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 . . .

I’ve developed a fairly simple guiding principle or life philosophy. Adhering to the K.I.S. principle I can sum it up in one word. That one word that I use to guide me through life is – are you ready – Others. Yes I believe in helping and interacting with others. The best moments in life occur while helping others.

In my career, I’m a customer service representative who happens to work on computers. As you might guess there is never a shortage of things to add or fix on computers. While I’m actually technologically challenged, I enjoy helping people solve the problems they are having with their computers, or adding new equipment that makes their job more productive or easier. At my church I’ve worked with preschool and elementary age children. So long in fact that many of them are having children of their own. I may get a chance at teaching them too. I tell you it’s a great feeling to have been a part of these children’s lives and a part of the lives of those I work with.

On a larger scale, look at all the help – both time and money – that was extended to those who lost their belongings, jobs, even family members in the hurricanes that occurred about two years ago. I don’t think the recovery efforts would have even gotten off the ground had it not been for volunteers making others their priority. One friend had four trailer truck size generators on the Gulf coast less than a day after the hurricane hit providing power for four hospitals in the damaged areas. My future son-in-law spent his entire Christmas break that year working on helping others clean up.

I’ve found that rockhounds follow this philosophy too. Look at all variety of folks in our clubs and federation that teach others about our hobby. Most of them freely give of their time to teach others, usually only charging for materials. Think about all the rockhounds that got together to start our clubs and later our federation. I don’t remember hearing of anyone doing the work for pay. They did it so others could enjoy our hobby. Think about those in our clubs that volunteer to teach classes, give programs at our meetings, and work to produce our shows that raise most of the funds for us to fund our club projects. How about our field trip leaders? They work hard to find places for us to go rock collecting.

By now I’m sure you’re wondering – What’s all this rambling about? It’s headed straight toward our workshops this summer and fall. We have a lot of people lined up to attend.

(Continued on Page 3)

Website: http://www.amfed.org/sfms
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 March 2008 Lodestar is February 25, 2008
(No exceptions!)

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**  
(Continued)

place and to help provide students with a wonderful learning experience. Other than the desire and reward of doing the job, about all these folks for pay is room and board, maybe a little reimbursement for gas. The point is they do what they do to help others. It’s up to us to help them out by filling up the workshops.

I’m a fan of motivation and since the workshops are so valuable, I’m going to offer a special President’s prize to the club that sends the most students to the workshops this year. This motivation – ok it’s really a bribe – will be a donation of $100 to the winning club. My only request is the money be used to help others learn more about our hobby. No pizza party, please!!! I may do something for second and third place as well, but haven’t worked that out yet. I’m serious about filling our workshops this year.

By the time you read this, you should either have already sent your applications to the workshop registrars, or you should be getting them in soon. I plan to be at most of the workshops, so I’m sending my applications in early. I’m going to let the registrars know my first choice of classes, but will also let them know they can put me in another class that needs students to be able to have the class. I hope you’ll do the same. Some classes will fill up early, so if you can’t get into the one you really want, please consider others and try another class. I’d like to see all the classes full.

You will also notice the annual meeting host is empty on the inside back page. I should have already had someone lined up to host the meeting. It hasn’t happened. If your club has a show the last quarter of the year, would you consider hosting the annual meeting in conjunction with your show? My only request is that it not be the second weekend of December. That’s the weekend of my club’s show. Won’t you consider hosting the annual meeting? We need a room for the meeting, arrangements for a hotel, and the host club would need to arrange for the banquet. The federation will reimburse you for your expenses although we do have a set dollar limit for the meeting. Please call me if you are interested. My contact information is inside the front cover of the *Lodestar*.

**Enough rambling already!!!**  
We’ll pick up again next month,  
*Steve Henegar, SFMS President*

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

*Are You What You Eat?*

If you are served by cable TV or satellite TV you may have seen a program on BBC America called, *You Are What You Eat.* This is not a regular viewing for me but the couple of times that I watched part of the program provided a few points of interest.

Before you “give up” on this article let me assure you that there is a connection with rockhounds and our hobby. To do all of the things that we all want to do requires good health or even, good physical condition. I am constantly lectured by such authorities as my wife (the nurse) and my doctor (who I refer to as “the kid” because I am not sure that he has started shaving) that my food selections do influence such things as weight and general well-being. Please note that I have not used that dirty four-letter word “diet”.

Those of you that know me well will say that I am obstinate, opinionated and, in general, a bit of a curmudgeon. Guilty, guilty, guilty. I admit all of that. However if I am going to continue regarding myself as an honest man, I must also confess that some of the opinions held by those close to me do have value.

Now let us get down to business. I will not tell you what to do for many reasons including: “I am not qualified” and “I don’t want you to feel that you can reciprocate and tell me what to do”. I do want to mention some things that I do not recommend.

- Consider very carefully all aspects of a diet. The people that dream these things up are very often evil and are not your friends.
- Carefully think about what you eat and avoid those things that you know you absolutely do not like and that do not agree with your system. Yes, to achieve weight and health goals you will need to eat some things that are not your favorites, but be sensible. “The nurse” put me on some sort of heart institute diet that was popular at one time. It was evil. To this day I cannot and will not eat raw cauliflower.
- Listen to your doctor or healthcare professional. If you do not like your doctor, find another one. They are also people and can make mistakes. We had one that was a total disaster and we are so much better off because we found a good one. It is also good to find one your own age or slightly younger so that you do not have to change often.
- Think about those things that you like to do and try to stay in condition to do them. We like outdoor activities and this means that we must avoid the following:
  - **Arthritis** – we can do a little about this when we select what we eat. Some acidic foods can cause flare-ups. Read up on this.
  - **Weight problems** – yes, we do need to be concerned. We may be victims of hereditary issues. My grandfather was a doctor but he also was of “sturdy” build and I was created in his mold but this does not mean that I have the right to ignore my weight.
  - **Mobility problems** – for me to be happy I must be able to bend over and pick up rocks and I must be able to walk and it is helpful to be agile when avoiding serpents.

The bottom line (not intended to be a bad pun) is that we must be sensible. To borrow from my most favorite book, *Sut Lovingood* by George Washington Harris: “*Keep the dust of the dining room off your foot and the smell of the bedroom off your clothes that your days may be longer in the land what your Daddy’s took from the Injuns.*"
Biloxi, Mississippi, Minutes from November 10, 2007  
Part 2

President Buddy Shotts called for state reports:

Alabama State Director Iris McGehee’s report indicated Alabama clubs were doing well with interesting programs, great workshops, field trips, and gem and mineral shows by most clubs. The Dothan Gem and Mineral Society is now meeting at 4329 S. Brannon Stand Road in Taylor, Alabama. Quilt raffle proceeds by the East Alabama Gem and Mineral Society went toward a William Holland or Wildacres Workshop. Attendance at the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society’s Annual Show earned Geology Activity and Merit Badges for those Cub and Boy Scouts. The Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society’s Kontzen Scholarship provides for a S. F. M. S. workshop. Iris added emphasis: both the Mobile Rock and Gem Society and the Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society hold their shows shortly before Christmas.

Florida State Director Hugh Sheffield stated in his report that he and his wife have visited 12 of the 22 Florida clubs during 2007 and written greetings to the remaining clubs from the S. F. M. S. Two Florida clubs do not hold regular meetings. He reminded clubs of S. F. M. S. and A. F. M. S. interests and benefits, Mayo Foundation scholarships, the stamp program, land issues, field trips, insurance, and youth programs. The Jacksonville Club has a Youth Club that meets at the same time as the adult club for an opening and share what they did at their meeting with the adults at the end. All clubs are actively participating in fairs, scouts, schools, club shows, libraries, and other hobby promoting events. Hugh added verbal thanks to his wife for her many hours of travel and paperwork support during the year. He stressed the joy of being a State Director as clubs of all sizes welcome them and share their club enthusiasm in a friendly, educational, interested atmosphere.

Georgia State Director Anita Westlake’s report indicated visiting meetings, picnics, auctions, and shows at the Northeast Georgia Mineral Society, Athens Rock and Gem Club, Carroll County Gem and Mineral Society, Golden Isles Gem and Mineral Society, Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society (provided “Mineral Animals” and Meteorite display cases at their show), Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society, and Rome Gem and Mineral Society. Anita gave talks on “Minerals in our Daily Lives” to the Cotton Indian Gem and Mineral Society, “Geo-Hazards” to the Alabama Gem and Mineral Society, S. F. M. S. Lapidary Workshops and stamp program to the Georgia Mineral Society and the Golden Isles Gem and Mineral Society, and “Meteorites” to the Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society in North Carolina. She arranged for the new Northwest Georgia Science Museum’s Executive Director to address the Georgia Mineral Society, put on the Rocks and Minerals event of the Emory University’s Science Olympiad, provided Mineral Identification at the Weinman Mineral Museum’s “Rockfest”, attended both the Aurora, South Carolina fossil dig and the Friends of Mineralogy Symposium, staffed a booth at the North Atlantic Trade Center’s gem and mineral show for the Meteorite Association of Georgia (which Anita formed and became the first President) and a “Junior Geology” booth at the Grant Park Festival, visited the show at Franklin, North Carolina, and taught a “Junior Cabochon” class at William Holland.

Kentucky State Director David Horn was unable to attend and had not provided a report.

Louisiana State Director Dr. Bridget Joubert’s report indicated there are eight gem and mineral clubs in the state. Two belong to the S. F. M. S. and the other six belong to the South Central Federation. Most clubs are having monthly meetings, report slowly increasing membership, and are enjoying field days. Three have annual shows. The Gem and Mineral Club of Louisiana (New Orleans) is still recovering from hurricane Katrina. The Gem, Mineral and Lapidary Society of Central Louisiana joins its sister club, the DeRidder Club, in putting on their annual rock show. Ongoing projects include building a labeled rock garden at the Catahoula Forest Ranger District’s butterfly garden and the instillation of two glass mineral displays at Alexandria Zoological Park.

Mississippi State Director Floy Hawkins’ report described the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society’s continuing outreach to surrounding communities for new members through teaching jewelry making in the University of Mississippi’s Outreach Program, fieldtrips, and workshops. Continuing publicity in local papers, television stations, the school system, and their “Nugget” promote their gem and mineral goals. The Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society celebrates 50 years and is planning its 49th show in February, 2008. They are completing their lapidary school building which will be their meeting, class, and workshop site. Their silent auction, Petrified Forest trail tour, potluck lunch, and study of earth sciences keep members involved. The Harrison County Gem and Mineral Society is continuing to move forward after hurricane Katrina. Being able to join with the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society for their show helped. In addition to sponsoring the S. F. M. S. Annual Meeting, this show included a Smithsonian exhibit and a Rock Food Table. The workshop is back in operation with one-on-one faceting instruction and beading classes at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society. Spring plans include a fieldtrip to the Crater of Diamonds in Arkansas and a trip to hunt petrified wood in southeast Alabama.

(Continued Next Page)
Biloxi, Mississippi, Minutes from November 10, 2007
Part 2
(Continued)

North Carolina State Director Michael Streeter’s report outlined suggestions for bolstering club membership:

1. Conduct monthly meetings in a fast paced and entertaining fashion.
2. Have your club purchase a Power Point projector and secure a lap top computer.
3. Something good to eat and drink at your meetings will attract just about anybody!
4. Advertise your monthly meetings, programs and fieldtrips in newspapers, radio, and the NET.
5. Be wary of joining or supporting non-sanctioned groups as this may ultimately harm the S. F. M. S. and your club.
6. Volunteer to give a talk about rockhounding at your local elementary school.
7. Start a Junior Section for your younger rockhounds.
8. Update your club brochure and disseminate it to local rock shops, museums, malls and other places where potential Rockhounds flock.
9. Reinvigorate and support your club’s fieldtrip program.
10. Present and discuss your own ideas to attract and maintain members at your membership and board meetings.

Successful shows were hosted by the Aurora Fossil Club, Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club, Forsythe Gem and Mineral Club, Gaston County Gem, Mineral and Faceters Club, Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, Greensboro Gem and Mineral Club, Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society, High Point Mineral Club, North Carolina Fossil Club, Tar Heel Mineral Club, and Western Piedmont Mineral and Gem Society. As the average age of most membership roles increases with time and rockhounding is competing with a plethora of alternate entertainment, membership is declining in many North Carolina clubs. Due to declining membership and participation, the Western Piedmont Mineral and Gem Society may be forced to dissolve and discontinue their annual show in historic Hiddinite. It is hoped the remaining members will be able to turn things around and continue serving their area’s rockhounding community. Michael and Chrissy Streeter have spent time with some of the area clubs and wish to thank them for their support and camaraderie. Keep in mind that Michael is always available for help or advice with any S. F. M. S. or other rockhounding issue.

South Carolina Director Fred Sias’ report indicated that five South Carolina clubs are currently active. Many of the former Charles Towne Mineral and Lapidary Club members are now part of the Low Country Gem and Mineral Society.

Fred produced a Power Point presentation consisting mostly of slides taken at Wildacres and William Holland workshop sites. It includes classroom pictures and close-up photographs of student projects taken at Show and Tell. He gave this presentation and handed out S. F. M. S. Workshop brochures at Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Low Country Gem and Mineral Society, Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society, and Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society meetings and distributed S. F. M. S. Workshop brochures and registration forms at the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Club show and at the Augusta Gem and Mineral Society show. As S. F. M. S. Workshop attendance was seriously diminished in 2007, Fred’s recommendation is to open all Federation workshops to anyone wishing to attend (with a nonmember extra fee equivalent to a club membership) to compete with William Holland School which is open to everyone. His 2008 updated Power Point presentation can be emailed to any other State Director who has the capability of showing the computer-based program.

Tennessee State Director Marty Hart attended the Biloxi meeting but did not have a report.

Virginia State Director Steve Gordon was unable to attend and did not submit a report.

Bulletin Contest Chair Ed Johnson stated that this year’s contest was successful with 46 entries. Award presentation is part of the S. F. M. S. banquet program.

Constitution and Bylaws Chair Robert (Red) Walker stated that the Constitution and Bylaws did not require any changes this year.

Education Chair Julia Larson stated that as of January, 2008, she would be emailing a monthly workshop article to club newsletter editors for inclusion in their publications and announcing workshops in selected jewelry publications. We will once again open workshops to other federations and the public members willing to join a club to take a class. The Wildacres owner will notify us if a future session date that does not span parts of two weeks becomes available, and we are seeking to be in conjunction with the Spruce Pine Gem and Mineral Show. The Family Week experiment was fun at William Holland. Wildacres equipment consumable supplies are now supplied by us, and Federation equipment repair, upgrade, and replacement needs are being addressed. A current Wildacres and William Holland workshop video in DVD format is under consideration for duplication and distribution to all clubs. Non teaching S. F. M. S. officers and committee chairs are also encouraged to attend Federation workshops. Kathy Morris will serve as Director for both Wildacres and William Holland. Registrar for Wildacres is Denese Talbott and for William Holland is Mrs. B.J. Gearhart. New classes include Scrimshaw using

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Biloxi, Mississippi, Minutes from November 10, 2007
Part 2
(Continued)

colored inks, Metal for finishing castings, Advanced Wire braiding and knotting, Advanced Chains, Advanced Faceting, and Gourd Carving to include cabochon settings.

Historian Charlotte Mayo Bryant was unable to attend and had not submitted a written report.

Insurance Liaison Roger Campbell said the insurance program was alive and well. We are working with the insurance company to settle bills. He will continue to respond to any questions asked. ‘Additional Insured’ clarification: if a Fair Association will agree to be the only one listed, the cost is $35.00 rather than $35.00 per listing of all participating owners of a fairgrounds. Ken Anderson added that the $175.00 insurance fee covers the club's activity for $2,000,000, but when the parking lot must also be covered, there is an additional cost. He recommends that clubs try presenting their proof of insurance to show site owners in an effort to eliminate ‘Additional Insured’ fees. Roger Campbell said that if several people need official notification concerning a show's insurance coverage, that can be done.

Long Range Planning Chair William (Bill) Waggener said that he did not have a report.

Nominations Chair Ann Monroe read the slate of officers as printed in the Lodestar. Officers were elected as follows after calling for nominations from the floor:

President: Steve Henegar
(Mid Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society)
1st Vice President: Betty James (Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society)
2nd Vice President: Mark Easterbrook (Low Country Gem & Mineral Society)
Membership Secretary: Ray Behr (Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina)
Treasurer: Ed Harris (Mobile Rock & Gem Society)
3rd Vice President: Ann Monroe

Mayo Educational Foundation Directors:
Jeanette Banks
Charlotte Mayo Bryant
Frank Decaminada
Eileen Price
Bill Waggener

This slate of officers was submitted by your Nominations Committee, Beryl Ferguson, Jim Flora, Marty Hart, Anita Westlake, Dee Conybear (Alternate), and Ann Monroe, Chairman.

Public Relations Chair Herb Whittington reminded us that every club is entitled to have a Club Rockhound of the Year. Buddy Shotts added that we are all Rockhounds and should be proud of our interest.

Publications Chair Betty James said that she would continue to submit changes to Carolyn Daniels for inclusion in the Lodestar until the end of her term as Publications Chair.

Safety Chair Don Monroe referred to his report which indicated that Safety Articles published in each Lodestar issue have generated positive comments. Many are reprinted in local bulletins. He has identified club safety articles which he wants to reprint in the Lodestar for everyone's benefit. Remember the Safety Committee is intended to be helpful to you, our members, and your comments and suggestions are really needed. Buddy Shotts added emphasis on safety.

S. F. M. S. Field Trip Chair Jim Flora reported that the S. F. M. S. fieldtrip sharing program conducted ten fieldtrips during 2007:

- Ladd’s Mountain (Cartersville, Georgia)
- Hogg Mine (Troup County, Georgia)
- Girard (Burke County, Georgia) for ‘Savannah River Agate’
- Boxley Materials Company (Lynchburg, Virginia)
- Columbia Mines (Marion, Kentucky)
- Chunky Gal Mountain (Corundum Knob, Clay County, North Carolina)
- Douglas Property (Dothan, Alabama)
- Lafarge Cement Quarry (Harleyville/Holly Hill area, South Carolina)
- Amos Cunningham Farm (Due West/Antreville Area, South Carolina)

The S. F. M. S. Fieldtrip Committee invited all S. F. M. S. clubs to six “Open” fieldtrips. The current membership roster for the fieldtrip sharing program is 30 clubs located in 8 Southeast Federation states.

Slides & Video Program Chair Freda Hull’s report showed good Library usage. The A. F. M. S. has added several new programs to our library. Many programs are now in DVD, VHS, Power Point format as well as slides, allowing several clubs enjoy the program at the same time. Please return your program within a week following your meeting. Freda Hull is working to transfer some slide programs to Power Point and is using color correction. Programs unable to be color corrected will be deleted. Reminder: The list is posted on the S. F. M. S. Website and in the Directory. She will send an updated list upon request.

(Continued Next Page)
Buddy Shotts emphasized that this Stamp Program Chair has provided many scholarships for people to go to our workshops. Scholarship attendees, many new to our hobby, tell others about our workshops. This program is well worth supporting.

Stamp Chair Jim Robinson added to his report. 52 scholarships have been awarded since 2000. When we started out 10 scholarships were given out each year. As fewer clubs participated last year, not as many scholarships were awarded. Help, only three of the awarded scholarships were used! Clubs need to award a scholarship, pick an alternate, and follow up so that some club member gets to utilize that scholarship. Unused scholarships result in funds returned to the S.F.M.S. treasury while club members who could benefit from a Wildacres or William Holland class miss the opportunity.

Of the 32 clubs that participated in the stamp program this year, only 14 have a designated stamp chair. Every club should have a stamp chair who helps get the word out but is not required to remove stamps from paper. Until the soaking instructions are revised and posted on the web, clubs are asked to please send all commemorative stamps on paper to Jim Robinson – in boxes with postage stamps on them as postage. Changing glues with new stamp issues make this necessary as soaking damages those stamps, rendering them useless. Metered stamps and some metered envelopes are collectable. They need to be cut 1 ½ inches down from the top and 3 inches long or they are worthless. We get the most money for un-canceled and Commemorative (large) stamps. Labels put on at the Post Office are not metered stamps and have no collectable value.

Supplies Chair Caroline Decaminada referred clubs to the supply list as published in the S. F. M. S. 2007 Directory on page 41 and in the Lodestar. Supplies can be obtained by e-mail contact at carrie128@comcast.net or phone. All mailed items are cost plus postage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.F.M.S. Constitution &amp; By-Laws</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.F.M.S. Directory (2007)</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Wildacres Director Kathy Morris was unable to attend. Her report, although emailed, had not been received.

Wildacres Registrar Robert Walker stated that those workshops were in trouble. The April workshop was being discontinued due to poor attendance. Several classes had to be cancelled due to poor enrollment. Some instructors even brought their own students! Instructors should receive partial reimbursement for travel expense. We need to promote these workshops or else they will be gone.

Buddy Shotts added that he did not understand why the workshops were not better attended. Dollar for dollar they were the best deal on the planet as far as getting your money’s worth. You get your instruction, your room, and your board at a very reasonable cost.

Ken Anderson told that his small club has initiated awarding a scholarship per year from their treasury.

Buddy Shotts said many clubs are providing scholarships. That is one way to stimulate interest. There are many ways to keep interest in workshops.
are always happy to get that information and sometimes people had never heard about Wildacres and William Holland.

William Holland Directors Ray and Dana Gonzalez were absent and did not submit a report.

William Holland Registrar Charlotte Caughman was absent and had not sent a report.

Ken Anderson interjected that we have a positive balance coming from William Holland’s bank account (mostly from the October session) that will transfer back to the treasury.

Webmaster Jim Flora referred to his report. Many significant additions and improvements were made to the S. F. M. S. Internet Web presence during 2007. The website provides timely access to current and past Lodestar issues, saving postage. Wildacres and William Holland workshop information and registration forms were kept updated and ready for download in PDF format. Additional posted information included Bulletin Contest details, Stamp Program information, S.F.M.S. Membership Renewal forms and instructions (PDF & Doc formats), S. F. M. S. Slide and Video Programs (PDF), Details of S. F. M. S. Executive Board Meetings and the A. F. M. S. Annual Meeting, contact information for S. F. M. S. Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and State Directors, a Notice page for important announcements, Fieldtrip, Rock Swap events, and mineral symposiums, ALAA membership and renewal forms, updated supply lists for S. F. M. S. and A. F. M. S. items, 2007 Membership Directory (PDF format), and the Junior of the Year application form. The internet website is http://amfed.org/sfms and the Federation email is sfms@amfed.org.

Youth Resources Chairs Ed and Bonita Harris’ report indicated that as of the October 31, 2007 deadline for Junior of the Year, no applications had been received. Due to the short turn around time for receiving applications, choice of a JOY recipient may need to be announced in a later Lodestar issue. Today, Bonita added that she had received four applications and knew by phone that a fifth application was being prepared. Even a total of a couple hundred points can place a youth in contention.

The A. F. M. S. Committee Reports are as follows:

A.F.M.S. Newsletter Chair Beryl Ferguson will forward information from her S. F. M. S. database to the A. F. M. S. as to who in each club is to receive the A.F.M.S. Newsletter.
Supplies and Publications Chair Caroline Decamanada referred to the 2007 Directory and Lodestar listings for obtaining supplies.

- A.F.M.S. Uniform Rules 2006                $6.00
  Rules updates for 2006                        0.25
  Rules updates for 2005                        0.75
  Rules updates for 2004                        1.00
- A.F.M.S. Mineral List, 2003 update               1.00
- A.F.M.S. Fossil List, 2002 update               1.50
- A.F.M.S. Lapidary List, 2003 update              1.50
- Guidelines for Judges, 2002 edition              2.00
- Exhibitors Guidelines, 2003 edition              2.00
- Editors Guidelines, 2002 edition                2.00
- A.F.M.S. Logo Pins                                1.40
- A.F.M.S. Code of Ethics cards                  no charge

Current prices subject to change based on costs at time of reprinting.

Uniform Rules Chair Betty James requested that Steve Hollington give a report as she had arrived at the A. F. M. S. meeting site the day following this committee meeting.

Steve Hollington said only one item passed and it affected youth camp. The three pages can be downloaded individually after they come out. The uniform rules meeting for the youth of Texas will be at 1:00 pm on September 24. Location will be announced.

Ways and Means Committee Chair Frank Decamanada deferred discussion to Old Business.

Webmaster Jim Flora referred to his S. F. M. S. report which listed Southeastern Federation activities, information, and forms as part of the A. F. M. S. website.

The Mayo Educational Foundation will meet immediately following adjournment.

Buddy Shotts entered into Old Business.

Frank Decamanada discussed the 2008 Budget. The changes in 2007 included raising the Secretary’s budget from $600.00 to $850.00 and Education from $4000.00 to $4750.00. Expenses are going up to $22,050. Frank suggested raising the 2008 Secretary’s budget to 850.00 (postage and supply increase) and Education’s budget to $5000.00. The American Federation is seeking a $.25 increase (to be voted upon by all seven federations) due to rising costs.

William (Bill) Waggener moved that the Southeast Federation approve whatever dues increase the American Federation deems necessary.

Ken Anderson seconded the motion.

Bill Waggener amended his motion to a $.25 increase.

Ken Anderson seconded the amendment

Shirley Leeson clarified the rationale for this increase. The American Federation grand total budget for 2008 is 40,000.00 as a deficit budget.

Ken Anderson reminded us that the American Federation’s last increase was in 1993. We would be increasing our dues to offset this increase in 2009.

Buddy Shotts called for a vote. Motion passed with 5 opposed.

Don Monroe expressed his opposition to any deficit budget. When expenses occur, we need to find the money.

Ken Anderson reminded him that we decided to cap our operating funds at $60,000 several years ago and to operate a deficit budget in order to reduce the surplus gradually.

Frank Decamanada added that when we reach $60,000, operating with deficit budget will end.

Frank Decamanada made a motion that we raise the Secretary’s budget to $850.00 and the Education budget to $5000.00. and that we accept the budget as amended.

Don Monroe seconded the motion.

Buddy Shotts called for a vote.

The motion passed without opposition.

Buddy Shotts asked for any other Old Business.

Buddy Shotts called for New Business.

Bill Waggener discussed allowable education expense precedents.

Julia Larson will direct payments within the Education Committee.

Frank Decamanada made a motion that a letter be sent, signed by our president, to Wildacres to find out who is in...
in charge of equipment, who maintains it, who owns it, and who is going to complete kits for class members...to get answers.

Julia Larson wants to amend the letter to include a question as to what is being done with the equipment fee for maintenance.

Beryl Ferguson seconded the motion as amended.

Buddy Shotts will write a positive letter for clarification and will visit Wildacres to assess the equipment.

Ann Monroe explained that Fred Sias is employed by Wildacres as Equipment Manager. He does not repair much equipment, but secures someone to do the repairs. We need to specifically request replacement equipment as needed. Machines should be maintained to facilitate beginner usage.

Betty James as teacher requests wheels, sawblades, etc. at both schools. If something is damaged, she uses it as an example for proper machine care for students who will one day get their own machines.

Buddy Shotts explained that we lease time and equipment usage from Wildacres and pay a fee for equipment maintenance at a beginner level.

Buddy Shotts called for the vote.

Motion passed with 9 opposed.

Buddy Shotts asked for any other new business.

Following a reminder concerning the banquet at 7 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beryl F. Ferguson
414 South Ridgewood Avenue
Ormond Beach, Florida, 32174-7049
crossbowcreations@yahoo.com
386.677.1049

SFMS EDUCATION CHAIR REPORT

Here in west Florida we are in one of the little “cold” snaps that pass for winter in these parts. We rarely have a chance to wear sweaters, much less coats, and if I get to have four or five fires in the fireplace each season, I count myself lucky. But Old Man Winter certainly makes me think about the warmer seasons that will be here before we know it. That means SFMS workshops are just around the corner.

You’ve probably had a chance to look through our schedule, but please give it another look this month. There have been a couple of additions. Ken Kipnis will be teaching a class in digital photography at Wildacres in August and at William Holland in October. I have one of those amazing contraptions, and have some great shots of my index finger, plus some terrific pictures of... well, I'm not really sure what they are. I'm sure Ken could pass along some useful tips. Previously he has taught classes on taking pictures of specimens and jewelry, and they have been well-received.

The popular raku pottery class at the August session at Wildacres will focus on making beads and pendants. Even if you don't take this class, drop by when they do a firing. You'll be astounded by some of the things they use to get the exotic colors and shadings raku is known for. (If you happen to have a horse, bring some tail hair for them!)

We still have a few instructor slots to fill, so be on the lookout for future updates. As always, check your Lodestar for this information.

Here are a couple of ideas to publicize the workshop program: Have a supply of the workshop pages on hand for your club meetings. If any of your members have attended a workshop, ask them to do a presentation on the class they took, and bring their class projects for show & tell. Consider raffling off a scholarship to one of the sessions. And remember to save your canceled commemorative stamps and turn them in to your club’s stamp chairperson. Every little bit helps!

See you this summer,

Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chairman
2008 SFMS WORKSHOPS

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

Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chair

2008 WORKSHOP DATES

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

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

Who May Attend

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

REGISTRATION 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.

WORKSHOP STAFF

DIRECTOR: Kathy Morris
P.O. Box 913
Tryon NC 28782
828-894-6303
klmorris45@hotmail.com

REGISTRARS

WILDACRES Mrs. B. J. Gearhart
P. O. Box 36
Lebanon GA 30146-9998
770-479-0963
wregistrar0809@yahoo.com

WM HOLLAND Denise Talbott
216 Springview St.
Murphy NC 28906
828-494-7213
whregistrar@yahoo.com

NOTE: Check-in at Wildacres is MONDAY afternoon.
Check it at William Holland is SUNDAY afternoon.
Early check-in is not permitted at either location.
## 2008 SFMS Workshop Registration Form

### Session
- 1. William Holland June 8-14
- 2. Wildacres August 18-24
- 3. Wildacres September 15-21
- 4. William Holland October 12-18

### Accommodations
- 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 (#2)
- **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

### Single applicants only
- **Do you have someone you want to share a room with?** If yes, whom?
- **Are you a smoker?** Y  N
- **Do you want a non-smoking roommate?** Y  N
- **Are you an early riser?** ________ **or a night owl?** ________

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

### Class Selection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Choice</th>
<th>1st time taking class?</th>
<th><strong>Please list alternates</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student #1</td>
<td>Y  N</td>
<td>Y  N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse #2</td>
<td>Y  N</td>
<td>Y  N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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.

### Registration Details

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

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

### Check Information

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<td>Standby mailed</td>
<td>Bal check #</td>
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<td>Cancel Date</td>
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<td>- cancel fee</td>
<td>Refund $</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refund mailed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2008 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULE

Workshop Staff
Kathy Morris, Director
P.O. Box 913, Tryon NC 28782
Phone 828-894-6300
Email: Kmorris45@hotmail.com

Wildacres Registrar Mrs. B. J. Gearhart
P. O. Box 38
Lebanon GA 30146-0998
Phone 770-479-0963
Email: waregistrar0809@yahoo.com

William Holland Registrar Denise Talbott
216 Springview St
Murphy NC 28906
Phone 828-494-7213
Email: whregistrar@yahoo.com

Education Chair
Julia Larson
5297 Huntington St NE
St Petersburg FL 33703
Phone 727-522-1254
Email: sfmshedchair@gmail.com

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beading, traditional</td>
<td>jCase Leeser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabochons, beginning</td>
<td>Jerry Mason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chainmaking, beg.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enameling</td>
<td>Renee Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass fusing</td>
<td>Julia Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lampwork, beginning</td>
<td>Cindy Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opal cutting</td>
<td>Sara Lee Boyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrimshaw techniques</td>
<td>Gino Deskins/Betty Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, beginning #1</td>
<td>Dan Haga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, beginning #2</td>
<td>Alan Jewell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wire sculpture*</td>
<td>Diane Mason</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wirecraft, Beginning</td>
<td>Danny Griffin</td>
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SESSION TWO - WILDACRES
MONDAY, August 18-24, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabochons</td>
<td>Betty James</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faceting, beg</td>
<td>David Lonser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Connection</td>
<td>Kim St Jean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chainmaking, beginning</td>
<td>Roy Deere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gem</td>
<td>Ben Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ident/Appreciation</td>
<td>Jeff Sheer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metalsmithing, Advanced*</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Photography</td>
<td>Ken Kipnis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMC 1</td>
<td>Ken, Mary Ann Devos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raku Beads, Pendants</td>
<td>Jim Cullen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed Bead Techniques</td>
<td>Vivian Heath</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver, beginning</td>
<td>Nancy English</td>
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<td>Wire, beginning</td>
<td>Rowan Rose</td>
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SESSION THREE - WILDACRES
MONDAY, September 15-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cold Connections</td>
<td>Kim St Jean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enameling</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chainmaking, advanced*</td>
<td>Roy Deere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facet/Intentia, beg</td>
<td>Tom Wilkie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casting Finishing*</td>
<td>Gino Deskins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opal Cutting</td>
<td>Sara Lee Boyce</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMC 2</td>
<td>Ken, Mary Ann Devos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed bead tech</td>
<td>Roz Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, beginning</td>
<td>Zane Purcell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stained glass, beginning</td>
<td>Julia Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire Weaving*</td>
<td>Louise Coulson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wire, knotting/braiding*</td>
<td>Don Coulson</td>
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SESSION FOUR - WILLIAM HOLLAND
SUNDAY, October 12-18
(Julia Larson, Acting Director)

<table>
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<th>Class</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Bill &amp; Dee Conybear</td>
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<td>Cold Connection</td>
<td>Kathy Morris</td>
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<td>Faceting Two</td>
<td>David Corn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fused Glass</td>
<td>Addy DiPietro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gourd Carving</td>
<td>Pat Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opal cutting</td>
<td>Joe DiPietro</td>
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<td>Lost Wax Casting</td>
<td>John Iacullo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Photography</td>
<td>Ken Kipnis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMC</td>
<td>Pam Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrimshaw</td>
<td>Gino Deskins/Betty Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Beading</td>
<td>Vivian Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, beginning #1</td>
<td>Don &amp; Ann Monroe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, beginning #2</td>
<td>Dan Haga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, intermediate*</td>
<td>Allen Jewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Wire</td>
<td>Janet Corn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WORDS OF CAUTION

John M. Wright, Chairman, AFMS Conservation & Legislation

For the past 15 to 20 years warnings about the probability that legislation similar to the current Paleontological Resources Preservation Act now being considered by Congress was expected. The warnings have for the most part been ignored or arbitrarily dismissed and not passed on to the majority of our members. It seems that the prevailing mindset is “that someone else is suppose to take care of these types of problems”.

I know at the club level, legislative matters are so uninteresting and boring; after all there are so many much more important priorities like refreshments, field trips, programs, the annual shows, etc., that just have to be addressed. Most of our area federation and club editors don’t even consider articles about pending legislation newsworthy enough to be included in their publications, not even when they are in a pinch for filler material. At best the legislative articles in the AFMS Newsletters and ALAA bulletins receive only a cursory glance most of the time.

So legislative matters are boring; well, while it’s doubtful, let me see if I can generate a little interest. Let’s go back to the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (Senate version S320 and House version HR554). First of all this proposed law is based on the premise that “all vertebrate fossils are rare”. This is simply not true. Vertebrate fossils are found in abundance all over the world. The United States alone has billions of shark’s teeth and Dr. Charles Love, a noted Paleontologist, estimated that in just a one-half mile area of the Green River Formation in southern Wyoming, there are enough fossil fish specimens to provide two for each man, woman, and child who live on this earth. Even the coveted dinosaur fossils are really not that rare and more are constantly being discovered. All museums large or small, public and private with an earth science interest have dinosaur fossils in whole or at least in part. I also understand that there are some institutions that have owned prize specimens for many years, yet have made no attempt to study or prepare them for display.

So the premise for this legislation is in principle based on a “lie” purposefully perpetrated by a small group of charlatans to cheat the American public out of their rightful heritage that insures the freedom of access to public lands they own and support. The really disturbing part of this ploy is that these charlatans were actually able to recruit legislative nitwits as sponsors. This sheer arrogance and unmitigated disregard for the rights of American citizens in this absurd legislative proposal is absolutely amazing! It makes you wonder what rock these esteemed members of our society crawled out from under.

If this proposed legislation is passed and enacted in it’s present form, a mechanism is going to be in place that could ultimately be used to restrict our access to public lands not only for hunting fossils, but for most any other kind of activity. Section 2 of the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act as currently written allows “recreational or casual collecting using hand tools in certain areas”. “These areas will be designated by the Secretary of the Interior” who happens to be a bureaucrat and more than likely will have no idea of where these areas are; so actually some local surrogate will ultimately makes the decision on the areas that will be available to the public. While these recreational or casual collecting areas sound good, in reality they are just going to provide some “crumbs” to dupe the public while most areas will be placed “off limits” except for the select few. Under Section 10 of this bill any sites that contain palentological resources will be “kept secret” and since the proposed legislation does not provide for any type of public oversight, it makes you wonder what other discoveries might also be kept secret.

Sections 7 and 8 of the proposed bill establishes some pretty tough penalties. Pick up one of the billions of shark’s teeth on federal lands and you could go to jail, pay a hefty fine, loose your vehicle and anything else you have with you including your underwear. PS: There are no requirements for the enforcement of this official that issues a citation to be an expert in paleontology or even be familiar with different kinds of rocks.

(Continued Next Page)
WORDS OF CAUTION
(Continued)

Another special added proviso contained in the bill is the “grandfather clause” in Section 7(d), which exempts owners of vertebrate fossils from penalty if the fossils were lawfully obtained prior to the date the proposed legislation is enacted. Now that is downright decent, except for one small legal technicality that I mentioned in the previous paragraph called “burden of proof”. If you own any vertebrate fossils, be sure that you have absolute proof that you acquired them legally. Even with undeniable proof be careful, because the bill also contains a provision for rewarding snitches. Owning fossils of any kind and particularly vertebrate fossils may in the future result in a lot of heartburn and possibly a lot of expense.

Fossils are a substantial part of the businesses associated with our hobby. If this law is enacted, many of the rock shops around the country are expected to go out of business. Think about the dealers at your gem and mineral shows; while exclusive fossil dealers are few, most of the dealers offer some fossils for sale. They can only sell so much of the other items in their inventory, so how do you think they are going to make up for the slack? A lot of the exhibits at our shows are fossils. If enacted, this bill is going to affect you even if you don’t have an interest in fossils.

These are the facts as I see them and have explained them to you in the above paragraphs.

Who loses if this proposed legislation is passed? We do and many more like us. Okay – what are we going to do about it? Write letters to our congressional representatives or sit back and do nothing? If we do nothing, when the hammer falls so to speak, we will have no justification or reason to cry about, because it will be our own fault. Think about it!

DMC Field Trip
Vulcan Quarry, Brooksville, Florida
January 19th, 2008
Host-Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society

Sixty-one members from 9 clubs gathered outside the quarry entrance around 8:45am to get signed in and to wait for our guide for the day. It was a chilly, overcast morning but the forecast was for the rain to hold off until late afternoon. Our guide, Alan Pagels, arrived around 9:00am and gave us a short safety talk before leading us in to the collecting area. George Libby from GMS had planned and invited everyone for a trip to Honeymoon Island for the following day, but we had been informed that beach renourishment made collecting essentially impossible. Alan was kind enough to grant access to anyone interested in coming back to collect at the quarry again on Sunday. After a short trip into the quarry, a large area in the bottom of the quarry made parking easy. As everyone scattered across the huge collecting area, mud soon gathered on everyone’s boots making the hunt a good day of exercise.

Pictures and the above text can be found at the following link: http://www.jaxgemandmineral.org/brooksville.htm

Mickey Cecil
JGMS
SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
2008 FIRST QUARTER BOARD MEETING

Saturday March 29, 2008, 9:00 A.M.

Host: Middle Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society
Hotel: Ramada Inn and Suites Nashville Airport
2425 Atrium Way
Nashville, TN 37214
Phone: 615.883.5201
Rates: $55.00 Single, $64.00 Double
(Ask for Middle Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society Rate)

Campgrounds: There are several campgrounds in the Opryland Area

Meeting: Registration begins at 8:30 A.M. in one of the Hotel conference rooms. The meeting begins at 9:00 A.M.
Cracker Barrel: Friday Night 7:00 p.m. at the hotel

Things to do in the area:

MTG&MS Lapidary Shop at the Donelson Senior Center, open after the meeting

Middle Tennessee State University Mineral Museum will be open after the meeting

Opry Mills Shopping Center

Grand Ole Opry – Friday and Saturday Night

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

The Colburn Earth Science Museum is pleased to announce the Asheville Gem Fest, happening Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 13, 14 and 15. Asheville Gem Fest is a great event: a gem and mineral show featuring quality dealers from across the nation, fun activities for the entire family, informative speakers and more!

The Colburn Earth Science Museum will also be open admission free all weekend, and their legendary silent auction will be back, bigger and better than ever.

With two floors and over 20 dealers, the 2008 Asheville Gem Fest is a great show located in the center of downtown Asheville, conveniently near all that a fun and vibrant city has to offer. Plan now to attend!

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

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

GRAVES MOUNTAIN "ROCK SWAPS AND DIGS"

8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Friday, April 25, 2008
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Saturday, April 26, 2008
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Sunday, April 27, 2008
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Friday, October 3, 2008
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Saturday, October 4, 2008
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Sunday, October 5, 2008

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

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., in regard to his plans to hold TWO three-day digs and rock swaps on the Mountain during April 25–27, 2008 and October 3–5, 2008. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart-type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6:00 P.M. each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks: Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events. Don't forget to bring some extra money to buy the special "Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL.

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

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

(Continued on Page 11)
ACCESS CORRECTION: The collecting restrictions that were imposed in October 2007 have been rescinded. As it stands now, any group (two or more rockhounds) can reserve Graves Mountain (i.e., you do not have to be the field trip leader of a college, university or gem and mineral society). In order to gain access, you will need contact Junior Norman at 706.359.3862 (business) or 706.359.2381 (home). Lots of Graves Mountain information, including reports and pictures, may be obtained on the Georgia Mineral Society website: http://www.gaminal.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm

In order to gain access to the mountain, you will need to contact the caretaker, Clarence Norman, Jr. (contact information on page 10). Give him a call and he can reserve the mountain exclusively for your group. All of the mineral societies that go there to collect offer the caretaker a donation for his trouble and effort in keeping the mountain open and accessible to them. Please consider what it is worth to your mineral society to be able to field collect minerals at Georgia’s premier mineral location!

GRAVES MOUNTAIN "ROCK SWAPS AND DIGS"  
(Continued from Page 10)

Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain!

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

via email from Jim Flora  
SFMS Fieldtrip Committee Chairman

GRAVES MOUNTAIN CODE OF CONDUCT!

• Park your vehicle in the designated area(s) only.

• NO child under the age of 12 years old is to be allowed on the mountain because of the dangers involved.

• ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.

• The field trip leaders have final and absolute say as to where you may safely work.

• Ladders or power tools of any kind will not be allowed. (HAND TOOLS ONLY!)

• STAY AWAY FROM ALL HIGH WALLS!!

• NO RAPELLING OFF OF ANYTHING!

• NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE ON ANY PART OF GRAVES MOUNTAIN BEYOND THE PARKING AREA! (The caretaker must accompany anyone driving beyond the parking area!)

• EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN BY DUSK. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)

WILLIAM HOLLAND WANT AD

Adding to staff: Must relocate to area.  
For job description email: lapidarytwo@alltel.net.  
Resumes may be sent to the above email address or mail to: William Holland Retreat Inc., P.O. box 980, Young Harris, GA 30582.

Suzanne via Jim Flora,  
SFMS Web Master.
March 7-9, 2008, Largo, FL—Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society. 37th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show and Sale. Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue N., between 66th St. and US 19. Hours: 7th & 8th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Show Chair, Bill Schmidt at 727.657.0998 or email at schmidwl@eckerd.edu or Dealer chair, Sue Black at 727.560.5124 or email at sueblack@tampabay.rr.com.

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

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

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 kksy19@aol.com.

November 7-9, 2008, Pascagoula, MS - Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society. Civic Center Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds, Pascagoula, MS. Hours: 7th & 8th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 9th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: John Wright, 3304 Nottingham Rd., Ocean Springs, MS 39564, 228.875.9192, or osjbw@datsasync.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, RigrSc1@aol.com and Virgil Richards, dws@dances-with-snakes.com.

California Federation
Ventura, California
June 27-29, 2008

Eastern Federation
Jackson, Mississippi

Midwest Federation
Lincoln, Nebraska
June 20-22, 2008

Northwest Federation
Ontario, Oregon
June 20-22, 2008

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

South Central Federation and AFMS Convention
Humble, Texas
September 25-28, 2008

Southeast Federation
To Be Announced

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 member are requested to advise Federation Officers.
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- 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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