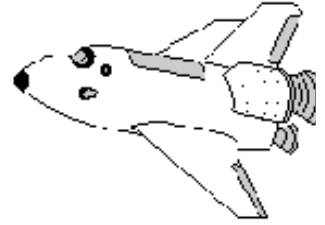
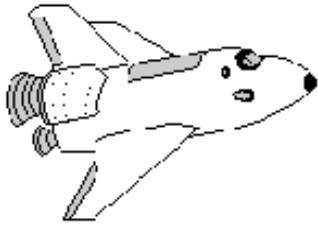


ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 48 No. 3

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

March 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Notes	2
February Minutes.....	2-3
The March Speaker.....	3
Jewelry & Silver Activities	4
Brad's Bench Tips	5
Welcome New Members.....	5
Pebble Pups	6
Shows & Field Trips.....	7-11
Feature Article.....	11
Mar/Apr Birthdays	12
& Anniversaries	
Lapidary Lab Schedule	12
2016 Officers & Committee Chairmen	13
Calendar.....	14

Meeting Mar 22, 2016, 6:30pm Mineral Identification

by Michel Soroczak

Mike has dug from mines, bought & sold, and handled more minerals than many of us combined will encounter in a lifetime. He doesn't claim to know them all, but we can't often stump him, even when we try.

He will share some of the techniques, tools, and even some of the secrets of this loftier level of rock collecting. Come and learn lots from his excellent presentation.



Happy St Patty's Day

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



Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society (HGMS) 2016. Reprinting Rights are granted for all material (except for minutes of the meeting and copyrighted articles) to any organization officially affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) or Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS), provided credit is given to the author, the original publication, and this newsletter

President Mike's Notes

Happy March to all! This year is getting off to a great start and again I want to thank all who have work so hard to make it happen. But I need to ask all of you to step up one more time. The club auction is coming up on the 30th of April and that is less than seven weeks away! This is a major fund raiser for the club and an excellent chance for all club members to acquire those much wanted lapidary/jewelry/tools/equipment that you just haven't found or maybe didn't even know that you wanted! But there is a catch. You need to donate those "no longer wanted" and "got a few extras" items that fellow club members would love to have. So please, please, please bring those items to the lab on Tuesdays or Wednesdays and to the next meeting on March 22 so we can catalog and evaluate each for the auction. We have had a few things turned in so far but we really need a lot more. I have been going thru all the boxes I brought back from the Great NW and I have found some great things to donate (and I did already) but I plan to donate a lot more. I challenge you to do the same. The more we have the better chance you have in finding that perfect piece that you can't live without! Bring them in and we'll see you on the 22nd of March for the meeting and again on the 30th of April for the auction!



Minutes of the January 26 2016 HGMS Meeting

President Mike Harrison opened the meeting at 6:32p.m.

Old Business

- We approved the minutes of the January 26th, 2016 meeting.

New Business

Lapidary Shop

Bill announced that we had the grand opening of the new equipment last Tuesday night. The lap lab can be used by HGMS members on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

New Nametags/Membership Cards

Bill has new (and improved) nametags and membership cards. Get yours from Caryl tonight!

Jewelry Activity Group

Mindy announced that Myra is going to teach a class on decorative links on March 8th. The kit cost is \$2.50. Sign up with Karin tonight. Kathy is going to teach Viking Weave, an ancient wire weaving technique, in March. Shelley is going to teach jewelry design in May.

Metal Smithing

Mindy announced that Deb is going to teach a "spinner ring" class on February 25th. Seating is limited, so sign up with Karin tonight.

Field Trips

- Brian reported that we are sponsoring a DMC (Dixie Mineral Council) field trip to the Hogg Mine on April 16th, 2016. **We need membership support for this trip!** Sign up tonight!
- The Clarksville, GA trip sponsored by the Georgia Gem and Mineral Society will be March 12th at 10a.m.
- The Richardson Landing trip will be sometime this summer.
- The Coon Creek trip needs 15 members to sign up before we can book it.

For details an these trips, see the January 2016 newsletter and subsequent newsletters. If you have suggestions for other trips, contact Brian.

[Minutes continued next page]



[Minutes Continued]**Pebble Pups Stuff**

- The pups will go to Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve (South of Tusculumbia) with Jim Lacefield in May. Sign up with Brian tonight (adult members are also invited). Mr. Lacefield will also present a program for the pups in July.
- Parents please note that Sciquest is closing, so we don't have a permanent meeting place. (The last meeting was at the US Space & Rocket Center.)

Hospitality News

Caryl thanked Jim and Bonnie Treadway for training her. Sign up with Caryl tonight to bring refreshments for the March 22nd meeting. We also need refreshments for the auction. Caryl reminded us to recycle plastic cups, bottles and plates including gently used paper plates. Remember to push chairs back into place after the meetings.

Auction News

The auction is set for Saturday, April 30th at the Jaycee's Building the same as last year. The preview will be at 8:30a.m. and the auction will start at 9:00a.m. We paid \$350.00 to rent the Jaycee's Building. There are several volunteer positions available. Sign up with Mike H. to help. You can bring donations to the lap lab on Tuesday and Thursday nights. We'll have a brief business meeting at the auction; there will not be a separate meeting in April.

Scholarships

We drew names tonight for the scholarships for the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, GA, and the Wildacres Retreat Center in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. The winners are Wayne Hastings and Shelley Curran. The alternates are Brian Burgess and Rhonda Hall. The scholarships are \$150.00 each which covers room and board. Lab fees are extra. Winners can attend any week whether or not it's a SEFMS weekend. Winners are only accepted when Clara receives the acceptance form. The scholarships are for HGMS members only, but not if you joined tonight. Winners have a month to register. Please let us know as soon as possible if you can't attend so the alternate has a chance to register.

Other Announcements

- Myra is circulating forms for you to sign up for the programs you want and the programs you can present. She needs to know what type of programs we want, so sign up tonight!
- Mike donated topographic maps to the Pebble Pups.
- Bill announced that there will not likely be any trips to Paint Rock Valley in the future due to abuse of the area.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58p.m.

Program

Mike Harrison presented a program on "Rock Hounding in the Great Northwest. Thank you Mike! We enjoyed refreshments.

Submitted by Recording Secretary Leslie Malakowsky



HGMS March Presentation: "Mineral Identification"

by Michael Soroczak

On 22 March, Michael will present "Mineral Identification".

Michael has a Bachelor of Science in Vocational & Technical Education from Athens State College and an Associate's Degree in Occupational Studies from the Culinary Institute of America. Mike, as we have all come to know him, is also a Veteran of the United States Coast Guard. Mike has an interesting background as a jack of all trades but most interestingly, Mike is a prospector for gems and minerals often prospecting over many states over the year. Many a time we have noticed Mike shows his know-how by

the generous haul of aquamarine, beryl, rose quartz from his adventures at the Hogg Mine down in La Grange, Georgia or finding of gold at Gold Camp south of Birmingham, Alabama. Mike has also served on the HGMS Board, volunteered many times in our fund-raisers and presentations. Mike will have many minerals on view. You won't want to miss this one!

Please join us for an entertaining evening. The Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society will start the meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Huntsville Senior Center.

HGMS Jewelry Crafts

Our goal is to get HGMS members together to share what we know. Some of these are considered rare and lost arts in regards to jewelry development, design, and the very many different types. We are quite blessed to have a handful of Advanced Artists in HGMS that are generous with their knowledge and time to educate our HGMS Jewelry Craft members as well as a number of us that are beginner students but want to make a difference by volunteering however we can. If you are a part of our JAG or Metalsmithing Group students, please thank your instructors for their selfless energy towards classes and assistance. Also, if you would like to volunteer to make a difference, please contact me.

Thank you, Mindy Schell



HGMS Jewelry Activity Group (JAG)

We meet on Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center Paint Room. Besides the classes (below) we have Freeform Nights. Freeform Nights allow us to meet, share what we are working on, and fellowship. We occasionally have a surprise tutorial/demo on certain jewelry development and design. We have a great time so join us! J

On 8 March 2016 Myra Soroczak gave a presentation and instruction on how to make fancy links used in necklaces and bracelets. Class continues on 15 March 2016. Thanks for the wonderful classes Myra. It was interesting and opened up the creative parts of our minds.

JAG Class Schedule (Sign-ups)

15 March – Fancy Links (kits) Continued by Myra Soroczak

5 April – Viking Knit (kits) by Kathy Bowman

May (TBA) – Bead Knotting (kits) Sheila Tesh

JAG Facebook page <https://m.facebook.com/HGMS-Jewelry-Activity-Group-857234527677766/>



HGMS Metalsmithing / Silver Group

The Metalsmithing Group is for HGMS members 18 years old and up who are Metalsmith Certified. Certification class signups will be taken on 22 March 2016,

The Safety Classes and skill based project instruction for beginner metal-smithing students have been completed. Projects included a pendant, spinner rings, and bezel settings for cabochons. Thank you Deb Neis for leading the project instruction and kits, Kathy Bowman and Shelley Curran as Assistant Instructors, and Karin Bath with budget management, inventory control and toolbox signout. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

Please remember that the toolboxes are limited and are reserved first for classes. For those wanting to continue with metalsmithing, please start buying the basic tools from the list provided in class starting with the Butane can with Culinary torch head demonstrated. Other torches will be brought into instruction at a later time. We are trying to accommodate the many people in the lab and trying to keep everybody safe so leave those big torches at home until we announce we are ready.

If you are interested in metalsmithing we will be taking more signups in March for more classes.

For those that are now certified, Freeform Meetings in the Lapidary Lab will be open. Space is limited so first come, first served.

Volunteer Positions

Jewelry Craft Program Manager ...	Mindy Schell
Jewelry Craft Treasurer...	Karin Bath
Jewelry Craft Kit Manager...	Shelley Curran

Instruction:

Metalsmithing Lead Instructor...	Deborah Neis
Metalsmithing Project Instructors...	Kathy Bowman & Shelley Curran
Safety Instructors	Mindy Schell & Karin Bath
Toolbox Signouts	Pat McKinney
Librarian...	Open
Refreshments	Open

Brad's Bench Tips

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



GRIPPING SMALL DRILLS

Drilling small holes can be a problem. With drills that are less than 1 mm (18 gauge or .040 inches), some chucks will not tighten down well enough to hold the drill securely. The problem is easily solved in either of two ways - with a chuck adapter or by buying your small drills with a 3/32 inch shank size. Either way you have a large shank to be gripped in your drill press, Foredom or Dremel, so changing bits is fast and easy.



PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS

As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 - 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things. First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.

Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they're not dependable for stones with steep side walls.

Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with stones that have a sharp edge around the bottom.

Burnishing the bezel over one of these stones will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).



IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known der. What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.



Recommended as a good buy and good reading for all who like to have better lapidary skills. S.S.

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7778977.Bradford_M_Smith

Welcome New HGMS Members

Susan Boyd
Joe & Sherrie Bonin



Pebble Pups - Yellowstone National Park

Thur 6:00 to 7:00pm - date & place to be determined

We will spread the word whenever we get it



Yellowstone National Park - Geology, History & Wildlife

please RSVP to Brian by **Mar 15th** , **256-746-0641**, bburgess771@gmail.com,



Imagine being the first person to enter the wilderness area that later became the Yellowstone Park, seeing the geysers, hot springs, and mud pots. Actually that person's wonder was no different than what we feel today when entering the park, except that now there are roads & paths, Rangers and Visitor Center, and lots of internet sites which tell all about the place, including explanations as to how it all works. But it is still rather magical to see a flat piece of ground suddenly spout a column of water 100 feet into the air for five minutes, and then remain quiet for another hour - every hour. This program is intended to provide some of those explanations and to be a bit of a tour guide in itself.



Apr 21 - Extremophiles—animals that live in impossible places

May 19 - Radioactive Rocks

June 22 - Electricity and Magnetism

July 21 - Alabama Geology (Jim Lacefield)

The next three months tie together.

August 18 - Weather (Michelle Amin from the NWS office)

September 15 - Erosion: Wind, Water, and Ice

October 20 - Discoveries from Erosion



Kids ages 8 through 12 are invited to join this Junior Rock Enthusiasts Group. All participating families must have Family-Member status (the \$20 rate) in the HGMS and an adult family member must be present during the meeting. Pups family membership is an additional \$10/year. **SciQuest had to shut down so we are looking for a new permanent location for meetings. Thanks for your patience.**

Key Tag now required for entry to the Madison County Senior Center

Each person entering the Senior Center for meetings, HGMS activities, or other purposes within the building, at any time of day, will need a bar-coded key card, to be recorded at the door on the reader. These may be obtained from an HGMS officer at a regular HGMS meeting, at one of the Tuesday or Wednesday evening lapidary sessions, or during the day from Becky Rollston, Senior Center Program Director. Once your tag is recorded by the Center, if you forget to bring it, you may enter your phone number for access. Thanks.

Continue Donating Items for the April 30th HGMS Fund Raising Auction

Last year's Auctions were the best ever, certainly because of the very dedicated work performed by some special people, but their accomplishments would have been impossible if donations hadn't started coming in early, allowing the cataloging and valuations booklet to be ready well before the Auctions. Mike Harrison is heading up the Auction organizing this year—many thanks for stepping up. So go through your collections and select some of the good stuff of which you have a bit of a surplus. Much of the progress we made recently in upgrading the lab, starting jewelry and metal smithing activities was made possible by the proceeds from the auctions. We are preparing to start faceting and upgrading the library—so please give generously. And please sign up to help in any of the many support opportunities. We will again be in the Jaycees Bldg, with professional auctioneer Wayne Taylor doing the calling —Mike can't do it alone. Thanks

Upcoming Shows

March 19 – 20 Dothan Gem & Mineral Club Dothan, AL

March 18 – 20 Rome Georgia Mineral Society Rome, GA

April 2 – 3 Lexington Rock Gem & Jewelry Show Lexington, KY

April 23 – 24 Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society Memphis, TN

<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/club-shows-123.html>

Rome GA Gem & Mineral Society Spring Show

Don't miss one of the South's premier mineral shows!

The 2016 Valley and Ridge Gem and Mineral Show March 18, 19, & 20, 2016

The Forum * 301 Tribune St * Rome, GA 30161 * (706) 291-5281

Fri-Sat 10am-6pm * Sun 11am-5pm Free Admission!

Mineral/Fossil ID, Prizes, Exhibits! Minerals, Gems, Fossils, Meteorites, Jewelry, and Crystals for Sale. Register to win this fabulous Grand Prize at the Show! WOW! More free rocks! Bring the show flyer to the show and we will give you a free mineral or fossil specimen. Download the flyer [HERE](#).

Show Information: Jose Santamaria, Show Chair * 678.488.9560 * rogams.show@gmail.com

Dealer Information: Jeff Deere, Dealer Chair * 770.655.2298 * Jeff.Deere@brownind.com

<https://rogams.wordpress.com/gem-and-mineral-show/>



Dothan Gem & Mineral Club Spring Show

***March 19th & 20th, 2016. Our Annual Gem & Mineral Show in Dothan, AL is fun for the whole family. Vendors from across the country will be selling gemstones, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry and lapidary equipment. There will be hourly door prizes, silent auctions, along with rock exhibits, plus a grand prize drawing at the end of the show. Free admission and parking. Saturday, 9:00 – 5:00 and Sunday, 10:00 – 4:00.



HGMS Sponsored Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip to Hogg Mine, LaGrange GA, Apr16

Details next Page. Besides helping with the logistics of trip registration, parking control, and hosting, **HGMS workers get in free**, and after the work is done, you will find some pretty nice minerals. Chris Painter runs a great digging opportunity.



Middle Tennessee Rockhounds

3rd Annual Dig It Music City

A fun family exploration of the
Earth's rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems

Amqui Station & Visitors Center

303 Madison St, Madison (Nashville), TN

Near the Nashville Public Library, Madison branch & Fifty Forward

Saturday April 23, 2016

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Presentations

11:00 AM **"Geology of Tennessee"** by Ron Clendening

1:00 PM **"Volcanoes and Earthquakes"** by William Peel

Activities for Kids

Free Mineral & Fossil Identification

Rock, mineral, fossil, slab, rough, & gem vendors

Free Admission + Free Parking

Everyone is Welcome!

For general information, or to reserve space for demonstration, education, exhibits or sales,
map, & information: **www.RockHound.org/swap**

or http://www.rockhound.org/swap/Dig_It_Music_City_2016.pdf

Meeting Etiquette

1. Turn off cell phone and similar device ringers before the meeting starts.
2. Be on time for the meeting, which starts promptly at 6:30 pm.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized when asking a question or offering a comment.
4. Give a presenter your full attention during their presentation. Fellow members and officers also deserve courtesy when covering information or asking questions.



Stick around for food and fellowship later. Visit the lab to see the new equipment.



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.

The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society Host)

Hogg Mine -- Troup County, GA
Saturday, April 16, 2016—9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Fee Site

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. It is a surface mine 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. Here have been pockets of green Aquamarine beryl with some large single specimens. As you enter the main pit area, there is a tailing or spoils pile to your left that came out of the pit in front of you. There has been several large nice gemmy Aquamarine beryl specimens come 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 had indicated that Amethyst was found. There are pieces of Amethyst coming from the new pit. There is a small Tourmaline pit to the north east of the Parking Area. Note: An aerial map will be available for those that would like to have the above description annotated on the map. (A picture is worth a thousand words.)

FEE: 17 years old and up is \$35 per person, 16 years old and younger dig for free. The mine also cooks hamburgers and hot dogs and has drinks. Lunch plate is \$8.00.

TOOLS: Bring all the tools you have: pick, shovel, screen, rock hammer, hand sledge, rock chisel, bucket, hand cart, etc. The Hogg does sell 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.

WHERE TO MEET: Meet at McDonald's at 2408 Whitesville St, LaGrange, GA 30240. This is at Exit 13 on Interstate 85 in LaGrange. I would suggest arriving at McDonalds as early as 8am, although you can arrive earlier. This will give you time to pay and fill out the required paper work. At 8:15am 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, text or call the number I have provided below.

DIRECTIONS: 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. For hotel information please contact me.

CONTACT: Brian Burgess; 256-479-2993; bburgess771@gmail.com.

Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance.

DMC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose: To collect field trip information from it's member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.



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.

The Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society (Jacksonville, FL; Host)
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society—270 miles from Huntsville

Jackson's Crossroads Amethyst Mine, Wilkes County, GA
Saturday, April 23, 2016, 8:00 AM Fee Site

TRIP: The Jackson's Crossroads Amethyst Mine of Wilkes Co. Georgia is the premier Amethyst locality in the United States. It consistently produces world class specimens and crystals that are justifiably celebrated for its pure rich purple color reflecting red and blue flashes. In 2008 the Jacksons Crossroads Amethyst Mine was included in the American Mineral Treasures as one of the most important collecting sites in American mineral history. Many museum quality specimens have been produced by this mine which now reside in museums and prestigious private collections across the world.

COLLECTING: The North American Jackson's Crossroads JXR Georgia mine is known for producing high grade, dark purple with red flash collectible amethyst clusters, amethyst rough and amethyst mineral crystals. Other gemstone specimens such as clear quartz clusters form in our deposit as well.

FEES: \$20.00 per adult and children under 16 are \$10.00.

TOOLS: Boots. Rock hammers, picks, bamboo sticks (chop sticks) and wedges are needed for digging in piles and breaking open granite to find specimens. First aid kit. Water to keep hydrated and snacks. Sunscreen. Bucket for collecting.

FACILITIES: There are Porta-potties available. Those who wish to can camp at Calaway Plantation or there are hotels accommodations in Washington or Elberton GA.

WHERE TO MEET: We will meet at the mine at 8am where we will sign waivers upon arrival and the host director will review the rules then we will proceed to the dig site.

DIRECTIONS: From Tignall, turn off of HWY 17 onto Independence Rd. Head west on Independence rd. (Co. Rd. 184) about 7.8 miles and turn right at the church onto Hollis Norman Rd. The mine is the 2nd entrance on the right.

CONTACT: James Webb; 904-314-0303; jameswebb.jgms@gmail.com **Note:** The Graves Mountain Rock Swap & Dig is the same weekend, so since you will be in the area, you may want to take time to do both -- DMC.

Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance.

DMC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose: To collect field trip information from it's member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.

Please reply by e-mail to: sfms-dmc@amfed.org World Wide Web site for the DMC is: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm
DMC is a program of the Field Trip Committee of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. Copyright © All rights reserved.

"Earth first...we'll collect on the other planets later."

The Georgia Mineral Society

48th Annual Mother's Day Weekend Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show

Friday & Saturday May 6-7—10 AM – 6 PM

Sunday May 8—Noon to 5pm

Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy SE, Marietta, GA

Free Admission, Free Parking, Door Prizes, Free Demos

www.GAMineral.org



----- KIT CARSON'S -----

KNAP-IN & NATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

May 13, 14, & 15, 2016

Located on the Carson Homeplace, 481 Curtis Chapel Rd. McEwen, Tennessee 37101.

The Public is invited, including school and church groups, scouting groups, flintknappers, native craftsmen, carvers, lapidarists, and anyone else interested in the art of chipping stone, making pottery, and other native crafts.

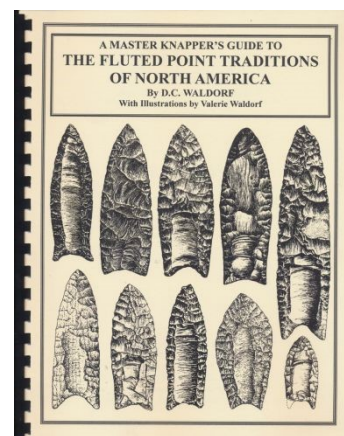
**THERE IS NO ADMISSIONS CHARGE,
NO VENDOR'S FEES, CAMPING IS FREE!**

This event will coincide with the grand re-opening of Mr. Carson's *Archaeology and Natural History Museum*. A food vendor will be on site all three days with plenty of good food and drinks. There are hotels and restaurants in the vicinity. An authenticator will be on hand to examine any artifacts you may have and offer his opinion, and folks are encouraged to bring such rocks, minerals or fossils they might have to show, trade or sell, as they see fit.

There will be a supply of local Dover chert and Buffalo River chert available for FREE to flint knappers on a first come, first serve basis. Vendors typically have a large assortment of flint knapping tools and equipment, together with finished points, knives and blades, available for sale to the public. Singers, dancers, and musicians are invited to come and perform, as well.

There are no hook ups for campers, but fresh water will be available, and showers, as well. McEwen is easy to find, located between Dickson and Waverly, Tennessee, on State Route 70. The Carson Homeplace is about a mile off Highway 70, more or less behind the Dairy Queen. Watch for signs!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL RICK TAYLOR AT 615/693-1087.



March Birthdays

5	Allison Kowalczyk	19	Ben Carroll
8	Virgil Fischer	20	Robert Broussard
15	Carol Roden	22	Gene Powers
15	June Kalange	22	Susan Hessler
15	Victoria Bedard	29	Linda McKinney
18	Michael O'Dell	29	Mario Bedard
18	Ola Ann Lee	30	Chelie Britt

Anniversaries

7	Barbara Deckelman
14	Ben & Monika Carroll
18	Robert & Gayle Joyce
22	Wayne & Rhonda Hall
24	Margaret & Jerry Olson
31	Wendell & Mary Lou Allen

April Birthdays

6	Tim Eve	19	Thelia DeMoor
11	Leslie Malakowsky	20	Wendy Lear
17	Bill Sweetman	23	Bill Friday
17	Bill Walters	26	4/Margery Ruble
17	Cindy Miller	27	Don Aldridge

Anniversaries

7	Joe & Sherrie Bonin
8	Mike & Myra Soroczak

March 2016 - Senior Center Lapidary Lab Schedule Lapidary, Silver Jewelry and Wood Carving

To use lapidary equipment, you must be certified unless a licensed instructor, is present - currently: B. Friday, J. Treadway, Chris Kalange

Monday	7:30am- 9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am- Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
Tuesday	Noon -4:30pm	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
Wednesday	9:00am—Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon -3:00 pm	Silver Jewelry- Terry Clarke, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
Thursday	3:00pm—4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary, certified HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Lapidary & Jewelry - certified HGMS 18+
Friday	7:30am -4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Lapidary & Jewelry - certified HGMS 18+
Monday	7:30am -4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am-11:30am	Silver Jewelry- Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
Tuesday	Noon-3:00pm	Wood Carving - Copeland, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	3:00pm-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary certified HGMS 60+
Wednesday	6:00pm—9:00pm	Metal Smithing Limited Classes— HGMS 18+
	7:30am - 12:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+

2016 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Mike Harrison 256-797-2534

wm.harrison.123@gmail.com

Vice President—Mindy Schell 334-790-0671

mindy.schell@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary: Leslie Malakowsky, 256-755-0479

lmalakowsky@gmail.com

Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194

clarag1964@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Bill Friday, 256-527-8227

bill.friday@earthlink.netDirectors at Large: Chris Kalange—ckalange@comcast.netBruce Kowalczyk—256-424-2197 arkowalczyk@aol.comBrian Burgess, Ex Officio - bburgess771@gmail.com 256-746-0641Federation Liaison - Charlie Willhoite - 256-340-3448—cdwillhoite@yahoo.com

2705 Jarvis Street S. W. Decatur AL 35603

2016 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Bill Friday— 256-527-8772

bill.friday@earthlink.net

2508 Excalibur Dr. Huntsville AL 35803

Scrapbook: Dianna O'Dell, 256-828-1813

Librarian: Leslie Malakowsky, 256-755-0479

Club Publicity: Jennifer Pinkley 931-233-0420

Education & Craftsmanship: vacant

Field Trips: Brian Burgess, 256-746-0641

Hospitality: Caryl Nixon 256-426-5061 caryl.nixon@outlook.comMineral ID: Wayne Falkenberg—falkenbergwp@comcast.net

(William Holland offers a class for this)

Property: Chris Kalange, 256-883-7627

ckalange@comcast.net

Program Chair—Myra Soroczak 256-446-9938 -

Soroczak@yahoo.com

Show Chair: Tony Smith, 256-603-3095.

Show Volunteer Chair: Lori Willhoite 256-340-3448

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

Show Publicity Chair: Tony Smith, 256-852-3210

Show Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194

clarag1964@gmail.com

PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY: The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society is a non-profit educational organization for people interested in mineralogy, geology, paleontology, and related lapidary arts. Its primary purpose is the education of the members and the general public in these areas. This purpose is accomplished through programs, shows, lectures to school children and organizations, and exchange of rocks, minerals and artifacts.

DUES: Annual dues are \$15.00 per person, \$20.00 per family, and are due on January 1st of each year

Membership Applications may be found at our webpage www.Huntsvillegms.org, at meetings, or the lab

MEETING PLACE: Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL at 6:30pm.

DATE: Fourth Tuesday of each month except for June picnic/rock swap, Christmas Dinner and major holidays.

Federation Liaison:

Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, 2705 Jarvis Street S. W. Decatur AL 35603, Attn: Charlie Willhoite

This Society is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies , the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Dixie Mineral Council

**Federation Newsletters:**

SFMS: www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html

AFMS: www.amfed.org/news/default.htm

DMC: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm



2016 CALENDAR

- 22 Mar '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 30 Apr '16 - Annual Fundraiser Auction - **Saturday - note it is one week later**
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL **9:00am**
- 24 May '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 4 Jun '16 - Annual HG&MS Picnic - **Saturday—note it is one week earlier**
And rock swap - Teledyne Brown Eng picnic area, Research Park
- 26 July '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 23 Aug '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 27 Sep '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 6 Oct '16 - Thursday Setup for Fall Show, Dealers & Workers evening meal
- 7-9 Oct '16 - Fall HGMS Gem Jewelry Show - Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd
Sunday takedown 5:00
- 25 Oct '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm

See Pebble Pups Schedule on Page 8



Deadline for Next Newsletter— April 16 2016

Rocket City Rocks & Gems

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

HGMS March 2016

Dated Material
Do not Delay