

Official Monthly Publication of the  
Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society  
Birmingham, Alabama

Website: <https://www.lapidaryclub.com>

**President’s Message**

Hello Folks,

First off, I would like to apologize for this news-  
letter coming out so late. Due to some unexpected  
health issues, I am still recovering and just couldn’t  
get this done.

The Gaston’s put on a interesting program for us  
in March and can bring back their humor anytime. We  
love it. John is having a private show at his home, see  
details on page 7.

John Wild has a wonderful program line up for  
us by Bill Fowler on Alternative Use of Brookwood  
stone and a side bar about tumbling Brookwood stones  
with John Gaston. We hope to continue with our annu-  
al Mr. Smith’s Tumbling Contest at this upcoming  
May meeting. Any members with extra unpolished  
Brookwood stones, please bring to the meeting to  
share with others.

*This Saturday, March 14th*, a Cabbing Party is  
scheduled at the workshop. We will have instructors  
available, all you need is to come with a rock to cab.  
Please wear old clothes with all sleeves rolled up and  
shirt tales tucked in. I would like to thank all of those  
who have stepped up for the workshop and other  
events.

We have many events on different levels coming  
up. The Oak Mountain Egg Hunt and Spring Sale is  
rapidly approaching, March 28th. This is a fun out-  
reach to the public with lots of children getting hands  
on rockhounding fun. Adults too, if the truth be told.

Now for some business that needs to be handled.  
We need 3 members from the membership plus 3 from  
the board of directors to be on the Nominating Com-  
mittee. Folks, this is not the Sandra Sullivan club or  
the John Wild club or The Bolton club. It is **ALL** of  
us pulling together to make the club a good one that  
functions.

We have a major fundraising show coming up  
in June at the Oak Mt. State Park. *Cont’d. on page 5*



Sandra Sullivan  
President A.M.L.S.

**Upcoming in March -**  
**Workshop open on Tuesdays thanks to Robert Lorino because Reggie Bolton can’t. Robert says 10 am to 4 pm.**

- **Levan Foster says the workshop is NOT getting anyone on Saturdays. So if you want to go use the workshop other than Tuesdays, call, text, or email Levan Foster. See page 2 for contact info.**
- **Mar. 6, 7, & 8 - Suwannee River Rockhound Roundup Live Oak, FL. and SFMS Bd. Mtg.**
- **Mar. 13 - Bill Fowler Alternative uses of Brookwood stones and John Gaston**
- **Mar. 14 - Cabbing Party workshop in Leeds**
- **Mar. 28 - Oak Mt Park - Egg Hunt & Show 9-5**
- **Mar. 29 - DMC Fieldtrip to Summerville, GA.**

**April 10 - Regular Mtg. - Annual Auction Fieldtrip to Sylacauga for Marble Festival to be scheduled.**

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OFFICERS	
President	Sandra Sullivan 205-903-7062 <a href="mailto:doodle35146ss@yahoo.com">doodle35146ss@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	John Wild 205-981-6609 <a href="mailto:john@milcomtextiles.com">john@milcomtextiles.com</a>
2nd Vice President	<i>Vacant - Fieldtrip Chair</i>
Treasurer	Reggie Bolton 205-678-8772 <a href="mailto:reggie@newenvirons.net">reggie@newenvirons.net</a>
Recording Secretary	Bunny Bolton 205-678-8772 <a href="mailto:bunny@newenvirons.net">bunny@newenvirons.net</a>
Corresponding Secretary	Sandra Sullivan <a href="mailto:doodle35146ss@yahoo.com">doodle35146ss@yahoo.com</a>
Historian	Donna Sellers <a href="mailto:donyms11@bellsouth.net">donyms11@bellsouth.net</a>
COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Editor / Publications	Sandra Sullivan <a href="mailto:doodle35146ss@yahoo.com">doodle35146ss@yahoo.com</a>
Education Chair	Bunny Bolton <a href="mailto:bunny@newenvirons.net">bunny@newenvirons.net</a>
Fieldtrip Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Hospitality Chair	Rhea Proffitt <a href="mailto:kokomo0114@yahoo.com">kokomo0114@yahoo.com</a>
Membership Chair	Levan Foster <a href="mailto:levanfoster@gmail.com">levanfoster@gmail.com</a>
Program Chair	John Wild <a href="mailto:john@milcomtextiles.com">john@milcomtextiles.com</a>
Property or Equipment Chair	Reggie Bolton <a href="mailto:reggie@newenvirons.net">reggie@newenvirons.net</a>
Publicity Chair	Sarah Grace Landis, Tristan Carisch, and Vivian Melof
Show Chair	Cathy Kellogg 256-283-4664 <a href="mailto:cspecialk@bellsouth.net">cspecialk@bellsouth.net</a>
Webmaster	<i>Vacant</i>

**For more information:**  
**AFMS, EFMLS, and SFMS Websites**  
 The SFMS Newsletter, *the Lodestar*, and the AFMS Newsletter are now available for all members to read on line at <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>. And [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org) Email: [sfms@amfed.org](mailto:sfms@amfed.org) And the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies or EFMLS <https://www.efmls.org>

**A.M.L.S. WORKSHOP ADDRESS:**  
 8036 Parkway Dr. Leeds, AL. 35094  
 (Across from The Pant Store)

*Please welcome any new members with a handshake and tell them a bit about A.M.L.S. and what you like about it. David, Allison, Will, and Izzy Sheffield of the Birmingham area.*

If you know of someone who would like to visit or be interested in rocks, feel free to invite them to our meetings. You never know when a child's interest will be sparked!

Members Serving on the Board of Directors :	
Levan Foster	205-276-8786 <a href="mailto:levanfoster@gmail.com">levanfoster@gmail.com</a>
Don Rosenstiel	205-822-1513 <a href="mailto:don77rose@gmail.com">don77rose@gmail.com</a>
Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies	
President of EFMLS	Barbara Ringhiser <a href="mailto:5678barb@aol">5678barb@aol</a>
Alabama State Representative to EFMLS	
Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies	
President of SFMS	Jessie Griffin <a href="mailto:2012griffin@gmail.com">2012griffin@gmail.com</a>
Alabama State Representative to SFMS	Phillip Kaiser <a href="mailto:kaiserpw@att.net">kaiserpw@att.net</a>

**Meeting Minutes February 14, 2020 ~**

The ladies were greeted with a red rose since it was Valentine's Day. John Gaston blessed our meal and we enjoyed our Valentine feast. There was also time to check out the silent auction and door prize items. Our visitors were introduced, Charli Gaston, daughter of John and Bonnie, and David, Allison, Will and Izzy Sheffield who joined the club tonight. Welcome!

Our program began with Bonnie Gaston sharing some romantic wisdom from the Beverly Hillbillies such as "Snow on the roof doesn't mean there's no fire in the furnace". John Gaston the gave a program on fluorite. He has some very fine specimens and showed how they fluoresce under long wave. Thanks to the Gaston's for this funny and educational program.

The 2020 budget was passed around and discussed. Jill Hill moved that we accept it and Nikki Hurst seconded. The budget passed.

Don Hill talked about the torch enameling class he will teach on Feb.16th. Bunny Bolton talked about the cabbing party that will be the March education program. It will take place at the workshop on Mar.14th from 10 am to 4 pm.

John Gaston will have a rock sale at his house on Mar. 13th and 14th. He suggested that you could check out his sale for rough or slabs to work on at the cabbing party.

Sandra said it was time to select a nominating committee and asked for volunteers. Three board members and three members are needed. She also told us about the club's Dixie Mineral Council field trip to Sloss Furnace and then Red Mountain Park. The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies is putting together a group similar to the DMC and soon we, as members of AMLS which is a member of the EFMS, will be able to go on those field trips.

Door prizes were awarded and silent auction items sold. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary

**Board Meeting Minutes Feb.11, 2020 ~**

In attendance Sandra Sullivan, John Wild, Vivian Melof, Levan and Yvonne Foster, Reggie and Bunny Bolton.

The new flyers for the June Oak Mountain Show were passed around and oohed and aaaahed over. Very nice!

Don Hill went over the new show site and made a

**Board Meeting Minutes Feb.11, 2020 Con't.~**

map we could use for planning where food vendors, vendor parking etc. will go. Spaces will probably be 10' x 20' and some vendors are requesting pavilion space so we need to see about that. We may need to add a quiet generator or two if there are not enough outlets. These are available to rent from Home Depot.

Sandra and Levan have been working on the membership list and compared notes.

The budget was hashed out and made ready to be voted on by the membership at the February meeting.

John will print out copies with the changes.

On March 28th from 9am to 5pm we will have a tent at the Oak Mountain Egg Hunt and Spring Market. There probably are enough sifting cups and bags for this. Rock painting supplies need to be checked and we will need members to show up as this is a big outreach event for us talking to lots of folks and drumming up new members. We will demonstrate cabbing and show local rocks and lapidary items made by members.

Reggie is sending a check for \$600. to the SFMS for liability insurance and show insurance for 2 shows. It was agreed that the workshop locks will be changed at a cost of \$85.

The upcoming cabbing party was discussed. It will be Saturday March 14th from 10 am to 4 pm. We will include jewelry projects and a 'bring your own' opportunity for those who want to share techniques or get help. Prepare to provide your lunch, ice and beverages plus deserts will be provided.

Brookwood has been cancelled but we could still have a tumbling contest if members who have been there could share some stones. Bill Fowler says he can do a program on other uses for stones from Brookwood.

The possibility of a Wetumpka Crater talk for a program was talked about as well as other program possibilities.

Currently our workshop foremen are Reggie Bolton, John Wild, and Levan Foster. Reggie suggested Robert Lorino would be a fine addition. The board voted to add Robert Lorino.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary



**Clubs and Societies Shows and Rock Swaps via RockNGem shows, SFMS website, and other sources**

**Mar. 6 – 8 Clearwater, FL. Suncoast Gem and Mineral Society;** Banquet Masters, 13355 49th St North; Fri. 1-6, Fri. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Donations: Adults \$5, students with a parent or ID \$4 (good for all three days), contact Bill Schmidt, 4619 69th St North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709, (727) 657-0998; Email: [sgams-gemshow@gmail.com](mailto:sgams-gemshow@gmail.com); Website: [sgams.com](http://sgams.com)

**Mar.13-15 Augusta, GA. Augusta Gem and Mineral Society;** Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society; Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad Street; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Adults \$4 (weekend pass \$6), free admission for children under 12 accompanied by a paying adult; contact Richard McNutt, GA; Email: [Rmcnut-t9@comcast.net](mailto:Rmcnut-t9@comcast.net); Website: [www.Agams.club](http://www.Agams.club)

**Mar.14-15 Naples, FL. Wholesale and retail show;** Gem Faire; Naples Italian American Club, 7035 Airport Pulling Rd. N; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; \$5 (all-weekend access); contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; Email: [info@gemfaire.com](mailto:info@gemfaire.com); Website: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

**Mar. 20-22 Arden, N.C. Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association (M.A.G.M.A.);** Camp Stephens, 263 Clayton Road; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; free admission; contact Richard Jacquot, PO Box 542, Leicester, NC 28748, 8287794501; Email: [rick@wncrocks.com](mailto:rick@wncrocks.com); Website: [www.americanrockhound.com](http://www.americanrockhound.com)

**Mar. 20-22 Marietta, GA. Bellpoint Gem Show; Cobb County Civic Center,** 548 S. Marietta Pkwy.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, free admission for children under 15 when accompanied by a paying adult; contact Damian; Email: [mbellpoint@gmail.com](mailto:mbellpoint@gmail.com); Website: [www.bellpointpromotions.com](http://www.bellpointpromotions.com)

**Mar. 21-21 Cartersville, GA. Show; Tellus Science Museum; Tellus Science Museum,** 100 Tellus Dr.; Sat. 8:30-5; Members: \$30, Non-members: \$40; Tellus Mineral Symposium 2020, featuring speakers discussing building a collection, valuing your collection, organizations of collectors, and going out in the field to collect. Prepaid reservation required; contact Asia Johnson, 100 Tellus Dr., Cartersville, GA 30120, (770) 606-57; Email: [ryanr@tellusmuseum.org](mailto:ryanr@tellusmuseum.org); Website: [www.tellusmuseum.org](http://www.tellusmuseum.org)

**Mar. 27-29 Hickory, N.C. Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club;** Hickory Metro Convention Center, 1960 13th Ave Dr. SE, #A; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, free admission for law enforcement, youth groups, scouts in uniform, and children 12 and under; 50th annual show, held in association with the annual Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. convention, 24 vendors with a variety of

**Some links to help you keep track of upcoming shows:**

<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates>  
<http://www.jewelryshowguide.com/event/>

**Shows and Rock Swaps Continued ...**

specimens; contact Dean Russell, show chm, (828) 303-1448; Email: [cvgmcsecretary@aol.com](mailto:cvgmcsecretary@aol.com); Website: <http://cvgmc.com/SpecialEvents.html>

**Apr. 3-5 Raleigh, N.C. Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club;** North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd., Kerr Scott Bldg.; Fri. 3-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$3, free admission for children 14 and under; contact Cyndy Hummel, 10609 Chelsea Dr, Raleigh, NC 27603, (919) 779-6220; Email: [mchummel@mindspring.com](mailto:mchummel@mindspring.com); Website: [tarheelclub.org](http://tarheelclub.org)

**Apr.18 Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society Annual show** 516 Atlanta St. Marietta, GA. 30060 Clubhouse Rock Swap and Auction. To register for space or to display from your vehicle, it important to contact Bob Hohn to reserve a spot. Email: [robert\\_hohn@comcast.net](mailto:robert_hohn@comcast.net)



**The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**

Our club, the A.M.L.S. belongs to the Southeast Federation and the Eastern Federation. Both are wonderful but different mineralogical societies. S.S.

**William Holland Catalog online:**

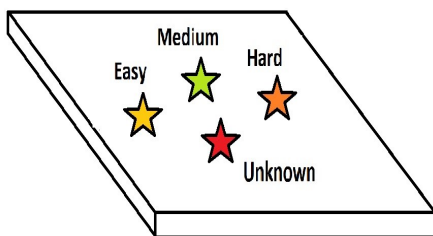
<https://lapidaryschool.org/2020>



## Brad Smith - Bench Tips ~

### IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder. What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.



### INEXPENSIVE ELECTRIC WAX PEN

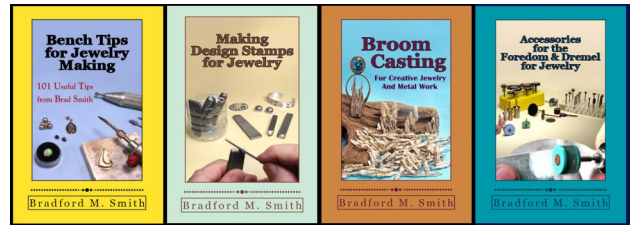
You can make your own wax pen from a small soldering iron plugged into a light dimmer switch for heat control. Both components are easily found at a big hardware store or at Harbor Freight. As an example of the components, see items # 43060 and # 47887

File the tip of the soldering iron into the shape you prefer or even better get a soldering iron with replaceable tips. Then you can make several tip shapes for different tasks. Set the dimmer control just hot enough to melt the wax without producing any smoke.

A tip design that I find ideal for some work is a length of small gauge wire that lets me reach in around the model to melt some wax. The wire is 18ga and about 15mm long. I use Sterling wire to conduct heat easily to the tip, and I silver solder it into a hole on the end of a copper or brass rod that fits into the soldering iron.

See all Brad's jewelry books at  
[Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith)  
 See the paperback edition at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/0988285886/> and the Kindle edition at <https://amazon.com/dp/B07D4B45JJ/>

Brad Smith [brad@greenheart.com](mailto:brad@greenheart.com)



BradSmithJewelry.com "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry"

See all Brad's jewelry books at

[Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith)

See the paperback edition at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/0988285886/> and the Kindle

edition at <https://amazon.com/dp/B07D4B45JJ/>

### Workshop Class for March ~ CABBING PARTY!

AMLS will have a cabbing party March 14th from 10am to 4pm at the workshop. All working cabbing machines and saws will be available to use for paid members who have been okayed to. For anyone who wants to learn we will have knowledgeable members there to help you. Several jewelry making projects will be available and we will have a BYOP- Bring Your Own Project- area to get help or share what you are working on. Bring lunch, we will have ice and drinks and sweets, and snacks. Any questions ask Bunny Bolton or a board member, also check the facebook page. I hope to see you there! S.S.

**President's Message continued ...** We need everyone pitching in and if we each can just do little bit, the show will be a successful venture for the club. Everyone would like to receive a scholarship for the two schools. This is your opportunity to earn it. The committee will select from those who entered and showed their initiative in our club. We have had many to return to our club and teach us about what they learned in their week of instructions. Our club now has a variety of lapidary people who teach.

Sadly, I need to inform our members that we have lost two more members to illness. Mahlon Mc Connell and Gloria Adams contributed a lot to our club and will certainly be missed.

Let's enjoy one another's company at the meeting and just have fun with rockhounding.

See you **THIS Friday night**,  
 Sandra Sullivan, President A.M.L.S.

**Meteor Shower Schedule** ~ Via <http://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/earthskys-meteor-shower-guide>

Earth Sky's 2020 meteor shower guide by Bruce McClure and Deborah Byrd in Astronomy Essentials | Space

*This is a wonderful website for the entire family to enjoy. Check out the Meteor Shower this month!*

**IMPORTANT:** DMC field trips are open only to members of clubs in the SFMS DMC field trip sharing program. SFMS DMC club members are covered by liability insurance and they are bound by the AFMS code of ethics (click here to read them), but the general public is not and could jeopardize access to a collecting location. So unless the property owner has invited non-SFMS attendees, the general public is not allowed on DMC field trips. Please do not post DMC field trip information where the general public can access it.

Please reply by e-mail to: [sfms-dmc@amfed.org](mailto:sfms-dmc@amfed.org)

World Wide Web site for the DMC is: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm>

DMC is a program of the Field Trip Committee of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. Copyright © All rights reserved.

*"Earth first...we'll collect on the other planets later."*

**Clubs scheduled to host DMC Field Trips in the next 6 months - 2020**

**March - Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Inc. (Mobile, AL)**

April - Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club (Charlotte, NC)

May - Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Jackson, MS)

June - Gaston County Gem, Mineral & Faceting Club (Gastonia, NC)

July - Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society (Hendersonville, NC)

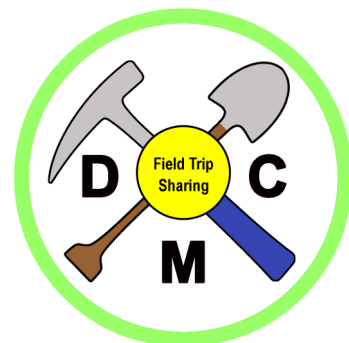
August - Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society (Huntsville, AL)

**SFMS BOARD MEETING in Live Oak, FL. March 7, 2020 at the Suwannee River Music Festival Park Rock Swap and Sale ~**

Many topics were discussed about our federation and how it needs to operate. One of the most important topics was the disbursement of information to the membership concerning the Dixie Mineral Clubs fieldtrips. It was stressed the importance of members not giving out the locations of the digs prior in a newsletter. Many are now going online into the Archives of the clubs and taking information from them about digs. They inappropriately proceed to go alone to these collection sites. We are losing the ability to get back in because of others who have NOT followed the rules and now the landowners will NOT allow anyone in. We need to keep the site location private in a separate communication, go to a nearby public place, gather and sign release

forms, THEN proceed to the collection site. We need to keep those who are not club members from ruining it for all rockhounds. The ability to collect on private property is becoming slimmer each time the landowner's property is disrespected by undue pillage of those who are not respectful. This is why you will be receiving the DMC Fieldtrip in a separate file along with your regular monthly newsletter.

**Please help out by not giving out information to those who are not members. Thank you, Sandra**

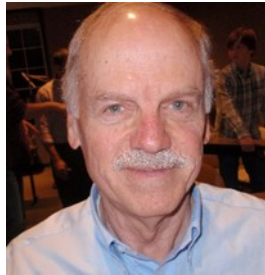


**Gerry Elam says by email ...**

Sandra,  
 As you know, our father, Edwin Elam, loved the rock club and its mission. He lived for the meetings and always supported the club to the best of his ability. I was wondering if the club might entertain naming the workshop after him i.e. "The Ed Elam Workshop"? Of course, "no" is an acceptable answer but he would be so thrilled and honored to be remembered in such a way. It doesn't have to be much and no ceremony is requested. A small sign - I'll cover the costs. What do you think? Is it worth considering? Many thanks!  
 Gerry Elam Phoenix, AZ.

**John Gaston says ...**

Sale of seashells, mineral specimens, rocks, petrified wood and other fossils, lapidary rough. Come by and buy something that you might work on at the workshop on Saturday! Friday and Saturday, March 13-14, 8:00 - noon. 3116 Whispering Pines Circle, Hoover, 35226. 205-907-5648 Rain or Shine.  
 Thanks,  
 John Gaston (He has a great collection!)



**A.M.L.S. Lineup of Programs for the upcoming months ~**

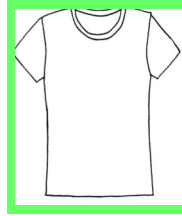
Our VP John Wild says he has some great programs lined up for us for the upcoming months.

APRIL 10th - Annual Auction where great buys can be had for all.

May 8th - Our annual show prep. Last minute items that need to be taken care of.

June 5th, 6th, 7th - Annual Club Show - This year in a new location which is Oak Mountain State Park. Cathy Kellogg will be our show chair again this year. The show email address is [events4amls@gmail.com](mailto:events4amls@gmail.com) If you know of any one wishing to have a booth, please send them to this email address.

July 10th - Wetumpka Crater with Geologist Professor



WE have a few T- Shirts left and they will be at the next meeting. The cost will be \$10.00 per shirt. The inventory is as follows :

- 2 Xlg.
- 7 Lg. ( NO pockets )
- 3 Med.

These are well made T-shirts, colorful with the A.M.L.S. logo on the back, and are great to wear on a fieldtrip.



**American Federation of Mineralogical News**

The Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society has agreed to host both the AFMS and the SFMS Annual Meetings for 2020. The date has been set for October 16 -18, 2020 in Knoxville, TN. This is in conjunction with their annual rock and gem show.

Both the February and March AFMS newsletters stressed learning about how to properly set up a display case, whether you plan to be competitive or not. President Dave Wayment suggested taking a class from the federation on how to judge a display. Even if you will never be a judge, you will learn how to display and how to interpret the rules. He also mentions that you will learn a lot and make many new friends. Dave says that displays are a great way to show people what your club has to offer and he encourages all members to consider doing a display to exhibit their skills and crafts. For further information contact the Uniform Rules Committee, either for the AFMS or your local region. These are the people who can explain the rules to you and help you understand how to get a display case ready for showing.

*Via The Nugget Vol.19 Issue 8 page 9*

**DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS-**

Many events are being changed to a later date or cancelled totally. Please stay tuned about the AFMS Annual Meeting in Knoxville, TN. in October, 2020. It would be convenient for our members to attend but we want the safety to be first in this matter.



**ADAMS, GLORIA JANE**, age 72 of Springville, passed away Saturday February 29, 2020. She is survived by her husband of 16 years, Steve Adams; son, Tyler Sullens (Anna Mae); step-son, David Adams (Crystal); step-daughters, Ashley Sanders (Jonathan) and Stefanie Adams (John); brother, Rev. Jimmie Spikes (Freida); grandchildren, Claire Sullens, Andrew Sullens, Eliza Jane Sullens, Kenley Sanders, Taylor Sanders, Hailey Sanders, and Clement Scholes; and several nieces and nephews. Gloria retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama after 25 years of service. She was a member of Springville First United Methodist Church, Alabama Designer Craftsmen, past President of St. Clair County Master Gardeners, and twice past President of Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society. Gloria was a good friend, a devoted mother and grandmother, gifted jewelry artist, a darling wife and “Honey Bunny” to her husband. Her family will celebrate her life on Monday, March 9, 2020 with visitation at Ridout’s Trussville Chapel from 9:30-11 AM with her service beginning at 11 AM. There will be a private, family graveside service at Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, AL.



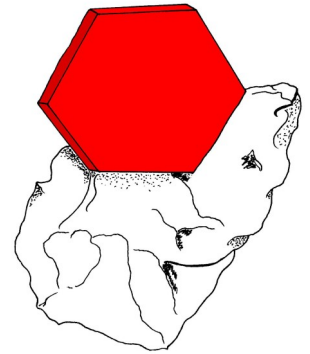
**Paul Mahlon McConnell was born on August 2, 1933 and passed away on February 25, 2020.** Paul Mahlon McConnell, 86, of Jasper, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020, at Ridgeview Health Care. Family will be receiving friends on Friday, Feb. 28, 2020, from 10 until 11 a.m., at Kilgore-Green Funeral Home. Service will follow at 11 a.m., in the Kilgore-Green Chapel, burial at Liberty Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Jim Sides will officiate. Mahlon loved witnessing to people about Jesus love. He also loved being a volunteer at Camp Mitnick, the with Baptist Men’s Group and served in New York after 9-11. He was a Walker County Constable and a retired minister. Mahlon was a member of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church and Army Veteran during Korean War. He met his beloved wife of 64 years Willese, while working in the Steel Mill in Cleveland, Ohio. **He was a self-proclaimed “Rock Hound” and member of the Birmingham and Huntsville Rock Clubs and was a skilled jewelry maker from stones and rocks.** He will be missed by many. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Corena McConnell; brother, Adron McConnell; and sisters; Betty Watts and Joy Harris. He is survived by his wife, Doris Willese McConnell; brothers, Edward McConnell (Catherine), Elston McConnell (Dean), Grady Gene McConnell (Ann), Loye McConnell (Susan); sisters, Martha Holland (Jim) and Brenda Kendrick (Dennis); sister-in-law, Lurene McConnell; and brother-in-laws, Arnold Smith, Donald Smith and Harold Smith and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Friends may sign the guest register at [kilgoregreenfuneralhome.com](http://kilgoregreenfuneralhome.com). Kilgore-Green Funeral Home, Jasper; 205-384-9503.





Last page funnies ...

Ruby Fever



Rubies, sapphires, emeralds, garnets
My mind reels with the possibility of finding one.
I am high with the beauty of the surrounding mountains.
The dark green pine and fall trees, still wet from the night,
display their magnificent colors.
The turkey vulture thermals in the clear, sapphire blue skies.
Smoke from the fire where coffee is brewing adds a pungent odor to the air.
The stream diverted though the cool wooden flume.
My fingers are sensitive to the cold water as I wash the red mud from the gritty gravel.
The water turns red as it flows through the rough wooden trough.
My trembling hands show my excitement as the water clears.
I raise my sluice box and the small red and blue pebbles are lit up by the clear unpolluted sunshine.
As an amateur I carefully capture each shining treasure.
My jar fills and I am reluctant to take a break.
My fingers are worn, my back sore but the next wash might hold the big one.
Later we sit around the crackling fire and listen to the stories of Ruby Fever.
My clothes are stained with the red mud, my fingers are waterlogged and sore.
My soul is fulfilled as I enjoy the good people and the mountain music.

By Judith Wylie Johnson, 1978

A.M.L.S. Application for Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Year

ADULT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN'S NAMES & AGES \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK/CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$25. \_\_\_\_\_ Single \$20. \_\_\_\_\_ Junior / Student \$15. \_\_\_\_\_

After June 1, the cost of the membership dues are one-half price for new members only for the remainder of that year.
Dues for regular members are to be renewed at the November meeting and / or before January 1st of the new year. Please make checks payable to the

ALABAMA MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY
8036 Parkway Dr. Leeds, Al. 35094

and mail to
Or bring to a meeting!

Info: Usual Meeting Date : Second Friday of each month except for the month of June. The Oak Mountain State
Park Show takes the place of the June meeting.

Meeting place : Cahaba Heights United Methodists Church 3139 Cahaba Heights Rd.
Cahaba Heights, AL. 35243

Meeting time: 6:30 p.m.

Visitors Welcomed !

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

# March 2020

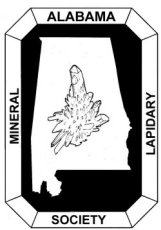


# AQUAMARINE

~ Birthstone for March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Workshop 10-4				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Workshop 10-4			Meeting 6:30	Cabbing Party
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Workshop 10-4				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Workshop 10-4				Oak Mt State Pk Event
29	30	31				
DMC Fieldtrip Summerville GA		Workshop 10-4				

## ALABAMA MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY Birmingham, Alabama



*The Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society* is a non-profit organization for people interested in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, and the lapidary arts. Membership is open to all people interested in the objectives of the society. Dues for the calendar year 2020 are \$25.00 family, \$20.00 single, and Juniors / Students \$15.00. Checks should be made payable to the **Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society** and given to the treasurer. The society holds regular meetings on the second Friday of the month at 6:30 pm ( **except the month of June because of the Oak Mountain St. Park Show** ). Meetings are currently held at the Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church and usually last an hour and a half. There is a half hour of snacks and fellowship preceding the meeting.

The society is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Reprint rights are granted for any information in the bulletin except minutes and copy right articles with permission to print one time only in ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP, provided credit is given to the author and the original publication as well as the bulletin. Exchange bulletins should be addressed to the editor.

### THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC. and THE EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES

**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 the Earth Sciences and the practice of the lapidary arts and crafts in the southeastern 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.*

