FROM YOUR PRESIDENT
Barbara Green

I have been asked what is the benefit for clubs to be a member of SFMS. Listed below are a few of the programs that are there to help your club.

- **DMC-Field Trip Sharing Program**
  Organized trip access to many rockhounding areas, closed to the general public, provides opportunities to collect gems, minerals and fossils. With the laws changing, it helps to go on a DMC field trip and know that you will not be breaking any laws.

- **Education Committee**
  Four Workshops per year:
  - Two - William Holland School of Lapidary Arts, Young Harris Georgia
  - Two - at Wildacres, Little Switzerland, NC
  Scholarships provided by participation in the Stamp Program

- **Insurance**
  Liability Insurance for club shows (Your SFMS club needs it for field trips!!!).

- **LODESTAR Newsletters**
  Much useful information is in there each month

- **Library of Programs**
  Every club can check out these to use as programs for their monthly meetings. Check out the list on-line.

- **Youth Resources**
  Much information is available to help your Young Rockhound program in your club. Subscription to Diamond Dan's Mini Minor's Monthly is available to young rockhounds

- **The Mayo Educational Foundation**
  Club members who are college students majoring in Geology and Earth Science related fields are eligible for scholarships provided by the Foundation.

As with any program, the more you participate, the more you will benefit. I was very happy to see many new faces at our Annual Meeting this past weekend. All of the above Committees (plus many more that you can find out about on our website, http://www.amfed.org/sfms/index.html) need club members help to make them work. We have open positions. If you feel that you can help out in any of these areas, please contact me at greentop@bellsouth.net.

CARL’S EDITORIAL COMMENTARY

This month’s lead article on Page 4, by George Libby, provides some insight into upper Michigan rockhounding locations along with valuable rock photos.

Delegates at the SFMS Annual Meeting held in Greenville, SC elected Jason Hamilton as 2012 President, Danny Griffin as 2012 First Vice President, James Darnell as 2012 Second Vice President, Barbara Green as Treasurer, Kerri Wetzel as Membership Secretary, and Don Monroe as AFMS President-Elect. Voting members also accepted the Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club into SFMS.

Two more SFMS Workshops will be held this Sept & Oct. Though several classes have been cancelled, plenty of seats are still available. If you are interested in any of these courses, contact the appropriate Registrar listed on Page 9.

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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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USPS Address Reminders:
Articles for the Oct 2011 Lodestar are due by Sept 25, 2011.

Copyright© 2011 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: Carl Talbott
FIELD TRIPS


********************************************************************************

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sept 9-11, 2011: Winston-Salem, NC. Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club. 40th Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Educational Building, Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Winston-Salem#9 from 27th Street only. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-7, Sun 12-5. Contact W. A. Marion, Show Chair at 1163 Bear Creek Rd, Mocksville, NC 27028 or via e-mail at MarionA1@yadtel.net


Sept 17 & 19, 2011: The Falls of the Ohio State Park. 17th "Falls Fossil Festival" sponsored by the Falls of the Ohio Foundation. Hours: Sept 17, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Sept 19, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. A detailed schedule for the Festival is posted at: http://www.fallsoftheohio.org/special_events.html For more information contact Alan Goldstein at 812-280-9970 ext. 403 or park@fallsoftheohio.org.


October 14-16, 2011: Franklin, NC - The Franklin Gem & Mineral Society. Franklin, NC Leaf Lookers Gemboree, Macon County Community Bldg., 1288 Georgia Rd. Hours: Fri. - Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4. Adults $3, seniors and students $2, children 12 and under free; contact Linda Harbuck, (800) 336-7829; e-mail: lindah@franklin-chamber.com

October 14-16, 2011: Huntsville, AL.- Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society. VBC Center - South Hall, Huntsville. Contact Tony Smith (256) 852-3210 or tsmith@erc-incorporated.com.

November 11-13, 2011: Pascagoula, MS - The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society. Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show, Civic Center Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. $3 admission, children under age 13 are free. Contact Jim Darnell @ (228) 806-1039 [cell] or (228) 875-2310 [home].


Please Note
To ensure your show is listed here, send a written notice to the Lodestar Editor: Carl Talbott, 216 Spring View Drive, Murphy, NC 28906 or e-mail dtalbott@bellsouth.net. SFMS clubs/
For those who know me, the title needs no explanation. New friends deserve an explanation. Just over five years ago I was struck with Guillain-Barre syndrome. I spent five months in a rehab center not being able to move my legs or even a toe, and complete upper body weakness. I know some victims have had it much worse than I had, and most people have a 90% recovery rate. Many have lasting problems, and some never recover. With the problems I still have with my balance and not being able to get up and down and other problems, I would say that I recovered about 60%.

I do not consider myself a writer, but I have seen others that feel they can no longer participate in field trips. That is when I started to write about my experiences, to encourage others to get out and join in the fun. I thought about the little train that kept trying. I now find it was called -The little Train That Could. I was mistaken when I called it -Thomas but the name will stick. This report is about the 2010 Copper Country Retreat in Michigan’s northern Peninsula.

On the way north, after passing Mackinac City, I arrived at Ishpeming (on a Saturday) where I wanted to visit Jasper Knob. I found the path, but it was too steep for me. I collected a couple of samples of Jasperite and thought I might return the next morning in some dirty clothes, gloves, rake, and boots, ready to make the climb. I then went to the rock show where I signed up for the Kona Dolomite field trip on Sunday afternoon. After some auto problems that Sunday morning, it was too late to go to the Knob but I was able to visit Da-Yoooper’s Tourist Trap and Rock Shop and then off to the Kona Dolomite field trip. After collecting, I headed down to Petoskey to collect Petoskey Stones.

On Monday I visited some beaches and found coral in the limestone. Later in the day I went to the Fisherman’s Island State Park where I found only a couple of broken pieces of the fabled Petoskey Stones; however, I found many Favorite Coral or Charlevoix stones which are cousins with a smaller polyp. Here the State wants the tourist to visit so collecting is allowed. If I had tried this on the National Seashore Parks I would have been arrested.

Tuesday, I drove to Houghton and an introduction to copper collecting by the Seaman Museum. The museum was open late for us so we could see and drool over the large pieces of Datolite and Greenstone as well as many other great specimens.

Wednesday morning I was off to the Mohawk Mine. The big find there was Mohawkite. It is a combination of silver, copper, arsenic, cobalt, nickel and iron only found in this area. The most important piece of equipment there was a metal detector. I have a cheap Bounty Hunter, but it works and I was able to find a sample. While there, I noticed another rockhound who was hanging around the lower edges of the pile, as was I. We both had some leg problems and both of us agreed that if someone was finding something great, we would both make it to the top of the pile. His metal detector was singing all the time. He explained that there were rail road tracks, which the mine used to haul the ore, buried under the ground making his metal detector ring.

Since he knew the area, I asked him about Lake Superior agate. He told me you could consider it a good day if you found one. It seems the winters have been too mild the past couple years. Normally there is a lot of ice on the lake which picks up the agates, and then the ice expands and deposits the agates on the beach. With the mild winter the ice hasn’t been bringing them ashore, and the only people doing well are the scuba divers.

Wednesday afternoon was a trip to the Cliff Mine for copper ore. That evening there was a swap meet at the Quincy Mine. I had brought some Georgia material with me but was unable to make a deal. Sure, there was someone willing, but he didn’t have anything I was interested in. The others only wanted to make a couple of bucks selling what they had. Bags of greenstones were going for $100 to $250. I ended up buying a couple of samples.
Thursday morning was the Central Exploration Mine for Greenstone, Datolite and native copper. Actually there were other minerals found there with the most common being calcite. I did get some of that. Before the afternoon trip I went to take some pictures of the Central Mine. I had just seen their shafts when I was driving north and decided to stop on my own. Actually most of the mine dumps were open and anyone could stop any time. For those attending the retreat, the dumps were turned over to expose new material, and there were samples that you could see for what you were searching for. At the Central, I found a piece of ore full of amygdules. These are gas filled pockets in the matrix which sometimes are filled with copper. Of course when I had mine identified, the pockets were filled with feldspar crystals and just green coated with chlorite. I asked if copper would also be covered with chlorite. It could be, but generally they would be a lighter green in color. As a note, I may have some on examining what I brought home… but no guarantees.

Thursday afternoon was a trip to the Wolverine Mine. No one had said anything, but the big thing there was looking for copper agates. Well, copper is not an agate, but there were pockets of agate that, on rare occasions, had a trace of copper running through them. Most people that knew this, just kept breaking rock all afternoon but with the odds 100 to 1 against it, I didn’t even try. There were a couple of other rockhounds there that also had difficulty in getting around. One had a cane with an arm brace that he attached to a claw to the bottom, to be able to shift and lift things somehow. It worked great and I may try to copy it. Another rockhound was sitting down, searching and he explained how you find native copper. You do not use gloves, you just pick up the ore and when you get cut on a sharp piece you have found the native copper crystal. You have to use your metal detector to see which rocks contain copper so you know what to pick up, but it does work.

When I left the site, I went to a beach to search for the elusive Lake Superior agate. A rockhound from the area put me on to the beach and I did find one, although not a great piece. By evening all I could do was to get into the hot tub, back at the motel, and vege out. There were other trips on Friday and Saturday, but I had enough and decided to leave the next morning.

Friday I left and drove to the Crisp Point Lighthouse for more agates. It was 20 miles or so off the paved road. The first eleven was a wide gravel covered road. It was not bad, but you still had to go slow. The rest of the way was a winding, single lane dirt road. I was surprised how many cars were on that little road and how slow you had to go because you could not see around the bends. I was also surprised about the number of cars parked at the lighthouse. I did try to look for agates there, but the beach was covered with flies. Any time I stopped, I had half a dozen on each leg biting like no tomorrow. I swatted them and my legs looked like a war zone covered in blood. Something else bit me on my pinky and my hand swelled up. With the pain and swelling, I quit. There was a little gift shop there but the door was closed with a sign telling all to come in but close the door to keep the flies out. I did take a peek inside but had enough and started my drive home.

Getting up on Saturday my GPS said 12 hours to drive home. There are times when the GPS can’t find an intersection because some local town decided to rename a section of a numbered highway. It does have difficulties with some numbering systems. For me, it was a straight run on I-75. There was a short stretch where we were joined by I-71. My GPS insisted I should take I-71 and when the road separated, my GPS said to get off I-71 and take I-75.I never got off the interstate. It has these and other issues but I still would not leave home without it. It is great to know how much longer it will take to get somewhere and can tell you where the Burger King is. I did make it home in just over 12 hours.

[Editor’s Note: George Libby has been active in organizing and leading Dixie Mineral Council (DMC) sponsored field trips for many years. This article, edited due to space constraints, was published in the Sept 2011 edition of Cobb-L-Stones, the Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society’s newsletter, and is reprinted with permission of the Cobb-L-Stones editor and the author.]
APPLICATION FOR JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2011
Southeast Federation Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

NOTE: All participants receive an award, with special recognitions for the two top honorees.

NAME____________________________________________________________
ADDRESS_______________________________________________________________________________
CITY_________________________________________STATE_________________ZIP_________________
AGE___ PHONE___________________________ EMAIL _______________________________________ 
PARENT/GUARDIAN________________________________________________________________________

I, ______________________________, certify that I am a junior* rockhound member in good standing of the ___________________________ __________(Gem and Mineral Club/Society), which is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS). I am a paid member throughout the calendar year 2011. All of the points on this application are for activities between November 1, 2010 and October 31, 2011. All entries are true and correct.

* Each club may set its own age limits, but for SFMS purposes, a junior is defined as a member under 18 years old.

PRESIDENT OF THE SPONSORING CLUB

I_____________________________, as President of the sponsoring Club believe that all the points recorded in this application are true and correct.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN SIGNATURE_________________________________________________________

ALL MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY OCTOBER 31, 2010
ALL MATERIAL MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 7, 2010

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

THE JUNIOR OF THE YEAR (JOY) WINNER AND PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN
THE DECEMBER 2011 LODESTAR
### SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2011 ACTIVITY CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
<th>Points per Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Junior member of ____________________________(Rock and Mineral Club/Society), a member of SFMS (5 points per club) * Each club may set its own age limits, but for SFMS purposes, a junior is defined as a member under 18</td>
<td>5 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x 1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Attended adult meeting (First adult meeting only counts as 5 points.) See #3 and #4. No junior meeting, each additional adult meeting (5 points each)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Attended additional adult meeting (2 points each)</td>
<td>2 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Attended junior meetings/workshops (5 points each)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Served as an officer position or committee member in local adult or junior society</td>
<td>5 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Presented in local adult or junior society (5 points each presentation)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Visited gem and mineral club shows, other than own club or society Rock, gem, fossil or earth museum, national park, or other lapidary-related exhibit (Obtain and show ticket or program. 10 points each)</td>
<td>10 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 x</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Attended field trips: junior club, local club, Dixie Mineral Council-sponsored, family held trip, or field trip other than those listed above that are related to the SFMS mission (15 points each)</td>
<td>15 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Demonstrated the “Each One Teach One” program For example: gem trees, wire wrapping (10 points per occasion)</td>
<td>10 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sponsored a new junior or adult member (5 points per person)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Attended a meeting to introduce new member (5 points per person)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Presented hobby at school or in other groups. (5 points per occasion) Must be verified by the adult in charge.</td>
<td>5 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 x</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Exhibited in school, regional or state science fairs related to our hobby or federation purposes (20 points per occasion)</td>
<td>20 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 x</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Exhibited in member’s club show</td>
<td>20 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 x</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Worked at member’s annual club show (5 points per verified hour)</td>
<td>5 x</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2011 ACTIVITY CRITERIA  (con’t)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUBLICATIONS</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Note: Articles accepted by the Editor, but not yet published by October 2011 can be counted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for either 2011 or 2012, but for one year only.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Published in member’s club bulletin: a report on junior club meeting, workshop, or field trip</td>
<td>10 x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10 points per article)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Published in member’s club bulletin: well-researched educational article on some phase of</td>
<td>25 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>our hobby or the earth sciences. (25 points per article) Accurate information, references</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>required</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Won regional or national award for articles published in a club bulletin</td>
<td>25 x</td>
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<tr>
<td>(25 points for each such recognition)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: You may receive points for publication of an article one year and receive points for the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same article for recognition the next year</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS**

**TIE BREAKER**

Describe any other hobby-related information regarding publications, activities, or recognitions achieved this past year that might help us evaluate your enthusiasm for winning this JOY award.

*Use additional sheet of paper, if necessary.*
BE SAFE – BE WELL
Don Monroe & Linda Behr - Safety Committee

Things Change
Some of the changes that we are most aware of involve people, particularly those we are close to. I am referring to friends and relatives and the changes can be very subtle.

I am calling attention to changes in behavior which can occur so slowly that the victim of these changes may not be aware that they are happening. Many of these changes are often grouped under the heading of Dementia which I feel covers a multitude of things. One of the areas of concern is loss of memory which is sometimes attributed to aging.

One of our greatest fears can be fear of Alzheimer's disease. Now I ask who of us has not encountered this dreaded disease in someone we know? I think all of us have someone close to us that has suffered severe memory loss and this memory loss can create many situations which definitely involve safety. I know that my memory is not as sharp as it once was and I quizzed my family doctor about it. He gave the following observations. He said that those people who really have severe dementia often do not recognize that they have a problem. He further stated that there are many causes of memory loss such as small strokes and that he cannot diagnose the existence of Alzheimer’s disease until you die and an autopsy is performed. Now, did I take comfort in his comments? Not really but it seemed like the only thing he was going to tell me until he concluded by saying that maybe I should face the fact that I am getting old. Did that make me feel better? Heck no but then the truth often hurts.

We have recently learned first-hand that dogs can suffer from an illness similar to what we were just discussing regarding humans. We have enjoyed eleven years of companionship with our Jack Russell terrier, Hamish. He has, over the last couple of years, become more aggressive toward my wife, Ann. It reached a point where I could not risk having the two of them in the house if I was not present to referee. He would attack without provocation and bit her severely on several occasions. Research has indicated that he suffers from Canine Rage Syndrome. This was new to us and I doubt if many of you are familiar with the disease. It is neurological and the tendency is inherited. You can learn much about it “on line” and you will find that it can occur in many breeds and is entirely unpredictable. We have not learned of any cure. In some cases it is treated using some form of tranquilizer or seizure medication but turning your dog into an unresponsive being is not something that we could or would consider.

When our dog would experience an “attack”, there was really no warning. The only indication would be a small change in his eyes. He would then snarl and charge. While he is a small dog, he is really very strong and he was really hard to fend off. Once I was able to drive him away from Ann, he would go to his bed and exhibit aggression for a while. After a period of time he would relax a little and maybe sleep. Then he would behave normally again and would not appear to remember his attack and he would not have another episode for a few days.

I am sure you are waiting to hear the rest of the story. we were told that our best options were medication or put the dog down, none of which we wanted to do. A man at the kennel where he has stayed often is trying to adopt him and keep him at his house. This is showing signs of success since there are no women in the house and Hamish relates well to his other dog. We hope for the best.
# 1 NAME
SFMS SOCIETY/CLUB (spell out)_________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
City _________________________   ST__   ZIP________     Email ______________________
Home Phone (       )_________________
Cell Phone (_____) ______________________
Have you attended any other SFMS workshops?    _____
Do you want to be placed on standby if your class is filled when we get your application?  Y   N

#2 (Spouse/Friend) NAME __________________________________________________________
(If club affiliation, address and phone info is different than above, please list on the back.)
Have you attended any other SFMS workshops?    _____
Do you want to be placed on standby if your class is filled when we get your application?  Y   N

Single applicants only: Do you have someone you want to share a room with? If yes, whom?
Age Group (used to determine a compatible roommate) 20-30 31-41 42-52 53-63 64-74 74 & up
Are you a smoker?  Y  N      Are you an early riser? _______ or a night owl? _______

Special Needs:
Do you need a handicap room?  Y  N   Can you negotiate stairs?  Y  N   (elevator at Wm Holland only)
Dietary:  Diabetic ____________ Other __________________
Anything else we need to know?  (i.e. snore loudly, can’t walk up hills, etc.)________________________

Campers: (Wm Holland only) Type _______________________ Length _______ (40 ft. max.)

## 2011 SFMS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

### SESSION:
- ◊ William Holland June 12-18
- ◊ Wildacres August 22-28
- (check one) ◊ Wildacres September 12-18 ◊ William Holland October 9-15

### ACCOMMODATIONS:
- ◊ Lodge
- ◊ Day Student
- ◊ Campground (Wm Holland only)

### Class Selection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Choice</th>
<th>1(^{st}) time taking class?</th>
<th>Second Choice</th>
<th>Third Choice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student #1</td>
<td>Y    N</td>
<td>Y    N</td>
<td>Y    N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse #2</td>
<td>Y    N</td>
<td>Y    N</td>
<td>Y    N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Workshop Tuition

**NOTE:** You are encouraged to pay the full amount at registration time.
However, a $25 non-refundable deposit per person must accompany your registration. If you send a $25 deposit the remaining balance is due one month before the beginning of class.
* Tuition Cost per Person:
  * William Holland:
    * $310 double occupancy or $470 single.
    * $140 day student or camper.
  * Wildacres:
    * $330 double occupancy or $490 single.
    * $160 day student.
  * Non members add $50.00 to all Tuition fees

**William Holland Campsite Fee:** $120 per week. No meals are included for day students or campers. They are available from and payable directly to the facility.

**Cancellation Policy:** There is a non-refundable $25 administration fee. Other refunds are at the discretion of the director and Education Chair.

**Materials/Class Fees:** THE INSTRUCTORS MAY CHARGE A MATERIALS FEE FOR THEIR CLASSES. THIS MATERIALS FEE IS NOT PART OF THE WORKSHOP TUITION.

**Mail** Application & Deposit to appropriate workshop Registrar.
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.