

# ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 56 No. 10

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

November 2024

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## Meeting November 26, 2024, 6:00pm - Where to Hunt for local Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils

HGMS Education Center, 7901 Bailey Cove Rd, Hsv AL

North Alabama isn't blessed with lots of local minerals, but we have a few, and plenty of rocks and fossils. Learn where you can go to find them.



## Christmas Dinner

**December 9th (Monday this year)**

We have decided to try a Potluck Christmas Meal this year. We will meet in the Education Center Big Room, opening at 5:30, dining at 6:15. Bring a soup, salad, bread, or dessert. Drinks will be provided. Bring an exchange gift if you wish (marked for men or women). Plenty of room and free parking, no tips, delicious food, great fellowship (Bring a Guest).

Web Page - [www.huntsvillegms.org/](http://www.huntsvillegms.org/) email - [hsvgems@gmail.com](mailto:hsvgems@gmail.com)



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## CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS for William Holland and Wildacres Art Schools

Anyone interested in applying for one of the three Club \$300 scholarships should send Shelley Curran an email at [hsvgems@gmail.com](mailto:hsvgems@gmail.com) no later than midnight of December 6th. Winners will be drawn at our Christmas party on December 9th. You don't have to be present to win, **One is reserved for Class Instructors.**

Scholarships are available to members in good standing and may be used toward continuing education at William Holland or Wildacres. Reimbursement will be made when a paid receipt from the school is presented to the Club treasurer.

<https://wildacres.org/>

<https://lapidaryschoolregistration.org/>



**Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society Meeting Minutes, Oct 22, 2024**, opened at 6:30 by new President Shelley Curran, who recently replaced Mike Harrison. Thanks Mike for excellent service. 35 attendees.

Voting for four open Board Director slots results: James Mallonee, Doug Blakeslee, Ashley Pool, James Yack. Gene Powers. Les Bartel retired as a Director - many thanks for your service.

Theresa Chivers moved from Director to Membership Chair.

Other Board members were confirmed with no competition - Shelley Curran, President; Anthony Zwilling, Vice President; Deb Epperson, Recording Secretary; Theresa Chivers, Treasurer; Bill Friday, Newsletter Editor, Mike Harrison, Past President. All members present voted in favor of these, none opposed.

Sincere Thanks to all of these volunteer members who have accepted roles to lead us through 2025.

Discussion - We need written job descriptions for Committee Chairs - if members knew what they were going to need to do in each position they might be more inclined to accept the jobs, and for ones who did accept the positions they would be starting out knowing what was required.

Kari Mackay volunteered to handle advertising for the Fall Show.

Thank you to Theresa Chivers for new Fall Show scavenger hunt where the items to find were located in vendor booths, and kids would converse with vendor about what they were selling and receive a token prize from each. Previously the kids found posters throughout the room containing a number matching the sheet they carried, and the answer to a question on the sheet was on the poster.

Thank Judy Osmundson for the amazing black cloth pop-up tent containing the display cases with fluorescent rocks, a great improvement over the big pvc frame covered with black plastic that we have used for years, and which had a pipe across the entrance that created a serious trip hazard - not a problem with the new tent. Besides the new tent was erected in ten minutes by three people where the old one needed six people on ladders and almost an hour to assemble, with 50' feet of black plastic discarded every year. Note: the fluorescent rock tent needs a fan because of the heat generated by the fluorescent light fixtures.

New member introductions - There were twelve: Amber Hart, William Burrus, Annette Burrus, Kari Mackay, Evan Mackay, Emma Mackay, Kaitlyn Mathews, Joseph Mathews, Alexis Quinn, Royal Ritchey, Mauri Heath, & Markus Gross

Treasurers Report - As of Sept 30, 2024 - The Club General Budget acct \$5,047.

Lapidary - new intarsia machine obtained from Louise Fletcher, who has scheduled a class for Nov 12 & 19 to teach how to use it to make jewelry.

Metals Kathy Bowman - spinner ring class upcoming

RJC Leslie Malakowsky - everything she described is in the newsletter

Pups - opals - fossils - double refraction in calcite crystals - Thurs Oct 24, 6:30.

Meeting adjourned 7:45.

Deb Epperson, acting Recording Secretary

### Lapidary Holiday Closing

The Lapidary Lab (not the Education Center in general) will be closed Thanksgiving week, November 25th, 27th, and 29th. Lab also will be closed December 23rd & 30th.

The Lab will be open Tuesdays from 9am to 2pm on Nov 19, 26, Dec 3, 10, and 17 - closed Dec 24 & 31.



### Shelley Curran, President

There's been a few things of note happening since last month.

We had our first intarsia class, taught by Louise Fletcher. The class was full with four attendees. The Club owns one intarsia machine and one flat lap and sharing among four people went well. A great start was made on student pieces. The second part of the class will be held later, with more classes in the future.

**Big change in the Christmas dinner this year.** We decided to hold it on a Monday here at the Ed Center. The reason behind this is because Carrabba's went from free to \$300.00 just to make our reservations. So, we are having a Potluck Dinner on December 9th from 6-8:30 here. Keeping it simple we're asking members to bring soup, salad, bread or desert. We will still do a gift exchange for those wishing to participate.

The updated Constitution and ByLaws, approved by the Board of Directors for members to review and vote for comment and/or acceptance at the November 26th Meeting.

And last but not least the Auction will be Saturday March 22nd. Save the date. Here's hoping everyone has a fabulous thanksgiving with family and friends and has much to be thankful for.  
Shelley



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

### INTRODUCTION to METAL CORRUGATION.

Monday 2nd \*

Thursday 5th

\* please note change in days.

Tools and Materials. Kit cost: \$6.00

Micro fold brake

Sterling silver sheet, 32 g

Copper sheet, 28 g

Copper and silver wire, 20 g



Corrugation is yet another way to give texture and form to your metal. Since corrugation greatly strengthens the metal ( think cardboard box ) you can use a much thinner gauge of metal. A thinner gauge of metal translates to less expense.

We'll do some simple corrugating. The kit will have enough metal to make a pair of earrings or a pendant in silver and also in copper. Also some copper sheet to texture for future projects.

**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. Our class page is HGMS Metalsmithing Group.

The link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/438777169648170>

### Volunteer Positions \*

Class Instructors:

Kathy Bowman  
Shelley Curran  
Jan Edmunds (Monday AM)

Tools/Equipment Inventory

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.**



## Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News

November 2024

RCJ is open to all HGMS members 16 and older. All skill levels are welcome! No certification is required, but experience using jewelry tools is a plus. We offer one class a month with 4 opportunities to finish the project. **Note: There are 2 remaining opportunities to finish the Wire-Wrapped Shimmerstone Cab: Nov 20<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 5p and/or Nov 20<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 9p.**

**November: Wire-Wrapped Black “Shimmerstone” Cab.**

**Nov 20: Make Up Marathon: 2 – 5p, dinner break, 6 – 9p.**

**Nov 27: No meeting. Happy Thanksgiving!**

**December:**

**Dec 4: 6 – 9p, finish up. Bring any project(s) you want to finish before the Christmas break.**

**Dec 11: Christmas party. Watch for email from Judy with details. Plan to bring a salad or a dessert and a gift (\$15 limit) for the “Bring One/Get One” gift exchange.**

**Dec 18, 25, and Jan 1: No meetings. Merry Christmas! Classes resume on Jan 8.**

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025 classes are here!** To sign up for a class, please email Theresa at [rocketcityjewelers@gmail.com](mailto:rocketcityjewelers@gmail.com) a month before class. Include your name, contact info, and the class(es) you want. You can also sign up at RCJ meetings and monthly HGMS meetings.

### 2025 - 1st quarter RCJ Class lineup

 <p><b>Jan - 7" tall TOL on stone, copper</b> BYO - Rock chips drilled for 24g wire and a fist sized rock to mount tree on Kit = Copper wire provided</p>	 <p><b>Feb - Japanese bracelet (EC gold)</b> Kit = will have Gold toned Enameled Copper rings and clasp.</p>	 <p><b>March - links and beads chain bracelet and/or pendant</b> BYO - 6mm beads or crystals for bracelet and/or pendant. If making a pendant, BYO 4-6mm beads and 1 15 - 20mm coin bead for center. Kit = copper wire and clasp</p>
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**January: 7" Standing Tree of Life (TOL) on a Rock. Hot glue or adhesive provided.**

**Jan 8 & 27: 6 – 9p, class and make up.**

**Jan 15 & 29: 2 – 5p, class and make up.**

**February: Japanese Weave Chainmaille Bracelet.**

**Feb 5 & 19: 6 – 9p, class and make up.**

**Feb 12 & 26: 2 – 5p, class and make up.**

**March: Links Bracelet and/or Flower Pendant. Choose from one of the styles shown.**

**Mar 5 & 19: 6 – 9p, class and make up.**

**Mar 12 & 26: 2 – 5p, class and make up.**

**HGMS memberships dues are due now. If anyone didn't pay their dues before or at the show please mail them in to me or bring them to the meeting, please?**

Thanks, Theresa - Membership Chairman



## Pebble Pups - Thursday October 24, 6:30 - at the Education Center

Hey Pups and Parents!

### Intro

Badges awarded

Other reminders as necessary

Pebble Pups will be meeting Thursday, November 21st at 6:30pm. Since there will not be a December meeting, we will be learning about both the November and December birthstones: citrine and turquoise. Kids will also be making a snowflake pendant! We have been working hard on planning the Pebble Pups activities for 2025 and we think you will be excited with what is coming! More details will be provided soon.

Save the date for the Pebble Pups Christmas Party. It will be held on Thursday, December 19th at 6:30pm in the main room. More details will be provided at the November meeting and an email will be sent to all Pebble Pup families.

Several of our members helped with the Fall HGMS Show. Their assistance was valuable and very welcomed. They were Maxwell Sager, Jack Miller, Elijah Brown, Robert Scott, Phoebe Scott, William Ellison, Dahlia Ellison, Charlie Hadder, Ellie Smith, Charlotte Stanfield, Eden Student, Evan Mackay, and Emma Mackay, plus their ever supportive parents (if I've left out anyone, please let us know). These are now eligible for the AFMS Future Rockhound Leadership Badge.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need anything further.

Suzanne Miller, our new Leader

Your Pups Leadership Team, - Angela, Kendall, Theresa, Dee Dee, Bill, Matthew, Jeff, and Mike

Thanks Mike for your stellar leadership for many years, and best wishes in your new Georgia home.



Lapidary Arts



Rocks & Minerals



## Stone Intarsia Class — Off to a Great Start

2nd Session: Tuesday Nov 19th – 9:00 to 3:00

Louise Fletcher - Instructor

The first class includes Nannette Schwartz, Doug Blakeslee, Shelley Curran, and Ronnie Clark

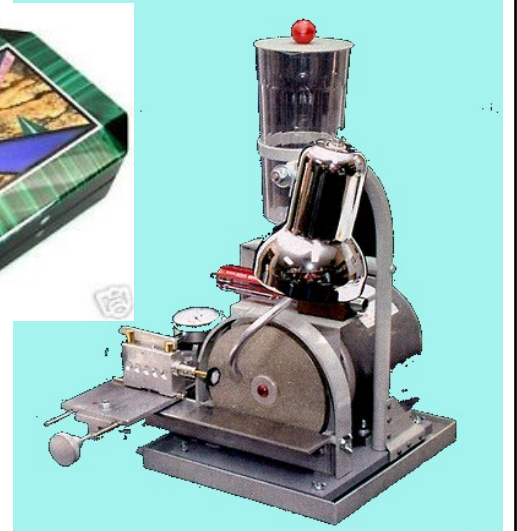
They are off to a great start, each creating an intricate intarsia jewel. This class ends this week, but there will be more future classes as members apply, and we already have a waiting list.

Maximum 4 per class

Cost \$20/student for Consumables including tools, glue, epoxy, and stone\*

Requires prior certification on slab & trim saws, flat lap (available before class), grinding wheels  
\*bring your own stone if so desired.

All stones within a piece must be the same hardness



## Mineral of the Month – Bornite - By Leslie A. Malakowsky



Aurora borealis over Meridianville, AL. Photo: WAAY TV Channel 31.

This month's mineral was inspired by the colorful lights recently visible in North Alabama night skies. The aurora borealis (also known as the *northern lights*) is a natural light display resulting from disturbances in the Earth's *magnetosphere*, the region of space surrounding Earth in which charged particles are affected by Earth's magnetic field. The Sun released powerful streams of charged particles (solar wind) that disrupted Earth's magnetosphere several times this year. On at least two of those occasions, the resulting lights were visible as far south as North Alabama.

Bornite is a sulfide mineral with the chemical formula  $\text{Cu}_5\text{FeS}_4$ . It occurs widely in porphyritic copper deposits meaning that copper ore formed from hydrothermal fluids from a magma chamber *below* older porphyritic (consisting of coarse-grained crystals dispersed in a fine-grained matrix) igneous rocks. Bornite can also be found in mafic (rich in magnesium and iron) igneous rocks, in contact metamorphic coarse-grained rocks, in pegmatites (igneous rocks with large interlocking crystals) and in copper-rich sedimentary rocks.

The amount of copper (Cu) and iron (Fe) can vary. A *solid solution* (homogeneous mixing of two or more elements in hydrothermal fluids) can occur potentially creating another sulfide mineral called chalcopyrite ( $\text{CuFeS}_2$ ). Sometimes the solution can become unstable, for example, due to a lower temperature. When that happens, *exsolution* can occur in which chalcopyrite separates from the solution and forms small bubble-like inclusions (called *blebs*) within bornite or small plates or flakes (called *lamellae*) on bornite.

This mineral crystallizes in the orthorhombic system so crystals commonly form as rectangular prisms. It can also occur in granular, massive, pseudocubic, dodecahedral, and octahedral crystal habits. Bornite has a grayish-black streak and a Mohs hardness of 3 – 3.25, which is as hard as calcite, but not quite as hard as a copper penny.

When it's fresh, its color ranges from copper-red to bronze-brown to black. Gradually, with exposure to air, the surface tarnishes to beautiful iridescent shades of pink, blue, and purple. Chalcopyrite can tarnish, too, producing "peacock" colors, but fresh chalcopyrite is brassy yellow, has a greenish-black streak, and is harder than bornite with a Mohs hardness of 3.5 – 4, harder than calcite and as hard as fluorite.

Bornite was first discovered in 1725

in the Ore Mountains in what is now the Czech Republic. Originally, this mineral was given various Latin names that were translated in 1802 to "purple copper ore" and "variegated copper ore". In 1845, the mineral was renamed *bornite* by Austrian mineralogist Wilhelm von Haidinger (1795-1871) in honor of his predecessor, Ignaz von Born (1742-1791). Today, bornite is nicknamed *peacock copper* or *peacock ore* due to its striking iridescence.

This mineral is an important copper ore having a copper content of about 63 percent by mass, but chalcopyrite is the most abundant copper ore and is more common than bornite. Bornite is found worldwide in igneous and metamorphic rocks with notable localities in Southeast Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Russia, and Australia, and in Connecticut and Montana in the United States. Both bornite and chalcopyrite make nice shelf specimens (especially if you're wowed by the peacock colors), and both are used in jewelry making.

References: [wikipedia.com](http://wikipedia.com), [mindat.org](http://mindat.org)



Bornite crystals



Tarnished bornite



Fresh chalcopyrite

**CONSTITUTION OF THE HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.****ARTICLE I****NAME:**

The name of this organization shall be the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, Inc., also known as the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society and the Gem and Mineral Society, hereinafter referred to as the "Society". The Society is incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)(7) organization under Title 10 of the Corporate Law of the State of Alabama.

**ARTICLE II****PURPOSE:**

The Society is a non-profit, hobby organization devoted to:

1. Teaching its members and others in the arts of rock and mineral collecting, lapidary and jewelry skills, and related subjects.
2. Collecting, identifying, and processing rocks, minerals, gem materials, and fossils
3. Studying and increasing popular interest and knowledge in rocks, mineralogy, geology, paleontology, lapidary arts, jewelry, and related subjects.
4. Providing opportunity for purchasing, exchanging, and exhibiting the various materials and products of the hobby.

**ARTICLE III****OFFICERS:**

The Officers of the Society shall be:

President  
Vice President  
Recording Secretary  
Treasurer

**ARTICLE IV****EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

The elected Executive Board of the Society shall consist of:

President  
Vice President  
Recording Secretary  
Treasurer  
Membership Chair  
Newsletter Editor

Directors At Large, in number to bring the Board to nine (9) voting members.  
Immediate past President in an advisory role, and is a non-voting position.

**ARTICLE V****COMMITTEES:**

Committee positions will be defined by the Executive Board to organize various activities of the club. Potential committee positions are identified in the Society bylaws.

**ARTICLE VI****AMENDMENTS:**

The Constitution and/or By-Laws may be amended, supplemented, repealed, or otherwise altered, provided that there is an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board and, provided that their recommendation is transmitted in writing to the voting General Membership at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which the membership approval is sought. Approval shall be authorized by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of voting General Membership present at the meeting.

**ARTICLE VII****DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY:**

In the event of an affirmative vote to dissolve the Society, it shall be handled in accordance with Section 10A-3-7.01 of the Code of Alabama pertaining to 501(c)(7) non-profit organizations and any amendments thereto. The Society may be dissolved by two-thirds (2/3) of the voting General Membership approving, providing that such proposed action is recommended by the Executive Board and that the recommendation to dissolve has been transmitted in writing to each voting member at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which a decision is sought. The recommendation to dissolve shall include a plan for disposal of all Society assets.

**BY-LAWS – HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.****ARTICLE I****MEMBERSHIP:**

Types of Membership in the Society: Regular Single, Regular Family and Life Members.

1. Members are those who have expressed their desire to affiliate with the Society, and who have paid dues, as an individual or as a family for the current year. Members shall abide by the rules of the Society. Membership includes access to all the various activities supported by the Society and approved by the Board. Single membership dues cover one person. Family membership must all live in one household except may include grandchildren outside the home whose parents aren't members, and active college students whose primary residence when not in school is in their parents' home.

The Membership Year shall be from October 1st to September 30th. Dues are payable as of October 1st, and if not paid by December 31st, the member shall be removed from the membership roll. Reinstatement shall be available to the member after that date upon payment of the full year's dues. New members joining after January 1st shall pay dues to the end of the Membership Year.

Dues adjustments are set by the Board as needed and as approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting where the vote is taken.

2. Life Members are those who have been active members of the Society for twenty-five (25) or more years. They have full privileges within the Society, but do not pay annual dues.

3. Dependent family members under age eighteen (18) may attend meetings and may participate in Society activities as appropriate to the activity function, and when accompanied by an adult member of their family. They may not vote on Society matters.

4. Members shall treat each other civilly at all club events and activities. Members causing disruptions to club events and activities may be asked to leave by any Board Member, Committee Chair, or the activity Lead. Any member who does repeatedly disrupts event and activities or repeatedly disrespects other members is subject to revocation of their membership, forfeiting any dues paid.

**ARTICLE II****DUTIES AND TENURE OF THE OFFICERS AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD****1. THE PRESIDENT SHALL:**

- a. Preside at all meetings of the Society and the Executive Board.
- b. Appoint Chairmen of all Standing and Ad Hoc Committees.
- c. Appoint a Nominating Committee in July to recruit and present a slate of Executive Board Members for the upcoming year.
- d. Appoint a Show Chairman, prior to the upcoming Gem & Mineral Show, to serve as next year's Gem & Mineral Show Chairman.
- e. Administer the approved budget for the Society, including overseeing requested amendments.
- f. Brief the President-Elect on the status of the Society including, but not limited to finances; issues; policies; and procedures.
- g. Perform such other duties as are customary to the office.
- h. The tenure of the President's office shall be one (1) year and may be elected for two (2) consecutive terms.

**2. THE VICE PRESIDENT SHALL:**

- a. Preside at meetings and perform all the duties of the President in absence of the President or because of inability to serve.
- b. Work with the President to develop activities which provide community outreach and improve the quality of the Society.
- c. The tenure of the office for the Vice-President shall be one (1) year and may be elected for two (2) consecutive terms.

**3. THE RECORDING SECRETARY SHALL:**

- a. Keep accurate and permanent minutes of the proceedings of all Society and Executive Board meetings. Present the minutes for the Newsletter and at General Meetings.
- b. Receive, compile, and retain official historical information concerning the Society's activities and its members.
- c. Maintain the primary copy of the Society Constitution and Bylaws.
- d. Receive, tally, and report proxy and absentee votes, and maintain vote records for one (1) year.
- e. The tenure of the office shall be one (1) year and may be re-elected.



**4. THE TREASURER SHALL:**

- a. Keep an accurate and permanent record and make disbursements of all receipts of the Society.
- b. Financial records shall be kept for three (3) years and then destroyed.
- c. Keep all funds, except for a minimal amount of petty cash, in a bank approved by the Executive Board.
- d. Work with the Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons to solicit input to a proposed Budget for the year. Present this proposed Budget to the November Executive Board meeting for adjustment and approval, and for approval by the General Membership at the November meeting.
- e. Submit Federal tax returns and pay Show taxes on Show vendor receipts.
- f. The Treasurer shall not be required to post a surety bond.
- g. Take care of signatory paperwork for new officers.
- h. The tenure of the office of Treasurer shall be one (1) year and may be re-elected.

**5. THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR SHALL:**

- a. Prepare, publish, and distribute to the Members as paper and/or electronic copies of a monthly Newsletter of the Society activities and information. Other Societies, visitors, etc., may receive exchange newsletters at the discretion of the Editor.
- b. Encourage Members to develop and submit articles relevant to the Society Purpose for publication in the Society Newsletter.
- c. Exchange Newsletters and communicate with other Societies and the Federations of all actions pertaining to activities of mutual interest.
- d. Maintain a backup of the primary copy of the Society Constitution and Bylaws.
- e. The tenure of the Newsletter Editor shall be one (1) year and may be re-elected.

**6. THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN SHALL:**

- a. Receive and record all new and renewal Society memberships, issuing membership cards and information about the activities of the Society to new members,
- b. Maintain the Official Membership Record and publish the list to the Executive Board and Committee Chairs regularly.
- c. Introduce new members and visitors at Membership Meetings.
- d. The tenure of the Membership Chair shall be one (1) year and may be re-elected.

**7. THE DIRECTORS AT LARGE SHALL:**

- a. Attend all Executive Board meetings. Remain cognizant of all Society matters which require Executive Board attention and action and be prepared to vote when called upon.
- b. The tenure of Directors At Large shall be one (1) year and may be re-elected.

**8. THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT SHALL:**

Be available during the one year following the end of tenure to advise the current President and other new Board members as to how the Society has been organized and managed.

**9. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SHALL:**

- a. Have general supervision of the Society between its business meetings. It shall take executive action on items of business within the framework of the Constitution and By-Laws. It is the intent of the Society to grant power to the Executive Board to transact Society business to minimize the time required for such during the monthly Membership meetings.
- b. Meet at least quarterly at a time and place set by the President. Special meetings may be called at the request of three (3) members of the Executive Board.
- c. Report all decisions, actions, and recommendations made during Executive Board meetings for Society approval by publishing in the Society Newsletter. Exception to full reporting can be waived by the Executive Board to protect member privacy.
- d. Review and recommend approval of the Society Budget for the following fiscal year.
- e. Request approval from the Society Membership for any budget amendments more than \$800 above the approved relevant budget line.
- f. Fill vacancies in any elected office for the remainder of the term.
- g. Take disciplinary action against any officer for dereliction of duty or any member of the Society for conduct detrimental to the welfare or reputation of the Society. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the entire Executive Board is required to effect disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the Society. The parties involved shall have the option to present their case to the Board.
- h. A quorum for the Executive Board is two-thirds (2/3) of the members.

- i. Votes by the Executive Board shall be accepted either in person or in writing - including e-mail and texting. The written votes must be received by 24 hrs. before the meeting at which the in-person vote is taken.
10. If necessary or appropriate for a particular term or period, members of the Executive Board may serve in more than one function, however, in that case, they shall have only one (1) vote on any voting matter, and the number of Directors at Large will be adjusted to maintain the proper number of voting Board members as defined in the Society constitution.

### ARTICLE III

#### **DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEES:**

1. Each Committee Chairman shall submit to the Treasurer prior to the September Executive Board Meeting a projected budget for operation of their area of responsibility for the following year.
2. It shall be the duty of the Program Chairman and Committee to arrange programs for all regularly scheduled Membership Meetings.
3. It shall be the duty of the Field Trip Chairman and Committee to arrange trips to venues relevant to the Society Purpose, and to coordinate trips with other Societies. The Chairman shall keep the Society informed of the new areas, closed areas, and other pertinent trip information.
4. It shall be the duty of the Hospitality Chairman and Committee to receive and communicate opportunities for extending condolences and congratulations to members as appropriate, to arrange for an Annual Picnic, and to arrange for a Vendor/Worker Appreciation meal at the Fall Show.
5. It shall be the duty of the Publicity Chairman to:
  - a. Prepare, publish, and distribute to the news media favorable news stories about the Society and its members.
  - b. Submit notices of meetings and Society activities of public interest to local and area papers and other media outlets.
  - c. Advertise, market, and promote the Annual Show. Coordinate the publicity for the Annual Show through radio and TV announcements and interviews, social media, listings on appropriate regional calendars, submission of show announcements to trade magazines and publications, distribution of flyers by members, and other means to maximize exposure.
6. It shall be the duty of the Website & Social Media Chairman and Committee to manage the Society's webpage and social media outlets.
7. It shall be the duty of the Outreach Chairman and Committee to be the contact for related activities sponsored by Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and other Societies as well as be the contact for speakers at schools, clubs and other interested groups.
8. It shall be the duty of the Property Chairman and Committee to assess, maintain, acquire new, and dispose of old Society property.
9. It shall be the duty of the Auction Chairman and Committee to manage the annual Fundraising Activity (Auction or Yard Sale).
10. It shall be the duty of the Annual Show Chairman and Committees to manage the current year Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Show. The Show Chairman appointed by the current year's President shall serve as Chairman for the following year.
11. It shall be the duty of the Facilities Chairman to support maintaining facilities and common equipment used by the club activity groups and to be the liaison with the City for repairs and services to the Education Center. Facilities include the Education Center and the storage facility. Common equipment includes the club computer, wi-fi devices, and security cameras.
12. It shall be the duty of the Curator Chairman to oversee the acceptance and disbursement of donated items, and the organization of the Society Museum.
13. It shall be the duty of the Education & Craftsmanship to promote quality throughout the Society activities.
14. Other permanent or ad hoc committee positions will be defined as needed at the discretion of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE IV

### MEETINGS AND ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

1. The Society shall hold approximately twelve (12) regular meetings each year, at a time and place to be approved by the Executive Board. Special meetings may be called by the President, or by the request of four (4) Members in good standing, subject to the Membership being notified of the intent and meeting arrangements fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting,
2. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee as defined in Article II, Paragraph 1 of these Bylaws. The Committee will provide a list of Nominees to be published in the August Newsletter and read at the August Society meeting.
3. Election of Executive Board Members shall be at the September meeting and shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting General Membership.
4. Newly elected Executive Board Members shall assume their duties on November 1.
5. Voting by proxy or absentee voting must be done in writing by e-mail or text prior to midnight of the day before the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

## ARTICLE V

### AFFILIATION:

The Society shall be affiliated with the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies Inc. (SFMS) which in turn is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (AFMS).

## ARTICLE VI

### FISCAL YEAR

The Society shall operate on a fiscal year of October 1 to September 30.

**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 October 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**

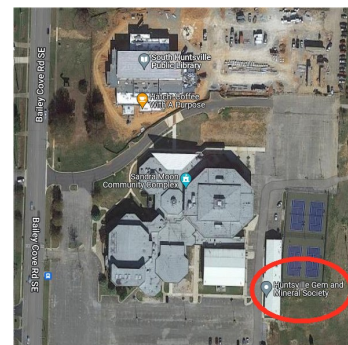
**Federation Newsletters: DMC: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm>**

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

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

The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education, 7901 Bailey Cove Rd. SE, Huntsville AL 35802  
**Metal Smithing/Silver Instructors:** Shelley Curran, Kathy Bowman, Jan Edmunds  
**Lapidary:** Bill Friday, James Yack, Anthony Zwilling, Les Bartel, Theresa Chivers  
**Rocket City Jewelers:** Judy Osmundson, Theresa Chivers, Leslie Malakowsky  
**Pebble Pups:** Suzanne Miller, Angela Mendoza, Theresa Chivers,  
 Dee Dee Morton, Matthew Sager, Bill Friday

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Metal Smithing/Silver</b>	<b>5:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
	<b>Lapidary</b>	<b>1st Monday each month 9:45am-2:00pm (Except Aug and Sep)</b>
	<b>Lapidary</b>	<b>6:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Lapidary</b>	<b>9:00am - 2:00pm</b>
	<b>HGMS Meetings</b>	<b>6:00pm - 8:30pm 4th Tuesdays</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Lapidary</b>	<b>6:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
	<b>Rocket City Jewelers 1st &amp; 3rd Weeks</b>	<b>- 6:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
	<b>Rocket City Jewelers 2nd, 4th, 5th Weeks</b>	<b>- 2:00pm - 5:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Metal Smithing/Silver</b>	<b>5:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
	<b>Pebble Pups</b>	<b>6:30pm 4th Thursdays</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Lapidary</b>	<b>6:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Metal Smithing</b>	<b>9:00am - 3:00pm irregular 1st Saturday of the Month</b>



Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. 43rd Annual

**2024 "Earth Treasures" 2024**

### 2024 Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society

**43rd Annual Earth Treasures - Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show & Sale**

Ag Expo Park, Franklin, TN

4215 Long Lane • Franklin, TN 37064, 20 Miles South of Nashville; I-65, Exit 61

Free Parking

Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, 9 AM—6 PM

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024, 10 AM—5 PM

Admission: Adults, \$6.00 (2-Day Pass, \$10.00) • Students 18 & under, \$1.00

Children under 12 with adult, FREE • Scouts in uniform, FREE

\*OVER 40 DEALERS\*

Classes • Exhibits • Demos

Silent Auction & Door Prizes

• Mineral & Fossil Specimens • Lapidary & Faceting Rough • Slabs

• Cabochons • Gem Stones • Tools & Supplies

For information on classes or location visit:

[www.MTGMS.org/show.htm](http://www.MTGMS.org/show.htm)



**2024 HUNTSVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY****President— Mike Harrison****Vice President - Shelley Curran****Secretary: James Yack****Treasurer: Clara Goode****Editor: Bill Friday****Past President: Anthony Zwillling -****Directors:**

Gene Powers

Les Bartel

Doug Blakeslee

Theresa Chivers

**2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD****President - Shelley Curran****Vice President - Anthony Zwillling****Secretary - Deb Epperson****Treasurer - Theresa Chivers****Newsletter Editor - Bill Friday****Past President - Mike Harrison****Directors:**

Gene Powers -

James Yack

Ashlee Pool

Doug Blakeslee -

**2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS****Property: Bill Friday****Program Chair—Bill Friday****Webpage: Leslie Malakowsky,****Auction Chair: Shelley Curran****Membership: Theresa Chivers****Field Trips: Bill Friday****Hospitality: open****Pebble Pups: Suzanne Miller****Show Chair: Robin Hicks****Show Vendor Chair: Shelley Curran****Assistant Vendor Chair: Jan Edmunds****Show Publicity Chair - Tony Smith****Show Treasurer: Theresa Chivers****Mineral ID: Lowell Zoller****Facility Administrator: Bill Friday**

## 2024 - 25 CALENDAR

- 26 Nov '24 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 9 Dec '24 [**Monday**] - Christmas Dinner Meeting - Potluck @ Education Center, setup 5:30 , dinner 6:00 - 8:30
- 28 Jan '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 25 Feb '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 22 Mar '25 Sat - Annual Rock Sale / Auction - details to be announced
- 22 Apr '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 27 May '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 21 Jun '25 [**Saturday**] - Annual HGMS Picnic, Monte Sano State Park
- 22 Jul '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 26 Aug '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 23 Sep '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center  
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 10-12 Oct '25 - Fall Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Sale - Jaycees Building, Airport Rd
- 28 Oct '25 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center

<p>Deadline for Next Newsletter December 17, 2024</p>
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**Dated material  
Do not delay**

November 2024

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