UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

July 8, 2006: Corundum Knob (aka Chunky Gal Knob), Clay County, NC. Ruby corundum, spinel, sapphire, talc serpentine, brucite, tremolite, actinolite, smargdite, pyroxene, fuchsite and dunite. Hosts: Northeast Georgia Mineral Society, Cornelia, GA.


“Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!”

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Website: http://www.amfed.org/sfms

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

IT TAKES A LOT OF WORK

Often I am asked: What do we get from the Southeast Federation?

Some important things we get are the Workshop Program, the Insurance Program, the Lodestar and Field Trips.

These things do not just happen. Somewhere, sometime, someone is working very very hard, often having to juggle family and paying jobs, to get SFMS work done. We often take all of this for granted and do not even thank our workers.

It is difficult to please everyone in an organization as large as ours, but the best way to make most people happy is to listen to and act on their suggestions as best we can. But in order to do this we must have suggestions. I have asked repeatedly for feedback on our different programs. I have also asked for names of members that could fill some positions in the future. How many people have I heard from? THREE!! I am asking one more time for suggestions from our members on how we can make our Federation better. I will not mention it again.

This is YOUR federation. It is up to YOU to decide which way you want it to go.  Ann Monroe SFMS President

WORKSHOP UPDATE

Advance enrollment is low for the remaining SFMS workshop sessions. It will be necessary to cancel several classes at both Wildacres and William Holland unless more students sign up. SFMS Workshop guidelines require us to cancel a class when there is insufficient enrollment to cover the cost of an instructor’s room and board. Please let our Registrars know if you have plans to attend any of the sessions. We need your support.

Earlier in the year we announced that David Lonser would teach an Advanced Faceting class at the August session at Wildacres. At the present time there is insufficient enrollment to offer the class. Please get in touch with the Wildacres Registrars by phone or email if you have any plans to take Advanced Faceting.

Fred Sias Education Chairman

email: sfms@amfed.org
THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

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

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

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

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The article submittal due date for the September 2006 Lodestar is August 25, 2006

Copyright© 2004 by the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. Except for items that are specifically copyrighted by their authors, other societies may use material published in Lodestar provided that proper credit is given and the sense or meaning of the material is not changed. Editor: Carolyn L. Daniels.
EDITORS RAMBLINGS.....

This issue of the Lodestar is reaching you long after it should. Please forgive me. My hard drive "crashed" and every file, including stored emails was lost. I have had to start from scratch on both of the newsletters that I am currently editing. You will probably notice a slight difference in formatting in this issue of Lodestar.

Lesson learned: Backup! Backup! Backup. I will be purchasing a backup drive as soon as family finances allow. I will be saving any publications that I generate on either floppy disks or cds in the meantime.

However, this will not help with my emails. Please resubmit any emails including show announcements that you emailed me before July 7, 2006 and which have not been published in Lodestar as of the May/June 2006 issue. I will do my best to insure that they are published in a timely basis. I am sincerely sorry if this has inconvenienced anyone.

Carolyn L. Daniels, Lodestar Editor

LET'S PLAY, "LET'S PRETEND!"

If your club has some interest in having a youth program, what do you do now?.

1. Create a list of young people with their phone numbers and email addresses. Advertise at your club gem show, in the local library, at the local scout groups and in the local schools.

2. Pick a time and day to meet monthly. One hour before the regular club meeting is a suggestion. The adult leader will only have to arrive a little earlier and other members can be there to help. Have only one enthusiastic and responsible adult in charge and ask others to help.

3. Register with AFMS as a Junior Gem Club Group. Your will receive pins and helpful ideas. There is no charge, no required number of members and it is a great resource. They are there to support you. Contact Jim Brace-Thompson at jbrace@adelpia.net for details or call him at 805.659.3577.

4. The format of your meetings can include a topic for the evening, a rock exchange, a game (you can adapt any game you know) with a mineral reward for the winners (everyone can be a winner), a show and tell (children love to tell hobby related stories) and planning for a field trip, such as to a museum, a clubhouse or the home of a member of the adult club that has a workshop or lapidary equipment and a hobby related craft project.

5. Sitting around a table or in a classroom-like setting is a good learning atmosphere. The games can be table games.

6. Participate in the AFMS badge program. It is a wonderful, comprehensive program to use with badges rewarded in various areas of achievement. Contact Jim as suggested in bullet #3.

7. Watch for other suggestions in the Lodestar. Talk to your Club president about the youth information sent to them in January 2005. Scholarships to SFMS workshops are available for those aged 12-17. The "Junior of the Year" contest is also held every year.

8. Send every youth home from every meeting with a rock for their collection and invite them to attend the adult program.

9. Most of all: Enjoy and learn from the youth!!

Hugh and Leona Sheffield
SFMS Youth Resources Chairman
husheffie@aol.com or 727.894.2440

BE SAFE – BE WELL

Protection

Do not get excited when you read the title of this article. It will be suitable for young readers and will not venture into forbidden or questionable areas. As a matter of fact it will not cover any of the following subjects:

- Burglar alarms, the mafia or other "protection agencies",
- Snake boots, chaps or briar-proof pants,
- Sunscreen or insect repellent,
- Goggles or safety glasses,
- Welding gloves or welding goggles,
- Bulletproof vests, or
- Mosquito nets.

I want to talk to you about umbrella liability insurance.

This is not a commercial message or even an infomercial. I have absolutely nothing to do with insurance except as a consumer but I have been increasingly concerned about my fellow rockhounds and lapidarists and exposure that they may not be aware of.

Ann and I are pretty much retired and live on retirement income and the little bit that we have put away for a rainy day. Much of our enjoyment is derived from pro-bono teaching (that means free) and we have become concerned that if someone in class or elsewhere is injured, we could be held liable even if we did nothing wrong. A little note in our auto club magazine pointed out dangers or situations that we had never thought of. Upon investigating we learned that umbrella liability coverage is quite inexpensive, covers many situations and can really add to one's peace of mind.

I have discussed this with several friends and relatives and have found no schools of thought (should we be surprised that any issue has two sides?). One school of thought was that the people I talked with were also unaware of the potential situation. They know that I do these articles and strongly suggested that the subject should be shared. The other school of thought is that when or if it becomes known that you have this coverage, you will be targeted for nuisance lawsuits.

I would really like some feedback on this situation.

Don Monroe, SFMS Safety Committee Chairman
Welcome to Rockin’ In Music City, the 2006 convention and show for the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. and the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. sponsored by the Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (MTG&MS). The convention will be held in Nashville “Music City” Tennessee in August of 2006.

The following pages will provide you with much information that we believe you will find to be helpful in attending the conventions and the Gem & Mineral Show in Nashville, Tennessee. We are providing much more information on the area on our web site www.amfed.org.

MTG&MS member chairs for the convention and show are:

Lewis Elrod-General Chair
Anna Elrod- Event Secretary
Mary Clyde Sparks-Convention Chair
Ann Buckner-Accommodations Chair
Barbara Fields-Decorating & Favors Chair
Will Smith-Show Chair, Treasurer & Publicity Chair
Steve Henegar-Dealer Chair
Bill Buckner-Demonstrations Chair
Marty Hart-Physical Arrangements
Anna Elrod & Ann Buckner-Hospitality
John Stanley, Portia Stanley & Mike Waters-Exhibits
John Stanley, Portia Stanley & Mike Waters-Field Trips

Host Hotel

The host hotel is the Hotel Preston. Most convention activities, including the convention banquet, will take place there. You must state that you are with the AFMS to get the convention special rates of $82.00 per night. Be sure to make your reservations at the earliest possible date as this is a heavy tourist time in Nashville and many hotels are already booked. Reservations at the Preston must be made by July 15th as this is the end date for our block of rooms.

The hotel may be reached at their toll free number: 1.877.361.5500. More information concerning the hotel, including a map, may be found at the AFMS website: www.amfed.org, the MTG&MS site at: www.mtgms.org or the hotel’s site at: www.hotelpreston.com.

Several MTG&MS members have visited the hotel, without any announcement of who they were, and have enjoyed the meals they ordered.

Camping

Many of you will want to come in various motor homes, etc. and we are pleased to tell you that you can camp at the show site on the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. There are 250 spots so no reservations are needed. All have full hookups with electric (most are 30 amp, but some are 50 amp, all with standard plugs so no adapters are needed), water and sewer connections. Find your spot and pull in. Fairgrounds security will come by, collect your payment for the stay and provide a notice to place in your window so no other security person will come by and try to collect again.

Cost is $30 a night. They will take cash or check and there is an ATM on site if needed.

For other camping locations check www.amfed.org and you will find a lot of information about the Nashville area including camping.

Convention and Show Pins

We have very attractive show/convention pins. They are shaped in a rock form with Rockin’ In Music City 2006 on them. They are numbered from 1 to 2006. The cost is only $2.00 each. Should you order by mail, please include $1.0 per order to cover the extra postage cost of mailing the pins. They will also be available at the registration tables at the show and host hotel. Please purchase one, or more, to assist us with the cost of promoting the show and convention.

Bring A Rock

The MTG&MS is working with the Middle Tennessee State University’s Mineral, Gem & Fossil Museum. We would like you to bring two rocks (minerals, slabs, rough, cabs, faceted stones, fossils, etc.). One will be given to the museum and one will be used at our silent auction at the show to assist in paying the expenses of the convention and show.

As you will arrive from many locations in the U.S., this is a chance for us to obtain a number of new items for display at the museum. Those items displayed will be credited with your name as the donor. Please provide us with the identity of the material, location of its origin, and your name in writing, along with the donation.

Schedule of Events

Monday, August 14:
Noon: Registration opens at Host Hotel

Tuesday, August 15:
7:30 A.M.: Registration opens at Host Hotel
8:00 A.M.: Field trip for fossils - See page 7
8:00 A.M.: Rules Committee Meeting at Host Hotel
7:30 P.M.: Cracker Barrel Meeting at Host Hotel

Wednesday August 16:
8:00 A.M.: Registration opens at Host Hotel
9:00 A.M.: AFMS Annual Convention at Host Hotel
AFMS Scholarship Board meeting immediately follows
AFMS meeting
1:00 P.M.: Field trip-quartz geodes - See page 7
Visit to new Gem & Mineral Museum in Murfreesboro follows the geode trip. - See page 7

Thursday August 17:
8:00 A.M.: Registration opens at Host Hotel
Noon Dealer setup at show site (Fairgrounds)
3:00 P.M.: Exhibitor setup begins at Fairgrounds
Open Field trip-workshop of the MTG&MS - See page 7
8:00 P.M.: Show building closes
Midday General Jackson Showboat - See page 7

Friday August 18:
9:00 A.M.: Registration opens at Fairgrounds
9:00 A.M.: Show opens at Fairgrounds
9:00 A.M.: Website seminar at Host Hotel
Noon: All Officers luncheon at Host Hotel - Everyone invited to attend
2:00 P.M.: Editors Seminar (tentative) at Host Hotel
6:00 P.M.: Show closes
Night: Grand Old Opry - See page 7

Saturday August 19:
9:00 A.M.: Registration opens at Fairgrounds
9:00 A.M.: Show opens at Fairgrounds
9:00 A.M.: SFMS Convention opens at Host Hotel
1:00 P.M.: ALAA meeting at Host Hotel
6:00 P.M.: Show Closes at Fairgrounds
7:00 P.M.: Awards Banquet at Host Hotel

Sunday August 20:
7:30 A.M.: Registration opens at Host Hotel
8:00 A.M.: Editors Breakfast at Host Hotel
9:00 A.M.: Registration opens at Fairgrounds
10:00 A.M.: Show opens at Fairgrounds
5:00 P.M.: Show closes at Fairgrounds
Official Registration Form
AFMS/SFMS Annual Convention and Show
Sponsored by the Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

Note: Cut-off date for motel reservations is July 15, 2006. The hotel will not hold rooms past this date and you may not be able to get a room at the agreed price after this date. The cut-off date also applies to this registration sheet and the activities thereon. We may be able to entertain you after this date but this is not guaranteed. See AFMS website, www.amfed.org, for hotel information. Camping information is also available on the AFMS website.

Please copy this form as needed and complete a separate form for each person registering. Packets for same household will be combined.

Confirmation of registration will be sent to all registrants. Tickets to meals and show will be included in your packet.

Everyone is welcome to attend any session or function. Please register so we will be able to plan to accommodate you properly.

Name: ____________________________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________________________________ Email: __________________________
City: _____________________________________________________________________________________________ State: _______ ZIP: ____________________________

Please check all items that apply to you so we may correctly issue your name badge:

___AFMS   ___SFMS   ___Other
___AFMS Officer   ___SFMS Officer   ___Editor
___Past President   ___Past President   ___Judge
___Delegate   ___Delegate   ___Exhibitor
___Other   ___Alternate Delegate   ___Demonstrator
___Other

Office(s) held as indicated above for name tag: ____________________________________________________________________

Society affiliation: ___________________________________________________________________________________________
City: _____________________________________________________________________________________________ State: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

Tickets for which registration and/or payment must be made in advance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Cost</th>
<th>Net Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three day show pass-only with pre-registration $6.00</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Officers Luncheon $17.00</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Banquet-Pecan Encrusted Trout $35.00</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Banquet-Southern Bleu Chicken $35.00</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editors Breakfast-The Preston Starter $17.00</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geode Hunt $5.00</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show pins, $2.00 each plus $1.00 per order for shipping</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Following items at no fee, but donations are welcome, please indicate your desire to attend by checking your intent to attend. This will assist us with space planning, etc.:

Rules committee _____ AFMS Convention _____
Scholarship Board _____ Fossil hunt _____
Cracker Barrel _____ Museum visit _____
Editors Seminar _____ Web-Masters Seminar _____

Mail to: MTG&MS, P. O. Box 1256, Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1256
COMBINED SFMS & AFMS CONVENTION
Nashville, Tennessee
August 18 - 20, 2006

Competitive Exhibit Entry Form

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete all information and mail to: Betty M. James, 167 Florence Circle, Florence, MS 39073, (601) 914-6747, to be received no later than July. 15, no exceptions.

NAME____________________ PHONE________________E-mail________________

ADDRESS
Street____________________City____________________ State____________________ Zip____________________


DIVISION_________________ EXHIBIT CLASS________SFMS____ AFMS Direct________

For Direct Entry: Date & Location of Regional Show where Eligibility was achieved

____________________

Exhibitor Group cannot be changed after Form has been accepted. Anything else can be changed up to exhibit is finished before judging.

CASE AND SPACE INFORMATION:
I will use my own case: Yes ___ No ___ Dimensions: W _____ H _____ D _____
Lighting is limited to 150 watts per 4' of exhibit space.
Do you need to borrow a case? _____ Note: Nashville has a limited number of modified NW slant-front cases which will be assigned on the basis of postmark date. You must furnish your own liners and risers.
Set-up time is from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm Thurs., Aug. 17 and 8:00 am to 9:00 am Fri. Aug. 18.
All exhibits must remain in place through 5:00 pm Sun., Aug. 20 and be removed as soon thereafter as possible.

All Exhibitors must sign this statement except those entering Division E. See AFMS UR Page E-2, Rule 17.9.

I CERTIFY THAT ALL MATERIALS EXHIBITED IN COMPETITION ARE MY PERSONAL PROPERTY, AND THAT ALL WORKMANSHIP (EXCEPT MINOR FINDINGS AS ALLOWED BY AFMS RULES) WAS DONE BY ME.

SIGNED____________________ PRINT NAME________________
Society name________________ City & State________________
Club Officer’s Signature & Title________________
Birth Date if Junior________________ Date of form:________________

MTG&MS WILL FURNISH SECURITY AND TAKE REASONABLE PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT PROPERTY AND PERSON OF EXHIBITOR BUT WILL TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LOSSES OR CLAIMS.

See AFMS Uniform Rules, 8th Edition, updated, to correctly fill out this application.
Use separate sheet for each exhibit. Copy of form will be returned to you when exhibit is accepted.
AFMS/SFMS Annual Convention and Show
Information Continued

Meals

All Officers Luncheon
Friday, August 18th, Noon, At the Host Hotel
Menu:
House Salad
Ranch or Light Honey Mustard Dressing
Penne Pasta
Marinara Meat Sauce or Alfredo Sauce
Dessert
Iced Tea or Water

Awards Banquet
Saturday night, August 19th, 7:00 P.M., At the Host Hotel
Entrees are served with salad, fresh baked bread, iced tea, water, coffee and dessert.

>>>>>>Salad<<<<<<
House Salad
Ranch or Light Honey Mustard Dressing

>>>>>>Entrees<<<<<<
Southern Bleu Chicken: Breast of chicken stuffed with country ham, smoked gouda cheese and baked en croute topped with a creole tomato sauce and chef’s choice vegetable

Pecan Crusted Trout: Fresh trout filet with pecan coating, wild rice pilaf and chef’s choice vegetable

Editors Breakfast
Sunday, August 20th, 8:00 A.M., at the Host Hotel
The Preston Starter
Chilled fruit juice
Assorted baked breads, bagels and breakfast pastries
Scrambled eggs
Bacon
Breakfast potatoes
Fresh brewed coffee and assorted teas

Field Trips

Field trip in Davidson County (Nashville) for fossils.
Tuesday, August 15, 2006, 8:00 A.M.
Trip Leader: Nancy Stetten

Meeting place: Host Hotel.

Tools: Rock hammer or small pick, fossils are showing in rubble at base of road cut, no holes to be dug. A hammer and chisel may be handy if any are located in larger rocks. Carry a bag or bucket for your finds.

Limit: Just be reasonable in the quantity you take.

Cost: No charge, but a donation to the MTG&MS would be appreciated to aid with cost of convention and show.

Regulations: Listen to trip leader and stay away from high walls or the highway.

There will be a map in your packet, at the Registration Table, showing you how to meet for the trip. We will leave from the host hotel at 8:00 A.M. We will then caravan to the collecting site. It is requested that you "car pool" as much as possible to reduce congestion at the site. Visits will be made to two, and if possible, three sites. The trip leader will provide further information, which will be included in your packets that will be at the registration table.

Field trip to Woodbury, Tennessee
Quartz Geodes.
Wednesday, August 16, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.
Trip leaders: John Stanley, Portia Stanley and Mike Waters

Meeting place: Woodbury, Tennessee.

Tools: Rock hammer or small pick, geodes are showing at the surface, no holes to be dug. Carry a bag or bucket for your finds.

Limit: Just be reasonable in the quantity you take.

Cost: $5.00 to the landowner. Pay with your reservation.

Regulations: Must not break geodes on site. Field breaking of geodes causes sharp fragments that are bad for tires and farm animals. Do not leave any gates open.

There will be a map in your packet, at the Registration Table, showing you how to meet for the trip. We will meet at Woodbury at 9:00 A.M. We will then caravan to the collecting site. It is requested that you "car pool" as much as possible as the road to the field is passable in a car but is more suitable to a pickup or SUV.

Field trip to new MTSU Gem, Mineral and Fossil Museum in Murfreesboro.
Wednesday, August 16, 2006 at 10:00 P.M.

Meeting place: At museum or on return from geode hunt.

Cost: No charge, but a donation to the museum would be appreciated to aid in additions to the museum displays.

There will be a map in your packet, at the Registration Table, showing you how to get to the museum. There will be an attendant at the museum all day to allow visitors to enter.

Other Events

Grand Old Opry

The Opry is on Friday night. For tickets call 1.800.733.6779. The cost for individual tickets is $36.50 plus $3.75 for mail order tickets. If 15 or more get together then the tickets will cost only $32.85.

General Jackson Showboat

This is available for a mid-day cruise. We have left time for this on Thursday night. The tickets, by mail order, are: $49.11 plus the $3.75 charges for mail order. Should 15 or more want this and get together the cost will be about $44.20 for the best seating and no extra charge.

If these trips are desired you may call 1.800.733.6779 and make your reservations.

Lewis F. Elrod, CFE
AN OPEN LETTER TO CLUB EDITORS

Newsletter editors are probably the most influential members of the Southeast Federation. They are the primary means by which information about the Federation and about their own club reaches most members.

It is well known that only a fraction of each club’s membership actually attend club meetings at any one time. It has been suggested that perhaps 50 percent of club members obtain their information only from the newsletter.

Under these circumstances newsletter editors can have a strong influence on the orientation and activities of the club. I was a gem and mineral club newsletter editor for over 15 years and I know that a large percentage of the information received by my club members was channeled through the newsletter. From this standpoint the editors have an unusually strong influence on what member know about and what members think about the Southeast Federation.

Having remarked about the important influence of Club newsletter editors, I must now put on my Education Chair hat and point out that many newsletter editors are not supporting the SFMS workshops adequately. In addition to being a former editor, I have also been a State Director and have visited many clubs throughout my state and some in neighboring states. One of my favorite speaking topics is about Southeast Federation workshops. And each time I give a presentation I ask about how many people have never heard of the workshops. Inevitably, I see a few hands.

How is it possible that there can be members of each club who have never heard of Southeast Federation gem, mineral, and jewelry workshops? For two years the SFMS Education Committee has published a special supplement to the Lodestar describing our entire workshop program. Four copies are sent every month to officers in every club in the Federation. Each month the Lodestar continues to provide updates and changes to the workshop schedule and repeats the workshop agenda.

I have reviewed a number of gem and mineral club newsletters on the Internet. Most newsletters contain nothing about the SFMS workshops. A few issues merely mention the workshop dates but nothing about the classes being offered. A very few clubs do, in fact, provide good coverage and we see their members at workshops.

Some club officers report to me that they always bring up information about the workshops at the meetings although it may never appear in their club newsletter. This means that perhaps 50% of the Federation members never receive any information about the workshops if the percentage of club members attending club meetings is any indication. This means that as many as 3000-4000 members of the Southeast Federation never receive any information about Federation sponsored workshops.

The Southeast Federation workshop program is now in a bit of a crisis. Enrollment has been steadily falling over the past couple of years. At the present time the October SFMS session at the William Holland School has only 21 students registered. Last year we had an enrollment of 55 students, which was at that time almost full. Now there is a new lodge and the available number of beds has doubled at William Holland.

Editors, we need your help! Something must be done or the retreats where our workshops are presented will not be able to continue supporting our Southeast Federation workshop schedule. During the last couple of years the space available at the April session of our workshop at Wildacres has steadily declined. As our enrollment dropped the retreat offered the empty beds to another waiting group. It is obviously necessary for the Wildacres Retreat to have their rooms filled as much as possible every week. We cannot fault the retreats for this. If we are going to continue to have space available at the Wildacres and William Holland retreats it is important that we maintain a steady enrollment.

We are aware that there have been serious problems, such as hurricane Katrina and high gasoline prices, which make it increasingly difficult for persons to take the long trip to the retreats from the far reaches of our Federation. Still, we must conclude that that it would be useful if 3000-4000 Federation additional members received the information about the SFMS Workshops that is now being left out of local club newsletters.

We also understand the problem of increasing workshop registration fees. This is undoubtedly a problem for many of our retired members on a fixed income. However, when retreats increase their charges to the Federation for room and board it is necessary for the Education Committee to increase our registration fees. Everyone should be aware that the registration fees of students attending the workshops pay the room and board of the instructors and staff. The Federation does not pay Instructors, Directors and Registrars! They voluntarily provide their time during our summer workshops.

(Continued on Page 13)
SFMS 2006 Wildacres Workshop at Little Switzerland, NC
2006 Workshop Dates

April ...........Thursday, April 13 to Thursday, April 20, 2006
August ........Monday, August 21 to Sunday, August 27, 2006
September ......Monday, Sept. 18 to Sunday, Sept. 24, 2006

Wildacres Retreat is a conference center dedicated in 1946 by I.D. Blumenthal and Madelyn Blumenthal of Charlotte, NC, to the improvement of human relations.

It is situated on 1400 acres at an elevation of 3,300 feet atop a mountain called Pompey’s Knob. It is in Little Switzerland, approximately half way between Asheville and Blowing Rock, NC just off the Blue Ridge Parkway.

There are two lodges, a dining hall, where meals are served family style, a library/auditorium building, mineral and lapidary shops plus a pottery studio.

Fees

Lodge accommodations: $310 per person (double occupancy), including meals. A limited number of single rooms are available at $470 per person. There are no facilities for camping or recreational vehicles.

Day Students: $140 per person, no meals are included. (Individual meals may be purchased directly from the Wildacres Retreat.)

Registration Procedures

Applications from members of SFMS clubs will be accepted first; however, members of other AFMS clubs may apply and will be scheduled following SFMS applicants.

Applications will be accepted beginning on January 17, 2006 for all sessions. At that time a $50 administrative fee should be submitted. The postmark date on or after this date determines the order of acceptance. First-time attendees at SFMS Workshops have an extra priority.

Students under age 18 are welcome, but they must be accompanied by a responsible adult and must be approved by the workshop director and instructor.

Reservation Deposit

A deposit of $50 per person must accompany all applications. The full amount may be remitted with the application if the applicant wishes. (It is easier for the Registrar.) The balance is due 4 weeks before the workshop begins. No reminders will be sent.

Cancellation Policy

There is a $50 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs. An additional $50 charge will be assessed for cancellations made less than 4 weeks before a session begins. No refund will be returned for cancellations by the student within 7 days of the start of a session. There will be no fee adjustment for late arrival or early departure.

Wildacres Retreat is a conference center dedicated in 1946 by I.D. Blumenthal and Madelyn Blumenthal of Charlotte, NC, to the improvement of human relations.
SFMS 2006 William Holland Workshop at Young Harris, Georgia

2006 Workshop Dates

June ................ Sunday, June 11 to Saturday, June 17, 2006
October .......... Sunday, October 8 to Saturday, October 14, 2006

Check in is on Sunday after 3 p.m. and departure is Saturday morning after breakfast.

The William Holland School of Lapidary Arts is situated on a mountain in north Georgia near the North Carolina border. The facility includes a two-story main building known as the Sparks Lodge with 29 air-conditioned bedrooms on the upper floor. A second lodge is located nearby with 22 additional air-conditioned bedrooms. All bedrooms are motel-like with private baths and two beds. Two rooms are equipped for the handicapped.

The lower, ground level of the Sparks Lodge houses 13 classrooms, the kitchen, and dining room. This floor is completely air-conditioned, and a new elevator permits easy access to both floors.

There are two other buildings that make up the retreat complex: the Seabolt Building, which houses the George Kasper Memorial Library as well as showers and restroom facilities for the campground, and Mary Lou’s Cottage, to house the instructional staff. The campground has 10 full hook-up spaces for RV’s up to 40 feet in length.

Fees

Lodge accommodations: $310 per person double occupancy, including meals. Single room: $470.

Day Students: $140 per person, no meals are included.

Campground Students: $120 hookup (including 2 persons; $25 per additional person), $140 per person for classes. No meals are included but are available directly from the retreat.

Meals: Breakfast $5, lunch $6, dinner $7.

Registration Procedures

Applications from members of SFMS clubs will be accepted first; however, members of other AFMS clubs may apply and will be scheduled following SFMS applicants.

Applications will be accepted beginning on January 17, 2006 for both sessions. The postmark date on or after this date determines the order of acceptance. First-time attendees have an extra priority.

Students under age 18 are welcome, but they must be accompanied by a responsible adult and must be approved by the workshop director and instructor.

Reservation Deposit

A non-refundable administrative fee of $50 per person must accompany all applications. The full amount may be remitted with the application if the applicant wishes. (It is easier for the Registrar.) The balance is due 4 weeks before the workshop begins. No reminders will be sent.

Cancellation Policy

There is a $50 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs. An additional $50 charge will be assessed for cancellations made less than 4 weeks before a session begins. No refund will be returned for cancellations within 7 days of the start of a session. A minimum of three students must be enrolled in a particular class to support the cost of the class. No fee will be charged if a class is canceled. No adjustment will be made for late arrival or early departure.

Workshop Directors
Dana and Ray Gonzalez
6226 Seaton Drive, Columbus, GA 31909
Phone: 706-327-4474 Email: drg@mchsi.com

Workshop Registrars
Sonia Arnold and Charlotte Caughman
P.O. Box 268, Brevard, NC 28712
Phone: 828-883-2029 or 864-473-0317
Email: whregistrars@gmail.com

Session 1: June 11-17, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chainmaking, Beginning</td>
<td>Dee/Bill Conybear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faceting, Beginning</td>
<td>David Corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fused Glass</td>
<td>Addy DePietro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Wax Casting</td>
<td>Fred Sias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opal Cutting</td>
<td>Joe DePietro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Origami</td>
<td>Hideko Pezant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polymer Clay</td>
<td>Marilyn Jobe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Beading</td>
<td>Kathy Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Silversmithing, Advanced</td>
<td>Dan Haga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silversmithing, Beginning</td>
<td>Allen Jewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stained Glass</td>
<td>Julia Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirecraft, Beginning</td>
<td>Lisa Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Wirecraft, Advanced</td>
<td>Linda Chandler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Session 2: October 8-14, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Glass Bead Making, Intermediate</td>
<td>Marilyn Jobe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabochons</td>
<td>Anita Westlake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain Making</td>
<td>John Runkle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fused Glass</td>
<td>Addy DePietro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost-wax Casting</td>
<td>John Iacullo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opal Cutting</td>
<td>Joe DePietro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Beads</td>
<td>Jo Harrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Silversmithing, Advanced</td>
<td>Dan Haga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silversmithing, Beginning</td>
<td>Bill Cady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Wire Weaving</td>
<td>Linda Chandler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Wirecraft Sculpture</td>
<td>Evelyn Gántnyer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Advanced courses with prerequisites are designated with an asterisk.*
2006 William Holland Workshop Registration Form

Session: ☐ June 11-17  ☐ October 8-14  Accommodations: ☐ Lodge  ☐ Campground  ☐ Day Student

(A)  ☐ Mr  ☐ Mrs  ☐ Ms
Name __________________________________________SFMS Club __________________________

PLEASE PRINT NAME(S) AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAG
SPELL OUT CLUB NAME INITIALS NOT ACCEPTED

(B)  ☐ Mr  ☐ Mrs  ☐ Ms
Phone __________________________Email __________________________

Address: __________________________________________

STREET __________________________________________
CITY __________________________________________
STATE __________________________________________
ZIP __________________________________________

Is this the first time you will attend William Holland?  (A) ☐ Yes  ☐ No  (B) ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Have you attended any other SFMS Workshop?  (A) ☐ Yes  ☐ No  (B) ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Do you wish to be placed on Stand-by if there are no vacancies when your application arrives?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Class Choices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Choice</th>
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<th>Second Choice</th>
<th>*</th>
<th>Third Choice</th>
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<td>B</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(*) Check box if you have previously taken this course at an SFMS Workshop

Room Assignment for Single Applicants only:
1) Do you have a friend with whom you wish to room?
___________________________________________________

2) Do you smoke?_____Do you wish to room with a non-smoking person?_________yes_________no preference.

3) Are you an early riser_________or a Night Owl________

Special Needs:
4) Do you need a handicap room? Yes_______No________
5) Can you negotiate stairs?          Yes_______No________
6) Special Dietary needs: Diabetic______Other________

Campers: Type________________________Length________________________

INSTRUCTIONS

1) Applications will be accepted beginning on January 17, 2006 for all sessions. The postmark date on or after this determines the order of acceptance. First-time attendees have extra priority.

2) Your Club Membership Dues must be current and your club’s dues to the Federation must also be paid before you will be accepted.

3) Cost per person for this session is $310, double occupancy with private bath. (Single room cost is $470.) $120 for camp site for 1 or 2 people, plus $140 per person for workshop classes. $140 for day students. (No meals are included for campers or day students but are available directly from the retreat.)

A reservation deposit of $50 per person must accompany this form. You may, and are encouraged to, pay the full amount with this application. If the full amount is not paid with this application, the balance will be due four weeks prior to the workshop.

4) Cancellation Policy: There is a $50 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs and an additional $50 charge for canceling less than 4 weeks before the session begins. No refund will be given for cancellations received less than 7 days before the session. There are No adjustments for late arrivals or early departures.

Amount submitted with application: $__________

Make Check Payable to:
SFMS William Holland Workshop

Mail check and this form to:
William Holland Registrars
P.O. Box 268, Brevard, NC 28712
Phone: 828-883-2029 or 864-473-0317
Email: whregistrars@gmail.com
2006 Wildacres Workshop Registration Form

**Session:** □ April □ August □ September  **Accommodations:** □ Lodge □ Day Student

(A) □ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms  SFMS Club __________________________

PLEASE PRINT NAME(S) AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAG  SPELLOUT CLUB NAME INITIALS NOT ACCEPTED

(B) □ Mr □ Mrs □ Ma __________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Street: __________________________ City: __________________________ State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________

Is this the first time you will attend Wildacres? (A) □ Yes □ No (B) □ Yes □ No

Have you attended any other SFMS Workshop? (A) □ Yes □ No (B) □ Yes □ No

Do you wish to be placed on Stand-by if there are no vacancies when your application arrives? □ Yes □ No

Class Choices

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(*) Check box if you have previously taken this course at an SFMS Workshop

Room Assignment for Single Applicants only:

1) Do you have a friend with whom you wish to room? ______________________________________________

2) Do you smoke? _______ Do you wish to room with a non-smoking person? _______ yes _______ no preference.

3) Are you an early riser _______ or a Night Owl _______

4) Room Request for Physical/Medical Reasons:

Please do not ask for a specific lodge or room unless you have a physical or medical reason for doing so. __________________________________________________

5) Special Dietary needs: Diabetic _______ Other _______

NOTE: SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED IN ANY WILDACRES BUILDING

INSTRUCTIONS

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4) Cancellation Policy: There is a $50 nonrefundable charge to cover administrative costs and an additional $50 charge for canceling less than 4 weeks before the session begins. No refund will be given for cancellations received less than 7 days before the session. There are No adjustments for late arrivals or early departures.

Amount submitted with application: $____________

Make Check Payable to:

SFMS Wildacres Workshop

Mail check and this form to:

Wildacres Registrars
164 Sexton Loop, Oakdale, TN 37829-2323
Phone: 423-369-3077  Email: waregistrar@gmail.com

FOR REGISTRAR’S USE ONLY

| Postmark Date | Check #:
| Deposit #: | Amt. Paid: $ |
| Accept. Mailed: | Balance due: $ |
| Standby Mailed: | Bal. Check #:
| Deposit #: | Bal. Amt. Pd: $ |
| Cancel Date: | Total Paid: $ |
| - Cancel. Fee: | Refund: $ |
| Refund Chk #: | Refund Mailed: |
AN OPEN LETTER TO CLUB EDITORS
(Continued from Page 8)

It should also be obvious that the increasing cost of silver and precious metal affects the supply costs and shop or lab fees. These have had to increase this summer. Some of the instructors include part of their travel expenses in their lab fees. It is important to recognize that an instructor traveling from South Florida, for example, will have as much as $500 travel expenses by paying for gasoline at the present high gasoline cost and sometimes an overnight stay in a motel. I think that it is obvious that we cannot expect an instructor to spend $500 traveling to and from a workshop and then charge a trivial laboratory fee that barely covers the cost of supplies.

It also should be pointed out that Federation Workshops bring in almost half of the cash income of the Federation. This income supports the Federation educational activities and scholarship programs. Most of that income is not from the registration fees because workshops function on close to a cost basis. The students in each class pay a registration fee that covers their room and board and part of the instructor’s room and board. It takes four or more students to support an instructor and classes with insufficient enrollment must be canceled because there is no money available to pay room and board for the instructor.

Most of the income that is turned over to the Federation treasurer at the end of the year is from the auctions held at each workshop. Losing just one workshop due to poor attendance would have a significant effect on the Federation income that is used to support educational and scholarship programs.

Finally, I would like to enlist the aid of all SFMS Club newsletter Editors. I think you know how influential you are in determining the course and future of your individual clubs. You must realize that the same influence that has a powerful effect on your own club will also strongly affect the future of the Educational Programs of the Southeast Federation.

The Education Committee will be very appreciative if more information about our workshop classes and schedules reaches the 3500 or so Federation members that now receive no information except possibly by word of mouth. Please help us this year to maintain our workshop attendance so that we can survive this period of economic difficulty brought on by high gasoline prices and the recent hurricanes. If you can reach just a few of the members who now receive no workshop information we may be able to survive until economic conditions improve. The Education committee will appreciate every editor’s effort to see that Federation members know about our schedules, costs, and class changes. We thank you for that.

Fred Sias, Education Chairman
May 8, 2006

WEINMAN MINERAL MUSEUM
CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA
CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

TEMPORARY EXHIBITS
February 6-May 13, 2006

Exploring the Universe
This exhibit brings together elements from various NASA facilities as it examines the many methods used to observe our universe. Visitors will be able to view some stunning images as well as a genuine moon rock sample.

AFMS and SFMS WEBSITES

Check out the SFMS (Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies) and AFMS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies) websites:

http://www.amfed.org/sfms and http://www.amfed.org,
HOW TO SPEND A HOT WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

Leave town!!! Wildacres Workshop, near Little Switzerland North Carolina, is the perfect place to go during the hot days of September. Located at 3300 feet above sea level and perched on a knob just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, Wildacres Retreat has all the comforts of home, except TVs, but you'll find out that you can live without them for a week. The dates are September 18-24, 2006.

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies host three workshops a year at Wildacres, April, August and September for a week each. It’s too late to get into the August workshops but we have openings left for September. Some instructors will take more than they normally do to accommodate students.

We have classes in Gem Appreciation, Glass Bead Making, Intarsia, Mineral Identification, Opal Cutting, Precious Metal Clay 2 (must have PMC 1), Scrimshaw (a new offering), Stained Glass, Wirecraft (Beginning) and the popular Southwest Silver class has only 3 openings (was full but a family had to cancel due to personal problems).

You can get applications in the Lodestar that your club president, vice president and editor receive. You can call the Registrars, Robert and Flora Lee Walker, at 1.423.369.3077 for up to date class information.

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!!!

David and Barbara Tuttle, SFMS Wildacres Directors

DIXIE MINERAL COUNCIL FIELD TRIP
VULCAN MATERIALS’ MORGANTON QUARRY
BURKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
JUNE 10, 2006

Report by Mike Streeter
Photos by Bill Williams and Mike Streeter

Chrissy and I attended a field trip to the Vulcan Materials Vulcan Quarry that was sponsored by the Dixie Mineral Council (DMC) of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies and hosted by the Forsyth County Gem and Mineral Club. The field trip was also an official field trip of the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society and was scheduled from 8:00 AM until noon. Jim Stroud, who is a Vulcan geologist and Forsyth club officer, was our able field trip leader. After a brief mandatory safety meeting in front of the office, we caravaned to a lower bench of the quarry where we parked. We were free to collect just about anywhere we wanted, but were cautioned to stay clear of the high walls because of the potential for falling rock.

Morganton Quarry rockhounding pretty much involves surface collecting and boulder busting. While those of us with big hammers and sledges went about making big rocks smaller, others simply roamed the jagged boulder piles looking for specimens that had already been broken into manageable pieces by mining activities.

(Continued Next Page)
DIXIE MINERAL COUNCIL FIELD TRIP
VULCAN MATERIALS MORGANTON QUARRY
(Continued from Previous Page)

With the end of the morning starting to loom, my good buddy Bill Hayward and I were taking turns swinging his 16-lb. sledge. We were attempting to recover what appeared to be a decent specimen of siderite, biotite and quartz, except that it just happened to be attached to a boulder that weighed at least a ton. I was banging away when a cabinet-size piece of rock broke loose. When Bill turned the rock over, we were both amazed to see what appeared to be a cluster of clear quartz crystals with a coating of epidote. This assemblage of crystals had formed in a vug adjacent to a milky quartz vein. It wasn't until I got the specimen home, cleaned it up and inspected it more closely with my reading glasses and a loop did I realize that the clear crystals were actually striated calcite with a coating of granular epidote. Cool beans!!!
DIXIE MINERAL COUNCIL FIELD TRIP
VULCAN MATERIALS MORGANTON QUARRY

(Continued from Previous Page)

Many thanks to Jim Stroud, Vulcan Materials, the Forsyth club and DMC for making such a great morning of rockhounding possible.

(Editor: For a closer look at the photographs provided in this article, go to http://mcrocks.com/ftr06-2/StreeterJune10,2006.html.)

PRESS RELEASE: FEDERATION SHOW

Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. proudly presents the Rockin’ in Music City 2006 Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, & Fossil Show in conjunction with the Annual convention of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. and Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (Part I). You can expect door prizes, auctions, exhibits, demonstrations, and 30 dealers from around the US.

MTGMS is a not-for-profit educational society made up of local members from around Middle Tennessee, interested in the study, collection and understanding of minerals, the earth's geological history, jewelry making, and the polishing of gem stones. The profit from this annual show and sale goes to fund scholarships at regional Universities, along with Tennessee elementary school Earth Science Projects, and two Middle TN. Senior Citizens workshop schools open to the public to learn how to polish stones and make jewelry.

Show details are as follows:

Date: August 18, 19, & 20, 2006.
Time: 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Friday & Saturday; 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Sunday.
Place: Creative Arts Building, Tennessee State Fairgrounds, Nashville.
Admission: $3 for Adults, $0.50 for High School Students, under 12 are Free, & Free Parking.
Contact: Will Smith, 615.366.1022, Show Chairperson.
Website: www.mtgms.org. E-mail: whsinc@comcast.net.
Demonstrations: Silversmithing, Gem Polishing, Wire Wrapping, and Faceting.
Other Activities: Hourly Door Prizes and Silent Auctions.

Dealers will offer:

Gold & Silver Jewelry, Mountings, Chains, and Repair, Colored Gem Stones, loose or mounted in Jewelry, Crystals & Minerals from around the world including our local world renowned Elmwood Golden Calcite’s from Carthage, Fossils & Artifacts including dinosaur life, marine life, and prehistoric arrowheads, and Tools & Supplies for the above.

Source: Email from Will Smith
Dear Members,

The following lists represent AFMS/SFMS supplies that are available to the membership. You will be able to purchase these supplies in Nashville at the SFMS Board Meeting. For those of you unable to be in Nashville, I will be happy to mail you whatever you request. Mail orders will also require postage charges.

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC. SUPPLY LIST FOR 2006

SFMS BOOKS/CATALOGS: PRICE *

SFMS Constitution & By-Laws $3.00
SFMS Directory (2005) $3.50
SFMS Guidelines for Annual Meeting $2.00
SFMS Bulletin Contest Guidelines $2.00
SFMS Officers Handbook $2.00

Guidelines for Club Officers, Committee Chairpersons & Forming New Clubs $2.00

Display Showmanship for Prize Winning Exhibits $2.00
Organization & Conduct of Jr. Rockhound Club $1.25

Organization & Conduct of Family Rockhound Club $1.25

SFMS JEWELRY PRICE

SFMS Necklaces $2.50
SFMS Nine Color Pin $2.50

SFMS PATCH PRICE

SFMS Nine Color Patch $2.50

SFMS STATIONERY PRICE

SFMS Letterhead Stationery no charge
SFMS Letterhead Envelopes no charge

* = These are current prices based on inventory on hand. However they are subject to change based on costs at the time of reprinting.

Caroline Decaminada
SFMS Supplies Committee Chairman

A ROCKHOUNDING FIELD TRIP’S COUNTLESS BLESSINGS

by Mike Streeter

A rockhounding field trip involves much more than collecting rocks and minerals. For my wife Chrissy and me, finding a specimen worth keeping is just a bonus to any day spent in the field with like-minded rockhounds. Most of our friends were met on rockhounding excursions and getting together with them to swap stories, jokes and life events is far more valuable to us than any rock could ever be. While finding a decent specimen is never a certainty, laughter and good will are usually guaranteed. Beyond the friendship and camaraderie, the simple act of spending time in the great outdoors has its own unique rewards. Hiking a forest trail and enjoying a spring explosion of wildflowers or coming upon a mother deer with fawns can almost make us forget about the collecting location that we had started out to find. And if all this wasn't enough, there still exists the chance to uncover a breathtaking rock or mineral. Even at locations where we have collected countless times, we never know when we will turn over just the right rock to uncover the gem of a lifetime. But even when this doesn't happen, we are able to enjoy the countless other blessings that come with a day spent rockhounding with friends.
**If you sent the editor your show information and you do not see it below, please assume it was lost when her hard drive crashed and resend it! (Otherwise, it will not appear in a future issue of Lodestar.)**

August 18-20, 2006, Nashville, TN - Middle Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society. Rockin’ in Music City 2006 Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, & Fossil Show in conjunction with the AFMS and SFMS (Phase 1) Annual Conventions. See pages 4-7 and 16 of this issue of Lodestar.

September 8-10, Winston-Salem, NC - Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club. 35th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Show and Sale. Educational Building, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds. Hours: 8th and 9th, 10:00 A.M.—7:00 P.M.; 10th, 12 Noon—6:00 P.M. Website: www.forsythgemclub.com.


September 30 - October 1, 2006, Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky. 16th Annual Show. National Guard Armory, Airport Road. Hours: September 30th, 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.; October 1st: 12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Bekki Miracle, 502.868.0258.

November 4-5, 2006, Ft. Pierce, FL - St. Lucie County Rock & Gem Club. Rock and Gem Show. St. Lucie County Fairgrounds, Midway Road. Hours: 4th & 5th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Dealer Chairman, Dennis Ponte @ 772.288.3296 or dennisponte@msn.com and Show Chairman, Norm Holbert @ 772.973.0787 or normholbert@bellsouth.net.

November 10-12, 2006, Pascagoula, MS - Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society. 17th Annual Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show. Jackson County Fairgrounds. Hours 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Contact: John M. Wright, 228.875.9192 or sjsbw@datasync.com.

December 11-12, 2006, Deland, FL - Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society (of the Greater Daytona Beach & Holly Hill, Florida Area). Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Area, State Rd 44 (One-mile east of I-4 Exit 119). Hours: 11th, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 12th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Pollyan Darling @ 386.428.7696 or gemdarlings@cfl.rr.com. Website: www.tomokagemmineralsociety.com.

Remember - To insure your show is listed here, send a written notice to the Lodestar Editor: Carolyn L. Daniels, 3660 Prince Way, Tucker, GA 30084-8317 or email at: dpdaniels@mindspring.com. ALL SFMS CLUBS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER THEIR EVENT LISTINGS ON THE SFMS WEBSITE AT: http://www.amfed.org/sfms.

Choose Submission Guidelines under the SFMS Shows Column heading to find out how to apply.

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