

# Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXXII/Six

July/August 2008

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

**July 2008:** Diamond Hill Mine, Antreville, Abbeville County, SC; hosted by the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society. Skeletal, amethyst, smokey, and scepter quartz crystals and other assorted pegmatite minerals.

**August 9, 2008:** Crabtree Emerald Mine, Grassy Creek Township, NC (near Little Switzerland); hosted by the Henderson County (NC) Gem and Mineral Society. Emeralds in matrix, emerald crystals, schorl, garnet, golden beryl, and fluorite (rare).

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.*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*The Prez Rambles On . . .*

Guess what I did the second week of June? If you guessed I attended the SFMS workshop at William Holland. This was my first ever time to attend either of the workshops. What a blast!!!

Let me tell you it was a fabulous week. I took wirecraft under the skilled teaching of Danny Griffin. We made one or two or three pieces of jewelry each day. Danny was well prepared to teach us the basics of creating wire jewelry as well as giving the students some great tips. I was also thrilled to find out Renee and Monica Hart from my own club were in the class. There were three other ladies in the class as well. Two of the ladies has some experience, so they were great to pass along tips they had discovered as well.

We made several pieces of jewelry during the week. Starting with a pair of bracelets we learned to twist wire, wrap the main wires with half round wire, and make a clasp for the bracelet. We also did a couple rings. Next were pendants. With these we got practice forming the wires to a cabochon and bending them up to form a decorative bail for the piece. We also did a couple of rings. One looks really complicated with a woven pattern. The pattern is formed with twisted wire folded alongside each other. The other ring was a simple ring made with one bead and one piece of wire. Earrings were the other project. We made a pair with its own spring fastener built in. I started another pair but didn't finish it due having to leave early to get back for my mother-in-law's funeral.

I was able to peek in at some of the other classes as well. I saw some of the silversmith projects as well as some of the wire sculpture projects. Some of the enamel projects looked interesting as well. I may take that one next year. The cabbers looked like they were having way too much fun. Marty and Brian Hart from my club were in that class. And yes they are related to Renee and Monica that were in my class.

This was the second year for the Hart family to attend the June workshop. Marty and Renee and two of their children, Brian and Monica, hopefully have established a family tradition of attending the workshop. I would like to see more families attend. The food is good, the people are great, the rooms are comfortable, the air is clear, the nights are dark so it's great for sleeping. Best of all room, food, and class is only \$310 each. The only other expenses are materials for extra projects and some extra loot for the auction. And maybe a donation to the auction.

*(Continued on Page 5)*



# 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 September 2008 *Lodestar* is August 25, 2008 (No exceptions!) – Note there will not be an issue published in August.**

**Be Safe – Be Well**  
*Safety Committee – Don Monroe, Chairman*

**Oh Say Can You See?**



Many, many of us do not see as well as we would like or as well as we once could. All of these vision problems are not the result of aging. In some cases, other factors play a part in creating the problem.

Pre-teens and older teenagers may have sustained eye injuries while at play due to flying objects or missiles such as a shot from an air rifle. I will

remember being hit in the eye with the "ball" from a sweet-gum tree. My cousin could really throw well for a girl. Yes, it was very painful and it took several days to heal. A small amount of permanent damage resulted in what the doctor called a "floater" which is in my eye to this day.

Excessive exposure to bright sunlight has a long-term effect on our eyes. This exposure can result in cataracts and other eye damage. Sun glasses that reduce UV exposure can help.

Are we properly concerned with the lighting that we rely on when we read, write or do close work?

The latest information I received from my ophthalmologist indicates that all of us will have cataracts as we age. These will show up as yellowing in the eye and, for the most part, surgery will not be required. Good lighting will assist us minimizing this effect.

Regular eye examinations and corrective lenses must become a way of life for us if we are going to safeguard our sight. I personally do not see any pleasure in standing on a street corner with a white cane and a tin cup or having our grandchildren read for us because we can't see.

**COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS**

Competitive exhibits once were seen at most club shows and all Federation shows, but today they are few and far between. I was astonished to see so many competitive exhibits at the Roswell, New Mexico show held during the AFMS meeting last June, and I feel more competitive exhibits would be a boost to increasing our club/societies' membership roles.

AFMS has gone to great lengths to bring consistency to competitive judging, from local competition all the way through AFMS competition. This includes going through the entire rules to bring them up to date, providing workshop scholarships to train and educate. Reba and I attended the Eastern Federation Spring session at Wildacres and took the judging class. There were AFMS Scholarship recipients from all the federation in attendance. There were also non-scholarship recipients attending, Reba being one. The class was also attended by AFMS President Shirley Leeson and AFMS Scholarship President Dee Holland, and was taught by Jay Bowman.

I would like to encourage all of our clubs/societies that have shows to include competitive exhibits in their show plans as we do have a lot of members with enough talent to compete at the AFMS (national) level.

*Buddy Shotts,  
Immediate Past SFMS President*

**SFMS EDUCATION REPORT**

I am pleased to introduce our new director at Wildacres. **Dan Griffin** is from Kingston, TN, where he has held several positions, including president, in his home club. Dan will be Wildacres director for 2008-09. He taught a beginning wire class at the William Holland June session, and his students couldn't say enough nice things about him. We welcome Dan and his wife Paula to our workshop family.

The June session was a lot of fun. With a total attendance of only 44, the auction brought in **over \$2,000!!** There were many wonderful slabs and specimens, and the bidding was fast and furious. Among other treasures, **Betty James** took home an exquisite opal donated by our resident opaloholic, **Sarah Lee Boyce**. I always feel the auctions are one of the best activities at our workshops. The auctioneers and their helpers keep the audience laughing with their ever-present wisecracks. (Ask SFMS President **Steve Henegar** to loan you a tape measure when you see him!)

The August session at Wildacres will be here in a couple of weeks. As of this writing, we are beginning to see that a few classes will have to be canceled due to low enrollment. We need at least three students enrolled in every class. The registrar, **B.J. Gearhart**, will be in touch with you if your class is canceled. Hopefully, you have indicated a second choice so you won't be too disappointed. The time is **NOW** to send in your registration for the August session. The September session follows right behind, so get those registrations in, too. And if you are registered but haven't sent in your full payment, please do so now. Registrations need to be paid in full 30 days before the workshop start date.

*Have a safe summer,  
Julia Larson*

*SFMS Education Committee Chairman*

**YOUTH RESOURCES**

The SFMS Youth Resources proudly announces that Elizabeth Siegfried and Armanda Wetzel each have been notified that they have received a \$500.00 2008 SFMS Workshop Youth Scholarship. Elizabeth and Armanda will notify Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chair which 2008 workshop they will be attending.

Elizabeth Siegfried, a past recipient is 17 years old and comes highly recommended by the president of her local mineralogical society, The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.

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**YOUTH RESOURCES**

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From Edward Robles, President, The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.: "Elizabeth [Siegfried] is an asset, not only to our Society, but to the entire field of Lapidary Design. She has initiated her own business and is a designer and artificer of note in spite of her relative youth....In our outreach and Educational functions, when we visit area schools, or host youth groups, she demonstrates not only her artistry, but the basics of several Lapidary skills, and has served as an example to be emulated... I unhesitatingly recommend that she be rewarded by the issuance of a scholarship of her choice during the summer of 2008."

Armanda Wetzel is 13 years old and is highly recommended by the president of her local society.

From Barbara Green, President, The Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society Greenville, SC.: "Amanda is a very integral part of our club and is our Membership Secretary...she often attends our weekly workshops and is always interested in everything we do. She makes all of her own jewelry...everyone has learned to watch where she is looking [on fieldtrips] because if there is [a] terrific find to be made, she will usually find the biggest and the best of whatever is there!"

Congratulations, Elizabeth and Armanda, for being selected for the SFMS 2008 youth scholarships!

**Junior of the Year REMINDER**

Society Presidents, please continue to encourage your juniors to work toward the SFMS Junior of the Year prestigious award. Visit the SFMS website for more details.

*Bonita Harris  
Youth Resources Chairperson*

**CHANGES FOR 2009 AFMS BULLETIN  
EDITOR'S CONTEST**

1. Procedure to decide on changes:

September 2007 - AFMS Club Publications asked for input from all editors, BEACs, and any other interested parties on what changes they would like to see made in the contest.

January 2008 - Input was compiled and recommendations were sent to the AFMS Club Publications Committee for a vote; votes were received

and tabulated. Changes to contest rules established on a simple majority vote.

June 2008 - Changes for the 2009 contest sent to AFMS Club Publications Committee; changes were not made available earlier to keep from confusing anyone on the 2008 contest.

September 2008 - Changes will be made available to everyone in attendance at the AFMS/SCFMS Breakfast with the Editors and will be made available on the AFMS website.

**2. Changes for the 2009 AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest:**

**A. Category by Bulletin Size** (to more evenly distribute the number of bulletins in each category)

- New Editor - any size
- Mini Bulletins, 6 pages or less
- Small Bulletins, 7 - 11 pages
- Large Bulletins, 12 pages or more

**B. Add a "Features" category** (to include more of our writers & artists in awards)

The Features category will include: written articles covering field trips, book reports, travelogues, historical commentary and original shop hints, as well as original drawn items such as cartoons, puzzles, quizzes, and sketches/drawings.

**C. This affects regional chairpersons only - AFMS contest materials will be available for BEACs in an interactive format online; hard copies will still be mailed to BEACs who do not have internet access.**

(These are the contest materials that are sent only to regional BEACs. BEACs will be able to type the information directly onto the forms for their regional winners and attach them to their entries for the AFMS contest. They will then send these hard copies to the AFMS judges, just like we do now. This will save some of the postage needed to mail hard copies to BEACs, save on paper - no extra copies that are thrown out, and make all entries more legible for the judges.)

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**CHANGES FOR 2009 AFMS BULLETIN  
EDITOR'S CONTEST**

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D. No points will be deducted from bulletins that are exclusively emailed for being formatted in a single column per page. Each page must still have a header or footer that gives the name of the bulletin, the page number, and the date/volume number. (Online bulletins are easier to read in one column so the reader does not have to scroll down-up-down on each page to read.)

E. On the score sheet for bulletins, "Headings, margins, spacing good, typing neat & clean, corrections neat" under FORMAT/EDITORSHIP will be changed to "Headings, margins, white space, spacing good; typing neat & clean; corrections neat." (White space is space on the page that has no typing or art work in it - it's just white. Readers need white space on each page to let their eyes rest, and white space makes what is written and drawn stand out more. Thus, editors need to make good use of white space.)

*via email from Linda Jaeger  
AFMS Club Publicity Chairman*

Denise Talbott, our registrar reported on the proceeds of the auction the next morning at breakfast. Since we only had forty or so people at the workshop, we were a little concerned about how much we might raise. Let me tell you it was more than chump change - a lot more! Thanks to all the people that donated items and all the people that bought them. And thanks for providing me with some good entertainment. I'm planning to work the other three auctions as well so come join us.

Apparently it doesn't take much to entertain some rockhounds. Pat Davis, our workshop director at William Holland, apparently found it entertaining to give the first timers workshop pin to the current federation president. Apparently that doesn't happen very often. Actually it was somewhat embarrassing to me for that to be pointed out. But hey, I figure better late than never. Now I'm hooked. I hope presidents that follow me have the good sense to come to the workshops before their term of office.

Now for the sales pitch. We were nowhere near capacity at this workshop. In fact we were probably only about half full. Those of you who receive the Lodestar pleas make an effort to get the workshop information to your members. There is a \$100 Presidents Prize for the club that sends the most members to the workshops. So help us fill the rest of the workshops by spreading the information to you club members. Everything needed is on the SFMS website - [www.amfed.org/SFMS](http://www.amfed.org/SFMS). We still have three workshops left. The next two sessions are at the Wildacres Retreat near Spruce Pine, North Carolina. The dates are August 18-24 and September 15-21. The last session will be at the William Holland Lapidary School near Young Harris, Georgia. The date for that workshop is October 12-18. If you are reading this from outside the Southeast Federation, members of the other six federations are welcome to apply as well. We'd be glad to have you.

The last item for this month is the location of our annual convention. Due to problems with working out a time and location with several clubs that were interested in hosting the meeting, my home club - Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society - has agreed to support us by hosting the meeting in conjunction with their annual show. The meeting will be held on Saturday December 13, 2008. The host hotel and banquet facility hasn't been nailed down yet but will be soon. I'll forward that information as soon as it is available. Most likely the meeting will be held in the afternoon due to us hosting a Boy Scout merit badge university Saturday morning. I'm thinking about starting at 2:00 in the afternoon then having the banquet begin around 7:00. That will give us a short break between the meeting and the banquet.

Ok, enough rambling. I am waiting on the next workshop to start. Here are your orders. Sign up for one of more of the remaining three workshops! I need to meet some more of you!

*Steve Henegar, SFMS President*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

About the only thing I like almost as well as eating is auctions - especially fundraiser auctions. I volunteered to be a runner to take the auction items to the buyers. No one suspected that I have worked this type of auction before, so they weren't prepared for me to be a trouble maker. I'll reveal my secrets at the end of the workshops in October. Anyway we had a little fun with a tape measure as well. Someone bought the tape measure. Then it was donated back to the auction because I - oops I mean someone didn't need a tape measure. Next time it came up for bids this same someone bought it again. The buyer still didn't need a tape measure. Back into the auction it went. At this point it started to get a little funny. The third time it came up, the same someone opened his big mouth again with a starting bid. No on bid so the same bidder bought it a third time. He still didn't need a tape measure. Back into the auction it went. This time the bidder was smart enough to keep his mouth shut. He still didn't need a tape measure. He finally figured out if you don't bid you don't have to buy. Did I mention he didn't need a tape measure?

## 2008 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 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

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### 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

<b>Single applicants only:</b> 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? _____
--

<b>Special needs:</b> Do you need a <b>handicap</b> room? Y N    Can you negotiate stairs? Y N    (elevator at Wm Holland only) <b>Dietary:</b> Diabetic _____ Other _____ <b>Campers:</b> 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.

<b>MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO</b> <b>SFMS William Holland Workshop</b> Denise Talbott, William Holland Registrar 216 Springview St Murphy NC 28906 ----- --- OR --- <b>SFMS Wildacres Workshop</b> 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

(Continued Next Page)

**2008 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Workshop Staff**

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 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	<b>CANCELED</b>
Cabochons, beginning	Jerry Mason
Chainmaking, beg.	<b>CANCELED</b>
Enameling	Renee Wright
Glass fusing	<b>CANCELED</b>
Lampwork, beginning	Cindy Reed
Opal cutting	Sara Lee Boyce
Scrimshaw techniques	<b>CANCELED</b>
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
Chains, Beg. & Adv.	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 (SFMS President Steve Henegar, Acting Director)**

Cold Connections	Kim St Jean
Enameling	<b>CANCELED</b>
Chains, adv* & beg	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**

Cabochons	Anita Westlake
Chainmaking, Inter.*	Bill & Dee Conybear
Cold Connection	<b>Kim St Jean</b>
Faceting Two	David Corn
Fused Glass	Addy DiPietro
Gourd Carving	<b>CANCELED</b>
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

## FALLS OF THE OHIO FALL FOSSIL FESTIVAL

The Falls of the Ohio State Park's 14<sup>th</sup> "Falls Fossil Festival" will be held September 20 (9 a.m. - 6 p.m.) and 21 (10 A.M. - 5 P.M.), 2008. This event, sponsored by the Falls of the Ohio Foundation, will feature:

- \* Daily non-technical programs and workshops for hobbyists, educators and the curious on fossils, minerals, and collecting.
- \* Almost 20 vendors selling fossils, minerals, educational material, crafts and food.
- \* *Children's Activity Area* with a variety of activities scheduled.
- \* *Resource Tent* where you can get fossils and rocks identified by members of the Indiana Society for Paleontology, the Kentucky Paleontological Society and the Kyana Geological Society. Learn about other geological sites with material from many other fossil parks in North America, as well as information and free literature from the Indiana and Kentucky Geological Surveys.
- \* Fossil and mineral identification (Bring in your mystery rocks!).
- \* Hikes on the fossil beds, including extended hikes on the outer fossil beds.
- \* Collecting Silurian and Devonian fossils from special rock piles donated and staffed by Hanson Aggregates and mineral piles from the dumps of Cave in Rock fluorite mines.
- \* Exhibit – "*Rocks, Minerals and Life!*" in our Interpretive Center explores the value of earth materials in our daily lives.

Proceeds benefit the educational programs at the Falls of the Ohio State Park which reach more than ten thousand students each year!

A web site with a detailed schedule for the Festival is posted on our web site at: <http://www.fallsoftheohio.org>  
For more information contact Alan Goldstein at: 812.280.9970 ext. 403.

*Alan Goldstein, Certified Interpretive Planner  
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[www.fallsoftheohio.org](http://www.fallsoftheohio.org)*

## American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Conservation and Legislation Committee Report Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Board of Directors Meeting July 26, 2008

I would like to express my appreciation to Carolyn L. Daniels, Editor of SFMS *Lodestar*, Jim Flora, SFMS Web Site Guru, and the many SFMS Society's Bulletin Editors that have help me keep our members informed on pending legislative matters. The following report has been submitted for the AFMS annual meeting to be held at Houston, Texas, in September 2008:

I wish to thank Shirley Leeson, President of AFMS, Carolyn Weinberger, Editor of the AFMS Newsletter, and Jon Spunaugle, for their assistance to this AFMS committee. There were no reported problems, recommendations, or suggestions received from any other AFMS officers, officers or committee members of the seven area federations, societies/clubs or the general membership.

The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, HR554, was resurrected again earlier this year and approved by the Agriculture and Judiciary committees. This bill is on a "fast track" for passage and will most likely be voted on by the House of Representatives shortly after their return from summer recess which means September or October unless there is some unforeseen delay. It appears that a compromise has also been reached for Senate approval. Two other legislative items of concern this year that are currently being considered by the House of Representatives are HR 2016, National Landscape Conservation System and HR 5610, Designation of Wilderness Areas. If passed, these bills will essentially place 26 million acres of public lands controlled by BLM under a "National Park" type system which will eliminate or severely limit any type of recreational mining. The BLM lands that are designated as Wilderness Areas would for all practical purposes be "off limits" for most any type of recreational activity. The information about these legislative items has been widely disseminated to the membership, but they seem to be oblivious to the problems that may result and very little effort has been made to stop their passage.

The U.S. Forestry Service has dramatically increased its road closure efforts this year. It is very apparent they have pre-conceived ideas about the areas to be closed before they have any of the required public hearings, which are poorly advertised and largely ignored unless a lot of public pressure is exerted. Attendance by our members has been extremely poor at the public hearing for road closures conducted by the Forest Service. The only salvation in this situation is that hunters, fishermen, trail bikers, hikers, campers, and many other outdoor recreational groups are attending in large numbers. AFMS President, Shirley Leeson, has led an effort to recruit well qualified members of our societies to recommend for positions on several area Forest Service boards. Highly qualified volunteers were found and their recommendations were supported by this committee. Information about those recommended for the area boards will not be available from the Forest Service until later in the year.

*Respectively submitted,  
John M. Wright, Chairman*

July/August 2008

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

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

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

**July 24-27, 2008, Franklin, NC – Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC.** 43rd Annual Show. Macon County Community Facilities Building, U.S. 441 South. Hours: 24th-26th, 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.; 27th, 11:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Fredplesner at 828.349.4224 or [willa@dnet.net](mailto:willa@dnet.net) or Linda Harbuck at 800.336.7829 or [lindah@franklin-chamber.com](mailto:lindah@franklin-chamber.com).

**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 26-28, 2008, Jacksonville, FL-Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society.** 20th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Bead Show., Morocco Temple, 3800 St. Johns Bluff Road South. Hours: 26th, 1:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.; 27th & 28th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. Contact: Tom Frame at [jgms\\_show@hotmail.com](mailto:jgms_show@hotmail.com) or 904.400.3818.

**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).

**September 27-28, 2008, Hiddenite, NC - Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society.** 20th Annual Hiddenite Gem & Mineral Show. Hiddenite Center at Sulphur Springs Road. Hours: 27th, 12:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. and 28th, 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M. Contacts: Patty Arnold at 828.465.2769 or Roger Grinnell at 828.284.1521 or 828.675.9281.

**October 16-18, 2008, Franklin, NC – Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC.** Leaflookers Gemboree. Macon County Community Facilities Building, U.S. 441 South. Hours: 16th-17th, 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.; 18th, 12:00 Noon – 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Fredplesner at 828.349.4224 or [willa@dnet.net](mailto:willa@dnet.net) or Linda Harbuck at 800.336.7829 or [lindah@franklin-chamber.com](mailto:lindah@franklin-chamber.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 [osjwb@datasync.com](mailto:osjwb@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).

**November 22-23, 2008, West Palm Beach, FL - Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches.** 42nd Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead and Fossil Show. Americraft Expo Center East (South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd. Hours: 22nd, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. and 23rd, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contact: Carl Bengtson at [gemandmineral@bellsouth.net](mailto:gemandmineral@bellsouth.net). Website: <http://www.gemandmineral.cc>.

**November 28-30, 2008, Columbia, SC - Columbia, SC Gem & Mineral Society.** 41st Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show 2008. South Carolina State Museum, 301 Gervais St. Hours: Not Provided - call contact. Contacts: Sharon Sterrett at 803.356.1472 or [ssterrett@sc.rr.com](mailto:ssterrett@sc.rr.com) or Susan Shrader at 803.736.9317 or [ashrader@mindspring.com](mailto:ashrader@mindspring.com).

**November 28-30, 2008, Mobile, AL - Mobile Rock and Gem Society.** 14th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral and Fossil Show. Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds at Cody and Zeigler Roads. Hours: 28th, 2:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.; 29th, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 30th, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contact: Doug Shaw at 251.344.9986.

**December 5-7, 2008, Montgomery, AL - Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society.** 38th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive. Hours: 5th, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 6th, 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 7th, 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Jane Barkley at 334.277.2722 or Iris McGehee at 334.262.7275.

**January 16-18, 2009, Largo, FL-Pinellas Geological Society.** 33rd Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale, Parkside Room, Largo Cultural Center. Hours: 16th & 17th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 18th, 12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M. Contact: Hugh Sheffield @727.897.2440.

**February 13-15, 2009, Merritt Island, FL-Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club.** 32nd Annual Symphony of Gemstones Show, Kiwanis Island Park, 950 Kiwanis Park Rd. Hours: 13th, 1:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.; 14th & 15th, 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: 321.153.6379.

**Rocky Mountain Federation****2008 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS**

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**  
Nashville, Tennessee  
December 13, 2008

**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

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-To Be Determined-

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