

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

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

President’s Message

First, I want to thank all of the AMLS members who volunteered before, during and after our Annual Tannehill Show. Whether it was picking up the club tables in Hoover, stuffing paper bags with rocks, filling solo cups with sand, cracking geodes, manning the club tent, or any of the many other jobs that had to be done. Without the sacrifice of your time and sweat, we could not have pulled this off. The entire club is in debt to these volunteers.

We were ambitious this year in starting several new activities to help raise our revenues. The new show features started this year need to be the foundation for subsequent years’ fund-raising efforts for the AMLS. The initial feedback I received tells me that geode cracking was a success, as well as the new games in the Children’s area. We just got our feet wet, and next year will be bigger and better.

We will continue to critique our Tannehill results over the next couple of months and immediately start making our 2019 plans.

Now our attention must turn to the new workshop. Again, a lot of folks have stepped up and made a huge difference with their generous donations of time and energy in painting, plumbing and moving some of our equipment into the workspace. Much more needs to be done to transform this into a learning space and a viable workshop. My hope that it will be used by AMLS members to share their knowledge and teach the basics of many different lapidary skills. The workshop will also be a great new member recruiting tool!

To accomplish this goal, we need your input concerning our new workshop; the creation of a supplies & equipment budget, schedule for capping days, lapidary skill classes, educational standards for equipment usage, access to the space, usage fees, equipment time limits, etc. The input of each member is necessary so we can *Continued on page 2.*



JOHN WILD
President A.M.L.S.

Upcoming in July -

July 13th - Program David Kopaska-Merkel - Fossil Reefs in Alabama.

July 23rd - Board Meeting at the Workshop in 8036 Parkway Dr. (Main ST.) Leeds, AL. Membership always welcomed.

July 28th - DMC Fieldtrip to Hogg Mine (EST)

Aug. 4 th - DMC Fieldtrip - Chunky Gal

Aug. 10th - Regular meeting Kim Cochran Program

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Show Chair	Cathy Kellogg tanehillgemshow@gmail.com
Webmaster	Steve Adams steve.adams@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 <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>. And www.amfed.org Email: sfms@amfed.org

President's Message Continued from pg 1.
focus our energy, time, and money on the areas that result in the greatest benefit to the majority of our club members.

I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas about the workshop—especially if you have a skill to share, experience in developing a workshop space, or a suggestion on how to improve our efforts. Please bring your ideas in writing to the July meeting and give to Sandra Sullivan or send them to me by email: john@milcomtextiles.com.

John Wild, President A.M.L.S.

AMLS WORKSHOP ADDRESS:
8036 Parkway Dr.
Leeds, AL. 35094

Members Serving on the Board of Directors :

Terri Wilson	205-577-9357 paisleymoon626@gmail.com
Don Rosenstiel	205-822-1513 don77rose@gmail.com

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary

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Alabama State Representative to EFMLS	

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

President of SFMS	Greg Hamilton
Alabama State Representative to SFMS	Phillip Kaiser kaiserpw@att.net

Sorry No Meeting Minutes for June, 2018 ~

We did have a wonderful time at the Tannehill Show though. The show takes the place of a monthly meeting and we get to see some friends only at this time. We have a new workshop located at **8036 Parkway Dr. (Main St.) Leeds, AL. across from the Pants Store.** This is another gathering place you can catch hanging around and just having a fun time. Your friendly editor, Sandra Sullivan



Some members of the board having a discussion concerning what we need to do next at the workshop. Move in the equipment, getting it going, and cut rocks, of course!



YOU SHOULD JUST SEE IT NOW ! We have some equipment instead of an empty room!

Board Meeting Minutes June 18, 2018 ~

AMLS board meeting June 18, 2018. In attendance John Wild, Judith Johnson, Lou Ann and Bud Newell, Yvonne and Levan Foster, Bunny and Reggie Bolton, Don Rosenstiel, Terri Wilson, Rhea Profit, Cathy Kellogg, Don Hill and Sandra Sullivan

Savvy McCreary has offered to resign her board position serving as a Member at Large due to not being able to come to meetings regularly. John proposed she be replaced by Terri Wilson. The board voted to accept Savvy's resignation and to add Terri Wilson.

Tannehill finances were discussed. Some vendors wanted to pay their deposit for next year but we were not set up for that. Next year we'll be prepared. The only money spent on advertising was \$140. on Facebook 'boosts'. Social media is good but we need to do better. Vendor results were mixed, some did well, some not so much. Alternate venues are being explored. Levan, Cathy and John are the committee looking into this. If any member has suggestions please let them or another board member know.

The club machines that are in working order include 4 saws, a Cab King and 2 Lortone arborers. There are many others that need work and repairing them can be a teaching/learning opportunity as well.

We set a time to move the machines from Don and Sandra's houses to the workshop. Saturday the 23rd was agreed upon with a finish up and demonstration day with cook out on Sunday the 24th. Sandra will send out a supplement of the Rockhound Roundup to let all members know.

The club website was briefly discussed. It needs real club news and pictures taken with a digital camera rather than a phone. A forum for buying and selling rock-related items would be a good addition.

Respectfully submitted,
Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary



We send our heart felt sympathy to the Hensley family in the recent loss of Larry Hensley's mother. We didn't know her, only the good son she raised.

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

July 6-8 Raleigh, NC Show and sale; Frank Cox Productions; North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd.; Daily 10-5; Free Admission; Show and Sale of gems, jewelry, crystals, minerals and beads.; contact Frank Cox, 755 S. Palm Ave. #203, Frank Cox Productions, Sarasota, FL 34236, (941)-954-0202; Email: frankcox@comcast.net; Website: frankcoxproductions.com

July 25-29 Franklin, NC Bellpoint Promotions ; Echo Valley Showplace, 6456 Sylva Rd (across from GLW); Wed. 9-6, Thu. 9-6, Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6; Free Admission; Wholesale & retail dealers from all over the world selling minerals, fossils, gems, rough rock & beads.; open to the public; across the street from GLW show *Sunday hours 9am-5pm; contact Damian Belgali, (678)-852-8273; Email: mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointpromotions.com

July 28 – Aug. 5 Spruce Pine, N. C. Parkway Fire and Rescue; Parkway Fire and Rescue show grounds, 136 Majestic View; Daily 10-6; Free Admission; 34th annual gem and mineral show put on by the Parkway Fire and Rescue to raise funds for new equipment. Worldwide vendors with gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, lapidary equipment and much more. ; contact DonnaCollis, 136 Majestic View, <http://www.grassycreekgemshow.org>, Spruce Pine, NC 28777, (828)-765-5519; Email: collisdonna@yahoo.com; Website: <http://www.grassycreekgemshow.org>

Aug. 10-12 Dalton, GA: Dalton Gem and Mineral Jewelry Show; Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd; Fri. 2-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Admission \$4, Children free Under 17 w/Adult; There will be concessions available. If you bring your mailer in or show us you have liked our page on Facebook, you will get \$1.00 off admission. ; contact MohammadTahir, PO Box 4046, Dalton, GA 30719, (706)-537-8960; Email: tahir1269@yahoo.com; Website: <https://daltongemandminera.wixsite.com/mysite>

Aug. 11-12 Gonzales, LA: Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society; Lamar Dixon Expo Center-Trademart Building, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; admission \$5, children ages 5-12 \$3; demonstrations, door prizes, silent auctions

going on both days, Scouts and educational groups are welcome, vendors will be selling rock specimens, fossils, minerals, tools and jewelry; contact Wanda Gawarecki, (225) 603-9234; Email: mercymom3@gmail.com; Website: www.brgemandmineral.org

Aug. 10-12 Melbourne, FL Show and sale; Frank Cox Productions; Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus B.; Daily 10-5; Admission \$5.00 (\$4.00 if you mention this listing).; Show & Sale of gems, jewelry, crystals, minerals and beads.; contact FrankCox, 755 S. Palm Ave. #203, Sarasota, FL 34236, (941)-954-0202; Email: frankcox@comcast.net; Website: frankcox-productions.com

Please Welcome these NEW Members ~

We have a bunch of new members we would like to welcome to our club. Melissa, Jon, Manny and Griffin Surlles of Leeds, AL., Caitlin Gilbert of Jacksonville, AL., John, Sherri, and Shawn Magness of Montevallo, AL., Allison Bush of Mc Calla, AL., Joan Williams of Pelham, AL., Ann Coley, Nancy and Sophie Townsend of Northport, AL., Tiffany Hawthorn, Doris Gray, and Asher Travis of Northport, AL., Steven and Jennifer Christolear of Northport, AL., Vivian Melof of Birmingham, AL., Carrington Wilson of Sterrett, AL., Jeff, Max, Anna, and Natalie Havercroft of Birmingham, AL.. Brian Hurt of Pinson, AL., Barry and Iris Walker of Birmingham, AL., Emmett Christolear of Irondale, AL.

Please extend your hand and introduce yourself to these new members and make them feel welcomed. Or let those returning know we are glad they made it back.

Let's don't forget the little kids too!

For more information concerning kids and rocks, check out this website too!



www.kidsloverocks.com



An Official Field Trip of the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society (Huntsville, AL) (HOST)

Saturday, July 28, 2018
Hogg Mine Troup County, GA
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Fee Site

TRIP: The Hogg Mine started out as the Oxford Mine in 1942 to mine beryl to produce beryllium. Commercial operations shut down in 1960. The site has been opened off and on since then for specimen mining and is currently managed by Chris Painter. The site is a surface mine pit approximately 650 feet long with an east – west orientation.

COLLECTING: The parking area is at the east end of the pit. As you enter the pit from the parking area there is a trench approximately 150 feet long and to your right. Here has been found large green Aquamarine beryl and pockets of green Aquamarine beryl. As you enter the main pit area, there is a tailing or spoil pile to your left that came out of the pit in front of you. There has been several large nice gemmy Aquamarine beryl specimens come from this area. The main pit in front of you has a plethora of treasures, Rose Quartz, Smoky Quartz, banded Quartz, Beryl in matrix with the quartz, Tourmaline in matrix with the quartz, etc. The last area of note is at the western end at the back of the pit. There has been a new smaller pit dug in the last year and some very nice Blue Aquamarine Beryl has been found. The new pit was dug because an old drilling report had indicated that Amethyst was found. There are pieces of Amethyst coming from the new pit.

FACILITIES: There is an outhouse available on site. There is plenty of parking. The mine also cooks hamburgers and hot dogs and has drinks. Lunch plate is \$8.00

FEE: 17 years old and up is \$35 per person, 16 years old and younger dig for free.

TOOLS: Bring all the tools you have: pick, shovel, screen, rock hammer, hand sledge, rock chisel, bucket, hand cart, etc. The Hogg does sale some tools in limited quantities. It would be a good idea to bring an extra change of clothes. The pit can be muddy and wet.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: Where we will meet: Meet at McDonald's at 2408 Whitesville St, LaGrange, GA 30240. This is at Exit 13 on Interstate 85 in LaGrange.

When: I would suggest arriving at McDonalds as early as 8:00 am, although you can arrive earlier. This will give you time to pay and fill out the required paper work. At 8:15 am the first caravan will be going to the mine. The first to arrive and sign in will be in the first caravan. The mine is approximately 3 miles from McDonalds. If you do arrive late and no one from the mine is at McDonalds, texted or call the number I will provide below.

Directions and Drive Time: The best way to determine driving directions and time is to enter the McDonalds address above into the directions destination block in Google Maps and enter your home address in the starting point block.

CONTACT: Brian Burgess Cell#: (256) 479-2993 Email: bburgess771@gmail.com

Coordinator email: 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."

Brad Smith – Bench Tips ~

SAVE WHEN BUYING SILVER

Silver products like sheet, wire, and casting shot are sold by the Troy ounce at what is called the spot price. That's what companies pay for the pure metal on the commodities market, and the spot price changes daily.

But in addition to the spot price, there is also a cost to fabricate the metal into wire or sheet, so the price of the item you buy is the cost of the metal plus the cost to make it. Different products have different fabrication charges because each takes a different amount of labor. Also, different companies will have different fabrication charges because of local labor rates and their desired profit margin.

You can save money by finding a company with a lower fabrication charge. Also, note that the fabrication charge per ounce is less on larger orders, so you can save more by buying more. Find a friend to place a joint order and split the shipping charges.

But for casting purposes, there's an even better way to save. Buy your silver at a coin store. They sell bars and rounds in pure and Sterling for the spot price plus about a dollar per ounce.

The local coin shop adds only a small profit over the spot price. So, I save about \$3 per ounce, pay no shipping charges, don't have to wait for mail order, and support a local business.



SAWING JUMP RINGS

The difficult part of making jump rings for me has always been holding the coil while cutting off the individual rings. I use a saw to get the best fit when closing the rings later. I've seen all sorts of suggestions for ways to hold the coil, but the one that works best for me is this little jig made from scrap wood.

It's about 2 inches wide and 4-5 inches long with a groove cut down its length to cradle the coil of wire and a thin stop attached to the front end.

To cut the rings, thread your saw blade through the coil, hold the coil down in the groove and against the front stop, and saw through the bottom of the coil at about a 40 degree angle.

Don't forget to use some wax or cutting lube. It really does make a difference. If you don't believe me, do an experiment while you're cutting a lot of rings. Count how many rings can be cut before the blade breaks. First, do the test without lube, and then do it again while adding some lube to the blade after cutting every 8-10 rings.

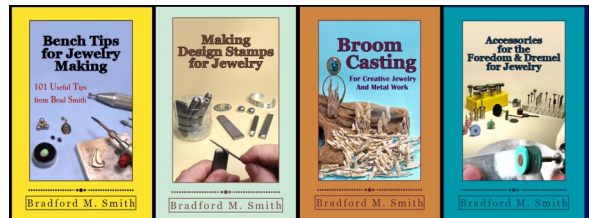
It's the best way I've ever found to hold the coils easily and securely. If the coil doesn't move, you break fewer blades. And it is safer than some other techniques because you are cutting away from the fingers.



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/>



Meteor Shower Schedule ~

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

By Bruce McClure and Deborah Byrd in Astronomy Essentials | Space

July 27-28, 2018	Delta Aquariids
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	Leonids
December 13-14, 2018	Geminids



Delta Aquarid in 2014, from David S. Brown southwest Wyoming.

in

Late July 2018, before dawn, the Delta Aquariids

Like the Eta Aquarids in May, the Delta Aquariid meteor shower in July favors the Southern Hemisphere and tropical latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere. But these meteors can be seen from around the world. This year, unfortunately, the full moon will obstruct on the show, especially as these faint meteors display very few fireballs or persistent trains. The meteors appear to radiate from near the star Skat or Delta in the constellation Aquarius the Water Bearer. The maximum hourly rate can reach 15-20 meteors in a dark sky. The nominal peak is around July 27-30, but, unlike many meteor showers, the Delta Aquariids lack a very definite peak. Instead, these medium-speed meteors ramble along fairly steadily throughout late July and early August. An hour or two before dawn usually presents the most favorable view of the Delta Aquariids. At the shower’s peak in late July 2017, the rather faint Delta Aquariid meteors will have to contend with moonlight, as the full moon will be out all night long. But the new moon on August 11 means a dark sky for the August Perseids, one of the best showers for the Northern Hemisphere.



Cindy Hensley says ... The activities room at the Hoover Library is reserved for Saturday, July the 21st. It is located downstairs just as you enter the front of the building. I do not have a formal class planned. I am going to be there working on some projects, so it will be an open studio or open workshop opportunity for people to bring their projects. We usually arrive about 10:30 am and work on our projects until about 5 pm. Many come and go as time allows. Feel free to join in on the fun and bring your own supplies to do whatever project your currently working on. See you there!



**Kenneth Kornegay Estate Sale
July 14th, 8am - 3pm**



FOR SILENT AUCTION:

1. 130x USB CAMERA
2. REFLECTIVITY METER (PRESIDIUM, discount. 2013), REFLECTIVITY INDEX LIQUID
3. SPECTROSCOPE
4. REFRACTIVE INDEX METER II (PRESIDIUM)
5. REFRACTOMETER (GEMOLOGICAL PRODUCTS)
6. CLOSE FOCUS MONOCULAR (THE SHARPER IMAGE)
7. CALCITE DICHROSCOPE
8. "POCKET" DIFFRACTION GRATING SPECTROSCOPE (ORWIN PRODUCTS LTD)
9. "TEACHING" DIFFRACTION GRATING SPECTROSCOPE (OPL)
10. SPECTROSCOPE STAND (OPL)
11. VIBRATING ROCK TUMBLER (THUMLER), large
12. VIBRATING ROCK TUMBLER (THUMLER), smaller
13. HANGING MOTOR LX (FOREDOM)
14. DUST COLLECTOR (FOREDOM)
16. ROCK SAW W/ GRINDING WHEEL
17. 3 BENCH DRILL PRESSES
18. 2 FLAT LAPS
19. BELT SANDER
20. A FEW GEMSTONES

Location: 2105 Vestavia Drive, Vestavia Hills 35216, Saturday,

Note: Park in front of house by rock wall, or in grassy area across the street from next-door neighbor.

OTHER EQUIPMENT:

Dremel tools and disks, Misc. motors
 Small tumbler, Various sizes of tumbling grit
 Bench grinder
 Several lights
 Steel/wood work bench w/ several outlets
 Mineral hardness test kit
 Super magnets, Misc. desk tools
 Rockhounding tools
 Large collapsible table screen
 Filing cabinet with blades, disks, etc.

ROCKS AND MINERALS:

Brookwood Petrified Wood
 Brookwood Pet. Wood, polished
 Brookwood Agates
 Texas Red Agate
 Arizona Petrified Wood
 Wyoming Jade (Nephrite)
 Wyoming Jade, polished
 Jade (Jadeite), small slabs
 Obsidian, Obsidian Needles,
 Corundum

CABOCHONS

BOOKS

PEARLS / COSTUME JEWELRY / JEWELRY

FINDINGS

DISPLAY CASES / STORAGE CASES



Last page funnies ...

The ROCKHOUND'S TEN COMMANDMENT'S

1. Thou shalt not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in thy hand.
2. Thou shalt not test the strength of crystals by pinching, squeezing, or biting.
3. Thou shalt not drop thy neighbor's fossil, for many do not bounce properly.
4. Thou shalt not place thy neighbor's specimen in thine own pocket.
5. Thou shalt not argue the name of that mineral too violently. Sometimes thou can be wrong.
6. Thou shalt not test thy neighbor's agates for hardness by rubbing them together.
7. Thou shalt not climb above thou neighbor's head when on a fieldtrip, lest thou art willing to spent the rest of the day digging him out.
8. Thou shalt protect thine eyes, hands, and feet so that thou can enjoy many more fieldtrips.
9. Thou shalt not encroach upon thy neighbor's digging, lest his hammer be dropped upon thy toe.
10. Thou shalt not complain about, or denounce, the club officers under penalty of being elected one thyself.



Via MGMS Rocky Echoes Vol.42 #5 2/02 pg.15 and numerous times in this newsletter too.

A.M.L.S. Application for Membership New Renewal

NAME (S) _____

CHILDREN Age group (0 to 4) _____ (5 to 10) _____ (11 to 15) _____ (16 -18) _____

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. 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

Meeting time: 6:30 p.m.

Visitors Welcomed !

Date Received _____

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



SANDRA SULLIVAN, EDITOR
 P.O. BOX 1067
 SPRINGVILLE, AL. 35146

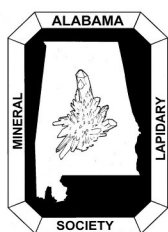
STAMP

If undeliverable, please return to the address above.

Meeting: Friday JULY 13, 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.



THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

A NON-PROFIT, NON-COMMERCIAL, NON POLITICAL ORGANIZATION AND REGIONAL FEDERATION OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES



PURPOSE:

To bring about a closer association of clubs and societies devoted to the study of 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.

