UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

October 25, 2008: Bayou Pierre River near Utica, MS; hosted by Mississippi (Jackson) Gem and Mineral Society. Agates, petrified wood, jasper, chert fragments, and sometimes petrified palm wood.

November 1, 2008: Hogg Mine, LaGrange, Troup County, GA; hosted by the Carroll County (GA) Gem & Mineral Society. Rose quartz (will star when cut properly), tourmaline, beryl (sometimes gemmy aquamarine), mica books and quartz crystals.

See your local club newsletter for additional information on the above field trips.

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 . . .

Plans for the annual meeting are finally falling into place. It is being hosted by my home club, the Middle Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society. Our show will be December 13-14 at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. It’s about six miles from the hotel. Our host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Select at 2200 Elm Hill Pike in Nashville, Tennessee. The date of the annual meeting and the awards banquet will be December 13, 2008. The annual meeting will be held beginning at 9:00 a.m. The banquet will be held at 6:30 in the evening. I have reserved a room for a Friday night session as well. A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel for December 12 and 13. If you wish to stay longer you may reserve a room up to three days before and three days after these dates at the special rate for our meeting. The room rate is $89.00 per night. This rate is also eligible for Priority Club points if you are a Priority Club member. This hotel has been recently renovated. The company I work at uses this hotel for several meetings each year so it comes with a good recommendation from them.

The hotel is near the Opryland area. The hotel has a free shuttle to Opry Mills shopping mall and to the Opryland hotel. It will be dressed up for Christmas at this time. If you’ve never seen it, it’s worth the time to go see it. If anyone would like to see our lapidary shop, I’m sure we can arrange a visit. Nashville has a full scale replica of the ancient Athenian Parthenon. It too will be decorated for Christmas.

We will be having a banquet style meal as that was the best value they offered on their menu. The entrée’s will be grilled chicken breast and roast beef. There will be a mixed green salad and a pasta salad. Baked potatoes, green bean casserole, corn with roasted peppers and onions, wild rice medley and fresh rolls will complete the main meal. Tea, coffee, and water will be our beverages. Finish off your meal with Tennessee cheesecake or Triple chocolate layer cake.

In order to avoid being charged for the meeting room, I would ask as many of you as possible stay at the host hotel. We need to fill 15 rooms both nights to avoid having to pay rent for the meeting rooms. To make reservations please call the hotel direct and ask for the Southeast Federation rate. Their phone number is 615-883-9970. Please make your reservations by the November 15th if possible. We also need good attendance at the banquet to avoid further charges. I have reserved 60 spots for the banquet so need to come close to that number. I hope many of you will come.

(Continued on Page 3)
THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

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

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

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

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The article submittal due date for the November 2008 Lodestar is October 25, 2008.

(No exceptions!)

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

Our club looks forward to seeing you in December. By the time you read this the information will be on the SFMS website – www.amfed.org/sfms. Hopefully the reservation form will be included in this newsletter as well. You should also receive the information in the mail by the time you get this.

I got back from the second Wildacres workshop a few days ago. I had a great time learning to make cold connection jewelry. What I really enjoyed was beating on metal with a hammer then softening the metal with a torch. I like to hammer and play with fire. From the looks of things we had several people that became pyromaniacs over the course of the week. I’ve enjoyed all three classes I’ve taken this summer, but this had to be my favorite.

I’ve had a chance to visit most of the classes at each session. I’ve been amazed at the quality of our instructors and the quality of the work being turned out by the students. Good work by students is a hallmark of a good teacher. What I’ve been most impressed with our instructors is that not only do they have the heart of a teacher, but they have what I like to call good bedside manner. By this I mean they are like a favorite doctor – they take the time to make you comfortable, see that you get the best information available and then hold your hand and guide you thru the process. And they have a tremendous amount of patience. My hat is off to our education committee under the direction of Julia Larson. Registrars B. J. Gearhart and Denise Talbott have done a fabulous job of getting us settled in and keeping up with all the registrations and the auction money. Directors Danny Griffin and Pat Davis have made sure our classes and instructor were ready to go and made sure the auction items were cataloged and ready to sell. If you’ve attended the workshops, please let these folks know how much you appreciate them and the job they do. If you haven’t attended and your club members aren’t attending please be advised that you need to come and find out what it’s all about. I’m still wondering why I haven’t been before.

If you haven’t attended and your club members aren’t attending please be advised that you need to come and find out what it’s all about. I’m still wondering why I haven’t been before. We’ve got one more workshop to go this year. I’m looking forward to learning all about PMC this time. It’s a little late this year, but it’s not too early to start thinking about next year.

That’s enough rambling for this month. Well meet again next month and I’ll ramble some more.

Steve Henegar, SFMS President

In Memoriam: John B. Bednarek

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of one of our members. John “JB” Bednarek, at age 81, passed away on Saturday, August 30, 2008. He was an electrical engineer for Westinghouse and then for Eaton, Corp. John served his country in the US Army during World War II.

Jack Bednarek was a leading force in the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society. He was President of the club 1991-1992. He initiated many beneficial projects for the club, and participated in many others.

Though he had moved to Wilmington, DE about three years ago to be near family, he still kept his membership current. We will miss him.

via e-mail from Sylvia Forward

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

The Weather

If we have learned anything in life we have learned that we really cannot control the weather. Rarely has this been more apparent than during this year when our weather has drastically affected the lives of all of us. We have experienced a succession of hurricanes which, in addition to having a severe impact on specific areas on our coasts, have caused a disruption in our fuel supplies in much of the nation and created major financial upheaval.

Okay, we agree that our control is nonexistent but we can and should be much more vigilant and aware of what is going on and what may happen in the immediate future. Do you have a weather radio or a battery powered television? If not, how can you keep track of the weather?

We must really be prepared for some of the following possibilities:

1. We may have more major storms judging by history and the fact that as I write this article there is another tropical disturbance in the Atlantic.
2. We can be surprised by early snow storms, early cold snaps or major winds.
3. Lightning can be a killer and we often do not react rapidly when a threat is detected. If we see lightning or hear thunder in the distance, we must take cover. Stay inside until long after you think the threat is past.
4. Home heating. Warming your house the first time in the heating season is a particularly dangerous time until you have checked out your system. This is the time when so many house fires happen.
5. Tornadoes can happen just about anywhere, anytime and occur when cold fronts and warm fronts collide.

If you are not concerned about the major catastrophes, think about the dust and pollen we have in the fall and how this will create allergic reactions. Right now, in our area, everyone seems to be coughing and sneezing. Yesterday at the bank the little teller told me about the problems she has been having. I asked her what she did about it and she said she had a couple of shots. Like a fool I asked her where, thinking she might be using one of the local clinics. Her reply was “in the butt”. Well I just had to ask didn’t I? I will never learn.

The last word for you is to dress for it. Layer your clothing and, like a good boy scout, be prepared.
Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies
2008 Annual Meeting & Show

Hosted by
Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society
Nashville, TN
December 13, 2008

Host Hotel
Holiday Inn Select
Opryland/Airport
2200 Elm Hill Pike
Nashville, TN 37214
615-883-9770

Annual Meeting at 9:00 am at the host hotel
Awards Banquet and Officer Installation
6:30 P.M. – Host Hotel

Cracker Barrel Session
Friday Night December 12 @ 7:00 P.M.

Room Rate is $89.00 for King or Double
Call the hotel direct at 615-883-9770
Ask for the Southeast Federation Rate
Rate good for up to 3 nights before or 3 nights after

Free shuttle service to Opry Mills Mall
And Opryland Hotel
Free Airport Shuttle
Free High Speed Internet

6 miles from show site

Visit our website for more show information and location
www.mtgem.org
Southeast Federation Website
www.amfed.org/sfms
2008 SFMS/MTGMS Show and Convention
Advance Registration Form

Hosted by Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society
Nashville, TN – December 13-14, 2008

Please Print – One Form per Family
Name ________________________________ Number __________________

Address ____________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip ______________________________________________________

Email Address __________________________ Club Affiliation ________________

Fill in First Name below on all that apply

SFMS Officer _______ SFMS Delegate _______ SFMS Comm. _______ Judge _______

Admissions – Show Location – Tennessee State Fairgrounds, Creative Arts Building, Nashville, TN

2 Day show Pass Quantity Price Total Regular $4.00/day
Adult ________ @ $4.00 ________ Regular $4.00/day
Students over 12 ________ @ $1.00 ________ Regular $1.00/day
Students under 12 free
Scouts in uniform free

Awards Banquet Tickets – Location – Holiday Inn Select, 2200 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN
Reservation Deadline – November 17, 2008. No Refund for cancellation after this date.

Meal will be a select buffet. Choices are grilled chicken, roast beef, mixed green salad, pasta salad, green bean casserole, whole kernel corn, baked potato, wild rice, Tennessee cheesecake, triple chocolate layer cake, tea, coffee, water. Please let me know if you have any special dietary needs. I’ll see if we can accommodate.

Banquet tickets Quantity Price each Total Grand Total
_______ @ $35.00 ________

Make checks payable to: Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society (or MTGMS)
Mail Registration form and check to:

Steve Henegar
3415 Northboro Court
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Phone: (615) 714-3194 after 5:00 P.M. please
Email: stevehenegar@bellsouth.net

Make hotel reservations direct with the hotel:
Holiday Inn Select, Opryland/Airport, 2200 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN (615) 883-9770
Ask for the Southeast Federation Rate of $89.00/night.
SFMS Convention
Nashville, Tennessee
December 13 -14, 2008

Competitive Exhibit Entry Form

Instructions: Complete all information and mail to: Dianne Johnson, 10215 Macon Road, Jacksonville, FL 32219, (904) 768-8442. To be received no later than November 15, no exceptions.

Name ___________________________ Phone _______________ E-mail ___________________

Address ______________________________________________________________

Street __________ City __________ State ______ ZIP __________

Exhibitor Group: Master ___ Advance ___ Novice ___ Jr ___ Soc. ___ Jr Soc.

Division ___________________________ Exhibit Class __________________________

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? Yes ___ No ___ 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.
Setup time is from 3 pm to 8 pm Friday, Dec 12 and from 8 am to 9 am Saturday, Dec 13.
All exhibits must remain in place through 5 pm Sunday, December 14 and removed as soon as possible thereafter.

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: _______________________

MTGMS 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 a separate sheet for each exhibit. Copy of form will be returned to you when your exhibit is accepted.
2008 PROGRAM COMPETITION WINNER

Would you and fellow Club members like to take a virtual trip to Franklin, New Jersey and learn something about fluorescent minerals? There is only one winner in the 2008 AFMS Program Competition, but it answers many questions about Franklin, NJ. Andreas Rubin, a member of Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club (MWF) produced this entry which scored 95+ points on an objective scale, earning “First Place, with Highest Honors”.

Franklin, NJ – Fluorescent Mineral Capitol of the World takes viewers to the Franklin area and shows some of the minerals found there, a brief overview of the geology and history and in conclusion lists some online resources for more images and information. A PowerPoint presentation, it will be transferred to DVD and VHS formats. Affiliate Clubs and their members can borrow this (and other) presentations from their Regional Program Library.

CALL FOR ENTRIES: Authors/producers of non-commercial slide, video or digital presentations are invited to participate in the 2009 Program Competition. Entrants must be members of an AFMS affiliate Society. Winners receive a cash prize and national recognition.

Commercial presentations are eligible for AFMS "Excellence in Education" recognition award. Deadline for all submissions is April 15, 2009.

Details, entry form and tips to improve presentations are available on AFMS website www.amfed.org … OR contact your Regional Librarian or Marge Collins, Program Competition Coordinator c/o margaret@qtm.net (QTM.net) or 3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd., Buchanan MI 49107.

Freda Hull
SFMS Slide/Video Programs

SFMS WORKSHOP REPORT

By the time you read this, the 2008 workshop season will be winding down to a successful end. If you didn’t attend one of the sessions, you really missed a good time. I took a lampwork bead class from Cindy Reed, and a raku beads & pendants class from Jim Cullen, both of whom will be teaching again in 2009. Although the kiln gods looked kindly on me in Cindy’s class, they were looking elsewhere when I was in Jim’s class. However, both classes were a ton of fun and I am looking forward to being involved in them next year.

I hope you are starting to think about next year, too, because the times, they are a’changing, and the SFMS workshops are changing with them.

During the August session at Wildacres, several of us talked about how we make things in many of our classes that could be incorporated into another class. For example, the raku class was making beads and pendants that could be used in a wire class or a cold connections class, and vice-versa. This led to the idea that we could combine some classes during next year’s workshops. Things are still in the planning stages, but the prevailing thought is to have optional mini-classes on the afternoon off, so students enrolled in one class could attend and make something in one of the other classes. Some instructors have already agreed, and we are hoping to have others on board before the 2009 schedule is finalized. If you have suggestions along these lines, please let us know.

We have at least one new teacher scheduled for next year. Barbara McGuire transplanted herself from San Francisco to the Atlanta area not too long ago. Her art spans many and varied media. She did a wonderful demonstration on polymer clay during the September session, and was mobbed at tailgating by folks who wanted to buy one of her 10 books. Marilyn Jobe, though not a new teacher, will be teaching a new class, Mixed Media, at William Holland.

From the “You Can Lead a Horse to Water” Department: During show & tell in September, I was surprised to hear some folks ask how they could find out about next year’s schedule. I replied that the schedule is published first and foremost in the Lodestar, which is available free on-line, or a minimal charge for a paper issue. I was then shocked speechless to hear some folks say, “Oh, I never get around to reading it.” The information is out there. Please take advantage of it. Even if you don’t have a computer or a paper subscription, your club president should have at least one copy of the current Lodestar available at every meeting. Happy Fall, Y’all,

Julia Larson, SFMS Education Chairman

Youth Resources
Deadline Reminder

A beautiful mineral specimen and prestigious “Junior of the Year” award plaque is waiting for that one special youth from all our member clubs and societies. There is a smaller mineral specimen and award certificate for the runner-up. All other participants will receive a certificate of participation. Tell your youth to send in the applications regardless of how many points they earned; this makes it easier for them to be involved for the JOY competition of 2009.

REMEMBER
All JOY applications must be completed by October 31, 2008.

All JOY applications must be postmarked by November 7, 2008.

The form is available at the SFMS website for easy downloading.

http://www.amfed.org/sfms/junior_of_the_year.html

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


Bonita Harris, SFMS Youth Resources Chairman
LOOKING AHEAD

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

(Click with show contact for admission charges, if any)

November 7-9, 2008, Pascagoula, MS-Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society. Magnolia State Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show. 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 osjbwm@bellsouth.net.

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, RjgrSci@aol.com and Virgil Richards, dws@dances-with-snakes.com.

November 21-23, 2008, Marietta, GA-Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society. 23rd Annual Gem & Mineral Show, Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway. Hours: 21st & 22nd, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 23rd: 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Mary Ingram at 770.427.1108 or mandmingram@comcast.net.

November 22-23, 2008, West Palm Beach, FL-Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. 42nd Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show. Americraft Expo Center East (South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd. Hours: 22nd, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. and 23rd, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contact: Carl Bengtson at gemandmineral@bellsouth.net. Website: http://www.gemandmineral.cc.


November 28-30, 2008, Mobile, AL-Mobile Rock and Gem Society. 14th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral and Fossil Show. Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds at Cody and Zeigler Roads. Hours: 26th, 2:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.; 29th, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 30th, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contact: Doug Shaw at 251.344.9986.

December 5-7, 2008, Montgomery, AL-Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society. 38th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive. Hours: 5th, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 6th, 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; 7th, 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contacts: Jane Barkley at 334.277.2722 or Iris McGeehee at 334.262.7275.

December 5-7, 2008, Spring Hill, FL-Withlacoochee Rockhounds. 34th Annual Gem and Mineral Show, SNPJ Club County Line Rd. Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. each day. Contact: Jerry Johnson at withlacoocheerockhounds.com.

December 13-14, 2008, Nashville, TN-Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society. 28th Annual Earth Treasures Show, Tennessee State Fairgrounds, Creative Arts Building. Hours: 13th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 14th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contacts: John Stanley at 615.885.5704 or jstanley@picagroup.com or Steve Henegar at 615.714.3194 or stevehenegar@bellsouth.net.

January 16-18, 2009, Largo, FL-Pinellas Geological Society. 33rd Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale, Parkside Room, Largo Cultural Center. Hours: 16th & 17th, 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 16th, 12:00 Noon-5:00 P.M. Contact: Hugh Sheffield @727.897.2440.

February 13-15, 2009, Merritt Island, FL-Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club. 32nd Annual Symphony of Gemstones Show, Kiwanis Island Park, 950 Kiwanis Park Rd. Hours: 13th, 1:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.; 14th & 15th, 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: Susan Shrader at a-a.gmf.show@att.net.

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

April 25-26, 2009, Memphis, TN-Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Memphis (formerly Mid-America) Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show, The Earth Wide Open. New Location: Memphis International Agricenter, Expo Center, West Pavilion & A-Wing, 7777 Walnut Grove Road. Hours: 25th, 9:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.; 26th, 10:00-5:00 P.M. www.TheEarthWideOpen.com or email at: info@theearthwideopen.com. Contact: W.C. McDaniel at 901.274.7706.

2008 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

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

South Southeast Federation
Nashville, Tennessee
December 13, 2008

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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