



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

*Mark Easterbrook*



I am so grateful to have served as your President for 2010. It has been a challenging year. I have made a lot of new rockhounding friends. I want to thank each of the committee chairs for their service to the SFMS this year. We certainly couldn't function without you.

This year has been a real learning curve for me and I appreciate the patience you have shown and the advice you have given. It has not gone unnoticed. I started out the year with a sort of challenge for better communication within and between the SFMS and the member clubs. I wanted to try and create more interaction between the member clubs and the SFMS through better communication and involvement. I do see some improvement in this area through meeting attendance. But, we still have much more to go. It is the job of all Federation Liaison folks to become more active in communicating news and information about the SFMS to club membership in order to create more enthusiasm in what your Federation can do for each and everyone one of us. Communication and interaction with the SFMS officers, Committee Chairs, and Members involves patience, perseverance, and encouragement. We may not always agree completely, but we can compromise for the betterment of the SFMS and our individual clubs.

The meetings and field trips have allowed clubs spread throughout our Federation to get together to share ideas, stories, renew acquaintances, and swap specimens. This face-to-face interaction helps us all to work together better. This is why I encourage club members to become more involved within their own clubs and within the SFMS. After all, why did we join our clubs in the first place?

I want to thank our Education Chair Danny Griffin, Workshop Directors Roy Deere and Steve Henegar, Registrars B. J. Gearhart and Lisa Roberts for a great job in planning and executing our SFMS workshops this year. Sure, there were some challenges and attendance was down for some workshops, but I am confident that with a turn-around in the economy, attendance will increase. I do appreciate all the effort that these dedicated folks did for our workshops this year. Without their planning and execution we wouldn't be able to even have the workshops this year. So, make your plans to attend the SFMS workshops in 2011.

I would like to thank a few more folks who I have come to rely on for advice and support. First, I want to thank Carl

Talbott for the terrific job he does with the *Lodestar* in spite of some of us being late (especially me), sometimes very late getting our information to him. As an editor I can appreciate deadlines and Carl had to remind me on more than one occasion about his deadline. I would next like to recognize the efforts of Beryl Ferguson. As SFMS Secretary Beryl has gone above and beyond what her normal duties entail despite her physical setbacks this year. I can't thank her enough for what she does for the Federation. I would also 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 just listened to what was on my mind – thanks for being a sounding board. Both Don and Ann have been helpful in finding folks to fill some of the Federation positions. I want to thank Danny Griffin for all the long phone conversations we have had this past year bouncing around different ideas. To John Wright for all your advice regarding the boundary issues I thank you. To Ed Harris for keeping straight the SFMS books; you do a terrific job.

My new role starting next year will be as Past President, a position every President looks forward to fulfilling. I look forward to working with you and the new Officers in the upcoming years. I hope you will lend our incoming President Barbara Green the same wonderful support you've given me. Let's keep working together and continue to make the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies an organization dedicated to educating the rockhound community in the lapidary arts and geological sciences.

### Inside this Issue:

### Page

SFMS Officers and State Directors for 2010	2
Carl's Comments & Field Trips and Shows	3
Precious Opals and Why They Display Color	4
SFMS Membership Renewal Application	6
Be Safe - Be Well	9
Gold Coin Sellers Angered by New Tax Law	9
Enameling with Lynda Williams	10
SFMS Committee Chairs & Mayo Foundation Officials	11



# 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.*

## 2010 SFMS OFFICERS

### President

Mark Easterbrook  
6701 Dorchester Rd., Apt. 1007  
North Charleston, SC 29418  
843.552.1049  
[asgardsgc@earthlink.net](mailto:asgardsgc@earthlink.net)

### First Vice President

Barbara Green  
110 Sycamore Dr.  
Marietta, SC 29661  
864.836.5896  
[greenop@bellsouth.net](mailto:greenop@bellsouth.net)

### Second Vice President

Jason Hamilton  
7141 Natal Ave.  
Jacksonville, FL 32254  
904.786.7605  
[Jasons.designs@comcast.net](mailto:Jasons.designs@comcast.net)

### Secretary

Beryl Ferguson  
414 S. Ridgewood Ave.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
386.589.3583  
[crossbowcreations@yahoo.com](mailto:crossbowcreations@yahoo.com)

### Membership Secretary

Kerri Wetzel  
5010 Sunset Drive  
Easley, SC 29642  
864.306.6749  
[williampkerr@bellsouth.net](mailto:williampkerr@bellsouth.net)

### Treasurer

Ed Harris  
12520 Jeff Hamilton Rd.,  
Mobile, AL 36695  
251.865.9157  
[edharrisjr@mchsi.com](mailto:edharrisjr@mchsi.com)

### Assistant Treasurer

Paula Griffin  
1320 Byrd Cir.  
Kingston, TN 37763  
865.406.8802,  
[sfmsasstreas@yahoo.com](mailto:sfmsasstreas@yahoo.com)

### Editor

Carlos (Carl) M. Talbott, D.Sc.  
216 Spring View Drive  
Murphy, NC 28906  
828.494.7213  
[dtalbott@bellsouth.net](mailto:dtalbott@bellsouth.net)

### Immediate Past President

Betty M. James  
169-A Florence Circle  
Florence, MS 39073  
601.914.6747  
[mineralid@comcast.net](mailto:mineralid@comcast.net)

### AFMS 2nd Vice President

Ann Monroe  
350 Lapidary Lane  
Young Harris, GA. 30582  
706.379.9662  
[annmonroe@windstream.net](mailto:annmonroe@windstream.net)

### President: Mayo Education Foundation

William G. (Bill) Waggener  
1909 Moores Mill Rd.  
Atlanta, GA 30318-1309  
404.355.7377  
[wqwaggenerii@bellsouth.net](mailto:wqwaggenerii@bellsouth.net)

## 2010 SFMS STATE DIRECTORS



### Alabama

Iris McGehee  
2433 Upper Wetumpka Road  
Montgomery, AL 36107  
334.262.7275  
[irisjmcg@aol.com](mailto:irisjmcg@aol.com)

### Florida

Joe and Addy De Pietro  
P.O. Box 928,  
Frostproof, FL 33843  
863.635.5138  
[Mysticalmelts@verizon.net](mailto:Mysticalmelts@verizon.net)



### Georgia

Frank Decaminada  
795 Nile Dr.  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
770.992.8309  
[carrie128@comcast.net](mailto:carrie128@comcast.net)

### Kentucky

Allen Jewell  
P.O. Box 805  
Versailles, KY 40383  
859.873.8749  
[kyanageo@gmail.com](mailto:kyanageo@gmail.com)

### Louisiana

Dr. Bridget Joubert  
P.O. Box 5402  
Alexandria, LA 71307  
318.443.5184  
[jemarler@aol.com](mailto:jemarler@aol.com)

### Mississippi

Floy and Bill Hawkins  
P.O. Box 7312  
Tupelo, MS 38802  
662.844.7441  
[studiohawkins@gmail.com](mailto:studiohawkins@gmail.com)

### North Carolina

Mike Streeter  
7 English Place  
Candler, NC 28715  
828.667.8290  
[mcstreeter@charter.net](mailto:mcstreeter@charter.net)

### South Carolina

Fred Sias  
120 Holly Avenue  
Clemson, SC 29631  
864.540.6833  
[fredsias@gmail.com](mailto:fredsias@gmail.com)

### Tennessee

Marty Hart  
4935 Olivia Drive  
Antioch, TN 37013  
615.331.3570  
[sfms@gemizo.com](mailto:sfms@gemizo.com)

### Virginia

Steve Gordon  
213 Sugar Mill Drive  
Amherst, VA 24521  
434.929.1524  
[stevegordan@comcast.net](mailto:stevegordan@comcast.net)

**Articles for the January 2011 *Lodestar* are due by December 27, 2010.**

**CARL'S EDITORIAL COMMENTARY**

Precious opals with their play-of-color are often a sight to behold. How they get their varieties of color is discussed starting on Page 4 in an article by Sarah Lee Boyce and myself.

The Society/Club Membership Renewal form (3 pages in all) begins on Page 6. This form is due by Feb 1, 2011.

Our Safety Committee message on Page 9 is worth the read; my son-in-law nearly got nailed for a violation in North Carolina. Also on Page 9 is an ABC news article that may interest those of us that sell or purchase precious metals.

Finally, I've heard from the Directors of next year's William Holland Federation Workshops that some new courses will be offered in addition to the standard fare. Space permitting, each LODESTAR edition will highlight workshop courses such as on Page 10.

\*\*\*\*\*

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

**December 11-12, 2010:** Nashville, TN - Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society. 30th Annual Earth Treasures Show, Tennessee State Fairgrounds - Creative Arts Building, Nolensville Rd & Smith Ave, Nashville, TN (less than 1 mile off I-65 exit 81). Hours: Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5. Admission \$3, students 18 and under \$1, children under 12 free with adult. Contact show chair John Stanley at (615) 885-5704 or jstanley@picagroup.com

**Jan 14-16, 2011:** Largo, FL - The Pinellas Geological Society. 35th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5. Free admission. Contact Hugh Sheffield (727) 894-2440.

**Jan 15-16, 2011:** Deland, FL - The Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society. 40th Annual Jewelry, Gem, Minerals & Fossils Show and Sale, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Bldg, State Route 44 (1 mile east of I-4, Exit 118). Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Admission: \$4 children under 12 free. Contact Florence Nordquist (386) 226-4032 or fndesign@aol.com.

**Feb 12-13, 2011:** Merritt Island, FL - The Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club. Symphony of Gemstones, Kiwanis Island Park 951 Kiwanis Island. Hours: 12th & 13th 10-5.

**March 4-6, 2011:** St. Petersburg, FL - The Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society. 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show and Sale, The Minnreg Bldg, 6340 126th Ave N., Largo, FL 33773. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Hourly Door Prizes & Grand Drawing at end of show! Free Parking. Contact Bill Schmidt, Show Chair, 727 822-8279 or schmidwj@Eckerd.edu

**March 11-13, 2011:** Augusta, GA - Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society. 23rd Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad St. Hours: Fri & Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 10am-4 pm. Admission: \$3 Adult, children under 16 FREE with an adult. Contact: [www.aikengmfs.org](http://www.aikengmfs.org) or [www.augustagemandmineralsociety.org](http://www.augustagemandmineralsociety.org).

**March 12, 2011:** Bartow, FL - Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Society. Polk County Extension Service Building, Highway 17 S. Contact Cindy at 863-255-5256.

**Please Note**

To ensure your show is listed here, send a written notice to the Lodestar Editor: Carl Talbott, 216 Spring View Drive, Murphy, NC 28906 or e-mail [dtalbott@bellsouth.net](mailto:dtalbott@bellsouth.net). SFMS clubs/societies are also encouraged to register their event listings on the SFMS website at: [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms).

## MINERALS

### Precious Opals and Why They Display Color

Sarah Lee Boyce and Carl Talbott

Opal, a mineraloid of non-crystalline silicon dioxide and water, may be found in the fissures of common porous rocks such as sandstone, rhyolite, marl, and basalt as well as in fossils. Opal forms when large quantities of terrestrial waters wash over sandstone (or similar porous rock or fossil) and chemically weather it such that large quantities of dissolved silica percolate through the rock strata until it reaches an impervious level. As the silica solution comes to rest, it spreads out along this level, fills voids or cracks within the strata, and begins to solidify over time through evaporation.

Although Opal is said to have no crystalline structure, at the micro-level, one type of opal (known as Opal-AG) contains silica spheres with diameters on the order of 140 to 300 nanometers organized in a number of cubic or hexagonal close-packed-lattices (see Figure 1) that are several hundred times larger than the fundamental silica spheres. Water fills the space between the silica spheres, and when the spacing between packed planes of spheres is approximately one-half the wavelength of a visible light component, that wavelength light can be diffracted by the grating created by the stacked planes.

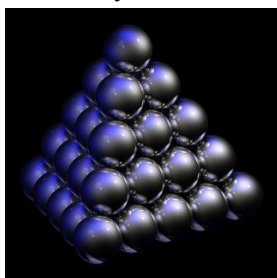


Figure 1:  
Close-Packed-Lattice Example

These internal colors, then, depend on the spacing between the planes (i.e. the size of the spheres) and their orientation with respect to light.<sup>1</sup> The observed color is related to the size of constituent spheres in each close-packed-lattice (i.e., blue wavelengths will be diffracted by the smaller sized spheres of approximately 140 nanometers diameter whereas red wavelengths will be diffracted by larger sized spheres of approximately 240 nanometers). First discovered and described by Australian researchers in 1965, this phenomenon is called a “play-of-color” or “fire” and is the hallmark of precious opal.<sup>2</sup>

Another type of opal (Opal-AN) is amorphous water-containing silica-glass, known as Hyalite,<sup>3</sup> which has a glassy and clear appearance with an internal play-of-color. Under long-wave blacklight, Hyalite glows bright green. If there is no presence of an internal play-of-color in either Opal-AG or Opal-AN, then these are called common opals even though the silica sphere structure may be present. The play-of-color in precious opal has color patches that often vary in size and shape and that change color as the direction of light sources, orientation of the opal, or direction of viewing is changed. This constitutes the opal’s “fire pattern” commonly classified into categories such as pinfire, flashfire, and harlequin.<sup>4</sup>

Since both Opal-AG and Opal-AN are both non-crystalline substances, in the presence of low levels of pressure or heat, they can gradually transform into Opal-CT and then into Opal-C both of which are microcrystalline in nature where the spheres of silica grow into blades of cristobalite and tridymite. These forms of opal have no play-of-color (and therefore are not precious opal) because the close-packed lattice structure is disrupted by the microcrystalline growth. Such microcrystalline chalcedony, for example, can be found in the Monterey formation on the coastal regions of south and central California where massive bands of opal have undergone this transformation.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, Oregon Thundereggs may have any one of a variety of Opal-CT

or Opal-C fillings that can be opaque blue, opaque red, translucent pastel blue, translucent yellow, translucent red, white, or colorless, and a small percentage may show a play-of-color being Opal-AG or Opal-AN.

In more recent news, NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) spacecraft has found evidence of hydrated silica (opal) on the planet Mars. According to Dr. Ralph Milliken of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the MRO has detected "numerous outcrops of opal-like minerals, commonly in thin layers extending for very long distances around the rim of Valles Marineris." This suggests that water remained on the Martian surface for an extended period of time. "What's important is that the longer liquid water existed on Mars, the longer the window during which Mars may have supported life," said Dr. Milliken. Rockhounds, on the other hand, may have something else in mind rather than life on Mars.

#### References:

1. Graetsch, H. (1994), "Structural Characteristics of opaline and microcrystalline silica minerals", "Silica, physical behavior, geochemistry and materials applications". *Reviews in Mineralogy*, Vol. 29, Editors PJ Heaney, Connecticut Prewitt, GV Gibbs, Mineralogical Society of America.
2. Downing, Paul B. (2007), Opal Identification and Value, Majestic Press, Estes Park, Colorado.
3. Pough, Frederick H. (1953), A Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals, Houghton Mifflin Co, New York.
4. Downing (2007), pp. 53-68.
5. Rogers, Austin F. (1928), "Natural History of the Silica Minerals", *American Mineralogist*, Vol. 13, pp. 73-92.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **A Note From Doug Arnold CFMS Bulletin Aids and SCRIBE President**

If you're headed to Quartzsite, Arizona this January, you have an opportunity to hear Rock & Gems Magazine senior editor Bob Jones. Jones will be the guest speaker at the SCRIBE meeting on January 22 at the Community building in Quartzsite.

SCRIBE is an international organization of current and former Bulletin Editors, Writers and Webmasters of amateur gem, mineral and earth science societies. The community center where the meeting will be held is on Moon Mountain Road just north of Main Street. There is a \$2 registration for the meeting which helps pay for refreshments and building rental. Registration begins at 9 a.m. MST which is 8 a.m. PST.

If you come, bring a rock or mineral with you to share. We always try to have a free drawing at the end of the meeting and hope to have enough rocks and minerals to share with everyone attending. Bring your bulletins, too, to share with the other editors.

This is a great opportunity to visit with collectors from all parts of the country. In the past we have had members from California, Arizona, North Carolina, Idaho, Washington State, Utah and even Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia, Canada.



S.F.M.S. APPLICATION FOR 2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL (Page 2 of 3)

Name of Club/Society
Club Mailing Address
City State Zip
Meeting Place (facility) Day Time
Street Address
City State Zip

Club/Society Web Site Club/Society Email
Webmaster Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

Bulletin Name Published: Monthly Bimonthly Quarterly Other
Editor Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

Please indicate which officers elect to receive the S.F.M.S. LOADSTAR via email:
President Recording Secretary Corresponding Secretary Treasurer Editor Other
Please indicate which 3 officers wish to receive the A.F.M.S. Newsletter:
President Recording Secretary Corresponding Secretary Treasurer Editor S.F.M.S. Liaison Other

ELECTED OFFICIALS (List all officers Elected by membership vote & title of office held)
Month Officers: Elected Take office Officers elected: Annually Other (be specific)

President
Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

1st Vice President
Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

2nd Vice President
Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

Corresponding Secretary
Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

Recording Secretary
Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

Treasurer
Phone Email
Street Address
City State Zip

### S.F.M.S. APPLICATION FOR 2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL (Page 3 of 3)

Do you wish to participate in the optional Liability Insurance program? Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_

If No, do you have liability insurance by EFMLS or a third party insurance? Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_

Insurance Liaison \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Person in your Club/Society to receive renewal form(s) for next year Renewal in 2012**

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Federation Liaison** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Youth Leader** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Committee** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Committee** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Committee** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**CLUB SPONSORED SHOW(S)**

**Show Chair** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Vender Chair** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Show Facility** \_\_\_\_\_ **Show Dates** \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Show Facility** \_\_\_\_\_ **Show Dates** \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of person submitting this application \_\_\_\_\_ Office Held \_\_\_\_\_

**BE SAFE – BE WELL**

Don Monroe & Linda Behr - Safety Committee

**New Traffic Law - "Move Over"**

New law: If a patrol car is pulled over to the side of the road, you have to change to the next lane (away from the stopped vehicle) or slow down to at least 20 mph under the posted speed limit. Every state except Hawaii and Maryland and the District of Columbia has this law. In California, the Move-Over law became operative on Jan 1, 2010.

A friend's son got \$754 ticket for this recently. A police car was on the side of the road giving a ticket to someone else. The boy slowed down to pass but did not move into the other lane. A second police car immediately pulled him over and gave him the ticket. The boy was unaware of this new law.

It is a fairly new law that states if any emergency vehicle is on the side of the road, if you are able, you are to move into the far lane. Please let everyone you know that drives about this new law.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Gold Coin Sellers Angered by New Tax Law Amendment Slipped Into Health Care Legislation Would Track, Tax Coin and Bullion Transactions**

By Rich Blake, July 21, 2010

Those already outraged by the president's health care legislation now have a new bone of contention -- a scarcely noticed tack-on provision to the law that puts gold coin buyers and sellers under closer government scrutiny. The issue is rising to the fore just as gold coin dealers are attracting attention over sales tactics.

Section 9006 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will amend the Internal Revenue Code to expand the scope of Form 1099. Currently, 1099 forms are used to track and report the miscellaneous income associated with services rendered by independent contractors or self-employed individuals.

Coin Dealers Flipping Starting Jan. 1, 2012, Form 1099s will become a means of reporting to the Internal Revenue Service the purchases of all goods and services by small businesses and self-employed people that exceed \$600 during a calendar year. Precious metals such as coins and bullion fall into this category and coin dealers have been among those most rankled by the change. This provision, intended to mine what the IRS deems a vast reservoir of uncollected income tax, was included in the health care legislation ostensibly as a way to pay for it. The tax code tweak is expected to raise \$17 billion over the next 10 years, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation.

Taking an early and vociferous role in opposing the measure is the precious metal and coin industry, according to Diane Piret, industry affairs director for the Industry Council for Tangible Assets. The ICTA, based in Severna Park, Md., is a trade association representing an estimated 5,000 coin and bullion dealers in the United States. "Coin dealers not only buy for their inventory from other dealers, but also with great frequency from

the public," Piret said. "Most other types of businesses will have a limited number of suppliers from which they buy their goods and products for resale." So every time a member of the public sells more than \$600 worth of gold to a dealer, Piret said, the transaction will have to be reported to the government by the buyer.

Pat Heller, who owns Liberty Coin Service in Lansing, Mich., deals with around 1,000 customers every week. Many are individuals looking to protect wealth in an uncertain economy, he said, while others are dealers like him. With spot market prices for gold at nearly \$1,200 an ounce, Heller estimates that he'll be filling out between 10,000 and 20,000 tax forms per year after the new law takes effect. "I'll have to hire two full-time people just to track all this stuff, which cuts into my profitability," he said.

An issue that combines gold coins, the Obama health care law and the IRS is bound to stir passions. Indeed, trading in gold coins and bars has surged since the financial crisis unfolded and Obama took office, metal dealers said. The buying of actual gold, as opposed to futures or options tied to the price of gold, has been a particularly popular trend among Tea Party supporters and others who are fearful of Obama's economic policies, gold industry members such as Heller and Piret said.

Conservative/libertarian commentators, such as Fox News Channel's Glenn Beck, routinely tout precious metal on the air as being a safe, shrewd investment in an environment in which the financial system -- and paper money backed by the rest of the world's faith in the U.S. government's credit -- is viewed as increasingly fragile.

The recently revealed investigation by California authorities into consumer complaints against Goldline International, which has used Beck as a pitchman, and Superior Gold Group (which has not) has put a spotlight on what one liberal leaning politician, Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., calls the "unholy alliance" between gold coin sellers, such as Goldline, and conservative talk personalities, such as Beck. Beck, who through his spokesman, Matt Hiltzik, declined to comment for this story, and Goldline marketers portray gold coins as a better alternative to owning bullion in the event that the U.S. government ever decides, as it did under FDR in 1933, to make it illegal for private citizens to own physical gold.

At that time, the U.S. dollar was still pegged to the price of gold; the gold standard was abandoned during the Nixon administration. Rep. Daniel Lungren, R-Calif., has introduced legislation to repeal the section of the health care bill that would trigger the new tax reporting requirement because he says it's a burden on small businesses. "Large corporations have whole divisions to handle such transaction paperwork but for a small business, which doesn't have the manpower, this is yet another brick on their back," Lungren said

in a statement e-mailed to ABCNews.com. "Everyone agrees that small businesses are job creators and the engine which drives the American economy. I am dumfounded that this Administration is doing all it can to make it more difficult for businesses to succeed rather than doing all it can to help them grow."

The ICTA's Piret says identity theft is another concern because criminals may set up shops specifically to extract personal information that would accompany the filing out of a 1099. The office of the National Taxpayer Advocate, a citizen's ombudsman within the IRS, issued a report June 30 that said the new rule "may present significant administrative challenges to taxpayers and the IRS."

*From ABC News Internet Ventures*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Tentative List of Courses for Federation Workshop at William Holland, June 12-18, 2011

OPALS with Sarah Lee Boyce  
 CABOCHONS with Richard Shackleton  
 FACETING with Bill Roberts  
 FUSED GLASS with Renee Kelley  
 SILVER I with Don Roberts  
 WIRE I with Velima Lawson

CHAIN with Dee & Bill Conybear  
 ENAMELING with Bob Mattingly  
 LAMPWORK with Ann Royer  
 SEED BEADING with Barbara Green  
 SILVER II with Vicky Prillaman  
 SILVER FILIGREE with Shannon Stafford & Paige Worrick

Editor's Note: All Federation Week Workshop courses and application details will be published in the Jan 2011 LODESTAR

\*\*\*\*\*

### Enameling with Lynda Williams At William Holland During Federation Workshop, Oct 9-15, 2011

**Class Fee:** \$65.00

**Class Description:**

This is a structured class for beginner's focusing on Scrafitto technique applied to copper. Only opaque enamels will be used. The class fee includes the first project consisting of three cut-out copper shapes and all enamels and jewelry components required to complete a piece of jewelry.

Students will be taught how to manipulate and shape copper pieces into pleasing forms and how to handle enamels, their application, and firing in a professional and safe manner, thus ensuring a beautiful finished piece. Depending on how quickly students learn and complete their projects, there will be time in the class for creating three more pieces of wearable art (or possibly more although the necessity of firing enamels between each coat to achieve the desired effect does lengthen the creative process).

There will be 8 different kits for students to choose from for purchase, at a cost of approximately \$22.00 to \$25.00 each. Each kit will include three copper components and all materials and enamels necessary to complete jewelry pieces ready for wear. Matching earring components will be included in the kits

**Equipment and supplies to be brought by students:**

Colored fingernail polish: 1 or 2 bottles of "weird" colors: black, purple, gaudy yellow, green, turquoise blue. Nothing "normal"

Scrafitto "tools": Hat pins, T pins, large needles. Anything that has a sharp point, from the size of a pin-head to that of a pencil point

Neck wires or chains so that you may wear and display your pendants

An optivisor will make your work easier. Should you not have one, the school usually has some for sale.

**Biography:**

Lynda Williams is a jewelry artist and a sculptor who often incorporates her love of sculpture into her jewelry creations. She enjoys the pleasure that her work brings to family and friends, not to mention to her many clients. Her interest in copper and enameling began thirty years ago when she trained at the Arkansas Art Center on the kiln and equipment donated to the Center by Jeanette Rockefeller.

She has a B.A. in Arts, and taught art in Arkansas public schools for seventeen years. She has worked as a sculptor creating bas-relief images of historic buildings in Arkansas. Her work has appeared on the Christmas trees of Laure Bush, and she counts among her patrons Mike Huckabee, and Bill Clinton

For the last five years Lynda has been designing and creating jewelry that has been carried by Jewelry houses in Guatemala, where she now lives. She continues to refine her ability and expand her creativity as she focuses on botanically inspired pendants, broaches, earrings and bracelets. Most of her pieces are layered, to provide depth and to allow fluidity and movement. It is this combination of layering technique and depth of color thru opaque enamels that she hopes to share with her students at the Federation workshop.

Editor's Note: 2011 Federation Week classes at both William Holland and Wildacres will have several new instructors with new course material and techniques participating for the first time. In order to give prospective students some insight into course content and instructor background, the LODESTAR will feature at least one of these new courses in each edition.

**2010 SFMS Committee Chairmen****Nominations**

Betty James  
169-A Florence Cir.  
Florence, MS 39073  
601.914.6747  
[mineralid@comcast.net](mailto:mineralid@comcast.net)

**SFMS Field Trip Committee**

Jim Flora  
P.O. Box 608  
Hiawassee, GA 30546  
706.896.8040  
[jimflora@windstream.net](mailto:jimflora@windstream.net)

**Publications**

Beryl Ferguson  
414 S. Ridgewood Ave.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
386.589.3583  
[crossbowcreations@yahoo.com](mailto:crossbowcreations@yahoo.com)

**Stamp Program**

Jim Robinson  
1058 Wilderland Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32225  
904.221.5038  
[jrh30@netzero.net](mailto:jrh30@netzero.net)

**Youth Resources**

Bonita Harris  
12520 Jeff Hamilton Road  
Mobile, AL 36695  
251.865.9157  
[bonitaharris@netzero.net](mailto:bonitaharris@netzero.net)

**Web Site**

Jim Flora  
P.O. Box 605  
Hiawassee, GA 30546  
706.896.8040  
[jimflora@windstream.net](mailto:jimflora@windstream.net)

**President**

William (Bill) G. Waggener  
1909 Moores Mill Road  
Atlanta, GA 30318-1309  
404.355.7377

**Long Range Planning**

Buddy Shotts  
P.O. Box 427  
Lucedale, MS 39452-9780  
601.947.7245  
[buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net](mailto:buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net)

**Education**

Danny Griffin  
1320 Byrd Cir.  
Kingston, TN 37763  
865.406.8802  
[sfmsedchair@gmail.com](mailto:sfmsedchair@gmail.com)

**Safety**

Don Monroe  
350 Lapidary Lane  
Young Harris, GA 30582  
706.379.9662  
[donmonroe@windstream.net](mailto:donmonroe@windstream.net)

**Supplies**

Danny Griffin  
1320 Byrd Cir.  
Kingston, TN 37763  
865.406.8802  
[gcjinc@comcast.net](mailto:gcjinc@comcast.net)

**2010 Annual Meeting Host**

Travis Paris  
5064 Malmesbury Rd.  
Knoxville, TN 37421  
865.691.8228  
[tparis@msn.com](mailto:tparis@msn.com)

**William Holland Director**

Steve Henegar  
3415 Northboro Court  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
615.896.1472  
[stevehenegar@bellsouth.net](mailto:stevehenegar@bellsouth.net)

**Bulletin Editors' Contest**

-OPEN-

**Historian**

-OPEN-

**Slide/Video Programs**

Freda Hull  
P.O. Box 115  
Grant, FL 32949  
321.725.0847  
[fhull@bellsouth.net](mailto:fhull@bellsouth.net)

**Uniform Rules**

Roy Deere  
7041 Rodes Place  
W. Melbourne, FL 32904  
321.725.9179  
[sfmswadirector@gmail.com](mailto:sfmswadirector@gmail.com)

**Wildacres Director**

Roy Deere  
7041 Rodes Place  
W. Melbourne, FL 32904  
321.725.9179  
[sfmswadirector@gmail.com](mailto:sfmswadirector@gmail.com)

**William Holland Registrar**

Lisa Roberts  
996 Indian River Boat Dock Road  
Jacksboro, TN 37757  
(423) 562-9555  
[whregistrar10@yahoo.com](mailto:whregistrar10@yahoo.com)

**Constitution/By-Laws**

Travis Paris  
5064 Malmesbury Rd.  
Knoxville, TN 37421  
865.691.8228  
[tparis@msn.com](mailto:tparis@msn.com)

**Insurance Liaison**

Paula Griffin  
1320 Byrd Cir.  
Kingston, TN 37763  
865.406.8802  
[sfmsasstreas@yahoo.com](mailto:sfmsasstreas@yahoo.com)

**Social Concerns**

Anna Denton  
6603 Widgeon Dr.  
Midland, GA 31820  
706.569.1219

**Ways & Means**

Whit McMillan  
7125 Windmill Creek Road  
Charleston, SC 29414  
843.763.9545  
[burrfish65@yahoo.com](mailto:burrfish65@yahoo.com)

**Wildacres Registrar**

Mrs. B. J. Gearhart  
631 Lake Overlook Drive  
Canton, GA 30411  
770.479.0963  
[waregistrar2010@yahoo.com](mailto:waregistrar2010@yahoo.com)

**Public Relations**

Herb Whittington  
2102 Brookhill Road  
Dothan, AL 36301  
334.793.6811  
[alarocks@graceba.net](mailto:alarocks@graceba.net)

**2010 Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. Officers/Directors****Vice-President**

Mark Easterbrook  
6701 Dorchester Rd., Apt. 1007  
North Charleston, SC 29418  
843.552.1049

**Director**

Charlotte Mayo Bryant  
506 Rain Song Road  
Dalton, GA 30270  
706.278.8344

**Treasurer**

Frank Decaminada  
795 Nile Drive  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
770.992.8309

**Director**

Barbara Tuttle  
85504 Blackmon Road  
Yulee, FL 32097  
904.225.0689  
[dttsr@comcast.net](mailto:dttsr@comcast.net)

**SFMS Education Chairman**

Danny Griffin  
1320 Byrd Cir.  
Kingston, TN 37763  
865.406.8802

**Secretary**

Beryl Ferguson  
414 S. Ridgewood Ave.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
386.589.3583  
[crossbowcreations@yahoo.com](mailto:crossbowcreations@yahoo.com)

**2010 SFMS Representatives to AFMS Committees****Club Rockhound of the Year**

-OPEN-

**Collecting Sites**

Mike Streater  
7 English Place  
Candler, NC 28715  
828.667.8290  
[mcastreeter@charter.net](mailto:mcastreeter@charter.net)

**Boundaries**

Janie Hand  
253 Wanda Drive  
Brandon, MS 39042  
601.825.3989  
[mgsmseditor@aol.com](mailto:mgsmseditor@aol.com)

**Education All American**

-OPEN-

**Bulletin Editors**

Carlos (Carl) M. Talbott, D.Sc.  
216 Spring View Drive  
Murphy, NC 28906  
828.494.7213  
[dtalbott@bellsouth.net](mailto:dtalbott@bellsouth.net)

**Endowment Fund**

Betty James  
169-A Florence Cir.  
Florence, MS 39073  
601.914.6747  
[mineralid@comcast.net](mailto:mineralid@comcast.net)

**Supplies & Publications**

Danny Griffin  
1320 Byrd Cir.  
Kingston, TN 37763  
865.406.8802  
[sfmsedchair@gmail.com](mailto:sfmsedchair@gmail.com)

**Public Relations**

Herb Whittington  
2102 Brookhill Road  
Dothan, AL 36301  
334.793.6811  
[alarocks@graceba.net](mailto:alarocks@graceba.net)

**Club Publications**

-OPEN-

**Juniors Program**

Bonita Harris  
12520 Jeff Hamilton Road  
Mobile, AL 36695  
251.865.9157  
[bonitaharris@netzero.net](mailto:bonitaharris@netzero.net)

**Uniform Rules**

- OPEN -

**Safety**

Don Monroe  
350 Lapidary Lane  
Young Harris, GA 30582  
706.379.9662  
[donmonroe@windstream.net](mailto:donmonroe@windstream.net)

**Conservation & Legislation**

John Wright  
3304 Nottingham Road  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
228.875.4191  
[osibw@datasvc.com](mailto:osibw@datasvc.com)

**Program Competition**

Freda Hull  
P.O. Box 115  
Grant, FL 32949  
321.725.0847  
[fhull@bellsouth.net](mailto:fhull@bellsouth.net)

**Ways & Means**

Ken Anderson  
2023 Briarwood Circle  
Fort Mill, SC 29715  
803.547.5147  
[kanderson@comporium.net](mailto:kanderson@comporium.net)

**Webmaster**

Jim Flora  
P.O. Box 605  
Hiawassee, GA 30546  
706.896.8040  
[jimflora@windstream.net](mailto:jimflora@windstream.net)

*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.*