

Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXX/Six

July/August 2005

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

July 23, 2005: Rose Creek Mine, Clay County, NC. Hosts: Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC. Screening for rubies, sapphires, garnets, quartz, feldspar and possible emeralds. Check your local club newsletter for more details.

August 2005: To Be Announced. Keep an eye on your local club bulletin/newsletter.

"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!"



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer has come, hot and steamy, and that's just in my workshop! Take care out there on those rock-hounding trips, be aware of bugs and other things that bite, and do not get too engrossed in your finds that you forget to drink lots and lots of water.

I would like to congratulate Jim Robinson who will soon become President of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Go Jim!!! We thank you for being such a diligent worker for the SFMS Stamp Program. So many people have had the opportunity to attend one of our workshops as a result of your excellent Stamp Program and the efforts of all our diligent stamp collectors, keep them coming! Remember folks, Jim can sell them if you can collect them, so every stamp is valuable. Jim, your efforts are much appreciated.

I am so looking forward to visiting Hendersonville for the second Executive Board meeting and seeing all my friends again. This should be such a great weekend, lots of activities to enjoy during the Apple Festival.

Have a great and safe summer!

*See you all in September,
Eileen Price, President*

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2005 AFMS ANNUAL MEETING

Have you ever wondered how the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) can help you and your local club? The annual meeting of both Societies is a great place to find out first-hand what is available to assist the local clubs. There are scholarship programs, supplies and publications, libraries of club meeting materials, strength-in-numbers opportunities to affect legislation, and the support of many rockhounds to promote rockhound and lapidary activities. Come to the annual meeting of your choice and see for yourself how your club can benefit from the resources of SFMS or AFMS.

*Hope to see you there,
Bill Waggener, Past President SFMS*

(See page 10 of this issue of Lodestar for more information - editor.)

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.

2005 SFMS Officers

President	Eileen Price	865.694.4071 rfemprice@yahoo.com
1st Vice President	Ann Monroe	204.591.5632 acmonroe@bellsouth.net
2nd Vice President	Buddy Shotts	601.947.7245 buddys@datasync.com
Secretary	Betty James	601.914.6747 mineralid@jam.rr.com
Membership Secretary	Leo Morris	770.445.9274 membership4198@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ken Anderson	803.547.5147 27k.da66@rjsonline
Assistant Treasurer	David Katt	540.483.0823 dkitkatt@direcway.com
Editor	Carolyn Daniels	770.723.1359 dpdaniels@mindspring.com
Immediate Past President	Bill Waggener	404.355.7377 wgwaggenerii@bellsouth.net
AFMS President-Elect	Jim Robinson	904.221.5038 jhr30@netzero.net
President-Mayo Education Foundation	Diane Dare	727.937.8080

2005 SFMS State Directors

AL	Iris McGehee	334.262.7275	irisjmcg@aol.com
FL	Beryl Ferguson	386.677.1049	crossbowcreation@aol.com
GA	Anita Westlake	404.761.7849	libawc@emory.edu
KY	David Horn	502.426.4457	crystalman@earthlink.net
LA	Arthur Mott	504.737.0259	arthurmott@att.net
MS		Vacant	
NC	Mike Streeter	828.667.8260	mcstreeter@charter.net
SC	Fred Sias	864.654.6833	sfmsedchair@mindspring.com
TN	Marty Hart	615.331.2690	webmaster@gemizo.com
VA	Steve Gordon	434.929.1524	ssdtgordon@aol.com

2005 SFMS Committee Chairman

Nominations	Bill Waggener	404.355.7377 wgwaggenerii@bellsouth.net
Long Range Planning	John Wright	228.875.9192 osibw@datasync.com
Bulletin Contest	Anna Denton	706.569.1219 Anna.Denton@Excite.com
Constitution/By-Laws	Robert (Red) Walker	423.369.3077 walkervv@highland.net
Field Trips	Jim Flora	706.896.8040 jimflora@alltel.net
Education	Fred Sias	864.654.6833 sfmsedchair@mindspring.com
Historian	Charlotte Mayo Bryant	706.278.8344
Insurance Liason (Acting)	Ken Anderson	803.547.5147 27k.da66@rjsonline.net
Publications Safety	Open To A Volunteer Don Monroe	204.591.5632 donmonroe@bellsouth.net
Slide/Video Programs	Freda Hull	321.725.0847 freehull@juno.com
Social Concerns	Edna Morris	770.445.9274 memship4198@yahoo.com
Stamp Program	Jim Robinson	904.221.5038 jhr30@netzero.net
Supplies	Reba Shotts	601.947.7245 rholland@datasync.com
Uniform Rules	Flora Walker	423.369.3077 floralee@highland.net
Ways & Means	Frank Decaminada	770.992.8309 carrie128@comcast.net
Youth Resources	Hugh & Leona Sheffield	727.894.2440
2005 Annual Meeting Hosts	William Harr	321.480.0375 wharr@cfl.rr.com
	Christine Miller	321-952-9647
	Leslie Wayment	772-581-0698 leslie@wayment.com
Wildacres Directors	David & Barbara Tuttle	904.225.0689 dt@net-magic.net
Wildacres Registrars	Kerri & Bill Wetzel	864.306.6749 wwetzel@earthlink.net
Wm. Holland Director	Pat Davis	727.323.2147 rocksnbeads@hotmail.com
Wm. Holland Registrars	Dana & Ray Gonzalez	706.327.4474 drq@mchsi.com

2005 MAYO FOUNDATION Officers/Directors

President	Diane Dare	727.937.8080
Vice President	Eileen Price	865.694.4071 rfemprice@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Frank Decaminada	770.992.8309 carrie128@comcast.net
SFMS Education Chair	Fred Sias	864.654.6833 sfmsedchair@mindspring.com
Secretary	Ron Denton	706.569.1219 rdenton@earthlink.net
Director	Charlotte Mayo Bryant	706.278.8344
Director	Jeanette Banks	770.948.8444 onjbanks@comcast.net

The article submittal due date for the September 2005 *Lodestar* is August 25th.

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

I want to thank everyone that contributed an article for this issue of *Lodestar*. It made putting this issue very easy to complete. I hope everyone is having a great summer!

I'm so glad that May is over. I think it was my busiest month in a long time between going to New Mexico to see my eldest daughter graduate from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (with a chemistry degree and not a geology degree), having a second daughter graduate from Tucker High School and having to run to Pennsylvania due to the passing of my father-in-law. I hope things will settle down for a while. I hope that nothing is missing from this issue due to me missing any messages.

Please keep those article coming! I can edit, but I can't write the articles for you. Don't forget, the deadline for submittal of articles for the next issue of *Lodestar* (September 2005) is August 25th!

Also remember, two DMC fieldtrips, a Wildacres Workshop session and the AFMS Annual Meeting will have occurred by the time the next issue of *Lodestar* is mailed. In addition, motel registrations for the reduced rate will be closed after August 2, 2005 for the September SFMS Meeting in Hendersonville, NC. Please look carefully in this issue for dates and instructions for these events.

Sincerely,
Carolyn L. Daniels, *Lodestar* Editor

VACATIONS ARE FUN FOR LEARNING, ESPECIALLY FOR YOUTH

Let's remember as we plan our vacations to really vacate. Visit a museum or go on a field trip or go panning or look for interesting rocks in cuts and along streams. Take time to really enjoy nature, BUT most especially take time to talk to your children and grandchildren or even children you meet along the way about rocks, minerals and geology from the knowledge you have obtained because you have been a member of a rock, mineral and gem club. Children are a captive audience and eager to learn. It is exciting to teach them what you have learned because someone, somewhere took the time to teach you.



If your club has youth members or a youth group, share with them some of your vacation experiences. You may even have a specimen that you have collected for them.

Youth Resources Chairman,
Hugh and Leona Sheffield

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - APRIL 23, 2005

The First Executive Board Meeting of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., for the year 2005 was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by President Eileen Price. Billie Wright gave the invocation. Marty Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Past Presidents Jim Robinson, Don Monroe, and John Wright were recognized. Cornelia McDaniel of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society welcomed the federation and the Secretary stated that a quorum was present.

The agenda was approved on motion of Ann Monroe, seconded by Don Monroe and unanimous consent of those present. Don Monroe was appointed to act as parliamentarian. On motion of Jim Robinson and second of Jeanette Banks, the minutes of the last meeting as published in the January *Lodestar* were approved without amendment.

President's remarks: President Eileen expressed regrets that many members were absent at this meeting, thanked Ann Monroe for her help for past couple of months and Buddy Shotts for securing State Directors for LA and MS. We now have full complement. Thanks to Ken Anderson for accepting Insurance Liaison in addition to Treasurer. Someone for Insurance must be in place and ready to take over in January 2006. She will ask Buddy to urge all State Directors to contact club presidents to search for the position.

Asks all Club Presidents to make *Lodestar* available to all members and encourage participation. John Wright has agreed to stay on as Long Range Planning Chairman and Don Monroe is now Safety Chairman. Compliments due Carolyn for *Lodestar* and encourage timely submission of articles. We need more articles from everyone, suggested each chair contribute at least two articles per year. State Directors should encourage clubs to submit information and articles by club members. Special thanks to Hugh and Leona Sheffield for contributions for Youth Programs. Commends Leo for 2005 Directory. Thanks to Secretary her work in getting all registered and accounted for. Everyone, keep up the good work. Let us make the *Lodestar* a good community newsletter.

1st Vice President - Ann Monroe: Next Executive Board Meeting will be held in Hendersonville, NC, 9-3-05. Annual meeting in Melbourne, FL Nov. 11-12, 2005. 2006 first meeting will be in Franklin, NC in March. SFMS will host AFMS in Nashville, TN 8-14-06, at the time of the SFMS Executive meeting. Montgomery Gem & Mineral Soc., AL, invitation to host 2006 SFMS meeting Dec. 2-2, 2006. Will call for vote during new business.

2nd Vice President - Buddy Shotts: Not present, report sent. New State Directors are Lullene Slater for MS and Arthur Mott for LA..

Secretary - Betty James: Minutes of the 2004 annual meeting were printed in Jan. *Lodestar* with no comments or corrections.

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The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - APRIL 23, 2005
(Continued)**

Treasurer - Ken Anderson: Not present, report sent, included final accounting as of 12-31-04, showing a balance of \$72,430.76 and accounting as of 4-21-05 with cash balance of \$72,246.27. His written report explained the need to hold adequate funds available to cover insurance renewals and to finance other expenses during first half of 2005. Stamp funds are co-mingled with operating funds but are available for stamp scholarships only.

Asst. Treas. - David Katt: Not present, no report. David and Kitty were recently involved in an auto accident but repairs have been satisfactorily made and they are okay.

Membership Secretary - Leo Morris: We have a total of 80 clubs with 7667 members vs. last year's membership of 7776 members, a decrease of 109 members.

Editor - Carolyn Daniels: Not present, report sent. Current mailing list 141 entities. Suggests more members take electronic subscriptions. *Lodestar* is also posted on web. This would decrease budget and help with mailing costs. Need for more articles and for them to be timely mailed for deadline. 2005 Directories were at meeting for distribution. Jeanette Banks passed around mailing list for corrections where necessary.

Past President - Bill Waggoner: Not present, no report. Olin Banks reports that Bill has been very ill with a thyroid condition. He is now rebounding but much yet to go.

AFMS President Elect - Jim Robinson: Last word he has had from American Federation was at our annual meeting. (Dec. 2004)

State Directors:

Alabama - Iris McGehee: Not present, report sent. All clubs doing well and attracting new members. Birmingham club making preparations for Tannehill show and swap. Huntsville now has 121 members and is preparing for annual show. Bonita Harris, Youth Director of Mobile Club, reports outstanding activity. Supervised youth are now allowed to use the workshop equipment and doing beautiful work. Montgomery Club is preparing kits for school classrooms and buying necessary items to equip its workshop.

Florida - Beryl Ferguson: Not present, report sent. Florida clubs recovering from storms. Many members have completed home and club repairs. Tomoka is considering expansion for more hands-on group meetings. Possibly attendance is down at William Holland and Wildacres because members are using needed funds for home repairs.

Georgia - Anita Westlake: Not present, report sent. Athens is considering a joint show with an established artifacts show. Anita is now program chairman of Cotton Indian which is losing members to age and needs a recruitment

program to reach younger members. Rome and Augusta/Aiken held shows in March with good attendance. GA Mineral Soc. participated in the Science Olympiad writing questions, supplying fossils, monitoring tests, and grading papers. Also getting ready for annual Mother's Day weekend show.

Kentucky - David Horn: Not present, no report.

Louisiana - Art Mott: Not present, nothing to report.

Mississippi - Luellene Slater, Not present due to illness, nothing to report.

North Carolina - Mike Streeter: NC clubs continue to be strong. DMC field trip at Bower's Farm hosted by High Point G & M. See web site at <http://www.mcrocks.com/images/FTRStreeter-1-8-05.html>. Mike helped present SFMS annual awards at G & M of Franklin and gave a talk at Western Piedmont G & M in Conover. He is now receiving monthly newsletters from three clubs.

South Carolina - Fred Sias: Not present, no report. (Fred is at Wildacres).

Tennessee - Marty Hart: Present, nothing to report. Working on 2006 show in Nashville, August 13-19.

Virginia - Steve Gordon: Lynchburg club has 195 members with future rockhounds group with 12 or more members. Monthly field trips almost always include Roanoke Club. Have been doing rock swaps with other clubs around US (including Alaska) for past 8 years. They have a booth at different festivals and displays at libraries, etc. New web site is <http://www.lyncburgrockclub.org>. Roanoke club is also very active with large shows each year at Salem Civic Center with Lynchburg participating.

SFMS Committee Reports:

Bulletin Contest - Anna Denton: 44 entries this year in all categories except mini-bulletin and special publications. Two junior entries. Judging has been completed and top three entries in each category forwarded to AFMS for judging.

Constitution and By-Laws - Robert Walker: Not present, nothing to report.

Constitution and By-Laws Review - Olin Banks: Need suggestions for changes to be considered. Will meet following this meeting to compile changes to this point.

Education - Fred Sias: Possible reasons for lower enrollment at both sessions at William Holland - Fee increases and need for early enrollment. Also need for more information to reach clubs. Considering a change from payment of spouse cost of class to payment of a portion of travel expenses. Suggestions from members for changes and improvements are solicited.

Ann Monroe reported that as of the time of the meeting, William Holland workshop had only 30 students registered for June session. Need at least 70 to break even.

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - APRIL 23, 2005
(Continued)**

Wildacres Reg. - Kerri/Bill Wetzel: Not present, no report.

William Holland Dir. - Pat Davis: Not present, no report.

William Holland Reg. - Dana/Ray Gonzalez: Not present, no report.

Historian - Charlotte Mayo Bryant: Not present, no report. Historical documents are currently stored at Weinmann Museum at Cartersville, GA..

2005 Host - Canaveral M & G Soc., Christine Miller: Not present. Registration forms will be in the Lodestar. Meeting, meals and guest rooms will be in the Airport Hilton. Rooms \$109 per night. Pot luck meal on Friday night, no charge. chrstnmlr@aol.com.

Insurance Liaison - Ken Anderson: Not present, report mailed. 44 clubs presently enrolled. Working on rewording insurance literature and mailings to impress members that insurance is optional and costs are not included in annual dues. Insurance audit for 2004-2005 will be complete by May 31, 2005.

Web Site - Jim Flora: Not Present. Have had several updates to workshop information and club shows. 2005 Directory now in PDF format and new club contact information. Current Lodestar may now be downloaded along with past newsletters from January 2004.

Long Range Planning - John Wright: Reports that a notice will be in the Lodestar.

Nominations - Bill Waggoner: Not present, no report.

Youth Resources - Hugh, Leona Sheffield: Not present. Letters sent to all club presents with youth information. 2005 SFMS workshop scholarships given to Dillon Sackman of G & M Soc. Of Franklin, NC and Britney Hamilton of Jacksonville G & M Club. There were four entries.

Public Relations - Ron Denton: Not present, no report.

Safety - Don Monroe: An article for publication in the *Lodestar* will be forwarded this week.

AFMS Committee Reports:

Newsletter - Carolyn Daniels: Not present, no report.

SFMS Field Trips - Jim Flora: Not present. DMC conducted field trips this session to James Bowers Limonite Prospect, Aquadale, NC; Jackson's Crossroads amethyst site, Northwest Wilkes County, GA; Diamond Hill quartz mine in GA; and Savannah River Agates, Girard, GA. Gaston County G, M, & F Club, Gastonia, NC added to Committee. Western Piedmont M & G Soc., Conover, NC; and Huntsville G & M Soc., Huntsville, AL dropped.

Boundaries - Beryl Ferguson: Not present. No activity this period.

Club Publications - Diane Dare: Not present, no report.

Slides/Videos - Freda Hull: Not present. Eleven new programs cataloged, four from AFMS competitive winners and six from AFMS endowment fund. Updated list posted on the website and in 2005 directory.

Club Rockhound of Year - Vacant.

Collecting Sites - Vacant.

Social Concerns - Edna Morris: Sent card to Sid and Nora Drouant family and to Charlotte Mayo Bryant.

Conservation/Legislation - John Wright: No report.

Education/All American: Vacant.

Stamp Program - Jim Robinson: Stamp sales and prices have picked back up. Needing more stamps submitted before last meeting for summer so that they may be processed for this year's scholarships. Also need more people to help soak stamps off paper. See web site for soaking instructions. Guard against fading stamps.

Endowment Fund - Ken Anderson: Not Present. This fund is used to provide educational tools such as slide and video programs to federations at no cost. Tickets are \$5.00 each; \$20.00 for 5 tickets. See the AFMS website for pictures of prizes. Contact Ken for tickets.

Juniors - Hugh Sheffield: Not present, no report.

Supplies - Reba Shotts: Not present, no report.

Program Competition - Freda Hull: Not present, no report.

Uniform Rules - Flora Lee Walker: Not present, nothing to report.

Public Relations - Not Present, no report.

Ways & Means - Frank Decaminada - Officers and Committee Chairs will be asked to submit budget requests in September to be compiled and submitted to Executive Board for Approval.

Safety - Don Monroe: Present, no report.

Wildacres Dir. - David/Barbara Tuttle: Not present. Two April classes canceled and eight spaces given up to another group because of low enrollment. Outlook better for other two sessions.

Uniform Rules - Betty James: AFMS URC meeting to be Aug. 16, St. Louis, MO. This meeting to be attended by current SFMS URC and one other person from SFMS. Rules may be downloaded from www.amfed.org/rules.

Ways & Means - Frank Decaminada: Present, no report.

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - APRIL 23, 2005

(Continued)

Mayo Educational Foundation - Diane Dare: Seven applications have been received. With lower interest rates the grants will be lower this year. Need for continued donations.

Mayo Foundation Treasurer's Report - Frank Decaminada: For 2004 contributions were \$3637 and interest income of \$7196.90. Scholarships awarded totaled \$7400 with expenses of \$188.08, leaving a deficit of \$380.18. Total cash balance increased by \$3256.82 to \$247,179.97.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ann Monroe read a letter of invitation from Montgomery G & M Soc., for annual meeting of SFMS Dec. 1-3, 2006. Motion made by Jim Robinson, second by Don Monroe, to accept their invitation. Motion passed unanimously. Ann will notify them of acceptance.

Motion made by Frank Decaminada, seconded by Jim Robinson, to give Irvine Thornton, retired Treasurer, a lifetime free subscription to *Lodestar*, coded as past president. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Betty M. James, Secretary*

A MESSAGE FROM THE SFMS FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE - DMC FIELD TRIP SHARING PROGRAM

It has come to our attention that a few members of DMC clubs are NOT following our "Field Trip Policies" while on one of our hosted field trips. Last weekend, on the Savannah River Agate DMC field trip outside of Girard, Georgia, several cars did not meet at the agreed meeting place but, instead, went straight to the collecting site. They did not sign the release forms and had an unfair advantage over the rest of the party.

DMC Field Trip Policy #6 states the following:

- **"Please do not visit a site immediately before a DMC program field trip. Also, do not go to a site ahead of the group on the day of the field trip. Meet and convoy with the rest of the group so that everyone will have equal access to the site."**

This type of behavior will not be tolerated and all offending parties will be reported to their associated clubs. Your club's membership in the DMC Field Trip sharing program could be jeopardized if we continue to receive reports on further abuses of our field trip policies by members of a DMC member club.

*Jim Flora,, SFMS Field Trips Committee Chairman
& DMC Program Coordinator*

DMC FIELD TRIP POLICIES

1. All societies which have agreed to host a field trip and join the DMC Field Trip Sharing Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee will be called an "**associated**" club.
2. Only associated clubs will be allowed to publish DMC program field trips as their official monthly field trip. (Benefit of membership!)
3. 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.
4. For **insurance purposes**, all associated clubs **must** publish all DMC program field trips as "officially recognized" field trips of their society. It is required that all persons who attend a DMC program field trip be a member, in good standing, of an SFMS club. Since a family membership covers everyone in a family who can attend, your SFMS club will need all family member names on their membership roll.
5. All sites visited by the DMC field trip sharing program are **not to be revisited** unless they are on public domain property - road cuts, national forests, etc., or on privately owned land with the owner's permission. This is the quickest way to lose access to a host club's field trip location. Therefore, if an associated club or one of its members breaks this crucial DMC field trip policy, their future DMC program field trip information will be **forfeited!**
6. **Please do not visit a site immediately before a DMC program field trip. Also, do not go to a site ahead of the group on the day of the field trip. Meet and convoy with the rest of the group so that everyone will have equal access to the site.**
7. Do not park your vehicle where it is blocking the road, a gate, or another vehicle.
8. Always fill in all your holes.
9. Don't litter.
10. Never disturb buildings or other facilities at a collecting site.
11. Only take home what you can reasonably use!
12. PLEASE keep your vehicle locked at all times!

from an email from Jim Flora (5/12/05)

SFMS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (SUMMER 2005)

Hosted by
Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society
Hendersonville, North Carolina
Saturday, September 3, 2005

Motel: Quality Inn & Suites
201 Sugarloaf Road
Hendersonville, NC 28792

For reservations: 1.800.581.4745
Must use code: SFMS for special rate of
1 night: \$79.99 + tax
3+ nights: \$74.99 + tax
good through August 2, 2005

Motel amenities include full breakfast, lounge, indoor pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, workout facility, game room, and putt-putt golf.

DIRECTIONS TO QUALITY INN & SUITES

Traveling North or South on I-26: Exit 49A east onto Route 64 East. At traffic light take right onto Sugarloaf Road, where road veers left go right up hill to Quality Inn & Suites.

DIRECTIONS TO Site FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AT PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

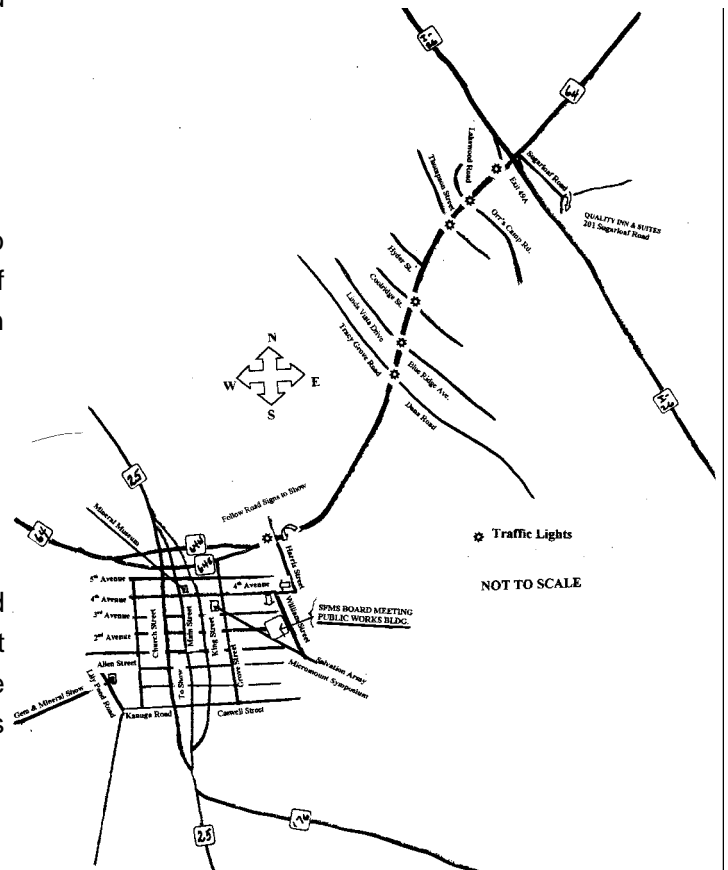
Left at traffic light onto Route 64 West toward Hendersonville. At 7th traffic light, Harris Street, turn left to dead end of street then right onto 4th Avenue. Take next left onto Williams Street. The Public Works Building is located on the right side of the street.

DIRECTIONS TO GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Traveling to show from Quality Inn & Suites: Left at traffic light onto Route 64 West toward Hendersonville. Continue on Route 64 West to Route 25 South (Church Avenue). Continue on Route 25 South in right lane to Kanuga Road then right onto Kanuga Road then right onto Lily Pond Road and Whitmire Activity Building on right.

DIRECTIONS TO MICROMOUNT SYMPOSIUM SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2005 HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

From Executive Board meeting site: Left out of parking lot onto William Street then left at 4th Avenue to Grove Street. Salvation Army building located on Grove Street between 3rd and 4th Avenues.



July/August 2005

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.



MEET US IN ST. LOUIS

from Barbara Sky

Last month we told you about the field trip opportunities that have been organized to enhance your convention experience. We also printed all the forms, hotel and camping information and events schedule. You can download additional copies from our website at <http://convention.stleearthsci.org>.

Now we want to remind you to make those hotel or campground reservations and send in your request for show tickets and meals no later than July 15. If you plan on having an exhibit at the show, whether competitive or non-competitive, the deadline for submitting your application form is June 1.

Fill out and send in those forms and make those reservations now before you forget! We'd love to fill the hall with your displays so that the general public as well as our "rockhound" community can see all the wonderful work you do or get a glimpse at a portion of your mineral or fossil collection.

We can't guarantee the weather for August in St. Louis, but we can guarantee you a wonderful experience. St. Louis has lots to do and see (the Arch, our world-class zoo, the Budweiser Brewery, numerous parks, the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team to name just a few). And we're only a few miles away from the Lewis & Clark exhibition marking the spot where the famous duo began their voyage up the Missouri and into unknown territory.

So mark August 16 - 21 on your calendar and "Meet Us In St. Louis". The AFMS meetings are Tuesday, August 16 (Rules) and Wednesday August 17 (AFMS & Scholarship). The show is open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday - August 19 - 21. We hope to see you there.

from the *A.F.M.S. Newsletter* (6/05)

2005 SFMS DIRECTORY REVISIONS

I have received the following changes to the 2005 SFMS Directory:



Florida

Playground Gem & Mineral Society:

Dale Engler, email address is now kdengem@cox.net.

Sharon Phillips, email address is now sharie156@aol.com.

Georgia

Carroll County Gem & Mineral Society:

Meeting Place is now Fellowship Hall, Temple United Methodist Church, 24 Carrollton St.; Temple, GA .

Cotton Indian Gem & Mineral Society:

Mailing address is now P.O. Box 2535, Stockbridge, Ga 30281.

North Carolina

North Carolina Fossil Club:

Richard Chandler, mailing address is now 1225 Lorimer Road, Raleigh, NC 27606.

Louisiana

Arthur Mott, 337 Walter Road River Ridge, LA 70123, Telephone: 504.737.0259, email arthurmott@att.net.

Leo Morris, SFMS Membership Chairman

SFMS FEDERATION WEEK 2005 AT WILLIAM HOLLAND

I was lucky enough to attend William Holland during Federation week with a really good friend, my daughter Britney Hamilton. Britney had won a junior scholarship to attend during Federation week. She couldn't attend unless she had a chaperone that would be attending the class with her (twist my arm!).

We left Jacksonville, Florida at 5 A.M. Sunday morning and didn't stop until we got to Dahlonega, GA around 10 A.M., site of America's first gold rush. We visited the museum and, at that time in the morning, there were very few patrons so we were able to see everything in the museum in a very short time. This left us with plenty of time to eat lunch in one of the small colorful restaurants that lined the square around the old town hall (now the museum). Afterwards, we visited two local gold mines and panned for gold. I was very impressed with the mine tour at the Consolidated Gold Mine. Before we knew it, 5 hours had passed and we needed to make our way to the school.

Checking in, unpacking and touring the facilities took all of about 15 minutes. Now what, no TV, not to many people showing up right away, just two blank faces staring back at one another. Six o'clock, dinnertime. Yea, something to do. By now most everyone had arrived. We fixed our plates and joined a crowded table and quickly started up conversations with everyone around. Let the fun begin. Now I know why they don't have any TV's, you don't have time to watch'em with that many people to talk with.

Monday 9 A.M., class begins. We were taking Beginning Silversmithing and our instructor, Allen Jewel, greeted us and sat us down for instructions and the rules of the classroom. The classroom was organized and optimally laid out for teaching. Allen's beginner class was the basics to the max. We learned the hardest or longest way to do cut silver by using a jeweler's saw. Thank God for the inventive nature of mankind resulting in wire cutters.

The curriculum was very defined and structured to let you combine learned skills as you progressed. The ease and assurance that our instructor gave to us made for an open and expressive atmosphere. Every one was at ease and the creative juices quickly begun to flow. Each day that passed, we all learned something new and each student contributed an insightful view or question that led to a class discussion.

SFMS FEDERATION WEEK 2005 AT WILLIAM HOLLAND (continued)

Tuesday night, an auction was held with donated items



Jason Hamilton at his silversmithing station at a recent SFMS William Holland Workshop. (Photograph by Dana Gonzalez.)

from that week's students and instructors. Britney got in on the action and scored really well on a couple bags of beads. I didn't do too badly myself. But, I had some financial explaining to do when I got home, to the tune of \$120.00. I could

already see it coming.

The weekly schedule called for a half day of class on Wednesday. We all wanted to have an extended day of class rather than a short day. Good luck for me that I overheard of a possible rock trip guided by a student from another class for Wednesday after lunch. Britney and I ate lunch like piranhas and bolted off to the parking lot. Our guide was taking us to see some big lady up in the hills; I mean we went to the Chunky Gal Mine to look for corundum. Absolutely stunning, what a beautiful place, you couldn't ask for a nicer collecting site or better conditions. Sun-lit valley entering into a canopy-covered stream with a cool breeze and trickling sunshine. We had a truly WONDER-FILLED field trip. The camaraderie of the rock hounds and wonders of exploring this extraordinarily beautiful site combined to create one of the most memorable experiences. One of those stories I'll tell over and over again. By the way, we didn't find any corundum.

Thursday was auction night. Students and instructors alike were invited to swap and sell what ever they wanted to in the cafeteria. I did pretty good selling rock slabs. Lets just say the accountant wouldn't have to know anything about Tuesday's auction. I didn't have to pay off Britney either as she was doing some trading on her own with other tables.

As the week progressed our silversmithing skills became sharper and expressive ideas were crafted into beautiful pieces of jewelry. I have an appreciation for learning the skillful ways of the silversmith. I need to buy a jewelers saw now.

We really had a great time. The lodge was quaint, the instructors very knowledgeable, the classrooms well equipped and everyone you met instantly became a good friend. I think it was all the more special sharing the experience with my very good friend and daughter, Britney.

Thank you SFMS and Thank you William Holland, Jason B. Hamilton, Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society

FIERY OBJECT LIGHTS UP WILDACRES

Students in the *Geology and Space class* at the April 2005 session of Wildacres were taken into the vast regions of space through the media of binoculars, cameras, telescopes, combinations of camera and telescope, and fabulous photos from the Hubble Space Telescope, unmanned satellites, and manned spacecraft.

The skies lit up when comets streaked by, and stars exploded (millions of years ago, with the light just now arriving here on earth). Meteor showers were a backdrop to Niagra Falls and Ayers Rock in Australia.

With the big Go-To telescope, Saturn with its rings looked to be about six miles away, Jupiter with two moons one night and four moons visible the next night about eight miles away, the moon so close it looked like a bad sheet rock job, and two stars, side by side, just under the handle of the Big Dipper.

Not only did the eight class members see the heavens, but all those who cared to come out just after dark. SFMS attendees and the Masons were all invited, most came.

The class learned about novae, supernovae, asteroids, tektites, comets, fireballs, white dwarfs, the many galaxies with thousands of stars and planets and moons in each one, lunar and solar eclipses, brown dwarfs, gravitational pulls, and star compositions. Everyone had to hold onto their seats to keep from being pulled into a black hole.



Dr. Mike Reynolds holds a Lunar rock in his right hand and a Martian rock in his left hand. (Photograph by Red Brigman).

The highlight of the *Geology and Space Science week-long class* was to hold in your hand and examine and touch a rock from the moon and in your other hand, a rock from Mars. How cool is that? How many people have enjoyed that experience? Talk about shock and awe!!

And then, as if that was not enough, there were four field trips that were as successful as you could ask. Here is a list of the trips and descriptions of the activities conducted:

FIERY OBJECT LIGHTS UP WILDACRES

(Continued)

1. North Carolina Mining Museum - All the equipment used to mine in the past half-century was on display. Buckets of mine dirt produced amethyst, emerald crystals, rainbow moonstone, garnet, iron pyrite clusters, kyanite, clear quartz, etc.
2. Vulcan Materials Company - Showed how rock is blasted, crushed, graded, crushed again and used for paving, driveways and highways all over the Southeastern United States.
3. Brushy Creek Aquamarine Mine - We collected garnets, aquamarine, tourmaline, beryl and mica.
4. K-T Feldspar Mine - Produces a fine, bright, pure white sand used in the Augusta National Golf Course (and Grassy Creek Golf Club) sand traps. We collected massive garnet in feldspar, epidote in pitchblende, pink feldspar, and blue and white quartz.



Attendees of the April 2005 *Geology and Space Science* class at Wildacres: (front row, left to right) Shirley Acquavivia and Dr. Reynolds; (middle row, left to right) Flora Lee Walker, Debra Miller and Red Brigman; (top row, left to right) Robert "Red" Walker, Randall Hess and Anita Westlake. (Photograph provided by Red Brigman).

The instructor, Dr. Mike Reynolds, has lived a fairy tale life, traveling the world chasing meteors, collecting meteorites in China and Antarctica, and photographing solar and lunar eclipses from the most advantageous spots on earth. He has been executive director of the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland, California, a finalist in the Teacher in Space Program, director of the Alexander Brest Planetarium in Jacksonville, Florida, and an award-winning high school teacher. and co-authored books and scientific papers, been a contributor for Gemini 6a and 7, the Apollo-



Dr. Mike Reynolds projects an image of the sun for the class using a telescope and white paper. (Photograph by Red Brigman).

not declare a large piece of slag infested with ants as a meteorite. He lead an expedition to Antarctica to gather

meteorites in temperatures around -50°F and then went straight to warm and beautiful Tahiti. John Glenn asked him for a tour of the Chabot Museum for himself and his family when the museum was closed, and then thanked him graciously.

He is currently a college professor and finds unique ways to demonstrate why we have phases of the moon, the enormity of distance in space, why the earth has seasons, why meteorites strike planets and how they are shaped, and the significance of craters. He has an energy in introducing the wonders of our expanding universe that is contagious. The sparkle in his eye and enthusiasm in his voice, match the brightest star. It was like *Star Trek* come alive!

A lot of unusual things have happened to "Dr. Mike" along the way to Wildacres. In Georgia, he was threatened with bodily harm because he would

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We not only live on earth, we are part of the universe. We are just a speck. But a lot of specks, grouped together, can reflect sunlight, sometimes very brightly and for long distances. As tiny as we are, we are not insignificant. The more we know about where we live, the better decisions we can make. Attending this class will help everyone in understanding this.

The *Geology and Space Science* class was offered for the very first time this past April. It was my opinion that the class was **breath-taking**, and I heard other class members say the same thing. The class week was very long and I went home exhausted, but would not have had it any other way. I attended to learn as much as I possibly could, and that definitely happened!

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Red Brigman

2005 Wildacres Workshop Registration Form

Session: April August September Accommodations: Lodge Day Student

(A) Name Mr _____ SFMS Club _____
 Mrs _____
 Ms _____
PLEASE PRINT NAME(S) AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAG SPELL OUT CLUB NAME INITIALS NOT ACCEPTED

(B) Name Mr _____ Phone _____
 Mrs _____ Email _____
 Ma _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Is this the first time you will attend William Holland? (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	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
B	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Room Assignment for Single Applicants only:

- 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) Room Request for Physical/Medical Reasons:

Please do not ask for a specific lodge or room unless you have a physical or medical reason for doing so. _____
 5) **Special Dietary needs:** Diabetic _____ Other _____

NOTE: SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED IN ANY WILDACRES BUILDING

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Applications will be accepted beginning on February 15, 2005 for all sessions. The postmark date on or after this determines the order of acceptance. **First-time attendees have an 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.
- 3) **Cost per person for this session is \$280**, double occupancy with private bath. (Single room cost is \$420.) **\$115 for day students.** (Meals are not included for day students.)

A reservation deposit of \$30 must accompany this form. You may, and are encouraged to, pay the full amount with this application. If the full amount is not paid with this application, **the balance will be due four weeks prior to the workshop. No notice will be sent.**

4) Cancellation Policy: There is a \$30 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs and an additional \$30 charge for canceling less than 4 weeks before the session begins. No refund will be given for cancellations received less than 7 days before the session. **There are No adjustments for late arrivals or early departures.**

Amount submitted with application: \$ _____

Make Check Payable to:

SFMS Wildacres Workshop

Mail check and this form to:

Kerri and Bill Wetzell
 5010 Sunset Drive, Easley, SC 29642
 Phone: 864-306-6749 Email: wwetzell@earthlink.net

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:

SFMS 2005 Wildacres Workshop at Little Switzerland, NC

2005 Workshop Dates

Workshop Directors

April.....Monday, April 18 to Sunday, April 24, 2005

August Monday, August 22 to Sunday, August 28, 2005

September..Monday, Sept. 19 to Sunday, September 25, 2005

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. It is in Little Switzerland, approximately half way 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 plus a pottery studio.**

Fees

Lodge accommodations: \$280 per person (double occupancy), including meals. A limited number of single rooms are available at \$420 per person. There are no facilities for camping or Recreational Vehicles.

Day Students: \$115 per person, no meals are included. (Individual meals may be purchased directly from the Wildacres Retreat.)

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, 2005 for all sessions. At that time a \$30 Administrative fee should be submitted. The postmark date on or after this date determines the order of acceptance. **First-time attendees at SFMS Workshops have an extra priority.**

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.

Reservation Deposit

A deposit of \$30 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.

Cancellation Policy

There is a \$30 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs. An additional \$30 charge will be assessed for cancellations made less than 4 weeks before a session begins. No refund will be returned for cancellations by the student within 7 days of the start of a session. There will be no fee adjustment for late arrival or early departure.

David and Barbara Tuttle
85504 Blackmon Road ,Yulee, FL 32097
Phone: 904-225-0689 Email: dtt@net-magic.net

Workshop Registrars

Kerri and Bill Wetzel
5010 Sunset Drive, Easley, SC 29642
Phone: 864-306-6749 Email: wwetzel@earthlink.net

Session 1: April 18-24, 2005

Beginning Faceting and Intarsia	Tom Wilkie
Cabochons	Gerald Burnham
Chain Making	Dee and Bill Conybear
Fused Glass	Jo Harrison
Geology and Space Science	Mike Reynolds
Silversmithing, beginning	Bill Cady
Stained Glass	Julia Larson
*Wirecraft, advanced	Ruth Ann Moore
Wirecraft, beginning	Ruth Ann Moore

Session 2: August 22-28, 2005

Beading and Design, traditional	Addy DePietro
Southwestern Silversmithing	Dan Haga
Faceting, beginning	Dave Lonser
Gem Appreciation	Ben Smith
Lost-Wax Casting, beginning	Fred Sias
*Silversmithing, advanced	Jeff Sheer
Opal cutting	Joe DePietro
Precious Metal Clay (Level 1)	Ken and Mary Ann Devos
Raku Pottery	Cindy McDowell
Wirecraft, beginning	Ruth Ann Moore
*Wirecraft, advanced Sculpture	Kathy Morris

Session 3: September 19-25, 2005

Beginning Faceting and Intarsia	Tom Wilke
Gem Appreciation	Ben Smith
Glass Beadmaking	Cheryl Ashley
*Goldsmithing	Dan Haga
Opal cutting	Sara Lee Boyce
*Precious Metal Clay (Level 2)	Ken and Mary Ann Devos
Raku Pottery	Cindy McDowell
Silversmithing, beginning	Cathy Cawthorne
Stained Glass	Julia Larson
Wirecraft, beginning	Carol Penry

*Note: Advanced courses with prerequisites are designated with an asterisk .

SFMS 2005 William Holland Workshop at Young Harris, Georgia

2005 Workshop Dates

June.....Sunday, June 12 to Saturday, June 18, 2005

October..Sunday, October 9 to Saturday, October 15, 2005

Check in is on Sunday after 3 p.m. and departure is Saturday morning after breakfast.

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. The upper level is motel-like with 29 air-conditioned bedrooms, with private baths and two beds. Two rooms are equipped for the handicapped.

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

There are two other buildings that makeup 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, built in 2001, to house the instructional staff. The campground has 10 full hook-up spaces for RV's up to 40 feet in length.

Fees

Lodge accommodations: \$280 per person, including meals. **Single room:** add \$140 (\$420).

Day Students: \$115 per person, no meals are included. **Campground Students:** \$98 hookup, \$115 per person for classes. No meals are included but are available directly from the retreat.

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, 2005 for both sessions. The postmark date on or after this date determines the order of acceptance.

First-time attendees have an extra priority.

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.

Reservation Deposit

A non-refundable administrative fee of \$30 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.**

Cancellation Policy

There is a \$30 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs. An additional \$30 charge will be assessed for cancellations made less than 4 weeks before a session begins. 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.

Workshop Director

Pat Davis

4642 North Street

St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Phone: 727-323-2147 Email: rocksnbears@hotmail.com

Workshop Registrar

Dana and Ray Gonzalez

6226 Seaton Drive

Columbus, GA 31909

Session 1: June 13-19, 2006

Cabochon, beginning	Gene Baxter
Chainmaking, beginning	Dee/Bill Conybear
Chanelwork	Don Monroe
Fused Glass	Addy DePietro
Lost-wax Casting	Bill Harr
Opal cutting	Joe DePietro
Silversmithing, advanced*	Dan Haga
Silversmithing, beginning	Allen Jewell
Stained Glass	Julia Larson
Wirecraft, intermediate*	Betty Baxter
Wirecraft, Sculpture*	Lisa Roberts

Session 2: October 9-15, 2005

Chain making, beginning	John Runkle
Fused Glass	Addy DePietro
Jewelry Repair*	Dan Haga
Lost-wax Casting	Fred Sias
Mineral Identification	Bruce Siegfried
Opal Cutting	Joe DePietro
Seed Beading	Jo Harrison
Silversmithing, beginning	Mack Thornton
Wirecraft, advanced*	Dawn Thornton
Wirecraft, beginning	Lisa Roberts

Note: * indicates advanced course with prerequisites.

MY EXPERIENCE AT WILLIAM HOLLAND

I visited William Holland during federation week 2005. We traveled through Georgia's farmlands, and fields of flowers. We passed by the beautiful city of Atlanta, and the twisty mountain roads between Dahlonega and Young Harris. The retreat was peaceful as the rain ended.

That night at dinner I was introduced to my silversmithing instructor, Mr. Allen Jewel. It seemed to me that he and his wife were very nice. After dinner we went outside. The stars were beautiful. Mostly because there were no city lights to block them out. I really enjoyed watching and then catching the fireflies.



Britney Hamilton working on one of her silversmithing projects at a recent SFMS sponsored workshop at William Holland. (Photograph by Dana Gonzalez.)

On Monday morning we woke up bright and early and went down to breakfast. We sat down at the table and quickly made friends. I rushed through breakfast because I was eager to get to class. When class started our instructor sat us down and began explaining the basics of silversmithing and the rules of the classroom. Our first project was using the jewelers saw to cut out the insides of a penny leaving Lincolns bust, which turned out to be a challenge. We continued on to make two pairs of earrings and then we made a bracelet. When class was over we ate dinner and made a few

more friends.

Tuesday, we finished our bracelets, made earrings out of the extra bracelet scraps and then I started making a ring. That night my dad and I went to the weekly auction. I donated fossils to the auction from Ft. Drum that I collected. I was the highest bidder on four items which each sold for a dollar.

On Wednesday I finished my ring and then started on a pendant to match it. Wednesdays are half days and with nothing scheduled we met up with a group of people in the parking lot. An impromptu field trip was quickly organized and we all went to the Chunky Gal mine to search for corundum. We had a lot of fun even though I didn't find one. The mountains and streams were beautiful. The trees formed a canopy of shade letting in small beams of sunlight poke through all around us while we were turning over rocks. We don't have mountains or anything like this in Florida. I should have brought a camera.

Thursday, I finished my pendant. I then began working on another project for my aunt. That night we tailgated in the cafeteria selling and trading lapidary items. There were all sorts of beautiful things there. I traded some Fort Drum fossils for a wire wrapped rose ring.

On Friday, I finished my aunt's project and started on a pendant for my grandmother. At the end of class we received certificates and had pictures taken. That night at dinner we had show and tell where I got to see all the beautiful things people had worked on during the week. I was leaving very early the next morning so I said my good-byes to all my new friends.

This was an incredible experience for me. I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of being there. I learned many new skills and made lots of new friends. I can hardly wait to take another class at William Holland.

*Thank you Mr. Jewel and thank you all,
Britney Hamilton, Age 12, Junior Member of
Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society*

PALEO BILL NEWS — SENATE BILL S-263

from Dee Holland and Shirley Leeson

If we remain silent on this legislation all of us will lose our right to collect. Although this bill deals with fossils, other collecting possibilities may be threatened next.

The Paleo Resources Bill is still floating around in the Senate. If you've not done so, it is imperative that you and your club members write to your Senators and Representatives expressing your views on a) the effort to fast track the legislation without debate and b) the legislation itself.

One important note: In the last AFMS Newsletter, Jon Spunaugle gave an incorrect bill number in his "Truth and Some Consequences" article. [The correct number for the bill is S-263.](#)

Here is a good sample letter that might serve as a guideline for your own letter to your legislators:

Honorable _____
 United States House of Representatives (or Senate)

 Washington, DC

Dear Congressman _____:

As one of your most loyal and long-time supporters, and a resident of Congressional District Number 24 of California, I am writing to ask for your help to defeat **Senate Bill S-263, a supposed Paleontological Resources Preservation Act**. It has already passed through committee without amendment for action on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

As a Registered Geologist and amateur gem and mineral collector, I can attest that S-263 is a very bad piece of legislation, and I ask that you do what you can to block passage of this Bill by a no vote or any other means available to you. There are many good reasons why this poorly conceived legislation is a detriment to this country and it's citizens, and they boil down to these:

1. This bill masquerades as protecting fossils and academic inquiry. IT DOES NOT. To the contrary, it inhibits knowledge and inquiry. The majority of what is known about fossils has been gathered by commercial and amateur collectors, and most museum collections are the result of non-commercial or amateur finds.
2. The Secretary of the Interior asked that academic, amateur and commercial fossil collectors be consulted in the preparation of potential legislation regarding fossil resources on public lands. To my knowledge, the commercial collectors were not consulted, input from amateurs was not solicited, and there was never an opportunity for any to testify.
3. This legislation is the product of a few academics alone, in concert with a small group of managers from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service. Such collegiate and government personnel have, through aggressive tactics pushed their own skewed agenda. An agenda that is not good for the true science of paleontology, and would be a tragic mistake if enacted.

This Bill (S-263) must be stopped, or at the very least scrapped, as it serves neither the resource nor the public. I believe I can speak for all amateur collectors, and ask that our rights as citizens not be infringed upon, nor should we live under the fear of being arrested simply because we picked up a bone, shell, or fossil of some sort.

Please do what you can to shut down and eliminate Senate Bill 263.

Best regards,
[from the A.F.M.S. Newsletter (6/05)]

**SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
 ANNUAL SHOW – NOVEMBER 12 & 13, 2005
 MELBOURNE, FLORIDA
 HOSTED BY: CANAVERAL MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY**

APPLICATION FOR COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____ E-Mail _____

Division _____ Class _____ Exhibitor Group _____

(Consult AFMS Uniform Rules, 8th edition, updated, to correctly fill out these spaces)
 The latest edition with updates may be downloaded form www.amfed.org/rules, click on “download rules”

A small number of club cases are available for loan. These will be allotted on a “first come” basis.

If your are furnishing your own case,
 Please fill in accurate exterior dimensions _____ W _____ H _____ D

A short description of your exhibit _____

Maximum electrical power allowed for each exhibit is 150 watts. You may need to provide an extension cord.

Exhibitors must sign the following statement, except those entering Division E (Educational) – See AFMS UR Page E-2, Rule 17.9

I CERTIFY THAT ALL MATERIALS EXHIBITED IN COMPETITION ARE MY PERSONAL PROPERTY, AND THAT ALL WORKMANSHIP EXHIBITED WAS DONE BY ME, AS REQUIRED BY THE RULES.

Competitor’s Signature _____

Society _____

City & State _____

Club Officer’s Signature & Title _____

Date of Form _____ **Birth Date** _____ **(Junior Competitor only)**

**Mail to: Roy Deere
 7041 Rodes Place
 W. Melbourne, FL 32904**

Exhibits chairman must receive all completed forms no later than OCTOBER 1, 2005

Please use a separate form for each application. Reproductions of this form are acceptable.

2005 Annual Meeting of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Hosted By: Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society
November 12 & 13, 2005
In conjunction with our
29th Annual Parade of Gems

Name (for Badge) _____ (Check if Delegate)

Name (for Badge) _____ (Check if Delegate)

Name (for Badge) _____ (Check if Delegate)

Name (for Badge) _____ (Check if Delegate)

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Club Affiliation:

The Meeting, Banquet and Breakfast will be held at: **Hilton Melbourne Rialto Place**
200 Rialto Place
Melbourne, FL 32901
321-768-0200

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Hilton at reduced rates. You are responsible for your own reservation. You must identify yourself as a member of SFMS. Rates are \$109/night + tax, you may upgrade to a Jr. Suite for \$30/night additional. Reservations must be made by October 21, 2005. The Hilton currently provides a free shuttle for its guests, tipping encouraged.

The CM&GS has a traditional potluck Dealers Dinner Friday night for its members and Show Dealers at the Melbourne Auditorium. SFMS conventioners are invited to attend, but we need to know you plan to attend.

Activity	Location	Cost/person	# Of Persons	Payment
Friday Dealers Dinner	Melbourne Auditorium	Free		None
Annual Business	Hilton	None		None
Annual Banquet Saturday 6pm-10pm	Hilton Melbourne Rialto Place	\$30.00/person (Includes tax & tip)	Prime Rib _____ # Chicken Cordon Blue _____ # Salmon _____ #	
Editors Breakfast Buffet Sunday 8am-11am	Hilton Melbourne Rialto Place	\$17.75/person (Includes tax & tip)		
Make Checks Payable to CM&GS (Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society) Send Registration and Payment to: Christine Miller 119 W. Laila Dr West Melbourne, FL 32904 321-952-9647 chrstnmlr@aol.com				\$
Total Enclosed				

LOOKING AHEAD

2004/2005 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

California Federation

Hosts: Roseville Rock Rollers
Roseville, California
Conducted June 10-12, 2005

Eastern Federation

West Palm Beach, Florida
November 17-19, 2006

Midwest Federation & American Federation

Hosts: Greater St. Louis Assoc. of Earth Science Clubs
St. Louis, Missouri
August 16-20, 2005

Northwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Willamette Agate and Mineral Society
Albany, Oregon
August 5-7, 2005

Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
Colorado Springs, Colorado
Conducted June 17-19, 2005

South Central Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Austin Gem & Mineral Society
Austin, Texas
December 2-4, 2005

Southeast Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: The Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society
Melbourne, FL
November 12-14, 2005, 2004

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

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

July 27-31, 2005, Franklin, NC - The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc. Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Macon County Community Building on 441 South. Hours: 27th-30th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 31st, Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Fred Plesner at 828.349.4224.

September 2-5, 2005, Hendersonville, NC - Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society. 24th Annual Gem and Mineral Spectacular & Sale. Whitmire Activity Building, Lily Pond Road. Hours: 2nd-4th: 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., 5th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Margaret L. Johnson, P.O. Box 6391, Hendersonville, NC 28739-6391, 828.692.1249, and email at mgt.j.ed@brinet.com. **The summer SFMS board meeting is associated with this show.**

September 3, 2005, Hendersonville, NC - Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society. 16th Annual Micromount Symposium. Salvation Army Building, Grove Street between 3rd and 4th Avenues. Hours: 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Contact: Emily Adams, 355 Pelham Road, Greenville, SC 29615, 864.271.3877.

September 9-11, 2005, Winston-Salem, NC - Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club. 34th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Show and Sale. Educational Building, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds. Hours: 9th & 10th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; 11th, 12:00 Noon - 6:00 P.M. Contact: www.forsythgemclub.com.

September 10-11, 2005, Clemson, SC - Pendleton District Gem & Mineral Society along with the Campbell Geology Museum and the South Carolina Botanical Garden. Upstate Gem Fest. South Carolina Botanical Garden located off Perimeter Road and Hwy. 76 at Clemson University. Hours: 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Contacts: Christine Drais at 864.656.6205 or cdrais@clemson.edu, Dave Cicimurri at 864.656.4601 or dcheech@clemson.edu.

September 24-25, 2005, Hiddenite, NC. - Western Piedmont Mineral and Gem Society. 17th Annual Hiddenite Gem & Mineral Show. Hiddenite Educational Complex, Sulpher Springs Road. Hours: 24th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., 24th, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Patty Arnold at 828.465.2769. **Rock Swap on Sunday, the 25th from 12:00 Noon to 6:00 P.M.**

September 24-25, 2005, Jacksonville, FL - Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. 17th Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Morocco Temple, 3800 St. Johns Bluff Road South. Hours: 24th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 25th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Mary Chambliss at 904.269.4046 or email at IvoryTowers@msn.com.

October 1-2, 2005, Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky. 15th Annual Show. National Guard Armory, Airport Road. Hours: 1st, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 2nd, 12:00 Noon-5: P.M. Contact: Bekki Miracle at (502) 868.0258.

October 7-9, 2005, Dallas, NC - Gaston County Gem & Mineral Society. 27th Annual Gem & Mineral Show. Dallas Park (Biggerstaff Park), right off Hwy 321, Hwy 279-Dallas Cherryville Highway. Hours: 7th & 8th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

October 14-16, 2005, Knoxville, TN - Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society. 15th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show. Kerbela Temple at 315 Mimosa Avenue. Hours: 21st & 22nd: 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 23rd, 11:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Travis Paris at 865.691.8228 and Eileen Price at 865.694.4071.

November 4-6, 2005, Reidsville, NC - Rockingham Co9unty Mineral Club. 14th Annual Show. Wentworth Recreation Center, intersection of Gibbs Road and Hwy 87. Hours: 4th & 5th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., 6th, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Iris Conner @ 336.342.3958.

November 5-6, 2005, Winter Haven, FL- Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society. Gem, Mineral & Fossil Extravaganza! The Nora Mayo Hall - 500-3rd Street NW. Hours: 5th, 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.; 6th, 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Show Contact: Susie Percefull, Show Chair @ 863-858-1846 or Miscubrea@aol.com.

November 11-13, 2005, Pascagoula, MS - Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society. 16th Annual Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show. Civic Center Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds. Hours: 11th & 12th, 10:00 A.M. -6:00 P.M.; 13th, 10:00 A.M. -5:00 P.M. Contact: John Wright at 228.875.9192 or email at osjw@datasync.com.

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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