

ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 50 No. 4

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

April 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Notes	2
Auction Notice	2
Minutes of the March Meeting.....	3
Rocket City Jewelers	4
Metalsmithing Corner.....	5
Pebble Pups	6
Feature Article	7
Brad's Bench Tips	8
DMC Field Trips.....	9
Apr/May Birthdays & Anniversaries.....	10
Lapidary Lab Schedule	10
2018 Officers & Committee Chairmen	11
Calendar.....	12

Spring Auction Fundraiser

No Regular Tuesday HGMS Meeting this Month



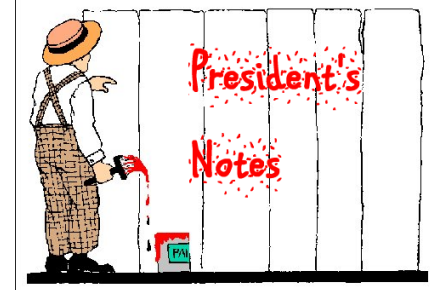
**Come out to help, and buy good stuff.
Saturday 28 Apr, 9:00 till stuff is gone, ~4:00.
Jaycees Bldg on Airport Rd, Food, Fun
See Page 2 for more information**

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



Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society (HGMS) 2018. 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

President's Notes By Bill Friday



One of the happier things to come out of the March meeting was that the response to Myra Soroczak's request for ideas for future meetings not only got requests for program topics but also saw offers to present programs. We sit back and think "I don't have anything in my head that others would want to hear", but that pessimism denies the rest of the room the joy of hearing about your experiences. If it was fun for you, it will also be fun for all. And you can get help. So Myra's job got easier and the rest of us will be blessed. Now that some have spoken up, hopefully more members will be encouraged to do the same.

One of our members has also been writing regular feature articles for the newsletter. Each month I get a Mineral of the Month from Leslie Malakowsky, well prepared and punctual. She has also volunteered as our Webmaster, aiming to bring our woefully out-of-date web page up to date, and I'm not throwing stones at past webbers - we all have more to do than time to do it and they had to move on. So if any of you has a hankering to write about a subject dear to your heart, give it a whirl. If you are worried about writing style, that is the least problem, as several members can whip your ideas into readable format - but it has to be at least be drafted, and if you want it printed in your own words, say so and it will be done.

Field Trips is another area where members can chime in - there are many interesting places within easy driving distance of north Alabama which would accommodate a group of Rockhounds, and Pebble Pups as well. Notice below that HGMS will be hosting a Dixie Mineral Council field trip to the Hogg Mine in July. Pass along your thoughts to Brian Burgess or to me and we will set about making it happen.

Educational Outreach is an under-served opportunity for our group, whose very Purpose Statement at the bottom of this newsletter is to be a non-profit educational organization. The Huntsville Library has requested help for the summer reading program, in the area of geology in particular in their note to us. Brian Burgess and I are going to Gadsden to present rocks and fossils to the Eura Brown Elementary School. Find ways to get more deeply involved, and it will help you take ownership, increase your level of interest, and let you spread some of your accumulated expertise to our members and future HGMS leaders, young and old.

AUCTION Saturday, April 28th, 9:00 AM

We're fast approaching our annual fund raising auction this April 28th at the Jaycee's building off Airport Rd. The monies raised go to support club activities, e.g. lapidary lab and Pups.

We've had some wonderful donations of rough and specimens. Very special stuff. We're a little light on finished stones, jewelry and equipment. If anyone is considering donating, sooner rather than later would be appreciated as photographing and cataloging takes time.

Donations will be accepted at the lapidary lab during lapidary or metalsmith hours. If necessary I can pick items up. We still really need to push publicity.

Info: Annual Fundraiser Auction, Sat April 28th, JC's Building off Airport Rd. Viewing @ 8:30 AM. Auction @ 9:00

Cash or plastic.

Bill Friday has found us a food truck Big cheer! That should really help.

We could still use 3-4 more bid spotters, runners, floaters.

The building will be open at 8:00am for set up. We should be done and out by 4:00.

Thank you to everyone for all the work that's already been done and all that's been promised.

Shelley. (256.426.4596) just call me

Are there any more Fall Show yard signs still out there?

These signs are expensive and if they are returned, new ones will have to be made. Please check the corners of your garage to see if any from past years are lurking in dark corners or closets.

Thanks, Tony Smith

HGMS March meeting minutes.

Come to order: Bill opened the meeting at 6:30 and announced there would be a short agenda tonight.

Minutes: Motion made and approved to accept the minutes from the February meeting as posted in the newsletter.

New members: There is one new member at the meeting tonight. Dawn Holliday.

Relocation ideas: Bill discussed options for a new meeting area to accommodate the recent HGMS meeting growth, and a new location for the lapidary and jewelry lab area. Meetings could move to the other senior center building but there would be a fee involved. The labs could move to an area in the Grissom high school building. Any discussion of changing any location are just potential possibilities at this time.

Website: Leslie Malakowsky has the computer setup and will soon be ready to maintain the HGMS website.

Archives: Lowell Zoller located a large collection of old newsletters and is working on digitizing them so interesting and useful stories can be added to the website.

William Holland and Wildacres Retreat tuition assistance drawing: Several people added their names to the tuition drawing list at the last minute and then the drawings were held. The winners are Sarah Herman and Leslie Malakowsky. The runners up are 1st Myra Soroczak and 2nd Wayne Falkenberg.

Jewelry: April will have a movie night, a wire wrap bails class, and a wire links make-up class.

Metalsmithing: April will have a hollow forms class.

Dues: Only about 1/3 of the membership have paid their dues so far this year.

Auction: The auction is April 28th in the Jaycees building. Volunteers need to be there by 8:00. Viewing begins at 8:30 and the auction begins at 9:00. Shelley announced that she still needs volunteers for runners, cashiers, set up, tear down, and general labor. Bill has found a food truck to cover the event. Cathy has volunteered to run the computer for credit cards. Shelley needs the POC for the ATM from the spring show to get in touch with her. The tax forms for donated items will be available after the auction is over.

Hospitality: The HGMS picnic is June 16th from noon until dark in the pavilion at Monte Sano state park. Ted's BBQ is catering lunch and everyone is invited to bring a potluck dish. Feel free to bring your own lapidary items to sell or swap.

Field trips: The Graves Mountain Georgia field trip is the same weekend as our auction. At Graves Mountain you can find a wide variety of minerals as well as a wide variety of vendors selling mineral specimens and other rockhounding merchandise.

Pebble Pups: The pups historically give a rocks and fossils presentation at the Yearbrown elementary school. In the past it was inside and the groups of kids were on top of each other without time to touch and study and ask questions. The pups are going to change that format and give the presentation outside in tents with restrictions on how many kids can visit them at a time. The results should be better for both the kids and the presenters.

The pups' webpage is active on Shutterfly. It's a private site for members only but gives field trip schedules, pictures, videos, along with their newsletter and links to interesting information.

Presentation: Bill gave a good presentation on "Whatever became of the dinosaurs"

Adjourn: After the presentation the meeting was adjourned and everyone who wanted enjoyed snacks.

Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News

By Leslie A. Malakowsky

Now taking sign-ups for the May 2nd Captured Cabochons class. In this class, you'll enclose glass floral cabs with copper wire "flower" frames. This technique can be used to create pendants, earrings and other jewelry using real gemstone cabs. The kit cost is \$2. You can pay at the April 24th HGMS meeting or on class night. To reserve your space, please see me at the HGMS meeting or contact me at (256) 755-0479.

Thanks to everyone who attended Movie Night on March 28th! We watched DVD snippets of various jewelry-making techniques (and enjoyed munchies). Events like this help keep us up-to-date with the jewelry crafting community. Thank you Bill Friday and William Aycock for setting up the AV equipment!

On April 4th, we learned how to make wire wrapped bails for different kinds of stone pendants. We had a good turnout for this class. A big thank you goes to our instructor, our own Sherrie Bonin, for assembling the kits and for teaching us the techniques. (Sherrie also cut and polished some of the gorgeous stones!) There will be more opportunities to make bails in the future!

Please note that the April 18th Wire Links-1 make-up class was cancelled. (Two of Myra's family members are having serious medical issues. We wish them the best as they recover.) We hope to offer this class at a later date. Instead, we'll dabble with caged beads, Celtic headpins, brooch pins, wire-wrapped leather ends and other useful stuff. Don't miss it!



Lead Instructor/	Group Leader Leslie Malakowsky
Instructors	Myra Soroczak, William Aycock, Sherrie Bonin & Openings
Kit Manager	Sherrie Bonin
Wire Supplier	Shelley Curran
Treasurer	Clara Goode
Facebook	Karen Van Bebber
Librarian	Opening
Security	Joe Bonin

Upcoming schedule:

April 25th – Open
 May 2nd – Captured Cabochons
 May 9th – Open
 May 16th – Chainmaille (TBD)
 May 23 – Open



RCJ is open to every member of the HGMS. **If you love making jewelry, please consider joining us!** All skill levels are welcome! We meet every Wednesday from 6-9p.m. in the Paint Room (next to the Lapidary Shop) at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Avenue, Huntsville.

Brad's Bench Tips—Continued

MANAGING PRODUCTION

Many readers of these BenchTips sell their jewelry at shows, in galleries or online. They are sole proprietors and constantly under pressure to design new pieces and make enough product to keep up with demand. So their options are few when a large order comes in. They can burn the midnight oil themselves, or they can be smart and get some temporary help. But you need good help, and you often need it fast.

Jewelry assemblers are skilled, trustworthy and reliable craftsmen who make it their business to help others handle overloads and meet deadlines. Flexible arrangements are possible, working by the job, by the hour or by the piece. Each has a different mix of skills, from fabrication to enameling, casting, stone setting, lapidary and others. Assemblers are known to the trade, so you may have to ask around to find some references. But some assemblers advertise on the Net. For instance, a good friend of mine, Janice Metz <JenFT4@aol.com>, has been working with designers and fabricators in the West Los Angeles area since 1997. She specializes in silversmithing, wire-wrapping, beading and stringing.

Metal Smithing/Silver Group by Kathy Bowman

Upcoming Project Class: Thursday,

You must be certified to enroll in this class since it does involve soldering. We will be making a "Spinner Ring" this month. You can choose your metal combination for both the band and spinner. Kt cost \$4.00 for base metal. Silver will be available for purchase at an additional cost.



The sign up sheet for this class will be available at the April HGMS meeting and during the Thursday classes. You also may sign up by sending email to HGMS@wildivystudio.com.

May 3 : Spinner Ring



As always, 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 any special tools so you can work on it during our work session nights. **Please let us know in advance if the project you want to work requires special tools or equipment we bring from home so we can be sure to have them available.**

Certification Classes: We plan to continue to do certifications on a one to three person basis during our regular Thursday night work nights instead of having one large class a few times a year. If you are interested in scheduling Metalsmithing Certification please send your name and contact information (name, email address, and phone number) to HGMS@wildivystudio.com. We will contact you and set up a Thursday for you to come. Those who sign up will be notified when the next class will be scheduled.

Volunteer Positions *

Class Instructors:

Kathy Bowman

Shelley Curran

Toolbox Sign-outs

Chris Kalange

Inventory Manager

Opening

Store Manager

Opening

Kit Manager

Shelley Curran

Webpage & Social Media Management

Deb Neis & Linda Haynes

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



Pebble Pups

**Madison County Senior Center Cafeteria
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville AL**

**Brian Burgess 256-746-0641,
bburgess771@gmail.com**



At the April 26th meeting the Pups will have a presentation on Copper Minerals on the 26th of April.

We will be going on the Steven Minkin field trip on the 12th of May. We will meet at the Jack's in Jasper at 8:45 am and leave for the site at 9 am. All information is on the Pup website.

Cane Creek Canyon, Jim Lacefield - June 23 (tentative for now) — agates and petrified wood

Hogg Mine, LaGrange GA—crystals of all sorts—July 7th

Twenty Mile Creek, Booneville MS, shark teeth

Cedar Creek fossils, near Red Bay AL—date yet to be settled

Devil's Racetrack in Huntsville—day trip to be set as it is convenient—geology hike and fossils

How about a tour of a local rock quarry?

We haven't gotten much positive response to dividing the Pups into older and younger age groups—8 thru 12 and 13 to 18. Feedback says they don't have enough time for their current activities, without trying to start a new evening venue. Programs would be tailored for the age levels. We would need some more adult helpers. And we need a name for this new group. Stone Mutts has been suggested. Maybe Rock-heads? The group will decide once organized.

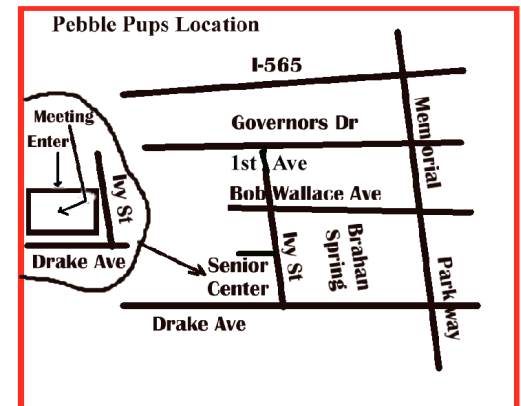
If you haven't gotten your T-shirt yet, here is the link to the printer

<http://greenpeapress.com/pebble-pups/pebble-pup-tees> . Give them your size, and style.

You may request a particular color which they will try to provide.

New members are always welcome. Bring your friends.

If anyone has any questions, please contact Brian or Bill Friday



Mineral of the Month – Rhodochrosite

By Leslie A. Malakowsky

Rhodochrosite is another one of my childhood favorites. I love this mineral because of its beautiful pink/red colors! Rhodochrosite is a manganese carbonate mineral with the chemical formula MnCO_3 . It's the manganese that gives this mineral its amazing color. Rhodochrosite in its pure form is an intense rose-red, but pure specimens are rare. Impure specimens are more common, and they can range from colorless, white, pale pink, pink, rose, red, yellow, yellowish gray, gray, pale brown, to cinnamon-brown.

As in many minerals, it's rhodochrosites underlying chemistry that produces the large range of colors. Rhodochrosite forms a complete solid-solution series with siderite (iron carbonate). Calcium (and to a lesser extent, magnesium and zinc) frequently substitute for manganese in rhodochrosites internal structure. This causes varying shades of red and pink depending on the degree of substitution. But the most common color is pink.

Banded rhodochrosite is a favorite for creating decorative objects (such as egg-shaped paperweights) and jewelry. (The most well-known mine for banded rhodochrosite is in Capillitas, Argentina.) But because banded rhodochrosite is relatively soft and has perfect cleavage, it's difficult to cut, so it's rarely faceted.

Rhodochrosite is a member of the calcite group of anhydrous (lacking water) carbonate minerals. Other minerals in this group include magnesite, siderite, and smithsonite. Rhodochrosite is a member of the trigonal crystal system, and it frequently occurs as rhombohedrons (a crystal having 3 pairs of unique rhombic faces) or scalenohedrons (a crystal that has congruent scalene triangles). It can also occur in bladed, columnar, stalactitic, botryoidal, granular or massive forms. Rhodochrosite has a white



streak and its Mohs hardness varies between 3.5 and 4. (See your favorite mineral reference for more physical properties.)

Rhodochrosite was first found in Romanian silver mines in 1813. These mines contain ore deposits that originally formed in moderate to low-temperatures. The rhodochrosite occurs in hydrothermal veins in these deposits along with other manganese minerals. In more recent times, the mineral has been found in other geologic environments including pegmatites.

The name "rhodochrosite" is derived from the Greek word (ῥοδόχρως) meaning *rose-colored*. It's also sometimes called "Rosa del Inca," "Inca Rose" or "Rosinca." Colorado officially named rhodochrosite as its state mineral in 2002, and the mineral is Argentina's "national gemstone."

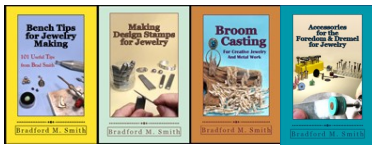


Rhodochrosite specimens are highly sought after and their value has increased in recent years. Rhodonite (manganese silicate) is often mistaken for true rhodochrosite, but rhodonite is distinctly softer. Another distinguishing characteristic of rhodonite is that it frequently occurs with black manganese. Rhodonite, too, is used as an ornamental stone and in jewelry, so if you just want a nice pink stone, rhodonite is a less expensive alternative. In industry, manganese ore is a main component of inexpensive stainless steel and some aluminum alloys. Interestingly, rhodochrosite is a *biomineral* in that it can be formed by some fungi during oxidation (exposure to oxygen).

Reference: wikipedia.org, mindat.org

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>



MODIFYING PLIERS

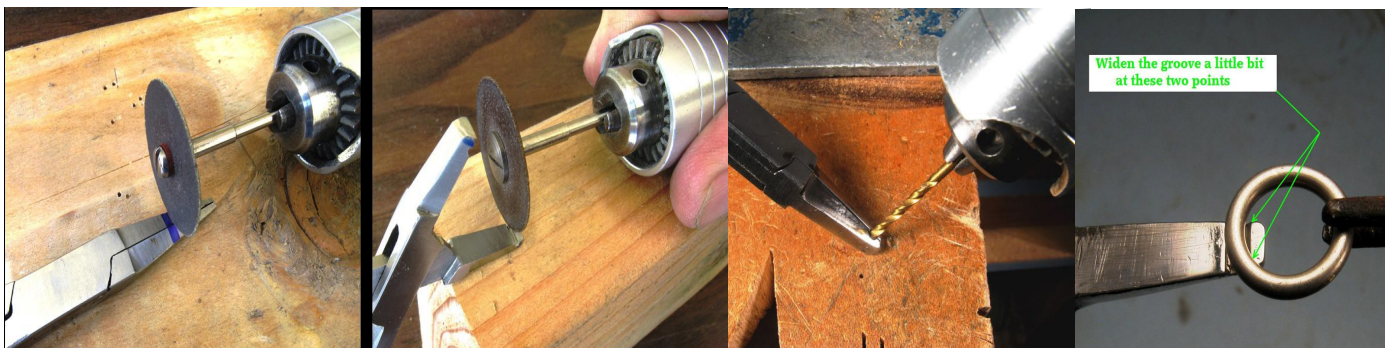
Sometimes a few changes to your tools can make work go faster and improve the quality at the same time. Stock tools need to be polished and can be customized using standard jewelry skills. Here's an example: While making a lot of chainmail, I noticed I was ending up with a few scratched jump rings that required extra cleanup time before the chain could be polished. So I started looking into what I was doing wrong. Making jump rings and weaving them into chainmail designs involves a lot of opening and closing of the rings. I typically use two square jaw pliers to do this, one for each hand. The jaws of my pliers were pretty much scratch free because on a new tool I typically relieve any sharp edges, sand away any tool marks on working surfaces, and give those areas a quick polish.



That helped but was not the whole problem. While making chain, rings would sometimes slip out of the pliers or slide within the jaws as I was trying to twist them open or closed. I noticed the jaws close at an angle, and gave me the idea Of forming a groove at the end of the jaw that would grasp the ring gently without scratching it. Not only have these pliers worked well for chainmail, but I've found several other problem jobs that this modification solves very nicely. To make up what I needed, I bought two inexpensive sets of square jaw pliers. My preference is for jaws that are about 3.5 - 4mm wide. This provides a good fit for the jump rings I use. You need to have enough metal at the tip of the jaws to be able to cut a groove that's deep enough. If your plier tips are too thin, you'll have to cut them back. Locate and mark the position on the jaw where the thickness is about 1.6 - 2mm. Cut the tips off with a cutoff wheel or grind them off with a bench grinder. If using a cutoff wheel, be sure to brace and hold both the workpiece and the rotating hand piece securely. If either moves, you will break the abrasive disk. And remember when cutting any metal with a motorized tool, be sure to use good eye protection. A little piece of debris in your eye makes for a bad day.

Now to make the grooves round so they grasp the wire without distorting it, I close the jaws and run a drill through the opening formed by the two rough grooves. I start with a small drill and followed up with a drill just slightly smaller than the wire size I want to grip. In my case that was 14-gauge wire, so I chose a #53 drill.

Finally, the shape of the grooves needs to be refined. I used a coarse, knife edge, silicone polishing wheel on the flexshaft to polish off all marks left by the drill and to round off the outer edges of the groove.



Test for proper fit by laying a jump ring into each groove. In particular, inspect the way the edges of the groove contact the inside of the ring. You may need to widen the groove at this point to avoid the pliers leaving a nick. Do a final polish so the jaws will not scratches as they grip a ring. I used a medium grit, knife edge, silicone polishing wheel, but a sewn buff with Tripoli or Zam would also work well.



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 Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society—Host Hogg Mine, LaGrange GA, July 28, 2018

By now we should all be familiar with this header for the Dixie Mineral Council sponsored field trips, many of which have been attended by HGMS members. One of the requirements for being a member local Club in the DMC is to sponsor one of these field trips ever so often, which turns out to be about every two years since there are many member Clubs. Two years ago on April 15-16 in 2016, we did sponsor a DMC trip to the Hogg Mine at LaGrange GA, with permission from Chris Painter. It is that time again, and this one has almost sneaked up on us. We are on the DMC Calendar for this coming July 28th, again coordinated with Chris. This is outside of his regularly scheduled bi-weekly digs.

We will again need for volunteers among our membership to help with registration at McDonalds in LaGrange ahead of time, to help direct parking at the mine, and to lead groups at intervals between McDonalds and the mine entrance.

More information will be distributed soon as details are settled.

Saturday, May 19, 2018 10AM 'til 3 PM EDT
119 Railroad Ave Harleyville, SC 29448

No limit on Attendees, No Registration Required, No Fee

TRIP: While fossil hunting at the LaFarge Quarry is no longer permitted, collecting is permitted in a lot next to Old Town Hall in Harleyville, SC. The material is fossil-bearing dump material brought in from the nearby LaFarge Quarry. The collecting site is approximately the size of a tennis court

COLLECTING: The material from this quarry cuts 80 feet through the Harleyville Formation (Late Marine Eocene) and the Cross Formation (Middle Marine Eocene). You will find fossil shark teeth, bones, brachiopods, and other marine fossils

BRING: Digging tools, shovels, screens, buckets, work gloves, and don't forget weather protection gear, water, and snacks.

REQUIREMENTS: No specific requirements are necessary for the site. Safety equipment like hard hat, safety glasses, steel-toed boots, gloves, etc. are not required.

CHILDREN (Yes): Children are allowed. If children are present, adult supervision is required at all times

PETS (Yes): Pets are allowed as the site is within city limits; leash is required at all times.

FACILITIES: As the site is within city limits, nearby facilities are available at or near the site.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

From I-26, take Exit 177 toward SC 453 to Harleyville.

Go 1.3 miles (past the LaFarge Quarry).

Turn left onto West Main Street (Hwy. 178) and go 0.3 mile.

Turn right onto Railroad Avenue.

Meet at 119 S. Railroad Avenue adjacent to the old Harleyville Town Hall building.

440 miles from Huntsville AL, GPS 33.2136274,-80.4481975

CONTACT: Lawrence Moss, Field Trip Coordinator, if you have any questions.

Phone number 843-819-0726. Email: Jorel611@yahoo.com.

April Birthdays

1 Rhonda Springer	17 Cindy Miller
4 Khezekiah Bellamy	19 Thelia DeMoor
6 Tim Eve	20 Wendy Lear
9 Jerzey Springer	21 Sam Holliday
11 Leslie Malakowsky	22 Alex McCormick
12 Tim Mitchell	23 Bill Friday
15 Taryn Greene	25 Gary Thompson
16 Elena Clark	26 Margery Ruble
17 Jon Ashley	27 Don Aldridge
17 Bill Sweetman	28 Billy Todd
17 Bill Walters	30 Jane Detwiler

Anniversaries



April
Diamond

6 Iven Holt
7 Joe & Sherrie Bonin
8 Mike & Myra Soroczak

May Birthdays

1 Johnnie Peterson	18 Teresina Barger
2 Elizabeth Lewis	19 Pamela Sparks
2 Jackie Spencer	19 Ed Watts
3 Katherine Spencer	20 Gloria Valentine
4 Rebecca Eve	22 Mike Chivers
4 Johnnie Peterson	23 Brandy Hyatt
5 Myra Soroczak	26 Trudie Murphy
7 Iven Holt	26 Hunter Springer
9 Laura Bath	27 Terry Burcham
11 Sydney Kalange	27 Chris Kalange
11 Nicholas Springer	27 Thomas Peters
11 Walter Cowart	29 Damia Falconbury
13 Laurie Cantrell	29 Ruth Finckenor
14 Joe Bonin	30 Bob Hayes
16 Emily Lear	30 Jim Treadway
16 Mike Curran	32 Jeanne Reed
16 Robert Herren	31 Raymond Tanner
17 Jeff Finckenor	

Anniversaries



May
Emerald

1 Gloria Valentin	18 Mike & Anne Wesley
6 John & Julie McCullough	20 Jim & Kelly Straub
13 Mark Robinson	28 James Raines & Susan Horway
17 Gerdy & David Wyatt	29 David & Diana O'Dell

April 2018 - 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: Bill Friday, Joe Bonin, & Michael Cape

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+

2018 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President—Bill Friday—256-527-8227—bill.friday@earthlink.net
 Vice President— Michael Cape— 256-890-9172— macape@knology.net
 Recording Secretary: Bob & Ruth Kemper—256-489-3684— bob_kemper@yahoo.com
 Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194—clarag1964@gmail.com
 Newsletter Editor: Bill Friday - 256-527-8227—bill.friday@earthlink.net
 Directors at Large: Steve Young— 334-300-5408—taegu_steve@hotmail.com
 Gene Powers—256-751-3067—genepowersgddm@gmail.com
 Michael Soroczak—256-446-9938—Soroczak@yahoo.com
 Ex Officio - Brian Burgess— 256-746-0641— bburgess771@gmail.com
 Federation Liaison - Mark Habercom - 256-340-8604, mhabercom@energize.net

2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Bill Friday— 256-527-8227 bill.friday@earthlink.net 2508 Excalibur Dr. Huntsville AL 35803	Property: Chris Kalange, 256-883-7627 ckalange@comcast.net
Scrapbook: Dianna O'Dell, 256-828-1813	Program Chair—Myra Soroczak 256-446-9938 - Soroczak@yahoo.com
Librarian: Leslie Malakowsky, 256-755-0479	Show Chair: Tony Smith, 256-603-3095. tsmith@erc-incorporated.com
Club Publicity: open	Show Vendor Chair: Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803 Lzol@comcast.net
Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-746-0641 bburgess771@gmail.com	Show Volunteer Chair: Joe Bonin, 256-859-9711 sixsonef@yahoo.com
Hospitality: Caryl Nixon 256-426-5061 caryl.nixon@outlook.com	Show Publicity Chair: Tony Smith, 256-852-3210
Mineral ID: Wayne Falkenberg— falkenbergwp@comcast.net (William Holland offers a class for this)	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, 3015 Monterey Dr., SW, Decatur AL 35603 Attn Mark Habercom

**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



2018 CALENDAR

- 28Apr '18 **[SAT]** - Annual HGMS Spring Auction Fundraiser 9:00 to ~3:00
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville
- 22 May '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 16 Jun '18 - Annual HGMS Picnic, Huntsville
Monte Sano State Park, Large Pavilion in the Picnic Area
- 24 Jul '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 28 Aug '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center, `
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 25 Sep '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 12-14 Oct '18 Annual Fall Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Show
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
- 23 Oct '18 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 27 Nov '18 Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 11Dec '18 Annual Christmas Dinner—date tentative, place to be determined

Deadline for Next Newsletter— May 11, 2018

Rocket City Rocks & Gems

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

HGMS April 2018

Dated Material
Do not Delay