

ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 52 No. 05

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

May 2020

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Hiatus till further notice for:

Meeting Minutes

Rocket City Jewelers

Metalsmithing Corner

Pebble Pups

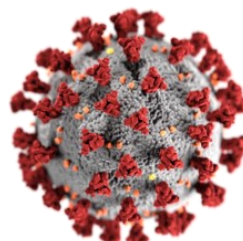
GeoSciences

Lapidary Lab

DMC Feb Field Trips

May 26 Meeting Tentatively Moved to June 2

As of the newsletter deadline, no decision could be made concerning our ability to hold the May General HGMS Meeting anywhere without maintaining the mandated six-foot personal space, which would have required more room than we had available anywhere. The Senior Center is not open at all until June 1. So the May Meeting has been tentatively moved to June 2, assuming Governor Ivey relaxes the mandate. With that assumption we will meet in the regular Merrimack Room of the Senior Center. If the mandate remains, the May meeting will be cancelled. Stay tuned for updates. See Page 3 below for new developments.



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Greetings to all rock hounds who are sheltering at home!

I hope you have had a chance to venture out, if you are so inclined. Your HGMS team of officers, board members and committee chair members have been busy making plans to reengage and resume the activities that you all want to participate in. We held a board meeting and the following is a summary of the minutes.

HGMS Board & Committee Meeting on 5 May 2020 convened at 6:34 pm via Zoom teleconference. Attendance: Bill Friday, Mike Harrison, Kathy Bowman, Lowell Zoller, Less Bartel, Isabel Leon y Leon, Bob & Ruth Kemper, Shelley Curran, and Leslie Malakowsky

New "Old Grissom HS" Location: Mike showed a diagram of the HGMS space

55' x 18' Lapidary Lab

30' x 18' Metal Smithing room

24' x 15' Jewelry Making room

24' x 15' Pebble Pups and Geo Sciences room

16' x 14' Office

3 storage rooms

Women's/Men's bathrooms located near the entrance, shared with South Room

Major renovation is complete.

Final electrical & plumbing placement & entry security to be implemented.

HGMS Auction: The auction was discussed as to how and when it might happen. Three options were discussed but it is too soon to be confident that it can happen in-person this year without overshadowing the annual show. An on-line auction is being considered. An Ad Hoc committee was set to further discuss the options following the general meeting. See minutes below.

Picnic: The board will discuss the picnic this Friday in light of the current governor's guidelines. Picnic may/may not transpire due to the number of people allowed to congregate for social engagements at state parks.

HGMS Show: It was decided that the show can only be held efficiently in the Jaycee's building. Lowell is working with the vendors to help alleviate the hardships many are going through to survive until our show since most depend on shows for income and are currently hurting financially. The final date to determine if the show will continue as planned will be no later than 19 September 2020 (three weeks before the show) Our plan is to proceed like we are having the show until someone/something dictates otherwise. The show will be at the Jaycee Building.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm

Auction Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes - convened via Zoom 5 May, 7:40pm

Shelley Curran, Chair, Kathy Bowman, Isabel Leon y Leon, Bill Friday

We started with the results of discussion in the prior meeting—do we have the auction at all this year, and if so, when, and where? No firm decisions were derived from this meeting - just a list of options.

If the auction date moves too far into the summer, it will impact the Fall Show, both for participation of HGMS members and of the buying public at both venues. June 20 is scheduled for the Picnic on Monte Sano, which itself is under the shadow of the virus, both from potential remaining restrictions and from reluctance of the members to attend. That is a separate issue from this committee's agenda. But the auction could happen a week prior or week after.

If the auction is held as stated, the venue could be the Jaycees or the new building at the old Grissom. Virus restrictions might still be in effect. Planning must start immediately if that were to happen.

If not in person, options are to sell on-line, piecemeal at regular meetings, or on eBay/Craig's List.

Developments as of May 19, Board & Committee and Ad Hoc Committee Meetings

Things don't remain static for very long these days.

As of the newsletter deadline on May 19, some decisions still await the Alabama Governor's Proclamation due on May 22 as to whether current restrictions will continue or be relaxed to some degree. Updates forthcoming by email as received.

May HGMS Meeting -The May HGMS meeting cannot happen as planned on May 26. It is somewhat possible that the Governor's Safe-Space restrictions will be relaxed, but even if they are, there is no satisfactory place for us to meet. The Senior Center is closed until June 1, and there isn't time to plan and advertise use of the new Grissom facility even if the restrictions cease. It is possible that if all restrictions are lifted, the meeting could be rescheduled for June 2, but attendance will likely be quite reduced due to hesitancy of members to attend.

Auction— All decisions have been made, pretty much dictated by virus circumstances and the practical aspects of planning venue, date, logistics of moving items, few volunteer commitments to support the activity, and likely poor attendance by buyers. With Board concurrence, Shelley has cancelled the full in-person auction for the year. The auctioneer has been notified. Sales will happen on-line, in monthly meeting silent auctions (might encourage higher attendance), and at area shows where she and other sellers go with their own wares. Mainly high-dollar items will be prioritized. More mundane slabs, books, etc will carry over to next year. We have already had a \$couple-thousand income from items already sold, staving off fiscal distress. We still have some surplus in the Fall Show fund which needs to be transferred for tax purposes to the general fund and used. So disaster has been averted. Thanks to Shelley and others.

Picnic— No decision has been made for this activity. Major concerns are uncertain availability of the Monte Sano Picnic area and potential poor volunteer support and member attendance no matter the state of virus restrictions. On the other hand, all of these concerns may be alleviated in time for the activity to proceed as always. Person to person interaction can never be replaced by electronics, no matter how sophisticated.

Monthly HGMS Meetings, Rocket City Jewelry, Metals, GeoSciences, Lapidary Lab, Pebble Pups The Senior Center is scheduled to re-open for the public on Jun 1, barring extension of current restrictions by the Governor on May 22. This would potentially allow the listed activities to resume, depending willingness of attendees of each separate activity to do so. Similarly, these may resume in the new facility - see below.

Move to new facility at Old Grissom, referred to for now as the "Sandra Moon Complex Craft Center"

First order of business is to select a new and suitable name for the place, and to prepare signs citing that. Bob Kemper is leading a membership-wide opportunity for submission of suggested names, with selection date around three weeks from now. A prize for the winner of a free annual membership is planned.

The entire new building has been completely renovated by the City Parks & Recreation Department, all according to the layout prepared by the HGMS reflecting our needs versus room space. This includes new women's and men's restrooms near the entrance. Remaining to be completed in the next month is the final placement of water, drainage, and power to accommodate the equipment to be transferred from the Senior Center into their respective spaces. Also pending is establishment of entry and surveillance controls, to allow members convenient access and restriction to non-members. The entire south end of the building will be available to HGMS upon reservation for regular monthly HGMS meetings, including restroom access.

Once the space is available, work crews of HGMS members will be needed to dismantle the Senior Center Lapidary Lab, Metals Equipment, and Rocket City Jewelry Supplies. This will require the same crews to install all of this in the new building, including counter spaces, storage spaces, Stay tuned for work days.

Fall Show - As of now, the Jaycees Building is flooded and frozen to serve ice skaters while the nearby IcePlex is being renovated. All consideration of moving the venue was rejected - the Jaycees Building is the best and only option due to easy access by the visiting public, convenient free parking, perfect floor area, easy access by vendors and our trucks brining in equipment, full option for food service, and full security.

Ice is to be removed by mid-September, whether or not the IcePlex is completed. This will allow the Show preparations to proceed on schedule, and for the floor to warm back to a tolerable temperature. Given all of the perturbations to life-as-usual, how successful is the Show will depend on several major factors. First we must be optimistic that all current virus restrictions will have been revoked, possibly as soon as May 22 by Governor Ivey. Second we **MUST** be proactive in recruiting members to serve in all support roles. Theresa Chivers has offered her services as Show Volunteer Chair - sincere thanks to her. Third we need to offer over-and-above attractions to bring in a potentially hesitant buying public. Past examples included the Rocks for Food Table two years ago and the Moon Rock last year. An enhanced Kids Area is a must-have.

Brad's Bench Tips

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon www.BradSmithJewelry.com. For those who enjoy these bench tips, I'm happy to announce a second volume is now available on Amazon. "More Bench Tips" includes 86 additional ways to save time, avoid frustration or improve quality at the bench. These new tips cover problems in fabrication, stone setting, casting, soldering and polishing.

Browse through a couple of the new ones at <https://amazon.com/dp/B07D4B45JJ/>. These are just a few of the many tips in the new book, "More Bench Tips for Jewelry Making". See a sample chapter at <https://amzn.to/2KCygh4>



DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. Having sliced my fingers occasionally in my younger days, I avoid band-aids now by using flat-jaw pliers or a ring clamp. Pliers also save you if the piece gets hot. Put a little tape or a piece of vinyl tubing over jaws of the pliers if needed to avoid scratches.



DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force.

The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.



Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$7.

Chuck the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.

Take Heart!! The Sun will always rise again.



Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News *By Leslie Malakowsky*

We're continuing to have online meetings every Saturday at 1p.m. Every RCJ member is invited (and encouraged) to participate! We've been using this time to stay in touch with each other, share design ideas, and so on.

So far, our favorite project is the Double Drilled Bead and Byzantine Bracelet. Most folks have made at least one of these addictive bracelets which showcase both beautiful stones and chainmaille. I recently challenged everyone to design earrings to go with their bracelet. We're looking forward to seeing each other's designs!

Unfortunately, the shutdown continues, but will hopefully end soon. We'll re-evaluate where we stand with the class schedule when we start meeting again. In the meantime, stay well and hang in there!

Volunteers:

Group Leader/Lead Instructor	Leslie Malakowsky
Instructors	Judy Osmundson, Theresa Chivers, Myra Soroczak
Kit Manager	Sherrie Bonin
Treasurer	Clara Goode
Facebook	open
Security	Judy Osmundson

RCJ is open to **every member** of the HGMS. (Gentlemen, too!) If you love making jewelry, please join us! All skill levels are welcome! Please note that when you'd like to take a class but you don't regularly attend RCJ, **you must contact us one week prior to the class** so we can make a kit for you.

Remember our core values: to share what we know, learn new skills, and have fun! Please let me know what you are able to teach and what you would like to learn.

We meet every Wednesday from 6-9p.m. in the Paint Room (next to the Lapidary Shop) at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Avenue, Huntsville.

Important: Please park in the **North parking lot** and enter the building at the **entrance next to Meals on Wheels**. The door is locked after 6:30p.m., so if you need to arrive later, please text me at (256) 755-0479, and someone will let you in.

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

THERE WERE NO SCHEDULED PROJECT CLASS IN APRIL AND MAY DUE TO THE COVID 19 CLOSINGS. AT THIS POINT WE DON'T KNOW HOW THE QUARANTINE SITUATION WILL BE UNTIL AFTER MAY 22. THE SENIOR CENTER WILL OPEN ON JUNE 1. HOPEFULLY WE WILL HAVE A BETTER IDEA SOON OF WHEN, AND WHERE, WE WILL RESUME OUR NORMALLY SCHEDULED MONDAY & THURSDAY WORK SESSIONS.



Certification Classes: If you would like to be certified so you can take our classes, please send your name and contact information (name, email address, and phone number) to HGMS@wilddivystudio.com. We will contact you and set up a day for you to come. Those who sign up will be notified when the next class will be scheduled.

Class Instructors:	Kathy Bowman & Shelley Curran
Toolbox Sign-outs	CG Lester
Inventory Manager	Opening
Store Manager	Opening
Kit Manager	Shelley Curran
Webpage & Social Media Management	Kathy Bowman

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

Mineral of the Month – Dumortierite *By Leslie A. Malakowsky*

Dumortierite, named for the French paleontologist Eugène Dumortier (1803–1873), is an aluminum borosilicate mineral with the formula $\text{Al}_7\text{BO}_3(\text{SiO}_4)_3\text{O}_3$. It is aluminum that gives it the lovely, highly sought after, blue color. But this mineral can also be brown, greenish-blue, green, violet-blue, and rarely, violet, pink, and red. This variety of colors happens because impurities, such as iron, titanium, magnesium, and calcium, can substitute for aluminum when the mineral forms.



Dumortierite is a member of the Al_2SiO_5 group of *nesosilicate* minerals meaning that its silicate anion has a tetrahedral shape (one silicon atom surrounded by four oxygen atoms). Silicate minerals are classified into seven groups according to the structure of their silicate anion. (For more information on silicate classification, see wikipedia.com.) The other members of this group are andalusite, kyanite, sillimanite, topaz, and staurolite.

Unfortunately, dumortierite is often mistaken for sodalite, another aluminum silicate with a beautiful blue color that's often used in jewelry. And in recent years, dumortierite has gained popularity as a budget-friendly alternative to lapis lazuli (aka *lapis*) a metamorphic rock used as a semi-precious gemstone and prized since antiquity for its intense blue color. So how do you distinguish these three? For starters, sodalite can have white calcite veining, and lapis is often interspersed with silver- or brassy-colored flecks of pyrite. Dumortierite doesn't have these features.

When comparing the blue versions of these substances, sodalite is dark blue with a massive crystal habit and a white streak. It's also brittle, and it fluoresces bright red-orange under UV light. Dumortierite is denim blue with a fibrous crystal habit. It also has a white streak like sodalite, but dumortierite is the hardest with a Mohs hardness of 7 – 8.5. It also displays *pleochroism* from red to blue to violet. (Pleochroism is an optical phenomenon in which a mineral has different colors when viewed at different angles with polarized light.) Lapis is royal blue with a light blue streak. It doesn't fluoresce or display pleochroism.

Metamorphic rocks are existing sedimentary, igneous, or metamorphic rocks that have undergone profound physical and/or chemical changes due to heat (temperatures greater than 150 to 200 °C), pressure (100 megapascals (1,000 bar) or more), and sometimes the introduction of chemically active fluids. Dumortierite typically occurs in two kinds of high-temperature aluminum-rich metamorphic rocks: those resulting from *regional* metamorphism and those resulting from *contact* metamorphism. In regional metamorphism, changes occur in great masses of rock over a wide area. In contact metamorphism, changes occur when molten magma intrudes surrounding solid rock, called *country rock*. Dumortierite can also be found in boron-rich pegmatites, igneous rocks, formed underground, that have interlocking crystals usually larger than 1 inch in size.

Dumortierite was first described in 1881 for an occurrence in Chaponost, a small town in the Rhône-Alps of France (the mineral's type locality). The mineral was named for the French paleontologist Eugène Dumortier (1803–1873), who is most remembered for his four-volume work on the paleontology of the Rhône-Alps. Since then, dumortierite has been found all over the world, most notably Austria and Madagascar. In 2005, an extensive investigation was conducted on high grade dumortierite samples from the Gföhl quarry in Austria. This quarry is now an important source of the mineral. In the United States, the most plentiful dumortierite mines are in Arizona, California, Maine, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, and Washington.

In the gemstone trade, dumortierite, like many other minerals, can have various names depending on its characteristics. For example, "dumortierite quartz" is transparent to semi-transparent quartz with an abundance of blue dumortierite inclusions. "Starry night dumortierite" is dumortierite filled quartz in which quartz flecks appear like tiny "stars". "Sunset dumortierite" is a light to medium blue similar to the color of well-worn denim fabric. "Ocean dumortierite" is a medium to dark blue, but not as deep as sodalite. Rough dumortierite is most beautiful when tumbled. It's also used in the manufacture of ornaments and high grade porcelain.



Pebble Pups

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

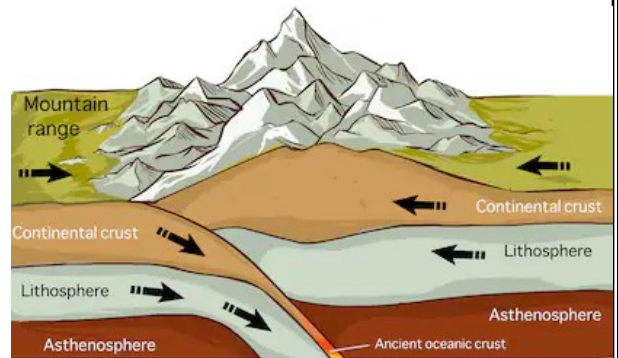
Current plans are to re-start the Pebble Pups programs on June 28, allowing the virus problem to settle out further.

When we resume, we will continue a four part series on geological processes.

1. Plate Tectonic Theory - Done in February
2. **Mountains - June 28**
3. Plateaus - July 23
4. Sedimentary Basins - August 27

Brian will explain each subject, how each relates to minerals, and how to rockhound each formation. He will explain what can be generally found in each formation. We will meet in the new Craft Center at the old Grissom High facility at 6:00 on June 28. Bring your friends.

For more information, contact
Brian Burgess at bburgess771@gmail.com 256-479-2993



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GeoSciences

Like all the rest of the world, particularly Senior Center activities for April & May are cancelled.

But we should be back in business for a GeoSciences meeting on Thursday June 9.

Tom Burleson of the Von Braun Astronomical Society has offered to present a program on Meteorites, elaboration to be provided later, but he was encouraged to dig deep and take his time.





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 Dixie Mineral Council has cancelled this year's field trip schedule, rolling all trips to next year, with confirmation by the various SFMS Clubs who were scheduled for this year. That includes HGMS which was to have sponsored a trip the the Hogg Mine in August. Settling all of this out will be a thankless task for Lori Carter, but bless her heart, she will have it all worked out as soon as member Clubs provide their updates.

It is with sadness that we note the recent passing of two of our Life Members and long time supporters of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society.

Mahlon McConnell: 1933 - 2020

Mr. Mahlon McConnell died on 25 February at the age of 86. He and his wife Willese were active collectors of excellent stones, and he maintained a very respectable museum within their home. Both had attended HGMS meetings in Huntsville until a few years ago.

Carl Craig: 1028 - 2020

Mr. Carl Craig died on 1 March 2020 in Decatur AL at the age of 91. Carl was an avid collector and student in many areas - caver (spelunker), aircraft pilot, backpacker, hiker, canoeist, tree planter, postcard writer, naturalist, and teacher. In his career he maintained computers for NASA that helped put a man on the moon.



Remembering Mr. Craig *By Leslie Malakowsky*

I was sad to read in the April 2020 newsletter about the loss earlier this year of Mr. Carl Craig. He was, I think, the oldest member to keep attending regular meetings, right up until he moved into assisted living. Carl enjoyed talking about anything related to rockhounding. He was so enthusiastic and always happy to answer questions. I had to watch the clock before meetings because it was hard for him to stop chatting!

I can just imagine what a great spelunker Carl was back in the day! At the club's picnic in June 2019, Carl shared his famous photo of Huntsville's newest (at that time) exposed cave - a sinkhole in the defunct Bankhead Parkway in Monte Sano State Park. I used to hike that mountain road for fun and exercise staying on the high side both on the way up and on the way down. (Don't think I'll be hiking that road again any time soon.) I'm glad we have this photo of Carl at the sinkhole. He wasn't about to miss it!

The Streets Are Paved with Gold (and Platinum)

By Tim Worstall, London Forbes Media LLC

An interesting little story from the UK about how the streets are quite literally spread with platinum and other valuable metals. It's not quite the same as their being paved with gold, but with the right technology, it could have similar results.

One of the (UK's) biggest street cleaning firms has announced it is to "mine" the sweepings it collects from roads and pavements, in search of gold and other precious metals. Veolia Environmental Services believes it can find at least £1 million (Editor's Note: approximately \$1.165 million USD) worth of materials like platinum (Pt), palladium (Pd) and rhodium (Rh) from the muck swept up from Britain's streets each year.

The background to this is that all cars and trucks now have catalytic converters for pollution control. These are made with zirconia (zirconium oxide) and a small amount of the platinum group metals (PGM). Those for diesel engines might have 1 gram of platinum per half kilo [1.1 lb.] brick of zirconia, and those for (gasoline) engines a mixture of platinum, palladium and rhodium. A small car (say, a Ford Fiesta) might have a single half kilo brick in the converter, a large car say a V12 Jaguar, 8 such bricks. There's a well-developed market for collecting and refining these converters when they come to the end of their working lives. . . . Sometimes the converters fail and some part of that zirconia ends up coming out of the back of the exhaust pipe of the vehicle. . .

Pt, Pd and Rh derived from catalytic converters that reduce poisonous exhaust emissions are enriched in road dust. Studies of PGM concentrations (in) surface samples from UK roads, urban waste and natural sediments show that these elements are dispersed into natural and artificial drainage systems finding their way eventually into the sea. Maximum values of PGMs in road dust from the city of Sheffield (England) were found to be as high as 408 ppb of Pt, 444 ppb of Pd and 113 ppb of Rh. (Editor's Note: These figures are parts per billion and the mining industry measures such things in parts per million (ppm), so the amounts of Pt, Pd and Rh are 0.408 ppm, 0.444 ppm and 0.113 ppm, respectively.) That's actually a bit low for a PGM ore. You wouldn't go and dig up a mountain for these values. . . .

So, don't go out sweeping the road and thinking that you're going to get rich. However, for the people who are already sweeping the road, collecting the dust and having to landfill that dust, it might well be an attractive operation to try to recover those metals' values. . . . Read the full article at www.forbes.com/sites/timworstall/2013/07/15/the-streets-are-paved-with-gold-and-platinum/#67a3f19a1fa8.

Source: Worstall, Tim. The Streets Are Paved with Gold (and Platinum). Forbes Media LLC, July 15, 2013. Accessed March 15, 2020. via The Pick and Dop Stick, Chicago GMS, April 2020.; A.F.M.S. Newsletter May/2020. Last from the Stillwater OK Rockhound Gazette May2020

May Birthdays

3 Jim Hanes	17 Jeff Finckenor
5 Myra Soroczak	22 Mike Chivers
6 Phil Lester	25 Maureen Priddy
9 Laura Bath	26 Trudie Murphy
13 Laurie Cantrell	27 Chris Kalange
14 Joe Bonin	29 Ruth Finckenor
16 Emily Lear	30 Mike Bowman
16 Mike Curran	30 Jim Treadway
16 Vicki Van Valkenburgh	31 Raymond Tanner



May
Emerald

Anniversaries

6 John & Julie McCullough
17 Gerdy & David Wyatt
18 Chelsey Perry
18 Mike & Anne Wesley
29 Norm & Sandy Ballas
29 David & Diana O'Dell

June Birthdays

4 Elizabeth Kowalczyk	17 Lori Crymes
4 Juyne Posta	22 Gavin Crunk
5 Emma Allen	23 Jonathan Kowalczyk
5 Ruth Kemper	24 Tonya Sitko
7 Nancy Hosmer	25 Caryl Jean Nixon
11 David Inman	26 David O'Dell
12 Julia Priest	27 Dianna O'Dell
12 Dewey Weaver	28 Lori Willhoite
15 Matthew Kowalczyk	Grayson Lester
15 Al Moebes	



June
Pearl

Anniversaries

5 David & Karen Bath	15 David & Tracey Inman
7 Bill Sweetman	19 Michael & Sheila Cape
8 Charlie & Lori Willhoite	21 Lawrence & Diana Nelms
9 Jimi & Tonya Sitko	23 Tom & Alicia Detwiler
12 Wayne & Polly Falkenberg	29 Caryl & David Nixon
12 Dewey Weaver	30 William Aycock
13 John & Ivey Cook	

The Lapidary Lab will be closed until further notice

May 2020 - Senior Center Lapidary Lab Schedule

To use lapidary equipment, you must be certified unless a licensed instructor is present
currently: Bill Friday, Isabel Leon y Leon & Michael Cape

Monday	7:30am-4:30pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS age 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Metal Smithing - Only certified HGMS 18+
Tuesday	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	9:00am—Noon	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon -3:00 pm	Silver Jewelry - Terry Clarke, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	3:00pm-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Lapidary - Only certified HGMS 18+
Wednesday	7:30am-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Lapidary - Only certified HGMS 18+
	6:00pm-9:00pm	Open Jewelry - Only certified HGMS
Thursday	7:30am-9:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	9:00am-11:30am	Silver Jewelry - Ron West, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	Noon-3:00pm	Wood Carving - Copeland, Instructor - Seniors & HGMS 60+
	3:00pm-4:30 pm	Open Lab: Lapidary -certified Seniors & HGMS 60+
	5:30pm-9:00pm	Metal Smithing & Jewelry Classes— Only certified HGMS 18+
Friday	7:30am-12:00am	Open Lab: Lapidary - certified Seniors & HGMS 60+

2020 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

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Auction Chair: Shelley Curran curranshelley1@gmail.com	Show Vendor Chair: Lowell Zoller, 256-534-8803 Lzol@comcast.net
Field Trips: Open	Show Volunteer Chair: Theresa Chivers, 256-837-6819 wolfson929@gmail.com
Rocket City Jewelers: Leslie Malakowsky 256) 755-0479 lmalakowsky@gmail.com	Show Publicity Chair - Tony Smith tsmith@erc-incorporated.com
Hospitality: Caryl Nixon 256-426-5061 caryl.nixon@outlook.com	Show Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194 clarag1964@gmail.com
Mineral ID: Michael Soroczak soroczak@yahoo.com (William Holland offers a class for this)	

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

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

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

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

DATE: Fourth Tuesday of the month except for March Auction, June picnic, Christmas Dinner and major holidays.

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

Federation Newsletters:

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

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

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



2020 CALENDAR

- 2 Jun '20 Probably Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 20 Jun '20 Probably Annual HGMS Picnic, Monte Sano State Park
Saturday, Pavilion 1, 9:00 till 2:00
- 28 Jul '20 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center, or new location at old Grissom
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 25 Aug '20 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 22 Sep '20 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 9-11 Oct '20 HGMS Fall Show,
Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
- 27 Oct '20 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 24 Nov '20 - Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm
- 8 Dec '20 - Annual HGMS Christmas Dinner - place to be determined
- 26 Jan '21 Regular HG&MS Meeting, Madison County Senior Center,
2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL 6:30pm

<p>Deadline for Next Newsletter June 14, 2020</p>

Dated material
Do not delay

May 2020

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