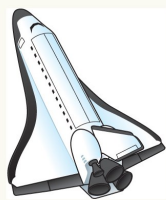


# ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 54 No. 4

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

April 2022

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## Moundville Alabama Archaeological Park

**Jack Elliott, Mississippi Historian, will help us explore the ancient history, get to know the amazing citizens from long ago, and see how archaeologists have uncovered the long lost secrets of this once very important Native American city.**



**Web Page - [www.huntsvillegms.org/](http://www.huntsvillegms.org/)**



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## The 2022 Rock Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil, & Machine Auction

The March Auction was a great success, bringing in around \$6000 from the long list of items gaveled in quick succession by our professional Auctioneer Ricky Underwood, and from the equally long “Buy it Now” table. Shelley Curran, Kathy Bowman, and Jan Edmunds had spent countless hours for months ahead organizing, numbering, and cataloging the various items. The room had been opened the night before and many volunteers helped cart in and arrange the offerings. Many visitors participated, having learned of the event from the webpage and word of mouth. After an hour of viewing the fun began and paddles began popping up.

When the final item was sold, winners began paying up and gathering their prizes, leftovers were stored, and everyone went home satisfied that this was a great day.



**Outreach Activities and Opportunities**

Not everyone can come to the Education Center to learn what we do and how we do it. Sometimes we get to go to various venues to present our activities. Christmas Trees have been placed in the Downtown Tinsel Trail. We have placed exhibits in the Downtown Library entry showcases for the last several years. We have supported the Regional Science Olympiad at University of Alabama in Huntsville. For two years we have had a booth at the Madison Street Fair just before our Fall Show, and we will be back there this Fall. Programs have been given to the Optimist Club and Civitan Club. Booths with Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils have been carried to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math) events at Eura Brown Elementary School in Gadsden. Recently we have had presence at Mountain Gap and Challenger Elementary Schools, and earlier at McDonnell School and for a Special Education Class at the Monrovia School in Huntsville. A large group of Home School Children visited the Education Center last month. Several hikes to the Devil’s Racetrack have benefitted visiting families to the Huntsville Area. We will participate in the STEM Workshop at Huntsville’s EarlyWorks in May.



We now find ourselves losing our status as “the best kept secret in town”. People are finding our website and seeing us at these public presentations. Emails come in every week from people wanting to know about us. Some just walk in from the parking lot after seeing our sign in the window.

More volunteers are needed to support these valuable outreach venues. No special skills or knowledge are needed to staff a booth – mainly what works is a smiling face and a flyer telling the visitor how to find us, and why they should. If this

is something that might be of interest to you, let us know. Some new memberships result from these encounters, but more important is the planting of a curiosity and interest in rocks, minerals, fossils, and nature in general. It really is quite fun.





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

Unfortunately, the March 30<sup>th</sup> bonus meeting was cancelled due to bad weather, so we couldn't have our Swap/Sale that night. Some folks did bring items to the April 6<sup>th</sup> class, but we were busy making the Basic Wire Wrap Pendant that night. We'll reschedule the Swap/Sale for another night and hopefully the weather will cooperate! (The next 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday is June 29<sup>th</sup>).

In the Basic Wire Wrap Pendant class, we learned how to wire wrap a cabochon using square and half round wire. Many of us make our own cabochons in the lapidary, so this is a valuable skill. **Note:** The "sale" of donated items that we can't use will resume Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds go directly to RCJ.

### Upcoming Schedule:

**Apr 20:** 6p – 9p, **Celtic Flowers Bracelet and Earrings.** Kit cost \$10. We'll make a bracelet and match Unfortunately, the March 30<sup>th</sup> bonus meeting was cancelled due to bad weather, so we couldn't have our Swap/Sale that night. Some folks did bring items to the April 6<sup>th</sup> class, but we were busy making the Basic Wire Wrap Pendant that night. We'll reschedule the Swap/Sale for another night and hopefully the weather will cooperate! (The next 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday is June 29<sup>th</sup>). In the Basic Wire Wrap Pendant class, we learned how to wire wrap a cabochon using square and half round wire. Many of us make our own cabochons in the lapidary, so this is a valuable skill. **Note:** The "sale" of donated items that we can't use will resume Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds go directly to RCJ.

**May 4:** 6p – 9p, **Donut, Bead, and Jump Ring Bracelet.** Kit cost TBD. Using 1.5mm round leather cord, we'll make a bracelet consisting of large-hole stone beads and jump rings with a gemstone "donut" focal. The clasp will be a shank-style button. Kit includes leather, beads, jump rings, donut, and button. (You can substitute your own donut and/or button, but make sure they're no larger than the one(s) in the kit.) You need to bring **two** pairs of flat nosed pliers, a tape measure, a ruler, and a pair of sharp scissors. Deadline to RSVP is **April 20th**.

**May 18:** 6p – 9p, **Barrel Earrings.** Kit cost TBD. We'll make a pair of earrings in the Barrel chainmaille weave. (We previously made a bracelet using this weave.) Kit includes AA jump rings and earring wires. You need to bring **two** pairs of flat nose pliers. Deadline to RSVP is **May 4th**.

**Meeting Times:** Classes are from **6p – 9p** on **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays**. Make up and "Finish It" sessions are from **2p – 5p** on **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays**. (Meeting times and activities on 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays are TBD.)

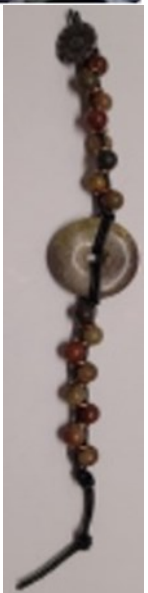
**Class Reservations:** You must contact Theresa **two weeks before class** to reserve your kit. You can also reserve kits in person at RCJ meetings up to two weeks before class. Please Call, Text or Email Theresa Chivers at 256-509-0406 ([wolfson929@gmail.com](mailto:wolfson929@gmail.com)).

**Meeting Location:** The **HGMS Education Center, 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, park directly opposite the building, and enter the double glass doors on the West side of the building. **Note:** 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.

### Volunteers:

Instructors	Judy Osmundson, Theresa Chivers, Leslie Malakowsky
Point of Contact/Kit Reservations/Security	Theresa Chivers
Kit Manager/Treasurer/Security	Judy Osmundson
Membership/Publicity/Inventory	Leslie Malakowsky

RCJ is open to **every member** of the HGMS. (Gentlemen, too!) If you love making jewelry (especially with gemstones), please join us! All skill levels are welcome! Please contact Judy with your class ideas or "pin" your ideas on our Pinterest page. We'd also like to know what you're able to teach.





## Metal Smithing - Shelley Curran & Kathy Bowman

In The May project class we will fabricate a split shank ring and make a step bezel to set a faceted stone in.

Thursday May 5th and Monday May 9th. Class starts at 5:00pm.

This is an intermediate level class.

Kit cost yet to be determined.

The sign up sheet for this class will be available at the November HGMS meeting and during the Monday and Thursday classes. You also may sign up by sending email to [HGMS@wildivystudio.com](mailto:HGMS@wildivystudio.com).

**Certification Classes:** Our apologies to all who were waiting through the month of February for Certification. Preparations for the Auction took up too much time to work in a date for the class. The Certification class is scheduled for Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> with a possible 2<sup>nd</sup> class on Thursday night March 31<sup>st</sup>, depending on the number of people who request the class. Please send your name and contact information (name, email address, and phone number) to [HGMS@wildivystudio.com](mailto:HGMS@wildivystudio.com) to get on the list for the March Safely Certification Class. We will contact those who sign up by email with more detailed information about the class(s) soon.



**Facebook Users:** The Metalsmithing class has our own page in Facebook groups. You can see info on classes, examples of project classes and other general information. Members of the group can post their finished class projects. Out class page is HGMS Metalsmithing Group. The link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/438777169648170>

### Volunteer Positions \*

Class Instructors:

Kathy Bowman

Shelley Curran

Tools/Equipment Inventory

Annie Diekmann

Store Manager

**Opening**

Kit Manager

Shelley Curran

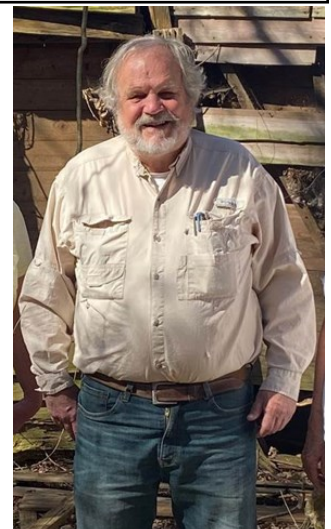
Webpage & Social Media Management

Kathy Bowman

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

## Jack Elliott, our Speaker for the April 26 HGMS Meeting.

Jack is lifetime resident of Palo Alto MS, relative to and familiar with the many families who have lived in the rural west end of Clay County around and among the Kilgore Hills since the early 1800's. His interest in Genealogy, and Archaeological History in particular, began at an early age and became a life-long profession. He is a retired Professor of History with Mississippi State University, and has authored many books covering various historical developments around the state, with one in publication illuminating the ancestral family of famous author William Faulkner. He has graciously agreed to help us get to know the ancient story of Moundville AL south of Tuscaloosa. And he is a favorite cousin of Bill Friday.



## The New Highland Park EverClean Oil Recovery System - Bill Friday

After watching videos of the Highland Park EverClean Oil Recovery System in action, and after years of scraping thick mud from the bottom of rock saw tanks, investing in one of these, even for \$1200, seemed to be a good option. At the same time, the food grade mineral oil that we have been using for \$10 a gallon jumped to \$20. The lighter weight food grade mineral oil recommended by Highland Park was promised to be safer for the saws, both for its more efficient lubrication and for its extending the life of the diamond saw blades. It also cost \$20/gallon, so now that both oils cost the same, fifteen gallons of the lightweight oil was purchased, instead of the usual 55 gallon drum. Besides, the recycler promised to recover considerably more of the oil during each change-out. So the time was right to invest in the new wonder machine, but only one, which would have to be portable among all five saws.

When it arrived, it was mounted on a rolling platform which also carries a 5-gallon bucket to catch the cleaned oil. Extra hardware was installed so that each saw has a quick-connect plumbing rig with a ball-valve included. These are attached to and remain with the existing drain outlet on the front of each saw tank.

For the last time the very muddy original oil was changed by the old way - open the drain, scrape the mud into a paper bag in a bucket with drain holes in the bottom. After a few weeks three quarters of the clean oil would be collected in a bucket underneath. This time the saw tanks were refilled using the new lighter oil and let run with regular use for a week.

Finally came the test. The back of a saw was raised to move the oil to the front drain, which was stirred to pick up all of the rock "dust". The pump was attached, and moved the oil efficiently to the centrifuge, which spit out a stream of clean oil. Gravel was collected from the empty tank floor for disposal. The oil was poured back into the saw tank, revealing almost no loss. The hype by the manufacturer was justified. You can watch this in this video: [https://youtu.be/D9em\\_coVPDc](https://youtu.be/D9em_coVPDc) The delay is filling the centrifuge.

So now each of the 14" saws is being cleaned once a week - requiring about fifteen minutes per saw. The collector can in the centrifuge is also emptied each week, yielding a quart of something resembling modeling clay.

The other promised better performance of the rock saws still isn't proven, but the incidence of saws jamming halfway through a cut seems to be less frequent. The machine should pay for itself in a year from the higher oil recovery alone, not to mention the much-reduced time and mess of the cleaning process itself.

Next week we will tackle the 24" saw, in which we will continue to use



Good Investment

**Meteor Shower** - April's Lyrid meteors are coming up soon, bringing an end to the meteor-drought that occurs each year between January and mid-April.

**Predicted peak:** April 22, 2022, at midnight.

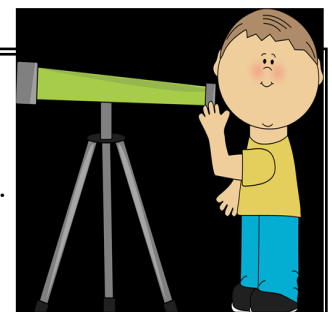
**When to watch:** Watch late evening until moonrise, nights of April 21-22 and 22-23.

**Duration of shower:** April 15 to April 29.

**Radiant:** Rises before midnight, highest in the sky at dawn. See chart below.

**Nearest moon phase:** In 2022, last quarter is 11:56 UTC on April 23. So the predawn hours of 2022's Lyrid shower are washed in moonlight. But – on the nights of April 21 and 22 – there's a window of time from late evening until moonrise, during which you might see some Lyrid meteors in 2022. Expected meteors at peak, under ideal conditions: In a dark sky with no moon, you might see 10 to 15 Lyrids per hour.

<https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/earthskys-meteor-shower-guide/#geminids>



*Keep looking up*





## Future Rockhounds of America Thursday March 24th, 6:00pm

**Hello Future Rockhounds!**

The Future Rockhounds (previously Pebble Pups) is a program for youngsters to learn more about the world around us, concentrating on rocks, minerals, fossils, and geology. We offer field trips, most recently to the Minkin Fossil Tracksite at Jasper AL, and more are in the works. Interested Future Rockhounds (children and grands of members, ages 8 to 18 years old) are welcome to come join us to investigate and discover rocks, minerals, gems and fossils. More information about the Future Rockhounds of America program can be found at:

<https://www.juniors.amfed.org/fra-badge-program>.

**We can't wait to see you there! Bring your Friends.**

**Your Rock Hound Leadership Team**

**Karen Allen—** [karenhsv@gmail.com](mailto:karenhsv@gmail.com)

**Mike Harrison -** [campcraft.mike@gmail.com](mailto:campcraft.mike@gmail.com)

**Dee Morton -** [deemorton@hotmail.com](mailto:deemorton@hotmail.com)



Rocks & Minerals



Field Trips

### Steven Minkin Tracksite April 9, 2022



Dee Dee & Dahlia



Eric, Dahlia & William



Daniel & Kyler

Splitting ancient shales hunting 330 million year old reptile footprints, tree parts, roots, and ferns at the Steven Minkin Paleozoic Tracksite near Jasper AL. The Alabama Paleontological Society hosted this event for the Future Rockhounds group, and we are grateful to Prescott Atkinson and Ashley Allen for making it possible. We didn't find a lot of tracks but we broke a lot of rocks under a cool dry sun. Great trip!

**Our next field trip will be to Russell Cave National Monument May 28th.** We will discover the cave history and explore how local rocks and minerals like clay and flint were used and try our hand at making tools, too. GPS 34.9795132, -85.8101544 or 34° 58' 45.28", 85° 48' 36.49"

**Russell Cave,**

Also at our May gathering we will be working on badge #2 which is about minerals around the house. The Class assignment is to list all the things they see that are made from minerals or rocks in their home. They may be surprised at how many they can find.





## Brad's Bench Tips

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon [www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://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.



## COLORING EPOXY

There are two ways to add color when you are using epoxies. The first is to add a powdered material like colored chalk, charcoal, or powdered colors from an art supply store. One that I particularly like is a set of pastel glitter powders. A second way is to add a liquid pigment like nail polish, model airplane paint, or tinting pigments from a marine supplies store.

In preparing epoxy for use, the important things are to use exactly equal parts of the two components and to thoroughly mix them together. Coloring material can be added at any time. If I'm making just a small amount, I squeeze out equal sized droplets onto a piece of scrap paper or aluminum foil and mix thoroughly with a toothpick.

To mix larger amounts of epoxy, I use a gram scale to weigh the first component. Then I zero the scale and weigh out the same amount of the second component, add coloring if needed, and mix.

If you are using 5-minute epoxy, the mixing needs to move quickly. But I like to work carefully when adding color. So I squeeze out equal sized droplets side by side on the scrap paper. Then I work with just one of the droplets to add the colors. The 5-minute clock only starts when you mix in the second droplet.



## TRY A TOOTHPICK

The round, stronger toothpicks have a multitude of uses on the jewelry bench. I use them for mixing epoxy resin, for applying paste solder, and with Zam for polishing in tight spots.

Toothpicks are also handy for holding a small faceted stone while setting it. Just break off the sharp tip, mold a little beeswax over it, and press it onto the table of your stone.

## June 25th Picnic, Monte Sano Park in Huntsville

Keep in mind the upcoming June Picnic, where we will enjoy good food, great fellowship, and a wonderful location in the historic Monte Sano State Park, high atop Monte Sano Mountain. This is also an opportunity for members to bring and sell their treasures, with no fee collected by the Club. More details next month.



## Mineral of the Month – Staurolite *By Leslie A. Malakowsky*



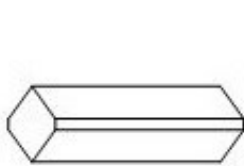
Cross-shape twinning  
(in matrix)

This month's mineral was chosen because of its unique shape. Staurolite is an aluminum silicate mineral with the formula  $\text{Fe}^{2+}_2\text{Al}_9\text{O}_6(\text{SiO}_4)_4(\text{O},\text{OH})_2$ . In this formula, magnesium (Mg), zinc (Zn), and manganese (Mn) can substitute for *ferrous* iron ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ), and *ferric* iron ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ) can substitute for aluminum (Al) and still be considered staurolite. Other members of this group include topaz, kyanite, and dumortierite.

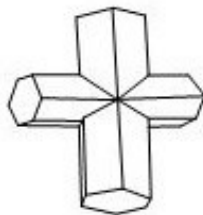
Staurolite ranges in color from yellow/orange brown, red brown, black brown, to black, and (rarely) blue. It has a white streak with a Mohs hardness of 7 (as hard as quartz) to 7.5 (harder than quartz but softer than topaz). But the most distinctive physical characteristic is its crystal form or *habit*. Staurolite crystals are prismatic in shape, and they often occur *twinned*. Twinning happens when two or more crystals of the same mineral share some of the same crystal lattice points as they grow resulting in a tight bond along a common surface called a *twin plane*. Other minerals display twinning, but only staurolite forms a characteristic cross shape called *cruciform penetration twinning*. This shape is reminiscent (in the Christian faith) of Christ's crucifixion. The name "staurolite" was derived from the Greek words *stauros*, meaning *cross*, and *lithos*, meaning *stone* in reference to this twinning. Small staurolite crosses are commonly known as "fairy crosses", particularly in Virginia.

This mineral is one of the *index minerals* that geologists use to estimate the temperatures, depths, and pressures at which rocks undergo *regional* metamorphism – the transformation of existing rocks to rocks with different chemical compositions and textures due to increased temperatures and pressures over large areas. Staurolite occurs with almandine garnet, micas, kyanite, and other minerals in regional metamorphic rocks such as gneiss and schist.

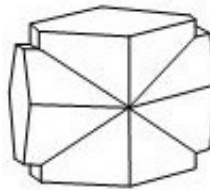
Staurolite is most commonly found in Georgia, where it's the official state mineral, and in Virginia, particularly in Fairy Stone State Park. Within the park, you can find staurolite crystals in the following shapes:



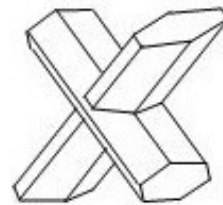
Single



Roman



Maltese



St. Andrews

## ***Rocks are Back***

### **Memphis Mineral Fossil Jewelry Show "The Earth Wide Open"**

*Sponsored by the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society*

Saturday, April 23 9-6:00 and Sunday, April 24 10-5, **901-490-3575**

Memphis International Agricenter  
7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, TN, 38120  
Adults \$5.00, 2-day pass \$8.00  
Children 12 & under \$2.00. Scouts in uniform free,

<https://earthwideopen.wixsite.com/rocks>

wixsite.com email

[info@theearthwideopen.com](mailto:info@theearthwideopen.com).



Grand Door Prize

### **Memphis Rock Banquet**







## 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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An Official Field Trip of the Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Florence, MS) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society (Huntsville AL)

Bayou Pierre, Hazlehurst, Copiah County, MS

Saturday, May 14, 2022, 8 a.m. Central Time.

Registration Required - No Fee

**TRIP:** The Bayou Pierre River is a tributary to the Mississippi River, joining the mighty muddy near Port Gibson. The May 14 field trip site is on the eastern portion of the river. Don't be misled by the name "Bayou." It's a free flowing river. Native Americans lived in villages near the river before European settlers migrated to the area.

**COLLECTING:** Extensive deposits of Citronelle Formation gravel are exposed in the streambed and along the banks of the Bayou Pierre River as it meanders through rural Copiah County, Mississippi. Expect to find agates, petrified wood, fossil brachiopods, bryozoans, coral, crinoid stems and other gravel.

**BRING:** Bring lunch and plenty of water. Bring a bucket, backpack or bags in which to collect rocks. A garden wagon or bucket on wheels will make it easier to haul your collected rocks back to your vehicle. Bring a lightweight chair and beach umbrella for shade during breaks. Wear shoes or boots suited for walking on sand and, if you go near the river bank, mud. Bring sunscreen and insect repellent, and wear a hat. There are no facilities at the river.

**BOUNDARIES:** This location is private property. There's 20 acres of gravel and sand to hunt. The point where we will enter the gravel bar is near the property line on the left side. The boundary on the right is a bluff a long way down the river. Please DON'T cross the river. Someone else owns the land across the river. We don't have permission to go there. Please respect all property boundaries.

**TERRAIN/SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** It's the participant's responsibility to monitor weather conditions for the hunt area the morning of the trip and decide whether to go. Participants will walk along an ATV trail through the woods to the river. One truck will haul ice chests and gear to the gravel bar if the trail is not too muddy. It gets hot on the gravel bar. Please stay well hydrated and be careful not to overheat. Ask for help if heat stress becomes a problem. There is not much shade. If you seek shade among the willows, beware that there may be snakes.

**REGISTRATION:** Advance registration is required. Click [HERE](#) for the registration form. Please provide a "day-of-trip" phone number when registering. If you have trouble or need to cancel, please let MGMS President Vonda Echols know by sending E-mail to [fieldtrips@missgems.org](mailto:fieldtrips@missgems.org) or call or text 601-259-8801.

**CHILDREN:** Children must be at least 6 years old and supervised by a relative at all times. The hunt site is beside a river. Please keep close watch on children around the river at all times. The current is swift.

**PETS:** No pets, please.

**FACILITIES:** There are no restroom facilities at the site. Recommend taking a restroom break at the meeting location.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** No firearms allowed. Contact a club member for recommendations about lodging accommodations.

**DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:** Registered attendees will receive directions via email.

**CONTACT:** Register with Vonda Echols, 601-259-8801, [fieldtrips@missgems.org](mailto:fieldtrips@missgems.org)

## April Birthdays

4 Anne Deikman	19 Thelia DeMoor
4 I Shine McFarland	19 Bill Lokken
4 Ryan McNeal	20 Jan Edmunds
11 Leslie Malakowsky	22 Phil Cauthen
11 Anita Owen	23 Bill Friday
15 Carolyn Johnson	27 Don Aldridge
	30 Shirley Bruce

## Anniversaries

6 Joe & Sherrie Bonin  
7 Myra Soroczak  
8 Phil Cauthen



April  
Diamond

## May Birthdays

5 Bailey Schirmer	22 Mike Chivers
5 Myra Soroczak	25 Maureen Priddy
6 Phil Lester	27 Chris Kalange
14 Joe Bonin	29 Ruth Finckenor
16 Mike Curran	30 Jim Treadway
17 Jeff Finckenor	31 Raymond Tanner

## Anniversaries

1 Deborah & John Wright  
6 John & Julie McCullough  
13 Kathy & Buddy Wilson  
17 Gerdy & David Wyatt  
18 Mike & Anne Wesley  
23 Greg & Anita Blunier  
29 David & Diana O'Dell



May  
Emerald

### The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education , 7901 Bailey Cove Rd. SE, Huntsville AL 35802

Metal Smithing Instructors: Shelley Curran, Kathy Bowman, Jan Edmunds

Lapidary: Bill Friday, Michael Cape, James Yack, Bruce Kowalczyk, Anthony Zwilling, Shady Sanchez

Rocket City Jewelers: Judy Osmundson, Theresa Chivers, Leslie Malakowsky

Future Rockhounds: Karen Allen, Mike Harrison, Dee Morton

Monday	Metal Smithing	5:30pm - 9:00pm
	Lapidary	Except May 2nd, 1st Monday each month 9:45am-2:00pm
	Lapidary	5:30pm - 9:00pm
Tuesday	Lapidary	9:00am - 2:00pm, 6:00pm - 9:00pm
	HGMS Meetings	6:00pm - 9:00 4th Tuesdays
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
	Future Rockhounds	6:00 4th Thursdays
Friday	Lapidary	6:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday	Metal Smithing	9:00am - 3:00pm irregular 1st Saturday of the Month
	Lapidary	9:00am - 2:00pm



**2022 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD**President– Anthony Zwilling - [afzwillling@gmail.com](mailto:afzwillling@gmail.com)Vice President - Bill Friday - [bill.Friday@earthlink.net](mailto:bill.Friday@earthlink.net)Recording Secretary: James Yack - [jamesgyack@gmail.com](mailto:jamesgyack@gmail.com)Treasurer: Clara Goode, 256-883-9194 - [claragoode1@comcast.net](mailto:claragoode1@comcast.net)Newsletter Editor: Bill Friday - 256-527-8227 - [bill.friday@earthlink.net](mailto:bill.friday@earthlink.net)**Past President: Mike Harrison** - [campcraft.mike@gmail.com](mailto:campcraft.mike@gmail.com)

Directors at Large:

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**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 \$20.00 per person, \$25.00 per family, and are due on January 1st of each year

Membership Applications may be found at our webpage [www.Huntsvillegms.org](http://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: 4th 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: DMC:** <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm>

**SFMS:** <https://www.southeastfed.org/newsletter> - new, under construction

**AFMS:** [www.amfed.org/news/default.htm](http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm)



## 2022 CALENDAR

- 26 Apr'22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 24 May'22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 25 Jun '22 (Saturday) Annual Picnic and Rock Swap 8:00am to 4:30pm  
Huntsville Monte Sano State Park, Trailhead Pavilion
- 26 Jul '22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 23 Aug'22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 22 Sep '22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 14-16 Oct '22 Fall Gem Jewelry & Mineral Show  
Jaycee Building, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville AL
- 25 Oct '22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 22 Nov'22 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm



Deadline for Next Newsletter  
May 15, 2022

**Dated material  
Do not delay**

April 2022

Rocket City Rocks & Gems  
Bill Friday, Editor  
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