	30 Miria Finckenor

Anniversaries

1 Frank & Shelley Curran
6 Delora Ward
6 Roger Broussard & Jessica Babcock
11 Kelly & David Gulliver
18 Rebecca Purcell
29 Mike & Theresa Chivers
30 Michael & Sharon Bedard
Bruce & Allison Kowalczyk

August 2017 - Senior Center Lapidary Lab Schedule

Lapidary, Silver Jewelry and Wood Carving—

To use lapidary equipment, you must be certified unless a licensed instructor is present

- currently: B. Friday, Chris Kalange, & Joe Bonin

Monday	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am- Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon-4:30pm	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
Tuesday	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	Lapidary & Jewelry Classes - 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+
	5:30pm-9:00pm	Metal Smithing & Jewelry Classes— certified HGMS 18+
Friday	7:30am-12:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+

2017 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Mark Habercom 256-340-8604

mhabercom@energize.net

Vice President— Vacant

Recording Secretary: Beth Durham

leabethdurham@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194

clarag1964@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

Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-746-0641

bburgess771@gmail.com

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.

tsmith@erc-incorporated.com

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

Lzol@comcast.net

Show Volunteer Chair: Joe Bonin, 256-859-9711

sixjsonef@yahoo.com

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 April Auction, June picnic, 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

- 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 & Mineral Show -
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd
- 24 Oct '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 28 Nov '17 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 5 Dec '17 - Christmas Dinner - Details to be announced later
- 23 Jan '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 27 Feb '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 27 Mar '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm

Deadline for Next Newsletter— September 16, 2017

Rocket City Rocks & Gems

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

HGMS August 2017

Dated Material
Do not Delay