

# Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXXII/Four

April 2008

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

**April 19, 2008:** Chunky Gal Mountain, Corundum Knob, Clay County, NC; hosted by the Northeast Georgia Mineral Society. Mineral collecting: ruby, sapphire, spinel, talc, serpentine, brucite, tremolite, actinolite, smaragdite, pyroxene, fuchsite and dunite (rock).

See your local club newsletter for additional information on the above field trip.

*"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips."*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *The Prez Rambles On . . .*

We had our first board meeting for the year on March 29, in Nashville. We had an excellent cracker barrel session Friday night. Most of the conversation centered around our membership renewals. With Ray Behr as our Membership Secretary, I think things will get ironed out, it just takes a while as he is learning the job. Ray has done a great job in keeping the officers informed as to what is taking place. He also makes sure we get an updated list of renewals and non-renewals. If all goes well we'll be able to publish the directory and get it mailed out to you. Beryl Ferguson our Secretary has been working tirelessly contacting the clubs to get the renewals in. Ray and Beryl are working together to make sure all clubs and the right people within the clubs get the renewal forms in their hands in time to get the renewal process done next year by the end of January so we can get the directory printed earlier in the year. I would ask you to remember to send the contact information to Ray immediately after your elections. That way we can keep our directory up to date. It also lets Roger Campbell our Assistant Treasurer and Insurance Liaison to get the insurance forms for the liability insurance and show insurance out to you in a timely manner. Help us keep the federation working for you by keeping us informed of officer elections and changes.

Many of you know Jim Robinson has been our stamp chairman for many years. His efforts and those that have helped get the stamps off the paper have funded many scholarships to our workshops over the past several years. I can't imagine what hundreds, maybe even thousands of pounds of stamps might look like, but Jim has seen them all. Jim tells me there were 34 clubs that donated stamps last year. Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society donated the most stamps. Winners of the scholarships were Aiken Gem and Mineral Society, the Georgia Mineral Society and the Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society. All told Jim had over 25 pounds of stamps to sell.

If you're wondering how this happens, here is how Jim explained it to me. When you donate stamps, Jim weighs them. Then he separates the saleable stamps from those that are damaged and are too heavily cancelled to be of value to collectors. He weighs the stamps again. This is the weight that is credited to your club. At the end of the year, he adds up the weights and then takes an average.

*(Continued on Page 3)*



# 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 May/June 2008 *Lodestar* is April 25, 2008 (No exceptions!) – Note there will not be an issue published in June.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*(Continued)*

The average get their name added one more time. The club with the greatest amount of stamps donated gets their club name added another time. These names are brought to the annual meeting and Jim conducts the drawing during the meeting.

Jim has told me this will be his last year as stamp chairman. If he sticks with that plan we will need someone to take this position if clubs still want to have the stamp fund to give scholarships to the workshops. This individual needs to be a stamp collector and needs to know enough to appraise the value of stamps and group them for sale. The person also needs to know how to get stamps off the paper. With newer stamps this also involves different types of glues, so the methods may vary from stamp to stamp. I'm sure Jim can fill you in on the methods he uses. If anyone would like to take this on, please let me know.

I want to say thanks to Jim for all the work he has personally done to keep the stamps moving and the scholarships going. Jim you have gone above and beyond the call of duty in keeping this alive. I saw Beryl Ferguson had a few pounds of stamps that were brought to the meeting to take back to Jim, so there is still sufficient interest to keep this program going. People let's not let Jim down and let this great project die.

I don't know about you, but I really getting excited about the workshops that begin in June. I finally got my applications in for all four of the workshops. Let me tell you I had a tough time choosing which class to take at each session. I had an interest in almost all of the classes. I did manage to choose a main choice for each class as well as two alternate choices. I also let the registrars know it would be ok to move me out of a crowded class into a class that might not make it without another student too. I hope if you haven't already done so, that you will decide to join us for a week. Get your applications in soon! The longer you wait the more difficult it is for us to make adequate plans and the harder it will be to get in the most popular classes like silversmithing. Julia Larson, our education chair is keeping me informed with the progress. As of last week we were getting in sight of 100 applications. We need a few hundred more to fill up the classes.

I understand the food is pretty good at the workshops. The closer we come to filling the place up, the better the cooks will feed us. All cooks like to cook to a full house. I like to cook pancakes for local fundraisers for our local college students that go on mission trips. I can tell you my pancakes get better the more I make. The last ones are the best. So come help us out. More attendees = better food, better food = happier students, happier students = better workshop projects, better projects = happier – well you get the picture. Make your plans to join us.

I still need someone to host a summer meeting and the annual meeting preferably in the last quarter of the year. Some clubs have volunteered but none have worked out yet. Can your club help us out by hosting one of the meetings?

Ok! Enough rambling for one newsletter. I'll see you at the next meeting.

*Steve Henegar, SFMS President*

## Be Safe – Be Well

*Safety Committee – Don Monroe, Chairman*

### Are We Maturing?

*Is our attitude and emphasis regarding safety improving?*

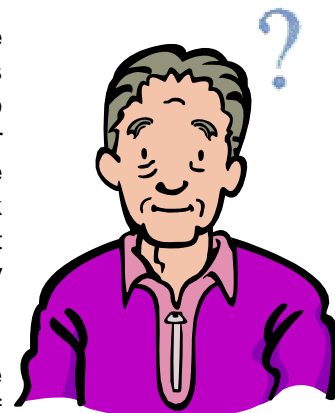
When I started doing these safety articles I was discouraged by what I saw to be apathy on the part of our rockhounds. I now look at the situation differently and I think I can see signs of concern. It may be wishful thinking on my part but I really don't think so.

Have you noticed more concern at all levels of government about safety such as product safety and insurance coverage? We have a long way to go to protect ourselves from ourselves but we are moving in the right direction.

Closer to home it was a long time before I received feedback about the safety articles. Now, almost every article prompts some one to send me a comment. When I first started doing the articles, I talked with Carolyn Weinberger, the AFMS editor, about my concern that I was not getting the job done. Her reply was "just look at the number of times your articles are being reprinted in club and federation bulletins. That should tell you are reaching the readers."

There is another good thing happening. In the past year, I have received articles from our people that were not only very well done and appropriate, but were ready for printing. Now that really makes my job much easier. I cannot be everywhere and see every thing, and I certainly am not the only one with ideas regarding safety. The list of "helpers" is very long and includes interested members from all federations who have contributed to the effort and helped me pass the word and share ideas.

I am now asking all of you to join in the safety effort and share your thoughts, ideas and articles. I will accept any idea and in any format. I like to give credit to my "helpers" but will let you remain anonymous if you insist.



*With heartfelt thanks,  
Don Monroe*

# Join Future Rockhounds of America

## HISTORY OF FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA

Rockhound clubs throughout the Federations have been supporting youth groups for many years. Most clubs have always had young members but often didn't know what sorts of activities to provide for them. Consequently many youth fell through the cracks. We're sure no one would argue the fact that we need to ensure the future of our hobby by encouraging our youth. Knowing this, under the direction of AFMS President Bill Cox in 1984, a committee was added to the AFMS called "Junior Clubs." Bill coined the name "Future Rockhounds of America" and designed a certificate to be given to junior clubs becoming members of FRA. It gives pebble pups and juniors the distinction of belonging to something worthwhile. The only requirement for obtaining FRA membership is to be organized and sponsored by a regional federation club (although exceptions can be made). There are no dues to pay to AFMS. Starting in Fall 2004, Juniors Activities Chair Jim Brace-Thompson developed a free badge program of guided activities to provide youth leaders with 53 individual activities in 9 areas: Rocks & Minerals, Earth Resources, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Communication, Field Trips, and Leadership. In 2008, 6 new areas were added with 32 more activities on Earth Processes, Earth in Space, Gold Panning & Prospecting, Gemstone Lore & Legend, Stone Age Tools & Art, and Rocking on the Computer. Kids can now earn badges in each of 15 overall areas. Those earning a minimum of 6 of the 15 badges earn a "Rockhound" badge as a mark of accomplishment and distinction. Details of the program may be found on the "Kids Corner" section of the AFMS web site: [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org).

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

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

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Your group must be a member of your regional federation, either through a sponsoring club or through an independent application into your local federation.
2. The number of youth is not important: you can have as few as 1 or 2 or as many as you can handle.
3. Age: any kids up to the age of 18.

Just fill out the application below or contact your regional federation Juniors Chair or check out the "Kids Corner" of the AFMS web site ([www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)).

## FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA

NAME OF YOUTH GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORING ADULT CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERATION: CFMS\_\_ Eastern\_\_ Midwest\_\_ South Central\_\_ SE\_\_ Rocky Mountain\_\_ NW\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING & EMAIL ADDRESSES & PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR ORGANIZED: \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT NUMBER OF YOUTH MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

Accompany this application with a brief description of the activities you already do with your youth members, i.e., participation at meetings, club shows, field trips, and other activities. After completion of this questionnaire, please forward it to the AFMS Juniors Activities Chair: Jim Brace-Thompson, 7319 Eisenhower Street, Ventura, California 93003; (805) 659-3577; [jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)

## CLEARING UP MISPERCEPTIONS ABOUT THE AFMS FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA PROGRAM

The Number One goal of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Future Rockhounds of America program is to reach out to as many kids as possible to fan whatever budding interest they may have in rocks, fossils, and lapidary arts. In messages I've received via email, in talking with folks at gem shows and annual Federation meetings, and via the grapevine, I've become aware of a number of misperceptions about the AFMS/FRA program, and some of these are standing in the way of our goal. I'd like to clear up several of the more common misperceptions I've heard and encourage you to actively enroll each and every child in each and every club into FRA.

**Misperception 1: *To sign your juniors and pebble pups into FRA, you must have a whole group of kids, a youth leader, and a formal, structured youth program within your society.*** Not so! I constantly hear from folks that their society doesn't have enough kids to start the FRA program, or that their board of directors resists starting a youth group (that one always turns my head!). We want the program to be as inclusive as possible, and you don't need a big, formal group. If your society has just one child, sign that child up! We'll send an FRA membership badge, and they'll have a stronger sense of belonging to the community of your club. You don't need to wait until you have a whole roomful of kids and a youth leader. Start the ball rolling with a single child!

**Misperception 2: *To be in FRA, you actively need to implement the Badge Program.*** Not so! The badge program was set up to provide just one source of structured activities, but you don't need to use it at all to enroll your kids into FRA. In working with kids in your society, you can use your own activities or commercial sets of activities (like the great packets developed by Diamond Dan or activities sold by Ward's or Edmund Scientifics), or simply have your club's kids participate in the regular workshops, shows, and field trips your club undertakes in its normal course of business. The Badge Program is simply meant to serve as one option among many to utilize with your kids.

**Misperception 3: *To use the FRA Badge Program, you need to set up a formal schedule and arrange group activities with all the kids in your club.*** Not so! A lot of folks tell me they'd like to use the badge program, but it's just too hard to schedule times when all the kids can get together, especially between after-school soccer, band, baseball, etc. I encourage you to be as flexible as possible with the Badge Program. A number of the activities are a lot more fun if done within a group, but don't let the inability schedule a time get in the way. Allow for individual "independent study" and "home-schooling" for motivated juniors. The back-up pages in the Badge Manual were developed to give folks with minimal background what they need to guide kids through the activities, and these back-up pages can be shared with parents to work with their kids on their own at home. So give parents a copy of the manual and encourage them to sit down with their kids to pick out

activities they'd like to do. All we need in order to send a child a badge is a responsible adult—a parent or designated club member—to sign off to indicate successful completion, and a badge will be on the way to mark that child's accomplishments with a colorful, tangible reward.

**Misperception 4: *To use the FRA Badge Program and award badges to your kids, you must follow the manual to the letter.*** Not so! When they've received the manual, some folks have said its size looks daunting, that the badge program seems designed for the "Eagle Scouts" among their junior members, and that some of the activities may be too involved for younger members. But as I note in the Introduction to the manual, you're encouraged to adjust the level of each activity to best match ages and abilities of your club's kids. You don't need to follow each activity exactly as laid out. *Modify*, where necessary *simplify*, but above all *utilize* the program! Feel completely free to make any activity as accessible as possible for the kids with whom you're working. The goal is to help kids have fun while learning, so if you see a different spin on a particular activity that'll work better with your kids, by all means, take that spin, and then let's reward the kids with badges.

**Misperception 5: *If a society doesn't have any kids, the society can't do anything with the FRA program.*** Actually, this seems pretty self-evident, and I myself held this misperception—until a couple of local societies showed me the way. One society in Texas lacks junior members, so they went to where the kids are! They're using the FRA Fossils activities and badges with local Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, hoping it might serve to attract kids to the club. Another society sponsors a geology club in one of their local schools that now uses the Badge Program. I personally have found such examples of resourcefulness inspiring!

**So my basic message?** Let's not make things complicated nor let misperceptions get in the way. Rather than looking for reasons *not* to enroll kids into FRA, let's follow the example of those clubs that went to where the kids are and get creative with a program that's been set up for every club, even those with just a single child member, or, apparently, even those no children at all! Don't have "enough" kids? Don't want to begin until you hold endless debates at board meetings about starting a juniors group? Don't know if you want to use the Badge Program? Don't know how to get started? Well, "don't" isn't exactly an inspiring word; in fact, it's a word often used to beat down the inner child within us all. Don't let "don't" get in the way of that key first step toward inspiring our children. I urge one and all to call me today (Jim Brace-Thompson, 805-659-3577, [jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)) to sign up each and every child. It's the first step toward bringing along the next generation of rockhounds while, as always, having fun!

Jim Brace-Thompson  
AFMS Juniors Program Chair  
7319 Eisenhower Street  
Ventura, CA 93003  
805.659.3577  
[jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)

April 2008

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

## HOW TO USE THE AFMS/FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA BADGE PROGRAM

Here are answers to four (4) common questions I always receive about the AFMS/FRA merit badge program:

### How Does the Merit Badge Program Work?

The program consists of an FRA Membership badge, 15 merit badges (Rocks & Minerals, Earth Resources, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Communication, Field Trips, Leadership, Earth Processes, Earth in Space, Gemstone Lore & Legend, Stone Age Tools & Art, Gold Panning & Prospecting, and Rocking on the Computer), and a "Rockhound Badge" for kids who earn 6 of the 15 merit badges. A 155-page guidebook describes and outlines requirements for each of the 15 merit badges. There are 85 activities to choose from, or about a half dozen activities per badge, with kids required to complete only 3 activities to earn any particular badge. Checklists in the guidebook make it easy for youth leaders to sign off on activities as junior members complete them. In addition, brief back-up pages and suggestions help leaders guide their kids through each activity. The guidebook is available both in hardcopy format (photocopied) and on the AFMS web site (<http://www.amfed.org/fra/meritbadge.htm>). To save on costs to the program, which is being provided entirely free, I encourage you to download a copy of the guidebook and its checklist sheets from the web. If this is not possible, contact me for a copy.

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

The program is for clubs with youth members enrolled in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America (FRA). To enroll your kids, contact me (call [805.659.3577](tel:805.659.3577) or email [jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)). All you need is a group of kids (up to age 18), a sponsoring club, a key contact person, and an application to FRA. (An application form is included with this sheet.) Your club must be affiliated with the AFMS. The number of youth is not important: you can have as few as just 1 or 2-or as many as you can handle!

### How Do I Order the Merit Badges?

Because this is a fairly new program and we don't have a long history as to what potential supply-and-demand will be, I'm keeping distribution of badges centralized, at least until we've developed such a history. For budgetary reasons, we are only able to order limited quantities of badges at a time. Thus, rather than send bulk quantities of

badges to local youth leaders and exhaust our supply right away, I ask that local leaders at individual clubs send me requests for badges as they are earned.

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

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

### How Can We Make the Merit Badge Program Better?

Finally, I welcome feedback, comments for improvements to existing activities, and ideas of new activities and badges to add to the program. My hope is to add new badges every 3 or 4 years. We started this in 2004 with 9 badges, which were augmented in 2008 with 6 more, many of which were the direct result of suggestions by kids and their youth leaders. So let's all pitch in to provide an educational program by which kids learn, earn rewards, and-as always-have fun!

*Jim Brace-Thompson*  
*AFMS Juniors Program Chair*  
 7319 Eisenhower Street  
 Ventura, CA 93003  
 805.659.3577  
[jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)

**2008 ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR**

**IS THERE A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS ALLOWED EACH YEAR FROM EACH CLUB?**

We look forward to and encourage all clubs to participate in the Rockhound of the Year Awards Program this year.

Yes, each club is allowed to submit only one Rockhound of the Year nomination every year.

These recognitions are an excellent way for your club to recognize those whom have done so much for the good of our beloved hobby.

**BASED ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION, WOULD IT BE WISE TO SUGGEST A CONSENSUS AMONG CLUB MEMBERS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE FEDERATION?**

*Thanks,  
Herb Whittington, SFMS Rockhound of the Year  
Coordinator  
[alarocks@graceba.net](mailto:alarocks@graceba.net)*

Yes, this is something clubs should decide on as a body-- either a committee or the entire membership. They may want to make it a local competition with service points earned or something similar.

**WHAT IS A ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR?**

Rockhound of the Year is an honor given to club members by their peers in recognition of their contributions and/or sacrifices involved with our hobby.

**HOW WILL THE CLUB KNOW THAT A NOMINATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE CURRENT YEAR?**

Each club will be notified by the Coordinator once its nominations have been received.

**WHAT IS THE TIME FRAME ON THE NOMINATION DEADLINE?**

Nominations must be received by the Coordinator no later than **June 30, 2008**. Each year, every SFMS club is allowed one Rockhound of the Year nomination, to which a certificate will be awarded. From all the nominations, a Federation Committee will determine which nominee is most deserving of the SFMS Rockhound of the Year award. A plaque will be given for this SFMS award.

**WHEN WILL THE SFMS AWARD BE GIVEN?**

At the annual fall SFMS meeting. Details will be printed in *Lodestar*.

This committee will be assembled at the next SFMS quarterly meeting in Nashville this March. Committee names will be listed in the SFMS newsletter (*Lodestar*) following this meeting.

**WHERE SHOULD NOMINATIONS BE SENT?**

Directly to the Rockhound of the Year Coordinator (Please use the form:

Herb Whittington  
2102 Brookhill Road, Dothan, AL 36301  
or  
email address: [alarocks@graceba.net](mailto:alarocks@graceba.net).

**Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.  
2008 Rockhound of the Year Nomination Form**

Name of person nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of club which nominee belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of club: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please give a brief reason why this person is being nominated as Rockhound of the Year:

Nominating Committee Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to Herb Whittington, 2102 Brookhill Road, Dothan, AL 36301 or email to [alarocks@graceba.net](mailto:alarocks@graceba.net). Nominations **MUST** be submitted by **June 30, 2008**.

### APPLICATION FOR SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2008

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I am a member in good standing of the \_\_\_\_\_ Gem and Mineral Club, which is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. I am a paid member throughout the calendar Year 2008. All of the points on this application are for activities between November 1, 2007 and October 31, 2008. All entries are true and correct.

#### PRESIDENT OF THE SPONSORING CLUB

I \_\_\_\_\_, as President of the sponsoring Club believe that all the points recorded in this application are true and correct.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY OCTOBER 31, 2008  
ALL MATERIAL MUST BE POSTMARKED BY NOVEMBER 7, 2008**

**MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:  
Bonita L. Harris, SFMS Youth Resources Chairman  
12520 Jeff Hamilton Road  
Mobile, AL 36695  
Telephone: 251.865.9157**

THE JUNIOR OF THE YEAR (JOY) WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE DECEMBER 2008 *LODESTAR* AND AT THE 2008 SFMS ANNUAL MEETING! GOOD LUCK!

(Continued Next Page)

### SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2008 CRITERIA

**NOTE:** On a separate sheet(s) of paper, list and identify/describe activities and the points attained for each individual activity (i.e. #2 Adult meetings attended: May 2007 (5 points), July 2007 (2 points) etc.).

- 1. Must be a current, paid Junior member of a club in the Southeast Federation, 5 points.....\_\_\_\_\_points
- 2. Must attend at least one adult meeting, 5 points.....\_\_\_\_\_points  
Attendance at additional adult meetings, 2 points each.....\_\_\_\_\_points  
(5 points if there is no Junior meeting available to attend)
- 3. Attendance at Junior meetings/workshops, 5 points each.....\_\_\_\_\_points  
Serving as an officer, committee member or presenter 5 points each meeting .....\_\_\_\_\_points
- 4. Attendance at a Gem and Mineral Club Show other than your own. Show must be recognized by an organized Club or one of the major federations. (Obtain and save show ticket or program), 10 points.....\_\_\_\_\_points

**NOTE:** Attendance at a primarily rock, gem, mineral, fossil, or earth science museum, National Park, or other exhibit related to our hobby will be considered a "show". Enter points above, 10 points each

- 5. Participation in a Gem and Mineral Club sponsored (or Dixie Mineral Council sponsored) field trip, including Junior Club field trips, 15 points each.....\_\_\_\_\_points
- 6. Participation in a family field trip or field trip with a group other than those listed above, 10 points per trip.....\_\_\_\_\_points
- 7. In keeping with the "Each one Teach one" program, a Junior club member can earn 10 points per occasion for sharing our hobby with others by teaching them a defined skill (example - Gem Tree making at your club show or presenting a program).....\_\_\_\_\_points
- 8. In the spirit of sharing our hobby and encouraging growth of the clubs in our Federation, a Junior may earn 5 points for sponsoring a new Junior or adult member and an additional 5 points for attending a meeting to introduce them .....\_\_\_\_\_points

**NOTE:** Articles accepted by the Editor but not yet published by October, 2007 can be counted for either 2007 or 2008, but for one year only.

(Continued Next Page)

### SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2008 CRITERIA

(Continued)

9. Publication of a well-researched educational article on some phase of our hobby or the earth sciences in your club bulletin. Accuracy of information and references required. 25 points .....\_\_\_\_\_points

10. Publication of a report in your club bulletin on a Junior Club meeting, workshop or field trip, 10 points each .....\_\_\_\_\_points

11. A Junior Club member winning a regional or national award for articles published in a club bulletin and submitted for competition will receive 25 points for each such recognition.....\_\_\_\_\_points

**NOTE:** You may receive points for publication of an article one year and receive points for the same article for recognition the next year.....\_\_\_\_\_points

12. Junior sharing our hobby at schools or in other groups by making a presentation may receive 5 points for each presentation if a written verification is obtained at the time from the adult in charge.....\_\_\_\_\_points

13. Junior recognized in school, regional or state Science Fairs for exhibits related to our hobby or to Federation purposes will receive 20 points per recognition.....\_\_\_\_\_points

14. Junior having an exhibit in your club show, 20 points per exhibit.....\_\_\_\_\_points

15. Junior working at the annual club show will receive 5 points for each hour verified work period.....\_\_\_\_\_points

TOTAL POINTS\_\_\_\_\_

**For a possible tie breaker describe any other hobby related information regarding publications, activities, or recognitions achieved this past year that might help us evaluate your enthusiasm for winning this JOY award.**

## 2008 SFMS WORKSHOPS

One of the unique facets of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies is the **Workshop Program**, which offers members the opportunity to gather for week-long, hands-on seminars taught by experienced instructors. Whether you are a newcomer to the lapidary arts and want to learn the basics, or whether you're an old hand who wants to learn something new or move on to the next level, the Workshop Program has something for you. We look forward to seeing you in 2008. Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chair

### 2008 WORKSHOP DATES

William Holland	June 8-14
Wildacres	August 18-24
Wildacres	September 15-21
William Holland	October 12-18

**William Holland School of Lapidary Arts** ([www.lapidary.com](http://www.lapidary.com)) is located in the mountains of north Georgia near the North Carolina border. **Wildacres Retreat** ([www.wildacres.org](http://www.wildacres.org)) is a privately owned conference center nestled in the North Carolina mountains near Little Switzerland. Please visit these websites for additional information.

#### Who May Attend

Anyone belonging to an SFMS club will be given priority. Student under 18 are welcome, but must be accompanied by a responsible adult and must have approval from the workshop director and the instructor to attend an adult class. Members of other AFMS regional federations may attend on a space available basis. Anyone not affiliated with AFMS may attend by paying an additional fee of \$50. First-time workshop attendees and those taking a class for the first time will receive priority.

#### REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

**Applications from members of SFMS clubs will be accepted beginning February 1, 2008.** Applications from other regional federations and the public at large will be accepted beginning April 1, 2008. 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.

**A non-refundable administrative deposit of \$25 per person must accompany the application.** The full amount may be remitted at that time. The balance is due four weeks before the workshop start date. No reminders will be sent. If you have not received written confirmation of your application within 30 days, please contact the registrar or education chair.

**Refunds** are at the discretion of the Education Chair and the workshop director; however no refunds will be made once the workshop has started. There is no adjustment for late arrival or early departure. No fee will be charged if a class is cancelled.

The **application form** is on the next page, along with the course offerings. Please read it carefully. **Note that some classes are marked with an asterisk (\*), meaning they are Intermediate or Advanced, and therefore have prerequisites.** Please do not sign up for these classes unless you have the required experience. Contact the instructor for more information on these classes.

#### About instructors

All instructors for our workshop program are **volunteers**. They may charge a materials fee for their classes, but are not otherwise compensated for their time and effort. For additional **information about our instructors**, please visit [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms)

#### WORKSHOP STAFF

**DIRECTOR:** Kathy Morris  
P.O. Box 913  
Tryon NC 28782  
828-894-6303  
[kimorris45@hotmail.com](mailto:kimorris45@hotmail.com)

#### REGISTRARS

**WILDACRES** Mrs. B. J. Gearhart  
P. O. Box 36  
Lebanon GA 30146-9998  
770-479-0963  
[waregistrar0809@yahoo.com](mailto:waregistrar0809@yahoo.com)

**WM HOLLAND** Denise Talbott  
216 Springview St.  
Murphy NC 28906  
828-494-7213  
[whregistrar@yahoo.com](mailto:whregistrar@yahoo.com)

**NOTE:** Check-in at Wildacres is **MONDAY** afternoon.  
Check it at William Holland is **SUNDAY** afternoon.

Early check-in is not permitted at either location.

2008 SFMS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

<b>SESSION:</b>	◇ 1 William Holland June 8-14 (check one) ◇ 2 Wildacres August 18-24	◇ 3 Wildacres September 15-21 ◇ 4 William Holland October 12-18
<b>ACCOMMODATIONS:</b>	◇ Lodge	◇ Day Student
	◇ Campground (Wm Holland only)	

# 1 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SFMS CLUB \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ ST\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Have you attended any other SFMS workshops? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Do you want to be placed on standby if your class is filled when we get your application? Y N

Spouse NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SFMS CLUB \_\_\_\_\_  
 (#2) Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ ST\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Have you attended any other SFMS workshops? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Do you want to be placed on standby if your class is filled when we get your application? Y N

**Single applicants only:** Do you have someone you want to share a room with? If yes, whom?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you a smoker?? Y N Do you want a non-smoking roommate? Y N No preference \_\_\_\_  
 Are you an early riser? \_\_\_\_\_ or a night owl? \_\_\_\_\_

**Special needs:**  
 Do you need a **handicap** room? Y N Can you negotiate stairs? Y N (elevator at Wm Holland only)  
**Dietary:** Diabetic \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
**Campers:** Type \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ (40 ft. max.)

**Class Selection**

\*\*\*\* Please list alternates\*\*\*\*

	First Choice	1 <sup>st</sup> time taking class?	Second Choice	Third Choice
Student #1		Y N		Y N
Spouse #2		Y N		Y N

**Cost per person \$310.00 double occupancy**  
**Single room with private bath \$470**  
**\*\*\*Non members add \$50.00 to all fees\*\*\***  
**Day Student or camper workshop fee \$140 per person. Campsite fee (Wm Holland only) \$120 per week.** No meals are included for day students or campers. They are available from and payable directly to the facility. **A \$25 non-refundable deposit per person must accompany your application.** You may, and are encouraged to pay the full amount at that time.

**Cancellation Policy:** There is a non-refundable \$25 administration fee. Other refunds are at the discretion of the director and Education Chair.

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO**  
**SFMS William Holland Workshop**  
 Denise Talbott, William Holland Registrar  
 216 Springview St  
 Murphy NC 28906

--- OR ---

**SFMS Wildacres Workshop**  
 Mrs. B.J. Gearhart, Wildacres Registrar  
 P.O. Box 36  
 Lebanon GA 30146-9998

**FOR REGISTRAR'S USE ONLY**

Postmark Date	Check #
Deposit #	Amt Paid \$
Accept Mailed	Bal due \$
Standby mailed	Bal check #
Cancel Date	Total Paid
- cancel fee \$	Refund \$
Refund check #	Refund mailed

## 2008 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULE

### Workshop Staff

**Kathy Morris, Director**  
P.O.Box 913, Tryon NC 28782  
Phone 828-894-6303  
Email: [Klmorris45@hotmail.com](mailto:Klmorris45@hotmail.com)

**Wildacres Registrar Mrs. B. J. Gearhart**  
P. O. Box 36  
Lebanon GA 30146-9998  
Phone 770-479-0963  
Email: [waregistrar0809@yahoo.com](mailto:waregistrar0809@yahoo.com)

**William Holland Registrar Denise Talbott**  
216 Springview St  
Murphy NC 28906  
Phone 828-494-7213  
Email [whregistrar@yahoo.com](mailto:whregistrar@yahoo.com)

### Education Chair

Julia Larson  
5297 Huntington St NE  
St Petersburg FL 33703  
Phone 727-522-1254  
Email [sfmsedchair@gmail.com](mailto:sfmsedchair@gmail.com)

**Classes with asterisk (\*) have prerequisites. Check with instructor before registering.**

### SESSION ONE - WILLIAM HOLLAND SUNDAY, June 8-14, 2008

Basic of Stringing	jCase Leeser
Cabochons, beginning	Jerry Mason
Chainmaking, beg.	Bill and Dee Conybear
Enameling	Renee Wright
Glass fusing	Julia Larson
Lampwork, beginning	Cindy Reed
Opal cutting	Sara Lee Boyce
Scrimshaw techniques	Gino Deskins/Betty Porter
Silver, beginning #1	Dan Haga
Silver, beginning #2	Allen Jewell
Wire sculpture*	Diane Mason
Wirecraft, Beginning	Danny Griffin

### SESSION TWO - WILDACRES MONDAY, August 18-24, 2008

Cabochons	Betty James
Faceting, beg	David Lonser
Cold Connection	Kim St Jean
Chainmaking, beginning	Roy Deere
Gem Ident/Appreciation	Ben Smith
Metalsmithing, Advanced*	Jeff Sheer
Digital Photography	Ken Kipnis
PMC 1	Ken, Mary Ann Devos
Raku Beads, Pendants	Jim Cullen
Seed Bead Techniques	Vivian Heath
Silver, beginning	Nancy English
Wire, beginning	Rowan Rose

### SESSION THREE - WILDACRES MONDAY, September 15-21

Cold Connections	Kim St Jean
Enameling	TBA
Chainmaking, advanced*	Roy Deere
Facet/Intarsia, beg	Tom Wilkie
Casting Finishing*	Gino Deskins
Opal Cutting	Sara Lee Boyce
PMC 2	Ken, Mary Ann Devos
Seed bead tech.	Roz Evans
Silver, beginning	Zane Purcell
Stained glass, beg.	Julia Larson
Wire Weaving*	Louise Coulson
Wire, knotting/braiding*	Don Coulson

### SESSION FOUR - WILLIAM HOLLAND SUNDAY, October 12-18 (Julia Larson, Acting Director)

Cabochons	Anita Westlake
Chainmaking, Inter.*	Bill & Dee Conybear
Cold Connection	Kathy Morris
Faceting Two	David Corn
Fused Glass	Addy DiPietro
Gourd Carving	Pat Davis
Opal cutting	Joe DiPietro
Lost Wax Casting	John Iacullo
Digital Photography	Ken Kipnis
PMC (Non-Cert)	Pam Hall
Scrimshaw	Gino Deskins/Betty Porter
Seed Beading	Vivian Heath
Silver, beginning #1	Don & Ann Monroe
Silver, beginning #2	Dan Haga
Silver, intermediate*	Allen Jewell
Beginning Wire	Janet Corn

**SAVE THE DATE!  
2008 ASHEVILLE GEM FEST  
FRIDAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 14 & 15**

**THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL.**

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

The Colburn Earth Science Museum is pleased to announce the Asheville Gem Fest, happening Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 13, 14 and 15. 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!

The Colburn Earth Science Museum 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 2008 Asheville Gem Fest is a great show located in the center of downtown Asheville, conveniently near all that a fun and vibrant city has to offer. Plan now to attend!

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

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

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

**ACCESS CORRECTION:**The collecting restrictions that were imposed in October 2007 have been rescinded. As it stands now, any group (two or more rockhounds) can reserve Graves Mountain (i.e., you do not have to be the field trip leader of a college, university or gem and mineral society). In order to gain access, you will need contact Junior Norman at 706.359.3862 (business) or 706.359.2381 (home). Lots of Graves Mountain information, including reports and pictures, may be obtained on the Georgia Mineral Society website: <http://www.gamineral.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm>

In order to gain access to the mountain, you will need to contact the caretaker, Clarence Norman, Jr. (contact information on page 14). Give him a call and he can reserve the mountain exclusively for your group. All of the mineral societies that go there to collect offer the caretaker a donation for his trouble and effort in keeping the mountain open and accessible to them. Please consider what it is worth to your mineral society to be able to field collect minerals at Georgia's premier mineral location!

**GRAVES MOUNTAIN CODE OF CONDUCT!**

- Park your vehicle in the designated area(s) only.
- NO child under the age of 12 years old is to be allowed on the mountain because of the dangers involved.
- ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.
- The field trip leaders have 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.)

**GRAVES MOUNTAIN "ROCK SWAPS AND DIGS"**

8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Friday, April 25, 2008  
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Saturday, April 26, 2008  
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Sunday, April 27, 2008

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

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., in regard to his plans to hold TWO three-day digs and rock swaps on the Mountain during April 25–27, 2008 and October 3-5, 2008. 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!

Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain!  
**Report Violations to:**

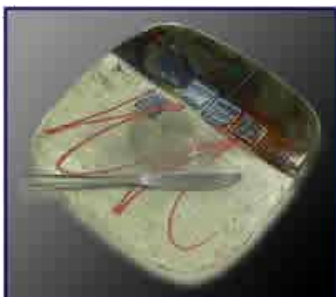
Clarence Norman Jr.  
706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)  
All reported violations will be held in strict confidence.

## SFMS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

I am pleased to report that, of this writing, we have nearly 90 workshop students registered. Two classes have only a single vacancy left. Please get your registrations in as soon as possible, even if you can only send the \$25 deposit to hold your space.

In case you missed it, SFMS President Steve Henegar, has announced a \$100 prize to the club with the most members attending workshops this year. This is a wonderful opportunity to earn some cash to repair or replace some of your club's equipment or to sponsor a field trip. Last year's winners got a nice certificate - this year, it will be real money! Please encourage your members and friends to attend. And a big thank you to our president.

Steve will be attending some of the workshops this year, and those of you who have attended in the past know that he is in for a real treat. Workshops are a wonderful opportunity to not only learn or polish your lapidary skills, but to make a lot of new friends. Where else can you have a vacation for \$310 a week? The facilities are wonderful, you don't have to cook or clean for an entire week, and the camaraderie is amazing.



A raku piece produced by Jim Cullen (photo provided by Julia Larson).

One of the new class offerings this year is Raku Beads and Pendants, taught by Jim Cullen at the August 18 session at Wildacres. Jim spent 34 years in the film and video industry as an animator, an editor and a producer/director before switching directions to pottery. He is a self-taught potter and former owner of Illinois Valley Pottery in Marseilles, IL. The photo showcases one of his favorite pieces. Jim has attended many workshops, classes and demonstrations with some of the best potters in the United States. He taught raku pottery last year and was highly rated by his students. He'd love to share his skill and experience with you this year.

See you at a workshop!  
Julia Larson

SFMS Education Committee Chairman

## SFMS INSURANCE PROGRAM

It is time to renew your club's "third party liability" insurance coverage. All SFMS clubs in "good standing", (2008 dues paid) are eligible to participate. If your club wants to participate in the SFMS Insurance Program, and your club has not been contacted, please let me know and we'll make it happen. During the fiscal year 2007-8, clubs requesting additional entities be added to their show insurance were charged an extra \$35.00 per entity. At a meeting with an insurance company representative it was determined that this extra charge had been incorrectly billed.

A refund has been received by SFMS and will be appropriately distributed to those clubs affected during the 2007-2008 policy year. SnellingsWalters and I regret any inconvenience that this may have caused. If you have any questions regarding the "third party liability" insurance coverage, please contact me by email or phone.

Roger Campbell, SFMS Insurance Liaison

## AFMS CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

As I research material for my articles that are to be printed in the AFMS Newsletter, I find it interesting to see who is trying to eliminate or at least restrict access to public lands. I have said in the past, a few are truly concerned about the environment and sincere in their efforts to preserve areas with special interests or appeal. Most, however, are individuals or groups with a selfish or self-serving purpose. Following the money trail used to finance opposition groups is also very interesting. It would take a book to just touch on these two areas and I often get sidetracked by the pure unadulterated sham being perpetrated on the American public by these individuals and special interest groups.

The problem we have is that our members, like most of the American public, for the most part do not understand or cannot fathom just how dedicated and well financed these special interest groups are and the gravity of what they want to do will have on our hobby and our lives. Ignorance and indifference are major assets used by these groups to dupe the public and rob them of their access to public owned lands. We have already relinquished many of our rights due to their intrusions and are paying for it in more ways than you think.

The only good thing about being seduced into allowing our access to public lands being taken away from us is that we are in good company. A lot of the supposedly intelligent members of our government, academia, legal and entertainment professions, just to name a few, are marching right along in the parade with us. Unfortunately, many of these esteemed individuals are unwitting puppets controlled by special interests, or use the propaganda espoused by these groups, for the notoriety that keeps them in the spotlight.

Many of our elected officials go out of their way to maintain the support of special interests, or avoid offending them, and our constitutional rights are conveniently being ignored. How do we fight these problems? The first thing we need to do is be informed about issues that could potentially affect us. Two great sources other than AFMS for obtaining information are ALAA (American Lands Access Association) and the Blue Ribbon Coalition, ([www.sharetrails.org](http://www.sharetrails.org)). There are many other informative sites that can be found online if you or someone in your club has access to a computer. Also check out the sites of the special interest groups so that you know your competition. You might want to start with the Wildlands Project ([rewilding.org](http://rewilding.org)) or the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Network (Y2Y Network). While these two organizations are primarily involved in the northwest there are similar groups diligently working in our part of the country and reviewing these sites will give you a good idea of the mind-set behind these movements.

We are also a special interest group and need to make our desires known just like our adversaries. Write and petition your elected officials. Letters to the editors and articles about your club activities published in your local newspapers can gain you recognition and support. Visit schools, put displays in your local libraries and other public facilities. In other words, let it be known that you exist, that you have rights and that you have every intention of continuing and keeping your rights for access of public owned lands.

John M. Wright  
SFMS Committee Member and Chairman,  
AFMS Conservation & Legislation Committee

April 2008

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

**LOOKING AHEAD****CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS**

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

**April 19, 2008, DeLand, FL - The Gillespie Museum-Stetson University.** Earth Day Celebration, 234 E. Michigan Avenue. Hours: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

**April 26-27, 2008, Memphis, TN - Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society.** Mid-America Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show. Pipkin Building, Midsouth Fairgrounds, corner of Central and E. Parkway. Hours: 26th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 27th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: James Butcko at 901.743.0058 or [rockclub@earthlink.net](mailto:rockclub@earthlink.net). Website: [memphisgeology.org](http://memphisgeology.org).

**May 3-4, 2008, North Charleston, SC - Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society.** 15th Annual Lowcountry Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show, North Charleston Performing Arts Center - Exhibit Hall A, 5000 Coliseum Drive. Hours: 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. both days. Contact: Karen Havenstein at 843.795.2956 or [fossils@comcast.net](mailto:fossils@comcast.net).

**May 9-11, 2008, Marietta, GA - Georgia Mineral Society.** Gem and Mineral Show and Auction, The Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway and Fairground Street. Hours: 9th & 10th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 11th, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Jay Gorday, 770.986.0822 or [jgorday@earthlink.net](mailto:jgorday@earthlink.net) (website at [www.gamineral.orgmay-show.htm](http://www.gamineral.orgmay-show.htm)).

**June 7-8, 2008, Birmingham, AL - Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society.** 35th Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show. Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, Exit #100 off I-20/59 S. or Exit #1 off I-459. Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. both days. Contact: Rick Kittinger, 1612 Colesbury Circle, Hoover, AL 35226 or [rk2273@att.com](mailto:rk2273@att.com).

**June 7-8, 2008, Marion, KY - Ben E. Clement Gem, Mineral Museum.** The Ben E. Clement Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show, Crittenden County Rocket Arena. Hours: 7th, 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.; 8th, 11:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: [www.clementmineralmuseum.org](http://www.clementmineralmuseum.org) or 270.965.4263.

**August 23-24, 2008, Ocean Springs, MS - Harrison County (Mississippi) Gem and Mineral Society.** Annual Show. St. Martin Community Center on LeMoyné Boulevard, take Exit 50 off I-10. Hours: 23rd, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 24th, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. No further information available at time of publication.

**September 5-7, 2008, Winston-Salem, NC-Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club.** 37th Annual gem and Mineral Show, Education Building, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Gate #9 from 27th Street. Hours: 5th & 6th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. and 8th, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: W.A. Marion, 1163 Bear Creek Church Road, Mocksville, NC 27028 or [MarionA1@yadtel.net](mailto:MarionA1@yadtel.net).

**September 27-28, 2008, Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky.** 18th Annual Show. Kentucky National Guard Armory, Airport Road. Hours: 27th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 28th, 12:00 Noon to 5:00 P.M. Contact: Kay Fisher at 859.537.1776 or [kkay19@aol.com](mailto:kkay19@aol.com).

**November 7-9, 2008, Pascagoula, MS - Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society.** Magnolia State Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show. Civic Center Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds, Pascagoula, MS. Hours: 7th & 8th, 10:00 A.M. -

6:00 P.M.; 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.. Contact: John Wright, 3304 Nottingham Rd., Ocean Springs, MS 39564, 228.875.9192, or [osjbw@datasync.com](mailto:osjbw@datasync.com).

**November 7-9, Tulsa, OK - Rocky Mountain Federation/Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society.** Central Park building, Tulsa Fairgrounds, 21st Street and Yale, Tulsa, OK. Hours: 7th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 8th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Richard Jaeger, 919.481.0249, [RjgrSci@aol.com](mailto:RjgrSci@aol.com) and Virgil Richards, [dws@dances-with-snakes.com](mailto:dws@dances-with-snakes.com).

**2008 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS**

**California Federation**  
Ventura, California  
June 27-29, 2008

**Eastern Federation**  
Jackson, Mississippi  
Occurred February 23-24, 2008

**Midwest Federation**  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
June 20-22, 2008

**Northwest Federation**  
Ontario, Oregon  
June 20-22, 2008  
Hosts: Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem and Mineral Society

**Rocky Mountain Federation**  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
November 7-9, 2008  
Hosts: Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society

**South Central Federation and AFMS Convention**  
Hosts: Houston Gem and Mineral Society  
Humble, Texas  
September 25-28, 2008

**Southeast Federation**  
To Be Announced

**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](mailto: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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