ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS







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

Volume 53 No. 5 "We'll go to the Moon for a Rock" May 2021

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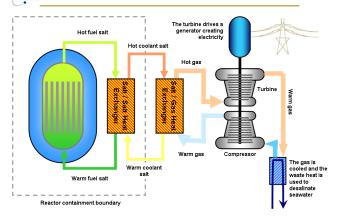
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Regular Meeting - May 25, 6:00pm Gem & Mineral Education Center 7901 Bailey Cove Rd, Huntsville

FLIBE - Liquid Fluoride Thorium

Reactor—Dr. Kirk Sorensen

How does a fluoride reactor make electricity?



Masks Optional

www.huntsvillegms.org/ - www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleGMS -











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Welcome to the merry ol' month of May!,

Winter is finally over and Spring is in full bloom. The days are beautiful and the temperatures are just right. perfect weather for rock hounding! And your team at HGMS has planned out some great activities just for you!

First our monthly meeting will be held at the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Education Center in the South Room on May 25th at 6:00 PM. Last month we had 26 people show up and all 26 were treated to a personal surprise! And this month

we plan to do the same! So meet us there on the 25th and be pleasantly surprised!

Next we have set the date for our first annual rock sale, to benefit the operations of your club, for Saturday, June 12th, again at the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Education Center but this time in the parking lot. Come get that most wanted mineral to add to your own collection!

And while I'm at it, We have reserved the new pavilion on Monte Sano for our annual picnic for July 10th. Again we will have box lunches so look for the details in this newsletter.

As a matter of fact, read this newsletter from cover to cover to be informed and ready to join us in these and other activities as we transition back to normal after this past year.

I look forward to seeing you at all of these activities! Your humble President, Mike Harrison

Minutes of the April 27 Regular Meeting

Vice President Isabel Leon y Leon opened the meeting at 6:30p. as President Mike Harris was unable to attend. Isabel recognized our visitors (Erin Lawton and Brendalynn Triplett), and she presided over the business meeting.

Field Trips Cathedral Caverns State Park Tour, Saturday, May 1st, 2p. The fee is \$14 per person if 25 people sign up; otherwise, it will be \$19 per person. Please pay Bill tonight to reserve your spot, or contact him no later than Thursday, April 29th. (Important: If you make a reservation, but don't show up, you'll still owe Bill the fee.) The park is located in Woodville, Alabama about 30-40 minutes from Huntsville. See *alapark.com* for more information about the park.

Devil's Racetrack Geology and Fossil Hike, Saturday, May 15th. This geological formation is located in the Wade Mountain Nature Preserve near Huntsville. Email will be sent with more information. See also the website/newsletter.

Rock Sale James Yack announced that he's having a rock sale from 9a - 3p this Sunday, May 2^{nd} . Check with him for the address. Volunteers to help with the sale are welcome. Arrive early for the best selection!

GeoSciences The next meeting will be Thursday, May 13th. Dr. Kirk Sorensen will discuss mining water and aluminum on the Moon. This program is a precursor to the program he's going to give us at the May 25th regular meeting. Email will be sent with more information. See also the website/newsletter.

Yard Sale Bill announced that we are going to have a yard sale this year in lieu of the auction. The sale will be Saturday, June 12th at the Education Center. Merchandise will be sorted on tables set up in the parking lot. Items will be sold according to the prices hard markedon them. See the website/newsletter for more information.

Picnic Isabel and Bill announced that the picnic will be Saturday, July 10th at Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville. The food will be box lunches the same as last year. An email will be sent asking for your food choices. See also the website/newsletter.

Metalsmithing Kathy announced that the next class will be Making Metal Beads in two sessions: Thursday, May 6th, and Monday, May 10th. There are still 5 or 6 slots available! See the website/newsletter for more information and samples.

Rocket City Jewelers Leslie announced that the next class will be a Red, White, and Blue Memory Wire Bangle from 6-9p on Wednesday, May 5th. Judy described the bangle and showed an example. The kit cost is \$5. She also announced the Wednesday, May 12th chainmaille class, which will be a Celtic flower pendant. The kit cost is also \$5. See the website/newsletter for more information and samples.

Publicity Opportunity – "Kindness" Rocks Bill announced that he's collected smooth rocks that we can paint with friendly messages to advertise our club. This is a relatively new trend currently sweeping the country. The "Kindness Rocks Project" was created "to spread inspiration and motivation to unsuspecting recipients through random inspirational painted rocks". We need a chairman to coordinate this project and volunteers to paint rocks!

Program

Mr. Gordon Jones presented "Mountain Shelter Archaeology", an informative program on American Indian artifacts (arrowheads, spear points, knives, and so on) that he and his son collected (with permission) from bluff shelters in North Alabama. He showed us many pictures and examples. He mentioned that if we want, he can arrange a collecting trip for us. Thank you, Mr. Jones!

The meeting ended about 8:30pm. Everyone was invited to select a slab for cabbing (courtesy of James Yack). We had 26 members and 2 visitors in attendance. **Leslie Malakowsky, interim Recording Secretary**

LAPIDARY YARD Sale: SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 9:00am-3:00pm at the Ed Ctr.

Featuring: Equipment, Saws, arbors, tumblers, Rough, Slabs, Fossils, Specimens, Related Craft items, Jewelry, and Much More.

The club is going to hold a yard sale outside in the Ed Center parking lot. We have lots of wonderful items that have missed out on two auctions. And we've missed out on the income. It's time to find them a new home.

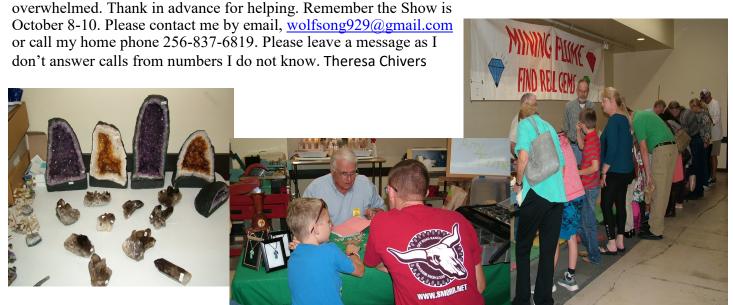
The sale is coming up fast. I'd like to get volunteers signed up now. We need people to set up and tear and down (7-9:00 am & 3-???). Also needed are checkout, sales people and watchers. I'm asking for two hour shifts, or longer if you wish. This is YOUR club and it needs you now. Please volunteer if you can. Thank you in advance.

Sign up at the May meeting or contact me at curranshelley1@gmail.com



The Fall Show Will Be Here Before We Know It

Hi all. While it's only May we need to start thinking about the fall show. I need volunteers to chair the committees. If you volunteered last year for this, please consider chairing this year. The committees are ticket booth, information booth, kids area, flume, volunteer dinner and fossil dig. If we all do a little bit, no one is





Metal Smithing/Silver Group by Kathy Bowman & Shelley Curran

June Class: Embellished Trinket Box. June 3rd & 7th, 5:00-9:00 pm

Build a small metal box and then embellish it with decorative wire work and or small bezel set stones.

We will be working in copper. Kit cost is \$5.00, plus any bezel cups or stones you might want. The kit includes all necessary heavy gauge copper sheet and wire, consumables and printed instructions. Cost for cups and small stones is usually negligible, or bring your own.

Please be sure to note if you want the Thursday or Monday session when you sign up for class. If warranted classes may be combined. As always, you may sign up at the meeting, in class, or at Kathy's wild Ivy email address, kbowman@wildivystudio.com



Now that Covid-19 restrictions have eased, certification classes have resumed. Kathy will notify those of you signed up. But please keep in mind that the list has become quite long. We will get to everyone eventually though. Thank you for your patience.

<u>Certification Classes:</u> We hope to resume certifications on a one to three person basis in April. If you are interested in scheduling Metalsmithing Certification please send your name and contact information (name, email address, and phone number) to <u>HGMS@wildivystudio.com</u>. 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. We are looking at having the Certification Class on a night other than Monday or Thursday since seats on both work session nights are full.

IMPORTANT! CURRENTLY CLASS SIZES ARE LIMTED TO 6 STUDENTS PER SESSION. YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR CLASSES BECAUSE OF THE LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS. YOU WILL NOT BE ASSURED A SEAT IN THE CLASS IF YOU SHOW UP AT THE DOOR!

Volunteer Positions *

Class Instructors:

Kathy Bowman
Shelley Curran
Tools/Equipment Inventory
Annie Diekmann
Store Manager
Kit Manager
Shelley Curran

Webpage & Social Media Management Kathy Bowman

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

Get your access code for the new facility

The security keypad and magnetic latch are installed. Members will need a personal five-digit code for access. Select a code number smaller than 64,000, as the controller is allergic to larger ones. You will need to press # afterward. To exit, an overhead motion sensor will unlatch the magnet - after a short delay. Please provide your chosen number to Bill Friday who will maintain the repository.

Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News By Leslie Malakowsky

Hi folks! Just to clarify, the intent of the chainmaille project we started on April 21st is two-fold: to give us practice with the Euro 4-in-1 weave by making a bracelet in lieu of making a sample, and to get used to making this weave on a loom **before** tackling the optional Euro 4-in-1 Inlay project. The Inlay project will be a decorative piece that you'll weave on your loom. (Looms are only \$5 each. If you don't have one yet, please contact Judy.) The piece will be

approximately 30 x 30 rings square depending on your design. You'll need to create your design on graph paper first so you can figure out what colors and how many rings you'll need. We're talking about creating a group order for purchasing the rings.

On May 19th, we going to make flower-shaped chainmaille pendants using enameled copper rings. The kit will have enough rings for 2 flowers. The kit cost is \$14 (\$7 per flower). The flowers will be silver with different inner petal colors (Fuchsia, Pacific Blue, Lavender, Sea Foam Green, and Rose Gold) depending on the colors you chose. (The pendant shown is an example only.) There will be enough rings left over to purchase extra pendants at \$7 each. If you haven't already done so, contact Judy with the number of flowers you want to make and your choice of colors.



Happy Spring!

Upcoming Schedule

May 19: Celtic Flower Pendant, 6-9p.

May 26: Finish It/Make Up, 2-5p.

June 2: Star of David Pendant or Small Cab-Wrapped Star Pendant or TBD, 6-9p.

June 9: Finish It/Make Up, 2-5p.

Remember that we meet from 6p - 9p on 1^{st} and 3^{rd} Wednesdays and from 2p - 5p on 2^{nd} and 4^{th} Wednesdays with 5^{th} Wednesdays TBA. Please note that when you'd like to take a class, **you must contact us two weeks prior to the class** (unless otherwise indicated in the schedule) so we can make a kit for you.

Important: The HGMS Education Center is located at 7901 Bailey Cove Road SE, Huntsville. Enter the South parking lot off Bailey Cove Road SE, drive through the lot to the Education Center (long narrow building) at the back, turn left, and park directly opposite the building. Please enter the double glass doors on the West side of the building. Please be aware that the doors will be unlocked for the first hour. After that, the doors will be locked, and you will need to call Judy (205-541-7207) or Theresa (256-509-0406) to let you in. If you get in and your access code doesn't work, ring the doorbell.

Volunteers:

Group Leader Leslie Malakowsky lmalakowsky@gmail.com

Instructors Judy Osmundson, Leslie Malakowsky, Theresa Chivers

Treasurer Clara Goode, Judy Osmundson

Facebook open

Security Judy Osmundson artzijic@aol.com

and Theresa Chivers wolfsong929@gmail.com (backup)

RCJ is open to **every member** of the HGMS. (Gentlemen, too!) If you love making jewelry, please join us! All skill levels are welcome! **Remember our core values:** to share what we know, learn new skills, and have fun! Please let us know what you are able to teach and what you would like to learn. **Please post your ideas on our Pinterest page!** https://www.pinterest.com/huntsvillegms/

GeoSciences - May 13, 6:30pm - HGMS Ed Center

No program planned as yet. Stay tuned.

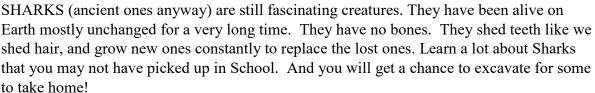




Pebble Pups May 27 6:00pm -Sharks

We will meet the RCJ room of the Gem & Mineral

Education Center at the old Grissom High facility.



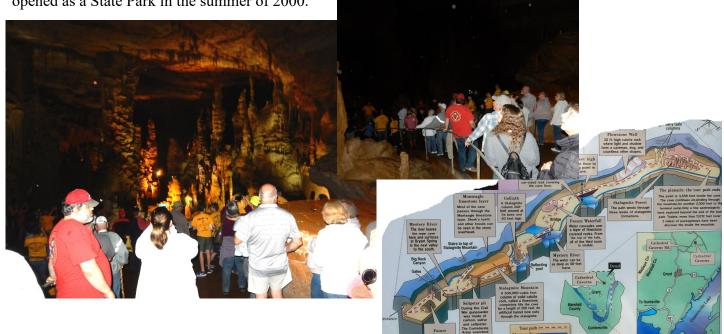


Bring your friends. For more information, contact Bill Friday 256-527-8227 bill.friday@earthlink.net

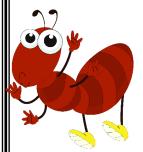
Field Trip Report - Cathedral Caverns, Grant AL - Saturday May 1st

There were 16 HGMS members who made the tour of the amazing cavern. We were lumped into a group with around 50 total, among whom were 15 boy and girl Cub Scouts from near Montgomery. The paved and lighted trail covered the first 2/3 of a mile of the nearly 2 mile extent of the cave. For the first half of that distance, the formations were few, but once we got to the good stuff, the size, variety, and weird shapes of the stalagmites, stalactites, and columns was beyond impressive.

Originally called Bat Cave, Cathedral Caverns was opened to the public by Jacob Gurley in the 1950's. The cave was renamed because of its cathedral-like appearance. Purchased by the state in 1987, it was opened as a State Park in the summer of 2000.



Hey! Follow me to the HGMS PICNIC & ROCK SWAP!



Saturday, July 10, 2021

Monte Sano State Park

5105 Nolen Ave SE, Huntsville, AL 35801

The new "Trailhead Pavilion" located at the Bikers Trailhead near Cabins 1-5
As you enter the park on Nolen Ave, turn right just before the campground store
Take the next left and you will shortly see the pavilion
GPS 34.7441989,-86.5085011 or 34° 44′ 39.05″, 86° 30′ 28.92″

FREE PARK ADMISSION: Tell the person at the gate you are with Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society or HGMS and you will not be charged park admission fees.

Park hours: 8:00 am—5:00 pm. Lunch will be delivered at 11:30 am.

Lunch: We will have box lunches instead of a potluck lunch: \$4.00 each

Your choice of sandwich:

Pulled pork, chicken or turkey from Ted's BBQ (sandwich, chips & a cookie)

Vegetarian sandwich from Panera

You will need to furnish your own drinks (non-alcoholic).

Please use this RSVP link to let us know whether or not you will attend, and to indicate your lunch choice(s).

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAwwSxQyaojqgGNDYw4MDY20r8XrcBYXJB1xg-1zZsv5bIsw/viewform

Swap and Sale: Display rocks, gems, jewelry items you have collected, cut, polished, and/or created, for swapping and selling. You will need to bring your own chair and portable table for display.

Hope to see you there!

Caution: There is poison ivy at the park, and you'll likely want to have bug repellent and sunscreen.

Field Trip - Twenty Mile Creek, Booneville, MS June 19, 2021

130 miles from Huntsville Cretaceous clay deposits along the creek walls leave shark teeth, mosasaur teeth, and rare Hadrosaur teeth in the sandy creek floor. Sit in the water and screen the treasures from around you. Great Summer fun. GPS 34^o 35' 08.60", 88^o 37' 56.57", or 34.5859324, -88.6319882, depending on what







Devil's Racetrack Geology and Fossil Hike Report- May 15 There were four of us who made the 2.5 mile round trip to see this curious open path around the tip of the hill. The climb was gentle, with a couple of mild jumps, 200 feet rise in all above the parking lot. The pace was slow as we examined wild flowers, listened to bird calls, counted tree rings on a fallen log, peered into a sink hole, climbed among limestone boulders, and identified trees with the help of Anthony Zwilling's smart phone app which could (mostly) sort out objects from a captured image. The Racetrack itself was a 50' wide expanse of grass with soft limestone paths that harbored a variety of fossils. A few thousand hikers ahead of us have depleted the majority of these stony critters but we managed to find enough to make it fun.



The hiking crew

A 180 degree panorama of the Racetrack



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

CUTOFF WHEELS, also called SEPARATING DISCS

Cutoff Wheels are inexpensive and do a great job cutting or shaping steel. You can use them to sharpen tool points, cut piano wire to length, make slots, and sharpen worn drills. Other uses include modifying pliers and making your own design stamps.

My preference is the one inch diameter size. Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disc, and definitely wear your safety glasses. Those are little flakes of steel coming off the

BTW - Cutoff Wheels are rather poor at working soft metals like copper, bronze, silver and gold. Soft metals clog up the cutting edges.

DEBURRING JUMP RINGS

When cutting jump rings from large gauge wire for chain making, you'll notice the saw leaves a small burr. An easy way to remove these is to tumble the rings with some fine-cut pyramids. It's best not tumble for a long period with the pyramids because it will remove the polished finish from the wire.

No tumbler, no problem. You don't actually need a tumbler. I just put a handful of pyramids in a wide mouth plastic jar and shake for a bit. You can find these pyramids in the tumble finishing section of most jewelry supply catalogs, for instance https://raytech-ind.com/white-pyramids.html

Mineral of the Month – Lepidolite By Leslie A. Malakowsky



Lepidolite is a member of the mica group of minerals. It varies in color from lilac gray, rose, pink, purple, yellow, white to colorless. Its chemical formula is $K(Li,Al,Rb)_2(Al,Si)_4O_{10}(F,OH)_2$. It's the most abundant lithium-bearing mineral, and it's a secondary source of this metal. It's also one of the major sources of the rare alkali metals rubidium and caesium. Robert Bunsen (a German chemist for whom the Bunsen burner was named) and Gustav Kirchhoff (a German physicist) discovered rubidium in 1861. (They found a few grams of it in 330 pounds of lepidolite!

Lepidolite is a member of the phyllosilicate_class of silicate minerals. (Phyllosilicates consist of sheets of polymerized tetrahedra bound to oxygen molecules at 3 places. This causes a characteristic silicon:oxygen ratio of 2:5.) It's the middle member of the

polylithionite-lepidolite-trilithionite series of minerals.

This mineral occurs as tabular to prismatic pseudohexagonal crystals, scaly aggregates of crystals and massive crystals. Other distinguishing physical characteristics include an uneven micaceous texture or fracture, softness (2.5 - 3.5 on Mohs scale), a resinous or pearly luster, and a white streak. Plus, lepidolite frequently fluoresces creamy white, pale yellow, or yellow of medium intensity.

Lepidolite is associated with other lithium-bearing minerals such as pegmatitic spodumene, amblygonite and tourmaline. (A pegmatite is a *holocrystalline* (partially or completely crystalline), intrusive igneous rock composed of interlocking *phaneritic* (large enough to be seen with the unaided eye) crystals usually larger than 2.5 cm (1 inch) in size. Such rocks are often described as *coarse grained*.)

This mineral occurs in granite pegmatites, in some high-temperature quartz veins, greisens (a highly altered granitic rock or pegmatite) and granites. In addition to lithium-bearing minerals, lepidolite is associated with quartz, feldspar, columbite, cassiterite, topaz and beryl. Notable occurrences of lepidolite include Minas Gerais, Brazil; the Ural Mountains, Russia; the Himalaya Mine, Mesa Grande District, San Diego County, CA; Bernic Lake, Manitoba, Canada; and Madagascar.

The original occurrence of lepidolite was found in the Rožná pegmatite, Moravia, Czech Republic. It was named in 1792 by Martin Klaproth from the Greek words *lepidos* for "scale" and *lithos* for "stone". Klaproth (1 December 1743-1 January 1817) was a German chemist who discovered uranium (1789), zirconium (1789), and cerium (1803). The name lepidolite is sometimes incorrectly applied to lithian muscovite. Synonyms for lepidolite include flower sugilite, lavenderine, and lithionite.



Lepidolite also occurs in a cesium-rich variety (from Minas Gerais, Brazil) and a rubidium-rich variety (from San Diego County, CA). There's also a material called "purple jade." It's a dense mass of fine-grained lepidolite that's used as an ornamental stone. It usually contains small amounts of quartz, feldspar, and spodumene. This material is considered a rock, not a mineral.

Lithium derived from lepidolite is used in rechargeable batteries, aircraft parts, domestic appliances, high temperature lubricants and mood-stabilizing drugs. Lepidolite is hard enough to be made into ornamental items, such as paperweights. It can also be cut into gemstones and cabochons, made into beads, and set in bezels for creating jewelry.

References: wikipedia.org, mindat.org

May Birthdays

2 Bryan Harris 17 Jeff Finckenor 3 Jim Hanes 22 Mike Chivers 4 Autumn Posta 25 Maureen Priddy 5 Myra Soroczak 26 Trudie Murphy 6 Phil Lester 27 Chris Kalange 9 Laura Bath 29 Ruth Finckenor 13 Laurie Cantrell 30 Mike Bowman 14 Joe Bonin 30 Jim Treadway 16 Mike Curran 31 Raymond Tanner

16 Vicki Van Valkenburgh

Anniversaries

1 Deborah & John Wright 6 John & Julie McCullough

17 Gerdy & David Wyatt

18 Chelsey Perry

18 Mike & Anne Wesley

28 Angela & Matthew Gilliam

29 David & Diana O'Dell

June Birthdays

2 Kennedy Harris 15 Matthew Kowalczyk

4 Elizabeth Kowalczyk4 Owen Phillips15 Al Moebes17 Lori Crymes

4 Juyne Posta 23 Jonathan Kowalczyk

5 Emma Allen 24 Tonya Sitko

5 Ruth Kemper 25 Caryl Jean Nixon

7 Nancy Hosmer 26 David O'Dell
12 Julia Priest 27 Dianna O'Dell
12 Dewey Weaver 28 Lori Willhoite

Grayson Lester

Anniversaries

5 David & Karen Bath 13 John & Ivey Cook 7 Bill Sweetman 19 Michael & Sheila Cape

8 Charlie & Lori Willhoite 21 Chris Ross

9 Jimi & Tonya Sitko 21 Lawrence & Diana Nelms

12 Wayne & Polly Falkenberg 23 Tom & Alicia Detwiler

12 Dewey Weaver 29 Caryl & David Nixon

The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education, 7901 Bailey Cove Rd. is is now open on a regular schedule

Metal Smithing Instructors: Shelley Curran, Kathy Bowman, & Jan Edmunds Lapidary: Bill Friday, Michael Cape, James Yack, Bruce Kowalczyk, Justin Smith Rocket City Jewelers: Judy Osmundson, Theresa Chivers, Leslie Malakowsky

Monday Metal Smithing 5:30pm-9:00pm

Tuesday Lapidary 9:00am - 3:00pm Lapidary 6:00pm - 9:00pm HGMS Meetings 6:00pm 4thTuesdays

Wednesday Lapidary 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Rocket City Jewelers 1st & 3rd Weeks - 6:00pm - 9:00pm Rocket City Jewelers 2nd & 4th Weeks - 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Thursday Lapidary 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Metal Smithing 5:30pm - 9:00pm

GeoSciences 6:30pm 2nd Thursdays Pebble Pups 6:00 4thThursdays

Friday Lapidary 9:00am - 3:00 pm

Saturday Metals 9:00am - 3:00pm irregular 1st Saturday of the Month

2021 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President- Mike Harrison - campcraft.mike@gmail.com

Vice President- Isabel Leon y Leon- isabel.leonyleon@gmail.com Recording Secretary: Leslie Malakowsky lmalakowsky@gmail.com Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194 - claragoode1@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Bill Friday - 256-527-8227 - bill.friday@earthlink.net

Directors at Large:

Gene Powers - genepowersgddm@gmail.com Michael Soroczak - soroczak wyahoo.com

Les Bartel - lester.bartel@gmail.com

Shelley Curran - curranshelley1@gmail.com

2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Bill Friday— 256-527-8227 Property: Michael Cape

bill.Friday@earthlink.net

2508 Excalibur Dr. Huntsville AL 35803

Publicity: Bob Kemper

bob kemper@yahoo.com

Webpage: Leslie Malakowsky, lmalakowsky@gmail.com Auction Chair: Shelley Curran

curranshelley1@gmail.com

Field Trips: Open

Rocket City Jewelers: Leslie Malakowsky

256) 755-0479 lmalakowsky@gmail.com Hospitality: Caryl Nixon caryl.nixon@outlook.com

Mineral ID: Michael Soroczak soroczak@yahoo.com

(William Holland offers a class for this)

macape@knology.net Program Chair—Mike Harrison

campcraft.mike@gmail.com

Show Chair: Tony Smith, 256-603-3095. tsmith@erc-incorporated.com

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

Lzol@comcast.net

Show Volunteer Chair: Theresa Chivers, 256-837-6819

wolfsong929@gmail.com, Show Publicity Chair - Tony Smith tsmith@erc-incorporated.com

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 and enjoyment of the members and the general public in these areas. This purpose is accomplished through programs and activities, 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 or at the HGMS Education Center during a meeting or at one of our activity periods: 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 35802 Meetings: 4thTuesday 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: DMC: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/ dmc/dmc.htm

SFMS: www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar newsletter.html

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







2021 CALENDAR

- 25 May'21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 12 Jun '21 Annual Picnic Monte Sano State Park, 5105 Nolen Ave, Huntsville, AL 8:00 to 5:00, lunch 11:30 New Trailhead Pavilion near Cabins 1-5
- 27 Jul '21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 24 Aug'21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 29 Sep'21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 8-10 Oct'21 Fall Gem Jewelry & Mineral Show
 - Jaycees Building, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
- 29 Sep'21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 8-10 Oct '21 Fall Gem Jewelry & Mineral Show, Jaycees Bldg, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
- 26 Oct '21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 23 Nov '21 Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
 - 7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 14 Dec '21 Tentative date for HGMS Christmas Dinner details as it gets closer

Deadline for Next Newsletter June 13, 2021



May 2021

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