President's Report

“EFFORT”

Continuing the theme for the May issue of the Lodestar.

EFFORT – n. 1. Conscious exertion of power: hard work a serious attempt, something produced by exertion or trying, effective force or called into action by such a force, the total work done to achieve a particular END.

I am NOT a literary genius. To run a train does not take “Rocket Science”, but a little engineering will help. Most of my Work career was in the field of Mechanical and Civil engineering. Many different projects over the span of nearly 45 years. As problems arose, you would go in trying different formulas and soon or later
things would fall into place. I never gave up on anything. Didn't then and not now either. Just keep on trying and the answer will come. Sometimes soon and sometimes later.

SFMS has a NEED. We can FILL the need and Plug the hole or we can just take the “Wait and See” approach and ware everybody that fills a position out, or we can find someone in nearly 8500 members who will say YES. That sure would be super. ( Over and above ). Exceeding the Norm!

It never hurts to let off some steam. Even locomotives need to have a release valve. How refreshing, what an idea. Just ask someone in your club if volunteering for helping the SFMS would be of interest to them. If, we don't ask, NOTHING will happen.

I could not come up with a theme for the June Lodestar, so this is it.

SFMS President
Craig Hamilton
904-994-4729
cbhshell@att.net

Committee Reports

Education
See the attached Adobe files with descriptions of the offerings at the upcoming Wildacres sessions.

Safety
Bob Green, Chairperson
Happy Summer, 2018- I hope all are enjoying this summer. To those who suffered the severe floods in the south so far this year, our thoughts and prayers.

As a side note, the scammers have really loved the summer season. I am on Facebook and so far I have been hacked three times in the last year. Some of these guys really like my photo or something or think all of my FB friends are old and senile. So if you have been offered a low cost loan or a beach front property for $20 and all you have to do is pay $1,000 for this great deal, do not believe it. Watch your personal information as these folks will try anything. My wife had her debit card stolen and the thieves went on a shopping spree at a local discount mall. The thing that got
her was these folks did not go to a high end restaurant for dinner, they went to a low end fast food place. I think this was what tipped off the bank. Our bank is doing a good job of watching our spending. Yesterday, I had one purchase rejected, and in just a minute, I received a text questioning whether it was a real purchase. I replied and the card reset.

This summer seems to also bring out the worst in the drivers. I had a friend from the Houston, TX area and they had a move called the south TX weave, that is making a right turn from the far left lane at 70 miles an hour and through 3 or 4 lanes of traffic and expecting other drivers to miss them. We in the upstate, we have too many of the similar moves, except not as many lanes of traffic. Driving home on two successive weekends, we have had equally ridiculous drive moves. One lady in a red SUV, passed us in the median and then tailgated the car in front of us, all the while doing obscene street gestures to the driver ahead. So avoid the road rage incidents, too many of these folks are on something or have consumed too many liquid products that affect their thought process. I just received a notification on my phone of a tractor driver that had been hit from behind by a woman who was DUI. The tractor drive apparently did not make it. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the innocent.

As the summer gets closer to the hotter times, protect your selves from the sun. The sun is the giver of life, but sunburns and the development of cancers associated with the sun can really spoil your fun times. As some may remember, the writer sun burned the tops of his feet while on vacation. This was more than a bit uncomfortable.

Enjoy the summer and be safe. The highways are substantially more dangerous that they should be because of consumed liquids and other substances. Also, those with the phone in front of their face really cannot see this bright red 18 wheeler in front of them, so avoid the texter/driver folks. I think we have a fine of $25 if you get caught texting and driving. However the hospital bills will be much larger.

DMC Field Trip Report

March DMC Field Trip Report

Hosted by the Mid-GA Gem & Mineral Society
By Jay Batcha

The Mid-Ga GMS sponsored DMC dig in March to collect kyanite went very good or even “great” as Tony the tiger would say! There were 45 people attending the field trip. The weather ended up being just right, not too cold nor hot and the rain did not show up until after 2:00pm. We ended the field trip at 2:00pm before the rain
came in. Everybody found plenty of kyanite. We had 12 Mid-GA members at the field trip with everyone helping out. Richard brought lots of bottled water to hand out to everyone. Bill brought bags of cookies to feed everyone. AL, Dan, and I brought door prizes for the drawing. Bill, Jim, Al, and I worked the table for door prizes and signing in. Charles set up the dig for us to go to. Thanks to everyone else that helped out with this field trip! Some people dug holes up to 4 feet deep to find kyanite clusters and a couple of very large clusters were found with many small clusters found. The kyanite blades were everywhere lying on the hillside. So what a day!!!!

[Clubs that are interested in the SFMS DMC field trip sharing program can learn more about the program and download a membership application form from the DMC pages on the SFMS website: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm]

**Rock and Gem Magazine**

The recently redesigned Rock & Gem website is going to have an updated club listing section. Clubs will submit their listings via a form similar to the one used for show dates. I've added the option to identify their regional federation.

Once the form is ready to go live, **I will be deleting the entire club list and starting from scratch.** This will ensure that all club information is up to date and in the proper format.

Can you help me get the word out to your member clubs that they will need to resubmit their information? I'll send you another notice when the form is available to use, possibly next week. The sooner clubs submit, the sooner we can repopulate the list.

There is also a reader survey on our Facebook page. We need your members’ feedback to help us keep our product relevant.

Many thanks,

Lynn Varon

Managing Editor

Rock & Gem magazine

Dear Rockhounds,

This is an official invitation to the grand opening of the Trilobyte Me! Fossil Quarry in Delta, Utah. We are offering high grade fee digs for gem grade trilobites and have also opened up our pit that produces museum quality specimens. Our quarry is probably one of the richest trilobite fossil quarries in the world. I am officially inviting you to our fossil quarry to dig with us! I have been running pay digs and have been digging with (over 50,000) customers for 16 years. I work with geologist, Christohper Rose, that owns over 40 significant claims in the West, including the Himalaya Tourmaline Mine in Southern California and the Spectrum Sunstone Mine in Plush, Oregon, both of which were featured on international television show, Cash&Treasures. All I can say is that I'm felling totally blessed to send this invitation to you. I have a small crew of very significant and knowledgeable folks, including a guy that was on Prospector's TV show and a guy that has been mining on the ridge our claim is on for over 40 years! And, we are having a great time! I find about 30-100 per day. The guy on the ridge finds over 200 per day. And the prospector's guy is somewhere in between. An average person will find about 30 in about 5 hours of digging. Above average, 100+. We have different digging options so suit all collectors, but as long as the hammers keep hammering through the shale (with the intent of finding trilobites) then trilobites will keep popping out. We are patiently waiting for the rockhounds and hope that you will join us this season and make our grand opening one of the best ever! Please research the significance of the trilobites and prepare to fall in love with reading an ancient, prehistoric book, with your rockpick.

Tools:
- bucket
- mason hammer
- wide blade chisel
- big thick glove for non dominant hand
- eye protection and a hat

Where:
Delta, UT
http://www.

Accommodations: Free camping, RVs, trailers and tents welcome.
Nearby hotels: Rancher Motel (435) 864-274, Delta Inn Motel (435) 864-5318, Days Inn (435) 864-3882, Antelope Valley RV Park (800) 430-0022
Contact:
Jessica Schenk
(775)830-5797 (texting is better than leaving a message, but I do my best to get mobile service and keep up with the messages)
jleighschenk@gmail.com
info@www.highdesertgemsandminerals.com

GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS

July 28 to August 5, 2018; Spruce Pine, NC

The 34th Annual Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show put on by the Parkway Fire and Rescue to raise money for new equipment.

Over 60 US and International dealers with almost any kind of jewelry, gemstone and mineral specimens, fossil, lapidary equipment and more you might want. Each booth is 20 foot by 40 foot so there are LOTS of items for sale.

Parking and admission are free.

Food is available.

Hours: 10 to 6 daily with many vendors open earlier and later because they are staying with their booth.

Address: 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine, NC 28777. This location is on the hill above the previous location.

Contact: Donna Collis  collisdonna@yahoo.com  828-765-5519

October 19 – 21, 2018; Knoxville, TN

28th Annual Gem and Mineral Show

Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923
Friday and Saturday 0900 to 1800; Sunday 1000 to 1700
Admission: Adults, $6 per day or show pass $10; children under 12 FREE
Further information contact: Travis Paris, taparis@msn.com or Teresa Polly, teresapolly@bellsouth.net

**November 10 & 11, 2018; Melbourne, FL**
Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society

50 Dealers displaying & selling Jewelry, gems, minerals, crystals, fossils, tools, rocks, slabs.

Demonstrations; hourly prizes; grand prize

Children’s Mineral Discoveries

Melbourne Auditorium

625 East Hibiscus Blvd.

Melbourne, FL 32901

More info; [www.canaveral-mgs.com](http://www.canaveral-mgs.com)

Show Chairman,

Don McLamb

570 Seabreeze Drive

Indialantic, FL 32903

321-723-2592

fdjmc@aol.com
### 2018 SFMS Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Craig Hamilton</td>
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<td>First Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Barbi Beatty</td>
<td>7700 Fountainbleau Rd</td>
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<td>Assistant Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Teresa Polly</td>
<td>6115 Atkins Rd, Knoxville, TN 37918</td>
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2018 SFMS State Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
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2018 Annual Meeting Host: Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society - September 21-23, 2018 Jason Hamilton, 7141 Natal Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 904-294-4744 Silver-Rocks@comcast.net

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<th>Vice President</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
<th>SFMS Education Chair</th>
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<tr>
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<th>Secretary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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