

# ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 51 No. 1

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

January 2019

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## **Burgess Shale - January 22nd, 6:30pm**

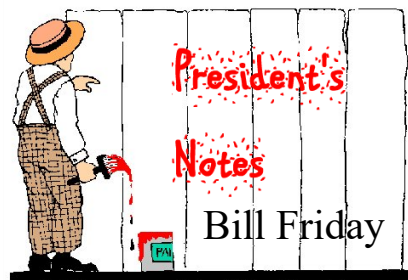
There are other fossil sites of this same extremely ancient era, but none that have the exquisite quality of preservation of these strange, and in most cases, lost life forms. Burgess Mountain is in the Canadian Rockies, high on a north facing slope—who would have ever thought to go hunting fossils there? But there they are, hidden for 500 million years, dating to the earliest ages of the Cambrian explosion, when 3 billion year old blue green algae suddenly took on a vast array of fantastic shapes and characteristics. Obviously a few of these more successful types of animals survived the Permian Extinction, and a few of those survived the later Cretaceous Tertiary Extinction, because here we are, again surrounded by a “new” incredible array of lifeforms. So come and enjoy this journey through the world of the Early Cambrian, as revealed within the rocks of a remote mountain top.



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



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I'm not sure why I still get so optimistic around the New Year's opening, being as how every day is Saturday for retirees, except Sundays, so most Holidays aren't such a big deal. It is said that New Year's Resolutions are promises whose intentions outlast their actions by about 364 days. This year for our Gem & Mineral Society holds promise to beat that pessimism.

But every year I am particularly energized by Christmas, the most important day of the year in my book, so maybe that is what is carrying over into the cold wet days of early January. Our Gem & Mineral Society is on sound footing for membership, budget, level of involvement by members, and opportunities. We have some excellent field trips in sight, and new programs to allow deeper insights into our favorite hobby. **We need a new Program Chairman to take Myra Soroczak's place - what a great job she has done.** The Auction will be a month earlier than usual, alleviating what has been a perennial schedule conflict. During our Fall Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show, we will host the Southeast Federation's Fall Meeting, bringing an even bigger spotlight onto ourselves. Watch for the lunar eclipse this month. The Fossil Specialty Group kicks off next month, and other similar specialty groups will be explored - geology, Indian artifacts, astronomy, and others as members express interests. But in the meantime, the snakes and ticks are asleep, the vegetation is bare, and the rocks are there waiting for us to venture out and gather them. Happy hunting!

## Pebble Pups

**Madison County Senior Center Cafeteria**

**2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville AL**

**Brian Burgess 256-479-2993**

[bburgess771@gmail.com](mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com)

Next meeting will be January 24, 6:00 to 7:00

Have a Happy and Productive New Year.

The main order of business will be to select topics for programs and destinations for field trips for the year of 2019. Kids and parents will be asked for inputs. Extra kids' activities will be provided.

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

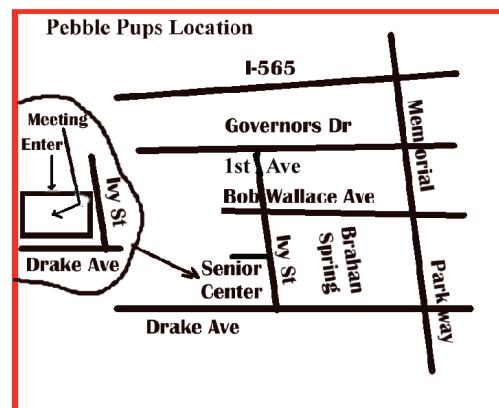
**Devil's Racetrack** in Huntsville—day trip to be set as it is convenient—geology hike and fossils

New members are always welcome. Bring your friends.

Enter the north door of the Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. and straight ahead to the cafeteria.

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

256-527-8227, [bill.friday@earthlink.net](mailto:bill.friday@earthlink.net)



## 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.

## Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News *By Leslie A. Malakowsky*

### Upcoming Schedule:

Our first class of 2019 was Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. We made a bracelet in which copper chainmaille was woven onto a piece of black leather cord. This striking pattern can have many variations depending on your imagination! How many variations will you dream up? Everyone enjoyed this new technique.

We're back on track with a class the first Wednesday of the month in February. Now taking reservations for the **February 6<sup>th</sup> chainmaille snowflake earrings** class. The pattern and kit cost are being finalized as of this newsletter. But the **deadline to RSVP is Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**.

### Upcoming Schedule:

January 16<sup>th</sup> – Open  
 January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Paper bead making demonstration  
 January 30<sup>th</sup> – Open. Deadline to RSVP for snowflake earrings.  
 February 6<sup>th</sup> – Chainmaille Snowflake Earrings  
 February 13<sup>th</sup> – Open

Lead Instructor/	Group Leader Leslie Malakowsky
Instructors	Judy Osmundson, Myra Soroczak
Kit Manager	Sherrie Bonin
Treasurer	Clara Goode
Facebook	Karen VanBebber
Security	Joe Bonin



RCJ is open to every member of the HGMS. (Gentlemen, too!) **If you love making jewelry, please visit 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.

**Important:** Please park in the **North parking lot** and enter the building at the **entrance next to Meals On Wheels**. The door is locked after 6:30p, so if you need to arrive later, please text me and someone will let you in.

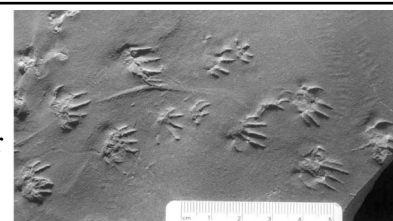


## FOSSIL SPECIALTY GROUP

Fossil Specialty Group kicks off next month on Thursday February 7th, 6:30pm, Painting Room at the Senior Center (next to the lapidary lab). This organizational meeting will last about 1 hour, gathering topics of interest from the

attendees, scheduling, and opportunities, mainly **field trips**. Meetings will be monthly. There will be a short introductory program. Members will be invited to present programs of particular interest to themselves.

So far enough members have stated interest in this pursuit for the kickoff, but you are invited whether or not you have spoken up before now. We do have fossil programs occasionally in the regular meetings, but this group will look much deeper into the history, lifestyles, evolution from prior creatures and to where they evolved from the point of study. Some will be (mostly) familiar, some will be quite obscure, some very very old, and some almost recent. Some programs will also look at important fossil sites. So if this sounds like something in which you want to indulge, come to the meeting, or just come to check it out. **Come to the back door of the Center and take a left, then a right.**





## Metal Smithing/Silver Group by Kathy Bowman & Shelley Curran

### Next Project Class, Thursday, February 7 : Stack Rings

This month's project is making a set of stacking rings. The example picture shows copper rings but we will have silver kits available. (Kit cost TBD) The kits will have materials for 3 plain stack bands and at 2 rings with a stone. You will learn how to make several rings and keep the sizes consistent and how to add a small stone in a premade bezel cup. If you have a small stone that will not fit a standard bezel cup, we will teach you how to measure the stone and make your own bezel cup.

***The sign up sheet will be available at the January meeting and on Monday and Thursday night classes or 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 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 resume certifications on a one to three person basis during Monday night work sessions instead of having one large class a few times a year. If you cannot attend on Monday nights we can make arrangements for Thursday night work sessions. 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

***Opening***

Store Manager

***Opening***

Kit Manager

Shelley Curran

Webpage & Social Media Management

Kathy Bowman

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



## William Holland and Wildacres Scholarship Drawing

William  
Holland  
Retreat, Inc.

At the February Meeting of the HGMS on Feb 26th, we will hold a drawing for two Assistance Scholarships, valued at \$150 each, for any

active members of the HGMS, to attend either of the two Arts Schools, your choice of which class or classes you choose. To be considered active, you must have been a paid member of HGMS for all of 2018 and have paid dues for 2019. Two prioritized alternate names will also be drawn. Winners from the previous two years are not eligible for this year. You do not have to be present to win. Notify in person or by email your desire to enter to Bill Friday, Kathy Bowman, or Shelley Curran. To receive the scholarship, you must apply to the school of your choice and pay for your class selection, (details for application are on the next page) and receive a notification of acceptance from the school registrar. Present



**Wildacres Education** [sfmsworkshops.com](http://sfmsworkshops.com)

1565 Wildacres Road, P.O. Box 280, Little Switzerland, NC 28749, Phone 828.756.4573

**To Wildacres from Marion, NC**

Go north on Hwy. 226-221, 6.3 miles from the Hwy. 70 intersection.

Take a left on Hwy. 226 toward Spruce Pine. (This intersection has a traffic signal.)

Go 1.1 miles to the intersection of Hwy. 226 and 226A and **turn left** onto 226A.

(Road construction has changed this intersection.)

Take this road 6.5 miles to the Wildacres sign at Wildacres Road and take this left.

Go 1.1 miles on gravel road to a paved drive on the right leading to Wildacres.

August 19-25 2019

- ☐ Cold Connections -Morning Sherrod
- ☐ Beginning Casting -Bill Harr
- ☐ Wire Wrap Rowan -Rose Morgan
- ☐ Special Projects -Jeff Sheer
- ☐ Cabochons -Buddy Shotts
- ☐ Beg. Chain/Fusing -Roy Deere
- ☐ Layered Colored Pencil -Mary Karg
- Jewelry on metal

September 16-22 2019

- ☐ Silver 1 -Pattie Appleby
- ☐ Gem ID -Teresa Polly
- ☐ Adv. Casting -Bill Harr
- ☐ Stone Inlay -Chuck Bruce
- ☐ Beg. Chain/Fusing -Roy Deere
- ☐ Metal Clay -Judi Talley
- ☐ Cold Connections -Morning Sherrod

**William Holland - SFMS Federation Week** 230 Lapidary Lane, Young Harris, GA 30582

June 9th – 14th, 2019, 706-379-2126

**GPS 34.956177,-83.8678797 or 34° 57' 22.37", 83° 52' 03.99"**

For more information go to [www.sfmsworkshops.org](http://www.sfmsworkshops.org) we will be updating the website soon to include registration and payment but for now you can mail your registration form and \$50 Deposit to: SFMS Workshops. c/o Warren Ratcliff, WH Registrar 420 S. Oak Ave, Bartow, FL 33830 (Make check payable to SFMS Workshops) [Warren.Registrar@yahoo.com](mailto:Warren.Registrar@yahoo.com) 941-545-4728  
Kristine Robertson, WH Director [Kristine@kmarella.com](mailto:Kristine@kmarella.com), 863-640-2887

**Class/Instructors**

Casting with Bill Harr

Loop n Loop with Chuck Bruce

Silver II - Fused with Dale Koebnick

Electro Etching / Wood Inlay with Micah Kirby

Cabochons I with Paul Roberts

Metal Manipulation/Cold Connections with Debora Mauser

Wire II - Bracelets Only with Gene Sheridan

Silver-Wear I and II with Jan and Keith Stephens

Beading with Dot Kasper

Silver I with Vickie Prillaman

Opals II - Carving with Cheryl Kasper

**Science Olympiad Regional Competition 2019**

HG&MS has been honored to be a part of the UAH Science Olympiad for a number of years because of our experience in Rocks and Minerals, and Fossils. The Olympiad this year, focusing on Fossils, will be on **Saturday, February 16**, at the Shelby Center for Science & Technology on the UAH campus. There will be a Middle School session followed by a session for High Schools, starting at 8:45 and ending at noon. We typically have about 20 teams for each session. **We need 4 volunteers** to help arrange the rooms for testing, monitoring the teams during testing, and grading the tests. A box lunch is provided for volunteers. This is a valuable service for the community, and good advertising for HGMS.

**Please volunteer to help. Contact Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803, [Lzol@comcast.net](mailto:Lzol@comcast.net).**



## 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/>



## SOLVENT DISPENSER

Frequently I need to fill a small bottle with alcohol, like the bottle of an alcohol lamp or a nail polish bottle that I use for the yellow ochre anti-flux. Often I can't find a small funnel and end up spilling almost as much as I get into the bottle. It's wasteful, and the fumes aren't too good for you either.

A neat and inexpensive solution is to use a lab dispensing bottle to store small quantities of the solvents most frequently used. The bottles have a wide mouth for filling and a fine tip for dispensing. You can get a small stream or just a drop or two. With the bottle's fine tip I don't spill a drop.

A Google search will turn up many suppliers. One I've used is Carolina Biological Supply Company at [www.carolina.com](http://www.carolina.com) The bottle is Catalog # 716580 Unitary Wash Bottle, Low-Density Polyethylene, 125 mL US \$5. They have several sizes and other bottles labeled for specific solvents.



## STIFFENING EARRING POSTS

Soldering an earring post will always soften the wire a bit. The easiest way I've found to harden it is to grip it with pliers and twist it a couple half turns. This work hardens the wire and also tests your soldered joint.



**ROCK SALE ! Please call before coming to see. 205-487-0500**

I have too many items to send pics. Rocks for faceting, cabs, jade pieces of jewelry + much more!

Ruth Matthews, 314 County Rd 87, Winfield, AL. 35594, [curllady@yahoo.com](mailto:curllady@yahoo.com)

GPS 33° 50' 16.60", 87° 48' 23.76", or 33.8378761, -87.8064383





### Mineral of the Month – Bloodstone By Leslie A. Malakowsky

This month's mineral was inspired by the upcoming "super blue blood moon" or "super blood wolf moon" expected to be observable from the Americas, Western Europe, and some parts of Africa and Asia from the evening of January 20<sup>th</sup> to the early morning of January 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be three phenomena observable then: a supermoon, a blue moon, and a total lunar eclipse (also known as a "blood moon"). (More information at the end of the article.)

Bloodstone is a semi-transparent to opaque, medium to dark green chalcedony containing iron-oxide inclusions, especially hematite, as red, yellow and/or brown splatters, stripes or veins. Spotty red inclusions are said to resemble drops of blood, hence the name *bloodstone*. (Readers may see the name *heliotrope*, an old name for bloodstone that is still widely used.) There's even a variety of bloodstone called *plasma* that is dullish green with yellow inclusions.

Bloodstone has a hardness of 6.5 – 7 and a waxy to semi-vitreous luster. It also occurs in greenish-blue, gray and grayish-green. These color variations are caused by impurities such as chlorite, amphibole and pyroxene inclusions. But it's the deep forest green and the red spots of "classic" bloodstone that are its most defining and desirable characteristics.



All varieties of chalcedony, including bloodstone, are members of the quartz group of tectosilicates. (*Tectosilicate* minerals have a three-dimensional framework of silicate tetrahedra in their crystal structure.) Other varieties of chalcedony include the familiar agate, aventurine, carnelian, chrysoprase and onyx.

Principal sources of bloodstone in the United States are in California - the Amargosa mountain range (Inyo County) and the Cascade mountain range (Siskiyou County).

Internationally, the main source of bloodstone is the Purbalingga district of Indonesia.

The name *heliotrope* comes from the Greek words *ἥλιος*, meaning "Sun", and *τρέπειν*, meaning "to turn", interpreted as "sun turner". Linguists believe that this name is derived from various ancient notions about the manner in which the mineral reflects light. "Pliny the Elder", a Roman author and naturalist (AD 23-79), described these properties in his book Natural History, which later became a model for the modern encyclopedia.

Bloodstone is a beautiful mineral for making jewelry and decorative objects. For example, it's formed into beads, cabochons, faceted gemstones, small sculptures, paper weights and spheres. Bloodstone is also the traditional birthstone for March (the

contemporary birthstone is aquamarine).

References: [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), [mindat.org](http://mindat.org), [minerals.net](http://minerals.net), [space.com](http://space.com), [eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov](http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov)

### Moon Names

A "**supermoon**" is when the Moon is full at the same time as, or very near, perigee – it's closest distance to Earth on its elliptical monthly orbit around the Earth. Skywatchers enjoy supermoons because they appear 14% larger and 30% brighter than normal full moons. (A supermoon can look even larger if it's close to the horizon.)

A "**blue moon**" is the term for the second full moon when two full moons occur in a single calendar month.

According to NASA, a blue moon occurs about every 2 1/2 years. (The phrase "once in a blue moon" means something that happens infrequently.)

A "**wolf moon**" is the nickname for a full moon in January.

A "**blood moon**" refers to the reddish hue that the shadow of the Earth casts on the full moon as it passes behind Earth into its shadow. Sunlight filtering through particles in our atmosphere, such as ash (from fires and volcanoes), dust storms and pollution, cause a blood colored eclipse. A gray eclipse means clear skies.

### More About the Upcoming Lunar Eclipse

In a lunar eclipse, the Sun, the Earth and the Moon are exactly or very closely aligned for a short time.

The January 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 total lunar eclipse will last 1 hour and 2 minutes, according to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center lunar eclipse projections. The full experience, from the start of the partial eclipse to the end, will last 3 hours and 17 minutes.

The partial lunar eclipse will start in Huntsville AL on Sunday evening at 9:33pm. Totality begins at 10:41, with the peak at 11:12pm, and ending at 11:43pm. Partial will end after midnight at 12:50am on Monday, Jan. 21. This peak is also known as the "greatest eclipse" and is defined as the moment when the moon comes closest to the axis of Earth's shadow."

Note: The next total lunar eclipse won't occur until May 26, 2021. The next "super blue blood moon" won't occur until January 31, 2037! An Eclipse Never Comes Alone! A solar eclipse always occurs about two weeks before or after a lunar eclipse. Usually, there are two eclipses in a row, but other times, there are three during the same eclipse season. But not this year. Wait till Jul 2, at the southern tip of Brazil, followed 2 weeks later by a lunar eclipse in Europe.

Source: [space.com](http://space.com)



## RELATIVE TIME SCALE



At the close of the 18th century, the haze of fantasy and mysticism that tended to obscure the true nature of the Earth was being swept away. Careful studies by scientists showed that rocks had diverse origins. Some rock layers, containing clearly identifiable fossil remains of fish and other forms of aquatic animal and plant life, originally formed in the ocean. Other layers, consisting of sand grains winnowed clean by the pounding surf, obviously formed as beach deposits that marked the shorelines of ancient seas. Certain layers are in the form of sand bars and gravel banks -- rock debris spread over the land by streams. Some rocks were once lava flows or beds of cinders and ash thrown out of ancient volcanoes; others are portions of large masses of once molten rock that cooled very slowly far beneath the Earth's surface. Other rocks were so transformed by heat and pressure during the heaving and buckling of the Earth's crust in periods of mountain building that their original features were obliterated.

Between the years of 1785 and 1800, James Hutton and William Smith advanced the concept of geologic time and strengthened the belief in an ancient world. Hutton, a Scottish geologist, first proposed formally the fundamental principle used to classify rocks according to their relative ages. He concluded, after studying rocks at many outcrops, that each layer represented a specific interval of geologic time. Further, he proposed that wherever uncontorted layers were exposed, the bottom layer was deposited first and was, therefore, the oldest layer exposed; each succeeding layer, up to the topmost one, was youngest.

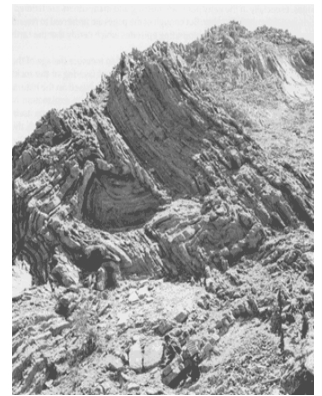
Today, such a proposal appears to be quite elementary but, nearly 200 years ago, it amounted to a major breakthrough in scientific reasoning by establishing a rational basis for relative time measurements. However, unlike tree-ring dating -- in which each ring is a measure of 1 year's growth -- no precise rate of deposition can be determined for most of the rock layers. Therefore, the actual length of geologic time represented by any given layer is usually unknown or, at best, a matter of opinion.

William "Strata" Smith, a civil engineer and surveyor, was well acquainted with areas in southern England where "limestone and shales are layered like slices of bread and butter." His hobby of collecting and cataloging fossil shells from these rocks led to the discovery that certain layers contained fossils unlike those in other layers. Using these key or index fossils as markers, Smith could identify a particular layer of rock wherever it was exposed. Because fossils actually record the slow but progressive development of life, scientists use them to identify rocks of the same age throughout the world.

From the results of studies on the origins of the various kinds of rocks (petrology), coupled with studies of rock layering (stratigraphy) and the evolution of life (paleontology), geologists reconstruct the sequence of events that has shaped the Earth's surface. Their studies show, for example, that during a particular episode the land surface was raised in one part of the world to form high plateaus and mountain ranges. After the uplift of the land, the forces of erosion attacked the highlands and the eroded rock debris was transported and redeposited in the lowlands. During the same interval of time in another part of the world, the land surface subsided and was covered by the seas. With the sinking of the land surface, sediments were deposited on the ocean floor. The evidence for the pre-existence of ancient mountain ranges lies in the nature of the eroded rock debris, and the evidence of the seas' former presence is, in part, the fossil forms of marine life that accumulated with the bottom sediments.

Such recurring events as mountain building and sea encroachment, of which the rocks themselves are records, comprise units of geologic time even though the actual dates of the events are unknown. By comparison, the history of mankind is similarly organized into relative units of time. We speak of human events as occurring either B.C. or A.D. -- broad divisions of time. Shorter spans are measured by the dynasties of ancient Egypt or by the reigns of kings and queens in Europe. Geologists have done the same thing to geologic time by dividing the Earth's history into Eras -- broad spans based on the general character of life that existed during these times -- and Periods -- shorter spans based partly on evidence of major disturbances of the Earth's crust.

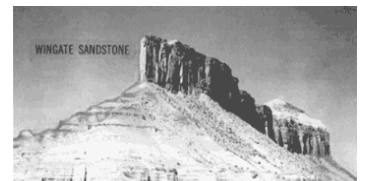
The names used to designate the divisions of geologic time are a fascinating mixture of words that mark highlights in the historical development of geologic science over the past 200 years. Nearly every name signifies the acceptance of a new scientific concept--a new rung in the ladder of geologic knowledge.



**In places where layers of rocks are contorted, the relative ages of the layers may be difficult to determine.**



**A paleontologist of the U.S. Geological Survey examines fossil bones of *Paleoparadoxia*, an aquatic mammal from 14 MA**



**The Wingate Sandstone consists largely of wind-blown sand believed to have accumulated as desert dunes in the Southwestern United States about 200 MA. This erosion commonly produces vertical cliffs.**





# 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 Athens Rock and Gem Club (Athens, GA) (HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

**Stoney Bluff, Girard, GA - Saturday, February 16, 2019, 9:00AM EST**

**TRIP:** This is the Third Bi-annual trip to collect agate about 30 miles south of Augusta, GA. We will assemble in Girard, GA at 9 am in the vacant lot just south of the Post Office (do not park in the Post Office parking lot). The collecting site is only a few miles away.

**COLLECTING:** "Savannah River Agate"

**BRING:** Colorful, agatized material can be found on the surface at the site, but many people usually bring light digging tools and small pry bars to free larger boulders from the sandy soil. Leather gloves and safety glasses are recommended. Bring plenty of water and dress for the weather. **NOTE:** All holes must be re-filled before you leave.

**CHILDREN (Yes):** Children are allowed but must have adult supervision at all times.

**PETS (No):** Pets are not allowed

**FACILITIES:** There are no facilities at this site and the closest facilities are several miles away.

### **DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:**

**From Augusta, GA:** From I-20 in Augusta get onto I-520 (Bobby Jones Expressway) and head south. When you reach Exit 9 (Mike Padgett Hwy), exit and head south on Hwy 56. Travel approx. 15 miles. Just beyond McBean GA turn left onto Hwy 23 and follow it SE about 14 mi. to Girard, GA. We will assemble at 9 am in the vacant lot just south of the Post Office (do not park in the Post Office parking lot).

**GPS 33.0427146, -81.7131557 or 33° 02' 33.33" 81° 42' 47.41" - 360 miles from Huntsville AL**

**CONTACT:** Trip chairman: Jim Maudsley 706-353-1792 or [jamesm24@charter.net](mailto:jamesm24@charter.net)

**IMPORTANT:** DMC field trips are open only to members of clubs within the SFMS that have provided their members with field trip liability insurance. SFMS club members are bound by the AFMS code of ethics (click [here](#) to read them), but the general public is not, and could jeopardize access to a collecting location. So unless the property owner has invited non-SFMS attendees, the general public is not allowed on DMC field trips. **Please do not post DMC field trip information where the general public can access it.**

## January Birthdays

3 Steve Tesh	13 Elroy Walker
4 Wayne Hall	13 Norm Ballas
5 Lindsey Armstrong	16 Fritzie Young
5 Matthew Kula	17 David Bath
6 Jack Albers	17 Debra Lindy
6 Eva Ziegler	20 Betty Zoller
7 Anita Bynum	21 Lowell Zoller
8 Tracey Inman	22 Mike Wesley
8 Christine Tate	23 Evelyn Detwiler
8 Susan Lowman	23 Margaret Harmon
9 Brian Burgess	25 Pat Allen
9 Mandy Todd	25 John Hall
10 Jonathan Lear	25 Rebecca Lynn Lindy
11 Delora Ward	26 Heather Huber
12 Pat McKinney	27 Wes Wells

### Anniversaries

9 Dawn Holliday  
15 Jack & Kathleen Albers  
18 Jeff & Debra Lindy  
24 Johnnie & Dennis Peterson



January  
Garnet

## February Birthdays

1 Eddie Boyett	13 Stuart North
1 Ryan Flippo	14 Matthew Elmore
1 Maggie Holliday	16 Robin Boyett
1 Darrell Murphy	17 Dennis Adomatis
2 Michael Cape	17 Don Cooper
4 Dawn Holliday	18 Wayne Falkenberg
5 Alli Curran	19 Debbie Deering
6 Mike Goode	20 Lauren Todd
7 Lester Bartel	22 Cindy Bonds
7 Karen Cale	23 Mark Robinson
10 Tony Smith	25 John Cook
11 Karin Bath	25 Jeanne Hayes
12 Kay Jones	



February  
Amethyst

### Anniversaries

2 Dorothea Chism      13 Eddie & Robin Boyett  
12 Don & Marie Aldridge      18 Karen & Gary Thompson  
12 Kay Jones      19 Christine Tate

## January 2019 - Senior Center Lapidary Lab Schedule

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+

## 2019 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— 256-479-2993 [bburgess771@gmail.com](mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com)  
 Federation Liaison - Les Bartel - 31 Oakland Trace, Madison AL 35758 [lester.bartel@gmail.com](mailto:lester.bartel@gmail.com)

## 2019 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	
Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-479-2993 <a href="mailto:bburgess771@gmail.com">bburgess771@gmail.com</a>	Show Vendor Chair: Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803 <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: Open
Mineral ID: Michael Soroczak <a href="mailto:falkenbergwp@comcast.net">falkenbergwp@comcast.net</a> (William Holland offers a class for this)	Show Publicity Chair: Tony Smith, 256-852-3210 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, artifacts, and newsletters.

**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)





# 2019 CALENDAR

- 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
- 23 Mar '19 (Saturday) - Annual Fund Raiser Auction - 9:00 am  
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
- 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.
- 25 Jun '19 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 27 Jul '19 Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,  
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm

Deadline for Next Newsletter— February 13 2019

**Dated material  
Do not Delay**

Rocket City Rocks & Gems  
Bill Friday, Editor  
2508 Excaltibur Dr.  
Huntsville, AL 35803  
HGMS February 2019