Official Monthly Publication of the Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society Birmingham, Alabama Website: http://www.alabamalapidaryclub.com

President's Message

First, I want to thank all our members who attended the Annual Auction Fundraiser. We even had a few "mystery" bidders hanging out with us and bidding by cell phone! In the end we raised over \$2000! Whoo-hoo! You should be very proud. That is a phenomenal amount to be raised, and it couldn't have come at a better time. Our new club workshop needs some additional tools and equipment.

We are working to establish a committee to oversee the setup and staffing needed for the workshop, as well as monitoring and maintaining the equipment for our members to use. We will keep you informed as all the details develop over the next few weeks.

As I write this message, I am in Young Harris, GA, taking a Faceting class and will be teaching Cabochons 101 next week. Even though I am here, I can't stop thinking about our upcoming Tannehill Show in a few weeks. This year, we have many new plans for the Tannehill Show. These plans will require more membership participation. I appeal to everyone to step up and make a commitment to be more involved. There are plenty of jobs to go around to pull together and execute our largest annual event. This is the one time each year that every club member is asked to contribute their blood, sweat and tears to make it a success. If you only have 2 hours that weekend, I ask that you spend them helping with club activities, help our great vendors set up, serve at the vendor dinner, or when a helping hand is the scarcest; tear-down time and storage preparation of our tent and supplies for next year.

One last thing...the vendor dinner. This is one more great opportunity to let our fantastic vendors know how much we appreciate them. Last year, we had a good many "member no-shows" when dinner time arrived. Based on the vendor dinner reservations we took last year, the AMLS committed to purchase a minimum number of meals. Since we did not serve the minimum number, the club was still obligated to pay for the *Continued on page 2*



JOHN WILD President A.M.L.S.

May 11th - Program by Dr. Scott Brande "Mineral Commodities - From Powering Electric Vehicles to Impacts on Global Climate Change" Rock Tumbling Contest, and Prep for Tannehill

May 19th - Workshop in Leeds, getting ready for Tannehill Kiddie bags, work on shop stuff.

May 21 - Board Meeting at Hoover Library 6 pm. All members are welcomed.

Upcoming in June -June 1st - Set up for the show, Dealers Dinner, and abit of early shopping. June 2nd & 3rd - Tannehill Show June 3rd - Take down and store items from show.

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OFFICERS

OFFICERS				
President	John Wild 205-981-6609 john@milcomtextiles.com			
Vice President	Levan Foster 205-276-8786 <u>levanfoster@gmail.com</u>			
Treasurer	Reggie Bolton 205-678-8772 reggie@newenvirons.net			
Recording Secretary	Bunny Bolton 205-678-8772 <u>bunny@newenvirons.net</u>			
Corresponding Secretary	Sandra Sullivan 205-903-7062 doodle35146ss@yahoo.com			
Historian	Sandra's doing it			
COMMITTEE CHAIRS				
Editor / Publications	Sandra Sullivan doodle35146ss@yahoo.com			
Education Chair	Cindy Hensley hensley.larry@gmail.com			
Fieldtrip Chair	Bud and Lou Ann Newell newell.louann@gmail.com			
Hospitality Chair	Rhea Proffitt <u>kokomo0114@yahoo.com</u>			
Membership Chair	Judith Johnson judelinej@gmail.com			
Program Chair	Levan Foster levanfoster@gmail.com			
Property or Equipment Chair	Don Hill donahill@comcast.net			
Publicity Chair				
Show Chair	Cathy Kellogg tannehillgemshow@gmail.com			
Webmaster	Steve Adams steve@windstream.com			

For more information: AFMS and SFMS Websites

The SFMS Newsletter, *the Lodestar*, and the AFMS Newsletter are now available for all members to read on line at <u>http://www.amfed.org/sfms.</u> And <u>www.amfed.org</u> Email: <u>sfms@amfed.org</u>

President's Message Continued from pg 1. meals which cuts into funds that could have been used more wisely.

Please, please, please make plans to attend the vendor dinner. It is a great time of a fellowship with the best rockhounds in Alabama!

See you there! John Wild, President A.M.L.S.



Members Serving on the Board of Directors :

Savvy Mc Cravy

205-305-5396 business mode savy@yahoo.com

Don Rosenstiel

205-822-1513 don77rose@gmail.com

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary

President of EFMLS	Barbara Ringhiser
	bar5678@aol.com

Alabama State Representative to EFMLS

> Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

President of SFMS

Greg Hamilton

Alabama State Representative to SFMSPhillip Kaiserkaiserpw@att.net

Meeting Minutes April 13, 2018 ~

Meeting was called to order by John Wild. John Gaston blessed our food which was quite a spread!

John Wild welcomed visitors. The meeting was mainly about Tannehill which is coming up soon. Volunteers are needed!! Don Hill made the wheel of fortune game for Tannehill. We will have a workshop at the NEW workshop on May 19 to assemble bags and get things ready for Tannehill. We will have prizes and giveways plus sell grab bags. The workshop is located at 8036 Parkway Drive, Leeds, AL. It is across from the Pants Store in the gray building. The people that painted the workshop were recognized. Terri Wilson, Lou Ann Newell, Donna Sellers and Cheryl Garvich painted one day. Many of the crew returned on another day to paint including Don Rosenstiel. There is still some to do but waiting on the water to be completed. Bud Newell, John Wild and Don Hill figured out how to do the sink. The back yard grass was cut by Don Hill. A big thanks to all!

We also discussed the workshop location since it was moved due to previous place not coming through. The officers had to act quickly to get this place. Not only is it closer, it cost less per month!! So it was a win-win for the club. The club voted and passed the new location and budget. Discussions on how the workshop would be run was briefly discussed as everyone was ready for the auction. Insurance was discussed and that is being looked into for the workshop.

More to come on that later. Flyers were handed out for Tannehill and the auction started!!

Many items were sold. We had boxes of nice rocks that were sold in lots. Club members came through and we also had an online live auction thanks to Terri Wilson! Amount raised will be released at the next meeting on May 11th.

Respectfully submitted by Lou Ann Newell for Recording Secretary Bunny Bolton

Board Meeting Minutes April 26, 2018 ~

John Wild, Bud and Lou Ann Newell, Larry and Cindy Hensley, Bunny and Reggie Bolton and Sandra Sullivan were there.

Updates from the other board members was

given to John Wild. Don Hill has updated the signs with the correct dates on them. Cathy Kellogg said that no one is in charge of Tannehill at the moment but that Becky is handling it for now. We need to go through the food vendor to see what he has planned. We would also need to have his ok to sell any food products. John tried to call him before the meeting and also sent an email. No response yet. We would need staffing and vendor space for the food setup.

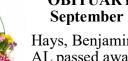
We talked about getting the geodes from a couple of places. Sandra and Lou Ann had some information on the geodes. John is going to check on them at the show from one of the dealers that Sandra talked to and pick up some for the show. We are going to rent a geode cracker from Lowe's.

We talked about the games part of the show for the children. Bud Newell has stepped up to be in charge of this. He wants to do away with a couple of the games and replace with games that we will charge for. He wants to do a sifting through sand game and water game for prizes. There is a budget for \$300. that we are going to ask the members to ok for the games. We also think a \$1,000. budget for the geodes would help. Prizes are going to go in paper bags which Yvonne has volunteered a while back and if still available. We will have a fill the bag day at the workshop scheduled for May 19. We went over how many people we will need to work the Tannehill show and how many per game, tables, etc. All hands need to be on deck!

Levan Foster will lead the meeting since John Wild will be out of town. John and Sandra went over what needs to be covered.

Next board of directors meeting will be May 21 due to schedule conflicts.

Respectfully submitted by Lou Ann Newell for Recording Secretary Bunny Bolton



OBITUARY ~ Benjamin Perry Hays September 20, 1926 – April 14, 2018

Hays, Benjamin *Perry*, age 91, of Moody, AL passed away on Saturday, April 14, 2018. He is preceded in death by his parents, Monroe Hays and Ellie Hays, and sister, Marjorie Brown. Mr. Hays was a mem-

ber at Beulah Primitive Baptist Church, Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society and life member of Concordia Dance Club. Mr. Hays is survived by his wife, Oleta Hays. Funeral service was held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at Kilgroe Funeral Home with burial at Hays Cemetery in Hayden Alabama. Visit online at www.kilgroefuneralhome.com Kilgroe Funeral Home, Leeds directing. **Clubs and Societies Shows and Rock Swaps** via RockNGem shows, SFMS website, and other sources

May 10 - 13 Franklin, N.C. Bellpoint Promotions, Echo Valley Showplace 6456 Sylva Rd. (across from GLW); Thu. 9-6, Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; Free Admission; Wholesale & Retail dealers from all over the world selling minerals, fossils, gem, rough rock & beads; open to the public; across the street from GLW show; Contact Damian Belgali, (678)-852-8273; e-mail: <u>mbellpoint@gmail.com</u>; Web site: <u>bellpointpromotions.com</u>

May 11 - 13 Franklin, N.C. Retail show; The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Robert C. Carpenter Building; 1288 Georgia Rd. (US441); Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Rocks, gems, minerals, fossils and finished jewelry, and demonstrations by club members.; contact Norm Holbert, Club - 25 Phillips St., Franklin, NC 28734, (828)-634-0350; e-mail: normholbert@comcast.netClub

May 11 - 13 Marietta, GA. Georgia Mineral Society, Cobb Civic Center; 548 South Marietta Parkway, SE; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; Free Admission; The show will feature more than 30 dealers, and an exciting auction on Saturday at 1 p.m. Door prizes will be given away, with special door prizes given to students! There also will be free demonstrations!; contact Kathy Wiggins, (770)-375-5907; e-mail: kw5760@aol.com; Web site: www.gamineral.org

JUNE 2 - 3 MC CALLA, ALABAMA: Annual show; Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society, Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park; 12632 Confederate Parkway; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; Admission \$5; The show is free with paid admission to the park.; contact Cathy Kellogg; e-mail: tannehillgemshow@gmail.com; Web site: www.alabama.lapidaryclub.com



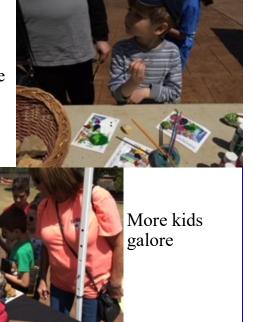


EARTH DAY AT THE ZOO ~ PARTY FOR THE PLANET

Lou Ann Newell says ... In attendance was John Wild, Don Hill, Levan and Yvonne Foster, Bud and Lou Ann Newell, Terri Wilson, Rhea Proffitt, and Larry Hensley.

We had a great day telling people about our club and showing cabbing demonstrations and jewelry. We gave away polished rocks to the children who enjoyed it. We also let the children paint rocks and also hunt for some that we hid in the zoo!! Lots of fun for all. Everybody went home sunburned and tired!

Kids galore



Members demonstrating and learning







An Official Field Trip of the Lowcountry Gem and Mineral Society (Charleston, SC) (HOST)

Saturday, May 19, 2018 10AM 'til 3 PM EDT 119 Railroad Ave Harleyville, SC 29448

No limit on Attendees No Registration Required **No Fee**

TRIP: While fossil hunting at the LaFarge Quarry is no longer permitted, collecting is permitted in a lot next to Old Town Hall in Harleyville, SC. The material is fossil-bearing dump material brought in from the nearby LaFarge Quarry. The collecting site is approximately the size of a tennis court.

COLLECTING: The material from this quarry cuts 80 feet through the Harleyville Formation (Late Marine Eocene) and the Cross Formation (Middle Marine Eocene). You will find fossil shark teeth, bones, brachiopods, and other marine fossils.

BRING: Digging tools, shovels, screens, buckets, work gloves, and don't forget weather protection gear, water, and snacks.

REQUIREMENTS: No specific requirements are necessary for the site. Safety equipment like hard hat, safety glasses, steel-toed boots, gloves, etc. are not required.

FEE: No Fee

REGISTRATION: Registration not required.

CHILDREN (Yes): Children are allowed. If children are present, adult supervision is required at all times. **PETS (Yes):** Pets are allowed as the site is within city limits; leash is required at all times.

FACILITIES: As the site is within city limits, nearby facilities are available at or near the site.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

From I-26, take Exit 177 toward SC 453 to Harleyville.

Go 1.3 miles (past the LaFarge Quarry).

Turn left onto West Main Street (Hwy. 178) and go 0.3 mile.

Turn right onto Railroad Avenue.

Meet at 119 Railroad Avenue in adjacent to the old Harleyville Town Hall building.

CONTACT: Lawrence Moss, Field Trip Coordinator, if you have any questions. Phone number 843-819-0726. Email: Jorel611@yahoo.com.

Coordinator email: sfms-dmc@amfed.org

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

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."

Brad Smith – Bench Tips ~

POLISHING WHEELS

In the finishing sequence there's a step called prepolishing, between sanding and buffing, and one of the most effective tools I've found to help here is the little silicone wheels used in a Foredom or Dremel. They come in several different abrasive levels and several different shapes. The wheels are color coded to denote their abrasive level. Different shapes (coin, knife, cylinder, point, etc) are available to match the geometry of the area being cleaned up.

For a starter, I'd suggest a medium, a fine, and an extra fine wheel in both the coin shape and the knife -edge shape. Be sure to get a few extra mandrels so you'll have one of each wheel shape mounted and ready to go.

The thicker coin shapes are particularly handy. Cylinder shapes are nice for doing the inside of rings, and knife-edge shapes quickly clean up the solder joint around the outside base of your bezels.



Most jewelry catalogs carry these wheels, but often the color codes don't match between different manufacturers.

RESHAPING SILICONE WHEELS

Silicone polishing wheels in the Dremel or Foredom are a great time saver, but after using them a bit they often need to be reshaped. This is particularly true with the knife-edge wheels.

The natural thought is to grab one of your files and hold it up against the rotating wheel to reshape it. But this gives you a problem. The grinding grit in the silicone wheel is much harder than steel, meaning that you end up grinding down the teeth of your file.

The best way to reshape your polishing wheels is to use a diamond file or a separating disk. If you don't have one and must use a steel file, I sacrifice



the area of the file that is closest to the handle. That's an area which is not used in normal bench work.



BradSmithJewelry.com Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" See all Brad's jewelry books at Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith

SFMS/DMC <dmc@gamineral.org>

To simplify DMC renewals, I am changing the process so clubs renew immediately following their hosted trip.

Since your club hosted last year (February 2017), I need to catch you up to the new renewal method. Here is how the new hosting window is calculated: Your last hosting month/year + 31 months (31 is the current number of active DMC clubs)

February 2017 + 31 months = September 2019 Because some months may not be good for some clubs, we will calculate +/- 6 months to the month/ year we just calculated (September 2019). That way, your next hosting range would be:

March 2019 (or earlier) through March 2020 Since you did not have an opportunity to choose a renewal month last year, this time I will extend the hosting range through the end of 2020, so you can choose your next hosting month/year from this range:

March 2019 (or earlier) through December 2020. You can see the months that are currently open here: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dixie-proposedft.htm

The sooner you pick a month, the better choices you have. Remember, choosing your next hosting month/year does not mean that you have to have a DMC hosting field trip location figured out. You just need to choose the month/year.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support of the SFMS DMC Field Trip Sharing Program. Lori Carter, DMC Coordinator

Put the AMLS down for Feb. 2020. Thank you! Lou Ann Newell, Field Trip Director

Thank you Lou Ann for getting us this spot with the DMC!

MAY 2018

Meteor Shower Schedule ~

Via <u>http://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/earthskys-meteor-shower-guide</u> EarthSky's 2018 meteor shower guide

By Bruce McClure and Deborah Byrd in Astronomy Essentials | Space

May 5, 2018	Eta Aquariids
July 27-28, 2018	Delta Áquariids
August 12, 2018	Perseids
October 8, 2018	Draconids
October 21, 2018	Orionids
November 4-5, 2018	South Taurids
November 11-12, 2018	North Taurids
November 17 or 18, 2018	8 Leonids
December 13-14, 2018	Geminids

May 5, 2018 before dawn, the Eta Aquariids

This meteor shower has a relatively broad maximum



meaning you can watch it the day before and after the predicted peak morning of May 5. This shower favors the Southern Hemisphere, and is often the Southern Hemisphere's best meteor shower of the year. In 2018, the bright waning gibbous moon will intrude. The radiant is near the star Eta in the constellation Aquarius the Water Bearer (click here for chart). The radiant comes over the eastern horizon at about 4 a.m. local time; that is the time at all locations across the globe. For that reason, the hour or two before dawn tends to offer the most Eta Aquariid meteors, no matter where you are on Earth. At northerly latitudes – like those in the northern U.S. and Canada, or northern Europe, for example – the meteor numbers are typically lower for this shower. In the southern half of the U.S., 10 to 20 meteors per hour might be visible in a dark sky. Farther south - for example, at latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere - the meteor numbers may increase dramatically, with perhaps two to three times more Eta Aquarid meteors streaking the southern skies (on a dark, moonless night). For the most part, the Eta Aquariids are a predawn shower. In 2018, the most meteors will probably rain down in the predawn sky on May 5 – but under the light of a bright waning gibbous moon! The broad peak to this shower means that some meteors may fly for a few days before and after the predicted optimal date.



REQUEST for the TANNEHILL SHOW ITEMS \sim

Please save your wrapping paper tubes for those of us who handle the club booth at the show. Many know we sell maps from the Geological Survey of Alabama and give away many posters. These tubes sure come in handy to make these sells go easier. Thanks, S.S.

~ Hoover Library Class ~

Cindy Hensley says ... If you have a project you would like to see done in a class setting, **please let her know**. The regular scheduled classes would run 10:30 am to 5:30 pm. If you have any ideas about a class that you would like have offered, please contact : Cindy Hensley 205-910-2293 for more info. *S.S.*



*** SPECIAL NOTE FROM YOUR FRIENDLY EDITOR - If our club members do not start supporting these classes, they will simply go away.

William Holland SFMS Federation Week June 10, 2018

Class Description: Gemstone Faceting Instructor: Linda Searcy

Precision faceting takes time and patience to transform a crystal or rough rock into a work of art. In this weeklong workshop, you will:

1) get acquainted with the faceting machine

2) learn about abrasive disks / laps to do the cutting / grinding and polishing

3) learn how to turn a piece of natural or man-made (synthetic) crystal into a beautiful gemstone; learn how to prepare / dop a stone; learn how to read and understand a faceting diagram; learn Meet Point (precision) faceting.

^a By the end of the week, you should complete at least one or several gemstones. Due to the nature of

the precision work, you will need magnification, either an Optivisor or 10X magnification loupe.

Material / Lab fee: \$50. Fee will include facet rough (natural and/or synthetic) to complete at least 1 or 2 gemstones, basic faceting design diagrams, polishing lap



Intarsia - Bill Boggs

We will be learning to cut and shape small pieces of colorful or otherwise interesting rocks and actually gluing them together to form intricate scenic and/or geometric patterns. This is a basic class. We will be using flat laps and intarsia grinders (not faceting machines). Materials are provided but feel free to bring some of your own if you like. A start-up kit of basic supplies will be provided for a nominal cost. The overall costs for the week will depend upon how many slabs and of which type of material you purchase. Overall costs for the week will be less if you have your own material.

LAB FEE: \$15

ESTIMATED MATERIAL COST: US \$20 to \$40 PREREQUISITE: Cabochons

For a full description of the classes and class sample pictures please visit our website or FB page, the links are provided below...

https://www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies-317959434999844/ http://sfmsworkshops.com Registration Form: http://sfmsworkshops.com/wp-content/

A.M.L.S. Club Directory

... We need to continue to update the club directory. This gives the "Old Timers" a visual aid in knowing the members. I have to admit, I like it too. So



come prepared to get your "Mug Shot". By the way, your friendly editor needs some help on getting this put together electronically. If you have any experience doing this, please step up. Come see me at the meeting. *Thanks, Sandra*

TUMBLING CONTEST FOR MAY -

The Tumbling Contest is really an easy-peesy one. We tumble only the stones collected that year from

our Brookwood field Trip in February for that years' contest. This way we have a wide variety of stones plus we have some local stones to give away at the June show. The kids love anything shiny and bright in the giveaways. We try to make sure there will be plenty to keep as well as to share.



As part of the program for the month of May, we have a table set up with the stones to be exhibited for the contest. The contestant will fill out an index card with his/her name and place the stones in a paper plate with an index card stuck underneath it. The contestant's number will be on the back of the card and face up for the judges to see. The ballots are to be marked according to first, second, third, and fourth place. Prizes will be awarded.

Since Mr. Bob Smith started this way back in the day ... we have followed his lead. He was an ace tumbler and even made his own tumblers. Mr. Smith tumbled stones for private parties as well as for the club. He engineered and drew up tumbler plans we still can use to this day.

Good Luck to all. Special prizes will be awarded for this event. Your friendly editor S.S.



Last page funnies ... Rock Collector

I think that there shall never be . . . An ignoramus just like me. Who roams the hills throughout the day. To pick up rocks that do not pay. For there's one thing I've been told. I take the rocks and leave the gold. O'er deserts wild or mountains blue. I searched for rocks of varied hue. A hundred pounds or more I pack. With blistered feet and aching back. And after this is said and done. I cannot name a single one. I pick up rocks where e're I go. The reasons I do not know. For rocks are taken by fools like me. From where God intended them to be.

From The Flint Gemstones, 3/01. Via RockCollector 10/01

Advice For Rockhound Watchers

Can you spot a rockhound? The species isn't rare. You can tell him by his honest face, and his willingness to share. You can tell him as he saunters by, his eyes glued to the ground. No matter where he goes, he's sure there's gemstones to be found. You can tell him by his friendly smile, he's an all - round pleasant guy; But the sure - fire way to spot him, is the flashy bola tie!!

From EUREKA NEWS 1/86 via QUARRY QUIPS 4/01 Via Beehive Buzzer 11/01

A.M.L.S. Application for Membership		New	Renewal	
NAME (S)				
CHILDREN Age group (0 to 4)	(5 to 10)	(11 to 15)	(]	6 -18)
ADDRESS				
CITY		STATE	ZIP_	
HOME PHONE	WORK/O	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 <u>only</u> 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. A \$5.00 discount if paid by the December meeting.**

Please make checks payable to the ALABAMA MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY and mail to P.O. BOX 1067 SPRINGVILLE, AL. 35146 **OR** bring to a meeting.

Info: Usual Date Second Friday of each month except for the month of June. The Tannehill Show takes the place of the June meeting.

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

MAY 2018

Website: http//www.alabamalapidaryclub.com



SANDRA SULLIVAN, EDITOR P.O. BOX 1067 SPRINGVILLE, AL. 35146 Happy Mother's Day

STAMP

If undeliverable, please return to the address above.

Meeting: Friday MAY 11, 2018 Place: Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church 3139 Cahaba Heights Rd. Cahaba Heights, AL. 35243 Time: 6:30 pm gathering and fellowship And food. 7 pm Program

MAILING LABEL

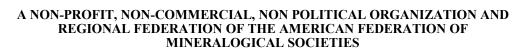
ALABAMA MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY Birmingham, Alabama



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 2017 are \$25.00 family, \$20.00 single, and Juniors / Students \$15.00. If you pay by the December meeting there will be a \$5.00 discount. 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 Tannehill 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.





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.

