The Lodestar is the newsletter of the Southeast Federation of Mineralological 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.
President's Report

Hello Fellow Rockhounds

You missed a great time in Mississippi……… The Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society did a great job hosting the First SFMS Quarterly meeting the last weekend in February. A good time was had by all !!!!!! A big thank you to all club members that worked so hard to make sure our every need was met. After the meeting, we all attended the Gem and Mineral Show. I found plenty of pretty rocks to take home.

I would like to thank Debra at the Mississippi Petrified Forest in Flora, MS for donating free passes for the SFMS meeting attendees. Collis and I arrived on
Wednesday night in MS and enjoyed most of the day Thursday touring the Petrified Forest and their wonderful museum. If you are ever in the area, please take the time to visit. They also have a very good gift shop.

I hope some of you took the time to read the President’s message in the AMFED news from Matt our American Federation President

Resolutions………..My List

I have attended 2 meetings SFMS meeting and the Quartzsite Roadrunner’s Gem and Mineral Club

2 Gem and Minerals Shows Mississippi and Arizona

Volunteered to help out when I saw a need, without having to be asked to help

If we all do more………..it makes less work for all.

After spending time in MS, we headed west to Quartzsite, AZ to spend time with Bob and Rowan Morgan from the Kingsport Gem and Mineral Society. Even with the main show over, there were plenty of dealers still set up in the desert. We bought lots of rough rock to cut into slabs and some beautiful crystals from John B from Mount Ida, AK. It is March 8, 2016 and we are still in Quartzsite, AZ having a great time.

Attention all Clubs do you belong to American Lands Access Association

membership@amlands.org

Thank you

2016 SFMS President

Lisa Roberts

If you need anything please call or e-mail
First Vice President's Report

Second Vice President's Report

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Education

Danny Griffin, Chairperson

The 2016 workshop schedule of classes has been posted on the website since January and the response has been excellent. A few of the classes are nearly full. If you are thinking of signing up for a class, but have been putting it off, you’d better hurry. Your first choice may already be unavailable. For a listing of all the classes go to www.sfmsworkshops.com. Feel free to contact the Directors or Registrars if you have any questions. If your local club Newsletter Editor has not published info about the workshops, please have them do so. Local club newsletters are the best way for members to find out about the workshops.

I hope to see many new faces at the workshops this year!

If you have attended a workshop in the past or have spread the word about the workshops, thanks for your support!

If you see a workshop Director, Registrar, Instructor or the Workshop Webmaster please thank them for all their effort. It takes a lot of time to keep the workshops running smoothly.

Education Quiz?!

Guess what type of rock hammer this is, answer at end of this issue:
Safety

– Bob Green, Chairperson

Greetings all, Last night, 14-March, a severe storm rolled through the upstate of South Carolina. Several of my work associates had damage to their houses as a result of this storm. Most were minor but others in our area were not so lucky. Trees fell on dwellings and motorists ran off the road due to the wind and rain. Now, the rain in our area was minimal compared to what has happened in the Louisiana and Mississippi area very recently and also what happened in the midlands of South Carolina last fall.

Out of all of these natural disasters, the need for preparation for a disaster can be a daunting task, if you consider the worst case scenario. As an example, losing your house can be a financial disaster as can a long term injury. I am not sure how you can plan for all of the things that can go wrong, but anyway for those less than life threatening occurrences, it is a good time to look at what happens to the “minor” inconveniences such as losing power, and “having” to camp out in your house for several days. Last month a story on TV was about a family that had no power and apparently we not expecting it to come on very quickly. It did not appear that they had a plan to deal with this situation. As I have noted many times before, it is relatively easy to have non-perisable foods on hand, even thought eating pork and beans for a week can be a bit of a bore for someone used to eating better, it can sustain you. Water is actually more critical to your long term survival than food. So planning on how to store water for an extended time needs to be in the back of your mind.

Last month, I noted that preparedness for the events like ice storms requires planning and having the proper equipment and supplies on hand. Recently we had a power outage as a result of too much rain and wind. The power went out qt 9:30 as we were preparing for bed. I was concerned that one of our trees had downed a power line, but in some sense relived that it was a tree on the road not too far from the house (I got in the care to check this out.). As the night progressed, my primary concern was how do I make coffee in the morning. So as I had noted in the February issue, in our house, coffee is a key ingredient in survival.

So as with last month, the weather is getting warmer, the pollen count is rising and the urge to get outside is great. Be careful and avoid over-exertion, again as noted last month.

Over the winter we had several trees collapse and these had wisteria vines entangled in the limbs. Working through the tangle of vines to get to the trees has been a challenge and one
Saturday, a substantial part of the day was spent trying to clear out this “mess”. Well, I did overdo it and was really sore and my asthma also punished me.

This carries into the next subject of watch over your health. Those of us over 25 have to monitor our well being. My weight is up, thanks to our extended families ability to produce marvelous meals. So keep you appointment with your healthcare professional. Your health is one of your greatest assets and can be a liability.

Keep safe and watch your health and well being.

**Letter to the Editor:**

Just wanted to thank the Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society for doing a great job hosting the SFMS Executive Board Meeting and putting on a great two day show the weekend of February 27-28. Had a great time at both, picked up some ideas hopefully to improve my own show in January.

There has been some well written articles on safety in the Lodestar so I would like to put my two cents in at this time.

The host club had placed many SFMS Officers in a local hotel for the meetings. This one offered breakfast. I tried to toast my English muffin 3 times in one of the 2 toasters, no heat. So I moved to the other one, using setting 3 of 10, dropped the pieces in and sat down to eat the rest of my breakfast. Suddenly the fire alarm was going off. My table companion and I discussed if we should leave or not because we did not smell any smoke. Then the hotel counter guy slowly walked passed and took out of the toaster my pair of smoking English muffins. He laid them on the counter saying "happens all the time". Then walked back to his front counter to start answering phone calls from people in rooms asking if they should leave their rooms or not. I go and take the smoldering bread to the sink to wet down the bread to stop the smoke. The elevator opens and 6 sleepy lady's come out asking questions and start for the food. First Responder has arrived, shortly followed by the first fire truck and a third fire truck. All for my English muffins.

Now let's think about safety.

One SFMS member said she did wake up to the sound of the Fire Alarm, did not smell smoke, turned over and went back to sleep. She did not even call the desk.

Simlar to myself and table companion. We did not smell the smoke so we were wondering how serious a fire it could be. There are three signs at each elevator, and each floor saying do not use if fire alarm goes off, use stairs. All used elevator. I never did find the stairs.

Next time I go to a hotel I'm going to ask questions and look around and wonder if I will act differently next time.

But I will look for those stairs, ask if the elevator stops working if fire alarm goes off, how often
does it go off, has the sprinklers gone off, are there any where the food is served.

I'm questioning myself do I leave building and ask questions later?

Now a days how serious is a Fire Alarm going off in our life, and what would you do? Just something to think about.

And I have learnd my lesson. I'm going to stand by my next English muffin and wait for it to toast, even if it's like watching a pot of water boil.

Rosemary van Wandelen
Tomoka Show Vendor
January 28-29 2017
Volusia County Fairgrounds, FL
386-479-1508

Gem and Mineral Shows
March 19-20, 2016, Dothan, AL

Dothan Gem and Mineral Show
Saturday 9:00-5:00 and Sunday 10:00-4:00

Held annually the third weekend of March by the Dothan Gem and Mineral Club
Houston County Farm Center
1701 East Cottonwood Road
Dothan, AL

Minerals, gems, fossils, lapidary rough, beads, and handcrafted items, such as, jewelry and knapped knives. Hourly door prizes, silent auction, grab bags. Free admission.

Show contact: Jeff DeRoche, Show Chair, 334-673-3554
E-Mail contact: arlambert@comcast.net
Club web site: www.wiregrasrockhounds.com
April 2-3, 2016; Lexington, KY

Lexington Rock Gem & Jewelry Show (Annual Show)

April 2 - 3, 2016 - Lexington, KY, Clarion Hotel, 1950 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY. Near Exit 115 off I-75/I-64. Hours: Sat April 2 9AM-6PM and Sun April 3, 11AM-5PM.

Show includes minerals, jewelry, equipment dealers, exhibits, KY Agate, fluorescent displays, silent auction, hourly prizes. Admission: $2 Adults, $1 Children, $5 Max Family. Scouts in uniform free.

Info Jane Volk - lexgemshow@outlook.com, Allen Ferrell - kyrock2010kentucky@yahoo.com, or Website - www.bggamc.homestead.com.
Blue Grass Gem and Mineral Club

Lexington Rock Gem and Jewelry Show

Mineral specimens, fossil specimens, cabbing rough, crystals, Artisan hand-made jewelry, books, and children's items.

Silent Auctions and Hourly Door Prizes
Free Parking

April 2-3, 2016
Saturday 9am to 6pm
Sunday 11am to 5pm

Clarion Hotel Convention Center
1950 Newtown Pike
Lexington, KY ~ Exit 115 I-75

Admission: $2 adults ~ $1 child 6-17
Scouts in uniform free ~ Families $5
Concessions on site
3rd Annual

Dig It Music City
A fun family exploration
of the
Earth’s rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems

Amqui Station
Nashville, TN
Saturday

April 23, 2016
10am to 4pm

11am “Geology of Tennessee” by Ron Clendening

1pm “Volcanoes and Earthquakes” by William Peel

Activities for kids
Free Mineral & Fossil ID

Rock, mineral, fossil, slab, rough, & gem vendors

Free Admission + Free parking

Advertised to the public - Open to all clubs and rockhounds

Sponsored by the Middle Tennessee Rockhounds

To reserve space for demonstration, education, exhibits, or for sales, contact Wayne Ramsey at 615-491-2293 or Swap@RockHound.org by April 16th. There is no charge for space. No fees. No commissions. Registration is required.

Amqui Station & Visitors Center - 303 Madison St –Nashville, TN

Near the Nashville Public Library, Madison branch & Fifty Forward

For map & information: www.RockHound.org/swap  
www.AmquiStation.org

April 30 & May 1, 2016: North Charleston, SC


Location: Charleston Area Convention Center; Exhibit Hall A.

Location Address: 5000 Coliseum Drive, North Charleston, SC 29418

Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-5.

Directions: I-26 East to I-526 West. Take Exit 16 (first exit), stay in right lane, and turn left onto International Blvd. Turn right at the second stop light and you will be facing the convention center. Follow the road to the left to the parking lot.
FREE admission and FREE parking; hourly door prizes, club hospitality table, demonstrations, fossil dig, geode cracking.

Contact Karen Havenstein of Charleston, SC at (843) 795-2956; e-mail: fossils@comcast.net;

Web site: www.lowcountrygemandmineralsociety.org

May 6-8, 2016, Marietta, Ga

The Georgia Mineral Society's 48th Annual Mother's Day Weekend Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show - May 6, 7, 8, 2016 - Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy SE, Marietta, GA 30060. Show Hours: Friday - 10 am - 6 pm; Saturday - 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday - Noon - 5 pm. EXCITING AUCTION Saturday at 1 pm !!! FREE Admission! FREE Parking!
Over 30 Dealers! Door Prizes! SPECIAL Door Prize for Students! Win a Great Prize for Yourself and for Your School!

Website - www.gamineral.org

Email - mayshow@gamineral.org
ROCK SHOW

The Georgia Mineral Society’s
48th Annual Mother's Day Weekend
Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show

2016

Friday  May 6  10 AM – 6 PM
Saturday  May 7  10 AM – 6 PM
Sunday  May 8  Noon – 5 PM

EXCITING AUCTION SATURDAY AT 1 PM
Cobb Civic Center
548 South Marietta Pkwy SE
Marietta, 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 Demos!

May 28 & 29, 2016; Gulfport, MS
Harrison County Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show.
Sat. May 28, 9am-5pm Sun. May 29, 9am-4pm.
Held at Joppa Shrine Temple, 1.5 miles north of I-10 at Exit 41.
Organized by: Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society. Gulfport, MS
Dealers, demonstrations, displays & kids’ activities.
Adults $5 Children under 12 free
Free parking
website: gulfportgems.org

June 4 & 5, 2016, McCalla, AL
Tannehill Historical Ironworks State Park, Alabama
The 43rd Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show
Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society
Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5, 9am to 5pm
12632 Confederate Pkwy, McCalla, AL 35111

The show is free with paid admission to the park. We will have door prizes, children’s games and demonstration classes.

I-59/20 to exit #100 or I-459 to exit #1 and follow the signs to Tannehill.

Showchairman: Cathy Kellogg
tannehillgemshow@gmail.com
http://www.lapidaryclub.com/

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

For more information, contact Teresa Polly teresapolly@bellsouth.net

www.knoxrocks.org/gemshow.html

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
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

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Second Vice President</td>
<td>Craig Hamilton</td>
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# 2016 SFMS State Directors

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<th>State</th>
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# 2016 SFMS Committee Chairs

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<td>Nominations</td>
<td>James Darnell</td>
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<td>Field Trips</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>Insurance Liaison</td>
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<td>Charles and Lori Carter</td>
<td>Danny Griffin</td>
<td>Don Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Green</td>
<td>Bob Green</td>
<td>James Webb</td>
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**Answer to Quiz:**

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Societies and their members are requested to advise Federation Officers.