

Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



Table of Contents

President's Report.....	1
Secretary's Report.....	1
Committee Reports.....	1
Education.....	1
Safety.....	1
Member Classified Advertising.....	1
2019 SFMS Officers.....	1
2019 SFMS State Directors.....	2
2019 SFMS Committee Chairs.....	3
2019 Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. Officers/Director.....	4
2019 SFMS Representatives to AFMS Committees.....	4

President's Report

Hello all. I'd like to talk to you about youth programs this month. Most clubs have already made this part of their responsibility as laid out in their corporate charter. But in my experience , nothing we do is more useful and enjoyable than encouraging our youth to learn more about rocks and what we do with them. I believe there is a budding scientist and artist in all of us that is eager for encouragement. If your club already has an active youth program then you are well aware of the rewards of working with young rockhounds. And you have also seen the payoff in publicity and community relations.

One benefit of your club's SFMS membership is that it gives you access to the American federation's well laid out Junior Rockhound program. My local club, Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society, has recently begun working with this program and the results so far are very encouraging. We had our first kid's meeting last month and inducted nine members into the group. And this brought in a couple of new adult members as well. A lot of work has gone into this program. There are dozens of well developed activity sets designed for earning badges in various lapidary related subjects. And participation in the program opens up a nationwide network to connect with. Even if

you don't use the whole plan the badge modules are a great source of well planned out activities you can customize. You can find complete information at www.amfed.org .

SFMS is also working to revitalize our own youth resources program. Our new chair, Craig Hamilton, has some great ideas to share about community outreach programs activities that have been very successful for the Jacksonville club. If you are interested you can contact him through the SFMS website. And I'm sure he would like to hear about successful ideas that your club might want to share.

Whatever approach you choose to take I hope you will make youth programs an integral part of your club's activities. You are sure to be well rewarded and there is no better way to assure your club's continued vitality.

Reggie Bolton

Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society

2019 SFMS president

Committee Reports

Education

2019 SFMS WORKSHOPS

William Holland/Wild Acres



www.sfmsworkshops.org

Visit our new website for class descriptions, pictures, workshop dates and fees, registration form and online deposit payments. We have some exciting classes planned through out the year at both locations...we look forward to seeing you!

For questions please contact kristine@kmarella.com

863-640-2887

Safety



Bob Green, Chair

Greetings all, Happy end of February. Winter hopefully has decided to go away, though next week in the upstate we have ea refreshing blast of cold air. We must remember the blizzard of 1993 happened on the 12 and 13th of March. So maybe by May; winter will be past.

Sorry, I missed the February deadline, I won 3rd prize and spent 2 weeks in Germany. Germany is a really great place to visit. Barb

and I have spent a number of weeks there. Well this was not a vacation. We (Barb was not included) were on a business trip and visited 6 different facilities in 9 working days, starting just south of Hannover and ending up leaving from Zurich airport. We put 1,500 miles on the rental van. We had a very good trip, excellent travelling companions from my company and the client. Travelling like that with good companions makes a hard trip fun.

Anyway, some wanderings;

I am amazed at the number of really high end automobiles that have been produced with no turn signals.

I am also amazed at the number of people that their trip planning means they will decide where to turn about 15 feet before the street they want even if it is 3 lanes over and they come close to developing a major highway incident. In some parts of the world this is called "the south Texas weave".

I am also amazed by the reluctance by some drivers to pass until there is 2 miles clear and no other vehicle in sight and they drive so close that they can easily get into the back seat of your car, if the back seat were not so messy.

Anyway, I was pleased to see the courtesy on the German highways. Yes, they have some interesting laws; such as you can not camp out in the passing lane. We have some laws here, but many folks totally ignore these. The German drives pass and then returns into their original lane. Trucks rarely drive beside each other for the 40 miles or so between the SC line and Charlotte. I exaggerate, but you get the point.

German weather this time of the year is cold and wet in the north and cold and dryer in the south. We experienced freezing fog, which is similar to our hoar frost or rhime ice, which ever you prefer to call it. We stayed in a hotel near the alps that still had 18" of snow on the ground from a storm 10 days before.

A lovely place to visit; here we have been lucky in the upstate, bad weather has missed us for the most part. We did not have 20 below zero with a wind chill of 45 below zero that was prevalent in the Illinois area. And as I have noted a number of times, be prepared for the worst. This past weekend we lost power again, but for only 2 hours. That made me scramble to get the Coleman stove back in working condition, which is nearly did, still sputters and spits. Anyway, the power came back two (2) hours later and all was good.

As spring gets closer remember that you may have spent many hours watching TV or some other less than strenuous activity and the result is you are not in shape to transplant trees, or develop a new flower bed. So be careful. Spring also makes we older folks forget these things. I keep my boot and handicap sticker in clear sight to remind me that doing stupid things can get you hurt.

One last thing, all of these home improvement shows have a common theme against safety. Very few require or even mention safety glasses and this presents a poor example on keeping the average guy or gal safe.

So wear appropriate clothing, dress in layers as we transition from winter to spring and back again and be alert to the hazards that your chores may expose.

Be safe and take care.

Member Classified Advertising

(members of affiliated clubs/societies may submit classified advertising for personal materials that are related to the goals of the Federation and its member clubs/societies).

Faceting Lapidary Unit with manuals and cutting data, dops, and more. Available from Bob Campbell Geology Museum, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

\$400.00;

contact

Dr. Adam Smith

140 Discovery Ln, Clemson, SC 29634

[\(864\) 656-4600](tel:8646564600)



GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS

March 1-2-3, 2019 St. Petersburg, FL

49th Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show and Sale

THE SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Fri: 10 AM to 6PM; Sat: 10AM-6PM; Sun:

10am-5PM

The Minnreg Hall

6340 126th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773

GRAND DRAWING AT END OF SHOW!

\$1.50 GRAB BAGS, FREE PARKING

12+ Dealers

Planned demonstration on Beading, Wire Wrapping, Cabbing, Faceting, Metal Work.

Silent Auctions all day long, Gem Mining flume inside.

Club display cases and exhibits.

Refreshments available.

Show contact: Bill Schmidt, Show Chair, 727 822-8279

Email contact: SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com

<http://www.sgams.com/Shows/show.html>

March 22, 23, &24, 2019; Lexington, KY

Lexington Rock Gem & Jewelry Show (Annual Show)

Sponsored by Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Club

Clarion Hotel, 1950 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY

Near Exit 115 off I-75/I-64

Hours: Fri 4 PM-8 PM (Rock Part Preview Nite), Sat 9 AM-6 PM, Sun 11 AM-5 PM



Show includes minerals, jewelry, equipment dealers, exhibits, KY Agate, fluorescent displays, prizes, silent auction, club sales.

More Info: <http://bggamc.homestead>.

Jane Volk, lexgemshow@outlook.com

Allen Ferrell, kyrock2010kentucky@yahoo.com

April 27th and 28th 2019, Memphis, TN

Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show. Sponsored by the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Rd Memphis, TN Saturday, April 27 9-6:00 pm and Sunday, April 28 10-5pm. Over 50 Dealers and Exhibitors selling rocks, fossils, minerals, crystals, gemstones, opals, beads and jewelry. Kids Areas with gem and fossil dig, geode bowling and Rocks around the Clock. Includes the original "Memphis Rock Banquet" a full table display of rocks that look like real food. Adults \$5.00. 2- day pass \$8.00. Children 12 & under \$2.00. Scouts in uniform free, www.theearthwideopen.com, email info@theearthwideopen.com.

Harrison County

PRESENTS

40th Annual Gem & Jewelry

May 18 & 19, 2019

Saturday
9 –5pm

Adults - \$5.00 / Kids age 10 & under - Free
*** Door Prizes Hourly ***

Sunday
9 –4pm



Joppa Shrine Temple

13280 Shriners Blvd. Biloxi, Ms.
North of I-10 / Woolmarket Exit # 41



Jewelry * Rocks * Gems * Beads * Fossils * Minerals



Displays

Exhibits

Bring Flyer for \$1.00

Kids Corner

Stump
the
Expert!

Demonstrations



Gem & Mineral Society

SFMS



Visit our Website: www.gulfnortheastems.org or Facebook at www.facebook.com/gulfnortheastems

November 9 & 10, 2019; Melbourne, FL

46th Annual Parade of Gems

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society

45 Dealers displaying & selling Jewelry, gems, minerals, crystals, fossils, tools, rocks, slabs. Demonstrations; hourly prizes; grand prize, Children's Mineral Discoveries

Melbourne Auditorium

625 East Hibiscus Blvd.

Melbourne, FL 32901

More info: www.canaveral-mgs.com

Show Chairman,

Don McLamb

570 Seabreeze Drive

Indialantic, FL 32903

321-723-2592

fdjmc@aol.com

2019 SFMS Officers

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