



LODESTAR

Volume XXXIX
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The Lodestar is the newsletter of the SFMS and is published electronically every month.

Article submission by the 15th of the publication month. Articles and announcements are welcome from any member or member society. Electronic submission in Word or Open Office format to: sfms.lodestar@gmail.com
Postal service submission or communication: Lodestar; 276 Lacy Lane; Easley, SC 29640

Anyone desiring an electronic subscription please email your email address to: sfms.lodestar@gmail.com

THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

A Non-Profit, Non-Commercial, Non-Political Organization and Regional Federation of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

PURPOSE:

To bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of Earth Sciences and the practice of Lapidary Arts and Crafts in the Southeast part of the United States.

OBJECTIVE:

To cooperate with similar Federations to promote public interest in the Earth Sciences and the conservation of natural resources.



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From the President's Desk

Dave Wayment

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. On the first of the year all your newly elected officers officially took office, and have hit the ground running. There is a lot going on this January. I hope everyone will be able to attend the Quarterly meeting, being held in Panama City, FL at the Quality Inn. Remember to mention the SFMS meeting when you make your reservations for the discounted room rate. After the meeting, don't forget to visit the Panama City Gem and Mineral Show.



Most importantly this year, January is membership dues renewal month. At the Annual Meeting in November we voted to increase the SFMS dues from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per person, adult and junior members. The amount each club pays is based upon the number of members as of December 31st. Of the \$1.75, we pay \$0.75 to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and keep \$1 for the SFMS. Renewal forms are due to the Membership Secretary, Jason Hamilton, by January 31st.

This year it is extremely important that the membership renewal is on time. Our liability insurance and show insurance contract is up for renewal. The amount quoted by the insurance company is based upon the membership figures. The insurance contract year is April 1st to March 31st. The insurance company will not discuss cost with us until we have the membership count. For this reason, clubs are not able to pay both membership and liability insurance at the same time this January, since we do not know how much the liability insurance will cost.

I hope to see everyone in Panama City. Hopefully it will not be as cold as Georgia was last year.

Safety Article

Bob Green, Safety Chairperson



Happy New Year; winter is now with us and of course, winter issues. Unfortunately in the upstate of South Carolina, we have had a number of fire fatalities. This is a reminder to check your smoke alarms and be very careful with space heaters.

The Greenville News included a “be prepared” for winter flyer a couple of weeks ago with cautionary notes about safety and the need to have provisions on hand to last a couple of days in case the power is lost. And by the way, the rush to get milk and bread in case of an outage is really not recommended. Non-perishable items are suggested. For those outside of the upstate of South Carolina, freezing rain tends to be our main winter nemesis. Several years ago, much of the upstate was covered with more than ½ inch of ice and many places more than ¾ inch. There were substantial power outages. The Duke Energy guy that was reviewing our area (north of Greenville) noted that the National Weather Service had told them to expect about 1/8 inch of ice. So there was a lot of scrambling by the utilities to get service back on to those affected. Our son who lived in downtown Greenville moved in with friends in Pickens to await the return of power. It came on about 6 days later. So, be prepared.

Yes, we have snow and this typically causes all activities to cease. In 1978, we had a large snow for the upstate, about 12 inches fell. Then the temperature plunged. There were many vehicles trapped in the ice on I-85 between Greenville and Spartanburg. I remember this quite well. We lived on the east side of Greenville and the snow did not melt the next day as

typically happens in our area. We had a cat that required clean litter or else she would spray inappropriate places in the house, that is, not in the litter box. So, on Saturday morning, I walked about 1 mile to the local convenience store. I walked in the middle of the snow covered roads, since very few cars had ventured out. So, here I am with a 10 pound bag of kitty litter trudging back to the house. I slipped and fell in the middle of the road with the kitty litter bag. The bag did not break, nor was anything hurt other than my pride.

Keep your eye on the weather. It was far from humorous to see the nightmare in Atlanta last year as a result of a couple inches of snow and the resulting congestion and vast parking lot called I-285. The National Weather service had issued a weather warning early that morning and I had already decided to work from home that day. The main reason for my decision was based on the previous year, we had about 5 inches of snow and the temperature dropped. On the 3rd day I decided to try to get to work. The roads in our immediate area were clear. As I approached Furman University on East 276, I noticed that the hill ahead had a couple of issues, Two cars, each cross-wise on the road and headed in opposite direction had the road blocked, so I did what any good citizen would do, I exited 276 and returned home to await the thaw.

So, be prepared and be safe. Always carry a blanket or sleeping bag if you anticipate travelling into an area that may cause you to be trapped in your car. Always carry water and some appropriate non-perishable food. I remind you that I am a fan of Les Stroud and his ability to survive with minimal provisions. I am not Les Stroud so we always carry provisions. Many years ago, I carried a camp ax in my vehicle. (Note, we now carry camp axes in our vehicles) On three occasions over the span of 15 or so years I needed this to remove parts of trees that had fallen across the road I was travelling. Twice, it was to help others get out of a place and one time it was for me to get out of an area. Being prepared was one of the many lessons that the Boy Scouts and my father taught me.

So, be careful and enjoy the winter season, it can present some beautiful sights. One good thing is you do not have to get up early to see the sun rise.

Rockhound of the Year

Marty Hart, SFMS Representative - AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year Committee



Year 2014 is now over and gone. Out of all the clubs within the SFMS, there was only a single submission for Rockhound of the Year in 2014. So we now have opportunities to make huge statistical gains in 2015. Honor someone in your club this year, and don't let it get away without honoring someone as it happened to so many in 2014. The process is simple, so don't let these members continue to go unrecognized. Use the link below to view more details on the SFMS website: [American Federation Rockhound of the Year](#)

If you would like to see submissions from other clubs, check the AFMS newsletters at:

[American Federation Newsletters](#)

Brr, It's Cold

For many, the fury of winter is upon us. Thermographers working outdoors in cold climates can face serious safety challenges due to frostbite and hypothermia. Knowing the symptoms of these conditions and proper treatment is imperative for worker safety.

Frostbite is a severe reaction to cold exposure that can permanently damage its victims. A loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in fingers, toes, or nose and ear lobes are symptoms of frostbite.

Hypothermia is a condition brought on when the body temperature drops to less than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Symptoms of hypothermia include uncontrollable shivering, slow speech, memory lapses, frequent stumbling, drowsiness, and exhaustion.

If frostbite or hypothermia is suspected, begin warming the person slowly and seek immediate medical assistance. Warm the person's trunk first. Use your own body heat to help. Arms and legs should be warmed last because stimulation of the limbs can drive cold blood toward the heart and lead to heart failure. If the person is wet, put them in dry clothing and wrap their entire body in a blanket.

Never give a frostbite or hypothermia victim beverages containing caffeine or alcohol. Caffeine, a stimulant, can cause the heart to beat faster and hasten the effects the cold has on the body. Alcohol, a depressant, can slow the heart and also hasten the ill effects of cold body temperatures.

When working outdoors this winter, be sure to dress appropriately and work safely!
Extracted from Infraspection Institute newsletter

The SFMS Eagle Has Landed



The SFMS Eagle was brought to the November 2014 Annual Meeting and put on display. I personally do not know the entire history of the piece. There is a chart with the eagle indicating which clubs donated which cabs and their placement, but not the identity of the material of which the cab was made.

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society: 21, 25, 34, 41, 47	New Orleans Society for the Study
Central Virginia Mineral Society: 15, 27, 43	of Earth & Lapidary Sciences: 12, 31, 32
Charlotte Gem & Mineral Society: 46, 39	Southern Appalachian Mineral Society: 4, 13, 38
Cobb County Gem & Mineral Club: 10, 28	Tar Heel Mineral Club: 45
Columbia Gem & Mineral Society: 11, 23, 42	Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society: 1, 19, 26, 33, 48
East Alabama Gem & Mineral Society: 2, 5, 6, 36	John Thompson (individual donation): 7, 3
Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club: 24, 30, 35	Waterree Valley Rock & Mineral Society: 22
Gem & Mineral Club of Deland: 18, 49	Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society: 5, 8, 14, 29
Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin: 17, 40	White Onyx donated by Albert Bradley, S.C.
Low Country Gem & Mineral Society: 9, 20, 44	Moss Opal donated by M. Elizabeth Lucas, S.C.
Ocala Gem & Mineral Society: 16, 37, 50	Emerald donated by Elsie Ritch, N.C.

Each of the 2 clubs I am a member of donated 5 cabs. I cannot identify all the material used. Please ask your older club members if they remember the eagle. Did they have a hand in creating one of the cabs? We will have the eagle at the January meeting. Come take a look at this piece of our history.



DMC Announcement

"Happy New Year to all DMC member clubs!"

It's that time of year again where most of our DMC hosting clubs have elected a new slate of officers for 2015.

The DMC needs each of our clubs to provide us with a minimum of three (3) email addresses to receive the details of each month's DMC field trips.

Recommended email addresses:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Field trip chair
4. Newsletter editor
5. (additional person who needs this information)

Please send us these email addresses even though the person holding that office has not changed for 2015! We need to double check our email list for current working email addresses!

Thanks again for your support . . .

Jim
DMC

Year - 2015

February - Western South Carolina G&MS (Greenville, SC)

March - Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society (Macon, GA)

April - Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society (Montgomery, AL)

May - Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society (Murfreesboro, TN)

June - Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Inc. (Mobile, AL)

July - Southern Appalachian Mineral Society (Asheville, NC)

August - Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Virginia, Inc.

September - Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society (Charleston, SC)

October - Middle Tennessee Rockhounds (Nashville, TN)

November - Gaston County Gem, Mineral & Faceting Club (Gastonia, NC)

December - Rome Georgia Mineral Society (Rome, GA)

Year - 2016

January - Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club, (Tampa, FL)

March - Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society (Jacksonville, FL)
April - Carroll County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (Carrollton, GA)
May - Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society (Hendersonville, NC)
June - Columbia Gem & Mineral Society (Columbia, SC)
September - Northeast Georgia Mineral Society (Cornelia, GA)
October - Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society (Memphis, TN)

DMC/Field Trip sharing program Member Societies:

Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society (Birmingham, AL)
Athens Rock and Gem Club (Athens, GA)
Aiken Gem and Mineral Society (Aiken, SC)
Carroll County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (Carrollton, GA)
Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club (Charlotte, NC)
Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society (Marietta, GA)
Columbia Gem & Mineral Society (Columbia, SC)
Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club (Winston-Salem, NC)
Gaston County Gem, Mineral & Faceting Club (Gastonia, NC)
Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC
Georgia Mineral Society (Atlanta, GA)
Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society (Hendersonville, NC)
Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society (Jacksonville, FL)
KYANA Geological Society (Louisville, KY)
Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society (Knoxville, TN)
Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society (Charleston, SC)
Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Virginia, Inc.
Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society (Macon, GA)
Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society (Murfreesboro, TN)
Middle Tennessee Rockhounds (Nashville, TN)
Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Jackson, MS.)
Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Inc. (Mobile, AL)
Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society (Montgomery, AL)
Northeast Georgia Mineral Society (Cornelia, GA)
Rome Georgia Mineral Society (Rome, GA)
Southern Appalachian Mineral Society (Asheville, NC)
Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club, (Tampa, FL)
Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Club (Chattanooga, TN)
Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society (Vero Beach, FL)
Western South Carolina G&MS (Greenville, SC)

"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!"

DMC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose:
To collect field trip information from it's member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.

Please reply by e-mail to:
sfms-dmc@amfed.org

World Wide Web site for the DMC is:
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/>

DMC is a program of the Field Trip Committee of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
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"Earth first...we'll collect on the other planets later."

Gem and Mineral Shows

January 17-18. 2015 Deland, FL

Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society Presents our 44th Annual

Jewelery ,Gem, Minerals & Fossils Show and Sale

Times: Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-5pm

Door Prize, Classes, Demos, Silent Auctions, Exhibits and lots of fun

Vendors with Rocks, Gems, Fossils, Minerals, Jewelry & Supplies from around our world

Location: Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Building, State Route 44,

Deland, FL (1/2 mile east off of I-4, Exit 118) Free parking

Admission: \$4:00, Children 12 & under free, Print Gem show page for \$1 off admission

See our website: Tomokagms.org

For more info: Rosemary van Wandelen 386-860-5586 / rrborzoi@yahoo.com

January 24 – 25, 2015, Panama City, FL

The annual Panama City Gem and Mineral Show will be Saturday, January 24th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bay County Fairgrounds. The show will feature 18 Vendors the largest to date offering exhibits, minerals, fossils, cabochons, gems, crystals, wire wrapping, lapidary arts, jewelry, beads and silent auction to include 1 Grand Prize and 3 individual door prizes. Admission and parking is FREE. For details please contact Steve Shipton at [850-867-0586](tel:850-867-0586) or email him at shipton3@comcast.net.

February 7-8, 2015, Merritt Island, FL

Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club presents A Symphony of Gemstones on Feb. 7th & 8th (Sat. & Sun.) 2015, from 10AM to 5 PM each day. We will have 23 vendors displaying handcrafted jewelry, slabs, rocks, minerals, fossils, fine jewelry, gem trees, tools and lapidary supplies. There will be a sluice and activity table for the kids. Club members will be demonstrating faceting and capping and there will be a display of finished jewelry pieces from individual club members. Admission is \$5.00, \$1 off with newspaper ad or printed form from our website: www.centralbrevardgems.org There is a raffle each hour and a wonderful grand prize.

Kiwanis Island Recreation Center

951 Kiwanis Island Park Road

Merritt Island, FL 32952

February 21-22, 2015 Vero Beach, FL

Gem and Jewelry Show

Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society

Saturday 10AM to 5PM, Sunday 10AM to 4PM

Vero Beach Community Center

2266 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960

\$5 Donation at the door, 20 vendors, hourly door prizes

Email contact

tcrandgs@bellsouth.net



February 28, 2015, Lakeland, FL

Annual Show and Sale

Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society

Saturday 9:30am - 4:30pm

175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801

Hourly door prizes, Spin & Win Mineral Wheel, Kids Treasure Dig, demonstrations and educational displays, Silent and Chinese auctions and over 30 dealers of rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gifts and hobby supplies.

Show Contact: Kim Price, Show chair, at [\(863\) 412-9156](tel:8634129156)

Email contact: [ibvgmfs at gmail.com](mailto:ibvgmfs@gmail.com).

Facebook: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society

Website: www.bonevalley.net

March 6-7-8, 2015 St. Petersburg, FL

45th Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show and Sale

THE SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Fri: 10 AM to 6PM; Sat: 10AM-6PM; Sun: 10am-5PM

The Minnreg Building

6340 126th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773

GRAND DRAWING AT END OF SHOW!

\$1.50 GRAB BAGS, FREE PARKING

12+ Dealers

Planned demonstration exhibits on Beading, Wire Wrapping, Cabbing, Faceting, Metal Work.

Silent Auctions all day long, Gem Mining flume inside.

Club display cases and exhibits.

Refreshments available.

Show contact: Bill Schmidt, Show Chair, [727 822-8279](tel:7278228279)

Email contact: SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.sgams.com/Shows/show.html>

March 28-29, 2015; Lexington, KY

Lexington Rock, Gem & Jewelry Show

Clarion Hotel, 1950 Newton Pike, Lexington, KY. Near Exit 115 of I-75/I-64.

Hours: Sat March 28 10AM-6PM, Sun March 29 11AM-5PM.

Show includes minerals, jewelry, equipment dealers, exhibits, KY Agate, fluorescent displays, hourly prizes.

Admission: \$2 Adults, \$1 Children, \$5 Max Family. Scouts in uniform free.

Info Jane Volk, lexgemshow@outlook.com or www.bggamc.homestead.com.

April 25-26, 2015, Memphis, TN

Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show

"The Earth Wide Open"

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

Memphis International Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Rd. Memphis, TN

Saturday, April 25 9-6:00 and Sunday, April 26 10-5,

Dealers, Exhibits, Demonstrations, Grand and hourly door prizes. Kids Area with Rockzone featuring Gem Dig, Geode Bowling, and Rocks Around the Clock.

Adults \$5.00, 2 day pass \$8.00, Children 12 and under \$2.00. Scouts in uniform Free

web: www.TheEarthWideOpen.com

email info@theearthwideopen.com.

Show Chair James Butchko [901 743-0058](tel:9017430058)

Dealer Chair WC McDaniel [901-274-7706](tel:9012747706)

May 8-10, 2015, Norcross, GA

The Georgia Mineral Society's 47th Annual Mother's Day Weekend Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show, at a new location, North Atlanta Trade Center, 1700 Jurgens Court, Norcross, GA, May 8-10, 2015. We will also be celebrating our 80th birthday with an open house at our club house. Contact person: Shelley Stubbs; email address: mayshow@gaminal.org; Web site: www.gaminal.org.

SEE FLYER BELOW

June 13 - 14, 2015 Cartersville, GA

Gem and Mineral Show and Sale

Tellus Science Museum

Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM; Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM

Tellus Science Museum

I-75 at exit 293, directly behind the Clarion Inn

Calling all rock hounds, jewelry collectors, families and everyone fascinated by the Earth's treasures! RockFest returns to Tellus for two full days that will delight the whole family. Mark this indoor/outdoor event as a summer "must-do" on your calendar.

Dealers from all over the country will bring their wares for you to browse. Some will feature rare and exotic jewelry, while others will showcase ancient fossils or colorful specimens. You will have an opportunity to purchase a one-of-a-kind find at this unique festival of merchants. And what's even better? Most **dealers** will also honor the Tellus member discount – that means members save 10% off your purchase! **Dealers** will be set up outside on the back lawn and inside the Museum in the Banquet Rooms.

- Hourly door prizes
- Free mineral specimens for the first 200 guests each day
- Bring your mystery mineral specimen for free mineral or fossil identification
- Kid's activities

Show contact: Mary Vinson, Event Coordinator, [\(770\) 606-5700 ext 402](tel:(770)606-5700)

Email contact: maryv@tellusmuseum.org

October 23 – 25, 2015, Austin, TX

AFMS Convention and Show, hosted by the South Central Federation. More details to come.



www.gamineral.org
 A Non-Profit Educational
 Organization

Gems, Fossils, Minerals, and
 Jewelry!!!



Celebrating our
 80th Birthday!

The Georgia Mineral Society's
 47th Annual Mother's Day Weekend
 Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show

Friday	May 8	10 AM – 6 PM
Saturday	May 9	10 AM – 6 PM
Sunday	May 10	Noon – 5 PM

EXCITING

AUCTION

SATURDAY AT 1 PM

Special 80th Birthday Events!

é **NEW LOCATION** é
 North Atlanta Trade Center
 1700 Jeurgens Court
 Norcross, GA

Over 30 Dealers!

Door Prizes!

*Special Door Prizes
 for Students!*

*Win a Great Prize for Yourself
 and for
 Your School!*



Free Parking!

Free Admission!

Free Open House!

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2015 SFMS Committee Chairs

Nominations James Darnell 20 Cobblestone Way West Mobile, AL 36608 251.633.5875 jamezrobdarn@bellsouth.net	Long Range Planning James Darnell 20 Cobblestone Way West Mobile, AL 36608 251.633.5875 jamezrobdarn@bellsouth.net	Bulletin Editors Contest -OPEN-	Constitution/ByLaws -OPEN-
Field Trips -OPEN-	Education Danny Griffin 1320 Byrd Cir. Kingston, TN 37763 865.406.8802	Historian Don Monroe 350 Lapidary Drive Young Harris, GA 30582 (706) 379-9662	Insurance Liason Performed by Assistant Treasurer
Publications -OPEN-	Safety Bob Green 115 Sycamore Drive Marietta, SC 29661 (864) 836-5896 green_top@bellsouth.net	Slide/Video Programs Freda Hull P.O. Box 115 Grant, FL 32949 (321) 725-0847 firehull@bellsouth.net	Social Concerns -OPEN-10328 Briar Bay Loop Johnesboro, GA 30238 423-494-7096 678-479-4177 Email: Antleycreations@yahoo.com
Stamp Program Carolyn Grothaus	Supplies Barbara Green	Uniform Rules -OPEN-	Ways and Means

alitheria@gmail.com	115 Sycamore Drive Marietta, SC 29661 (864) 836-5896 greentop@bellsouth.net		Performed by 1 st Vice-President
Youth Resources Annette Gibney 6367 Birling Drive Columbus, GA 31909 (706) 561-0325 atgib@aol.com	2015 Annual Meeting Host Don McLamb 570 Seabreeae Drive Indialantic, FL 32903-4126 (321) 723-2592 fdjmc@aol.com	Web Master Jeff Ursillo 15496 Lakes of Delray Blvd # 207 Delray Beach, FL 33484 561-706-9549 bnmjef@aol.com	Public Relations -OPEN-
William Holland Director Jim and Cindy Reed 5740 Hebron Lane Lakeland, FL 33812 (863) 644-6665 Rocks57@tampabay.rr.com	William Holland Registrar Rosemary van Wandelen 3051 Keyport Street Deltona, FL 32738 <u>386-860-5586</u> rrborzoi@gmail.com	Wildacres Director Gail Deluca	Wildacres Registrar Paula Griffin P.O. Box 430 Kingston, TN 37763 (865) 248-8391 (865) 406-8802 waregistra2014@gmail.com

2015 Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. Officers/Directors

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	Director Charlotte Mayo Bryant 506 Rain Song Rd. Dalton, GA 30270 (706) 278-8344	Director Barbara Tuttle 85504 Blackmon Rd. Yulee, FL 32097 (904) 225-0689 dtsr@comcast.net	Secretary Beryl Ferguson 414 S. Ridgewood Ave. Ormond Beach, FL 32174 Rosemary van Wandelen 3051 Keyport Street Deltona, FL 32738 <u>386-860-5586</u>

			rrborzoi@gmail.com (386) 677-1049 crossbowcreations@yahoo.com
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2015 SFMS Representatives to AFMS Committees

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