

Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXXI/Three

March 2007

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

April 21, 2007: Girard, Burke County, GA for Savannah River Agate, Oligocene Age fossils and microminerals. Hosts: The Cotton Indian Gem and Mineral Society (GA).

“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!”



EDITOR’S RAMBLINGS Important !

I am currently trying to update my mailing list to reflect the clubs that have renewed their memberships for 2007. However, several clubs have either not renewed their membership as of the date of this publication or many of the renewal forms were incomplete and/or illegible. Therefore, the mailing list may not yet accurately reflect the current President, Program Chair, Secretary, and Editor of the clubs that have renewed. If you are no longer one of the above officers of your club, please forward a copy of this issue to the new officer. If Joan White (SFMS Membership Secretary), Betty James (SFMS Publications Chair) or I contact you via email or telephone to verify information, please, please respond promptly. In order to publish the 2007 SFMS directory in a timely manner and have an accurate mailing list for both the directory and the *Lodestar* your cooperation is necessary!

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All club renewal requests and dues should go directly to Joan White. Please do not forward to me club officer information unless I have specifically requested it of you. I must verify that your club has renewed its SFMS membership via the membership secretary before I can include your club in the *Lodestar* mailings. The membership secretary will then forward the information to me. If I have any questions I will contact a representative of your club if I need verification on anything.

*Thank you for your corporation,
Carolyn L. Daniels, Lodestar Editor*

SAD NEWS

On Tuesday, 13th of March, Tim Tater passed away. He was buried in Biloxi's VA cemetery. There was no viewing, but his obituary can be found on line at MacDonald Funeral Home Picayune, MS. There is a registry you can sign, if you choose to do so.

Tim was a member of several of the SFMS Gulf Coast clubs for years and served as Editor for more than one of them. His personal articles were quite comical, as was he in conversation.

*Information from Margaret Johnston
and
Betty James , SFMS 2nd Vice President*



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 April 2007 *Lodestar* is March 25, 2007
(No exceptions!)**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Time is fast approaching for the March Executive Board meeting at Hendersonville. Things are coming together at last. My health is much better and I think I have contacted all committee chairs. I've had a problem with my computer and have not been able to send email; but I think that is solved now.

we have access to is about 15,000 acres and it is wild country. The most sobering aspect of this area is the fact that everything, and I do mean everything, sticks. In addition to the ever-present cactus in an impressive variety of sizes and colors, almost all other

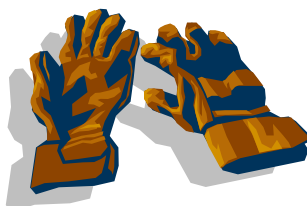


plants stick. Now I don't mean little stickers, but I mean thorns of size and ferocity that you do not see many places. Once you have allowed one of these thorns to deeply penetrate, you have a wound that needs attention. Since we hunt in a really remote area, both guides and hunters often have to take care of their medical problems. To see one of your friends digging in his leg with a sharp knife and tweezers to pull out the offending sticker is not a pretty sight. Applying a strong antiseptic is necessary but can make a strong man cry.

Reba and I went to Tucson to enjoy the gem shows and our truck was stolen. That has been an ordeal, and not a good way to check out how good your heart surgery was. Even with what all we went through, we enjoyed seeing friends, attending some of the many gem shows, and the OPLC Faceters *Hob Nob*. We found out that its good to have friends when something like the truck theft happens, most of your money is gone, and you have to cancel your credit cards. For those who haven't been to Tucson the first week in February, it's unbelievable!

Reba and I demonstrated faceting at the Mississippi Gem and Mineral show in Jackson, Ms. It was a good show with a very good attendance. A lot of people stopped by wanting to know how to learn to work with rocks. That's the time we encourage them to join a club and attend one of the Federation workshops.

You are now thinking "what can a person do"? I do not have all of the answers. As a matter of fact, I do not have many answers, but I will tell you what I do. First, I acquired some snake-proof boots and snake-proof pants. I put snakes in the category of nasty stickers and snake-proof outerwear will take care of most all types of stickers. Then I put together a little first aid kit just to handle cuts, punctures and abrasions.



Finally I wear gloves. I don't just wear any old gloves, but I wear leather gloves that will repel thorns and the like. The last thing I do is try to be alert. Watch where you step and where you sit and try to not fall down. Vigilance can really pay big dividends.

Carolyn (Daniels - editor) is not getting a lot of articles to put in the *Lodestar*. I know everyone is not "writer-talented", and none more so than me. My grammar is terrible, my thought patterns are jumbled and confusing, I type so slow it takes me forever to do a short article, and I can't spell. Other than that I do OK. My point is, there are many club members out there that have a lot of knowledge that could be passed along to folks that are in need of it through the *Lodestar* publication [,and the editor can help some too - editor].

The April session of Wildacres will soon be coming up. It's a great time to be there, the weather is ranges from cool to sometimes cold and the food is always good. Let's support our schools. These facilities need your participation in order for the federation to retain its allotted class time.

Thanks,
Buddy Shotts, SFMS President

Do not get the idea that you must "go west" to encounter stickers. Our yard in north Georgia has been left in the "natural state" because that is the way we like it. Most of the trees and bushes are wild crabapple and they will attack you with a vengeance. Add briars, blackberry bushes and other unfriendly varieties and you get the picture. On our farm we had osage orange and black locust, both of which have well-deserved bad reputations. Is there any part of our great country that does not have stickers?



Be Safe – Be Well

Safety Committee – Don Monroe, Chairman

"Sticks and Stones May Break Your Bones, but Splinters and Stickers Can Hurt You"

It seems obvious that splinters and stickers do indeed hurt but it may be that the damage is more serious than we recognize.

Most years I spend a couple of weeks assisting a deer hunting group in the Big Bend region of Texas. The ranch

I haven't forgotten about the splinters. There are a great number of splinters that we encounter in daily life and we really should be a lot more concerned about them because any skin penetration can provide an access path for germs.

(Continued next page)

Be Safe – Be Well
(Continued)

Splinters can be soft wood, hard wood, metal, glass, plastic, paint, and many other materials. Splinters can be insidious and really quite dangerous. Obviously a splinter in the eye is a serious hazard, but have you enjoyed a splinter under a fingernail? When we were much younger, a friend got a small splinter in his foot and could not locate it so he ignored it. Have you ever heard of phlebitis? He hadn't either until the doctor at the hospital explained why his leg was so severely swollen. Keep a magnifying glass and good tweezers handy and search out those pesky splinters.



The last splinter I want to warn you about is unusual and many have not encountered it. It is the common cat hair. No, not dog hair or any other type of hair, just cat hair. Now cat hair is fine but a bit stiff and has a very sharp tip. If you get cat hair in your shoe it may take a while but it can get lined up so that the sharp tip comes up against the bottom of your foot. This most often occurs on the heel or ball of the foot. This little sharp spike will work its way between the layers of the "print" of the foot and work its way into your foot. You slowly begin to feel a little pain and you cannot see the source. The pain continues and finally you get serious about finding the source. When you find that little hair it will appear that it is growing out of your skin. When you pull it out, the relief will be instantaneous. I know this is hard to believe but it does happen. Ask around and I will bet you will find someone who has experienced this unusual "splinter".



There are still openings for the April session at Wildacres. We are aware this is a difficult time to fill, since it spans two weeks. Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do about it; the Wildacres owner chooses the time slot and we have no voice in the decision. If the April session is not successful this year, we will probably not schedule it in 2008, and therefore lose the slot completely, leaving us with only two sessions at Wildacres. If you haven't been to Wildacres in the spring, you have missed a glorious time of year. The curtain is drawing down on winter and spring is just around the corner. Weather is usually mild, a welcome relief whether you have spent months in the snow or months in the 80's in the south. Please check the April class schedule and join us this year.

Space in the junior classes at William Holland is limited. We are accepting only 12 students this year. If the session is successful, consideration will be given to adding more classes and more juniors next year.

In an effort to increase enrollment in all workshops, we will be opening registration to members of other AFMS Federations as of March 15. Don't miss out on a class by waiting to enroll. A reservation deposit is only \$50, and if you do have to cancel later, we retain only \$25 to cover our expenses.

Send your William Holland registration forms to Charlotte Caughman, P.O. Box 4692, Spartanburg SC 29305.

Registrations for Wildacres go to Robert and Flora Lee Walker, 164 Sexton Loop, Oakdale TN 37829-2323.

Your participation enables us to continue offering these unique, fun-filled, and educational workshops.

Julia Larson
SFMS Education Chair

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WORKSHOP REGISTRATION IS IN FULL SWING

Registrations for the 2007 SFMS workshops are rolling in, especially for the late summer and fall sessions. We are hopeful this year's numbers will show an improvement over the 2006 season, which was somewhat disappointing.

P.S. Last month's Workshop article failed to give credit for the Cold Connections photos as well as the beautiful work. Jo Harrison, one of the Wildacres directors, created the exquisite pieces and provided the photos. My apologies for the oversight.

HAVING FUN - JUNIOR ACTIVITIES GOLD!

By Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Juniors Chair

Gold has held a special allure from the very beginning of humankind. Thus, it should come as no surprise that two of our youth leaders - Ted Zagwyn of the Central Maine Jr. Geologists Club and Inga Wells of the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club in Pennsylvania - have recommended that we add a unit on gold to our FRA Badge program.

Of course, there is one small problem: gold is just so darn valuable? Thus, getting even small flakes for a number of junior members could prove problematic. Here are some possible activities revolving around gold that won't bust the bank:

- Report on an historical event surrounding gold, for instance, the Spanish quest for the fabled *El Dorado* in the American Southwest, the Forty-Niner Gold Rush that led to California statehood, North Carolina's less well known gold rush (interesting fact: before the discovery of gold in California, North Carolina was known as the "golden state" and prior to 1829, all the gold coined at the Philadelphia mint was from North Carolina), the quest of Medieval alchemists to turn base metals into gold, the impact of gold discoveries in the Black Hills of South Dakota in the late 1800's (General George Armstrong Custer, anyone?), etc.
- Report on uses of gold. Beyond its obvious uses in jewelry and as an economic tool (good old Fort Knox?), kids might explore its uses in dentistry, in the space program for satellites and space capsules, in the electronics industry, etc.
- Learn about gold resources in your own state. Use the U.S. Geological Survey website - www.usgs.gov - to guide you to your state's geological survey or division of mines to find information about any gold that may be in their hills of your own backyard. Simply click on your state on the map that appears on the opening page of the USGS website.
- Learn how to distinguish between fool's gold (iron pyrite) and real gold by learning about the differing properties of each.
- Pan for gold in the field. Check bookstores and outdoor or camping supply stores for guides and maps to gold panning in your state. In bookstores, these are often found in the section

selling field guides or regional books; in camping supply stores, these are often found in their maps and publications section.

- Pan for gold in your own backyard or patio. Not every state is rich in gold resources, so a good alternative to a field trip with your youth group is setting up tubs of water and using bags of gold concentrate. You can order these from many places through the web. In a search engine, just enter "gold panning concentrate" and a host of commercial sites pop up, many from California and Alaska. Pricing ranges from "practice" bags at two pounds for around \$15 to super-deluxe 20-pound bags at over \$400. (I recommend the practice bags...)

My thanks to Ted and Inga for suggesting this unit, which I'm hoping may become part of our badge program. Be careful, though? Catching the gold bug has been known to lead to irrational behavior while, as always, having fun?

from A.F.M.S. Newsletter, 3/07

HELP CELEBRATE!

This year marks the 60th Anniversary of the American Federation and the Convention in Roswell will give us a chance to celebrate. We hope that you will join us!

Our BIG celebration will occur on Thursday, June 7th beginning at 7:00 P.M. at the host motel. We'll hear a few words about "the aliens" of Roswell...did they see flying saucers overhead or was it some other anomaly? In addition, several of the AFMS past presidents plan on being in attendance and will share with us some of their recollections of their year as president. And that's just for starters.

The 60th Anniversary Committee also plans to have _____ and _____. Sorry, we can't fill in the blanks for you - you'll have to attend to find out all about our special plans and commemorative gifts.

Today...call the motel and make your room reservation (Best Western Sally Port Inn, 1.505.622.6430. \$78.30 per night includes taxes and breakfast).

Tomorrow...send in your registration form for advanced tickets, the Awards Banquet and the Editor's Breakfast. (See www.amfed.org/show2007.htm to download forms and further information.) Plan your competitive or non-competitive exhibit and send in your application. Some club cases are available on a first come basis. Registration deadline is May 1st.

from A.F.M.S. Newsletter, 3/07

SFMS 2007 Workshops at Wildacres and the William Holland Retreat

The Southeast Federation will again offer a series of lapidary and jewelry-making workshops at Wildacres in Little Switzerland, NC and at the William Holland Retreat in Young Harris, GA. A significant effort has been made to obtain fresh viewpoints from a number of new instructors. Former experienced instructors with popular classes have been invited back. The 2007 workshop schedule has now been finalized and is offered for your consideration. We recognize that some of the dates are not convenient but much of the schedule is not controlled by SFMS officers. Please try to join us at one of the 2007 Workshops.

2007 Workshop Dates

April.....Friday, April 13 to Thursday, April 19, 2007

June.....Sunday, June 10 to Saturday, June 16, 2007

August.....Monday, August 20 to Sunday, August 26, 2007

September.....Monday, Sept. 17 to Sunday, Sept. 23, 2007

October.....Sunday, October 14 to Saturday, October 20, 2007

Wildacres Retreat is a conference center dedicated in 1946 by I.D. Blumenthal and Madolyn Blumenthal of Charlotte, NC, to the improvement of human relations. It is situated on 1400 acres at an elevation of 3,300 feet atop a mountain called Pompey's Knob. The retreat is in Little Switzerland, approximately halfway between Asheville and Blowing Rock, NC just off the Blue Ridge Parkway.

There are two lodges, a dining hall, where meals are served family style, a library/auditorium building, mineral and lapidary shops, and a pottery studio.

The William Holland School of Lapidary Arts is situated on a mountain in north Georgia near the North Carolina border. The facility includes a two-story main building known as the Sparks Lodge with 29 air-conditioned bedrooms on the upper floor. A second lodge is located nearby with 22 additional air-conditioned bedrooms. All bedrooms are motel-like with private baths and two beds. Two rooms are equipped for the handicapped.

The lower, ground level of the Sparks Lodge houses 13 classrooms, the kitchen, and dining room. This floor is completely air-conditioned, and a new elevator permits easy access to both floors.

Two other buildings make up the retreat complex: the Seabolt Building, which houses the George Kasper Memorial Library as well as showers and restroom facilities for the campground; and Mary Lou's Cottage, to house the instructional staff. The campground has 10 full hook-up spaces for RV's up to 40 feet in length.

Who May Attend

The SFMS Workshops are open to all members of the Southeast Federation. Students under age 18 are welcome, but they must be accompanied by a responsible adult and must be approved by the workshop director and instructor to attend an adult class. This year a **Family Week** in June will include special youth courses for rockhounds as young as age 9.

Members of other regional federations may attend on a space available basis as a guest or they may join a Southeast Federation club and have all priorities and privileges of other SFMS members.

Family Week at William Holland

June 10-16, 2007: Are you tired of your kids spending the summer playing video games? Are theme parks out of the budget this year? Maybe you want to do something special with your grandchildren, nieces or nephews without spending a fortune? Look no further than the June 2007 SFMS workshop at the William Holland School.

Classes for juniors ages 9 and up as well as adults are being offered in June 2007. Parents, grandparents, and others are encouraged to sign up their juniors for this exciting week. Juniors will take two classes while their accompanying adults choose from a variety of regular classes. A special field trip for juniors is being planned, along with an evening program at the Young Harris College planetarium. Other after-class events and activities are also scheduled. Plan to take advantage of this fun and economical learning vacation with your juniors.

Registration Procedures

Applications from members of SFMS clubs will be accepted first; however, members of other AFMS clubs may apply and will be scheduled following SFMS applicants.

Applications will be accepted beginning on February 15, 2007 for all workshop sessions. The postmark date on or after this date determines the order of acceptance. **First-time attendees have an extra priority.** Applications from non SFMS students will be accepted beginning March 15, 2007.

Reservation Deposit

A non-refundable administrative fee of \$25 per person must accompany all applications. The full amount may be remitted with the application if the applicant wishes. (It is easier for the Registrar.) The balance is due 4 weeks before the workshop begins. No reminders will be sent.

No refund will be returned for cancellations within 7 days of the start of a session. A minimum of three students must be enrolled in a particular class to support the cost of the class. No fee will be charged if a class is canceled. No adjustment will be made for late arrival or early departure.

How to Attend

Turn the page and look at the workshop course offerings. Staff names and addresses are also shown and you may contact them or the Education Chair, Julia Larson. Read all the instructions on the registration form carefully. This is a single registration for all workshops at both retreats. Make sure you indicate which session you wish to attend and send the registration form and your check to the registrar for the appropriate retreat.

Education Chair

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Workshop Staff**Wildacres Directors**

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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, beginning	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, intermediate	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
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.

March 2007

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

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:

Colburn Earth Science Museum
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
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Asheville, NC 28801
Telephone: 828.254.7162 phone
Fax: 828.257.4505
<http://www.colburnmuseum.org>

Email from the Colburn Earth Science Museum

GRAVES MOUNTAIN "ROCK SWAP AND DIG" FOR 2007

8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Friday, April 27, 2007
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Saturday, April 28, 2007
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Sunday, April 29, 2007

Your society is invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!

The SFMS Field Trip Committee has been in contact with the caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., in regard to his plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during April 27 – 29, 2007. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart-type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6:00 P.M. each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks: Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events. Don't forget to bring some extra money to buy the special "Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL SFMS CLUBS.

Mark your calendar and tell all your members about these great events!

Contact Information: Clarence Norman Jr. - 706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)

Directions: From Atlanta's I-285, take I-20 east to the exit for Washington, GA SR 78 (SR 10, SR 17) and turn left.

Travel north to Washington, turn right onto SR 378 and drive 11 miles to the Graves Mountain area. The entrance to Graves Mountain is on your right about 8/10 mile past the Lincoln county line sign. The entrance is a paved road that goes through a gate and up the hill to the parking area(s). Proceed from your parked vehicle to the registration/hospitality tent to sign your liability release form and to make a donation for the portable bathrooms, etc.

SFMS Field Trip Committee:
Please reply by e-mail to: dmc@gaminer.org
Jim Flora - SFMS Field Trip Committee Chair

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GRAVES MOUNTAIN CODE OF CONDUCT!

Park your vehicle in the designated area(s) only.

CHILDREN WILL BE ALLOWED DURING THE "Rock Swap and Dig" IF EACH CHILD IS UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION!

ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.

The Graves Mountain caretaker, Clarence Norman Jr., has final and absolute say as to where you may safely work. Ladders or power tools of any kind will not be allowed.(HAND TOOLS ONLY!)

STAY AWAY FROM ALL HIGH WALLS!!

NO RAPELLING OFF OF ANYTHING!

NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE ON ANY PART OF GRAVES MOUNTAIN BEYOND THE PARKING AREA! (The caretaker must accompany anyone driving beyond the parking area!)

EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN BY DUSK. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)

Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain!

Report Violations to:
Clarence Norman Jr.
706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)
All reported violations will be held in strict confidence.

via email from Jim Flora, SFMS Fieldtrip Committee

March 2007

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

LOOKING AHEAD

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

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

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, 2007, Panama City, FL - Panama City Gem & Mineral Society. Jo Moody Harris Park Clubhouse. Hours: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Fort Walton, FL and Dothan, AL Clubs invited to participate. Contact: Curtis Bane @ 850.763.3356 or curtisbane@aol.com.

April 27-29, 2007, Charlotte, NC - Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club. Charlotte Merchandise Mart, 800 Briar Creek Road. Hours: 27th & 28th, 10:00 A.M.—7:00 P.M. and 29th, 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

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.gamineral.org.

June 2-3, 2007, Birmingham, AL - Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society. 34th Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show. Tannehill Historical State Park. Hours: 9:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M. Contact: Rick Kittinger at rick.kittinger@bellsouth.com or James Carr (publicity) at james@lapidaryclub.com. Check out the website as well at www.lapidaryclub.com.

July 25-28, 2007, Franklin, NC - Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC. Community Facilities Building, Hwy 441S (Georgia Rd.). Hours: 25th-28th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Contacts: Fred Plesner (Show Chair) at 888.348.4224 or Franklin Chamber of Commerce at 828.524.3161 or www.franklin-chamber.com.

August 31- September 3, 2007, Hendersonville, NC.- Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society. Witmire Activity Building, Lily Pond Road. Hours: August 31st - September 2nd, 10:00 A.M.- 6:00 P.M. and September 3, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Margaret L. Johnson (Show Chair) @ 828.692.1249 or mgt.i.ed@brinet.com.

California Federation

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.

2007 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

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

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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