UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

April 18, 2009: Girard, Burke County GA; hosted by the Cotton Indian Gem and Mineral Society (GA). Savannah River Agate, Oligocene-age fossils and micro-minerals. This material is actually a conglomeration of agate, jasper, chert, and opalite all mixed together to form a layered specimen that will tumble or cab into beautiful display pieces.

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

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.

April 24-26, 2009: Graves Mountain (Georgia) Rock Swap and Dig. See page 4.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT
Betty M. James

Last month I discussed several committees where you may get help with your Club/Society work. These and other committees to serve you can be found on our website at www.amfed.org/sfms. Jim is to be commended for his diligence and hard work in keeping our website up to date.

One committee chair which I have not yet been able to fill is Rockhound of the Year. Since this is the one honor which every club/society has at least one person eligible to receive, you may submit your nominees to me and I will pass the information along. Your club/society simply chooses one person, a couple, or several people who have worked on a cooperative project for the good of your club/society. Write a short summary of the work done by your nominee(s) and send it to me at 169A Florence Circle, Florence, MS 39073 or mineralid@comcast.net. Try to condense your statement to two or three paragraphs; we hope to have many of them to print.

This is one honor where you choose the honoree and everyone nominated is a winner. Your nomination will be printed in the Lodestar and in the American Federation Bulletin. All clubs have several members who put forth that special effort for the good of all. This program gives us a chance to recognize their hard work and give them the honor due.

Now is the time to make your plans to attend the Federation meeting at William Holland School, Young Harris, GA, Saturday, June 20. If you plan to take a class the preceding week, you will want to get your reservation in early. Classes have a limited number of spaces and early applicants get their first choice.

Roundtable discussion will be in the cafeteria Friday night after dinner. Saturday breakfast of cereal, sweet rolls, etc. will be provided for students. Non-student breakfasts will be provided at a nominal fee. Chef Debbie and her staff will prepare our luncheon. I will know next month what the lunch charge will be. Debbie has also agreed to help me find a local meeting place.

If you have never been to this area, you might want to spend the remainder of the weekend exploring the area. One very interesting place to visit is Dahlonega, site of the first gold rush in the United States, just 30 miles over the mountains from Young Harris. The old Courthouse Museum presents the story with a movie and many artifacts from the era. Other mining areas nearby are always fascinating, also.

See you in June!

Website: http://www.amfed.org/sfms
email: sfms@amfed.org
THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

A Non-Profit, Non-Commercial, Non-Political Organization and Regional Federation of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

PURPOSE:
To bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of Earth Sciences and the practice of Lapidary Arts and Crafts in the Southeast part of the United States.

OBJECTIVE:
To cooperate with similar Federations to promote public interest in the Earth Sciences and the conservation of natural resources.

2009 SFMS OFFICERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2009 SFMS STATE DIRECTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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The article submittal due date for the May/June 2009 (combined issue for the two months) Lodestar is April 25, 2009.
This article is a portion of an e-mail received by a dear friend of mine and forwarded to me. Neither of us know who is the author because I would love to give that person credit. However, this article is so good and so timely that I am including it for your education and enjoyment.

**Tool Descriptions**

**DRILL PRESS:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted part which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**WIRE WHEEL:** Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, "What the...??"

**ELECTRIC HAND DRILL:** Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

**SKILL SAW:** A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

**PLIERS:** Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

**BELT SANDER:** An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

**HACKSAW:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**VISE-GRIPS:** Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**WELDING GLOVES:** Heavy-duty leather gloves used to prolong the conduction of intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**OXYACETYLENE TORCH:** Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub you want the bearing race out of.

**TABLE SAW:** A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:** Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**EIGHT-FOOT LONG YELLOW PINE 2X4:** Used for levering an automobile upward off of a trapped hydraulic jack handle.

**E-Z OUT BOLT AND STUD EXTRACTOR:** A tool ten times harder than any known drill bit that snaps neatly off in bolt holes thereby ending any possible future use.

**BAND SAW:** A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST:** A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

**CRAFTSMAN 1/2 x 24-INCH SCREWDRIVER:** A very large pry bar that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end opposite the handle.

**AVIATION METAL SNIPS:** See hacksaw.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:** Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids and for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

**STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER:** A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws.

**PRY BAR:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

**HOSE CUTTER:** A tool used to make hoses too short.

**HAMMER:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit.

**MECHANIC’S KNIFE:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines.
Be Safe – Be Well
(Continued from Page 3)

refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while wearing them.

**DAMMIT TOOL:** Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling "DAMMIT" at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

**BENCH SANDER:** Electric tool used to turn major refinishing projects into sawdust -- secondary uses are removing ridges from knuckles and all traces of groves on fingers.

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**Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 A.M.</td>
<td>Friday, April 24, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 A.M.</td>
<td>Saturday, April 25, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 A.M.</td>
<td>Sunday, April 26, 2009</td>
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"You are invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!"

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold two three day digs and rock swaps on the mountain during 2009. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8 A.M. to 6 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 pm 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! Mark your calendar and tell all your friends about this great event!

**THIS DIG IS OPEN TO ALL. NO NEED TO SIGN-UP, JUST SHOW UP!**

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

Lots of Graves Mountain information, including reports and pictures, may be obtained on the Georgia Mineral Society website: [http://www.gamineral.org/](http://www.gamineral.org/)

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**Graves Mountain code of conduct!**

- Park your vehicle in the designated area(at the end of the paved access road but not much beyond the woods to the right of this road).
- CHILDREN WILL BE ALLOWED during the "Rock Swap and Dig", IF EACH CHILD IS UNDER CONTINUOUS ADULT SUPERVISION!
- ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.
- The field trip leader(s) 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 highwalls!!
- No repelling off of anything!
- NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE ON ANY PART OF GRAVES MOUNTAIN BEYOND THE PARKING AREA! (The caretaker must accompany anyone driving beyond the parking area!)
- EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN BY DUSK. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.) Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain!

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

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**Trilobites Of Dalton, Georgia**

by Melissa Siver

On Saturday, February 7, 2009, a group of rockhounds from the Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society traveled from Jacksonville to the piedmont area of Dalton, Georgia, to collect shale. Geologist’s term for this particular shale bed is the Conasauga Formation. The special features of the shale include fossilized trilobites, sponges, and coprolites.

The trilobites were found in shale layers lining the banks of a stream running under a bridge. The shale, which forms in books, was easily removed, and when split apart, tended to reveal a trilobite of varying quality. There were also

Continued on page 9
SFMS WORKSHOP NEWS

Enrollments for the workshops are rolling in. There has been a change in one aspect of the workshop enrollment I would like to discuss with you. This is concerning the intermediate/advanced classes. I have relaxed (slightly) the requirements for entry into these classes. It has been understood in the past that to attend an intermediate or advanced class that you must have taken the beginners class at one of the workshops. I felt this was too restrictive. There are lots of classes offered outside of the workshops that would have qualified you for an intermediate or advanced class. As an example, if you have attended a silversmithing class offered by your local club, this will qualify you to attend an intermediate/advanced class at the workshops. Prior experience is what the Instructors/Directors are looking for. Do not let the title of the class put you off. If you are considering one of these classes, but are unsure, please contact the Instructor or Workshop Director. Don't be afraid to advance your skill to the next level!! Below is a list of the Intermediate/Advanced classes and instructors. Contact information for Instructors and Workshop Directors can be obtained from SFMS Website or by contacting me at sfmsedchair@gmail.com or 865.406.8802. The Lodestar also lists the Workshop Directors contact information. Please pass this information on to your fellow club members. Any club newsletter editor that would like a version of this page, the workshop schedules, info sheet and registration form in a paste-able format feel free to contact me. Don’t forget to signup soon for the class of your choice.

June 14 – 20 William Holland
Silversmithing – Intermediate  Allen Jewell

August 17 – 23 Wildacres Retreat
Metalsmithing - Advanced  Jeff Shear

September 14 – 20 Wildacres Retreat
Beading Intermediate/Advanced  Vivian Heath
Chainmaking Intermediate/Advanced  Roy Deere
Cold Connections Intermediate/Advanced  Kim St. Jean
Silversmithing Intermediate/Advanced  Nancy English
Wirewrapping Intermediate/Advanced  Rowan Rose
Precious Metal Clay Certification
Level 3  Ken & Mary Ann Devos

October 11 – 17 William Holland
Silversmithing Intermediate  Nancy English
Cold Connections Intermediate/Advanced  Kim St. Jean

I was saddened to hear that Tom Wilkie had recently passed away. Tom had been a first class faceting and intarsia instructor at William Holland and Wildacres for many years. Everyone who attended one of Tom’s classes came away with a wealth of information and a life long skill. I have a deep respect for Tom because he was not afraid to “tell it like it is”. His Instructor or Student Evaluation Sheets (for Wildacres) were one of the firsts one I read at the end of each workshop. He will be missed by students and instructors alike.

Danny Griffin
SFMS Education Chairman

Can You DIG it?

Yes, you can in Marion Kentucky. Come dig Fluorite and related minerals during the day and fluorescent minerals at night.

Scheduled Digs for 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
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<td>May 23</td>
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<td>June 6th &amp; 7th*</td>
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<td>July 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 17</td>
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*Also, dates of the Ben E. Clement Annual Gem and Mineral Show

Pre-registration is required, so register early as space is limited to the first 30 people per date. Registration forms can be found on our website.

We will gladly schedule private digs for groups of 10 or more people.

For More Information Contact:

The Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum
PO Box 391 Marion, KY 42064
Or call 270.965.4263
Or visit our website at clementmineralmuseum.org
2009 SFMS WORKSHOP INFORMATION

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 2009. Danny Griffin, SFMS Education Chair

2009 WORKSHOP DATES

William Holland June 14-20
Wildacres August 17-23
Wildacres September 14-20
William Holland October 11-17

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts (www.lapidary.com) is located in the mountains of north Georgia near the North Carolina border.
Wildacres Retreat (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 PROCEDURE
Applications from members of SFMS clubs will be accepted as soon as the schedule is posted. Applications from other regional federations and the public at large will be accepted beginning April 1, 2009. 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.

Workshop Tuition
NOTE: You are encouraged to pay the full amount at registration time. However, a $25 non-refundable deposit per person must accompany your registration. If you send a $25 deposit the remaining balance is due one month before the beginning of class. No reminders will be sent.

- Cost per person $310 double occupancy.
- Single room with private bath $470.
- Non-members add $50.00 to all Tuition fees
- Day Student or camper workshop tuition fee is $140 per person. No meals are included for day students or campers. They are available from and payable directly to the facility.
- Campsite fee (Wm Holland only) $120 per week.

If you have not received written confirmation of your application within 30 days, please contact the registrar or education chair.

Refund / Cancellation Policy
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. If a refund is granted a $25 administrative fee will be retained.

Application Form
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 may 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 and are not compensated for their time and effort. THEY MAY CHARGE A MATERIALS FEE FOR THEIR CLASSES. THIS MATERIALS FEE IS NOT PART OF THE WORKSHOP TUITION. For additional information about our instructors, please visit www.amfed.org/sfms

WORKSHOP STAFF

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CHECK-IN DAY:

Wildacres is MONDAY afternoon.
William Holland is SUNDAY afternoon.
Early check-in is NOT permitted at either location.
# 2009 SFMS Workshop Class Schedule

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**William Holland Director**, Kathy Morris  
Email: whdirector@yahoo.com

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**Education Chair**, Danny Griffin  
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(865) 406-8802  
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The intermediate and advanced classes listed with an asterisk (*) require some prior experience by the student. Experience in a class provided by your local club, Workshop class, or self study may be enough. Please do not exclude yourself, if you're interested in one of these classes, without contacting the instructor first.

## Session One - William Holland  
SUNDAY, JUNE 14-20, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opals</td>
<td>Sarah Lee Boyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire Braiding &amp; Weaving</td>
<td>Don &amp; Louise Coulson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver / Beginning</td>
<td>Vicki Prillaman</td>
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<td>Digital Photography</td>
<td>Ken Kipnis</td>
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<td>Fused Glass</td>
<td>Renee Wright</td>
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<td>Seed Beading</td>
<td>Vivian Heath</td>
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<td>Faceting</td>
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<td>Lampwork</td>
<td>Cindy Reed</td>
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<td>Mixed Media</td>
<td>Marilyn Jobe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cold Connections</td>
<td>Kim St. Jean</td>
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## Session Two - Wildacres  
MONDAY, AUGUST 17-23, 2009

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<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Metal</td>
<td>Jeff Sheer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver / Beginning</td>
<td>Gene Tipton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Clay Silver</td>
<td>Barbara McGuire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gem ID / Appreciation</td>
<td>Ben Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raku Beads/Perfants</td>
<td>Jim Cullen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire / Beginning</td>
<td>Rowan Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabochons / Beginning</td>
<td>Pat Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fused Glass</td>
<td>Julia Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casting</td>
<td>Fred Sias</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Photography</td>
<td>Ken Kipnis</td>
</tr>
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## Session Three - Wildacres  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14-20, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cold Connections</td>
<td>Kim St Jean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate/Adv.*</td>
<td>Nancy English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, Intermed/Adv.*</td>
<td>Will Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faceting</td>
<td>Will Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polymer Clay</td>
<td>Barbara McGuire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opal Cutting</td>
<td>Sarah Lee Boyce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral ID</td>
<td>Betty James</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beading Intermed/Adv.*</td>
<td>Vivian Heath</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chainmaking Int/Adv.*</td>
<td>Roy Deere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wire Intermed/Adv.*</td>
<td>Rowan Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precious Metal Clay</td>
<td>Mary Ann &amp; Ken Devos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 Certification</td>
<td>Mary Ann &amp; Ken Devos</td>
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## Session Four - William Holland  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11-17, 2009

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opals</td>
<td>Joe DiPietro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabochons</td>
<td>Jerry Mason</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wire Sculpture</td>
<td>Dianne Mason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chainmaking / Beg.</td>
<td>Case Leeser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fused Glass</td>
<td>Addy DiPietro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faceting 1</td>
<td>Randy Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Inlay</td>
<td>Don &amp; Ann Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver / Intermediate*</td>
<td>Nancy English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver 1</td>
<td>Allen Jewel</td>
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<td>Cold Connections</td>
<td>Kim St. Jean</td>
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<td>Digital Photography</td>
<td>Ken Kipnis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soapstone Carving</td>
<td>Diane Walker</td>
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# 2009 SFMS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

| SESSION: | ◊ 1 William Holland June 14-20    ◊ 3 Wildacres September 14-20  
|          | ◊ 2 Wildacres August 17-23        ◊ 4 William Holland October 11-17 |
| ACCOMMODATIONS: | ◊ Lodge    ◊ Day Student  
|                | ◊ Campground (Wm Holland only) |

| #1 NAME | SFMS CLUB (spell out)  
| 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 |  

| #2 Spouse NAME |  
| (If address and phone info is different than above, please list on the back.) |  
| 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? |  
| Age Group (used to determine a compatible roommate) | 20-30 | 31-41 | 42-52 | 53-63 | 64-74 | 74 & up |  
| Are you a smoker? | Y | N |  
| 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 |  
| Anything else we need to know? (i.e. snore loudly, can't walk up hills, etc.) |  

| Campers: (Wm Holland only) Type | Length (40 ft. max.) |  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Selection</th>
<th>**** PLEASE LIST ALTERNATES****</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Choice</td>
<td>1st time taking class?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student #1</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse #2</td>
<td>Y</td>
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</table>

**Workshop Tuition**

NOTE: You are encouraged to pay the full amount at registration time. However, a $25 non-refundable deposit per person must accompany your registration. If you send a $25 deposit, the remaining balance is due one month before the beginning of class.

- Cost per person $310 double occupancy.
- Single room with private bath $470.
- Non members add $50.00 to all Tuition fees.
- Day Student or camper workshop tuition fee is $140 per person. No meals are included for day students or campers. They are available from and payable directly to the facility.
- Campsite fee (Wm Holland only) $120 per week.

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

**Materials Fees:** The instructors materials fee is NOT included in the $310.00 tuition fee. Each class may have a fee set by the instructor. See the class description for a list of these fees.

---

**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
631 Lake Overlook Drive
Canton, GA 30114-6897
Trilobites Of Dalton, Georgia
(Continued from page 4)

hunks of shale in the river, which were harder and contained higher-quality fossils than the shale found on the riverbanks. Because the rocks are so easily removed, you must be careful to not over-collect this site and encourage too much erosion. The specimens we collected ranged in size from 5 mm to 3 cm lengthwise, and 4mm to 2 cm crosswise, and were very fragile.

These small trilobites, known as *Naraoia compacta*, are soft-bodied arthropods that belong to the Crustacea family. *Naraoia compacta* fossils have been found in many parts of the world, including Europe, Asia, and the Americas. In the Conasauga formation, they have been discovered alongside other fossils such as sponges, larger trilobites in the pytchopariid family, and large coprolites, giving us a picture of *Naraoia’s* underwater habitat. These well-preserved arthropod fossils are from the Middle Cambrian Period, 540 million years ago. The preservation of the trilobites is due to the high concentration of silica and iron in the shale, and the malleability of the substrate at the time that the trilobites died.

Although most of the fossils we found were of the trilobite *Naraoia* (Figure 1), we also found a fossil we could not identify (Figure 2). Because of its physiology, this particular creature could be related to *Asaphida asaphoidea*, a hunter-scavenger trilobite that preyed on the filter-feeding *Naraoia*.

For rockhounds of all ages, the Conasauga Formation is an easy dig, requiring a minimum amount of tools, and which yields many fossils from the Cambrian seas. However, the collector must exercise care when handling the fossils and must also remember to respect the dig site.

Junior Members
SFMS Workshop Scholarship

DEADLINE LOOMS! APRIL 30, 2009

Please encourage your juniors to apply for the youth scholarships. See the criteria below. Don’t let that special junior miss out!

Requirements for Junior Scholarships SFMS Workshops:

- **President of the sponsoring adult club** submits the junior’s name with an explanation of the club’s qualifications considered in recommending this youth.

- **Youth** submits a short essay explaining his or her interest in the hobby and reason for wanting to attend a workshop.

- After attending the workshop of choice, the **scholarship recipient** is encouraged to write a

Continued on next page
Junior Members
SFMS Workshop Scholarship
(Continued from page 8)

- Lodestar article about the experience.
- Responsible adult must accompany the youth to the workshop.
- Permission must be obtained from the workshop director and the class teacher. Usually, this is not a problem. Verify age requirements!
- Deadline for applying for the scholarship is April 30, 2009.

Recommendations should be sent to:

Bonita L. Harris
SFMS Youth Resources
12520 Jeff Hamilton Road
Mobile, AL 36695
251. 865.9157

WORDS OF CAUTION

by John M. Wright, RPG
AFMS Conservation & Legislation Chairman

Back in October 2008, I planned to write about “Conflict Stones” sometimes better known as “Blood Stones”, but decided that the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act was a much more immediate problem. My “crystal ball” indicates that by the time this article appears the Omnibus Package which also includes the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act will more than likely be history and I can move on to other matters of concern that you will probably appreciate more since its just an advisory and you will not be asked (heaven forbid) to exert yourself to do anything.

Numerous items are banned from being imported into the United States, i.e. cocaine, opium, etc., but I want to concentrate on things that pertain to us rockhounds. Most of us are well aware that importing ivory or ivory products into the United States has been banned for a couple of decades. Until recently there were very few restrictions on importing gemstones, precious metals, or fossils, if these properties were declared, documented properly, and the appropriate tariffs paid. Well, this is quickly changing as the Hollywood crowd has suddenly decided that the methods used to mine and manufacture jewelry items are cruel and inhumane (yet they are more than quick, ready, and proud to ware exquisite jewelry when in the limelight). They also want to apply the same rules being forced on us here in the United States to fossils obtained in others areas of the world.

In 2002 restrictions were placed on importing gemstones and minerals from Myanmar (which used to be Burma) because of the inhuman way in which the people were being treated by the country’s military regime. The 2002 restrictions were changed to a complete total ban effective October 1, 2008. This ban means that gemstones and jewelry items originating in Myanmar (rubies, sapphires, jadeite, etc.) can no longer be imported into the USA even if the actual jewelry was made in another country. Items falling within this restriction must have documentation proving they were obtained prior to the implementation of the law or that the origin of the item was other than Myanmar. Since approximately 90% of the world’s gem quality natural rubies come from Myanmar this law is effectively going to shut down their availability in the United States. Yangon gem sellers dismissed the sanction against their government as a symbolic gesture unlikely to have much impact on their lucrative trade. “Our buyers are almost all from China, Russia, the Gulf, Thailand, India and the European Union, and we can barely keep up with their demand,” said Theta Mar of Mandalar Jewelry, a store in the museum gem shop located in the capitol of Myanmar.

The thing you need to be aware of is that efforts are well under way in the US Congress to have these same restrictions placed on a variety of gemstones and minerals from other countries in the world. I wonder how many of us still have the receipts for the jewelry items we purchased many years ago that might fall into the restricted categories. At the present this will not be much of a problem unless you travel out of country and happen to take along some of your jewelry or maybe find some really outstanding buys you can’t live without while abroad. Coming back into this country could present a real challenge.

I’ve often heard that an elephant is a mouse built to government specifications and now with the current trend towards political correctness, I fully expect to see these efforts at restricting gemological imports grow into a real monster. Will these embargos which penalize our citizens in order to punish other governments with whom we disagree work? Not really – just like the restrictions on rubies from Myanmar, with the Americans and a few European consumers out of the picture, buyers from other countries will be more than happy to take advantage of a great opportunity. Who will loose? Unfortunately, we Americans citizens will.
The following article was sent to John Wright, SFMS member and AFMS Chairman of the Conservation & Legislation Committee. John thought this was important enough that all of our members should be made aware of the problems they could encounter when rock-hounding in National Forests. Permission was granted by Dr. Madden to use his well written article, which is typical of a number of other similar cases being adjudicated in the SFMS area at the present time.

**THIS CAN HAPPEN TO YOU**

On November 1, 2008, my fiancée, Dori, and I were criminally charged with collecting Staurolites on U.S. Forest Service land. Local collectors have been going to this location to collect Staurolites for over 30 years. Our friends, Tonya and Barry, informed us of the location in Blue Ridge. We visited this area four (4) times in the summer and fall of 2008. The Staurolites we found on the surface were mostly poor quality. However, just a few inches under the surface using a scraper we found much better quality ones. We used hand tools including a scraper and a small pick. I feel we were very careful not to damage the site. We did not dig more than 6 or 7 inches and completely filled in our holes and raked the dirt to ensure the site looked undisturbed.

On November 1, 2008 Officer Mike Tipton of the USFS approached us. We did not attempt to hide ourselves because we had no idea we were doing anything wrong. He stated he had set up a video camera at the site and had been watching us. This was very alarming to us. I assured him if he had approached us that first time and explained that the Forest Service did not wish us to collect here, we would have politely left and never returned. He will attest to the fact that we were cooperative. He even complimented us stating we were “not like most of the individuals he deals with.”

Officer Tipton approached us and asked us what we were looking for. We told him we were looking for Staurolites. He did not know what Staurolites were, but informed us we needed a mining permit to dig for any type of mineral. He told us any Staurolites we find are government property. Next he confiscated our scraping tools, knap sack and bucket. He separated us and read me my Miranda rights. At this point he asked me if I would allow federal agents to search my home in Rome for any other federal property. When I said “no” my interview was over. Evidently he tried to obtain a search warrant, but was unsuccessful. Officer Tipton repeatedly inquired as to whether we sold rocks. I told him I have never sold minerals and Staurolites have only intrinsic value. In the past there have been locations in Blue Ridge (Hackney Farm) that have allowed individuals to collect a bucket of them for $5.00.

On January 11, 2009, Officer Tipton gave us a courtesy call. He stated we are being charged criminally with 261.9(a) destroying a natural feature or property of the United States ($250.00 fine) and 261.9(b) removing a natural feature or property of the United States ($250.00 fine). These are criminal misdemeanor offenses and can result in a criminal record. I strongly feel the section we are being charged under is both vague and does not address the important point that we were collecting minerals. Mineral collecting is generally allowed on most U.S. Forest Service lands including public domain lands and acquired lands. Unfortunately, each individual Forest Service can now make the rules (on acquired lands) dictating the rules for rock hounding and Georgia has one of the most restrictive policies. Under this charge it appears we are vandals or even worse thieves. I told Officer Tipton I was considering going to court. Five days later when I received my ticket it had doubled to $400.00 for each offense for a total of $2000.00.

In conclusion, I feel strongly we took the utmost care to treat this land with care. We spent at least 15-20 minutes each time to leave the ground looking undisturbed. I feel the Georgia State Forest Service is treating mineral collectors like criminals. Mineral collecting is in the past been considered a wholesome and educational activity. In other states, the USFS has been much more responsive to working with mineral collectors and even encourages collecting. I am saddened that the Georgia State Forest Service is now considering it a criminal offense.

Thank you for the time you spend considering this matter.

(Signed) Robert Madden, M.D.
CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

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

April 24-26, 2009, Rome GA—Rome Georgia Mineral Society
Mineral, Fossil, Gem and Jewelry Show. The Forum, one block from Broad Street at end of 3rd Avenue. Hours: 24th & 25th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 26th, 11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: Tim Biggart at 706.232.7143 or tbiggart@berry.edu or Bob Madden at 706.295.3912; 706.295.7320 or mcanoe@aol.com.

April 25-26, 2009, Memphis, TN - Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society
Memphis (formerly Mid-America) Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show, The Earth Wide Open. New Location: Memphis International Agricenter, Expo Center, West Pavilion & A-Wing, 7777 Walnut Grove Road. Hours: 25th, 9:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 26th, 10:00-5:00 P.M. www.TheEarthWideOpen.com or email at: info@theearthwideopen.com. Contact: W.C. McDaniel at 901.274.7706.

16th 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.

May 8 –10, 2009, Marietta, GA - Georgia Mineral Society
41st Annual 2009 Mother’s Day Weekend Gem and Mineral Show. Cobb County Civic Center, 548 Marietta Parkway. Hours: 8th & 9th, 10:00 A.M.- 6:00 P.M.; 10th, 12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M. Contact: Kim Cochran, 770.979.8331, mayshow@gamineral.org.

June 6-7, 2009, Birmingham, AL - Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society
36th Annual Show. Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, Exit 100, 1-20/59 South. Hours: Both days, 9:00 A.M.– 5:00 P.M. Contact: J.B. Blackerby, 155 Hwy 69, Chelsea, AL 35043; 205.678.6564; black2200@aol.com.

June 6-7, 2009, Marion, KY - Ben E. Clement Museum
Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show with "Digs", Fohs Hall on Walker Street. Hours: 6th, 9:00 A.M.- 9:00 P.M.; 7th, 9:00-11:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M. Contact: Tina Walker at 270.965.4263 or visit website: www.clementmineralmuseum.org.

June 19-21, 2009, Asheville, NC- Colburn Earth Science Museum
Asheville GemFest, 2 South Pack Square at Pack Place. Hours: 19th & 20th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 21st, 11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: Felicity Green at 828.254.7162 or museum.colburn@gmail.com.

August 21-23, 2009, Pass Christian, MS - Harrison County Gem and Mineral Society
34th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show, West Harrison Civic Center on Espy Avenue. Contact: Margaret Johnston at 228.467.1457 or Johnstonmargaret@bellsouth.net.

September 18-20, 2009, Jacksonville, FL—Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society
21st Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil, Bead, and Art Show. Morocco Temple, 3800 St. Johns Bluff Road S. Contact: Tom Frame at tomframe@comcast.net.

October 3-4, 2009, Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky
19th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show & Sale. Kentucky National Guard Armory, 4301 Airport Rd. Hours: 3rd, 10:00 A.M.- 6:00 P.M.; 4th, 12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M. Contact: Kay Fisher, 859.537.1776, kkay19@aol.com.

October 31 –November 1, 2009, Stuart FL— St. Lucie County Rock & Gem Club
31st Annual Rock & Gem Show. Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy. (A1A). Hours: 10:00 A.M.— 5:00 P.M. both days. Discount coupon at slrockandgem.org. Contacts: Dennis Ponte at 772.288.9296 or Norm Holbert at 772.873.0787.

FEDERATION CONVENTIONS & SHOWS

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)/Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS)
July 30-August 2, 2008
Billings, Montana

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS)
April 17-19, 2009
San Jose, California
Host Club: Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies (EFMS)
October 17-18, 2009
Bristol, Connecticut

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies (MWF)
May 16-17, 2009
Berea, Ohio

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RFMS)
October 2-3, 2009
Roswell, New Mexico

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.
The policy of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. is that neither the name nor the logo of the Federation may be used for commercial purposes. If any commercial ventures using the name or the logo of the Federation are found, Member Societies and their members are requested to advise Federation Officers.
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<thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Club/Society Affiliation:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mailing Address:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>City:</strong></td>
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**Special Interests:**

**Check all that apply:** | **New Subscription** | **Renewal** | **Address Change**

**Subscription rates are $10.00 per year for 10 issues.** *(Not published in June or August)*

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