

ROCKET CITY ROCKS & GEMS



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

Volume 58 #9

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

September 2026

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HGMS Meeting - 22 Sep 2026 - 6:00

Greetings fellow stone enthusiasts! With less than a month until the show. It's hard to believe how quickly time is flying! It will soon be time to enter the drawings for class scholarships. More on that later.

It is once again time to elect officers and board members. At last month's meeting I misspoke about a couple of election matters. After reviewing the bylaws I saw my mistake. The treasurer is an elected position, along with the newsletter editor and membership chair. Therefore, the ballot is on the next page for review.

I look forward to all of the wonderful things we can accomplish together next year!

Jan

Volunteer for the Show!!! [LINK](#)

The access code is "rocks".

Web Page - www.huntsvillegms.org/ email - hsvgems@gmail.com



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HGMS Club Office Candidates

President: Jan Edmunds

Vice president: James Yack

Secretary: Ashlee Poole

Treasurer: Theresa Chivers

Newsletter editor: James Mallonnee

Members at large: (vote for three)

Shelley Curran

Bill Friday

Bob Goble

Carla Johnson

Leslie Malakowski

Mike Sapp

Anthony Zwilling

Membership Dues!!!

Hello all! It's that time again to renew your memberships! Your memberships run from October 1 till September 30. If you signed up before June 2026 you will need to renew your membership at the show, by mail or at the meetings. Membership dues are \$20/individual, \$25/ family (family is considered 2 adults living in the same household and any children under 18). If you are paying by credit card there the dues increase by \$1 each. There will be a \$5 late fee for any renewing memberships starting in January. Thank you for renewing on time!

HGMS Scholarship Opportunities

Every year the Club offers scholarships for continuing education. There are three scholarships this year, each for 300.00 dollars. Two are available to the general membership and one solely for Instructors.

To be eligible you must be a member in good standing, apply before the deadline and not have won in the previous year.

To enter you must send an email stating your wish to enter the drawing to Shelley Curran, curranshelley1@gmail.com. Verbal and text messages will not be considered. The deadline to enter is midnight, November 10th. No exceptions.

The drawing will be held at the November meeting. We will draw for a winner and an alternate. Good Luck everyone!

SFMS is looking for volunteers—to take on officers and committee chairman duties. These positions are open to anyone who is currently a club member in one of their clubs. Like all gem clubs, the Federation is short of volunteers. It does involve travelling to the 3-4 various Federation meetings throughout the SE each year, and then whatever volunteer work that needs to be done. POC: Mike Harrison

Show Display Cases

All the display cases we can currently accommodate on the Show floor (not including the cases at the Information Booth and in the Fluorescent Tent) have been reserved. We may be able to add one or two more to the floor plan. If you want to be added to the waiting list, please see me at the upcoming member meeting on September 22nd, or contact me.

You must fill your display case before the Show opens on Friday, October 9th. If your case is unfilled, and you haven't contacted me, your case will be given to the first person on the waiting list.

Thanks for your cooperation and understanding, Leslie

THE SHOW is ALMOST UPON US! OCTOBER 9th, 10th, 11th

The Show is the Club's main source of income. The monies that we earn from the Show supports the Club's many programs and activities.

It's that time of year again when we need all hands on deck. From setup on Thursday the 8th until tear down Sunday the 11th. There are jobs for everyone. There are sit down jobs, and ones that require more physical effort and also jobs in between.

Thursday: We need people to help with setup and vendor unloading. Building the fluorescent room, flume assembly, display case assembly, vendor dinner, set up, tear down, help get food out and bring food for the potluck dinner.

Friday and Saturday: We have tickets takers, hospitality hosts and hostesses, info booth guides, floor walkers and vendor assistants.

Sunday: All of the above plus tear down and pack out, and helping the vendors pack up and leave.

Volunteer for the Show!!!

There are signup sheets at the meeting or use the online signup: [LINK](#)

The access code is "rocks".

THIS is YOUR CLUB**Show Display Cases**

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Thanks for your cooperation and understanding, Leslie

October 9 – 11, 2026

Announcing The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society's

Annual Gem Jewelry & Mineral Show

October 9 – 10: 10am to 6pm

October 11: 10am to 5pm

featuring

Extravaganza Children's Area!

Classify Rocks, Dig for Fossils, Pan for Gems, Scavenger Hunt,
Fluorescent Room, Pictures with T-Rex, and More!

Plus! Your Favorite Vendors (and *New* Vendors to Meet)
with a wide array of Gemstones, Fine Jewelry, Beads, Lapidary Supplies,
Fossils, Specimens, Collectibles, and More!

Demonstrations, Displays, Geode Cracker,
Hourly Door Prizes, Raffle, and Food Vendor! Something for Everyone!



Free Parking

Jaycee Community Bldg
2180 Airport Road SW
Huntsville, AL 35802
At John Hunt Park



huntsvillegms.org

Admission

Adults (18 & over): \$5
Students (under 18): \$3
Children (5 & under): Free
Weekend Pass (3 days): \$10

Astronomy Day 2026



Saturday, October 17th, 1-5; 7:30-9 pm

Located in Monte Sano State Park

FREE Admission! Fun for the Kids!

Telescope Viewing and STEM activities

Planetarium Shows during 1 – 5PM!

7:30 PM: Guest Speaker **Dr. Heidi Haviland**,
Planetary Scientist, NASA MSFC

(Doors open at 7:00 pm)

Sponsored by

www.vbas.org



amentum



CELESTRON



9th Annual Brown Bear and Artifact Show Oct 23-25 2026 8AM-4PM



Alabama National Fair

GEMS & MINERALS

ADULT DEPARTMENT A4

Sponsored by:

MONTGOMERY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

RIBBONS AWARDED BY CLASS: FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD

“BEST OF FAIR” WINNER: RIBBON & \$100

RULES

- The workmanship of the item(s) entered must be that of the Exhibitor. Exhibitors shall not enter items that were purchased from another in their finished form.
- Fossils, Geodes and Mineral Specimens must have been found/discovered by the exhibitor.
- Exhibitors may enter one (1) item in each class.
- All entries must contain a 3x5 card identifying the item/specimen and materials used.
- ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE CREATIVE LIVING CENTER ON THE FOLLOWING DATES/TIMES (NO EXCEPTIONS):

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH 9:00AM – 4:00PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Class

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Beading (plastic or acrylic beads not allowed) | |
| 2. Cabochon | 6. Mineral Specimen |
| 3. Faceted Stone | 7. Wire Wrapped Jewelry |
| 4. Fossils | |
| 5. Geodes | |

JUDGING CRITERIA

Classes 1, 2, 3 & 7

Labeling & Appearance – 20% Quality of Stone/Sample – 40% Quality of Workmanship – 40%

Classes 4, 5 & 6

Labeling & Appearance - 40% Quality of Stone/Sample – 60%

Drop-offs for the Fair Displays start on Friday, September 25, 2026, at 9:00 am and continue until Wednesday, September 30, 2026. Pickups after the Fair begin on Tuesday, October 19, 2026 thru Thursday, October 21, 2026.

Minutes, 8.25.26. General meeting**Reports**

Membership, due on October 1st. If you've joined since June you're good for 2027.

Treasurer, Lapidary has about 300.00 dollars left, about 1,000.00 in metals and some left in Pups.

Pebble Pups, Getting new kids every month. Program growing.

Lapidary, Bill ordered new wheels this week.

Metals, We have plans to spend our money, just purchased a metal tool chest with drawers and are considering an oxy acetylene torch. The project class this month will be an anti clastic bracelet.

RCJ, Class is the ever popular pumpkin project.

More copies of the Lost Worlds book came in and are available for purchase at 30.00

WLRH interviews are this coming Thursday, 8.27

Nominations for positions of officers and at large board members are open until midnight of September 21st. Vote will be at the next meeting, Tuesday, September 22nd.

Flume Bags, Gene will be filling the flume bags at the Ed Center on 9.29 from 9:00 am til done, probably around noon. Many hands make light work.

HGMS display at the downtown library is set to be installed September 1st.

Show and Tell

Anthony brought some spheres he had made.

James Mallonee brought some Andamooka opal slabs he had cut and treated himself.

Possible Paint Rock field trip in September. Maximum number of vehicles allowed is three. Watch your email for details.

Metal Smithing/Silver Group by Kathy Bowman & Shelley Curran

September Newsletter Article

No Project Class in October

The HGMS Gem and Mineral Show is October 9-11th so we will not be doing a project. We will be open for Open Studio (Work Sessions) on Mondays and Thursdays with the exception Thursday, October 8th which is set up day for the show and the Vendor Dinner.



Shelley and I plan to have a display of our students' work at the show. We are proud of our students' work and would like to display it.. It doesn't have to be this year's work. It can be from any year and any project class you took. Please don't think your work isn't "worthy" because you are a beginner and it is one of the first pieces you made. We want to show all levels of experience. We know lots of you proudly wear what you made so please let us "borrow" it for the show.

Place your jewelry in a plastic bag. **Write your name ON the bag and also include a piece of paper with your name on it inside the bag.** Bring it to us any Monday or Thursday night we are open or call or text one of us if you would like to schedule another time.. We would like to have everything by October 5 (the Monday, before the show if possible. We will photograph the pieces along with your name card so we know who every piece belongs to. You can pick up your pieces Monday evening after the Show.

Certification/Safety Classes: The next Certification/Safety class will be Wednesday, November 18. Currently there the request list has openings but those might fill quickly. Send your name and contact information (name, email address, and cell phone number (for text messages) to Certifications@wilddivystudio.com. to get on the List.. Seats will be filled in the order we receive them. We only have space for 9 students per class. Note: If your email is requesting a seat for more than one student, I need the contact information(name, email, and phone number) for each student.

CERTIFICATION CLASS INFORMATION – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

After Certification Class dates are set, email notices with information about the class(es) will be sent to the first 9 people on the request list about a week before the scheduled date. You must reply to that email to be scheduled for the class or to request a future class. One reminder email will be sent to those who do not respond to the first email. If there is no reply after the 2nd email, **your name will be removed from the Certification Requests list.** If you are still interested in Certification, you will have to send in your information again to get on the current list.

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)
Bob Goble
Bob Goble
Shelley Curran
Kathy Bowman

Tools/Equipment Inventory/ Store Manager
Safety
Kit Manager
Webpage & Social Media Management

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



Rocket City Jewelers (RCJ) News September 2026

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: If you're signed up for the **LME Rolled Patterns** class and haven't made yours yet or picked up your metal, there's 2 more opportunities: **September 23rd & September 30th, 2-5p. Remember, no meeting October 7th due to the Show. (Setup Oct 8th, Show Oct 9th, 10th, 11th.) No meeting November 25th due to Thanksgiving. Our last meeting is December 2nd, 2-5p, for make up. Holiday party December 9th.**



This month, the HGMS has a display in the Huntsville library. Check it out! (Enter the library, walk through the sliding glass door, and turn left.) Thank you to Amy, Judy, Laurie, Leslie, and Theresa for their contributions.

How to Sign Up for Classes

Be sure to sign up at least a month before class. Please pay one month in advance so check in goes smoothly, and we can start class on time. To sign up for a class, please email Theresa at rocketcityjewelers@gmail.com. Include your **name**, **contact info**, the **class(es)** you want, and the date(s) (if you know them) you plan to take them. Or, you can sign up at RCJ meetings and monthly HGMS meetings.

Current Classes



October: Pumpkin Earrings. Make a pair of cute pumpkin earrings using an easy chainmaille weave. **Kit \$5.**

Oct 7 & 21: 6 – 9p, class and make up.

Oct 14 & 28: 2 – 5p, class and make up.



November: Square Cab with Hidden Prong Setting. Wrap a square cabochon using round copper wire or silver craft wire. Choose 1 of 2 weaving options (see photo). Choose 1 of 5 stones (**1st come, 1st served**) or **text Judy to reserve one. Kit \$5.**

Nov 4 & 18: 6 – 9p, class and make up.

Nov 11: 2 – 5p, class.



Avail

Stone

- 8 Natural Falcon's Eye (aka Blue Tiger's Eye)
- 9 Biggs Jasper
- 4 Oyster Turquoise Orange-Blue-White
- 8 Natural Black Rutile (Rutilated Quartz)
- 10 Oyster Turquoise Pink-Blue-Orange

Note: Should severe weather occur on any RCJ meeting day, the meeting will be canceled, and members will be notified.

Pebble Pups

September Meeting

Thursday, September 24th - 6:30pm

HGMS Education Center

7901 Bailey Cove Road SE

Huntsville, AL 35803



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) has announced they will be continuing their “Year in Rocks” contest again for 2027. Start thinking about how you can use your rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, or even lapidary equipment to showcase the year 2027 in a way that totally rocks! The deadline for submissions is November 21st, 2026 and you can visit <https://www.southeastfed.org/contests-awards/juniors-year-in-rocks-contest> for rules and guidelines for entries. All entries

must be submitted through Suzanne Miller at hgmspebblepups@gmail.com.

A huge thank you to Natalia Ura for teaching our Pebble Pups about wild clay during our July program! The kids loved making their pinch pots – and they will make a great addition to our display at the Gem and Mineral Show next month! This will not be our last activity with wild clay. Pieces will be ready for pick up on Sunday, October 11th, 2026 if you are at the show that day. Otherwise you can collect them at our October Pebble Pups meeting on Thursday, October 22nd, 2026.

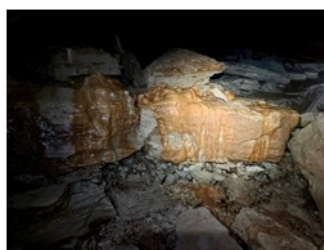


We have so much to catch up on in September! Our Pebble Pups have been working hard and learning so much – it is finally time to recognize all of the effort. Join us as we present badges and celebrate how much our group has accomplished. We will also be working on getting ready for the Gem and Mineral Show. I have ideas, but I need help making it happen!



We were able to join the National Speleological Society for their open house and cave tour on Sunday, September 13th, 2026. It has been quite awhile since Shelta Cave has been open for public tours and we loved the chance to get in there and see it! Shelta Cave is one of the most bio-diverse caves in the Appalachian Mountain range. It has been owned by the NSS since 1967, but it has a history that dates back to the late 1800s. We were able to see the formations in the cave, talk about the water levels in the cave and see the evidence of its geological history. I think there will be more to come with wild caves.....

Are you or your child interested



in learning more about lapidary techniques? The William Holland School of Lapidary Arts has a variety of unique courses to learn traditional techniques, jewelry-making, or more creative outlets like wire-wrapping, beading, or chainmaille. You can visit their website at www.lapidaryschool.org for more information and to register for courses.



The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) sponsors the Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) program for kids under the age of 18. The HGMS Pebble Pups participate in FRA Badge Program. You can check out all the badges that our Pups can earn by visiting their page at <https://www.juniors.amfed.org/fra-badge-program/the-badges>.

Pups who complete activities outside of club activities can send an email to HGMSPEbblePups@gmail.com to receive credit for their activities. If your Pup would like to share what they have learned, seen, or found with the rest of the group, please let Suzanne Miller know and we can give them time at the beginning of the meeting to talk to the group! Sharing will help Pups earn their presentation and communications badges. Is there a topic your Pup would like to learn more about?



Do you have an idea for an activity that our group would enjoy? Have you found a great place to hunt for rocks, fossils, or gems? Email Suzanne Miller at HGMSPEbblePups@gmail.com to share your ideas!

Would you be interested in sharing what you know about rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, or how to find/use them? We would love to have you come lead one of our monthly programs! Please reach out to Suzanne Miller at HGMSPEbblePups@gmail.com to discuss.



Mineral of the Month – Caymanite

By Leslie Malakowsky



Caymanite is a sedimentary rock not a mineral. It's a unique, multi-layered, multi-colored, microcrystalline variety of dolostone, rich in the mineral dolomite. (Dolomite is a calcium magnesium carbonate mineral with the formula $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$.) Caymanite is characterized by distinct Earth-tone layers and high hardness. The colors – white, cream, gray, brown, rust, red, and black – are caused by varying trace amounts of iron and manganese. Its hardness is 6 to 7 on Mohs scale (as hard as apatite, but softer than fluorite).

The Cayman Islands are a British Overseas Territory in the Caribbean Sea. The archeapelogo consists of three islands – Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac, and Little Cayman. Caymanite formed during the Oligocene-Miocene epoch (about 16 to 25 million years ago) in the Miocene Cayman Formation where fine-grained sediments filled existing natural cavities and fossil molds within the local limestone and eventually hardened. For more information on how caymanite formed, please see [wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org). This rock is found exclusively on Grand Cayman (especially at the Eastern end) and Cayman Brac (on “The Bluff”) but not on Little Cayman. That’s because Little Cayman wasn’t effected by the creation of the Miocene Cayman Formation. Fun fact: The Bluff is the highest elevation in the Cayman Islands. It’s sheer limestone cliffs reach 141 feet above sea level in stark contrast to the islands’ low terrain.

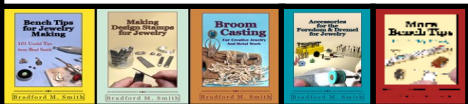
This rock was first discovered in the 1970s by a visitor from Mobile, Alabama, who found it while hiking on The Bluff, formed it into a pendant, and showed it to the locals. According to Caymanians, that’s how they first became aware of the rock’s value as a lapidary material. Because of its durability and aesthetic appeal, caymanite is used as a semi-precious stone for crafting unique jewelry, carvings, and decorative items. Processing requires specialized diamond-tipped tools making it economically unviable for industrial uses. And large scale mining would damage local ecosystems and geology.



The best places to find authentic caymanite products are galleries and artisan shops on Grand Cayman. Research online sources carefully. A similar Australian rock is marketed as caymanite, but it’s not suitable for lapidary. Many thanks to Gene Powers who told me about this unique rock. His Father was a friend and fellow rockhound of the visitor from Mobile who is credited with discovering caymanite as a lapidary material. References: [wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org), the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands (nationalgallery.org.ky), and the Cayman Islands National Museum (museum.ky).

Brad's Bench Tips

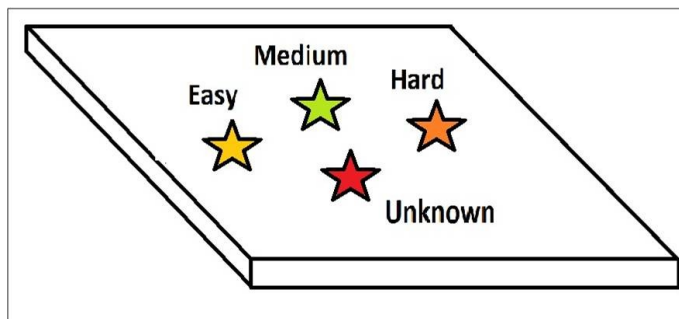
"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon www.BradSmithJewelry.com For those who enjoy these bench tips, I'm happy to announce a second volume is now available on Amazon. "More Bench Tips" includes 86 additional ways to save time, avoid frustration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



Bench Tips for September

IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder.



What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown piece. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.

ADJUSTABLE CHUCK FOR DREMELS

Many of us have a Dremel motor tool to use at home or when out to a class or workshop. The one thing that makes this tool much more productive is the addition of one inexpensive option, an adjustable chuck.

The basic motor tool as sold typically comes with a collet chuck. This means you have to use a wrench to change every tool bit, you have to switch collets to use different shaft sizes (3/32 or 1/8 inch bits), and you can't use ordinary drills at all - only the special ones that have a 3/32 shaft.

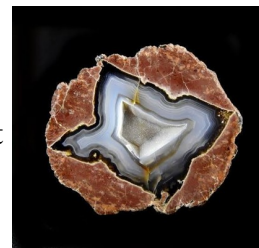
A simple and inexpensive (\$12) adjustable chuck solves all of this. It's available in most large local hardware stores or model making outlets. Tightening the chuck is done easily by hand to any size shaft. No key is required.





Monthly Rock Swaps - First Monday each Month - October 5

Everyone has fun looking over and trading rocks at the Education Center from 6 to 9 pm. Bring rocks to trade, or just come down to see a lot of interesting rocks. Have yours identified.



Lapidary:

Due to concerns about liability, no one under 19 will be allowed to use the lapidary equipment in the lab. They are still welcome to come in, view what is going on, and participate in the rock swap—with parent's or guardian's supervision.

Cost to use the lab has increased to \$1 per hour to ensure funds are available to replace equipment. There is a sign up for the 24" saw and only one (1) cut allowed at a time unless no one else is waiting. We could also use some items if you are so inclined to donate. Dish soap, sponges, and gallon zip lock baggies are needed.

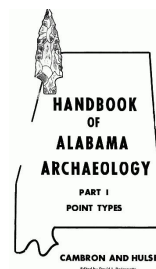
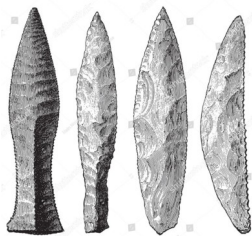
Auction;

Is your significant other telling you that you have too many rocks? Are you moving and can't take everything with you? Well, it's never too early to make donations for the Spring 2027 club auction.

We will accept any donations of rocks or related equipment. We will even pick it up from you. Just let any officer know you want to donate and we will work with you to get it done.

Available as a Free Download or Purchase:

"Handbook of Alabama Archaeology: Part I, Point Types" by James W. Cambron and David C. Hulse is a scientific publication written in the late 20th century. This handbook serves as a resource for the classification and identification of projectile point types found in Alabama and nearby regions, addressing a significant gap in archaeological knowledge in this area. The work stems from extensive field research and aims to provide a systematic approach to categorizing stone artifacts based on their characteristics and contextual associations. [Project Gutenberg](https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/58444)



US and International show link [Mineral Shows](#)

Some more local shows

Knoxville Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show 16–17 October Rothchild Conference Center, Knoxville, TN

Cobb County Mineral Show November 20–22 NO ENTRY FEE Cobb County Civic Center, Marietta, GA

Mobile Gem and Mineral Society show: November 27–29

Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society show: December 4–6 Garrett Coliseum, Montgomery, AL

Earth Treasures Gem and Mineral Show December 11–13 Williamson County AG Expo Park, Franklin TN

HGMS Field Trip Report

Fun was had by all on the Paint Rock collection trip on September 12th. A variety of rocks were found. In addition to Paint Rock, a nice calamite specimen was found. A second specimen was left behind because of it's size.

Watch the newsletter and your email for future trips.



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, Matthew Sager, Theresa Chivers, Dee Dee Morton, Bill Friday

Lapidary

Monday: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
and 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Wednesday: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Thursday: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

1st Saturday of the Month: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Metal Smithing / Silver

Monday: 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Thursday: 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

1st Saturday of the Month: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (irregular)

Rocket City Jewelers

1st & 3rd Wednesdays: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays: 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Rock Swap

1st Monday of the Month: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Pebble Pups

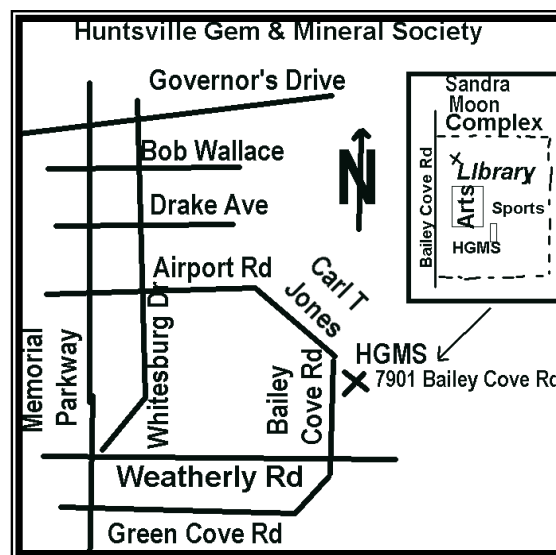
4th Thursday of the Month: 6:30 PM

Flint Knapping

By appointment

HGMS Meetings

4th Tuesday of the Month: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM



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 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>

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

2026 CALENDAR

- 22 Sep '26 - Regular HGMS Meeting, HGMS Education Center
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 9-11 Oct '26 - HGMS Fall Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Show - Jaycee Building
2180 Airport Rd SW, Huntsville, AL 35801
- 27 Oct '26 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Ed Ctr
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 24 Nov '26 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 8 Dec '26 - Christmas Dinner - details as it gets closer
- We will have a great potluck dinner again at the Ed Ctr.
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 26 Jan '27 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 23 Feb 27 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm
- 23 Mar 27 - Regular HGMS Meeting, Huntsville Gem & Mineral Education Center
7901 Bailey Cove Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 6:00pm

Deadline for Next
Newsletter Oct 14

Dated Material
Do not Delay

September 2026

Rocket City Rocks & Gems
James Mallonee, Editor
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