

# ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

**Volume 50 No. 9**

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

**September 2018**

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## **Program for September 25th, 2018 Meeting**

### **Prehistoric Indian Cultures and the Archaeological Value of Artifacts**

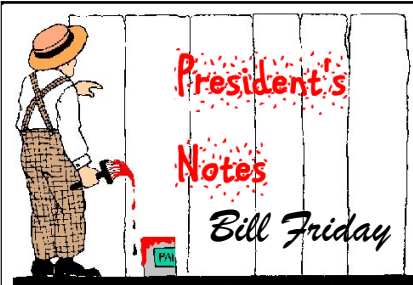
Jerry Dickey will discuss Indian arrowhead and artifact collecting, identifying, enjoying, and selling.



[www.huntsvillegms.org/](http://www.huntsvillegms.org/) - [www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleGMS](https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleGMS) - [hsvgems@gmail.com](mailto:hsvgems@gmail.com)



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Every Fall things get crazy as the weather gets milder, no-school Summer is over, activities of every imaginable sort crank up, filling weekends and weeknights, holidays nestle in. Our Fall Show is doing a lot of that filling - marking the floor space at the Jaycees, accommodating the Rock Food Table (yes! It really is coming) in amongst the Kids' Activities, Craft Demos, Gem Dig, and Flume, while leaving room for the Thursday Vendors' & Workers' Appreciation Meal. Flume bags need new seeding minerals and bag filling, workers are being recruited and scheduled for every activity period, daily food service arrangements being made, food donations for the Thursday

meal, ATM, publicity arrangements.....

The Madison Street Fair, which as far as we are concerned is a huge advertisement for our Fall Show, is rolling down on the calendar. The Library display which serves the same purpose for us is up and catching eyes. Next week features the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies meeting in Jacksonville FL, which I'll be attending as a helper with the Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society host duties. Depending on what I learn, if it is as do-able as Reggie Bolton in Birmingham assures me, it might be something we could take on in 2019. We are already the biggest, and Best, show in our area, and that added plus would be a huge feather in our caps. We shall see - definitely no decisions as yet, but stay tuned.

On top of this, each of us is shoe-horning in our myriad other activities - football games, kids' involvements, other clubs, you name it! I'm working Boy Scouts, Tractor Club, Church, Falls Mill, steam machines, rebuilding a farm wagon and saw mill. Time is precious, opportunities are everywhere. Stay busy!

## HGMS August Meeting Minutes

August 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM

Bob & Ruth Kemper, Scty's

**Opening:** Minutes from the July meeting were approved as posted in the newsletter.

**Special announcement:** Carl Craig made a special announcement that he would have an Open House on Labor Day at 12:00 at his house. He's moving to stay with his daughter in Arizona, and all club members are invited to explore his home, garage, and tool shed for hidden treasures before he leaves. Carl said that everything is free for the taking, but if you find something you want you can't bring it back.

**Attendance:** Fifty people at the meeting tonight including visitors and new members.

**Visitors & New members:** Chris Trumble, Sandy Moore, Norman & Alice Tucker -Johnson, Raymond Ross, Gertrude Lawrence, John Heilman, Mike Bonaker, Ansley McDurmot and Ryan McNeal.

**Treasury Report:** Club account has six thousand nine hundred and thirty-five dollars (\$6935.00).

**Membership application form:** The membership application form is updated. The new form doesn't offer an option to receive both a printed newsletter and the email version. From now on it's one or the other since the cost of mailing newsletters is of concern to the club budget.

**Library display:** Leslie, Shelley, Cathy, and Bill are setting up the HGMS display in the Huntsville Library. The HGMS display is in the main entrance foyer, on the left side. The display will be up from September 1<sup>st</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup> and will be great publicity for our upcoming show.

**Shell Club:** Bill asked if we wanted to pursue having the Huntsville Shell Club join our society as a separate branch. There were no objections but also very little response from the audience. The shell club is welcome to join us if they like but there's no particular interest in pursuing the invitation.

**School Outreach:** Bill and Brian will give a presentation of fossils, rocks, and minerals to the special needs students at Monrovia School On September 17<sup>th</sup>. This encourages students to get interested in rocks, fossils, and minerals and can develop into a life time hobby.

**Lapidary Lab:** The lapidary lab is getting used more than ever, sometimes to the point where all the equipment is busy and people have to wait. Because of the high usage equipment tends to wear out quickly so Bill has been diligent in making sure the saws and wheels are in good condition and the machines are running smoothly.

**Madison Street Fair:** Bill and Brian are setting up the Rock & Gem Society display in a 20 foot wide tent on Front Street, in the heart of the fair. Shelley & Kathy will display jewelry & metal smithing. Approximately twenty thousand people are expected to visit the fair the first Saturday in October, and this will be a great publicity for our Fall Show a week later. The booth will be on display from 08:30 till 4:00.

## Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News

By Leslie A. Malakowsky

Thanks to Judy Osmundson for teaching us the Bead and Barrel bracelet on Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>, and to Myra Soroczak for teaching us her Links 1 class on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Both of these ladies drove considerable distances to be with us and to share their expertise. If you missed either of these classes, stay tuned. There's more to come!

### Upcoming Schedule:

September 26<sup>th</sup> - Open

October 3<sup>rd</sup> - Gather jewelry for the show

October 10<sup>th</sup> - Show prep - No meeting

October 17<sup>th</sup> - Open

October 24<sup>th</sup> - Movie night!

Lead Instructor/	Group Leader Leslie Malakowsky
Instructors	Myra Soroczak
Kit Manager	Sherrie Bonin
Wire Supplier	Shelley Curran
Treasurer	Clara Goode
Facebook	Karen Van Bebber
Security	Chris Kalange



**Welcome new members!** In the last newsletter, I inadvertently left out Nannette Schwartz – welcome Nan! And welcome to our newest member, Pam Comeens.

RCJ is open to every member of the HGMS. (Gentlemen, too!) **If you love making jewelry, you're invited to join 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.

## Hospitality Notes

Again, I join the committee members in our refrain, "We need more volunteers!"

On Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018, at 4:30 pm., we will provide the setup dinner for the vendors and volunteers at the Jaycees' Building, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville, AL 35801. The club provides the meat and beverages. Please let me know if you can provide a dish. I don't ask you to put in a lot of time or effort to provide the best Grandma's Thanksgiving experience ever. Simple things like chips and dips, store-bought cookies, veggies trays, fruit trays, and cheese and crackers would suffice. If you want to provide a hot dish, that's fine, too: throw a few cans of beans into your crock pot & call it done. I will have a signup sheet at the flume bag filling party on Sept. 15 and at the club meeting on Sept. 25. If you would rather contribute money for us to purchase food on your behalf, you can do that, too. Make checks payable to HGMS and note that it is for Hospitality. Send the check to our club President, Bill Friday at 2508 Excalibur, Huntsville, AL 35803.

Please be sure to put your name on any utensils that you want returned to you! We try our best to make sure everything makes its way back to its rightful owner, but every year we seem to have homeless strays left over. Please don't use your priceless family silver as serving spoons! Thanks again for your help.

Hope to see you soon! Caryl Nixon [caryl.nixon@outlook.com](mailto:caryl.nixon@outlook.com) (256) 426-5061 call or text

## October Class Project. Silver Overlay Pendant Thursday, October 4th

This pendant fabrication combines several soldering skills. The floral overlay is made of pieces of wire and sheet and then laid down on the backplate. This project will help you become more comfortable soldering little to big.



For those who wish to make this a necklace we can work on making jump rings and learning how to make soldered chain and a clasp on open lab nights.

Basic soldering skills required.

Kit cost to be determined

Must be certified

Sign up at the meeting or at [HGMS@wildivystudio.com](mailto:HGMS@wildivystudio.com)

Certification: we plan to resume certification class soon. If you're interested please contact the wild ivy email above. We will contact you and set up a time for you to come.

Thank you. Kathy Bowman and Shelley Curran



Exciting news! Metal smith will now also have an open lab on **MONDAY** evenings from 6-9:00 pm. I'll be there to provide help and or one on one instruction if needed. I look forward to seeing you. Shelley

### 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.

## Getting Geared Up For The Fall Show Joe Bonin, Volunteer Chairman

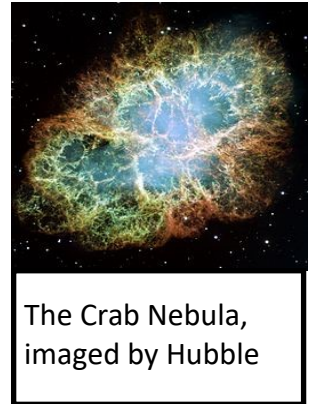
WE ARE IN NEED OF HELP {VOLUNTEERS} ACROSS THE BOARD. SET-UP DINNER THURSDAY, AND FOR THE SHOW- FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. THE CONTACT PHONE INFO IS BELOW. PLEASE BE GENEROUS WITH YOUR TIME. THANK YOU

SET-UP DINNER	CARYL NIXON	256-426-5061 <a href="mailto:caryl.nixon@outlook.com">caryl.nixon@outlook.com</a>
TICKET TABLE	CATHERINE TRENKLE	256-683-4629 <a href="mailto:catren111@gmail.com">catren111@gmail.com</a>
	THERESA CHIVERS	256-837-6819 <a href="mailto:wolfsong@knology.net">wolfsong@knology.net</a>
INFORMATION BOOTH	BILL FRIDAY	256-527-8227 <a href="mailto:bill.friday@earthlink.net">bill.friday@earthlink.net</a>
DEMONSTRATIONS	SHELLEY CURRAN	256-426-4596 <a href="mailto:curranshelley1@gmail.com">curranshelley1@gmail.com</a>
CHILDRENS' PROGRAMS	BRIAN BURGESS	256-746-0641 <a href="mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com">bburgess771@gmail.com</a>
MINING FLUME	GENE POWERS	256-751-3067 <a href="mailto:genepowersgddm@gmail.com">genepowersgddm@gmail.com</a>
GEM DIG	JOE BONIN	256-503-2880 <a href="mailto:sixjsonef@yahoo.com">sixjsonef@yahoo.com</a>
DISPLAYS	KATHY BOWMAN	256-656-4240 <a href="mailto:kbowman@wildivystudio.com">kbowman@wildivystudio.com</a>



## The Lives of the Stars (Heavenly Kind that is) –Part 2: The Big Ones, by Bill Friday

In 1731, John Bevis first charted a strange glowing object among the stars in the Constellation Taurus. Charles Messier, a French astronomer who was cataloging comets, later saw the same smudge and started his famous Messier List of glowing objects, denoting it as M1. The list, first published in 1774, eventually grew to 110, the last being our nearest neighbor galaxy, Andromeda, visible in the winter sky with the naked eye. Today M1 is called the Crab Nebula, named in 1840 by William Parsons who viewed it with the largest telescope of its time, 36" diameter, and noted its resemblance to that crustacean. In 1928, Edwin Hubble proposed associating M1 with the great flare in the sky witnessed and recorded by the Chinese in 1054, a controversial idea until Nicholas Mayall in the 1960's explained the mechanics of how supernovae work and confirmed Hubble's idea.



The Crab Nebula,  
imaged by Hubble

The Chinese apparition, visible in the sky for two years, was not an isolated occurrence, but it was the first to be accurately charted among the stars. Tycho Brahe recorded a second naked-eye flare in 1572, in the Constellation Cassiopeia, causing a serious stir among theologians when he declared that it was situated outside the Solar System, among the otherwise "fixed" stars. His was a Type 1 Supernova, caused when two white dwarf stars collide or when a white dwarf pulls sufficient matter from an adjacent normal star, either process resulting in a mass too large to remain stable. These explosions are less violent or brilliant than the Crab, shining at the brightness of Venus at its peak, just visible in daylight. The remnant and its still healthy companion star have been found and studied spectroscopically, ~9000 light years distant, meaning that the event itself had happened that many years prior to Brahe seeing it, and it took that long for light to reach Earth traveling at 186,000 miles per second, around 6 trillion miles per year. On a galactic scale, that is in our back yard, or at least within our home galaxy.

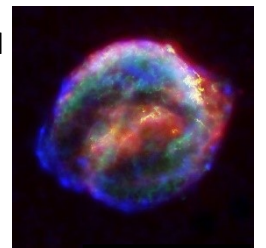


Tycho Brahe's  
Remnant

The only such other historical naked-eye event was documented, in 1604 by Johannes Kepler. It was also a Type 1 Supernova, located near the center of our local galaxy, around 22,000 light years distant. Its white dwarf was relatively young, a billion years from a very fast burning star, contributing to its brightness. The residual gas cloud is expanding at a rate of 4 million miles per hour.

Type 1 events are quite common throughout the scattered galaxies around us, visible from many billions of light years distant. It was the red-shifted spectra of these stars which confirmed that the universe is expanding, although they give no clue as to why this is so.

Type 2 Supernovae result when very large stars at the end of their lives undergo a rapid sequence of gravitational collapses, expanding again each time the next level of fusion liberates more heat. When no more fusion can be ignited, the last collapse blasts most of the remaining gases into rapidly expanding and glowing clouds. The Crab was one of these, located 6500 light years from Earth. It was still visible to the Chinese for two years after its discovery. With a good pair of binoculars and a good idea of where to look, it can be seen in the Constellation Taurus, in the Perseus arm of the Milky Way, at a brightness magnitude of 8.4, about the same as Saturn's moon Titan. The gases are expanding at a rate of around 930 miles/sec, while the intervening free electrons are moving at half the speed of light.



Kepler's  
Remnant

At the heart of the Crab is a neutron star called a pulsar, the tiny remnant of the original mass, a dense ball less than 20 miles diameter, spinning at a rate of over 30 times per second. Its density is such that a teaspoon of its matter would weigh a billion tons. Besides visible light it also emits bursts of gamma rays, bright enough at that wavelength that it can be seen through the Sun's corona, allowing that blinding radiance to be completely mapped for the first time. The original Crab star was about 4.6 times the size of our Sun. The death of a star the size of our sun is a relatively calm event resulting in a white dwarf. For stars over 1.4 times that mass, the gravitational collapses produce heavier elements, up to Iron and Nickel with atomic numbers 26 and 28. The next series installment will explore the true giants and their remains – **black holes**.

**Resources for Lives of the Stars Parts 1 & 2:**

Tycho's Supernova Remnant

[https://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/WISE/multimedia/gallery/pia13119.html](https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/WISE/multimedia/gallery/pia13119.html)

Kepler's Supernova: Huge 17th-Century Star Explosion Comes into Focus

<https://www.space.com/20670-johannes-kepler-supernova-white-dwarf.html><https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/history-supernova-stellar-death-zombie-star><https://www.nationalgeographic.org/thistday/jul4/supernova-1054/><http://www.astronomy.com/news/2007/06/crab-nebula-exploded-in-1054>

## Pebble Pups

**Madison County Senior Center Cafeteria  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville AL****Brian Burgess 256-746-0641,  
[bburgess771@gmail.com](mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com)**

**September 27th Meeting - Shark Tooth Dig.** The teeth will be hidden in sand and Pups will sift for them. This is the way such discovery is done in the wild, but without the wild, or wet.

**Cane Creek Preserve Field Trip - Sep 29.** Jim Lacefield will guide our group through a few million years of sedimentary accumulation as we descend into the canyon to the stream below, to collect agates and jasper samples.

**October 25th Meeting - Fluorescent Minerals**

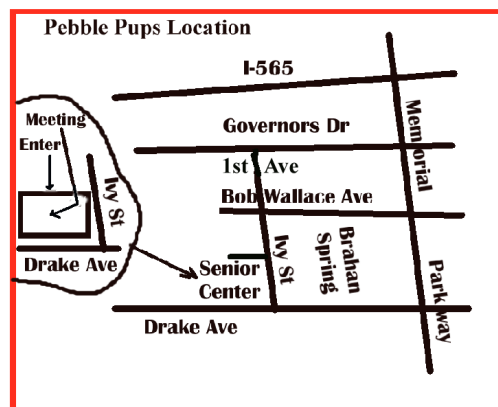
Dianna O'Dell will show and explain a variety of fluorescent minerals, ones that glow with bright colors under a black light.

**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?**

**New members are always welcome. Bring your friends.**

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



### About our Featured Speaker Jerry Dickey

I am a lifetime researcher of Prehistoric Indian Cultures of the Eastern U.S. specializing in this field from age 6 - over 50 years, with actual experience in field archaeology since 12 years of age. I was President of a local chapter of the Tennessee Archaeological Society at age 15. I graduated the University of Tennessee in 1982 with a B.A. in Anthropology. I've spent the past 19 years in the collector community traveling to shows, museums, and seminars in the Southeast and Midwest studying artifacts on a regional basis, including 19 years as an authenticator of Indian artifacts for the public.



## Mineral of the Month – Wulfenite

By Leslie A. Malakowsky

Wulfenite is a lead molybdate mineral with the formula  $\text{PbMoO}_4$ . This mineral commonly crystallizes in the tetragonal system, often occurring as transparent to translucent stubby, pyramids or thin tabular crystals with an adamantine (shiny) luster. Other crystal forms include earthy, granular masses, but they are uncommon.

This mineral was another of my favorites when I was a “pebble pup” because its colors are reminiscent of Fall leaves! The crystals typically have a bright orange-red to yellow-orange color, but the colors can be highly variable. For example, orange-brown, orange-yellow, vivid yellow, honey-yellow, reddish-orange, yellowish-gray, gray, brown, olive-green, greenish-gray, and even blue and black. (Yellow wulfenite is sometimes called “yellow lead ore”).

The yellow and red coloration is caused by small traces of chromium, and some researchers suggest that the molybdate contributes to wulfenite’s yellow color. (Pure wulfenite is colorless, but it’s rare.)

Wulfenite was first described in 1845 for an occurrence in Bad Bleiberg, Carinthia, Austria. (The type specimen is housed in the Mining Academy, Freiberg, Germany.) This mineral was originally named “plumbum spatiosum flavo-rubrum, ex Annaberg, Austria” in 1772 by Ignaz von Born. Thankfully, it was renamed in 1845 by Wilhelm Karl von Haidinger in honor of Franz Xavier von Wulfen (1728–1805), an Austrian mineralogist who wrote a monograph on the lead ores of Bleiberg, Austria. This mineral is a member of the Wolframite group of the Tungstate and Molybdate class of minerals. (Other members of this group are the huebnerite-wolframite-ferberite series and schleelite.)

Wulfenite occurs as a secondary mineral (a new mineral that develops from the original minerals in a rock) in oxidized (chemically weathering from exposure to air) zones of hydrothermal (circulation of hot water near heat sources within the Earth’s crust) lead and molybdenum ore deposits. Under unique geologic conditions, wulfenite can precipitate from volcanic fumaroles (openings in Earth’s crust, often in areas surrounding volcanoes, that emit steam and gases) on the Earth’s surface.

The minerals associated with wulfenite include cerussite, anglesite, smithsonite, hemimorphite, vanadinite, pyromorphite, mimetite, descloizite, limonite, calcite and various iron and manganese oxides. Varieties of wulfenite occur when other minerals substitute for the lead or the molybdenum in its crystal structure. For example, when calcium substitutes for lead, the mineral is *calcian*; when tungsten substitutes for molybdenum, the minerals are *vanadian* or *tungstenian*.

Wulfenite is found in a variety of localities. The most notable are the Red Cloud Mine in Arizona; Sierra de Los Lamentos, Chihuahua, Mexico; and Mount Peca, Slovenia. The Arizona crystals are deep-red and well-formed. (The specimen shown at the top of the article is from the Red Cloud Mine.) The Mexican crystals are a thick tabular orange. The Slovenian crystals are yellow, often with well-developed pyramids and bipyramids. (Fun fact: In 1997, the Post of Slovenia depicted a yellow wulfenite crystal on a stamp!)

Wulfenites of all colors, especially oranges, reds, browns and yellows, are prized shelf specimens for collectors. Good Mexican specimens are obtainable, and the vivid orange-red crystals from Arizona are highly sought.

References: [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), [webmineral.com](http://webmineral.com)



A yellow crystal elongated on its sides, with a small attached cerussite in front



Wulfenite specimen from the Mina Ojuela, Mapimi, Durango, Mexico

## Brad's Bench Tips

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon [www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com) For those who enjoy these bench tips, I'm happy to



announce a second volume is now available on Amazon.

"More Bench Tips" includes 86 additional ways to save time, avoid frustration or improve quality at the bench.

These new tips cover problems in fabrication, stone

setting, casting, soldering and polishing. Browse through a couple of the

new ones at <https://amazon.com/dp/B07D4B45JJ/>



### SETTING A RIVET

Riveting is usually done with a cross peen hammer, but I've found it's a lot easier for me to hit the rivet wire when using a small ball peen - and the smaller the better. Shown here is one I typically use. It's about 3/8 inch diameter on the back of a chasing hammer, but I've been thinking that a 3/16 inch ball might be even better. Look for a yard sale hammer you can modify to work.



### SHEET WAX WITH ADHESIVE

While shopping in the Los Angeles jewelry district for supplies for our class, I found a new product that may interest some of you. Often before casting, I want to increase the thickness of a model by adding a layer of wax on the back side. For instance, models like a leaf or a flower petal do not cast well unless you add a little extra thickness. The problem is trying to apply a coating of wax that's smooth and even.

The new product I found is an easily moldable sheet wax with an adhesive coating. This lets me easily add thickness to a very thin model. With a leaf, just press it onto the wax, trim excess wax around the outer edges, and then gently bend the sandwich to the contour you would like. The wax is available in a number of different thicknesses from about 26 ga to 14 ga.

If interested, my supplier is

Jewelry Tools & Supplies

412 W. 6th Street #1011, Los Angeles, CA 90014, 213 624-8224, [jtstech@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtstech@sbcglobal.net)

## The Madison Street Festival - Saturday, October 6, 2018

has been recognized as one of the top 20 fall festivals in the State of Alabama. With hundreds of vendors, artisans and performers, the MSF has something for everyone! Original works of art, muscle cars, music, floats, marching bands, and tons of food – the MSF has it all. For the fourth year in a row, MSF will feature gourmet Food Trucks! <http://madisonstreetfestival.org/>

**The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society will have a prominent booth advertising our organization and the upcoming Fall Show.**

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

These signs are expensive and if they aren't 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





# 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 Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society (Montgomery, AL) (HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

### Saturday, October 20, 2018, Hogg Mine, Troup County, GA, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**TRIP:** The Hogg Mine started out as the Oxford Mine in 1942 to mine beryl to produce beryllium. Commercial operations shut down in 1960. The site has been opened off and on since then for specimen mining and is currently managed by Chris Painter. The site is a surface mine pit approximately 650 feet long with an east – west orientation.

**COLLECTING:** The parking area is at the east end of the pit. As you enter the pit from the parking area there is a trench approximately 150 feet long and to your right. Large green Aquamarine beryl and pockets of green Aquamarine beryl have been found there. As you enter the main pit area, there is a tailing or spoil pile to your left that came out of the pit in front of you. There have been several large nice gemmy Aquamarine beryl specimens from this area. The main pit in front of you has a plethora of treasures, Rose Quartz, Smoky Quartz, banded Quartz, Beryl in matrix with the quartz, Tourmaline in matrix with the quartz, etc. The last area of note is at the western end at the back of the pit. There has been a new smaller pit dug in the last year and some very nice Blue Aquamarine Beryl has been found. The new pit was dug because an old drilling report indicated that Amethyst was found. There are pieces of Amethyst coming from the new pit.

**FACILITIES:** There is an outhouse available on site. There is plenty of free parking. The mine operators also cook hamburgers and hot dogs and have drinks. Lunch plate is \$8.00.

**FEE:** For 17 years old and up is \$35 per person, 16 years old and younger dig for free.

**TOOLS:** Bring all the tools you have: pick, shovel, screen, rock hammer, hand sledge, rock chisel, bucket, hand cart, etc. The Hogg does sale some tools in limited quantities. It would be a good idea to bring an extra change of clothes. The pit can be muddy and wet .

#### Directions: Where we will meet:

McDonald's, 2408 Whitesville St, LaGrange, GA 30240

This is at Exit 13 on Interstate 85 in LaGrange.

GPS 32° 59' 30", 85° 01' 50"

**When:** I would suggest arriving at McDonalds as early as 8:00 am, although you can arrive earlier. This will give you time to pay and fill out the required paper work. At 8:15 am the first caravan will be going to the mine. The first to arrive and sign in will be in the first caravan. The mine is approximately 3 miles from McDonalds. If you do arrive late and no one from the mine is at McDonalds, call the number in the contact information below.

**Directions and Drive Time:** The best way to determine driving directions and time is to enter the McDonalds address above into the directions destination block in Google Maps and enter your home address in the starting point block. 170 miles from Huntsville - time zone change.

**Note:** If you would like to make a weekend trip out of it and stay at a cabin or camp site 30 minutes away as a group? Then you are in luck, there is a GA State Park Campground (Chattahoochee Bend, Newnan, GA) with available RV/ Trailer or Tent Sites & Cabins to stay overnight or the weekend. For dig weekend, anyone wanting to reserve a RV/ tent site at the Chattahoochee Bend State Park, 425 Bobwhite Way, Newnan, GA to camp over the weekend (or night) is welcome. (RV & Cottages Available). Call 800-864-7275 for reservations or go to <https://gastateparks.org/>. Dolores Osborne-Hensley will be at campsite 124 for the weekend with hot chocolate and a campfire to warm the October bones up. Try to get a campsite near 124, as to make a group event.

**CONTACT:** Jeff Edwards: 334-296-5034 [goldennugget@montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com](mailto:goldennugget@montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com)

## September Birthdays

1 Jennifer Pinkley	14 J. P. McCullough
1 Andy Bedard	14 Sheila Tesh
1 Wayne Hastings	15 Karen Thompson
2 Michael Bedard	16 Charlie Willhoite
3 Lola Flippo	16 Eric Emerson
3 Gerdy Wyatt	16 Yamile Nuckels
4 Marlene Allen	17 Dan Merwin
5 Elke Ardal	18 Samantha Lindberg
6 Ivey Cook	18 James Steele
7 Mike Harrison	19 Mitzi Cartee
8 David Lehner	19 Susan Horway
8 Patrick Stephenson	20 Erica Emerson
9 Sophia Herman	21 Laura Carroll
10 Marie Aldridge	22 Bonnie Tanner
10 Steven Crunk	29 Dan Greene
13 Mark Falkenberg	29 Linda Lindberg
13 Anna Lindy	30 Jonathan Lear
14 Larry Augsburger	30 Miria Finckenor



Sept

Sapphire

## Anniversaries

1 Frank & Shelley Curran	26 Bill & Rita Friday
6 Delora Ward	29 Mike & Theresa Chivers
11 Kelly & David Gulliver	30 Michael & Sharon Bedard
26 Debbie Deering	Bruce & Allison Kowalczyk

## October Birthdays

2 Michael McCoy	16 Rhonda Hall
3 Theresa Chivers	18 James Lowery
5 Parker Holliday	21 Jeannie Green
5 Justin Springer	22 Grady Harmon
7 Mark King	22 Norman Johnson
7 Christopher Trumble	28 Mary Herren
8 Clark Harmon	30 David Nixon
10 Bonnie Treadway	30 Madison Phillips
11 Diana Nelms	Eric Webster
15 Lizzy Norris	



October  
Opal

## Anniversaries

4 Walter & Lawana Cowart
9 Howard & Dolores Kuettner
24 Leslie Malakowsky
29 Daniel & Susan Hessler
31 Charles Holcomb & Johnce Smith

## September 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

<b>Monday</b>	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	9:00am- Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon-4:30pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	<b>Open Metal Smithing - Only certified HGMS 18+</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & 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 Seniors & HGMS 60+
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:00pm-9:00pm	<b>Open Lapidary - Only certified HGMS 18+</b>
	7:30am-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	<b>Open Lapidary - Only certified HGMS 18+</b>
	6:00pm-9:00pm	<b>Open Jewelry - Only certified HGMS</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & 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 Seniors & HGMS 60+
<b>Friday</b>	5:30pm-9:00pm	<b>Metal Smithing &amp; Jewelry Classes— Only certified HGMS 18+</b>
	7:30am-12:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+

## 2018 HUNTSVILLE GEM &amp; MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President—Bill Friday—256-527-8227—[bill.friday@earthlink.net](mailto:bill.friday@earthlink.net)  
 Vice President— Michael Cape— 256-890-9172— [macape@knology.net](mailto:macape@knology.net)  
 Recording Secretary: Bob & Ruth Kemper—256-489-3684— [bob\\_kemper@yahoo.com](mailto:bob_kemper@yahoo.com)  
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 Ex Officio - Brian Burgess— 256-746-0641— [bburgess771@gmail.com](mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com)  
 Federation Liaison - Mark Habercom - 256-340-8604, [mhabercom@energize.net](mailto:mhabercom@energize.net)

## 2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Bill Friday— 256-527-8227 <a href="mailto:bill.friday@earthlink.net">bill.friday@earthlink.net</a> 2508 Excalibur Dr. Huntsville AL 35803	Property: Chris Kalange, 256-883-7627 <a href="mailto:ckalange@comcast.net">ckalange@comcast.net</a>
Scrapbook: Dianna O'Dell, 256-828-1813	Program Chair—Myra Soroczak 256-446-9938 - <a href="mailto:Soroczak@yahoo.com">Soroczak@yahoo.com</a>
Librarian: Leslie Malakowsky, 256-755-0479	Show Chair: Tony Smith, 256-603-3095. <a href="mailto:tsmith@erc-incorporated.com">tsmith@erc-incorporated.com</a>
Club Publicity: open	Show Vendor Chair: Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803 <a href="mailto:Lzol@comcast.net">Lzol@comcast.net</a>
Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-746-0641 <a href="mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com">bburgess771@gmail.com</a>	Show Volunteer Chair: Joe Bonin, 256-859-9711 <a href="mailto:sixjsonef@yahoo.com">sixjsonef@yahoo.com</a>
Hospitality: Caryl Nixon 256-426-5061 <a href="mailto:caryl.nixon@outlook.com">caryl.nixon@outlook.com</a>	Show Publicity Chair: Tony Smith, 256-852-3210
Mineral ID: Wayne Falkenberg— <a href="mailto:falkenbergwp@comcast.net">falkenbergwp@comcast.net</a> (William Holland offers a class for this)	Show Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194 <a href="mailto:clarag1964@gmail.com">clarag1964@gmail.com</a>

**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](http://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](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html)

**AFMS:** [www.amfed.org/news/default.htm](http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm)

**DMC:** [http://www.amfed.org/sfms/\\_dmc/dmc.htm](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm)



## 2018-19 CALENDAR

- 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
- 11 Dec '18 Annual Christmas Dinner—date tentative, place to be determined  
No Regular HGMS meeting
- 22 Jan '19 Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 26 Feb '19 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- Mar '19 - Annual Fund Raiser Auction - date/time to be determined
- 23 Apr '19 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 28 May '19 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm

Deadline for Next Newsletter— October 13, 2018

## Rocket City Rocks & Gems

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

HGMS September 2018

**Dated Material  
Do not Delay**