UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS


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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Prez Rambles On . . .

All things come to an end. As my term ends and I reflect back on the year there have been some highlights and some tough spots. Over all I've enjoyed the ride. I am looking forward to my new office – Past President or Chief Complainer. Once I make it thru the annual meeting, I'll be able to say it's been a fun ride.

I started at the beginning of the year offering a $100 prize to the club that sent the most representatives to the workshops. Two of the workshops were at the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, Georgia. The other two workshops were at the Wildacres Retreat near Spruce Pine, GA. After personally attending all four workshops and verifying that all these people were there, the prize goes to the – drum roll please, sound the trumpets!! – Canaveral GMS in Melbourne, Florida. If my memory serves me correctly, they had a total of 29 students at the four workshops. In addition a few of their members were also instructors. My hat goes off to this very active club for their participation in the Southeast Federation Education Program. Only the Tri-State club which is the club based at William Holland had anywhere near the numbers. I'll be presenting the club with a personal check at the annual meeting.

I forgot to count how many clubs were represented but I would guess it was close to 30, maybe 35 clubs. Maybe I’ll dig that out and see what it was. For those clubs that didn’t come, I hope you will make plans to join us next year. This was my first year to attend. I had so much fun with the classes I took and the people I met, I’m planning at least two weeks next year. I can’t afford all four but wish I could. It’s a good break from work. My career is in the information technology field, so the workshops were a great stress reliever for me as well. While I spent a lot of money supporting the auctions, my instructors and some of the tailgaters, the weeks were still a bargain for what I got. If you dumped the change out of your pocket or purse every day, you could save enough in a year to attend one of the workshops. Throw in a yard sale and you’ve covered your class fees. Plans are being finalized for next year’s workshops so start making your plans now.

I want to thank our Education Chair Julia Larson, Workshop Directors Pat Davis and Danny Griffin, Registrars B. J. Gearhart and Denise Talbott for a most excellent job planning and executing our workshops this year. I also want to thank Kathy Morris for her role in planning the workshops before she took a job at William Holland. I very much appreciate all the work these people did for our workshops and the success. Without their planning and execution we wouldn’t be able to have the workshops. I also want to thank those that served as auctioneers at the workshops. I don’t remember all their names or I would mention them here. Without the auctioneers, we wouldn’t have the extra money to pay for part of the gas the instructors used getting to the workshops, most of them overloaded with tools and material for the classes. We had

(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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2008 SFMS OFFICERS

The article submittal due date for the January 2009 Lodestar is December 25, 2008.

(No exceptions!)

Copyright© 2008 by the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, inc. Except for items that are specifically copyrighted by their authors, other societies may use material published in Lodestar provided that proper credit is given and the sense or meaning of the material is not changed. - Editor: Carolyn L. Daniels
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE  
(Continued from Page 1)

some very successful auctions this year. I also want to thank all our instructors. The pay isn’t the greatest, but I hope the reward of passing the skills of our hobby to the students is. While gas was near $4 a gallon this summer, some of them had additional unexpected expenses. Without our instructors we wouldn’t be able to have classes as I don’t think the students would want to teach themselves. I also want to thank the students. Again with gas prices so high, it took about twice as much to get there as it would now. It was great to see everyone enjoying their classes in spite of the additional cost. Without our students we wouldn’t have a need for the instructors, auctioneers, directors, registrars, and education chair. Which brings us back around the circle. Make your plans to attend the workshops in 2009. It will be worth your time and money. And you don’t have to spend as much money as I did, it just makes it all that much more fun. Or should I say it’s more funner!!!

I know you’ll join me in welcoming the new officers for next year. I hope you’ll lend our incoming President Betty James the same wonderful support you’ve given me. Since I’ll be leading the nominating committee next year, I hope some of you will either volunteer or heed the call to fill either an officer position or a committee position. It’s vital that we have the involvement and participation of as many clubs in the federation as possible. Involvement is the best way I know to get to know people. Meeting and getting to know some of you has been my favorite part of being an officer.

While were here, I want to thank Carolyn Daniels for the excellent job she does with the newsletter in spite of some of us being late, sometimes very late getting our information to her. As a former editor I had planned to meet her deadline every month. Did it happen? Ask Carolyn. On second thought don’t, you might get an earful of adjectives you didn’t know existed. I do appreciate her putting up with me and the others that didn’t get our information to her in a timely manner. I apologize to you Carolyn, but thank you from the bottom of my heart for being our editor. I know it’s a thankless job sometimes, but it’s a very vital one. Thank you very much Carolyn!!!

One last note, I would like to thank Don and Ann Monroe for helping to keep me on track. Ann has been especially helpful by reminding me of things that needed to be done and both of them have been helpful in finding people to fill some of the federation positions. Thanks Don and Ann!!!

Enough of the rambling already!!! I’ll see you around. After all I’ve got to be around to complain about the way things are going in my role as Past President or at least that’s what some of the past presidents told me.

Steve Henegar  
SFMS President

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

Anatomy of an Accident

There are times when each of us is so close when an accident occurs that we later feel that surely there was something we could have done to stop or prevent it.

That is exactly what happened during the last hours of the last class of the last week of school at William Holland this year. Ann and I were teaching an advanced silver class (Channel) when it happened. Ann was assisting a student who was frantically trying to polish a rather large piece of jewelry and I was standing about 6 feet away. Ann was making the “last pass” across the piece trying to remove that last little, maddening, scratch. She was using an 8” flat lap covered with a piece of chamois. The piece of jewelry had an irregular shape with an edge that resembled a saw with teeth that were somewhat sharp. The polishing material was coated with wet cerium oxide.

Without warning, the polishing lap snagged the piece of jewelry and slashed the end of Ann’s finger cutting it around the periphery almost all the way around. I saw it happen and followed Ann out of the room to inspect the damage.

The cut was very deep and the blood was flowing vigorously. I had snatched up a tube of super glue on my way out of the room and we used pressure to slow the bleeding while I applied the super glue which is our favorite remedy for clean cuts. I had some success but, as luck would have it, we had three nurses among the students in the class. Unfortunately, although I was doing a great job with my approach, the nurses were insisting that Ann should go to the emergency room. I was totally outvoted and took my patient to the hospital in the next town. The emergency room nurse that checked us in quietly stated that the super glue was doing great but since we were there, Ann should see the doctor. This doctor was pretty good, maybe even better than I am (my grandfather was a doctor) and he used 7 stitches since the cut went almost all the way around the finger.

Now, let’s talk about how this thing happened and what mistakes were made which resulted in the accident:

1. In the first place, the piece of jewelry was entirely too large for the lap that we were using. It was our fault because we did not insist that the student make a smaller piece.
2. In the second place, we all got in too big a hurry. We should have declared that the piece must be finished later.
3. We should have used leather Rather than chamois to polish.

We could nitpick this situation forever but there are lessons to be learned and we must recognize that none of us are exempt from using poor judgment.
SFMS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2009 workshop schedule will be published in the January 2009 edition of Lodestar. The price remains $310 for an entire week of no cooking, no cleaning, no dishwashing, lots of friends both new and old, and the opportunity to take a great class. Last year we ran out of bedrooms and had to turn folks away at the last minute. Please send your registration early so you will not be disappointed.

I have been informed that Danny Griffin will assume the position of SFMS Education Chair effective January 1, 2009. Danny was the director for the Wildacres workshops last year, and will be an excellent Education Chair. Please give him your support and good wishes as he tackles this challenging job.

Julia Larson
SFMS Education Chair

SFMS Conservation & Legislation Committee Report

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
Annual Meeting
December 13, 2008
Nashville, Tennessee

The senate has before it a bi-partisan package known as the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2008. This Act is a sweeping package that contains numerous “bills” that will add millions of acres of new wilderness and other public lands to the areas now under government protection. The public lands that are designated as Wilderness Areas and National Parks are already “off limits” for all practical purposes for most types of recreational activities.

Besides the millions of acres that will be added by this package of bills to the Wilderness Areas and National Parks, a new entity will be established known as the "National Landscape Conservation System" which will essentially place an additional 26 million acres of public lands under control of BLM. It is to be regulated and control in a manner very similar to the "National Parks" and will eliminate or severely limit any type of recreational mining (rock-hounding) plus a host of other pursuits.

The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, HR554, which was resurrected earlier this year and approved by committee has also been added to the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2008. It can be found in the package as an attachment under Subtitle E--Paleontological Resources Preservation, Sections 641 to 652. This is a dangerous part of the package that is going to hurt a lot of innocent people.

The environmentalists are also working diligently at having states and large private land owners convert their properties into wilderness areas similar to the ones controlled by the U.S. government. They are well organized and financed, which in many cases allows them to exert considerable pressure on state and private land owners. If they are successful, it is going to further limit many areas that can be used for recreational purposes.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 originally consisted of 9.1 million acres of national forest wilderness areas. As of 2004, the Wilderness System comprises over 107 million acres involving federal lands administered by four agencies: the National Park Service (43,616,250 acres), U.S. Forest Service (34,867,591 acres), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (20,699,108 acres), and Bureau of Land Management (6,512,227 acres) for a total of 107,436,608 acres. Using these figures as a reference, I think we can safely assume that the areas being set aside for The National Landscape Conservation System will grow accordingly and the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, if passed into law, will be substantially expanded over the coming years.

The Senate Majority Leader, Senator Harry Reid had planned to bring this bill before the Senate for a vote during the “lame duck session” following the national elections, but with the threat of a filibuster and economic issues deemed more urgent, he decided to pull the bill for the time being. There is still a slim chance that the Omnibus Land Bill could be acted on, but since this is a bi-partisan bill, it may be allowed to die and a more liberal version conceivably written next year. In the mean time we may still have a small window of opportunity to let our congressional men and women know that we are opposed to this legislation.

The 2008 SFMS ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

On behalf of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. we are pleased to announce the winner of this year’s Federation Rockhound of The Year. Well-known rockhound Mr. Dewey Moss of Huntsville, Al. was presented a plaque in recognition of his contributions to our beloved hobby, at the Federation banquet and awards ceremony in Nashville on Dec. 13, 2008. At the bottom of this page you will find the nomination for winner Mr. Dewey Moss.

We appreciate the efforts of 24 different clubs taking the time to submit nominations for Rockhound of The Year. It was an extremely difficult decision to pick a winner from the nominations, all of which were exceptional in their own.

(Continued on Page 5)
2008 SFMS ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR
(Continued from Page 4)

Each club which made a nomination received a certificate of recognition for their nominee. The State of Alabama was the only state in which ALL clubs tendered nominations.

The 24 clubs which made nominations are listed below:

1. Rockhounds of Central Kentucky, Lexington, KY
2. Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society, Melbourne, Fl
3. Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society, Greenville, S.C.
4. Chattanooga Geology Club, Chattanooga, TN
5. Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society, Lynn Haven, FL
6. Cotton Indian Gem & Mineral Society, Stockbridge, GA
7. Panama City Gem & Mineral Society, Panama City, FL
8. Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society, Birmingham, AL
9. Miss. Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society, Ocean Springs, MS
10. Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society, Macon, GA
11. Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Mobile, AL
12. Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, Huntsville, AL
15. Playground Gem & Mineral Society, Ft. Walton Beach, FL
17. Dothan Gem & Mineral Society, Dothan, AL
18. Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society, Bay St. Louis, MS
19. Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society, Montgomery, AL
20. Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA
21. Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society, Marietta, GA
22. East Alabama Gem & Mineral Society, Opelika, AL
23. Augusta Gem & Mineral Society, Augusta, GA

The Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society nominates Dewey Moss, 4004 Pine Avenue, Huntsville (256-534-4383) for Rockhound of the Year:

The nominee was a founding father of our club, and has been an active and informed member for over 50 years. He has traveled nation-wide pursuing the lapidary hobby, and is an expert lapidary craftsman and artist. He has been active in the Federation at all levels, and has published in Lapidary Journal and other publications on several occasions. The nominee has been and is a mentor for club members and school children. His overflowing "Rock Shop" has been a favorite gathering place for rockhounds over the years, and a "Mecca" for school and Scout outings. He has an inexhaustible energy and generosity for sharing his love for the hobby with children and adults alike, and he has donated tons of material to children and visitors over the years. Fourth graders in the city school system are introduced to Earth Science, and last year, he again provided minerals for them to "mine" in their studies about the natural, economic resources of our state. He developed a very fond and special relationship with a regional camp and school for "troubled" youths. These youth come from across the country, many from urban or inter-city environments. Rural Alabama is a vast new experience for them, and our nominee has spent much time with them conducting programs, leading field trips, and providing lapidary awards for their accomplishments. Though these programs, he has introduced youngsters to the beauty and wonders of nature that they had never experienced, and, in the process, taught them that people, like rocks, while sometimes crusty and soiled on the outside, can be lovely gems on the inside. He is an authority on Paint Rock Agate, having prospected the vast majority of sites in that region. He has been a tireless worker, serving in every office, performing every function, however demanding or menial, and participating in every show that the club has sponsored for 40 years. Though 86 years of age, as every year, he was an active participant in last year's show entering displays, giving cabochoon making demonstrations, and teaching over 400 excited children about rocks and the lapidary arts. He has been active in his church and community. He has donated mineral and fossil displays for local museums and for the regional State Visitor's Center. The nominee is a friend to all, and one of the greatest advocates and ambassadors for the rockhounding hobby. It is with great pride that we nominate him, not only for his contributions for the year, but, rather for half a century of outstanding, dedicated promotion of all that is best in rockhounding.

Dewey Moss receiving the 2008 SFMS Rockhound of the Year Award at the Annual Meeting/Banquet. Left to right are: Steve Henegar (SFMS President), Dewey Moss, and Beth Moss (Dewey's wife). Photo by Herb Whittington.
WORDS OF CAUTION
By John M. Wright, RPG
AFMS Conservation & Legislation Chairman

By the time you read this article the national elections should be over and regardless of the outcome we are going to be facing the possibilities of significant changes in our access to public lands. The senate has before it a bipartisan package known as the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2008. This Act is a sweeping package that contains numerous “bills” that will add millions of acres of new wilderness and other public lands to the areas now under government protection.

Senate Majority Leader, Senator Harry Reid may call the Senate back for a “lame duck session” to vote on this bill after the national elections. Since this is a bipartisan bill, it may be allowed to die if the Democrats win a substantial number of seats and a more liberal version could conceivably be written next year.

Besides the thousands of acres that will be added to the Wilderness Areas and National Parks, a new entity will be established known as the National Landscape Conservation System. This will essentially place an additional 26 million acres of public lands to be controlled by BLM under a “National Park” type system which will eliminate or severely limit any type of recreational mining. The public lands that are designated as Wilderness Areas are already “off limits” for all practical purposes for most types of recreational activity. The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, HR554, which was resurrected again earlier this year and approved by committee, could conceivably be added to the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2008.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 originally consisted of 9.1 million acres of national forest wilderness areas. As of 2004, the Wilderness System comprises over 107 million acres involving federal lands administered by four agencies: the National Park Service (43,616,250 acres), U.S. Forest Service (34,867,591 acres), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (20,699,108 acres), and Bureau of Land Management (6,512,227 acres) for a total of 107,436,608 acres. Using these figures as a reference, I think we can safely assume the areas set aside for The National Landscape Conservation System will grow accordingly and the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, if passed into law, will be substantially expanded over the coming years.

The environmentalists are also working diligently at having states and large private land owners convert their properties into wilderness areas similar to the ones owned by the U.S. government. The environmentalists are well organized and financed, which in many cases allows them to exert considerable pressure on land owners. This is going to further limit many areas that can be used for recreational purposes.

AFMS 2009 Webmasters Contest
by Phyllis George
AFMS Webmasters Contest Chair

We are working at a feverish pace to get this new contest up and running. The Webmasters Contest Committee Members (one for each regional federation) are in place, and they are the ones running the Webmasters Contest for their regional federation. The Committee Members receive the entries, they forward the entries to the judges for that region, they receive from the judges the completed score sheets, and they rank the results and award the first-place plaque and the certificates (places one through ten and honorable mention) at the Bulletin Editors’ Breakfast at their regional federation’s annual show. The first-place entry is forwarded to the AFMS level for judging. Currently the Committee Members are notifying webmasters in their region and the regional newsletter editor about the details of the contest, of the due date for entries, and of the schedule for their regional contest.

Members of the Webmasters Contest Committee are as follows:

California Federation (CFMS): Merryan O’Neill mvoneill@comcast.net
Eastern Federation (EFMS): Dan Imel lapidry@aol.com
Midwest Federation (MWFMGS): Cindy Root d-root@sbcglobal.net
Northwest Federation (NFMS): Cheri George lizardwoman3@yahoo.com
Rocky Mountain Federation (RMFMS): Phyllis George pgeorge4@comcast.net
South Central Federation (SCFMS): Don Shurtz don.shurtz@gmail.com
Southeast Federation (SFMS): Jim Flora jimflora@alltel.net

Contact the Committee Member for your region for information about the contest and the deadlines. This information varies by region according to when their annual show is scheduled. Since I had no takers for the RMFMS position, I’m going to fill it myself. The deadline for RMFMS entries to be sent to me is January 15, 2009.

Webmasters wishing to enter their Web sites into the

(Continued on Page 9)
AFMS Webmasters Contest 2009 Entry Form

Required Information
Webmaster’s Name: ___________________________ E-mail Address ______________________
Club’s Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State: ______ Zip: __________________________
Regional Federation(s): ☐ CFMS ☐ EFMLS ☐ MWF ☐ NFMS ☐ RMFMS ☐ SCFMS ☐ SFMS
Web site URL: http://
Webmaster’s position: ☐ Board Member ☐ Chair ☐ Other (Specify) ______________________
                      ☐ Elected ☐ Appointed ☐ Just do it ☐ Other (Specify) ______________________
Does you club have an annual show? _____ (Y/N)
Are visitors allowed at your club meetings? _____ (Y/N)
Is your club a Not-For-Profit organization (noncommercial, not necessarily a 501(c)3)? _____ (Y/N)
Policies prohibiting publication of any information on the Web site:
________________________________________________________________________
Do you have a private section on the Web site or other Internet site (Yahoo, Google, etc.) for members only? _____ (Y/N)
If so, provide temporary login information for judging if desired:
________________________________________________________________________
Any other information that might not be obvious (private sections, etc.):
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Optional Requested Information
Hosting Company URL: http://
Software used for creating Web site: __________________________________________
Other software used: ________________________________________________________
Your Computer Operating System (Windows, Mac, Linux, etc.):
________________________________________________________________________
Estimated annual cost of the Web site: _________________________________________

The webmaster is a member of the club sponsoring the Web site and is not paid for his or her services. The Web site has not been designed or created by an outside professional firm. Failure to comply disqualifies an entry.

All of the foregoing information is accurate. ___________________________________ Webmaster’s signature
AFMS Webmasters Contest 2009 Score Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name: __________________________</th>
<th>State: _____</th>
<th>URL: http://________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Prerequisites on Home Page
   A. Club name 25 Points ☐
   B. Club city and state 25 Points ☐

2. Prerequisites on Home Page, Contact, About or similar page
   A. Contact information of at least an e-mail address plus a telephone number or mailing address 25 Points ☐

3. Regional Federation Information (Maximum points – 4)
   A. Affiliation mentioned 1 point
   B. Regional Federation name listed 1 point
   C. Regional Federation logo 1 point
   D. Regional Federation link (must work) 1 point

4. American Federation Information (Maximum points – 4)
   A. Affiliation mentioned 1 point
   B. AFMS name listed 1 point
   C. AFMS logo 1 point
   D. AFMS link (must work) 1 point

5. Vital Information (Maximum points – 24)
   A. Club Mission or purpose statement 3 points
   B. Regular meeting(s) date, time, and location 5 points
   C. Statement concerning whether visitors are welcome at meetings 3 points
   D. Youth programs or youth participation 2 points
   E. Webmaster contact information (including functional e-mailing capability) 2 points
   F. Working e-mail to main club contact with reasonable response time 4 points
   G. Show information completeness (No deductions if No Show specified on application) 5 points

6. Membership (Maximum points – 11)
   A. Membership application 3 points
   B. Membership benefits 4 points
   C. Information for members (shop information, newsletters, etc) 3 points
   D. Community Service (presentations, demonstrations, scouts, scholarships, donations, etc.) 1 point

7. Functionality (Maximum points – 20)
   A. Web site menu links function properly 5 points
   B. Ease of navigating Web site 4 points
   C. Loading speed of Home Page 2 points
   D. Links to relevant Web sites 4 points
   E. Links to club Web site from other relevant Web sites 4 points
   F. Relevant links from an external Web site to club Web site should not be a dead end page 1 point

8. Completeness and quality (Maximum points – 37)
   A. Telephone numbers include area codes 2 points
   B. Information on the main pages appears up-to-date 2 points
   C. Use of club logo 2 points
   D. Common information on pages (Club name, URL, etc.) 2 points
   E. Appropriate use of links 4 points
   F. No apparent copyright violations 2 points
   G. Readability (including font size and contrast of the text with its background) 2 points
   H. Good use of graphics (including size - overly large graphics load slowly) 2 points
   I. Limited or no commercial advertising 2 points
   J. Information fulfills needs of Web site visitors 2 points
   K. Overall appearances and attractiveness 5 points
   L. Lack of other obvious problems (specify) 5 points
   M. Outstanding features (specify) (Note: Default awarded points = 0) 5 points

Total Prerequisite Deductions: ______ Total Points Awarded (100 Max): _______ Total Score: _______
AFMS 2009 Webmasters Contest

(Continued from Page 6)

contest should download from the AFMS Web site (or from their regional federation’s Web site) the contest Guidelines, the Entry Form, and the Score Sheet form. These are in PDF format, and they can be opened with Adobe Acrobat Reader®. Free Acrobat Reader software is available at:


The contest information on the AFMS Web site can be found at:


(An entry form and score sheet are provided on pages 7 and 8 of this issue of Lodestar. - SFMS editor)

To enter the contest, the webmaster needs to fill out the Entry Form completely and fill out the information requested in the top part of the Score sheet. These forms can be filled-in on your computer and saved to your hard drive. *Note: You need Acrobat Reader version 8 or later to be able to save the forms to your hard drive once you fill them in.* Send the two completed forms as e mail attachments to your regional Committee Member before the due date in your region.

My plan is to have two judges for each regional competition (their scores for each contestant will be averaged) and one judge for the AFMS level. Each pair of judges probably will be judging two different regions, but they will not be judging their own region. Right now I have a total of eight judges. If I can get seven more judges, each pair would judge the entrants from only one regional federation.

**Update on 2008 Junior of the Year (JOY) Award**

The application for Junior of the Year (JOY) was published in the March 2008 Lodestar. In subsequent issues, updates were published. I promoted the JOY program at each SFMS meeting encouraging each member club and society to have junior members complete the Junior of the Year application form and mail to me. The deadline was a postmark no later than November 7, 2008. First and second place minerals were purchased and ready for presentation to the 2008 JOY recipient. However, it is with disappointment that I must inform the SFMS membership that no JOY applications were received.

After questioning a few juniors, I have concluded that there is a misunderstanding that the award is too hard to obtain. The form has been intimidating for some of the junior rockhounds. With this in mind, I have generated a suggestion for a new format. There is very little modification to the criteria except for clarification or simplification. A copy of the suggested format is provided in this Lodestar. I consider the format is more “user-friendly.” If the new format is passed, I will post the final version in the next Lodestar.

**YOUTH FEDERATION WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIPS for 2009**

Please encourage your juniors to apply for the Youth scholarships. See the criteria below. Don’t let them miss out!

Requirements for Junior Scholarships for 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 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.
- **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
APPLICATION FOR SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2009

NOTE: All participants receive an award, with special recognitions for the two top honorees.

NAME________________________ AGE________________

ADDRESS____________________________________________________

PHONE__________________ EMAIL ________________________________

PARENT/GUARDIAN________________________________________________

I, ________________________________, certify that I am a junior* rockhound member in good standing of the ________________________________

(Gem and Mineral Club/Society), which is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS). I am a paid member throughout the calendar year 2009. All of the points on this application are for activities between November 1, 2008 and October 31, 2009.

All entries are true and correct.

* Each club may set its own age limits, but for SFMS purposes a junior is defined as a member under 18 years old.

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, 2009
ALL MATERIAL MUST BE POSTMARKED BY NOVEMBER 7, 2009

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

THE JUNIOR OF THE YEAR (JOY) WINNER AND PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE DECEMBER 2009 LODESTAR
### SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2009 CRITERIA

For clarification, you may list, identify, or describe activities and the points on a separate sheet(s) of paper.

*For example: Attended two adult meetings: May 2008 (5 points), July 2008 (2 points) etc.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Point Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Junior member of ____________________________ (Rock and Mineral Club/Society), a member of SFMS (5 points per club) * Each club may set its own age limits, but for SFMS purposes a junior is defined as a member under 18 years old</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2  Attended adult meeting</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(First one only counts as 5 points, unless there is no junior meeting. See #3.)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3  Attended additional adult meeting (2 points each) or</td>
<td>2 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No junior meeting, each additional adult meeting (5 points each)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4  Attended junior meetings/workshops (5 points each)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5  Served as an officer position or committee member in local adult or junior society</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6  Presented in local adult or junior society (5 points each presentation)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7  Visited gem and mineral club shows, other than own club or society</td>
<td>10 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock, gem, fossil or earth museum, national park, or other lapidary-related exhibit (Obtain and show ticket or program. 10 points each)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8  Attended field trips: junior club, local club, Dixie Mineral Council-sponsored, family field trip, or field trip other than those listed above that are related to the SFMS mission (15 points each)</td>
<td>15 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9  Demonstrated the “Each One Teach One” program For example: gem trees, wire wrapping (10 points per occasion)</td>
<td>10 x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Sponsored a new junior or adult member (5 points per person)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Attended a meeting to introduce new member (5 points per person)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Presented hobby at school or in other groups. (5 points per occasion)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Must be verified by the adult in charge.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Exhibited in school, regional or state science fairs related to our hobby or federation purposes (20 points per occasion)</td>
<td>20 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Exhibited in your club show</td>
<td>20 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Worked at the annual club show (5 points per verified hour)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PUBLICATIONS**

Note: Articles accepted by the Editor, but not yet published by October 2008 can be counted for either 2008 or 2009, but for one year only.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Published in your club bulletin: a report on junior club meeting, workshop, or field trip (10 points per article)</td>
<td>10 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Published in your club bulletin: well-researched educational article on some phase of our hobby or the earth sciences. (25 points per article) Accurate information, references required</td>
<td>25 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Won regional or national award for articles published in a club bulletin (25 points for each such recognition) Note: You may receive points for publication of an article one year and receive points for the same article for recognition the next year</td>
<td>25 x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS**

**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.

*Use additional sheet of paper, if necessary.*
SFMS APPLICATION FOR 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Club/Society Name ________________________________

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Due January 1, 2009 through January 31, 2009

In compliance with SFMS By-laws Article I, Section 2, and Article VIII, Section 1, member clubs/societies desiring to renew membership are required to submit to Membership Secretary the following:

Completed Membership Renewal Application (all 3 pages) with the Annual Dues Check attached (No cash please), based on total members, both Adults & Juniors, on Club/Society rolls as of December 31, 2008.

Annual Dues: Total Number of Adult Members ______________

Total Number of Junior Members ______________

*Total Dues Enclosed @ $1.00 per member ______________

*Does not include insurance fees, which will be billed separately.

Mail Check, payable to the Southeast Federation or SFMS along with all 3 pages of the Renewal Application and a current list of your members to the following address:

Ray Behr
SFMS MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
PO Box 30
Franklin, NC 28744

According to SFMS By-laws, Article VIII, Section 1 --- Membership renewals are due between January 1, 2009 through January 31, 2009, and are delinquent as of February 1, 2009. Delinquent clubs/societies forfeit voting rights at the next Annual Meeting, use of Slide Programs, the right to participate in the Federation’s sponsored third-party liability insurance program, the rights of their members to participate in DMC field trips, the rights of their members to attend SFMS sponsored workshops, and receipt of Lodestar, the SFMS federation newsletter. A club/society delinquent membership may be reinstated to full SFMS Membership upon payment of all dues and fees in arrears before March 1, 2009. Any club/society not paying all dues and fees in arrears before March 1, 2009, will be dropped from federation rolls. They may be readmitted as a new club/society by submission of an Application for Membership.

Non-paid clubs are delinquent on February 1, 2009
SFMS APPLICATION FOR 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name of Club/Society

Club Mailing Address

City State Zip

Club/Society Web Site Email

Meeting Place (facility) Day Time

City State Zip

Bulletin Name Published: Monthly __ Bimonthly __

Editor Quarterly __ Other __

Phone number Email

Street Address

City State Zip

Person in your Club/Society who is Federation Liaison in your Club/Society

Name Email

Street Address Telephone

City State Zip

Person in your Club/Society to receive renewal form(s) for next year

Name Email

Street Address Telephone

City State Zip

Do you wish to participate in the optional third party insurance program? Yes___ No___

Contact Name Email

Street Address Telephone

City State Zip

Please indicate which of the following club officers elect to receive the SFMS
LODESTAR via email:

Pres. ___ Sec. ___ Program Chair ___ Editor ___

Please indicate which 3 officers wish to receive the AFMS Newsletter:

Pres. ___ Recording Sec ___ Corresponding Sec ___ Treasurer ___ Editor ___ AFMS Liaison ___

ELECTED OFFICIALS
(List all officers Elected by membership vote & title of office held)

Month Officers Elected ___________ Month Officers take office ______________

Officers are elected: Annually ___ Other (be specific) ___________

President Email

Street Address Telephone

City State Zip

1st Vice President Email

Street Address Telephone

City State Zip
SFMS APPLICATION FOR 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

2nd Vice President
Street Address
City

Email
Telephone
State Zip

Corresponding Secretary
Street Address
City

Email
Telephone
State Zip

Recording Secretary
Street Address
City

Email
Telephone
State Zip

Treasurer
Street Address
City

Email
Telephone
State Zip

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program Chair
Street Address
City

Email
Telephone
State Zip

Committee
Name
Email
Street Address
City

Telephone
State Zip

Committee
Name
Email
Street Address
City

Telephone
State Zip

Committee
Name
Email
Street Address
City

Telephone
State Zip

Please include other officers such as directors, etc. and other pertinent information about your club or society on a separate sheet of paper.

CLUB SPONSORED SHOW(S)

Show Director
Street Address
City

Email
Telephone
State Zip

Show Dates & Times:
Show location & Address
Day 1 Day 2 Day 3 Day 4

Show location & Address
Day 1 Day 2 Day 3 Day 4

Signature of person submitting this application

Office Held
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.

January 17-18, 2009, Deland, FL—Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society. 37th Annual Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show and Sale, Volusia County Fairground, Tommy Lawrence Building, Slet Road 44. Hours: 17th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. and 18th, 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: Susie Morris at 388.788.5702 or smorris961@aol.com.

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.

February 21, 2009, Auburndale, FL—Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society. 5th Annual Rock Show and Sale, The Auburndale Beach Club (on Lake Ariana), 321 Ramsgate Road. Show contact: Jim Reed, Show Chair at 863.644.6665, rocks57@tampabay.rr.com.

March 13-15, 2009, Augusta, GA—Aiken Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Society and Augusta Gem and Mineral Society. 21st Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem and Mineral Show. Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad Street. Hours: 13th & 14th, 10:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.; 15th, 11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: Herman Kunis at a-a.gmf.show@att.net.

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 901.274.7708.

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.
### Lodestar Subscription

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

*Make checks payable to Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies*

Mail to SFMS Editor: Carolyn L. Daniels, 3660 Prince Way, Tucker, GA 30084-8317

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<th>Recorded:</th>
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