The Lodestar is the newsletter of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. and is published electronically every month.

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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President's Report

Fellow Rockhounds

Happy late 4th of July. I am packing for the American Federation Meeting in Albany, Oregon. I am proud to represent the Southeast Federation as your President. Looking forward to meeting fellow Rockhounds from all over the United States.

If your club has a show or event and needs liability insurance make sure to give 45 – 30 days notice to Mary Webb Treasurer/Insurance Liaison, so your venue will receive the certificate in a timely manner.

I would like to thank all the clubs that returned my phone calls with an e-mail reply. It made all the difference, getting a list together of all the SFMS members that passed away in 2015.

Thank you so much for all your help! Attached in the July Lodestar is the
List of members and Friends that have passed in 2015 and some in previous years. Sorry if I missed anyone.

You still have time to sign up to take a class in August and September at Wildacres. Go to SFMSWorkshops.com for info and a list of classes. Come join us in the mountains for a week of fun. I hope to see you there.

Stay safe while hunting for rocks, dress for the weather and drink plenty of water.

Till next month
Lisa Roberts
2016 SFMS President

First Vice President's Report

Second Vice President's Report

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Education Chair Report

The William Holland workshop is over and it went well. My personal thanks goes out to the students who attended, the WH workshop staff (Cindy Reed, Director and Heidi Wetzel, Registrar), and all the instructors.

The August session at Wildacres is approaching quickly and I’d like to fill you in on the progress. We filled all our allotted rooms and were given more. Which we also promptly filled. Rooms are not the only thing that have filled at Wildacres! Most classes are full or nearly full. However, don’t be discouraged if you were waiting until the last minute to sign-up for a class. We are usually given a few more rooms at the last minute, which we can assign to those on the waiting list. So please register if you’re interested, and hopefully we can find a space for you.

The September session at Wildacres is nearly in the same situation as the August session. So I encourage you to sign-up quickly if you’re interested in a class. Time is running very short!

I expect that we are approaching a time where all the workshop sessions will fill quickly and have waiting lists. Some of the older members can probably remember those times when this
was the norm. And that was when we had 3 Wildacre sessions and 2 William Holland sessions! I want to get to a point where all sessions are full and we have to ask both William Holland and Wildacres for additional sessions, not just for additional rooms.

Here’s a list of those who have made the workshops successful and brought us to the point we are at today:

Those faithful Students, Instructors, Directors, & Registrars who have helped us through the years. The workshops would not be on the upward climb without several years of effort.

The volunteer instructors who year after year agree to put forth a huge amount of effort to prepare for, and teach classes at the workshops. They do it for the students, the SFMS, and the joy of passing along their skills to others. These workshops could not go on without these great folks!

2016 Directors (Cindy and Rosemary) who have arranged for us to have new exciting classes and instructors, and the new 2016 Registrars (Heidi, Toni and Linda) who have caught on to the administrative process so quickly. Great job everybody!

The students who attend the sessions. You are why we work so hard to bring these workshops together. Your enjoyment is what encourages us each year.

I encourage each and every SFMS member to support the workshops by attending one of the sessions and then telling your friends how much fun you had! Word of mouth is our best advertising.

I hope to see all of you at a workshop session soon!

Danny Griffin
SFMS Education Chair

Ave et Vale 2015
“What a joyous reunion it will be with those who have passed on, in Heaven”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert and Teresa Meier</td>
<td>Mobil Rock and Gem Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Combs</td>
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<td>Young Quan</td>
<td>Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilma Wilkins</td>
<td>President, Gem and Mineral Club of DeLand</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<td>Beverly McNally</td>
<td>Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club</td>
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<td>Alvin Ray</td>
<td>Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society</td>
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<td>Jerry and Marilyn Gewirtz</td>
<td>Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Tuttle</td>
<td>Past President and Founding member of Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Abel</td>
<td>Pinellas Geological Society</td>
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<td>Dave Schwebel</td>
<td>Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<td>June Miller</td>
<td>Panama City Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<td>Ralph Marble</td>
<td>Gulf Coast Mineral Fossil Gem Club</td>
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<td>Mary Prescott</td>
<td>Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club</td>
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<td>Betty Watson</td>
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<td>Richard Graveline</td>
<td>Meteorite Association of Georgia and Georgia Mineral Society (2014)</td>
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<td>Jacquelin Tichenor</td>
<td>Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<td>Karen Foret</td>
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<td>William “Bill” Veal</td>
<td>Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<td>Rene’ Smith</td>
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<td>Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club</td>
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<td>Russ Holhouser</td>
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<td>Prep Maynard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Ernest Place</td>
<td>Past President Tri-State Gem and Mineral Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Ramer</td>
<td>Life Member of the Gem and Mineral Society Franklin</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Crawford</td>
<td>Founding member Gem and Mineral Society Franklin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Nagy</td>
<td>Columbia Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Igor Alexeff</td>
<td>Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<td>Joe Horton Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yvonne Stahl</td>
<td>Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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**Past Instructors for Southeast Federation Workshops and SFMS Friends**

- Bill Conybear
- Mary Ann Devos
- Jim Henderson
- Carolyn Sterns
- Jill Ryon
- Jim Dahlhausen
- Otto and Mary Glass
- Zoe Lightfoot
- Ken Kipnis
- Dawn Thornton
- Gloria Halsley

- Terry Monagle
- Chris Calloway
- Belinda Miller
- Gene and Betty Baxter
- Paul Castel
- John Eberle
- Bobby Chumack
- Jerry Smith
- Nester Garcia
- Mary Lou Kick
- Ron Gibbs
Our Prayers go out to each family that has lost a Loved one, may God
Give you Peace in your Heart, Comfort in your Spirit, and may you have
Everlasting Joy in the life time of precious memories Remembered.

Visit to the Petrified Forest National Park

– Danny Griffin

Due to some travel with work, I happened to be a few hours away from meteor crater in Arizona. I felt like this was a great opportunity to visit the site and go someplace a little warmer. Santa Fe was experiencing snow flurries that weekend. Just after I entered Arizona I passed an exit that went to the Petrified Forest National Park. I made a mental note to stop there on my return trip to check it out. Visiting the park wasn't high on my priority list. I was going to skip it if I ran out of time.

Meteor crater was more interesting than I expected and I spent a lot of time in the museum and on the observation decks. That evening I got back as far Winslow, Arizona and found a motel for the night. The next morning I was in too big a hurry to stand on any of the street corners. Nor did I see any girls in flat bed Fords slowing down to take a look at anybody! This must have been an Eagles myth.

I will describe what I saw in this article and will describe the geology of the park in a follow-up article.

I am glad I had a whole day to visit the Petrified Forest National Park. It was undoubtedly one of the most spectacular parks imaginable for a rock hound. The northern end of the park includes vistas of the Painted Desert. If you enter the parks from the I-40 exit you see the Painted Desert first and then a few miles down the road you begin to see the Petrified Forest. You exit the Petrified Forest near the town of Holbrook. The road thru the park is approximately 27 miles, one way, not counting the looping side roads you can take. If visiting the park, I suggest you take as many of those side roads that you have time for. Most lead to locations where you can park and walk thru the forest.

I enter from the I-40 side and found out from the park ranger, at the entry gate, that I was eligible for the national park senior pass. It costs $10, never expires, and is good at all national parks! Ya Hoo!!

Painted Desert had spectacular views that would take your breath away. I used my phone camera to take so many shots I thought I might fill up the memory before exiting the park. Fortunately I did not have that problem. The colors of the desert were amazing. There were
also many hiking trails for those who have the time and can handle a little steep terrain.

After entering the Petrified Forest portion of the park I took a looping side road that led to an area called Blue Mesa. On the road to the top of the mesa petrified wood was lying everywhere. I stopped and got out of my car too many times to count. The Blue Mesa trail area was a mile long walk that went down into the lower section of the mesa. The blue and gray colors of the surroundings were where the mesa got its name.
Within this lower section you could see where petrified wood logs had eroded from the surroundings and tumbled down the steep slopes.

I stopped at many other looping side roads and saw more petrified wood, hundreds of petroglyphs, and even a few buildings that were made from petrified wood. I wonder what the native Americans though of the wood that was made of rock?

I entered one area where even the gravel was petrified wood. For a rock hound it was tough not to pick up a few pieces to cut into souvenir cabochons. I resisted and I’m glad I did. More on this later.

Near the end of the trip there was an area where the logs got really long. I stepped off one and I believe it was at least 100 ft long! It must have been a spectacular tree when it was alive.
In this same area the wood had a more vibrant mix of colors than the other locations I had seen. There were reds, blacks, yellows, lavenders and so many others that it would take weeks to describe, so I've included a few picture for you to see.
I did visit the gift shop at the end of the park and they had lots of polished slabs and jewelry that included petrified wood cabochons.

As I exited the park there was a park ranger that was stopping each car and inquiring whether anyone inside had illegally collected petrified wood. It was tactfully explained that if they
declared that there was wood in their car, and they handed it over, that no one would be in trouble. But, if they did not declare there was petrified wood in the car, and it was searched, then everyone would be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law for stealing from a National Park. After declaring that I had not picked up any wood, I asked if anyone ever admits to taking wood from the park. He said they confiscate lots each day. He said they got 80 lbs from someone the day before my visit! That must have been one huge chunk or a whole bunch of smaller pieces.

This was one of the most enjoyable National Park visits I have ever made. I recommend that every rock hound reading this article put this park on the top of their bucket list. You will NOT be disappointed.

As a side note, there are many rocks shops in the small city of Holbrook, which is just a few miles outside of the park. I counted at least 5. All of the shops had plenty of petrified wood legally collected from the surrounding privately owned land.

My favorite was Jim Gray’s Petrified Wood Company. It was huge!

Have you ever been in a rock shop this big?? Inside it was full of petrified wood slabs and had a neat museum section. Outside it was surrounded by wood in every direction. See their website for a small taste of what was available in person.
Gem and Mineral Shows

September 2 – 5, 2016, Hendersonville, NC

Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society
35th Annual Gem & Mineral Spectacular

Colorful World of Jaspers

Friday - Sunday 10:00am – 6:00pm; Monday 10:00am – 5:00pm

*Demonstrations*Exhibits*Hourly Prizes*Refreshments Available*Raffle*Grand Prizes*

Whitmire Activity Center, 301 Lily Pond Rd. Hendersonville, NC

For more info check HCGMS.com

Admission: $4.00 Adults; Children under 12 accompanied by an adult are free

$1.00 OFF ONE PAID ADMISSION WITH THIS AD

September 30, October 1 & 2; Dallas, NC

38th Annual Gaston Gem Mineral and Faceters Club Show

Our show is coming Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and Oct.2. It is held at Gaston County Park, Dallas, NC. Hwy 279(Dallas Cherryville Hwy) 1/2 mile from Hwy 321. Hours- Friday and Sat 9:00-6:00 Sun 9:00-5:00. Free admission!! We have a sluice, and hourly raffles. Available are sand bags, fossils, wire wrapping, jewelry, cutting material, geodes, grab bags, makings, settings. Grand prize drawing at the end of the show on Sunday.

For informaiton about the show,or being dealer call Connie Cole, Show Chair. 704-733-7591 or 704-864-4387.

October 7-9, 2016, Huntsville, AL

The 48th annual Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show, sponsored by the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society will be Friday, October 7 through Sunday, October 9, 2016. This is the largest jewelry show in the region, the only rock, mineral and gem show in the region, and a great resource for the school earth science curriculum at all levels.

Location: The Jaycee Community Center at the old airport, 2180 Airport Road, Huntsville, AL 35801
Dates and Hours:  
Friday, October 7  10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Saturday, October 8  10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Sunday, October 9  12:00 pm to 5:00 pm  

Offerings:  
National and International Dealers with every type and quality of gems, collector specimens, lapidary materials, fossils, finished jewelry (costume to fine), lapidary (rock and mineral) art objects, and jewelry and lapidary supplies. Lapidary and Jewelry Demonstrations and Displays. Children’s “gem dig”, “gem flume”, and presentations Hourly drawings. Food service. Ample, convenient, FREE parking  

Donation suggested:  $3 for adults.  $1 for primary & secondary students. Children under 5 FREE.  $5 for adult Weekend passes  

We site:  www.huntsvillegms.org  
Contact:  256-534-8803  

October 14 – 16, 2016; Knoxville, TN  
26th Annual Gem & Mineral Show  

Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society  
Fri.  10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sat. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sun.11:00 AM - 5:00 PM  

Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave, Knoxville, TN  

Admission:  $5 per person per day or 3 day pass for $8 per person  
Children under 12 admitted FREE  

The Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show will have many vendors that offer great products including a wide variety of jewelry; rare fossil and mineral specimens; meteorites; gems of all colors shapes & sizes; lapidary & jewelry equipment; and much more.
November 12 & 13, 2016, Melbourne, FL

Canveral Mineral & Gem Society
43rd Annual Parade of Gems
November 12 & 13 2016
10:00am to 5:00pm
Melbourne Auditorium
625 East Hibiscus Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901
40+ dealers displaying and selling Jewelry, Gems, Minerals, Crystals, Fossils, Tools and Rocks
Admission; $5 Donation
Contact: Don McLamb, CMGS President & Acting Show Chairman

November 18 – 20, 2016; Columbia, SC

The Columbia, SC Gem & Mineral Society will hold its 2016 49th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show
Fri Nov. 18, 10:00 - 6:00;
Sat. Nov. 19, 10:00 - 6:00;
Sun. Nov. 20, 12:00 - 5:00
Jamil Temple
206 Jamil Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210
Jewelry, beads, loose stones, fossils, minerals, gold, silver, & tools for sale
Geodes sold & cut
Club member's rock collections on exhibit & lapidary demonstrations.
South Carolina amethyst on display.
Sponsored by The Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
$5.00 for adults, Sixteen & under free with adult.
All military & their dependents free.
Sue Shrader: 803-736-9317; ashrader@mindspring.com
Dealers; Sharon Sterrett 803-356-1472; ssterrett@sc.rr.com
www.cgams.org

November 18-20, 2016; Louisville, KY
Annual show; KYANA Geological Society, Camp Crestwood; 7206 Clore Lane; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6,
Sun. 12-5; Free Admission; 44th Annual Mineral, Gem & Fossil Show sponsored by KYANA
Geological Society. Beautiful custom jewelry, jewelry supplies, beads, gemstones, genuine Australian
opal, crystals, minerals and fossils. Door Prizes, children's Activities.; contact Rick Hunter, P.O. Box
32561, Louisville, KY 40232, (502)-298-8871; e-mail: kyanageoshowchair@gmail.com; Web site:
www.kyanageo.org

November 19-20, 2016, West Palm Beach, FL
Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc. Presents Our Golden Anniversary 50th
Annual Gem, Mineral, Bead, Jewelry, & Fossil Show

Expo Center East South Florida Fairgrounds,
9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach, Florida 33411
www.southfloridafair.com
November 19-20, 2016
Saturday 9AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—5PM

Over 80 dealers from all over the country offer a wide range of merchandise—fine jewelry,
southwestern Indian jewelry, loose beads, rocks and minerals for specimen collecting and
cutting, loose precious and semi-precious gemstones, settings and findings, fossils,
meteorites, tools, books, and much, much more.

Over 80 dealers from all over the country offer a wide range of merchandise—fine jewelry,
southwestern Indian jewelry, bead jewelry, loose beads, rocks and minerals for specimen
collecting and cutting, loose precious and semi-precious gemstones, settings and findings,
fossils, meteorites, tools, books, and much, much more.

The show offers a wide range of educational activities and exhibits. Visit the demonstration
area where society members will be showcasing skills learned in club classes.
Demonstrations will include faceting, cabochon making, chain making, and bead stringing just
to name a few. Hourly door prizes awarded both days, a show Grand Prize and a Scholarship
fundraising drawing will be held. We have also invited several local education based clubs to display at our show, as well as the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium. Guest speakers will present a variety of educational topics.

December 2-4, 2016; Montgomery, AL

The 46th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

Garrett Coliseum
1555 Federal Drive
Montgomery, Alabama

Show Times:
Friday, December 2: 9 AM - 6 PM
Saturday, December 3: 10 AM - 6 PM
Sunday, December 4: 11 AM - 5 PM

Admission:
$2/Adults or $3 for weekend pass
Free/18 & Under with student ID and 1 paid adult

Free Parking.

Free door prize ticket with each paid adult admission.

Dealers will have beads, crystals, geodes, rough, cabochons, gem stones, finished jewelry, tools, supplies and mineral & fossil specimens. Club members will display their individual collections and will give demonstrations on gem and rock cutting, faceting, cabochon making, and knapping.

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryGemClub/](https://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryGemClub/)
From Left to Right: Dave Wayment, Past President; Jason Hamilton, Membership Secretary; Mark Easterbrook, AFMS Regional 3rd Vice President; Craig Hamilton, 2nd Vice President; Lisa Roberts, President; Teresa Polly, 1st Vice President; Mari Webb, Treasurer

2016 SFMS Officers

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Second Vice President</td>
<td>Craig Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>404.354.8752</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFMS President</td>
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<td>276 Lacy Lane Easley, SC 29640</td>
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# 2016 SFMS Committee Chairs

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<tr>
<th>Nominations</th>
<th>Long Range Planning</th>
<th>Bulletin Editors Contest</th>
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<td>James Darnell</td>
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<td>Mark Easterbrook</td>
<td>Lisa Fitch</td>
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<td>20 Cobblestone Way West</td>
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<td>Mobile, AL 36608</td>
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<td>North Charleston, SC 29418</td>
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<tr>
<td>251.633.5875</td>
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<td>843-276-4016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Trips</td>
<td>Charles and Lori Carter</td>
<td>4138 Steve Reynolds Blvd. Norcross, GA 30093-3059</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sfms-dmc@amfed.org">sfms-dmc@amfed.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>865.406.8802 <a href="mailto:gcjinc@comcast.net">gcjinc@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Don Monroe</td>
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<td>(706) 379-9662 <a href="mailto:donmonroe@windstream.net">donmonroe@windstream.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance Liason</td>
<td>Charlotte Caughman</td>
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<td>864-542-5198 <a href="mailto:stonespiritscbc@yahoo.com">stonespiritscbc@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
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<td>864-836-5896 <a href="mailto:greentop@bellsouth.net">greentop@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Slide/Video Programs</td>
<td>James Webb</td>
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<td>(904) 705-2624 <a href="mailto:jameswebb.jgms@gmail.com">jameswebb.jgms@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Concerns</td>
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<td>Stamp Program</td>
<td>Carolyn Grothaus</td>
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<td>864.676.9799 <a href="mailto:alitheria@gmail.com">alitheria@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>Uniform Rules</td>
<td>Leslie Wayment</td>
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<td>772-539-2409 <a href="mailto:aastainedglass@bellsouth.net">aastainedglass@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Holland Director</td>
<td>Jim and Cindy Reed</td>
<td>5740 Hebron Lane</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Holland Registrar</td>
<td>Heidi Wetzel</td>
<td>1105 Victor Hill Rd. Greer, SC 29651</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jeff Ursillo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Annual Meeting Host</td>
<td>Don McLamb</td>
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<td>(321) 723-2592 <a href="mailto:fdjmc@aol.com">fdjmc@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>William Holland Registrar</td>
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<td>Wildacres Director</td>
<td>Toni Garland / Linda Matvy</td>
<td>1520 Murphy Myers Rd. Maryville, TN 37803 (865) 300-2738</td>
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### 2016 Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. Officers/Director

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
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### 2016 SFMS Representatives to AFMS Committees

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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Contest Chairperson</td>
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