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

President's Message

Hello Folks.

We can all agree 2020 was and still is a terrible year for us rockhounds. Without fieldtrips and meetings, we are in a bad state of mind. I do look at my rocks, woo and aww over them as if they are brand new! I still find them interesting. Hope you are getting your rockhounding fix in a safe way too.

We are trying something new to us, ZOOM meetings. As a board member, I have attend a couple already and some with the Eastern Federation too. If I can do it, I believe you can too. ALL it takes is a home computer, or a laptop, or a tablet, or a cell phone. Let's try this in order to stay connected. You may have to download the ZOOM software to get started. I know many already have this set up on their computers. I will email you the link before the meeting, and all you need to do is click on the link in your email. EASY-PEASY !! John Wild has been our go-to man for setting this up for us. THANK YOU MR. JOHN!! He says we could have an earlier time before the meeting starts, where if you need help he could lead you through it. Please let him know. ZOOM does have a very informative website you may want to visit to see what things look like and what steps to take yourself.

Our club must meet the requirements set down in our by-laws in order to stay a viable rock club. We must have this annual meeting and elect our officers. I have asked our officers to continue serving for the year 2021; we just all stay in place. If you have another person you would like to see in a slot, we are taking nominations from "the floor" sort of speak.

Due to some health issues, I have been self- quarantine. But Thank God, I do not have that Covid 19 mess. I sincerely hope none of you have bogged down with it.

We have to think of the future *Continued on page 3*

Website: https://www.lapidaryclub.com



Sandra Sullivan President A.M.L.S.

Upcoming in December -

- Workshop open on the following Thursdays Dec. 3rd and 10th. Levan Foster says the workshop is NOT getting anyone on Saturdays. So if you want to go use the workshop other than Thursdays, call, text, or email Levan Foster. He says Thursday afternoon is good for him. See page 2 for contact info.
- ZOOM Meeting date DEC. 11th 7 pm just like a regular meeting; the second Friday of the month.

WHO wants to do ZOOM meetings ???
PLEASE let me know so as we can get started on it. We need away of staying in touch with one another AND START TALKING ABOUT ROCKS AGAIN!

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OFFICERS			
President	Sandra Sullivan 205-903-7062 doodle35146ss@yahoo.com		
Vice President	John Wild 205-981-6609 john@milcomtextiles.com		
2nd Vice President	Vacant - Fieldtrip Chair		
Treasurer	Reggie Bolton 205-678-8772 reggie@newenvirons.net		
Recording Secretary	Bunny Bolton 205-678-8772 bunny@newenvirons.net		
Corresponding Secretary	Sandra Sullivan doodle35146ss@yahoo.com		
Historian	Vacant		
COMMITT	TEE CHAIRS		
Editor / Publications	Sandra Sullivan doodle35146ss@yahoo.com		
Education Chair	Bunny Bolton bunny@newenvirons.net		
Fieldtrip Chair	Vacant		
Hospitality Chair	Rhea Proffitt kokomo0114@yahoo.com		
Membership Chair	Levan Foster levanfoster@gmail.com		
Program Chair	John Wild john@milcomtextiles.com		
Property or Equipment Chair	Reggie Bolton reggie@newenvirons.net		
Publicity Chair			
Show Chair	Cathy Kellogg 256-283-4664 cspecialk@bellsouth.net		
Webmaster	Vacant		

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 Email: sfms. And www.amfed.org Email: sfms. 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.

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

Members Serving on the Board of Directors:

Yvonne Foster	205-276-8786 levanfoster@gmail.com
Don Rosenstiel	205-822-1513 don77rose@gmail.com

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies			
President of EFMLS	Barbara Ringhiser 5678barb@aol		
Alabama State Representative to EFMLS			
	tion of Mineralogical		

President of SFMS Jessie Griffin 2012griffin@gmail.com Alabama State Representative to SFMS Chris Rutherford ridgelandenv@gmail.com

President's Message Continued from page 1.

And not feeling depressed; rockhounds are upbeat happy go lucky kind of folks.

There is a local show this upcoming weekend. It is the Montgomery club. See Shows listings. Our member John Gaston will be a vendor there.

We are trying to get back into the regular meetings on ZOOM instead of at the Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church. *Sooo* I hopefully will see you on Zoom Dec. 11, 2020. Read the minutes for more details of what is happening!

Keep on Rocking,

Sandra Sullivan, AMLS President

AMLS Zoom Board Meeting Minute 11/24/2020

In attendance John Wild, Reggie and Bunny Bolton, Robert Lorino, and finally Sandra Sullivan.

Reggie reported that he had been keeping up with bills, around \$600. for rent and utilities. There is a small amount of money is coming in from people using the shop. There is about \$5000. in the checking account, so we can continue to keep it for a bit.

Robert reported that he is opening the shop on Tuesdays and an average of one member a week is using the shop. Levan Foster also opens the shop on Thursdays.

Most officers are willing to serve again in 2021 but some positions need to be filled. We need to be in touch with the membership for 2021 dues and offer a roll over of 2020 dues to members in good standing but a new application must be turned in. Naturally 2021 dues paid will be gladly accepted as a donation. A zoom account for the club might be needed to hold meetings at least for the near future. The cost for one which would accommodate club meetings will cost \$150. or one year and it would have to be voted on by the membership to spend that much. An annual meeting of the membership is necessary to fulfill our corporate state obligation.

John said the Bead Society has been successfully holding meetings and even classes with Zoom for a while.

The next AMLS Zoom board meeting will be at 7 PM on December 1. There will be a Zoom meeting for the club on the regular meeting day of December 11 at 7 PM. A link will be emailed to the members.

Respectfully submitted, Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary



AMLS Zoom Board Meeting minutes 12/1/20

In attendance John Wild, Reggie and Bunny Bolton, Sandra Sullivan, Levan and Yvonne Foster, Robert Lorino

Sandra asked if Yvonne was willing to be Board Member at Large, Reggie said if we have an opening the president can appoint one.

An e-mail Rockhound Roundup will go out to the membership about the annual meeting to be held on December 11 at 7 PM on ZOOM. John Wild will use his ZOOM account and be our host. John will start the meeting at 6:30 for anyone not familiar with ZOOM to get situated prior to the start of the meeting. We must have this meeting to fulfill requirements of our by-laws and state incorporation. Levan said he can be at the shop during the meeting to give a tour of the machines. Also included in the e-mail will be information about 2021 dues. Any 2020 paid members can roll over their dues to 2021 but they must fill out an application and state that they are doing so. Donations of 2021 dues will be gratefully accepted as well.

Scholarships for 2020 were not used and will be rolled over too.

The board voted to buy a single year ZOOM account to hold meetings on. It can now be voted on by the members at the ZOOM meeting.

There are a number of people who filled out membership applications on the website but never paid dues. These folks need to be contacted to see if they have real (dues paying) interest in the AMLS. Sandra offered to contact them. We also need to change who receives these applications from the website.

Yvonne said she may be able to teach some small (1-3 students) classes at the workshop. Some rearranging will have to be done to make space. It also might be possible for her to do teaching through Zoom. John said the Bead Society does this using a computer facing the teacher and a cell phone, logged into the meeting, secured above to get a better view of what her hands are doing. Yvonne pointed out that while there are how to videos on line, she will be able to answer questions in this format. Zoom might also allow us to have speakers from anywhere for our meetings.

Our not-for-profit status needs to be addressed as we pull ourselves together.

A list needs to be made of what is needed to refurbish our "new" equipment. Levan will have the workshop open Thursday December 3 and 10. Respectfully submitted, Bunny Bolton, Rec. Sec.

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

PLEASE CHECK WITH THE SHOW CLUB OR CHAIRMAN BEFORE GOING! THE SHOW COULD BE CANCELED DUE TO THE VIRUS!

Dec. . 4 – 6 Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society, Garrett Coliseum 1555 Federal Drive Montgomery, AL. 36107; Fri. 9 – 6, Sat. 9 – 6, Sun. 11 – 4; Adults \$2.00 daily or \$3.00 for a 3day weekend pass. 18 and under free with student ID or one paid adult ticket. We are offering a "Dollar Off" coupon for any adult dollar off button attending this years' show. It will be valid for any adult for a one day admission ticket only. Not valid on weekend passes. Get yours now by clicking this link and printing it. MGMS First Annual Car Show in the parking lot Dec.5. Info montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com

Dec. 5 Hixson, TN Annual show; Tennessee Valley Rock & Mineral Society; The Pavillion, 2277 Gold Point Circle N; Sat. 9-5; Free; contact B.C. Ozzie Osbonlighter, 1389 Penny Lane, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379, (423) 400-1796; Email: bcoozzie@epbfi.com; Website: tennesseevalleyrockandmineralsociety.org

Dec.11 - 13 Lawrenceville, GA Annual show; Bellpoint Gem Show; Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Pkwy.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, free admission for children under 15 accompanied by paying adult; An extensive group of dealers selling fossils, jewelry, beads, geodes, crystals, gems, and minerals; contact Damian; Email: mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointpromotions.co

Jan. 16 - 17 Deland, FL Annual show; Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society; Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 E New York Ave., Tommy Lawrence Arena; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$4, free admission for children 12 and under when accompanied by a paying adult; 50+ vendors, demos, door prizes, grand prize raffle, free parking, and activities for children; contact Mary DeJan, P. O. Box 1613, Ormond Beach, FL 32175, (386) 871-6221; Email: tomokagmsvendor@gmail.com; Website: tomokagms.org

Jan.27 - Feb.8 Tucson, AZ Wholesale and retail show; JOGS International Exhibits; Tucson Expo Center, 3750 E. Irvington Rd.; daily 10-6; No children allowed on the show site.

Some links to help you keep track of upcoming shows:

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

Show Hours: 10am-5pm daily; 10am-4pm on Feb. 8 (last day) Free for qualified buyers with a Tax ID/ Resale certificate. On-site registration is available but it's recommended that buyers pre-register online. Public guests may purchase tickets at the Show or online: https://jogsshow.com/account/; contact Yelena Masenko, 650 S Hill St, Suite 513, Los Angeles, CA 90014, (213) 629-3030; Email: info@jogsshow.com; Website: jogsshow.com.

Feb.6 – **7 Merritt Island, FL** Show and sale; Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club; Kiwanis Island 10 -5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$4, free admission for children 12 and under; More than 20 vendors selling rocks, minerals, specimens, lapidary jewelry and supplies; silent auctions, displays, and activities for children; contact Roz Mestre, 1867 Longleaf Rd., Cocoa 32926, (321) 431-0159; Email: roz.mestre@att.net; Website: www.centralbrevardgems.org

These shows could be a fieldtrip too !!!

To go to the website underscored, just click on it. It is linked it in.



John Gaston says ...

I was a vendor at the Mobile show last weekend, and I will be at the Montgomery show this weekend. If you haven't finished the newsletter yet, you might in-

clude a blurb about the Montgomery show. Also, I have just become a dealer for UV flashlights from a company called *Way Too Cool*. I have 4 models of the flashlights, from \$29 to \$79. Thanks, John G. 205-907-5648

gastons3@bellsouth.net

NOTE - Many vendors at the rock shows have all kinds of equipment, books, and of course rocks for sale. The lights sound like a good deal to me! S.S.



Brad Smith - Bench Tips ~

For some time I've been sending a couple bench tips to you each month for use in your club newsletter. My old Greenheart email is not working well, so I will be using MailChimp from now on.

Tips for your club's newsletter (some with pics) are included below. Please let me know if you have any difficulty with the pics.

Club officers will be changing next month. If you are not going to continue as editor, please let me know who the new person will be. And if you'd like to continue receiving these tips yourself, I'm happy to keep sending them.

As always, I would appreciate an attribution with each publiccation of the material:

Brad's "How To" Books Make a Nice Holiday Gift Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith

Templets –



Whenever I have to make more than 2-3 exact copies of a sheet metal component, I think of making a template. Templates let me easily draw the shape of an item to cut out.

Art stores or online sources like cooltools.us/ and kingsleynorth.com/ sell templates for common shapes like circles, ovals, hearts, etc. but for non-standard shapes, I make my own out of a scrap of sheet plastic or sheet metal. My preference is brass. I carefully lay out the shape using a steel ruler, a set of dividers, a scribe, and a fine center punch.

One example is the brass template in the pic below that let's me quickly trace the design of ginko leaf earrings onto silver sheet. Another is the nickel template which makes it easy to drill a pattern of holes for pin inlay into wooden handles.

Brad Smith 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
See the paperback edition at https://

www.amazon.com/dp/0988285886/ and the Kindle edition at https://amazon.com/dp/B07D4B45JJ/

Ochre Applicator –

Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder won't flow on an area of your piece while you're soldering another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it.

I use recycled nail polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush applicator. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail polish remover, and they're ready to go.



Wishing you happy holidays. Hopefully 2021 will be a better year.

- Brad Smith

BradSmithJewery@gmail.com

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 (DMC Field Trip Sharing Program (amfed.org), 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
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."



The Eastern Federation of Mineral & Lapidary Society

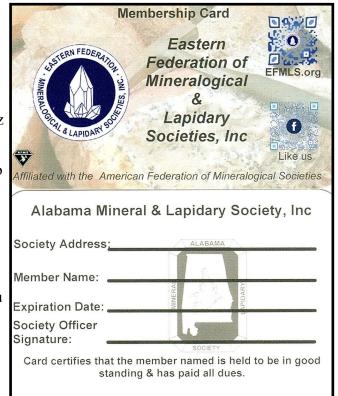
President Mr. David Nock sent us a wonderful gift. New member cards designed with

our logo on one side of the card and the Eastern Federation on the other side as seen here. So our treasurer

will be giving you two cards from now on when you join the A.M.L.S.

Mr. Nock said to give credit to these folks; Rich Kupisz (LMSCC) for sparking the idea. Christine Colon and Alan Holmes of the Boston Mineral Clubfor all their help with the front design, layout, ordering and shipping. Because without them working together these cards would likely never have happened.

Personally, I think they did a good job. This was expensive too. The E.F.M.L.S. covers about 15 states if you call District of Columbia a state and they have about 100 clubs. Some clubs are in state outside of the main boundaries of the Eastern Federation, like our club. We have to



'Twas the night before Tertiary and all through the crater,

Not a creature was stirring, not even a gator... Their carcasses were flung in the wind without care; Making their species exceedingly rare.

Then from the earth there arose such a clatter... As earthquakes and volcanos spewed out much matter. Living in darkness, what should disappear... The plankton, the plants, what else is not clear!

Out T rex, out pterosaurs, ceratopsians, and raptors, Comet-killed ammonites and all of their captors. Many small mammals burrowed to bed, While fire and brimstone roared overhead.

Birds flew away to avoid the hot blast... Going like hell until it had past. Then as the snow and ice hit the ground... The temperature dropped as things turned around.

Mammals came out of their holes with glee, To eat bugs and berries, and of course just to pee. After a time the sun showed some light; Evolution kicked in with all of its might.

The earth had survived a terrible fright. Merry Christmas for some; for dinos, GOOD NIGHT!

by Stew Spezzano, from the Dinosaur Forum on Compuserve

Part of Kuban's K-Paleo Place

Let's don't forget the little kids too! For more information concerning kids and rocks, check out this website too!

www.kidsloverocks.com



Great for kids having to learn remotely.



HELP !!! As you can see folks, I have some clip art but I need you to send me some articles, pictures, etc. about rocks or club info. We all need to participate and I need your input too. You have my email address, hope to hear from you soon. S.S.



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 X Lg.
- 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. *Contact Sandra S*.

DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS-

Many events are being changed to a later date or cancelled totally. Please stay tuned! We are trying folks but we need to hear from you. Please contact Pres. Sandra Sullivan, VP John Wild, or another board member (see page 2 for contacts) to let us know what your thinking. We need your participation if we have a good working club. S.S,

DONATIONS ~

There have been some wonderful donations made to A.M.L.S. since our last meeting. We would like recognize these people for what they so graciously sent our way. Below are pictures of *SOME* of the boxes of rocks, fossils, minerals, and shells donated by **Tamra Harrison**. This was from her grandmother's collection. We have the makings of either a giant auction or several smaller ones. There is some great stuff in these boxes!

















Dru Chauffe and her husband donated the following items:

Lortone Combo grinding and polishing machine. Value \$650 Grinding and buffing machine. Value \$300 Specimens and fluorescent minerals. Value \$75.





Up on the Minedump (To the tune of Up on the Rooftop)

Last page funnies ...

Up on the mine dump hear George call Watch your feet you're going to fall Oh George don't be such a bore That's what my hard hat is for

CHORUS:

Ho, ho, ho who wouldn't go
Ho, ho, ho who wouldn't go
Up on the mine dump oh so steep
Down to the bottom in a heap
Up on the mine dump rockhounds climb
Crystal vugs they hope to find
Perfect cubes of fluorite brown
Pyrite dodecs nice and round

CHORUS:

For those fossils too we climb Trilobites we hope to find Brachiopods will have to do Crinoid stems and horn coral too CHORUS:

Up on the mine dump underground That is where the gypsum's found Pencil ore we pick for kids Selenite crystal flips our lids CHORUS

Up on the mine dump we do crawl Looking for adventure all Visions of sparklies in our heads We won't stop until we're dead



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 Junion	r / Student \$15			
After June 1, the cost of the membership dues Dues for regular members are to be renewed year. <i>Please</i> make checks payable to the	ed at the November meeting	g and / or befo	ore January 1st o	of the new
ALABAM 8036 P	A MINERAL & LAPIDAR arkway Dr. Leeds, Al. 35094	Y SOCIETY	and mail	to neeting!
Info: Usual Meeting Date: Second Friday o	f each month except for the n	nonth of June.	The Oak Mounta	in State
Park Show takes the place of the Jun Meeting place: Cahaba Heights United Mee	ne meeting. <i>thodists Church 3139 Cahab</i>	a Heights Rd.		
Cahaba Heights, AL. 35243 Meeting time: 6:30 p.m.		-		
	isitors Welcomed!	Date Re	ceived	



DDECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Pearl Harbor Rememberence	8	9	Workshop 1 -5 10 Workshop 1 -5	11 ZOOM MEETING 7 pm	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Winter begins	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28	29	30	Jan. 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR !!		

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.

