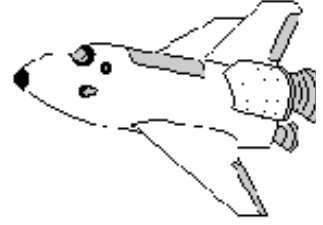
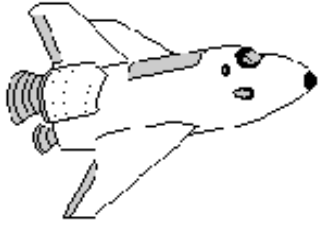


ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 48 No. 6

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

June 2016

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No Regular Meeting in June

Picnic 2016



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



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Minutes of the May 24, 2016 Meeting

Vice President Mindy Schell opened the meeting at 6:30p.m. (President Mike Harrison could not attend)

Old Business

Mindy noted that the minutes of the brief business meeting we had at the auction will be in the next newsletter.

She reported that the auction was a success! We had about three times the number of people expected, and we made approximately \$4,000.00. She recognized the auction volunteers.

There was no treasurer's report since Treasurer Clara Goode could not attend.

Mindy is also the coordinator of our Metalsmithing group and our Jewelry Activities Group. She announced upcoming classes (see below).

New Business

Metalsmithing

The next class will be creating a silver bead taught by Deb Neis on June 2nd. Sign up with Deb tonight!

Jewelry Activity Group

The next class will be pearl knotting taught by Sheila Tesh on June 14th. The kit cost is \$39.00 and includes pearls, cord, and a knotting tool. Sign up with Mindy tonight. Important: There is only 1 opening left, but Sheila can teach another class later.

June Picnic

Mindy announced that the annual picnic and rock swap will be Saturday, June 4th from 10a.m. – 2p.m. at the Tele-dyne Brown recreation area (same as last year). Pulled pork and beef brisket will be provided by the club. Please bring a dish to share. There are tables and benches under the picnic shelter, but you can bring your own lawn furniture if you like. Remember that the picnic is in lieu of a June meeting.

Pebble Pups Stuff

Brian Burgess, Pebble Pups coordinator, announced that Bill Friday presented a program on radioactive rocks at the last pups meeting at the US Space & Rocket Center. He also said that the Pups trip to Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve on May 21st was a success. There were 5 kids and 5 adults (Chris Kalange, Mike Soroczak, Caryl Nixon, and Liz and Don Cooper) on the trip. They found orange, red and yellow agate balls. Brian pointed out that digging in the preserve beyond the creek floor is not allowed, but the trips are free.

Field Trips

Brian is also our field trip coordinator. He reminded us about the June 11th trip to Clarksville, Georgia for kyanite. If you want to go, email him and he'll send you directions. This will be a joint trip with the Georgia Mineral Society (gamineral.org). Clarksville is about 3 hours from Huntsville. Charles Carter of the Georgia Mineral Society will be the field trip leader. The cost is \$10.

Brian is working with the Memphis Archeological and Geological Society (memphisgeology.org) on the Richardson Landing trip. When the water level in the river is down and it's dry we'll have a trip there. You can find fossils, Lake Superior agate and red agate there.

A trip to Wells Creek in Southern Tennessee is tentatively scheduled for September. Wells Creek is a meteor impact site where you can find shatter cones ("...rare geological features that are only known to form in the bedrock beneath meteorite impact craters or underground nuclear explosions." Source: Wikipedia).

Brian announced that Chris Painter is going to have a rock swap at the Hogg Mine some time in September.

Tip: Before traveling to other areas of the country, contact the local gem and mineral society to see what activities they have. Check the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AMFS) website for a list of rock clubs and societies by state (amfed.org/club.htm).

Show News

Tony Smith, Show Coordinator, announced that the annual show is October 7th, 8th, and 9th with setup on the 6th. We already have the maximum capacity of dealers (same ones as last year) with additional dealers on a waiting list. The Boy Scouts will not have a dedicated activity area; we'll use the extra floor space for other kids' activities.

We discussed advertising for the show. Myra said she can get magnetic signs (for car doors) for \$10.00 each, and she pointed out that the Mobile Rock and Gem Society displayed car signs 2 or 3 months ahead of their show. Tony will pass this information on to the other show chairs. Tony is working on billboards and flyers. We need a volunteer for online, radio and TV ads. Several announcements were made about this type of advertising. Radio stations will do free spots if you're a 501c. WLRH will also do free ads if you give them the information early. They'll also do a public interview. Kicks 96 says they'll do a free ad if you send them the information by FAX. If you want to volunteer, sign up on the volunteer sheets at the next few meetings.

Lapidary Shop News

Bill Friday is continuing to recertify lab users. So far, he has recertified close to 40 of our existing members and one new member. The rest will need to set an appointment. Tomorrow morning he'll turn the power back on in the lab! The recertification process uncovered some equipment abuse. For example, we've lost one of our high gloss polishers. Remember that only certified seniors can use the lab during the day. Mindy recognized Bill and Chris Kalange for their work recertifying everyone.

Other Announcements

Parliamentarian News

Myra is working on changes to the bylaws. They must be sent to the membership 15 days before we can vote on them.

Upcoming Shows

Mike Harrison has 10 discount tickets (50% off admission) to the Tellus Science Museum's 26th Annual Rockfest, from 10a.m. – 5p.m. on Saturday, June 11th and Sunday, June 12th in Cartersville, Georgia. We'll draw names for the tickets at the June picnic. For information on the Rockfest, see tellusmuseum.org/museum-events/rockfest/.

Next Month's Program

Myra is also our Vice President in charge of programs. She announced that the July program will be on rock carvings.

Member News

We welcomed new member Terry Burcham who selected a door prize (donated by Mark Habercom). The business meeting adjourned at 7:05p.m. Mindy introduced Myra Soroczak who presented a program on "Crystal Form and Mineral Habit".

We enjoyed refreshments. Submitted by Recording Secretary Leslie Malakowsky

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

Jewelry Activity Corner

By Mindy Schell

I would like to thank all those that have taught and participated in the Jewelry Activities to keep the sharing of the jewelry arts alive. I have added a little extra to show our appreciation and thanks as well as a number of future plans.



9 February – Deb Neis taught us how to make earring wires with fancy spirals and jump rings.

8 March – Myra Soroczak demonstrated multiple types of links for bracelets and necklaces.

5 April – Kathy Bowman instructed a class on Viking Knit for bracelets and necklaces.

14 June – Sheila Tesh taught us how to string pearls with a bead knotting tool.

A BIG Thank You goes out to Deb Neis, Myra Soroczak, Kathy Bowman, and Sheila Tesh for putting together classes for the Activity Group. We all appreciate all you do. Also thanks to Karin Bath (Treasurer) and Shelley Curran (Kit Manager) for your selfless efforts in organizing the class signups and coordination of kits. I would also like to add that I treasure our friendships throughout the last year and half since the Jewelry Activity Group has started. I have met some the kindest and most fun people ever here in the Jewelry Activity Group.



NEW MEETING DATES: There are new meeting dates for the Jewelry Activity Group. We meet on Thursdays in the Paint Room for Freeform Activities, Show & Tells, and monthly scheduled classes. Tuesdays will still be open in the Paint Room for Freeform only with the exception of potential classes.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

19 July - HGMS Show & Tell Party at Paint Room at 6 pm. Bring your cabochons, jewelry, metalsmithing wares for show and tell. Sell/Trade optional. Refreshments will be provided. Bring a friend!

21 July - Leslie Malakowsky- Beaded Bezel Class. Signup are ongoing now. Kit Costs TBD

Help Wanted—Stolen Minerals

I wanted to let you know about a claim jump in Oregon. Brian Rhode's Kaleidoscope Jasper Claim was jumped and quite a bit of jasper that was being stock piled for the Denver show and on line sales was stolen. Myra and I have purchased some of this Jasper from him, and I have samples I can show folks. If you see any amount of this material being sold at shows or on line, contact Brian Rhode on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/The-Kaleidoscope-Jasper-Mines-185302251519157/>

Or they can get in touch with me and I will pass along the information to him -

Michael Soroczak <mjsoroczak49@yahoo.com>



Metal-Smithing/Silver Group

By Mindy Schell

HGMS Members who are certified meet for the Metal-Smithing/Silver lab on Thursday nights at 6 p.m. in the Lapidary Lab. There is no doubt that we have all had a lot of fun learning the many basic skills led by Deb Neis and assisted by Kathy Bowman, Shelley Curran, and Karin Bath. I've noticed many of the beginning students have much creativity and have moved into the Intermediate Skills range. As all of our interests differ, so do the many projects shown at Show & Tell. I hope to have more pictures of these amazing pieces at our Show & Tell Party on 19 July.



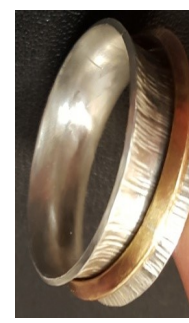
Metal Bead by Deb Neis



Deb Neis, our Lead Instructor has stepped down to spend more time with family and personal commitments. We couldn't have started the Metal-Smithing/Silver Group without Deb. She spent many hours with planning/ purchasing the many pieces of equipment and store items as well as organizing the numerous classes to get us up to speed with instructing and safety. She is also responsible for helping me get the cart finished with trim and paint. We all miss her happy and jovial personality and smile, wish her the very best and hope she will come back soon to join us. Maybe we will have carrot cake.

Below are pictures of classroom members getting certified under Deb Neis.

Here are a few pictures of beginning metal-smithing under Deb Neis. The first picture is the first project, a pendant made from copper and silver, using a texturing hammer, soldering and basic metal-smithing skills. The second picture is of a bezel in brass with a Labradorite cabochon. The third is of a silver spinner ring with a brass triangular spinner.



Please Welcome Kathy Bowman as our Lead Instructor! Kathy is already leading our group and building on what Deb Neis has taught us. Kathy is assisting us in polishing our skills and assisting us into intermediate metal-smithing. Kathy offers creative artistic design and numerous explanations of metal structure and understanding of mixing of chemicals. Our plan is to do one skill based class a month. Other nights are freeform to work on our own projects and share knowledge/skills with the other members. Again, please welcome Kathy. Thank you Kathy for leading us. We appreciate all you do to include modifying the silver closet so the cart would fit. **Certification Sign-ups!!**

We are now taking signups for Metal-Smithing/Silver Certifications for HGMS Members currently. Classes will start in August. Due to the large number of persons interested, we will use a lotto style to pick names for first choices of class dates. To sign up for classes you can email mindy.schell@yahoo.com or check the Facebook post for Metal-Smithing Certification Signups on the Jewelry Activity FB page or HGMS FB page.

Volunteer Positions

Program Manager ...	Mindy Schell
Metalsmithing Lead Instructor...	Kathy Bowman
Metalsmithing Project Instructors...	Shelley Curran & Opening
Safety Instructors	Mindy Schell & Karin Bath
Toolbox Signouts	Pat McKinney & Open
Treasurer	Karin Bath
Kit Manager	Shelley Curran
Librarian...	Leslie Malakowsky
Refreshments	Open



Show & Tell Party

I'm excited to announce the Show & Tell Party will be on Tuesday July 19th at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center. Room to be announced based on #people coming. Please bring your handmade cabochons, jewelry, and metal-smithing/silver wares for viewing. Trade/Sell is optional. Also, there are still a number of folks collecting metal-smithing/jewelry/lapidary tools for their new hobby. You are welcome to bring these items for trade/sell to help out our new Jewelry/Metal-smithing/Lapidary HGMS members. Refreshments will be provided. Friends of HGMS members are welcome to attend!

Signups for Leslie's Jewelry Activity Class & Metal-Smithing/Silver Certification classes will be available.

Point of contact is Mindy Schell at mindy.schell@yahoo.com. Thank you.

2016 Agate Expos LLC—Cedarburg WI—Jul 8-10

The 2016 Agate Expos LLC show will be held July 8-10, W68N611 Evergreen Blvd. Cedarburg, WI 53012. This is an every four-year event since the first in 2008. Cedarburg is 20 miles north of Milwaukee. The website is <http://www.agateexpos.com/>, which has all the pertinent information for those interested. A second info site is [facebook.com/AgateExpos](https://www.facebook.com/AgateExpos), which has many photos of fine agates, plus news about some of the presenters who will be speaking during the event. Gene Mueller of The Gem Shop, Inc in Cedarburg wrote an article in the December issue of Rocks & Gems entitled "Orienting Agate -Tips for Cutting Banded Specimens"

Mineral Notes: by Mike Soroczak

Hi guys, I thought I would pass this along to you. Tonight I was working on a Dinosaur Bone tear drop pendant when I encountered something that had not occurred before. I was using almost brand new, (less than a dozen cabs used on them), 14K, 25K, and 50K diamond wheels, and then finished off with a new cerium oxide wheel. For hard items like agates and jaspers as well as corundum I have not had a problem with what happened. It seems that on Dino bone you can use a new 14K wheel but when I went to the 25K wheel the diamonds seemed to grab the stone in a few places and popped some of the agate in the cell structure loose causing the subsequent holes to chafe white around the newly formed dimples. These were not only scratches, but pock marks as well. Working the bone on the 50K and the cerium oxide did not help. So I had a ruined a nice stone that is now only worth a lot less. I'm used Opticon to fill the tiny holes to see if I could recover some semblance of a whole stone. The Opticon trick did not work. My intention was to dome the cab on both sides so I had a piece thick enough to do that. When I ground the Opticon off on a 600 grit wheel it popped the resin out of the pockmarks. So I bit the bullet and put a 3mm shoulder on the thing and cabbed it on down on my old wheels. I finished it off with cerium oxide slurry and it looks like I spray painted the surface with high gloss polyurethane finish. I'm passing this along to you guys because the club and shop users might need to know this.

PS -- Make sure to use a higher rate of water when cutting Dino Bone. You do not want to get the stone hot nor do you want to inhale the fumes from this stuff. Some of it smells like rotten eggs which I have determined are the bones of meat eaters. Some of it smells like old dead swamp muck and I believe these to have been plant eaters. Some of it has no smell at all. So I don't know what they ate.



Diamond as Big as a Fist Could Fetch \$70M

A model displays a large diamond at Sotheby's in New York, Wednesday, May 4, 2016. The AP Photo/Seth Wenig



A 3-billion-year-old diamond is the largest discovered in more than a century. Contributor: [Associated Press](#)

LONDON (AP) — It's a rock for the ages. A 3-billion-year-old diamond — the largest discovered in over a century — could sell for more than \$70 million, auctioneer Sotheby's said Wednesday. The auction house plans to offer the Lesedi la Rona diamond in London on June 29.

The diamond was unearthed in November in Botswana at a mine owned by Canada's Lucara Diamond Corporation. It measured 1,109 carats, the second-largest gem-quality rough diamond ever discovered. Its name means "our light" in the Tswana language of southern Africa.

The auctioneer said the rough gemstone "of exceptional transparency" could yield the largest top-quality diamond ever cut and polished. David Bennett, chairman of Sotheby's jewelry division, called the discovery "the find of a lifetime" and the auction unprecedented. "Not only is the rough superlative in size and quality, but no rough even remotely of this scale has ever been offered before at public auction," he said.

The Royal Collection Trust, which oversees British royal treasures, says the largest gem-quality diamond ever found was the 3,106-carat Cullinan diamond, unearthed in South Africa in 1905. It was cut into nine pieces that form part of the U.K. Crown Jewels. The Lesedi la Rona could smash the record price for a diamond of \$48.5 million, paid at a Geneva sale last year for the 12.03-carat polished "Blue Moon" diamond. Hong Kong billionaire Joseph Lau picked it up as a gift for his 7-year-old daughter. The Lesedi la Rona diamond will be on public display at Sotheby's in New York at the auctioneer's London showrooms June 18-28.

Where you might hear...

Impurities cause color in gems. Impurities are elements (e.g., Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, etc.) that can occur in low concentration in the gemstone and that are not present in the pure compound. If we take one mineral, for instance beryl, and add different impurities, we get different colors:

Beryl containing iron (Fe):

Fe⁺⁺ = Blue (Aquamarine)

Fe⁺⁺⁺ = Yellow (Heliodor)

Mix of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ = Green beryl

Beryl containing Manganese (Mn):

Mn⁺⁺ = Pink (Morganite)

Mn⁺⁺⁺ = Red beryl

Beryl containing Chromium (Cr):

Cr⁺⁺⁺ = Green (Emerald)

Source: <http://nature.berkeley.edu/classes/eps2/wisc/Lect7.html>

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/>



DO BEZELS SHRINK?

The engineer in me says there's no reason a bezel should shrink when I solder it onto a base plate, but I sometimes find that the stone won't quite fit into the bezel that was perfect just before soldering.

If that ever happens to you, here's a fix that usually works for those times when there's just a minor problem. I file or sand the stone down a little around its base. For soft cabs like turquoise, lapis, jet or howlite, you can use a sanding stick. Harder cabs like jasper or agates will require a diamond file. In a pinch, a ruby nail file from the drug-store will work.

There are two important things to remember when doing this. First, you can only make a minor adjustment to the stone's size. All filing or sanding has to be hidden by the bezel because it takes the polish off the stone. Secondly, remember to round off all sharp edges on the bottom of the stone. A sharp edge here might sit on a little extra solder that's in the bottom joint of your bezel. Just a little bump here can put enough stress the stone to risk breakage when you burnish the bezel down over the stone.

STRAIGHTENING WIRE

Have you ever pulled out some silver wire only to find that it's all bent up? The easiest way I've found to straighten it out is to stretch it a bit.

Simply put one end in the vise and grab the other end with a pair of serrated tip pliers. Then pull just enough to feel the wire stretch like a rubber band. This works best on smaller wire diameters, up to about 16ga.

Be careful if you are trying to pull hard on a thick wire. Brace yourself in case the wire breaks or pulls out of the pliers.



Update on the Upcoming Fall Show

The billboards are reserved and artwork is in the works.

We will need volunteers to help with all areas from setup to takedown.

Flyers, posters, and other related items will be available at the July meeting.

If anyone has any yard signs, please bring them to the July meeting so I can get the dates changed so they will be ready to go up.

Tony Smith, Show Chairman

Welcome Renewing HGMS Member

Laurie Cantrell, Fayetteville TN

Jacob & Teresa Roberts, Warrior AL



Pebble Pups - Jim Lacefield - Alabama Geology

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



Please RSVP to Brian by **June 14th** , 256-746-0641,
bburgess771@gmail.com,

Jim will be presenting our July Pup program on Jun 21 at 6 pm. Seating is limited but the Pups invite members to join Jim for his presentation. I will bring the agates and jaspers from the Cane Creek Field Trip that I have tumbled, to show them off.

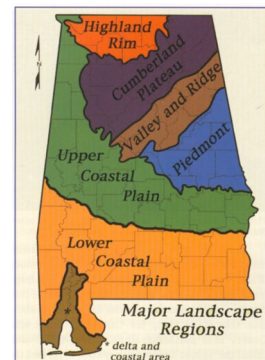
The next three months tie together.

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

September 15 - Erosion: Wind, Water, and Ice

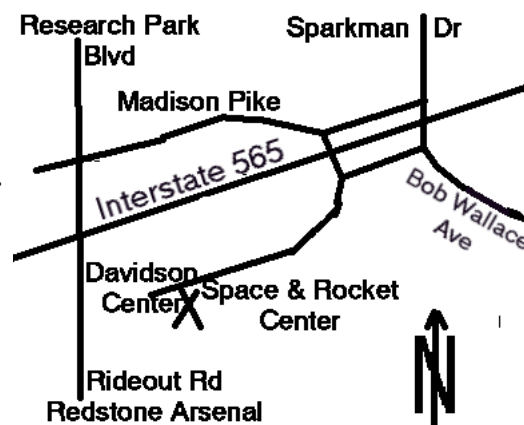
October 20 - Discoveries from Erosion

November 17— Where do Minerals Come From?



Geologic Regions of Alabama

Kids ages 8 through 13 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 (lower door closest to the Saturn 5 standing rocket) Thanks**



HOSPITALITY NOTES

Thanks to everyone for making the 2016 HGMS Picnic and Rock Swap a success! I especially want to thank people who brought all the tasty side dishes, and the people who kindly helped set up and clean up. These events aren't possible without your assistance. Even the weather cooperated: the rains came after everyone had left! We missed seeing many of our members, and hope you'll all be able to make it next time!

I would like to have your input regarding the meats we purchased from New Market BBQ. We didn't have many leftovers, so somebody thought it was pretty tasty! Any suggestions you have are welcomed and appreciated. Just email me at caryl.nixon@outlook.com with your comments.

Teledyne Brown Engineering has informed us that from now on, only Teledyne events may be held at the picnic area, so we have lost our venue. If you have an idea for our future picnic location, email me at the above address regarding that, too. See you in July!

Caryl Nixon, Hospitality

FIELD TRIP FOLLIES by Brian Burgess

Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve can be described only with the word “**AWESOME**”. This is not only a field trip to gather beautiful red jaspers and agate stones; it is also a geological learning experience. Jim Lacefield was our tour guide and host. His knowledge and expertise of Alabama geology makes for a thrilling hike. He explains how the different rock strata were formed and where the shallow seas were located in reference to where you are standing. He points out the different fossils for the time period and describes the living animals that made them. Along with his wife Faye, the Pups had two of the most gracious host for our field trip to Cane Creek.

We had quite a few Pups, Members, and Guests to join us on the 2.5 mile hike. The age ranged from 8 to 79 years old. All of us successfully made the hike (some of us slower than the Pups). On the hike Jim was surrounded by the Pups and peppered with questions. Down at the creek he was asked hundreds of times to inspect and recommend whether stones picked up were a treasure worth keeping or just worth tossing. Jim never lost his smile during the hike and you could tell he loves what he does.

The Pups will be back next year to discover the wonders and secrets of Cane Creek Canyon. With Jim and Faye's blessings we have decided to make this an annual field trip. All members from HGMS are invited to join us. Jim will be presenting the program for our July 16th Pebble Pups meeting, 6 pm at the Space & Rocket Center Davidson Center. Seating is limited but the Pups invite members to join them for Jim's presentation. I will bring the agates and jaspers that I collected from Cane Creek, tumbled to show off their beauty.





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 Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Club (Chattanooga, TN; Host) An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

Ross Creek, Gruetli-Laager, Grundy County, TN Saturday, July 9, 2016, 8:00 AM Central Time

COLLECTING: Pennsylvanian and Mississippian plant fossils with various lycopphyta, pteridophyta, and pteridospermophyta. [See Definitions at the bottom of this page]

BRING: Site is easily accessed, but summer is hot and snakes are native to the area, poison ivy is ubiquitous, and the site is in a creek. Bring water, snacks, and dress appropriately. You will need light digging tools, bucket, and gloves. There are no facilities or nearby food establishments.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: Exit 134 off I-24 at Monteagle, TN. Meet in the Hardees parking lot at 8:00 a.m. central time. Depart in convoy to site at 8:15 a.m. central time. Phone service is problematic.

CONTACT: Charlie Jones; 423-842-6441 or cell 423-653-4479

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.

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

Lycophytes Lycophytes, also known as the 'fern allies', are a clade of vascular plants similar to [ferns](#) but have unique leaves called microphylls. They are primitive plants and lack seeds, wood, [fruit](#) and [flowers](#). As with the ferns, lycophytes produce spores for reproduction and are both wind-pollinated and dispersed. The phylum lycophyta is believed to be the oldest remaining group of all the vascular plants and are thought to have evolved more than 400 million years ago. Included in the lycophytes are club mosses, [quillworts](#) and [spike mosses](#) plus a number of extinct groups such as the scale trees.

Pteridophytes are a **phylum** of plants. They are the vascular plants (those having **xylem** and **phloem** tissues) that reproduce by releasing spores rather than seeds, and they include the highly diverse true ferns and other graceful, primarily forest-dwelling plants. There are about eleven thousand different species of pteridophytes, making them the most diverse land plants after the flowering plants (angiosperms). Pteridophytes may represent the closest living relatives (sister group) to the seed plants. (Seed plants include the angiosperms, the conifers, and a smaller assortment of other plants.)

Read more: <http://www.biologyreference.com/Po-Re/Pteridophytes.html#ixzz4AvQGytty>

The term **Pteridospermatophyta** (or "**seed ferns**") refers to several distinct groups of extinct seed-bearing plants (spermatophytes). The oldest fossil evidence of plants of this type is the genus *Elkinsia* of late Devonian age. They flourished particularly during the **Carboniferous** and Permian periods.

June Birthdays

3 James Honey	19 Linda Sue Reed
4 Elizabeth Kowalczyk	22 Edward Hunnecutt
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



Anniversaries

June
Pearl

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

July Birthdays

2 Katie Beth Allen	12 Lucy Allen
2 Melissa King	13 Clara Goode
5 Dolores Kuettner	13 Jerry McDaniel
6 AnneMarie Hall	19 Erick Finckenor
6 Isaac Burgess	21 John Lindberg
7 John Cofield	22 Mindy Schell
8 Helen Thomas	25 Sharon Bedard
9 Liz Cooper	27 Angela Kowalczyk
10 Sarah Jennings	30 Bruce Kowalczyk
11 Emma Steelman	30 Ryker Poff



July
Ruby

3 Jim & Bonnie Treadway	23 Clara Hayes
11 David & Nancy Hosmer	25 Sam & Lindsey Lewis
13 Jerry & Cynthia McDaniel	28 Steve & Sheila Tesh
22 Allen & Sharon Brantley	

June 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 & Open 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 & Jewelry Classes— HGMS 18+
	7:30am - 12:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+

2016 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Mike Harrison 256-797-2435

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Vice President—Mindy Schell 334-790-0671

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lmalakowsky@gmail.com

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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— July 16, 2016

Rocket City Rocks & Gems

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

HGMS June 2016

Dated Material
Do not Delay