

Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXXI/Two

February 2007

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

February 24, 2007: Hogg Mine near LaGrange, Troup County, GA for rose quartz, tourmaline, beryl, mica books and quartz crystals. The rose quartz will star if cut correctly and some of the beryl can be gemmy aquamarine. Hosts: Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society (Macon, Georgia). See your local club newsletter for additional information.

March 17-8, 2007 (Day and Night Digs): Hickory Cane Mines, Marion, KY for fluorite, smithsonite, sphalerite, cerussite, galena, hemimorphite, hydrozincite, quartz, pyromorphite, and calcite. Night digs are for collecting fluorescent material, primarily calcite. Hosts: Kyana Geological Society (Louisville, KY). Fees: \$20 for day digs & \$30 for night digs which allow you one, 5-gal. bucket of specimens. Admission to the Ben Clement Fluorite Museum is \$5.

“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!”

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Website: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS



Once again you will notice that this issue of *Lodestar* is rather slim and is very late in reaching you. This is because very few articles were actually submitted for publishing (few of which were submitted on time). I had an unexpected death in the family (my mother-in-law) requiring a long trip (to Pennsylvania) along with preparing for my trip to California. My eldest daughter has finally gotten a start date for her new job and I will be leaving for California the end of this week (next to the last week in February). All of this is putting a strain on the time I have available for doing a job that is supposed to be a volunteer position.

Please, please get your articles in by the 25th of February for the March *Lodestar*. I will not be able to continue as your editor if people continue to miss deadlines. I work fulltime and I have to be able to count on completing the *Lodestar* on certain weekends that do not conflict with my work schedule and would allow for unexpected issues that come up.

Carolyn L. Daniels, *Lodestar* Editor

CHANGES TO 2007 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

There have been some changes and additions to the William Holland and Wildacres workshops for this year.

Please note the following:

Wildacres - April 13-19: Wirecraft Sculpture is an ***advanced** class.

William Holland - June 10-16: Faceting is a **beginning** class and Southwest Silversmithing is an ***advanced** class.

Wildacres - August 20-26: Seed Beading will be taught by **Vivian Heath** and Wirecraft Rings is an ***advanced** class.

Wildacres - September 17-23: Chainmaking is an **intermediate** class, Southwest Silversmithing is an ***advanced** class, and Seed Beading will be taught by **Barbera Green**.

William Holland - October 14-20: Beginning chainmaking is **canceled**, Intarsia is an ***advanced** class, and Wirecraft Rings is an ***advanced** class.

*Advanced classes have prerequisites. Check with the instructor for details.

(Above changes do not appear on the registration forms on pages 6-7 of this issue of *Lodestar*.)

Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chairman

email: sfms@amfed.org



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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**The article submittal due date for the March 2006 *Lodestar* is February 25, 2006
(No exceptions!)**

Be Safe – Be Well

Safety Committee – Don Monroe, Chairman

My Relatives

From time to time I have included a comment or two about my personal life, but I have rarely noted anything about my relatives. Some of them are nice folk and some are even better than that, but some of them are not to my liking and really should be avoided. One of these unsatisfactory folks is my Uncle Arthur.

Uncle Arthur Itis visits me periodically and he may even come by your house. Can we do anything about “Arthur Itis”? Well, we can do a little and here are some of the ways we can attack this most unpleasant visitor and increase our enjoyment and ability to pursue our hobby.

Our first move should be to educate ourselves. There are foundations and many other organizations that can teach us about this invasive malady. There is more than one type of arthritis and we each need to know what type we have. I read everything that I find and have found a few things that seem to help me or least explain what is going on. I have not identified a “cure” but, at least, I know more about what brings on my attacks.

Suggestion #1: Follow a planned exercise program. Here is an area where advice from your doctor is probably needed. Arthritis can occur in many parts of our bodies and for me it is the knees and shoulder and, for reasons unknown, my thumbs. Exercise really helps the knees and shoulders but the thumbs are still a problem.

Suggestion #2: What we eat can definitely have an effect on arthritis but I do not think that is universal and applicable to all of us. I like tomatoes, and one summer one of the people in my office brought bags and baskets of fresh ripe tomatoes every day. At lunch we would make great sandwiches and that was a daily ritual. After a few weeks my knees became so sore that I really could not walk well. I finally learned that my system is very sensitive to the acid in the tomatoes. When I broke the tomato habit, the relief was quick and dramatic. I also determined that too much citrus fruit or juice was not my friend. Read up on the dietary aspects of arthritis and you may be surprised to learn what can help or hurt.

Suggestion #3: Don’t abuse your body. One of my old golfing buddies would collect aluminum cans and he would stomp on them to flatten them before bagging them. It took a long time for him to finally accept the fact that crushing cans was really hard on his knees and ankles. Look at your work area and think about jar openers and resilient floor pads to take the strain off wrists and knees.

Suggestion #4: There are some medical procedures that may help. When I had surgery to remove unwanted bits of cartilage in my knee, my orthopedic surgeon also peeled off some arthritis which he described as having the appearance of a heavy white paint. I never saw it but that’s what he said. I think it came back so the benefit was temporary.

Suggestion #5: Medication is an idea that I really do not like but many people swear by the anti-inflammatory and other drugs. I do not like the side effects that are possible but as I said in the beginning, there is no universal cure.



2007 SFMS NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The SFMS Executive Committee has selected the following members to serve on the Nominations Committee for 2007:

- Beryl Ferguson
- Jim Flora
- Marty Hart
- Anita Westlake
- Dee Conybear Alternate

Ann Monroe, SFMS Nominations Committee Chairman

SFMS BOARD MEETING

Hosted By

**The Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society
Hendersonville, NC
Saturday, March 24, 2007**

Hotel: Quality Inn and Suites located at I-26 and US 64, 201 Sugarloaf Road, Hendersonville, North Carolina. For reservations call: 828.692.7231 and mention SFMS for rates of \$53.99 (plus tax) with outside view and \$62.99 (plus tax) facing inner courtyard. Reservations must be made by February 23, 2007, for these rates.

Directions to the Quality Inn: Exit 49A on I-26 which is US 64 East towards Bat Cave. Go one block to the first traffic light, turn right onto Sugarloaf Road, proceed for approximately a quarter of a mile to the Quality Inn.

Hotel amenities are many and include a free hot breakfast (served 6:30 – 11:00 A.M. o) for those staying at the hotel. Beverages and snacks will be available at the mid-morning break.

Meeting: The board meeting will be held in the conference room at the Quality Inn. Registration will be at 8:30 A.M. and the meeting will start at 9:00 A.M.

*Roger E. Campbell
Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society*

FUTURE ROCKHOUDS OF AMERICA BADGE SYSTEM IN A NUTSHELL

Here are answers to four (4) common questions I've received about the AFMS/Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) merit badge program:

How Does the Merit Badge Program Work?

The program consists of an FRA membership badge, nine (9) merit badges (Rocks & Minerals, Earth Resources, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Communication, Field Trips, and Leadership), and a "Rockhound Badge" for kids who earn six (6) of the nine (9) merit badges. A 100-page guidebook describes and outlines requirements for each of the nine (9) merit badges. There are 52 activities to choose from, or about a half dozen activities per badge, with kids required to complete only three (3) activities to earn any particular badge. Checklists in the guidebook make it easy for youth leaders to sign off on activities as junior members complete them. In addition, brief back-up pages and suggestions help leaders guide their kids through each activity. The guidebook is available both in hardcopy format (photocopied) and on the AFMS web site (<http://www.amfed.org/fra/meritbadge.htm>). To save on costs to the program, which is being provided entirely free, I encourage you to download a copy of the guidebook and its checklist sheets from the web. If this is not possible, contact me for a copy.

How Do I Sign up the Kids in My Local Club?

The program is for clubs with youth members enrolled in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America (FRA). To enroll your kids, contact me (call 805-659-3577__or email jbraceth@adelphia.net). All you need is a group of kids (up to age 18), a sponsor, a name, and an application to FRA. (An application form is included with this report.) Your club must be affiliated with the AFMS. The number of youth is not important, you can have as few as one (1) or two (2) and as many as you can handle.

How Do I Order the Merit Badges?

Because this is a new program and we don't have a history as to what potential supply-and-demand will be, I'm keeping distribution of badges centralized, at least for the first year or so. For budgetary reasons, we were only able to order a limited quantity of badges as a start. Thus,

rather than send bulk quantities of badges to local youth leaders and exhaust our supply right away, I'm asking that local leaders at individual clubs send me requests for badges as they are earned.

How to go about this?__You should make multiple copies of the activity checklists that are included in the merit badge guidebook. For each child, check off activities as they are completed. When at least 3 activities are checked off for any one badge, both the child and youth leader sign the checklist, write in the mailing address of the youth leader, and send it to me: Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Juniors Activities Chair, 7319 Eisenhower Street, Ventura, CA 93003. I'll record the info and send the badge. To speed the whole process, I'm also willing to do fulfillment via the phone or email (see my contact info, above) rather than through the mail so long as the youth leader indicates: 1) the badge being requested, 2) which activities a child has completed to earn that badge, 3) the child's name and name of his/her club, and 4) name and mailing address of the youth leader to send the badge to.

I know this is a bit cumbersome and will mean a lag time in getting badges to kids. But in discussing this with others in the AFMS, I decided it's best to use this centralized approach at least in the beginning in order to monitor how much the program is getting utilized. It's also necessary in order to keep tabs on which activities are proving most popular and how many badges actually end up getting awarded. This way, we'll have an accurate record for the future in estimating budgets for how many badges, and which ones, will need to be manufactured on a regular basis. In order to keep the program free, we need to monitor all costs as we start out and keep a lid on those costs by only distributing what's actually being used.

How Can We Make the Merit Badge Program Better?

Finally, I welcome feedback, suggestions for improvements to the existing activities, and ideas of new activities and badges to add to the program. Let's all pitch in to provide an educational program by which kids learn, earn rewards, and—as always—have fun!

Jim Brace-Thompson
AFMS Juniors Activities Chair
7319 Eisenhower Street
Ventura, CA 93003
Email: JBT@sagepub.com
Phone: 805.410.7582
Fax: 805.499.7881

Join Future Rockhounds of America

HISTORY OF FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA

Rockhound clubs throughout the regional Federations have supported youth groups for many years. Most clubs have always had young members but often didn't know what sorts of activities to provide for them. Consequently many youth fell through the cracks. We're sure no one would argue the fact that we need to ensure the future of our hobby by encouraging our youth. Knowing this, under the direction of AFMS President Bill Cox in 1984, a committee was added to the AFMS called "Junior Clubs." Bill coined the name "Future Rockhounds of America" and designed a certificate to be given to junior clubs becoming members of FRA. It gives pebble pups and juniors the distinction of belonging to something worthwhile. The only requirement for obtaining FRA membership is to be organized and sponsored by a regional Federation club (although exceptions can be made). There are no dues to pay to the AFMS for being a member. Starting in Fall 2004, Juniors Activities Chair Jim Brace-Thompson developed a free "merit badge" program of guided activities to provide youth leaders with over 50 individual activities in 9 areas: rocks and minerals, earth resources, fossils, lapidary arts, collecting, showmanship, communication, field trips, and leadership. Kids can earn badges in each area. Those earning a minimum of 6 of the 9 badges earn a "Rockhound" badge as a mark of accomplishment and distinction. Details of the program may be found on the "Kids Corner" section of the AFMS web site: www.amfed.org.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE AFMS YOUTH PROGRAM, FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA?

All you need is a group of kids, a sponsor, a name, and an application to FRA!

REQUIREMENTS:

Your group must be a member of your regional Federation, either through a sponsoring club or through an independent application into your local Federation.

The number of youth is not important: you can have as few as 2 and as many as you can handle.

Age: Any kids up to the age of 18.

Just fill out the application below, or contact your local Federation Juniors Chair or check out the "Kids Corner" of the AFMS web site (www.amfed.org).

FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA

NAME OF YOUTH GROUP: _____

SPONSORING ADULT CLUB: _____

FEDERATION: CFMS ___ Eastern ___ Midwest ___ South Central ___ SE ___ Rocky Mountain ___ NW ___

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

YEAR ORGANIZED: _____ CURRENT NUMBER OF YOUTH MEMBERS: _____

On the back, please provide a brief description of the activities you do with your youth members, i.e., participation at general meetings, club shows, field trips, and other activities. After completing this questionnaire, please forward it to the AFMS Juniors Activities Chair: Jim Brace-Thompson, 7319 Eisenhower Street, Ventura, California 93003; (805) 659-3577; jbraceth@adelphia.net.

February 2007

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Education Chair

Julia Larson
5297 Huntington Street NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33703
Phone: 727-522-1254 Email: sfmsedchair@gmail.com

Workshop Staff**Wildacres Directors**

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P.O. Box 913, Tryon, NC 28782
Phone: 828-894-6303 Email: Klmorris45@hotmail.com

Wildacres Registrars

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164 Sexton Loop, Oakdale, TN 37829-2323
Phone: 423-369-3077 Email: waregistrars@gmail.com

William Holland Workshop Directors

Dana and Ray Gonzalez
6226 Seaton Drive, Columbus, GA 31909
Phone: 706-327-4474 Email: drg@mchsi.com

William Holland Workshop Registrars

Charlotte Caughman and Micheal Atkins
P.O. Box 4692, Spartanburg, SC 29305
Phone: 864-473-0317 Email: whregistrars@gmail.com

April 13-19, 2007 at Wildacres

Cabochons, beginning	Chris Calloway
Fused Glass	Julia Larson
Gem Trees	Nancy Calloway
Photography, jewelry and minerals	Ken Kipnis
Seed Beading	Roz Evans
Silversmithing, beginning	Allen Jewell
Wirecraft, sculpture	Anna Hess

June 10-16, 2007 at William Holland

Beading, traditional	Case Leeser
Chainmaking, beginning	John Fetvedt
*Faceting, intermediate	David Corn
Jr. Lapidary with Cabochons and Stained Glass	Anita Westlake and Julia Larson
Lampwork, Beads	Betty Fetvedt
Lost-Wax Casting	John Iacullo
Opal Cutting	Sara Lee Boyce
Photography jewelry/minerals	Ken Kipnis
Silversmithing, beginning	Daingerfield Ashton
*Silversmithing, intermediate	Allen Jewell
*Silversmithing, Southwest	Dan Haga
*Wirecraft, advanced	Kathy Morris

August 20-26, 2007 at Wildacres

Beading, crochet	Judy Kelly
Cabochons, beginning	Betty James
Cold Connections	Kim St. Jean
Enameling	Larry Outlaw
Faceting, beginning	B. D. Moore
Gem appreciation/identification	Ben Smith
*Metalsmithing, advanced	Jeff Sheer
Precious Metal Clay 1	Mary Ann, Ken Devos
Raku Pottery	Jim Cullen
Scrimshaw	Bill Wetzel
Seed beading Techniques	Vivian Heath
Silversmithing, beginning	Gene Tipton
*Wirecraft, Rings	Ruth Ann Moore

September 17-23, 2007 at Wildacres

Chainmaking, beginning	Dee & Bill Conybear
Cold Connections	Kim St. Jean
Faceting and Intarsia	Tom Wilke
Lost-wax Casting and Design	Tim and Janet Steeper
Opal Cutting	Sara Lee Boyce
*Precious Metal Clay 2	Mary Ann, Ken Devos
Seed Beading	Barbera Green
*Silversmithing, Southwest	Dan Haga
Wire Weaving	Louise Coulson

October 14-20, 2007 at William Holland

Cabochons, beginning	Lucy Caracoglia
Chainmaking, beginning	Dee and Bill Conybear
Cold Connections	Kathy Morris
Faceting, beginning	B.D. Moore
Fused Glass	Addy DePietro
Intarsia	Tom Wilke
Lost Wax Casting	Fred Sias
Mineral Identification	Betty James
Opal Cutting	Joe DePietro
Origami	Hideko Pezant
Silversmithing, beginning	Don and Ann Monroe
Soapstone Carving	Diane H. Walker
*Wirecraft, rings	Ruth Ann Moore

Note: * indicates advanced course with prerequisites.

2007 SFMS Registration Form for All Workshops

Check Session Attending: April WA June WH August WA Sept. WA Oct. WH
Accommodations: Lodge Campground at Wm. Holland only Day Student

A. NAME:		SFMS CLUB:	
B. NAME		PHONE:	
	STREET:	EMAIL:	
	CITY:	STATE	ZIP

Is this the first time you will attend this retreat? (A) Yes No (B) Yes No
 Have you attended any other SFMS Workshop? (A) Yes No (B) Yes No
 Do you wish to be placed on Stand-by if there are no vacancies when your application arrives? Yes No

Class Choices

First Choice	*	Second Choice	*	Third Choice	*
A					
B					

(*) Check box if you have previously taken this course at an SFMS Workshop

Room Assignment for Single Applicants only:

Special Needs:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) Do you have a friend with whom you wish to room?

2) Do you smoke? _____ Do you wish to room with a non-smoking person? _____ yes _____ no preference.
3) Are you an early riser _____ or a Night Owl _____ | 4) Do you need a handicap room? Yes _____ No _____
5) Can you negotiate stairs? Yes _____ No _____
6) Special Dietary needs: Diabetic _____ Other _____

Campers: Type _____ Length _____ |
|--|---|

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Applications will be accepted beginning on February 15, 2007 for all sessions. The postmark date on or after this determines the order of acceptance. **First-time attendees have extra priority.**
- 2) Your **Club Membership Dues must be current** and your club's dues to the Federation must also be paid before you will be accepted as an SFMS member.
- 3) **Cost per person:**
Double occupancy with private bath \$310. (Non-member \$330.)
Single room with private bath. . . . \$470. (Non-member \$490.)
Day student or WH Camper workshop fee \$140 per person.
Campsite for 1 or 2 people at William Holland only \$120.
(No meals are included for campers or day students but are available directly from the retreat.)
- 4) **A reservation deposit of \$25 per person must accompany this form.** You may, *and are encouraged to,* pay the full amount. **Any balance will be due four weeks prior to the workshop.**
- 5) **Cancellation Policy:** If you cancel, there is a \$25 per person nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs. No refund will be given for cancellations received less than 7 days before the session begins.
There are NO adjustments for late arrivals or early departures.
Amount submitted with application: \$ _____

Make Check Payable to:

SFMS (WA or WH) Workshop

William Holland Registrar Charlotte, Caughman P. O. Box 4692 Spartanburg, SC 29305 Phone: 864-473-0317	Wildacres Registrars Flora Lee and Robert Walker 164 Sexton Loop Oakdale, TN 37829-2323 Phone: 423-369-3077
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FOR REGISTRAR'S USE ONLY

Postmark Date:	Check #:
Deposit #:	Amt. Paid: \$
Accept. Mailed:	Balance due: \$
Standby Mailed:	Bal. Check #:
Deposit #:	Bal. Amt. Pd: \$
Cancel Date:	Total Paid: \$
- Cancel. Fee: \$	Refund: \$
Refund Chk #:	Refund Mailed:

February 2007

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
2007 SFMS DIRECTORY**

Betty M. James
Publications Chairman
Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
167 Florence Circle
Florence, MS 39073

February 10, 2007

TO: All Clubs and Societies:

As your newly appointed Publications Chair, it is my job to put together our Federation Directory for 2007 and I need the help of all of you. As you know, we had no Directory for 2006 and we cannot let this happen again.

First, if you have not sent in your renewal information with your dues for the current year, you need to do so at once. The renewal form can be found on pages 6-11 of the January *Lodestar* and should be completed and returned to SFMS Membership Secretary, Joan White, 9146 Sunset Drive, Jonesboro, GA 30238-4520, with a check or money order to cover your dues for the coming year.

After your dues have been paid, I need to receive the following information from you:

- Total number of members in your society/club -- adults and juniors
- Name, address, phone number and email address of each of your elected officers
- Club address, meeting time and place, bulletin name, editor, and publication information
- Federation Liaison Person's name and address
- Annual Show information
- Any other information you wish to share with the Federation.

Please get this information to me as soon as possible. Since I plan to put the Directory together and get it to the printer no later than April 1, the latest possible date I can accept information will be March 25, 2007.

*Thank you for your cooperation in this matter,
Betty M. James, SFMS Publications Chairman*

A THANK YOU

Hello Mr. Waggener,

I just wanted to email you a little update on how I am and how school is going. I had a really good fall semester and I learned TONS! I made an A in Mineralogy/Petrology and I am currently in the second part of Mineralogy. I am actually the only student in there but it's great because I get all the teacher/student help I need. Dr. Leimer and I have started working on my senior thesis and it deals primarily with limestone. I am gearing up to go to Utah in May with the geology department here. We are going to the northern part of the Grand Canyon for seven days and that should be an amazing trip so I'm really excited about that too! I am still the departmental tutor and the Geo Club president and the club has a jam-packed semester. We plan on going to the feldspar mine in Spruce Pines and also the Ben Clement Museum in KY this April.

I also want to say thank you again for the opportunity that the Mayo Foundation Scholarship has provided for me. It is such a blessing to know that there are organizations out there that still want to help students succeed in geology. I am so very happy I was able to meet you all.

Hopefully we will cross paths again soon.

*Have a wonderful day!
Amy Lou Herren*

*(from an email to Bill Waggener
President of the Mayo Education Foundation, Inc.)*

MORE FOSSIL COLLECTING BILL INFORMATION

Looks like things are heating up again in the US Congress pertaining to our collecting rights.

I've just been sent the following information from Jon Spunaugle ALAA Executive VP for Legislation. During the last session of Congress we were able to get the House bill "killed" through swift action by a rockhound member. Unfortunately this will not be possible again this year due to the manner in which the bill was introduced.

Let's get the word out and contact our Representatives and Senators sooner rather than later urging a vote AGAINST this legislation. Remember that fossils today could well mean minerals and cutting rough tomorrow. Also do not forget to include a letter to Speaker Pelosi who can determine when this bill is brought out of committee and onto the House floor.

Here is Jon's message. You can read the full text of HR 554 at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.554> (By the way, if you received Jon's original e-mail, he had he bill number listed incorrectly. The correct Bill is HR554).

Fossil Collecting Bill introduced into the US House. January 23, 2007

On January 18, 2007 a Fossil Collecting Bill HR 554 "Paleontological Resources Preservation Act" was introduced into the US House of Representatives by Congressional Representatives McGovern of Massachusetts and Renzi of Arizona. It was sent to the Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture for a period of time to be determined by the Speaker of the House. (This means that regardless of what the Committee chair people do, the Bill can be brought to the floor of the US House for a vote at any time with or without amendment or Committee recommendation). Preliminary examination of the actual Bill language suggests that it is v e r y similar to the Bills introduced and passed by the US Senate in past years. Casual collecting would be allowed as seen appropriate by the government land managers. Provisions for civil and criminal penalties remain in the Bill as does a rewards section for information on possible violators and other property confiscation including all paleontology resources."

Carolyn Weinberger, AFMS Editor

COLD CONNECTIONS - NEW WORKSHOP CLASS

This year our workshops will offer a new class called Cold Connections. For those of you who like metal work but don't want to solder, this class is for you.

Cold Connection is the art of combining metals (copper, silver, gold, tin, aluminum, and others) into a project of fine jewelry. From start to finish, you will enjoy learning riveting, wiring, grommets, and all the different ways of Cold (no soldering) Connecting into a piece of fine jewelry. You will truly enjoy this class and you are guaranteed to come out with several elegant projects.



Cold Connections can be used with lapidary, bead work, other metal work, fused glass and other media to produce stunning effects. Classes will be taught by Kim St. Jean (Wildacres) and Kathy Morris and Jo Harrison (William Holland). If you're looking for something new and exciting, this class is for you. Sign up soon, as classes will fill up quickly.

Be sure to check the SFMS website regularly, as the schedules will

continue to be updated throughout the workshop season.

*Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chair
(Photographs provided by Julia Larson)*

PRESS RELEASE:**Colburn Earth Science Museum**

SAVE THE DATE!

**10th Annual 2007 ASHEVILLE GEM FEST
FRIDAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 16 & 17, 2007**

The Colburn Earth Science Museum is pleased to announce the 10th annual Asheville Gem Fest, happening Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 15, 16 and 17 at Pack Place. Asheville Gem Fest is a great event: a gem and mineral show featuring quality dealers from across the nation, fun activities for the entire family, informative speakers and more!

On Saturday, June 16, there will be two featured speakers. At 1:30 pm, Dr. Steve Neely will speak on Treasures from the Elmwood Zinc Mine and at 3:00 P.M. Tom Wilson will present The Tucson Experience 2007. Both lectures are free of admission. The Colburn Earth Science Museum, located on the lower level of Pack Place, will also be open admission free all weekend, and their legendary silent auction will be back, bigger and better than ever.

With two floors and over 20 dealers, the 2007 Asheville Gem Fest is a great show in the center of downtown Asheville, conveniently near all that a fun and vibrant city has to offer. Plan now to attend!

The Mission of the Colburn Earth Science Museum is to foster an appreciation for the earth and its resources and environments through exhibits, educational programming and the care of its collection.

Colburn Earth Science Museum
2 S. Pack Square at Pack Place
Asheville, NC 28801
Telephone: 828.254.7162 phone
Fax: 828.257.4505
<http://www.colburnmuseum.org>

Email from the Colburn Earth Science Museum

February

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

LOOKING AHEAD

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

(Check with show contact for admission charges, if any)

2006 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS Febr

March 2-4, 2007, Largo, FL - Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society. 37th Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Sale. Minnreg Building-6340, 126th Avenue N. Hours: 2nd & 3rd, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 4th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Show Chair: Bill Schmidt, 727.657.0998 or schmidwj@eckerd.edu. Dealer Chair: Sue Black, 727.560.5124 or sueblack@tampabay.rr.com.

March 9-11, 2007, Augusta, GA - Aiken Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Society and the Augusta Gem and Mineral Society. 19th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad Street. Contact: Shellie T. Newell at 305 Fairway Drive, Graniteville, SC 29829; aa.gmfs@earthlink.net; or www.homestead.com/aikengms.

March 16-18, 2007, Rome, GA - Rome, Georgia Mineral Society. 30th Annual Valley and Ridge Gem and Mineral Show. Chapel Hill United Methodist Church (From the Rome Bypass (GA Loop 1), turn East on to Kingston Rd. (Hwy 293), drive a few hundred yards and turn right into the show at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. The mineral show will be in the gym past the parking lot). Hours: 16th & 17th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 18th, 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Tim Biggart, Show Chair 706.232.7143 or tbiggart@berry.edu.

March 23-25, 2007, Raleigh, NC - Tarheel Gem and Mineral Club. 31st Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds. Contact: Cyndy Hummel, 919.779.6220 or mchummel@mindspring.com.

April 28-29, 2007, Memphis, TN - Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. 28th Annual Mid-America Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show. Pipkin Building Midsouth Fairgrounds (corner of East Parkway and Central Avenue). Hours: 28th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 29th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: James Butcko at 901.743.0058 or rockclub@earthlink.net.

May 11-13, 2007, Marietta, GA - Georgia Mineral Society. 39th Annual Mother's Day Weekend Gem and Mineral Show. Cobb County Civic Center, 548 Marietta Parkway (corner of North Marietta Parkway and Fairgrounds Road). Hours: 11th & 12th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 13th, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M. www.gaminer.org.

California Federation
Lancaster, California
June 15-17, 2007

Eastern Federation
Newark, New York
October 6-7, 2007

Midwest Federation
Hosts: Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society
Houghton, Michigan
August 11-12, 2007

Northwest Federation
Butte, MT
August 3-5, 2007

Rocky Mountain Federation and AFMS Convention
Hosts: Chaparral Rockhounds
Roswell, NM
June 5-10, 2007

South Central Federation
Arlington, Texas
September 1-2, 2007

Southeast Federation
Location To Be Announced: Gulf Coast of Mississippi
November 9-11, 2007

The policy of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. is that neither the name nor the logo of the Federation may be used for commercial purposes. If any commercial ventures using the name or the logo of the Federation are found, Member Societies and their member are requested to advise Federation Officers.

Remember - To insure your show is listed here, send a written notice to the *Lodestar* Editor: Carolyn L. Daniels, 3660 Prince Way, Tucker, GA 30084-8317 or email at: dpdaniels@mindspring.com. ALL SFMS CLUBS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER THEIR EVENT LISTINGS ON THE SFMS WEBSITE AT:

<http://www.amfed.org/sfms>.

Choose *Submission Guidelines* under the SFMS Shows Column heading to find out how to apply.

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To Be Announced*

Youth Resources

To Be Announced*

**Long Range Planning**

To Be Announced*

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To Be Announced*

2007 Annual Meeting Host

To Be Announced*

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Historian

To Be Announced*

Slide/Video Programs

To Be Announced*

Uniform Rules

To Be Announced*

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Constitution/By-Laws

To Be Announced*

Insurance Liaison

To Be Announced*

Social Concerns

To Be Announced*

Ways & Means

To Be Announced*

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Note: * = Editor is awaiting confirmation of contact information from the new President. Contact information will be printed upon confirmation.

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