

# ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 50 No. 10

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

October 2018

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## Program for September 23rd, 2018 Meeting

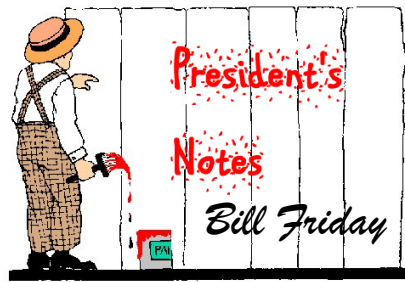
**Mike Harrison** will give us a thorough re-fresher course on tumbling our favorite rock chips. Take good notes. Tumbling doesn't have to be drudgery - it can be fun and non-stressing.



[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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What a huge weekend! We have outdone ourselves again - no big surprise there. The potluck contributions for our Vendor/Worker Appreciation meal proved again that we have some great chefs among us - delicious everything. A record number of visitors streamed through our doors. The Wheelies folks who served the delicious food outside our front door had to send out for extra food - twice! The ATM fellow who stocked the machine with plenty of cash, took home very little after the Show. Most of the Flume bags were purchased and combed through by happy youngsters (and their parents).

Two lucky guessers were tied at nearly the exact number of rocks in the vase - a nearby kid picked the final winner. All of the raffle prizes were awarded. All of the great door prizes donated by our vendors were collected by lucky ticket holders. The fluorescents were shining brightly. Several demonstrators were busy stimulating latent creativity in curious on-lookers. Two of our regular vendors had to drop out - due to circumstances beyond their control, but three replacements were quickly brought in. The Gem Dig was full of scrambling kids all weekend. The Rock Food Table was as amazing as ever, thanks to Kinney Polve who brought it all the way from Texas for our enjoyment. Jim Bretes captured the excitement in a camera-full of photos, which soon will be gracing the web page. From 5:00 closing on Sunday, the place was empty three hours later. Too bad it can't go together that fast.

As expected, we added another batch of new members to our rolls during the Show, many of whom will be coming to our Oct 23rd meeting, where we are already hunting empty chairs - great problem to have but it can squeeze the elbow room. Some will also be following up on their requests for instruction in the lapidary arts, where the facilities are similarly already a bit cozy. Pebble Pups has an expanded expected participation. But please new members, come on in and get started.

However before we pat ourselves on the back too vigorously, it should be noted that the hard workers who made this Show such a success might have had a bit more time to relax and do a bit of shopping themselves if we had more participation from the silent majority. We will be compiling a list of lessons learned, and there are a few. First on my list of tasks will be to do some heavy recruiting for specific taskmasters for some of the many less obvious tasks. Once we have compiled the list, some gentle persuading will be administered for volunteers to take responsibility. Stay tuned for this, probably starting in the Spring with a tune-up ahead of the March 23rd Auction. Meanwhile, relax and bask in the glow of a job well done.



### **HGMS will host the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting in 2019.**

After considering all of the tasking versus the benefits from serving as host to the 2019 SFMS meeting, the Board agreed that the benefits outweighed the problems. It will be held during our Fall Show, but only one of their four meetings will overlap us. The cost to us for the effort will be refunded by SFMS. There will be some need to provide some food for the meetings, plus a Saturday night banquet which we will have catered. From this we will receive a significant boost in free and widespread advertising. And they are very happy about it.

**HGMS September Meeting Minutes September 25, 6:30 PM Bob & Ruth Kemper\**

**Opening:** Bill Friday, the President opened the meeting with the Program for the evening. Jerry Dickey from Lynchburg TN present a fascinating program on Indian Artifacts. His topics included everything from the Legalities of owning Indian Artifacts to the Types of sites. Discussion with the audience was engaging and informative.

Next Month's Program will be the techniques of Tumbling

**Attendance:** Fifty-two people at the meeting including visitors and new members

**Visitors & New & Returning Members:** Maureen Goodrich, Christine Tate, Tai & Sunny Hsu, Mary Jean Brost-Travis, Ron Travis, Billy & Bobby Couch, Bailey Gilmore, and Tina West.

**Treasury Report:** No treasury report was given at this meeting.

**Rocket City Jewelers:** Leslie reminded everyone that those who want to attend this event need to come to the "Meals on Wheels" door and not the front entrance of the senior center. This is true for all HGMS evenings besides the regular monthly meeting.

**HGMS Emails:** Bill Friday assured the audience that he would answer the club [hsvgems@gmail.com](mailto:hsvgems@gmail.com) messages. But that he would answer only those that are within this year's time period. Any emails older than a year would be deleted from the site.

**Silver Smithing:** Monday nights are open to silver smithing. There will be equipment certification conducted on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

**Pebble Pups:** For this Saturday's field trip to Cane Creek, everyone will meet five minutes after eight am, in the back parking lot of the Decatur AL Double Tree of the Hilton Hotel.

**Hospitality:** Caryl brought a farewell card wishing Carl Craig all the best on his move and retirement. This was passed around the room for signatures.

**Madison Street Fest:** Folks were encouraged to participate in the Madison Street Fest on 6 Oct, and to come by the booth that the HGMS folks will man. Expected audience for the fest will be approximately 20,000.

**Hosting the Federations:** Bill presented us with a briefing of the Southeast Federation Symposium he attended in Jacksonville, Florida. He stated that this was an amazing opportunity to see and work with other clubs. He is currently subscribed to 32 other newsletters and stated that HGMS was one of the largest organizations in the Southeast region. Lowell stated that this was a good opportunity as advertising for our club as well. Bill said they had encouraged youth participation with merit badges and competitions. There was a video library with many DVD's to choose from. Bill also stated that this was not a burden to the Jacksonville Club. Bill wanted to know whether HGMS would consider hosting this event during our Fall 2019 Show. Lowell stated that the last time HGMS hosted this event was in the 1980's. Bill asked for a volunteer to start looking into hosting the next event. A motion was placed on the floor and seconded to table this discussion until after the show.

**HGMS Rock & Mineral Show:** Tony asked members to take home yard signs, and to return them after the Show. He stated that the City will remove signs from public property if you do not pick them up directly following the show. Notice the billboards placed throughout town. Gene Powers stated that the flume bags are all packed. He stated that they had a lot of leftover smaller stones and that they would be selling smaller Ziplock Bags for 50 cents apiece. Lowell asked that we advertise the show as much as possible. He stated the word of mouth was the best method of getting out the word of the event. Make sure you list the show's event on your Facebook and Twitter accounts. Caryl asked that volunteers assist in cleaning out the very messy refrigerator in the Jaycee Building before the Show. She would appreciate any help with this task before the our Vendor/Worker Appreciation meal contributions are placed inside. Food should be there no later than 4:00pm at the building on Oct 11<sup>th</sup>. Serving will begin at 4:30pm.



## Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News

*By Leslie A. Malakowsky*

Thanks to Lynn and Anita for participating in the Madison Street Festival October 6<sup>th</sup>, especially with the hot weather! The event was good timing to advertise the club and the show!

The deadline to sign up for the **November 7<sup>th</sup> Bead & Jump Ring bracelet** make-up class is **October 24<sup>th</sup>**. That's also our next movie night which will include **more chainmaille by Spider!** Note that we won't meet on October 31<sup>st</sup> (Halloween) and November 21<sup>st</sup> (next day is Thanksgiving).

### Upcoming Schedule:

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

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

October 31<sup>st</sup> - No meeting

November 7<sup>th</sup> - Bead & Jump Ring bracelet make-up class

November 14<sup>th</sup> - Open

November 21<sup>st</sup> - No meeting

November 28<sup>th</sup> - Open

Lead Instructor/            Group Leader Leslie Malakowsky

Instructors                    Myra Soroczak

Kit Manager                  Sherrie Bonin

Wire Supplier                Shelley Curran

Treasurer                    Clara Goode

Facebook                    Karen VanBebber

Security                      Chris Kalange

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. **Come in the north door by the Meals on Wheels and turn left.**

## Madison Street Fair 2018

The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society was invited to have a booth at the Annual Madison Street Fair, and when we arrived we were placed just off of the main traffic flow, along with several other non-profit groups. This turned out to be an advantage, since the front line of paid vendors saw 20,000 passersby, most of whom didn't stop. We had a hundred or so who came to our booth, asked questions, admired our minerals, fossils, and jewelry, and received a flyer for the Fall Show which opened a week later. Off-site free parking was continually accessed in both directions by buses. Food service was close by and very good. The hourly freight trains were a very loud nuisance but tolerable. We will be back next year.



Metal Smithing/Silver Group by Kathy Bowman

### Upcoming Class Project : Thursday, November 1, Staked Earrings



October's project will be staked earrings. We will construct earrings using both rivets and solder. Two styles are pictured. You will have materials in the kit to make both. The ovals and triangles pictured are three layer metal "sandwiches" which are riveted together. A jump ring is soldered on the back to attach the ear wires. The "filling" in the sandwich should be a metal color/texture that will provide contrast. If you have some 24-26 gauge textured metal you want to use, bring it to class. The Fan earrings are staked and soldered. The kit cost is \$5.00.

The sign up sheet for this class will be available at the October meeting and during Monday and Thursday sessions. You also may sign up by sending email to [HGMS@wilddivystudio.com](mailto:HGMS@wilddivystudio.com).

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 out 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 resume certifications on a one to three person basis during Monday night work nights instead of having one large class a few times a year. If you cannot attend on Monday nights we can make arrangements for Thursday nights other than the night when a class is scheduled. If you are interested in scheduling Metalsmithing Certification please send your name and contact information (name, email address, and phone number) to [HGMS@wilddivystudio.com](mailto:HGMS@wilddivystudio.com). We will contact you and set up a day 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	<b>Opening</b>
Store Manager	<b>Opening</b>
Kit Manager	Shelley Curran
Webpage & Social Media Management	Kathy Bowman

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

## **Bring back your Fall Show yard signs**

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

# Pebble Pups

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

**Brian Burgess 256-479-2993,  
[bburgess771@gmail.com](mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com)**



## October 25th Meeting - Fluorescent Minerals

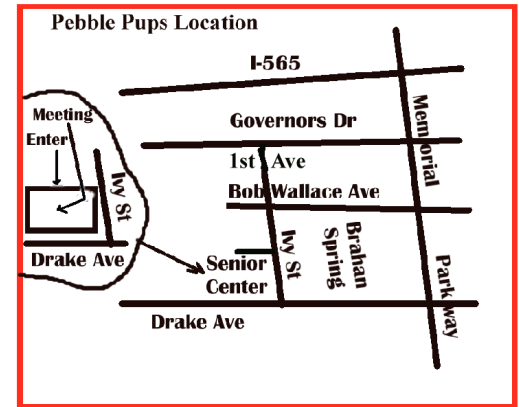
Dianna O'Dell will show and explain a variety of fluorescent minerals, ones that glow with bright colors under a black light.

**Next meeting** will be in January as we take off Nov and Dec to enjoy the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.

**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

**New members are always welcome. Bring your friends.**  
**If anyone has any questions, please contact Brian or Bill Friday**



## Howdy from Hospitality!

I want to join everyone in thanking the vendors, members, volunteers and customers for making this a show a tremendous success! Special thanks to all who helped clean the fridge, set up, clean up and provide food for the setup dinner! We had an abundance of yummy food and drink that provided munchies and refreshment for the vendors and volunteers all weekend long. Ted's Bar-B-Q provided free delivery (with a tip to the driver) of the pulled pork, brisket, beans, potato salad and cole slaw, with our crew of able HGMS chefs rounding out the meal. Thanks, everyone, you did it again!!

**Caryl Nixon, Hospitality Chair**

## About our September 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 – Howlite *By Leslie A. Malakowsky*

Howlite is calcium borosilicate hydroxide ( $\text{Ca}_2\text{B}_5\text{SiO}_9(\text{OH})_5$ ), a member of the Borate group of minerals found in evaporite deposits such as in the floors of desert playas. When an aqueous solution containing chemical sediments evaporates, the sediments concentrate and crystallize to form a water-soluble mineral – an *evaporite*. A dry lake is a basin or depression that contains standing surface water until it permanently evaporates. Dry lakes are known as *playas* (Spanish for “beach”) in some parts of Mexico and the western United States.



There are about 100 different borate minerals. Howlite is one of several well-known *hydrous* borate minerals typically found at Boron, Kern County, California and in other playa deposits of Southern California. Other members of this group include kernite, borax, ulexite and colemanite. These minerals are soft and readily soluble. Some borates, such as boracite, are more similar to Silicate minerals because they are hard and resist weathering. But these *anhydrous* (water free) borates are rare.

Howlite was first discovered near Windsor, Nova Scotia, in 1868 by Henry How (1828–1879), a Canadian chemist, geologist and mineralogist. Gypsum miners, who considered the unknown mineral to be a nuisance, reported it to How who called it *silico-boro-calcite*. James D. Dana (1813-1895), an American geologist, mineralogist and volcanologist, later named it *howlite* after How.

The most common form of howlite is irregular nodules or masses that sometimes resemble cauliflower. The surface is white with a gray to dark gray erratic pattern. (If you visited the Rock Food Table at the Huntsville Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show, you would have seen a serving of howlite on the table!) Specimens as small as 3”-4” in diameter and as large as 10”-12” in diameter are commonly found at the Sterling Borax Mine, in Tick Canyon, Los Angeles County, California. Specimens weighing up to 100 pounds have also been found there!



Distinct crystals of howlite are exceedingly rare having been found in only a couple of localities worldwide. The crystals are tabular, flattened prisms up to 1cm long occurring in clusters. They were first reported from Tick Canyon and later from Iona, Nova Scotia. The clusters from Tick Canyon are opaque white with fine grey or black veins in an erratic pattern, with a sub-vitreous luster. The crystals from Iona are colorless, white or brown and are often translucent or transparent.

Howlite in massive form is prized for making decorative objects such as small carvings and for making jewelry. Because of its porous texture, howlite is often dyed to imitate other minerals, especially turquoise. This is because howlite’s superficial patterns are similar to those of turquoise. (Magnesite (magnesium carbonate) is another white mineral whose superficial patterns are similar to turquoise, so it, too, is often dyed a light blue color that mimics turquoise.) Howlite is also used in its natural state in jewelry that looks similar to the jewelry in which turquoise is used. In those markets, the trade names “white turquoise” or “white buffalo turquoise” are sometimes used.

White varieties of turquoise from Arizona and Nevada are also marketed as “white buffalo turquoise.” But you can distinguish white turquoise from howlite because white turquoise is not as hard or durable as howlite. White turquoise is chalk-like with a Mohs hardness of 1, so it requires stabilization. Blue and green varieties of turquoise have a Mohs hardness of 5-6, and they have been used in jewelry since antiquity because of their unique hues. But dyed howlite (and magnesite) are more economical and more durable, so they are becoming more popular for use in jewelry than dyed stabilized white turquoise.

(This time of year, watch out! Your wulfenite may howlite at your moonstone!)

References: [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), [Mineralogy for Amateurs](#) by John Sinkankas









# 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 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)

## October Birthdays

2 Brian Hastings	15 Lizzy Norris
2 Michael McCoy	16 Rhonda Hall
2 Lara Staggs	18 James Lowery
3 Lola Flippo	20 Sam Tuminello
3 Matt Bedard	21 Jeannie Green
3 Theresa Chivers	22 Grady Harmon
5 Parker Holliday	22 Norman Johnson
5 Justin Springer	23 Jordan Steelman
7 Mark King	27 Jake Walters
7 Christopher Trumble	28 Mary Herren
8 Clark Harmon	30 David Nixon
10 Bonnie Treadway	30 Madison Phillips
11 Diana Nelms	31 Colton Gulliver
13 Ben Hunneycutt	Eric Webster
14 Trey Worthy	

## Anniversaries

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



October  
Opal

## November Birthdays

1 Marty Martinez	13 Joey Bonds
2 Daniel Hessler	15 Gordon Maynard
3 Alice Turner-Johnson	17 John McCullough
3 Andrea Tucker-Kusister	20 Betty Augsburger
3 Nanette Schwartz	21 Phyllis Murphy
3 Chris Stewart	23 Royal Ritchey
4 Josh Hosmer	24 Frank Curran
5 Joe Herman	26 Jackson Lindy
6 Sherrie Bonin	26 Connor Staggs
7 Susan Elrod	27 Toni Robert
9 David Fikes	27 Betty Olson
9 Jim Lee	27 Sheila Cape
11 Kathryn Springer	27 Jim Metzger
12 Mary Hicks	28 Jim Springer
12 Lindsey Lewis	29 Maya Roberts
12 Mike Soroczak	30 Mary Jean Brost Travis



November  
Citrine

## Anniversaries

11 Lola & Ryan Flippo	15 Gordon Maynard
12 Robert & Ruth Kemper	17 Steve & Fritzie Young
12 C.G. & Phil Lester	24 Don & Liz Cooper
14 Joey & Cindy Bonds	John & Julie McCullough

## October 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+
	<b>6:00pm-9:00pm</b>	<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>	<b>6:00pm-9:00pm</b>	<b>Open Lapidary - Only certified HGMS 18+</b>
	7:30am-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	<b>6:00pm-9:00pm</b>	<b>Open Lapidary - Only certified HGMS 18+</b>
	<b>6:00pm-9:00pm</b>	<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>	<b>5:30pm-9:00pm</b>	<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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 Michael Soroczak—256-446-9938—[Soroczak@yahoo.com](mailto:Soroczak@yahoo.com)  
 Ex Officio - Brian Burgess— 256-479-2993

## 2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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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	
Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-479-2993	
Show Vendor Chair: Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803 <a href="mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com">bburgess771@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:Lzol@comcast.net">Lzol@comcast.net</a>
Hospitality: Caryl Nixon 256-426-5061 <a href="mailto:caryl.nixon@outlook.com">caryl.nixon@outlook.com</a>	Show Volunteer Chair: Joe Bonin, 256-859-9711 <a href="mailto:sixjsonef@yahoo.com">sixjsonef@yahoo.com</a>
Mineral ID: Wayne Falkenberg— <a href="mailto:falkenbergwp@comcast.net">falkenbergwp@comcast.net</a>	Show Publicity Chair: Tony Smith, 256-852-3210 Show Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194

**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

- 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
- June '19 - Annual Picnic and Rock Swap - place, date, and time yet to be determined.

Deadline for Next Newsletter— October 13, 2018

**Dated Material**  
**Do not Delay**

Rocket City Rocks & Gems  
Bill Friday, Editor  
2508 Excaltibur Dr.  
Huntsville, AL 35803  
HGMS October 2018