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

President's Message

Summer is nearing to an end, the kids are going back to school, football is almost here, and all I want to do is make plans to get our workshop up and running!

The AMLS workshop will have an Open House on Sat. Aug. 11th and Sun. Aug.12th. Look for the hours and directions in the newsletter. We are asking every member to bring a rock or slab and let's try to make something pretty from it! We will have the club's slab and trim saws running as well as at least 2 cabbing machines. If that is not your area of interest, we will have members that will demonstrate wire wrapping, beading, and Kumihimo braiding. If that is still not what interests you, bring your own work....it might inspire someone else's interest! As an additional incentive, we will be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs! Bring a drink or chips and enjoy the fellowship!

We are going to need your input to make the workshop a place for learning and improving skills across the lapidary spectrum. Important decisions regarding budgets, maintenance, training, cost, and staffing have to be made. These issues will be an important topic at this months' meeting and we want everyone to speak up and tell us what you think.

In my travels this summer, I have had the opportunity to speak with members from several different clubs and I am proud to report that we have the beginnings of a workshop that will compare with just about any club in our area. The AMLS is blessed with members that possess a lot of talent and are willing to share their knowledge and expertise with anyone willing to learn.

We now have a place that will allow this to happen!

See you on Friday!!

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

Website: http://www.lapidaryclub.com



JOHN WILD President A.M.L.S.

Upcoming in August -

Aug. 4 th - DMC Fieldtrip - Chunky Gal Aug. 10th - Regular meeting Kim Cochran Program on Kyanite Aug. 11th & 12th - Open House 10 am to 3 pm Leeds Workshop 8036 Parkway Dr. Leeds, AL. 35094

Aug. - No Fieldtrip date at this time Aug. 27th - Board Meeting at the workshop

Sept. 14th - Regular Meeting
Oct. 8th - Board Meeting in Leeds
Sept. 24th - DMC Fieldtrip Lynchburg, VA quarry
For Kyanite

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ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP

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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

AMLS WORKSHOP ADDRESS:

8036 Parkway Dr. Leeds, AL. 35094

Let's do some cabbing!



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Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

President of SFMS Greg Hamilton

Meeting Minutes July 13, 2018 ~

Larry Hensley blessed our meal and we lined up and dug in or perused the silent auction offerings.

Levan Foster introduced our speaker, David Kopasko-Merkel who spoke on fossil reefs of Alabama. He reminded us that the only samples that should be collected are those that are washed out, found in ditches and creeks or 'doomed', those that are going to be destroyed by road work, etc. Any others should be left to be studied by the experts. Many good questions were asked. A specimen of Withlacoohee Coral was given to the speaker for such a great program. Note: We need a person who can reliably run the electronics for the Power Point programs.

May minutes (no June meeting due to Tannehill) and June board meeting minutes were accepted. The next board meeting is July 23rd at the workshop, 8036 Parkway Drive in Leeds, all members are welcome.

Input is needed from the members as to when the workshop should be available to use. Some weekday hours need to be available for those who work weekends. An hourly fee of \$3-\$5 will be collected to help pay for rent, utilities and upkeep. Some equipment still needs to be moved from the Sullivan's. 3 to 5 strong people will be needed to move into the workshop.

The Kornegay estate sale will be July 14th from 8am to 3pm. This is for us only, not open to the public.

Terri Wilson was voted in as new Board Member -at-Large by a unanimous vote. The silent auction ended with the treasurer receiving much needed funds.

Door prizes were awarded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes July 23, 2018 ~

In attendance Bunny and Reggie Bolton, John Wild, Yvonne and Levan Foster, Don Rosensteil, Lou Ann and Bud Newell.

Levan has been working on a new show venue and we discussed how much we should expect to pay and 2 versus 3 day shows. It seems \$1500.00 to \$2000.00 per day might do it. This is at least twice what Tannehill is but would be offset by the fact that we could charge admission. Moody Civic Center

Board Meeting Minutes Continued ~

is a possibility and is close to the interstate so easy to get to. Further research will be done and as always club member in-put is appreciated.

We discussed what the workshop needs were. First is another cabbing machine. A used one is available from William Holland for \$800.00 and it's purchase will be brought up for a vote at the August meeting. Also needed to be voted on is \$1000.00 for new saw blades, cabbing wheels, belts for the arbors and a drive belt for the faceting machine. Once the faceting machine is running we can determine what kind of interest there is in this skill. A fence may be needed in the back.

As to staffing, several supervisors will be needed to be at the workshop to check members in, collect fees, make sure equipment is being used properly and that everything is cleaned up. Don Hill, John Wild, Reggie Bolton, Bud Newell and Yvonne Foster were named to start with. They will check out one another and anyone else who would like to and is qualified to be a supervisor. They will, in turn, certify members on each machine. No member will be allowed to use a machine they are not certified on. A sheet will be made for each machine with operating and safety instructions plus a cleanup check list. To begin with, a fee of \$5.00 per hour will be collected.

There will be three hour sessions available but it will not be necessary to stay all 3 hours if you only need 1 hour or 2 hours. Clean up time will follow paid time and a supervisor will sign off on your session after clean up. Two week-ends a month plus some week days or evenings as requested and as supervisors are available. If several members want to get together and request times during the week supervisors will do their best to make it happen. Likewise, if supervisors have time during the week they will make it available. Eventually a monthly calendar will be posted on the website, not the Facebook page as it is public.

On August 11th and 12th, the 2 days after the next meeting, an open house will be held from 10am to 3pm with demonstrations of the machines. If members would like, they can bring a rock or slab and be shown operating procedure, cleanup will also be demonstrated.

Venues like Trade days at Tannehill and the Whistle Stop Festival were discussed for community outreach. The geode cracker, grab bags and sand sifting could be taken along with club literature. John is going to Franklin and will look for more geodes which we will need if we do many of these events. Respectfully submitted, Bunny Bolton, R. S.

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

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: frankcoxproductions.com

Aug.18-19 Bossier City, LA 44th annual show; Arklatex Gem & Mineral Society; Bossier City Civic center, 620 Benton Rd., 2009 Chelsy Dr.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; admission \$4, students free w/ ID, children free under 6 years; educational exhibits, free parking; contact DelGlasner, PO Box 6633, Bossier City, LA 71171-6633, (318) 517-7372; Email: larockclub@gmail.com; Website: larockclub.com

Aug. 31-Sept. 3 Raleigh, NC Treasures of the Earth, Inc.; NC State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5, Mon. 10-4; Adults \$5, Children 16 and under free; Vendors from across the United States bring a variety of merchandise to you.; contact JaneWestbrook, PO Box 59, Gloucester Point, VA 23062, (804)-642-2011;

Email: jane@treasuresoftheearth.com; Website: www.TreasuresOfTheEarth.com

Aug. 31-Sept. 3 Hendersonville, NC Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society; Whitmire Center, 301 Lily Pond Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6, Mon. 10-5; adults \$5, children under 12 free with an adult; exhibits, demos, wheel of fortune, refreshments, door prizes hourly, raffle and grand prizes; contact Diane Lapp, PO Box 6391, Hendersonville, NC 28793, (828) 775-8098; Email: dlapp 2000@yahoo.com; Website: HCGMS.com



When: August 18th and 19th 2018 (If you sign up for a class, you are invited to join us at the preview party from 6-8 Friday August 17th)

Where: Helena Sports Complex 1 Ruffin Road Helena, Al. 35080

Same great Bead show that only happens once a year.

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

website too!



www.kidsloverocks.com

Mineral of the Month – Wavellite

By Leslie A. Malakowsky

Wavellite is a phosphate mineral with the formula

Al3(PO4)2(OH, F)3·5H2O. It typically occurs in spectacular translucent green spherical or radial clusters or pinwheels emanating from central cores in ball-shaped spherules. Other crystal forms include botryoidal, stalactic and acicular.

Single long, prismatic crystals are rare. Wavellite can also be yellowish-green and yellow, greenish white, yellowish-brown, brown, brownish-black, blue, white and colorless (in transmitted light).



This classic radial mineral is a member of the Wavellite group of Phosphate minerals. Phosphates are characterized by (PO4)3- tetrahedra. Arsenic, vanadium, chlorine, fluorine and hydroxide can also fit into this crystal structure. The other members of this group are alanpringite and fluorwavellite.

Wavellite was first described by Dr. William Wavell (1750-1829) for an occurrence he discovered in High Down, Filleigh, Devon, England. (Dr. Wavell was a British physician, botanist, historian and naturalist.) It was named by William Babington in 1805 in honor of Dr. Wavell, who was the first person to bring it to the attention of the scientific community.

Geology buffs will appreciate that Wavellite occurs in association with crandallite and variscite in fractures in aluminous metamorphic rock, in hydrothermal regions and in phosphate rock deposits.

Other associated minerals include quartz, limonite, and muscovite.

Prehnite is sometimes confused with Wavellite, but Prehnite is harder and it occurs in different environments than Wavellite. Smithsonite is sometimes confused with Wavellite, too, but smithsonite effervesces in hydrochloric acid and smithsonite occurs in different environments, as well.

Wavellite is found in a wide variety of locations, most notably in Arkansas in the Ouachita Mountains. This area is known for the classic green radial form of the mineral. The specific localities include Dug Hill, Avant, Garland Co.; Mauldin Mt., Montgomery Co.; Mt. Ida, Montgomery Co.; and Hot Springs, Garland Co. Good localities for bright yellow and

green spheres are the National Limestone Quarry, Mount Pleasant Mills, Snyder Co., Pennsylvania; and a deep green form is found in Slate Mountain, El Dorado Co., California. There are good localities in Germany, England (especially the aforementioned classic locality) and Ireland, too.

Via the

June 2018 Rocket City Rocks & Gems Page 5



Did you know that Baking Soda safely cleans most jewelry? Some jewelry can be damaged by the usual commercial jewelry cleaners on the market. Modern Turquoise is often treated with wax, oil or other enhancements. These coatings are easily removed, causing the color to fade. Pearls and many other stones are soft enough to be damaged by ultrasonic jewelry cleaners. Cleaners containing ammonia will dissolve organic stones, such as fossils, pearls, shells, coral and petrified wood.

What can you do if your silver is tarnished, and the stone is delicate? Simply rub dry baking soda onto the silver with your fingers or a soft clean cloth, then rinse. You should still avoid rubbing the stone as little as you can, and rinse only as needed. If possible, try this in an inconspicuous place on the stone, just to be sure.

This only scratches the surface of uses for baking soda. Just because it is common and inexpensive doesn't mean that it isn't a powerful cleaner. I have written an extensive article on uses for baking soda, including removing stains from countertops and removing odors from appliances.

Read the whole story by visiting earthbeatdesigns.com/sparkle-and-shine

Source: www.earthbeatdesigns.com/sparkle-and-shine/

Carole Shelton www.earthbeatdesigns.com

OUTCROPPINGS DECEMBER 2017 VOLUME 32, NO. 9

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

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

Late evening to dawn on August 11, 12 and 13, 2018, the Perseids

The Perseid meteor shower is perhaps the most beloved meteor shower of the year for the Northern Hemisphere. It's a rich meteor shower, and it's steady. Best of all, the slender waxing crescent moon will set at early evening, providing deliciously dark skies for this year's Perseid meteors. These swift and bright meteors radiate from a point in the constellation Perseus the Hero. As

The 2017 Perseid meteor shower peaked in moonlight, but that didn't stop Hrvoje Crnjak in Šibenik, Croatia, from catching this bright Perseid on the morning of August 12, 2017. Notice the variations in brightness and color throughout, and the little "pop" of brightness toward the bottom. A brightness "pop" like that comes from a clump of vaporizing debris. Thank you, Hrvoje!



with all meteor shower radiant points, you don't need to know Perseus to watch the shower; instead, the meteors appear in all parts of the sky. These meteors frequently leave persistent trains. Perseid meteors tend to strengthen in number as late night deepens into midnight, and typically produce the most meteors in the wee hours before dawn. In 2018, the peak night of this shower will be totally free of moonlight. Predicted peak in 2018: the night of August 12-13, but try the nights before and after, too, from late night until dawn.

Brad Smith - Bench Tips ~



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/

Brad Smith is a studio jeweler, lapidary, and jewelry instructor based in Santa Monica, California. He works with silver, gold, exotic woods, bone, fossil ivory, and meteorite. His teaching career started with the Los Angeles school system where he

"Advanced Jewelry" in the Adult Education Department for eight years. In 2009, he designed and built a new jewelry facility at Santa Monica's Adult Education Center where he currently teaches beginning and advanced classes.

As a long-time member of the Culver City Rock Club, Brad has taught lapidary skills, led field trips, organized gem and mineral shows, and held many positions including club President. He is a member of the Metal Arts Society of Southern California where he served as Vice President and on the Board of Directors. There he organized workshops with nationally known jewelry artists.

Smith's Step-by-Step article on broom casting was published in the inaugural issue of Interweave's "Jewelry Artist" magazine. His book, "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making", includes 101 useful ways to solve common problems at the bench. His second book, "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry and Metal Work", is a quick and easy way to produce marvelous icicle-like shapes that make up into elegant pendants and earrings. Smith also provides jewelry notes material to over 200 monthly newsletters in six countries. *Via website*

Wildacres Workshop August 20-26, 2018

http://sfmsworkshops.com/

Tuition \$395

Full descriptions of class and instructors on website



Casting - Bill Harr

This class will teach silver casting for beginner and intermediate silversmithing. The emphasis will be on production centrifugal casting, meaning techniques for high reliability. The class will teach centrifugal and vacuum casting, wax modeling, sprueing, investing, burnout, casting, finishing and polishing, rubber mold making and wax injection. Steam casting will be covered if there is interest.

Lab Fee: US\$100 Estimated Materials Cost: US\$100-wow



Beginning Chain-Maillé Jewelry- Roy Deere

This class is an introduction to one of the popular and fastest growing areas of jewelry making. Students will learn the proper way to open/close jump rings, basic patterns of linking the rings to form intricate chains, and finishing techniques to make the chains into wearable jewelry. The class will consist of a couple of pre-selected projects to teach the basic techniques followed by other projects which each student can individually select. Class Fee: \$50 to \$150



Intermediate Chain-Maillé Jewelry- Roy Deere

The class will introduce the student to such advanced techniques as non-round jump ring shapes, jump rings made from different wire shapes, beaded enhancements, mixed metals, dangles, drapes, and many other enhancement techniques that can be applied to traditional designs to make them very unique. We will also examine some more complicated patterns and learn approaches to doing them which make the process much easier. Class Fee: \$75 to \$250



Fused Chain-Maille Jewelry- Roy Deere

In the Fused Chain-Maillé class we will explore the construction of necklaces, bracelets, and earrings which have all of their ends "soldered" together. Work will be done with Argentium wire. Argentium is a special class of Sterling Silver that has Germanium added to replace a small amount of the Copper in the Sterling. This changes some of the properties of the silver. Specifically it allows the silver to be fused. Class Fee: \$100 to \$300



Introduction to Gem ID - Teresa Polly

The course will be an Introduction to Gem ID. We will cover how to use a microscope, loupe, refractometer, polariscope, dicroscope, spectrascope and specific gravity set up to help identify stones. We will start with basic mineral identification. We will cover typical stone inclusions and how to tell natural stones from lab created stones. If you have stones you would like to ID we can work on those for show and tell. The class fee is \$10.00.

Wildacres September Workshop

September 17-23, 2017

http://sfmsworkshops.com/

Tuition \$395

Full descriptions of class and instructors on website



Beginning Chain-Maillé Jewelry- Roy Deere

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Cold Connections I – Morning Sherrod

This class will start with basic skills such as the proper use of a jewelers saw, hammering, patterns, doming with dapping blocks using a die cutter, and how to anneal metal. We will be using copper, brass, bronze, and silver to add color and character to your jewelry. Connections will be accomplished using rivets, jump rings, and wire. We will also learn about patinas and etching. This will be a fun class with many finished pieces to take home. It will also provide a framework for more advanced projects. Class Fee: \$80



Electro-Etching - Micah Kirby

Learn a design driven approach to Electro Etching. Gain knowledge using multiple masking techniques including oil based marker, vinyl, P-n-P, and photosensitive paper as resists on metal. Acquire experience with two, non caustic and non gas producing electrolyte solutions: salt and cupric nitrate. Low voltage power supplies will be our power source to initiate etching. Copper and silver will be the main metals we use for this course (others can be used).Lab fee: \$150

ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP

AUGUST 2018

Last page funnies ...

May your life be full of dirt!

May your life be full of dirt!
May it gather in your shoes
May you wander o'er the countryside
with bird and fox and moose.
May you hunt with pick and shovel,
For earth's treasures you explore.
Once found, oh joy... there's more
and more and more...
May you have a good, strong backpack,
and fill it with the best!
May you have the strength to lift it,
put muscles to the test!

May you take it home with prize in hand,
unwrap and you adore,
You move your bag;
a pile of dirt has gathered on the floor.
Before you go another step
dust off your pants and shirt.
And leave behind the remnants of rewarding,
happy dirt.
Then showers wash away the rest,
flowing down the drain,
Gone for 'ere until you're drawn by
Rockhounds' call again.

Written by: Joy Stinson -Ottawa Lapsmith and Mineral Club Submitted by Dave Hughes Magic Valley Gem News — April, 2011 Volume 50 Issue 4 — Page 5

A.W.L.S.	Application for Membe	ersnip	_New Renewal
NAME (S)			
CHILDREN Age group (0	to 4) (5 to 10)	(11 to 15)	(16 -18)
ADDRESS			
			ZIP
HOME PHONE	WORK/O	CELL PHONE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS(S)			
Family \$25 Single	\$20 Junior / Student	\$15	
that year. Dues for regular 1st of the new year. A \$5. Please make checks p	members are to be renewe 00 discount if paid by the D	ed at the November December meeting. IINERAL & LAPII	mbers only for the remainder of meeting and / or before January DARY SOCIETY and mail to a meeting.
place of the June meeting.	-		The Tannehill Show takes the Heights Rd. Cahaba Heights,
AL. 35243 Meeting time: 6:30 p.m.	* 74 A . * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		Date Received





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

STAMP

If undeliverable, please return to the address above.

Meeting: Friday AUGUST 10, 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.



