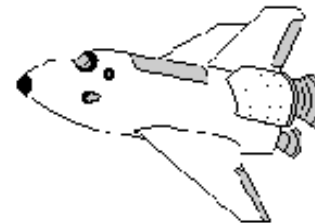
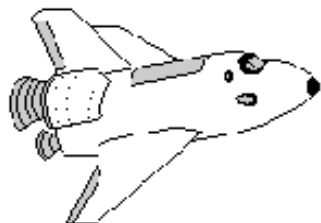


ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 48 No. 5

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

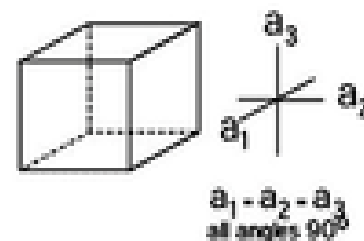
May 2016

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Program for 24 May 2016—6:30pm

Myra Soroczak will continue our look at mineral identification by exploring Crystal Form and Mineral Habit. She will discuss crystal forms and define the six crystal systems into which all minerals fit. She will show examples of various mineral habits, which sometimes disguise the ideal form of a mineral.



ISOMETRIC
(CUBIC)

Picnic on Saturday June 4

Page 2 for Information

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



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No Minutes from the April 30 2016 HGMS Rock Auction Meeting

HGMS Hospitality—June Picnic

Although the weather can't seem to make up its mind whether to stay warm or cool, Summer is fast approaching, and we are looking forward to our annual HGMS Picnic and Rock Swap on June 4, 2016, at the Teledyne Picnic Area in Research Park, across Sparkman Dr. from UAH. We can arrive and start setting up at 10 am; the meat should arrive around 11 am.

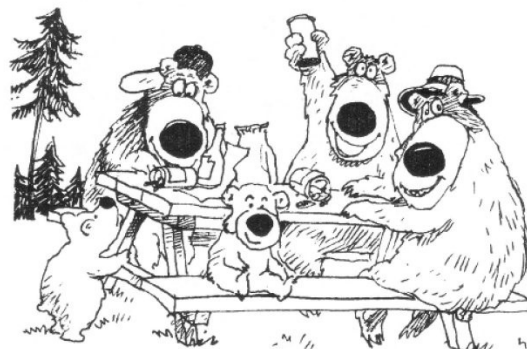
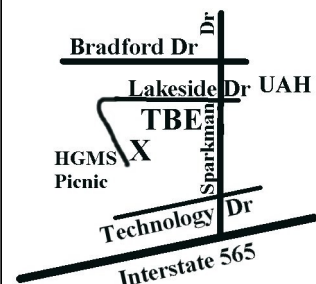
The club will provide pulled pork and brisket from New Market BBQ, and will also provide soft drinks, tea (sweet & unsweet), and water.

The rest of the meal is potluck, with attendees taking whatever they choose to the picnic. PLEASE, either use disposable dishes or put your name on dishes you want returned.

We will have a recycle bin for plastic cups, bottles and cans.

In other news, I am looking for a co-chair to help with phone calls and/or emails to line up refreshments for meetings, to set up the refreshments before the meetings and to clean up afterwards. I have people pitching in to help, but I need an official co-chair. See you at the picnic!

Caryl Nixon - Hospitality Chair - caryl.nixon@outlook.com - (256) 426-5061



Courtesy Stillwater (OK) Mineral & Gem Society - Jul08

Upcoming Area Shows

Jun 4-5 – McCalla, AL: Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society Show, Tannehill Ironworks State Park; 12632 Confederate Pkwy; Sat/Sun 9-5; www.lapidaryclub.com.

Jun 4-5 – Marion, KY: Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum Show, Fohs Hall; 205 N Walker St; Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4; www.clementmineralmuseum.org.

Jun 10-12 – Park Hills, MO: Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society Show, Missouri Mines Historic Site at St Joe State Park; 4000 State Hwy 32; Fri/Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4; <https://www.facebook.com/events/1639945622947249/>.

Jun 11-12 – Cartersville, GA: RockFest -Tellus Science Museum Show, 100 Tellus Dr; Sat/Sun 10-5; www.tellusmuseum.org.

May Program Speaker - Myra Mills Soroczak

Myra spent 23 years doing chemical research and material identification at TVA in Muscle Shoals and IBM in Wappinger Falls, NY. She then spent 16 years doing business analysis for TVA.

She began her career in 1970 at TVA using a transmission electron microscope to investigate minerals; the lowest magnification of the TEM was 5,000x. Two years later TVA bought a scanning electron microscope with an electron diffraction x-ray detector; she then used the SEM/EDX to analyze the shape and chemistry of all sorts of crystals, minerals, and metals. She also conducted chemical research and holds 3 patents.

At IBM, Myra used a SEM to do failure analysis on semiconductors back when the biggest silicon crystals were only 2.5 inches and the big struggle was to go from one level of metal to two to make computer chips. Since retiring from TVA in 2009, Myra and Mike have opened M S Enterprises, a small business that sells "Rocks and Things from Rocks." They sell their wares each First Friday in Florence Alabama and at various Gem and Mineral Shows in AL, MS, GA, and TN, including the Annual HGMS Jewelry, Gem, & Mineral Show.

SFMS Workshops for 2016

We have received the schedule for the Federation workshops at William Holland and Wild Acres. If you would like more information or a registration form, check out www.SFMSworkshops.com. Or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies

You can contact the Registrar for each facility:

William Holland—Heidi Wetzel sfms.wh@gmail.com

Wild Acres — Toni Garland waregistrar2016@gmail.com

This is a wonderful perk of belonging to the SFMS. Join in and support your Federation.

Session 1, William Holland, June 5-11, 2016

Beading Becky Patellis

Cabochons Dave Bergquist

Casting Bill Harr

Chain-Maille-Beg & Int. Kathy Morris

Faceting—Beg. & Int. Tom Mitchell

Gem Trees Jerri Heer

Mineral ID Scott Forward

Opals Carl Talbott

Polymer Clay Sandra Davis

*SW Silver (advanced) Nancy English

Wire Wrap I Sandra Bergquist

Wire Weaving & Filigree Jan Stephens

Session 2, Wild Acres, August 22-28, 2016 Session 3, Wild Acres, September 19-25, 2016

Fused Chain-Maille Roy Deere

*Metalwork Special Proj. Jeff Sheer

Advanced Beading Self Study

Mineral ID Travis Paris

Chasing & Reposse Tom & Kay Benham

Display Case Building Danny Griffin

*Metal Clay II Katie Baum

Chain-Maille 1&2 Roy Deere

Gem ID Teresa Polly

Casting Bill Harr

Flint Knapping Michael Miller

Wire for Beaders Leslie Wayment

Faceting—Beg. & Int. Tom Mitchell

* Advanced Class

Wire Wrap—Beg. Rowan Rose-Morgan

Gourds Pat Davis

Metal Clay I Katie Baum

Deep Relief Wood Carving Clancy Smith

*Chasing & Reposse II Tom & Kay Benham

Cold Connec. & Enamel Debora Mauser

Scrimshaw Rich Williams

Silversmithing Pattie Appleby

Mineral Identification – 1st in a Series

by Michael J. Soroczak (AKA Mike the Prospector)



I am going to present a series of articles over the next 6 months to 2 years as an enhancement to the talk I gave about Mineral ID in March 2016 to the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society. I presented a lot of information in one hour that left even my head spinning and wondering what I had actually tried to explain. I made a few mistakes that I will atone for without actually pointing them out, unless you took detailed notes. And if you did that then I may truly be in trouble. Please feel free to correct me if I present incorrect information. Also please feel free to send in questions or more detailed information to the HGMS newsletter. I often find myself having to adjust my talks as I am either incorrect in my facts, or I have acquired more information from folks who have more detail and pass it along to me. Given all of that, let us begin.

Definitions:

Mineral: A mineral is a naturally occurring substance that has a systematic internal organization. Each mineral is made up of chemical elements in specific proportions. Minerals contain one or more elements that cannot be broken down into simpler form by heat, cold, or reaction with other chemical elements.

Atom: The smallest particles of a mineral that retain all of the element's chemical properties.

Rock: A rock is a naturally occurring group of one or more minerals which are themselves naturally occurring INORGANIC solids that originated within the earth.

Confused yet? It gets better. There are three kinds of rocks – igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary/

Igneous: Material that has cooled and solidified from molten magma either at the surface or slightly beneath the surface of the earth (how do you define "slightly beneath"?)

Metamorphic: Rocks that form when heat, pressure, and/or chemical reactions occur within the Earth's interior to change the mineralogy, chemical composition, and/or structure of any pre-existing rock.

Sedimentary: Rocks that are formed when pre-existing rocks are exposed to the rigors of rain, wind, water, abrasion, erosion, and the gases of Earth's atmosphere and broken down into fragments that later accumulate and become compacted or cemented together. Think of a mud puddle that dries out and then another layer of mud is deposited and dries out. The way I describe this form of rock is nothing more than petrified mud. But oh the colors and layers!

Pay attention. There may be a quiz at the end of this. Okay, now that you have that information we will begin to explore the world of minerals, rocks, and gems, and how in quick study format try to ID these things as you come across them in the field, in a store, and even on-line. A heavy hint – a rock in hand is way more valuable to ID than a picture. So next I will list the methods used to determine the identification of our finds. I think at this time I will just list these items and let you look up what they all mean on your own, or wait until the next issue of the HGMS newsletter.

There are eleven processes used to ID your finds. These are as follows: cleavage, color, crystal form, density, effervescence, fracture, hardness, luster, streak, smell, and taste. A word of caution – do not lick or taste unknown rocks, even if you believe they are included in a list. There are lots of rocks which are stable until the enzymes in your mouth dissolve the minerals inside. Smell with caution also. Garlic, almonds, sweet, sour, sulfur, metallic, rotten, seriously earthy, petroleum, acidic – one whiff and one whiff only will tell you to go no further in that direction. All this means is for you to be careful with your finds.

When you go looking for stuff (prospecting), wear gloves and protective glasses. Boots or steel toed shoes are encouraged. Long pants and long sleeve shirts are ok for most outings. Wear a hat or head protection, particularly a hard hat in areas of overhanging crumbly walls. Sun screen and bug spray are common sense items. If you are going to be more than two hours in the field, take water or GatorAde, crackers, peanut butter, fruit such as apples and bananas, trail mix, granola bars, dried fruit, and water. Did I mention water? And take a couple of small individual packets of yellow mustard with you in case you develop let cramps – as this condiment will calm the cramps. If you are determined to go alone into rock country, tell someone you know where you will be, and the area within which you will be collecting. It makes rescue all the more easy. Trust me on this – I've been in on more than one rescue. And I prefer that to recovery.

Brad's Bench Tips

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

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/>



CHEAPER & BETTER PICKLE

Most jewelers use a granular pickle mixed with water. The active ingredient is sodium bisulfate. This can be purchased from local stores as a common pool chemical used for adjusting the acidity of the water. It's sold under various names, so be sure to check the list of active ingredients for a brand that is 95% or so sodium bisulfate. An added benefit, I believe, is that the pool chemical is more pure in form than what is sold for jewelry use and does not cause the brown grime that you sometimes see floating on the top of a pickle pot.

Safety Never Takes A Holiday by Dave Niedzielsky, Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society

Excerpt from the May 2016 issue of the *Golden Nugget* newsletter

On a recent trip to Hogg Mine I spent the night before inspecting my tools and safety gear to be sure I was ready for a fun day in the field. Last thing I want is to suffer an injury and bring it to a quick close. In the past 2 years I've investigated numerous on the job injuries but 2 that stuck in my head while getting ready that evening involved a pieces of metal separating from the tools, passing through the users' clothing, penetrating deep into their muscle. So I dressed out all my chisels so they are fresh for the season. Dressing the chisels is removing the mushroom heads that develop from being pounded on. So if your chisels look like the ones in these pictures it is time to get them dressed to make them safe.



So the next day in the field I observe two ladies trying to obtain a nice piece of rose quartz from a large boulder. They were using the chisel point of a rock hammer as their chisel and striking the flat end of the same with another hammer. I offered them my tools and explained that you never strike hammer faces together or any hardened metal. The force of the two faces coming in contact can be enough to cause the crystalline structure of these metal surfaces to fracture off shards at high velocity and sharp enough to penetrate your clothing, skin and muscles like a bullet. Saw that happen just recently when a worker was hammering on a large chain link.



One last note, make sure you have safety glasses. Look for the "ANSI Z87" marking on the temple frame of your glasses to be sure they are up to the task of protecting your eyes from flying chips. Not all eyeglasses and sunglasses can protect you. Take a few minutes in the evening during the week to get your chisels in order for the next field trip and keep it fun. **Safety Never Takes A Holiday**

Welcome Renewing HGMS Member

Larry Alexander



Pebble Pups - Radioactive Rocks

Thursday May 19th 6:00 to 7:00pm - Space & Rocket Center



Please RSVP to Brian by **May 14th** , 256-746-0641, bbugess771@gmail.com,

Some atoms are very happy in their normal state, uninterested in forming molecules or compounds, unchanging over very long times, such as gold and helium gas. Most others are only happy when they are bound to other atoms, like carbon and oxygen. Some are unhappy to be in any state, and from time to time, unpredictably for any one atom, break into pieces. The rate at which these radioactive atoms explode is however very predictable—half of the ones present at any one place will burst within a period called a half-life, which can be from a tiny fraction of a second to billions of years. In the next such period, half of the remaining of these atoms will decay, and so on till they are all gone. Sometimes they can be made to decay, either for good (generating electricity) or bad (atomic bombs) We will look at what makes these atoms unhappy, how they decay, what becomes of the remnants, and how this process can be used to tell geologic time.

Field Trip to **Cane Creek Canyon, near Tusculumbia AL. Saturday May 21st** we will meet around 9 am at the site. This is a Pebble Pup field trip, but the whole club is invited. It is a beautiful place and Jim & Faye Lacefield will be our hosts. It will include a 2+ mile hike, so wear appropriate footwear if you join us. The descent into the canyon is rather steep.



Cane Creek Canyon

June 22 - Electricity and Magnetism

July 21 - Alabama Geology (Jim Lacefield)

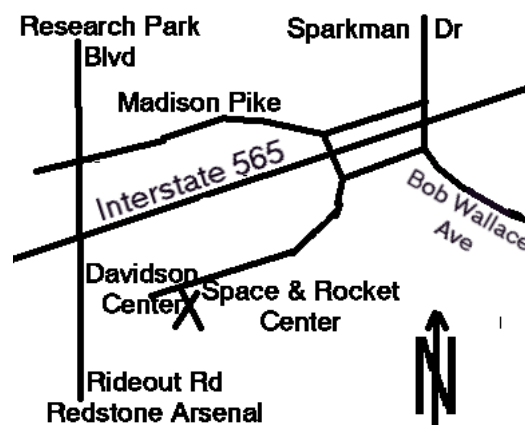
The next three months tie together.

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. **We are now meeting at the Space & Rocket Center. Enter the Davidson Bldg (door closest to the Saturn 5 standing rocket) Thanks**



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.

FIELD TRIP FOLLIES

by Brian Burgess, Field Trip Chairman

Mason Mine in Franklin, NC was a fun trip. Liz and Don (Danny boy) Cooper, Caryl Nixon, Chris Kalange, and I decided to get a little dirty looking for sapphires. Caryl came out the winner finding a 3.9 carat stone. Liz was the overall winner finding over 14 carats.

They mine was a little muddy and the staff had not been able to dig new pay dirt for over a week, so we had to sift through week old tailings. The staff was wonderful and helpful. It is a lovely spot to just enjoy nature. It is set in the mountains a ways from Franklin and is just beautiful. The mine provides all the tools

and four flumes for sifting the dirt. There are several employees to help with identifying what you have found. Basically you take buckets into the mining area, fill them with dirt from the tailings pile, and screen the dirt at the flume. For an old goat, it is the perfect mining experience. I will go back and try my luck again.



There are several employees to help with identifying what you have found. Basically you take buckets into the mining area, fill them with dirt from the tailings pile, and screen the dirt at the flume. For an old goat, it is the perfect mining experience. I will go back and try my luck again.

Our next outing is the **Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve** – Saturday May 21st we will meet around 9 am at the site. This is a Pebble Pup field trip, but the whole club is invited. It is a beautiful place and Jim & Faye Lacefield will be our hosts. It will include a 2+ mile hike, so wear appropriate footwear if you join us. The hike into the canyon is rather steep. No Cost, but they do take donations for the upkeep of the Preserve.

Clarksville, Ga – Saturday June 11th at 10 am EDT. This is on private property and to protect the property owner, I will need for you to email me for the information on where to meet. I will also give the information out at the May meeting. This dig is co-hosted with the Georgia Mineral Society and Charles Carter (GMS) will be the Trip leader. We will be digging for Kyanite and the cost is \$10 per person

Wells Creek Impact Crater, Erin, TN – Shatter cones from the strike of a 1000' diameter meteor 100 million years ago, traveling in excess of 36,000 miles per hour struck what is know today as the Wells Creek area. It is believed that it penetrated about 2,000 feet before exploding. The impact created a crater about four miles in diameter and one half mile deep. The cones were formed in the local rocks by the tremendous impact pressure. The crater is now filled in by erosion, but stark evidence of the impact remains visible in the rocks.

Richardson Landing - North of Memphis near Millington on the Mississippi River. This will be sometime in the summer when the river is low enough for access. Banded agate, Lake Superior agate, red jasper, petrified wood and ice-age fossils. Free



Two Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips are described on the next two pages





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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The Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society (Hendersonville, NC; Host)

An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

Saturday, May 21, 2016, Nebo NC, 9:00am EDT

Treasure Valley, the former Lookadoo Gold Mine (Fee Site)

TRIP (May 21): Treasure Valley near Nebo NC. Treasure Valley is only open to scheduled groups. Treasure Valley is located in the South Mtn. gold belt. It was formerly the Lookadoo mine. Lookadoo was a working gold mine in the late 1800's and early 1900's. The owner will give a tour if you are interested in the history.

COLLECTING: Gold and native stones are found in the stream or you may work from dry dirt.

FEE: \$35 each. If we have more than 20 people the cost will reduce to \$30.

For an additional fee: 1 camping site with water and electricity and 2 dry camping spots with electricity for campers are available for Friday night if we have at least 8 people interested. Tent camping would also be available. Facilities are outhouses and you would need to bring your own water.

BRING: To work the material you would need a gold pan, buckets, shovel and classifiers. Water shoes are a must.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: Exit 86 off Interstate 40. Meet at Lowes Truck stop at **9am**.

CONTACT: Margaret Gilbert 828-674-1625 gilbert3487@att.net

If you want to camp let me know and I'll get you the information.

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 its 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.

LET OUR PROSPECTING AND PANNING

MAPS LEAD YOU TO GOLD

Maps for Gold Prospecting, Gold Panning, Gold Mining, Treasure Hunting, Metal Detecting, Rockhounding and other Outdoor Recreation activities. BIG TEN'S GOLD PROSPECTING AND GOLD PANNING MAPS are used by thousands of families for outdoor recreation when vacationing, RVing, camping, picnicking, hiking, biking, backpacking, canoeing, fishing, hunting, gold panning, gold prospecting, rockhounding, treasure hunting and metal detecting. They are used by tourists, schools, scouts, libraries, geologists, military personnel, gold mining companies, gold museums and real estate interests in gold mining areas. Outdoors people are crazy about them. <http://goldmaps.com/request.html>



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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The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society (Columbia, SC; Host)
An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

Thermal City Gold Mine, Union Mills, NC

Saturday, June 4, 2016 8:30 AM EDT

Fee Site

TRIP: Thermal City Gold Mine is a recreational gold and gem mining facility in Union Mills, NC.

Thermal City Gold Mine offers a unique experience hosted by people who are real prospectors. They are dedicated to keeping the tradition and history of Gold Mining in North Carolina alive. Anyone who wants to pan or prospect for gold is welcome. They enjoy teaching and talking about mining.

COLLECTING: Gold collecting at Thermal City is done by panning in the flumes or river or by sorting a load of material using the trommel or hi-banker machines and then panning the effluent.

The flumes are covered so you can mine rain or shine. This activity is enjoyed by miners ages 3 to 93. Pans and screens are provided with the panning fee. You can also pan for gold in the river. In this case, bring your own pan and screen, although supplies are available for sale in the mining supplies store.

For the trommel and hi-banker runs, a one-ton load of material is provided. The material is run through the machines to separate the large rocks from the fine sandy material that contains the gold. With the trommel, the material is placed in the hopper and a water hose is used to push it through the machine. The larger rocks are moved aside and sand comes out of the end of the sluice which is collected in a wide-mouth bucket. This sand is then panned to sort out the gold. With the hi-banker, the material is delivered near the machine and is shoveled into the hopper which has water running through it. The rocks are held by the grates as the material moves down the sluice and the sand comes out the end, also into a wide-mouth bucket. This sand is then panned to sort out the gold. Typically groups of 3 to 5 share the work and the gold resulting from a trommel or hi-banker run. One trommel and one hi-banker has been reserved for the morning of June 4, from 9:00 to 2:30 for the DMC field trip. Please email or call the contact below if you wish to sign up to share one of the runs.

Afternoon runs, from 1:00 to 4:30 are also available. You may reserve these by calling the Thermal City Gold Mine. Gem collecting is also offered by sorting through buckets of material. The gem stone material found here is representative of minerals found in NC such as emerald, citrine, moonstone, rubies, aventurine, smoky quartz, rose quartz, and tourmaline. Stones can be inspected and identified free of charge. You may have the stones cut and made into jewelry by their experienced gem cutter.

FEES: Panning fees for using the flume are \$10.00 per person per day. The fee includes use of pans and screens.

- Buckets of gem stone material range in price from \$5.00 to \$75.00.
- Trommel and hi-banker runs are \$60.00. One of each of the machines has been reserved for the morning session for this field trip. They can be shared amongst 3 to 5 people. Please email or call the field trip contact below if you wish to reserve a place on the machine.

Mining Supplies: Thermal City Gold Mine offers recreational Gem Mining NC and Gold Panning NC equipment for sale. We are an authorized dealer for Keene engineering. We carry hi-banker/dredge combination, prospecting supplies, a wide variety of prospecting books, sluice boxes, gold pans, pumps, and more!

BRING: Lunch and fluids. Pans and screens are provided for gold panning at the sluice. If you are panning at the river, you may bring your own or purchase supplies at the Thermal City mining supplies store. If you are using the trommel or hi-banker you will need a wide-mouth bucket to collect the sand. You may bring your own or purchase one.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: The mine opens at 8:30. Meet at the mine at 8:30, tell them you are with the DMC field trip and you may begin when you arrive. Thermal City Gold Mine; 5240 US 221 North Hwy; Union Mills, NC 28167. From Atlanta, GA: Follow I-85 N to Spartanburg County. Take exit 1 from I-26 W; Keep left at the fork to stay on I-85 N; Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 70 to merge onto I-26 W toward Asheville; Take exit 1 for S Carolina 14 toward Landrum; Turn left onto US-221 N/S Main St, continue to follow US-221 N. Mine is on the right.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Cabins and campsites are available at Thermal City Gold Mine.

Hampton Inn Marion, 3560 U.S. 221 South, Marion, NC 28752

Holiday Inn Express Forest City, 200 Holiday Inn Dr., Forest City, NC 28043

Comfort Inn, 178 Hwy 70 W, Marion, NC 28752

CONTACT: Angela Valvasori, President, Columbia Gem and Mineral Society; Home: 803-419-2923;

Cell: 803-960-6667; thebears@earthlink.net

May Birthdays

2 Elizabeth Lewis	19 Pamela Sparks
2 Jackie Spencer	20 Gloria Valentine
4 Rebecca Eve	22 Mike Chivers
5 Myra Soroczak	23 Brandy Hyatt
9 Laura Bath	26 Hunter Springer
10 Nicholas Springer	27 Terry Burcham
11 Sydney Kalange	27 Chris Kalange
11 Walter Cowart	27 Thomas Peters
14 Joe Bonin	29 Damia Falconbury
16 Emily Lear	29 Ruth Finckenor
16 Mike Curran	30 Jim Treadway
17 Jeff Finckenor	31 Raymond Tanner
18 Teresina Barger	Jean Whitt

Anniversaries



May
Emerald

1 Gloria Valentin
17 Gerdy & David Wyatt
18 Mike & Anne Wesley
29 David & Diana O'Dell

June Birthdays

3 James Honey	19 Linda Sue Reed
4 Elizabeth Kowalczyk	22 Edward Hunneycutt
4 Tim Crumpton	23 Chris Brantley
5 Emma Allen	23 Jonathan Kowalczyk
5 Jeffrey Wagner	24 Tonya Sitko
7 Nancy Hosmer	25 Caryl Jean Nixon
10 Yvonne McGuire	26 David O'Dell
15 Al Moebes	26 Roger Broussard
15 Matthew Kowalczyk	27 Dianna O'Dell
18 Greg Somsel	28 Lori Willhoite



June
Pearl

Anniversaries

5 David & Karen Bath	12 Wayne & Polly Falkenberg
7 Bill Sweetman	19 Michael & Sheila Cape
8 Charlie & Lori Willhoite	21 Lawrence & Diana Nelms
9 Jimi & Tonya Sitko	29 Caryl & David Nixon

May 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, W. Falkenberg, & 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+
Friday	7:30am -4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified HGMS 60+
	9:00am-11:30am	Silver Jewelry- Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
Friday	Noon-3:00pm	Wood Carving - Copeland, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	3:00pm-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary certified HGMS 60+
Friday	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

- 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 than last year**
And rock swap - Teledyne Brown Engineering 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
- 22 Nov '16 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 6 Dec '16 - **Tentative** - Christmas Dinner Meeting, Madison County Senior Center Cafeteria
Catered Meal, bring an exchange gift if you wish

See Pebble Pups Schedule on Page 6

Deadline for Next Newsletter— June 17, 2016

Rocket City Rocks & Gems

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

HGMS May 2016

Dated Material
Do not Delay