Summer is finally upon us. Many of us are off to various rockhounding adventures. As for me, I am working in the Mobile, Alabama Emergency Response Incident Command Center in support of the BP oil spill response efforts. My role is as a safety advisor for the Alabama beach cleanup areas. The unusual high wave action on the local beachfronts from Hurricane Alex in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico has made our cleanup effort even more of a challenge. We have over 800 dedicated professionals working 24/7 in the command center to support the cleanup efforts. I was fortunate enough to be assigned a day shift albeit a 13-hour day on a 14-day on/off rotation. I am currently here in Mobile until July 12 before rotating back home for two weeks. This could go on for a while.

My work here in Mobile caused me to miss the AFMS convention at the last minute. I had rotated back home in time to attend, but my car would not start on the way to the airport, so I missed my flight. Re-arranging the flight quickly became cost-prohibitive. Therefore, I could not attend. I was able to speak to both Betty James and Ann Monroe who were there in attendance and filled in any details I may have left out of my annual report to the AFMS meeting. Thank you, Betty and Ann.

I spoke with our SFMS Social Concerns Chair Anna Denton during my previous rotation here in Mobile to get an update of those SFMS members who had passed on over the last 12 months. I was going to present this information during the memorial tributes from around the AFMS. I passed along the names I had to Betty and Ann who reported in my absence. Anna has done a great job of keeping up with this list (it’s a link on the SFMS website). SFMS members can post any social concerns including memorializing a loved one. It’s up to the SFMS membership to post dedications and memorial tributes so that others from around the federation can see and read about them.

Well, I must close for now. 4 A.M. comes very early in the morning.

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CARL’S EDITORIAL COMMENTARY

Why is the price of gold so high? Are the world-wide lapidary arts somehow responsible? Our lead article (by yours truly) explores this issue with some of history’s key economic events.

The 2010 AFMS Bulletin Editor’s Contest winners from SFMS are listed on page 7 and the Monroe & Behr Safety Committee discusses toys for the well prepared rockhound on page 9.
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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Articles for the August 2010 Lodestar are due by July 25, 2010.

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FIELD TRIPS

Aug 15, 2010: Summerville, GA. A DMC trip sponsored by the Carroll County Gem & Mineral Society digging for lace agate. See the SFMS website under the “What’s New” link.

Field trips are open to all members of clubs associated with the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS clubs/societies who provide their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the general public are NOT invited to these or any DMC program field trips.

UPCOMING SHOWS


September 4-6, 2010: Brunswick, GA - Golden Isles Gem & Mineral Society. 2010 Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show, Glynn Place Mall, I-95 exit 38, GA Spur 25 to Golden Isles Parkway, 2 miles. Hours: Sat 10-7, Sun 12-6, & Mon 10-5. Admission $3. Contact Patricia Cox 912-276-4259 or hepacos@comcast.net


September 10-12, 2010: Winston-Salem, NC - Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club. 39th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, Educational Bldg, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds (free parking through Gate #9 from 27th St only). Hours: Fri & Sat 10-7, Sun 12-5. Contact W.A. Marion at mariona1@yadtel.net

September 23-26, 2010: Jacksonville, FL-Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society. 22nd Annual Show, Morocco Temple, 3800 St Johns Bluff Rd. Hours: Fri 1-6, Sat 10-6, & Sun 10-5. Adults $3/day or $5/weekend


October 2-3, 2010: Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky. 20th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show and Sale, Kentucky National Guard Armory, 4301 Airport Road Hours: Sat. 10 to 6 and Sun. 12 to 5. Mineral, jewelry, and equipment dealers; club sales and exhibits; hourly door prizes for adults and children; blacklight display; kids quarry; and silent auctions. Grand door prize drawing at 5 PM Sunday. Admission Adults $1, children 6-12 50 cents, max $3 per family. Scouts in uniform get in free. Contact: Mona Ferrell monaferrell@yahoo.com or Trish Henson birdgal@att.net

October 15-17, 2010: Knoxville, TN - Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society. 19th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show, Kerbela Temple, Mimosa Ave. Show is $4/per day per adult.

November 6-7, 2010: Melbourne, FL - Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society. Parade of Gems, Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Ave. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-5. Contact Don McLamb 321-723-2592 or fdjmc@aol.com

Nov 20-21, 2010: West Palm Beach, FL. 44th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead, and Fossil Show, Americart Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd. Hours: Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5. Over 60 dealers, door prizes, fossil dig. Free parking. Adults $7, children under 12 free. Contact Barbara Ringhisar at bar5678@aol.com

Nov 26-28, 2010: Mobile, AL. Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show. Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds, Cody Road and Zeigler Blvd. Hours: Fri 2-7, Sat 9-6, and Sun 10-5. Contact Show Chair Jerry Shirey at (251) 458-2867 or e-mail rockhoundjs@aol.com

Please Note
To ensure your show is listed here, send a written notice to the Lodestar Editor: Carl Talbott, 216 Spring View Drive, Murphy, NC 28906 or e-mail dalbott@bellsouth.net.

SFMS clubs/societies are also encouraged to register their event listings on the SFMS website at: www.amfed.org/sfms.
PRECIOUS METALS

On The Cost of Gold
By Carl Talbott, D.Sc.

Many of us students and practitioners in the lapidary arts are finding gold smithing expensive with few willing to invest in gold inventory due to market risk and price uncertainty. Over the past decade, the spot price per ounce of gold has risen from a low of US$220 to a recent high of US$1264. Yet, according to the Gold Institute, the world demand for gold in the jewelry and industrial sectors has been but a very small fraction of annual world gold bullion sales. Clearly, investment demand drives the price of gold in this modern era even though it is not “legal tender” here and in most parts of the world. But, it hasn’t always been this way.

The use of gold (and silver) in coin currency dates back over 2.5 millennium. The historian Herodotus documents that the first use of gold and silver in uniform minted coinage dates back to the beginning of the seventh century BCE in Licia. The Lician king, Gyges, created an official state monopoly on minting coinage (stamped with a lion’s head) and standardized coin weights and content. In like manner, the U.S. Constitution, in Article I Section 8, states that “The Congress shall have the power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin.” Article I Section 10 of the Constitution further says “No state shall … coin money; emit Bills of Credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a Tender in payment of debts; … “. Moreover, the Constitution goes on to define the U.S. Dollar in terms of silver weight.

Such constitutional specificity was a direct result of the Continental Congress’s issuance of $425 million over five years in paper “money” without precious metal banking and the economic consequences that led to the expression “not worth a Continental [dollar]”. In 1775 a Continental dollar could be exchanged on the open market for one dollar in gold. In 1779 Continentals were trading for under a penny’s worth of gold, and a pair of shoes cost 5,000 Continental dollars.

The dictionary defines paper money mandated as legal tender but not backed by gold or silver, as “fiat” money. Fiat money works as a medium of economic exchange only if the government forces its use by laws that impose consequences on citizenry that don’t accept it as legal payment of both public and private debts (read the front of any US Federal Reserve Note). Continental dollars were fiat money that would be issued (read printed) at will. Since 1971, U.S. Federal Reserve Notes became fiat money as are now most of the world’s other currencies. This is the second time, since the adoption of our U.S. Constitution that we have had fiat money, and it is this tale that ought to explain the price of gold in our day.

In 1696, Charles II, King of England, established the exchequer “bill” exchangeable for gold upon demand. The Bank of England chartered in 1694, started managing this money as well as its own banknotes in 1707, but its mandatory use as legal tender did not occur until 1833. A number of English banking failures in the 1700s led the House of Commons to create the Select Committee on the High Price of Gold in 1810. This Committee recommended Bank of England notes be exchangeable into gold coinage upon demand as a means of controlling the money supply. Notwithstanding this “gold standard” concept, economic crises emanating from Bank of England’s central banking practices continued through the 1800s. This central bank model later served as the outline for the U.S. Federal Reserve System.

Meanwhile, in the United States of the early and mid1800s, gold production in the Appalachian and California (as well as Australian and Siberian) regions began an expansion of world trade based on gold-standard currencies. By 1859, the annual world supply of gold was 275 tons; at this rate, the amount of gold produced from 1848 to 1859 equaled gold production from all sources throughout the world from 1500 until 1848 (the beginning of the California Gold Rush). However, during the American Civil War, President Lincoln suspended precious metal convertibility in 1862 by issuing “green-back” dollars (fiat money) due to a depletion of
gold reserves. This green-back fiat money arrangement ended in 1879 after Congress passed the Coinage Act of 1873. This Act authorized the Treasury Department to mint denominations of gold and silver coins but without fixing the weight of a silver dollar at the historical 371.25 grains of silver. Later, the Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890 directed the Treasury to buy US$50 million in silver each year payable with new Treasury notes exchangeable on demand in gold or silver bullion (a bi-metal standard) depending on Treasury Secretary’s direction. The subsequent drain of gold from the Treasury (to those who preferred gold bullion to gold coin with less gold value) soon led to the repeal of this Act and a five year economic depression with unemployment greater than ten percent beginning in 1893.5

Fast forward, if you will, past WW I and the beginning of the Great Depression to the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt who took office on March 4, 1933. At his first press conference four days later, Roosevelt reassured the nation that he intended to keep the gold standard. However, on March 9th, he orchestrated passage of the Emergency Banking Act of 1933 giving him authority to limit or prohibit the export or hoarding of gold or silver and directing the Treasury Secretary to confiscate all gold coin, bullion, and bank notes exchangeable into gold by paying the owner $20.67 per ounce. On January 30, 1934, by executive order, Roosevelt devalued the U.S. dollar by increasing the price of gold to US$35 per ounce (i.e. each dollar bought less gold).6

Subsequent to WW II and the economic havoc it entailed, 44 country delegates met in 1944 at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire in order to design a new international economic system. The result was agreement that the US dollar would be convertible (at US$35 per ounce) into gold and that all other countries would make good faith efforts to make their currencies convertible into US dollars. This agreement worked because, at the time, the U.S. Treasury held 75 percent of the world’s gold bullion. The convertibility arrangement was limited to other nations and their central banks and not to private entities.7 The gold-based Bretton Woods system finally broke down on August 15, 1971 when President Nixon declared the U.S. government henceforth would not convert dollars to gold (in response to a demand by the French government). Since then the U.S. dollar again became fiat money.

Roosevelt’s 1933 executive order (#6102) was reversed in January 1975 when Congress acted to allow citizens to again own gold bullion coins, and President Ford, by a 1975 executive order, relaxed all gold ownership restrictions. After all, why restrict gold ownership if gold is not legal tender?

In the late 1990s, I had the occasion to work with a large gold mining company as a consultant on water pump reliability. They were producing 2 million ounces of gold annually yet were selling 4 million ounces a year. The additional 2 million ounces per year were “borrowed” through hedging contracts with bullion bankers who were “leasing” gold bullion from central banks across the world. Think of it as a futures market in gold where the gold producer (like the corn farmer) sells physical gold on the open market on the promise of repayment-in-kind from future production. Although the corn farmer is limited to one year’s production, there are no such limits on precious metal producers. By 2000, this gold mining company had accumulated 12.5 years of future production in their “forward sales” program. This is a great idea if the price of gold is in a declining trend but should that trend reverse, the miner may be obligated to supply gold to close out hedge contracts at well below spot market prices.

Central bank leasing rates were often a fraction of a percent of the spot gold value, and due to the International Monetary Fund’s accounting guidelines, central banks can account for leased gold as if it were physically present in their vaults as long as there is a valid counter-party contract for its eventual replacement. This is an important concept; although central bank leased gold has likely been sold into the marketplace and is no longer physically available, this accounting practice provides opaque cover as to real gold reserves inventory. However, should real central bank gold reserves be depleted, this shell game comes to an end. As for U.S. inventories of gold bullion, there has not been any public disclosure since the Eisenhower administration; consequently, we just don’t know how much physical gold is now in Fort Knox or at West Point.
Within eight years of when Nixon created our fiat dollar, inflation was running over 12% and adjustable home mortgage interest rates exceeded 18% (fixed rate 30-year loans were just not available). By January 1980 the spot price of gold peaked at $850/ounce, and the New York Times reported a rush of citizenry selling their gold and silver coins & jewelry for cash. To counter this increase in gold prices, central bankers began to sell and lease their inventories and so drove gold down to US$220/ounce by 2000.

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, under the direction of Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve Board began a policy of lowering interest rates to 1% in order to stimulate the economy. Representative Ron Paul believes that “history will show that Greenspan, during his years as Fed chairman (1987-2006), planted all the seeds of financial calamity that erupted in 2007 and 2008.” In his view, the debt accumulation (banking bailout) in the last year of the Bush administration and its eye-watering continuation under Barrack Obama’s direction will yield an economic downturn that lasts a decade or more.

Today we are still in the midst of a housing mortgage crisis, poorly regulated risk management within our financial institutions, a two-arena war (against terror), and U.S debt obligations increasing exponentially. Other world economies, including China, are also experiencing severe turbulence. Our politicians, regardless of party affiliation, are either unwilling or unable to find solutions that involve constrained growth in money supply and will continue to support the fiat money concept rather than return to a precious metal standard.

Could the significant increase in the price of gold over this decade reflect uncertainty in the value of ever increasing inventory of fiat moneys purchasing a constant amount of world-wide goods and services? If so, one might conclude that, since there are few constraints on government printing presses, the price of gold will likely continue to climb. At some point, fiat money may cease to be accepted in payment of debts regardless of the penalty (in the U.S. it’s a fine and/or incarceration). We can only wonder if gold (or silver) based money will return to the world scene. I am betting it will.

Until then, I think gold jewelry may be a good alternative to coin or bullion (which were confiscated once before) as a store of value. Besides, I think it looks good on my wife!

References:
5. Ibid; p. 269.
2010 AFMS Bulletin Editor’s Contest Winners From SFMS

Original Adult Articles, Honorable Mention
- The Virgin Valley Gamble by Dylan Porter, Georgia Mineral Society From: *Tips and Trips, 12/09*
- Gems, Macon County and the Washington Monument by Fred Plesner, Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC From: *The Mountain Gem, 5/09*
- Dispensing the Collection by Bruce Siegfried, Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC From: *The Mountain Gem, 7/09*

Original Adult Articles Advanced, Third Place
- Miller Indices: What Are Those Numbers in Parentheses on Crystal Drawings? by David Babulski, Georgia Mineral Society From: *Tips and Trips, 9/09*

Original Adult Articles Advanced, Honorable Mention
- From Vice to Gneiss: How Rockhounding Changed My Life by Anita D. Westlake, Georgia Mineral Society From: *Tips and Trips, 12/09*
- Pickens County Marble Festival and Mine Tour by Tom Batcha, Georgia Mineral Society From: *Tips and Trips, 9/09*

Junior Articles – Ages 12 to 17, 4th Place
- Glendon Quarry ‘09 by Melissa Siver (14), Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society From: *JAX Gems, 6/09*

Written Features, 5th Place
- President’s Message by Bill Waggener, Georgia Mineral Society From: *Tips and Trips, 2/09*

Written Features, Honorable Mention
- Quiz #2 by Bruce Siegfried, Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC From: *The Mountain Gem, 12/09*

Adult Poetry, 10th Place
- What I Enjoy by Wally Smith, Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC From: *The Mountain Gem, 10/09*

Small Bulletins, 4th Place
- *The Mountain Gem, 12/09*, Linda Behr, Editor The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Franklin, NC

Large Bulletins, 7th Place
- *Tips and Trips, 12/09*, Tom Batcha, Editor The Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA (SFMS)

Large Bulletins, 9th Place
- Jax Gems, 7/09, Chuck Sederholm, Editor Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society, Jacksonville, FL (SFMS)

Special Publications
- Membership Information by Linda Behr, The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Franklin, NC
OBIT: Charles N. Tinman, 1980 SFMS President

Charles N. Tinman, 77, of 111 Forest Drive, Laurens, South Carolina, husband of Nell Pinson Tinman, passed away Monday, March 15, 2010, at his home.

Born in Greenville County, he was a son of the late J.L. and Kathryn Davis Tinman. He was a US Army Veteran having served in WWII, the owner of Charles N. Tinman Income Tax Service and a devoted member of New Prospect Baptist Church. Mr. Tinman was also a Life Member of the Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society.

*Note: Specimens available for sale do not originate from the museum’s comparative or educational collections. The material has been deemed to: 1) be redundant (i.e., duplication); 2) not adhere to the Museum’s mission statement; or 3) not meet the requirements of the Museum’s Scope of Collections and/or Collections Management policies.

| Flat: Arkansas | Wavellite and variscite – Mauldin Mountain, Montgomery Co. |
| Flat: Colorado | Gold (with sulfides) – Idarado Mine, San Miguel Co. |
| Flat: Georgia | Kyanite in pyrophyllite matrix – Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co. |
| Flat: Indiana | Rutile in pyrophyllite matrix – Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co. |
| Flat: Kansas | Kyanite and hematite (on kyanite) – Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co. |
| Flat: Kentucky | Lazulite in quartzite matrix – Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co. |
| Flat: Louisiana | Kyanite in matrix – Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co. |
| Flat: Massachusetts | misc. minerals (x2) – Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co. |
| Flat: Michigan | Dolomite and calcite – Corydon, Harrison Co. |
| Flat: Missouri | Barite and quartz – unknown location |
| Flat: New Jersey | misc. fluorescent minerals – Franklin Mining Dist., Sussex Co. |
| Flat: New York | Tourmaline (uviite), phlogopite, hornblende, and quartz – Bower Powers (a.k.a. Ryland Crary) Farm, Pierrepont, St. Lawrence Co. |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Quartz (rock crystal) clusters and single xls. – Mitchell Co. |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Zircon and Epidote in feldspar matrix – Freeman Mine, Tuxedo, Henderson Co. |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Malachite – Blue Wing Mine, Granville Co. |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | x2 Gold ore (quartzite) – Haile Gold Mine, Kershaw Co (collected 1952) |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Quartz (rock crystal) clusters – Abbeville, Abbeville Co. |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Kyanite in matrix – Henery’s Knob, York Co. |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Chloritic (green) quartz (clusters) – Hall Farm, Laurel Fork, Carroll Co., Virginia |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Chloritic (green) quartz (single crystals) – Hall Farm, Laurel Fork, Carroll Co., Virginia |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Pyroxene – Turners Island Mine, Lake Clear, Renfrew Co., Ontario |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Diopside – Grace Lake roadcut, Wilberforce, Haliburton Co., Ontario |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Apatite - Grace Lake roadcut, Wilberforce, Haliburton Co., Ontario |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Zeolites (chabazite, stilbite, heulandites); quartz (amethyst); calcite – Wassons bluff, Cape d’Or, and Partridge Island, near Parrsboro, Cumberland Co., Nova Scotia |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Gypsum – Hillsborough, Albert Co., New Brunswick |
| Flat: Pennsylvania | Pyrite in talc matrix |
| Flat: Pennsylvania Kyanite in matrix |

HELP WANTED

Knowledgeable stamp collector with experience in on-line E-Bay auctions willing to volunteer as SFMS’ Stamp Program Chairperson replacing Jim Robinson. Responsible for stamp sales to raise scholarship funds. Contact Jim Robinson at (904) 221-5038.
**BE SAFE – BE WELL**

Don Monroe & Linda Behr - Safety Committee

**Big Boy's Toys (and big girls too)**

Do not panic! It is not Christmas. It is not even close to a major holiday when we generally exchange gifts. It is, however, the time of year when we go on vacation or take field trips or spend a lot of time in the great out doors. This means that there is a variety of “toys” that we may need or think we need and we must make some intelligent decisions.

First let’s consider flashlights. I confess that I may have a fetish about flashlights. I have several of them (no, I have a lot of flashlights) but I know a lot of people that share my interest. I want to have a good flashlight nearby at all times. I want one in every car and I want one on hand in most areas of our house. Selecting a flashlight involves thinking about how you will use it and how much do you wish to spend. I have been particularly pleased with the small lithium-ion units that are incredibly bright. Are they expensive? Yes they are and the batteries are not cheap either. If you make it a habit of putting yourself in hazardous situations, go look at some of these units. For boating, camping, or hiking, these things can save your life.

Moving on to knives offers you another category of equipment that is a very personal choice. What you will use the knife for and how you will carry it opens a big decision-making opportunity. I personally prefer the smallest knife that will do the anticipated job. I always carry a pocket knife except on airplanes and at the local court house and anywhere else where carrying a knife violates the law. Carrying a pocket knife is a very deeply ingrained habit dating back to my very early years on our farm. My father would punish me if he caught me without a knife. I well remember him saying “Son, how can you open feed sacks and feed the livestock if you don’t have your knife with you?” It is a different world now and kids can’t even carry a knife to school. How do they learn to whittle?

Do you wear sun glasses? I remember being scolded by my great-grandmother because I often wore sunglasses all the time, your eyes would become accustomed to them and you could not function without them. Now we are told that excessive exposure to ultra-violet light causes cataracts to develop at an earlier age. Sorry Granny, I may have been right but if this is true, it is the only time I was right.

Do you wear wide brimmed hats and use sun screen? Well, you should. Current wisdom says that we should avoid excessive exposure to sun light. I remember being told that I should get a tan so that I could absorb vitamin D. This is not what we hear now. After getting a melanoma whacked off my back, I am no longer a “sun worshipper”. My dermatologist gives me “un-shirted hell” if, during my periodic examination, he sees indications that I have been out in the sun without protection.

Well, the world has changed and we must change with it. You must take care of yourself and use GCS. GCS is good common sense by the way.

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**SFMS WORKSHOPS UPDATE**

Danny Griffin, Education Committee Chair

The June William Holland workshop has passed. Enrollment was better than expected but, the session was not full. My thanks go out to Steve Henegar (Director), Lisa Roberts (Registrar) and all the attending students. I would also like to extend my thanks to Suzanne and all the staff at William Holland School of Lapidary Arts.

Don’t forget the August, September and October workshops. They will all be upon us before you know it. Look over the schedule, pick a fun class, and signup for a week!

I am always surprised when the enrollment for one of our workshops is low. The cost is amazingly cheap when compared to similar workshops being offered in the southeast. For example, The Florida Society of Goldsmiths has an annual week long session at Wildacres each year. Their cost for the week is $600 for members and $650 for non-members. That’s quite a bit of difference in cost for a workshop that’s probably very similar to our own!

I believe that low enrollment hurts us in several ways. If we have a volunteer instructor lined up to teach a class and are forced to cancel their class due to low enrollment does that encourage them to volunteer next year? Probably not! We have contracts with William Holland School of Lapidary Arts and Wildacres Retreat each year. When we have low enrollments it cost the SFMS either monetarily or in the number of spaces available to us the following year. If we are not self-supporting or are getting fewer rooms each year, it will get to the point where we can’t afford it or we’re forced to cancel a workshop entirely. Is it worth that?

Also, consider this: When you have an instructor who volunteers their time, you can be assured they are in it for the enjoyment of passing along their craft and in the interest of supporting the Federation. Have you ever heard someone say “I love my job so much that I would do it even if I weren’t getting paid.”? Probably not, but that’s what you’re getting with our instructors. They love their craft so much that they’re willing to teach it without monetary gain. In fact, most spend their own money, and many hours, preparing for their classes. Don’t get me wrong, I’m not implying that they lose money. Almost all have class fees that offset their supplies cost. But that only reimburses them for the money they spent, not the hours they spent preparing for the class.

I recently attended an SFMS meeting in Charleston SC. I enjoyed the meeting and visiting the historical part of the city. The local club’s gem show was also a lot of fun. A discussion at the round table meeting yielded many positive comments that will be implemented this year in order to make next year’s workshops better. My thanks go out to everyone who contributed.

Supporting the SFMS by enrolling in one of the workshops is an important factor in keeping this valuable resource available for future generations of lapidary enthusiasts.
2010 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULE
Updated as of July 7, 2010

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The intermediate and advanced classes listed with an asterisk (*) require some prior experience by the student. Experience in a class provided by your local club, Workshop class, or self study may be enough. Please do not exclude yourself, if you’re interested in one of these classes, without contacting the instructor first.

SESSION TWO - WILDACRES
MONDAY, August 23 - 29, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Precious Metal Clay Level 1</th>
<th>Mary Ann &amp; Ken Devos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Designers’ Rehab</td>
<td>Barbara McGuire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Fused Glass</td>
<td>Barb &amp; Herrick Jeffers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Silversmithing</td>
<td>Nancy English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrimshaw</td>
<td>Bill Wetzel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabochon Making</td>
<td>Pat Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Wire Wrapping</td>
<td>Rowan Rose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addictive Seed Beading</td>
<td>Vivian Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Metalwork Help &amp; Special Projects</td>
<td>Jeff Shears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewelry Bench &amp; Tool Making</td>
<td>Danny Griffin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SESSION THREE - WILDACRES
MONDAY, September 13 - 19, 2010

*PMC Advanced techniques
Mary Ann & Ken Devos

Bronze Clay
Gail DeLuca

Chain Maille Jewelry
Warren Collins

Beginning Silversmithing
Dana Ruth

Wire Wrapping
Rowan Rose

Metal Connections & Finishing
Charlotte Caughman

*Advanced Fused Glass
*Advanced Fused Glass

Addictive Seed Beading
Vivian Heath

Southwest Silver
Dan Haga

Advanced Faceting
Steve Hillenbrand

SESSION FOUR - WILLIAM HOLLAND
SUNDAY, October 10-16, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silver 1</th>
<th>Barbara Fields</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Silver 2</td>
<td>Allen Jewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabochons</td>
<td>Betty James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain Maille Jewelry</td>
<td>Roy Deere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Wirecraft</td>
<td>Rowan Rose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opal Cutting</td>
<td>Sara Lee Boyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faceting</td>
<td>Bill Harbour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Designers’ Rehab
Barbara McGuire

*Advanced Fused Glass
*Advanced Fused Glass

Cold Connections
Kim St Jean

Addictive Seed Beading
Vivian Heath
The policy of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. is that neither the name nor the logo of the Federation may be used for commercial purposes. If any commercial ventures using the name or the logo of the Federation are found, Member Societies and their members are requested to advise Federation Officers.