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

President's Message

Hello Folks.

Wouldn't you know it, the computer plague has stuck again! This time it is a modem that has me delayed. Sorry about that but I'm doing a-work-around to get this out to you today.

I am happy to report we are on our way to doing what it takes to keep us up and running. That is filling much needed positions. I would like to thank those who are remaining in their old positions or taking on another vital position. We have a prized publicity team in place for this years' show. Transferring from the Tannehill location to the Oak Mountain location is why we need a good team to get the word out! And I have faith in our officers who remained and the Publicity Team. I know they will do a great job.

We have a few more vial positions still available if you fill you can help out, please talk with me or another officer about it. This is yet a another reason Reggie Bolton has been saying "We need an Operation Manual" to explain how our club functions. We are on it, folks.

This month's meeting will be our regular December type of meeting, important scholarships announcements made to some very deserving folks. Our gift exchange is like no other I have heard of. I hope all will bring a rockhound related gift that cost about \$10. to \$15. to exchange. And fill free to join in on the fun. Sorry, no door prizes this month.

Please let Don Hill know if you would like to attend his Enameling Class, Saturday Dec. 14th. We enjoy our workshop immensely and we are working on the inventory now. If you have personal items there, please let Reggie Bolton (the head Honcho) know what, where, etc.

See you Friday night; Be there or be square!!! Sandra Sullivan, A.M.L.S. President

Website: http://www.lapidaryclub.com



Sandra Sullivan President A.M.L.S.

Upcoming in December -

Dec. 3 - Workshop open, Reggie Bolton 12 - 8

Dec. 10 - Workshop open, Reggie Bolton 12 - 8

Dec. 13 - Regular Meeting, Scholarship Announce ments, Christmas gathering, and annual gift exchange

Dec. 14 - Don Hill - Torch fired Enameling classes

Dec. 17 - Workshop open, Reggie Bolton 12 - 8pm

Dec. 24 - NO Workshop scheduled

Dec. 31 - NO Workshop scheduled

* Due to hunting season, safety in the woods unguaranteed, NO fieldtrip has been scheduled at this time.

* Board Meeting - No meeting for Dec. but two in Jan. 2020; the 7th and 28th.

Jan. 7 - Board Meeting at the workshop

Jan. 10 - Regular Meeting

Jan. 28 - Board Meeting at the workshop

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFO FOR 2020!

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ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP

OFFICERS				
President	Sandra Sullivan			
	205-903-7062			
	doodle35146ss@yahoo.com			

Vice President John Wild 205-981-6609

john@milcomtextiles.com

Vacant - Fieldtrip Chair 2nd Vice President

Treasurer Reggie Bolton

205-678-8772

reggie@newenvirons.net

Recording Secretary Bunny Bolton

205-678-8772

bunny@newenvirons.net

Corresponding Sandra Sullivan

Secretary doodle35146ss@vahoo.com

Donna Sellers Historian

donys11@bellsouth.net

COMMITTEE 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	Lou Ann Newell newell.louann@gmail.com		
Program Chair	John Wild john@milcomtextiles.com		
Property or Equipment Chair	Reggie Bolton reggie@newenvirons.net		
Publicity Chair	Sarah Grace Landis, Tristan Carisch, and Vivian Melof		
Show Chair	Lou Ann Newell 205-482-3234 newell.louann@gmail.com		
Webmaster	Steve Adams steve.adams@windstream.net		

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 (Across from The Pant Store)

Please welcome these new members: Eric Carell, Paul Blackstone, and Artesha Steele

DUES ARE DUE ~ It is that time of the year folks. Dues are due between the November meeting and the end of December. The rockclub must pay the club dues to the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS). Both are apart of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. We have to pay for our insurance too.

Members Serving on the Board of Directors:

Levan 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 bar5678@aol.com

Alabama State Representative to EFMLS

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

President of SFMS Jessie Griffin

Can be reached thru the

Alabama State Repre- Phillip Kaiser sentative to SFMS

kaiserpw@att.net

Meeting Minutes November 8, 2019 ~

John Wild called the meeting to order and asked for visitors, Artesha Steel was back with her little boy, Eric Carrell and Paul Blackstone brought some petrified wood to talk about and joined the club. Welcome! John blessed our meal and we lined up for supper.

The business meeting began with John calling for the October minutes to be accepted and we voted to do so. Since the last meeting we've been busy! AMLS was a vendor at the Oak Mountain Fall Festival and this fund raiser/outreach program brought in \$1,035. to support the workshop. We then put on our first "Rockin' in the Holidays" show. The 25 vendors were pretty happy with their sales and we took in around \$2500. in tent sales and vendor fees. The food vendors, access to power and location make this new venue a good one. Better publicity and signage is needed for next time. John thanked everyone who worked at both the shows.

Reggie Bolton gave the treasurer's report, the checking account is in good shape even before dues are collected. The workshop costs about \$750. per month depending on utilities. The lease renews in February so we need to decide right away if we are going to keep it.

Our communication and publicity need improvement. Outreach means letting the public (and even club members) know what all we offer, field trips, workshop, knowledgeable members willing to share what they know. Sarah Landis, Tristan Carisch and Vivian Melof have stepped up to be co-chairs of publicity. Levan Foster will take charge of demonstrations and displays and Lou Ann Newell will handle show vendors and food vendors. Thanks to all!

The workshop continues to be open two days a week. Reggie will be there Tuesdays noonish to 8 pm and Levan will be there Saturdays 9 am – 4pm. If there is another time you would like to work contact them and maybe something can be worked out, the shop is there for all club members to use. For the time being the fee is \$5. per hour to use the equipment, no charge for talking about rocks! Regular classes will be held the Saturday after the club meeting, so stated because the second Saturday isn't always the day after the second Friday. Don Hill will

will start us off with torch enameling on Saturday December 14th and Judi Wild will teach basic wire wrapping on January 11th. More information will follow in e-mails and on the facebook page so keep an eye out.

Scholarship applications are due now and will be awarded at the December meeting. Our program tonight is by last year's winners. Rhea Proffitt took gem trees from Jere Heer. They began by learning to make different branches and the loops where the stones or shells are attached and to choose a base stone to coordinate with the 'flowers'. The branches are then brought together and formed around the base and arranged in preparation for the addition of the stones. She brought the trees she completed in the class. Levan Foster took intarsia from Bill Boggs. In this technique one cuts stones and forms a frame of contrasting stone around a center, they are glued together and a backing stone is added. he passed around the pieces he made including a 'crazy quilt' one made of bits of stone left on the trim saw. Levan can show members how intarsia is done when he has the workshop open but the club lacks the equipment to create a finished product. John encouraged everyone who has been to William Holland or Wildacres Retreat to bring examples of their work to the January meeting.

Nominations were made for the Board Members at Large from the floor. Levan Foster nominated by John Wild and Don Rosenstiel nominated by Sandra Sullivan were voted in on a voice vote and will fill these positions.

Door prizes and silent auction items were awarded and the meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes Nov. 19, 2019 ~

John Wild and Lou Ann Newell went to Oak Mountain State Park to look at the Multi-use Field. This area is somewhat larger than the field we used for Rockin' in the Holidays and features two bath houses, one with showers, and a gravel parking lot which can be designated for vendors only plus plenty of public parking. It's closer to the lake and has plenty of trees so should be cooler than the terrace. There is less power but we could rent silent generator(s) for additional power if necessary. The cost is considerably less expensive than the terrace as well. We voted to go with this field and Lou Ann sent a message to Anna at Oak Mtn.

Because of the holidays the next board meeting will be held on January 7th *continued on page 4*.

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

Dec. 6 -8 Hudson, FL. Withlacoochee Rockhounds Veterans Memorial Park 14333 Hicks Rd. Fri. 9 -5, Sat. 9 -5, Sun. 9 - 5. Contact Ralph Barber 352-200-6852 Email: barberbloomers@hotmail.com Website www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com

Dec. 13 - 15 Lawrenceville, GA. Bellpoint Gem Show Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Pkwy. Fri. 10 -6, Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10 -5. Contact Damian; Email: mbellpointgmail.com Website: www.bellpointpromotions.com

Dec. 13 - 15 Fletcher, N.C. Mountain Gem and Mineral Association WNC Agriculture Center 1301 Fanning Bridge Rd. Fri. 10 - 6, Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10 - 4. Contact Richard Jacquot Email: rick@wncrocks.com

Website: www.americanrockhound.com

Dec. 14 - 15 Franklin, TN. Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society Williamson County Ag Expo Park 4215 Long Lane Sat, 9 - 6, Sun. 10 - 5. Contact Linda Cartwright Email: show@MTGMS.org. Website: www.MTGEMS.org/show.htm

Jan. 10 - 12 Largo, FL. Pinellas Geological Society Central Park Preforming Arts Center, 105 Central Park Ave. Fri. 10 - 5, Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 12 - 5. Contact Leona Feldhausen (727)-79-3236 Email: sheffieldleona@gmail.com

Website: www.PGS.Rocks

Jan. 18 - 19 Deland, FL. Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society; Volusia County Fairgrounds 3150 E New York Ave, Sat. 10 -6, Sun. 10 - 5. Contact: Mary DeJan (386)-871-6221

Email: tomokagmsvendor@gmail.com Website:

tomokagems.org

William Holland Catalog online: https://lapidaryschool.org/2020



Some links to help you keep track of upcoming shows:

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

Continued from page 3. Board Meeting Minutes, **November 19, 2019** ~ the following one on January 28th.

With much chatter and referencing the by-laws, committee chairs were lined up.

Programs- first vice president John Wild Field trips- second vice president *open* Membership- Lou Ann Newell Publications & Corr. Secretary - Sandra Sullivan Hospitality- Rhea Proffitt will continue doing this after a few months off

Show- Lou Ann Newell will do this with aid from Levan Foster and the Publicity committee Publicity- Sarah Landis, Tristan Carrish and Vivian Melof

Webmaster-open

Property-Reggie Bolton, Levan Foster, John Wild**
Sunshine- Corresponding Secretary Sandra Sullivan
Finance- Treasurer Reggie Bolton
Investment-Treasurer Reggie Bolton
Stamp program-replaced by Federation Scholarship
Program*-Treasurer Reggie Bolton
Education*- Bunny Bolton
*needs to be voted on as change to the bylaws.
Respectfully submitted,

Bunny Bolton, Recording Secretary

Please remember to save those empty gift wrapping tubes for the maps we sell at the June show.

These tubes sure come in handy to make these sells go easier.

Thanks, S.S.



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



Brad Smith - Bench Tips \sim

As a rockhound myself, I am pleased to be able to share material like this with other clubs. Hopefully the tips are of interest to your members and provide a bit of fresh content for your bulletin. I've been involved with lapidary and jewelry making in my own rock club for about twenty-three years now. It has added so much to my own life, and I have been glad to do a few things to help build membership and promote sister clubs in my area.

Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season. Happy hammering, Brad

DIVIDERS

A set of dividers is a tool I find very useful in laying out the geometry of a piece I'm making. It has two needle-like tips with an adjustment to set the spacing between them.

They can be used to transfer a measurement. Let's say you need a 7mm wide strip of sheet metal. Set the spacing between the divider tips to 7 mm on the ruler. Then lay the sheet on the bench, put one tip against the edge, and run the dividers down the edge scribing a line parallel to the edge.

Dividers can be used to mark equal segments of a line or arc. For instance, assume a line between A and B that might be straight or curved, and you want to divide it into 5 equal lengths. Set the dividers to an estimate of the distance. Starting at Point A, use the dividers to mark off five lengths along the line. If you end up short of Point B, lengthen the distance on the dividers. If you end up overshooting Point B, shorten the length of your dividers. After a few tries, the length on the dividers will be the exact distance you need to mark the 5 segments.

Dividers can let you quickly find the center of a circular disk. With one tip of the dividers at the edge of the disk, set the other tip to an estimate of where the center might be. Fix one tip of the dividers at the 3 o'clock position and scribe an arc with the other tip near the center. Do this again from the 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and 12 o'clock positions. The arcs at the center will form a small four-sided box, and the center of the box is at the center of the disk.



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/

Workshop Class for December ~

Does this sound good for workshop class? You will be making 4 pieces in class. Cost is \$3.00 dollars for material plus donation to clubhouse. We will be having 3 classes on Dec. 14, 2019. Class times with be 10 am, 12 noon, and 2 pm. I would like to limited to five people per class session. The early sign-ups and sign-up sheet will be at meeting Friday night before class, you can sign up at meeting.

You will receive:

- 1 25mm round blank
- 1 oval 25 x 18 blank
- 2 19mm round blanks

Plus jump rings for each piece. You pick your colors to use and design.

Please contact Don Hill donahill@comcast.net to sign up for class.



Just some of my little treasures

ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP

Meteor Shower Schedule ~ <u>Via http://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/earthskys-meteor-shower-guide</u> Earth Sky's 2019 meteor shower guide

By Bruce McClure and Deborah Byrd in Astronomy Essentials | Space

December 13-14, 2019 Geminids

Other interesting websites and places to visit ~

Tellus Science Museum http://tellusmuseum.org/index.htm
I-75 Exit 293
Cartersville, GA (770) 606-5700

Fernbank Museum of Natural History http://www.fernbankmuseum,org/
76 Clifton Rd. NE
Atlanta, GA. (404) 929-6300

The American Gem Society Source: http://www.americangemsociety.org/birthstones

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

Please reply by e-mail to: sfms-dmc@amfed.org

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."

A.M.L.S Christmas Gift Exchange

Our annual Christmas party will have our usual exchange. If you wish to participate, please bring a wrapped gift about \$10. to \$15. in value that would be appropriate for rockhounds. If you're a child, please bring a gift for a child. If you're a lady, please bring a gift for a lady, and a man's gift for a man. Or bring something that anyone would be excited to receive as a gift.

We usually call out the names per the sign-in sheet from the table by the door. If you have any questions, just call Sandra and she'll explain. 205-903-7062 Okay.

Gift giving ideas: books on rocks, fossils, digging etiquette, rocks, and tools. For the rockhound in your family that is just getting into rockhounding, how about a year subscription to ROCKNGEM magazine!

How about for the food items this year, we can bring finger foods. Or if your feeling in the holiday cooking mood, a ham or chicken, you get the idea. Anything would be much appreciated. So if you can't cook a dish, a drink would be a much needed item. Anyone ready for their eggnog or apple cider?

Random Rock Facts

Miners have long used the cleavage properties of gems in trimming the stones they find. "Cobbing" is the act of smacking a piece of rough sharply and precisely with a hammer to break off any partially cleaved or included areas. Knowledge of the cleavage planes in the material being mined is essential to efficient use of this technique. The use of cleavage is perhaps most well known in diamond cutting. Diamond is a member of the cubic crystal system and the modern birthstone for April.

Source: http://www.bwsmigel.info/Lesson3/DEPhysical.Properties.html Via wiregrassrockhounds.com April 2013 pg 11

Random Rock Facts

All rocks begin as igneous rocks. Before rocks can be transformed by sedimentation and weathering or metamorphosed by the heat and pressure of plate tectonics, they must first be cooled from the intense heat of the earth's mantle.

Whether they are formed from plutonic rocks deep within the crust of the earth or extruded onto the surface of the earth by volcanoes all rocks have a fiery beginning as igneous rocks.

Source: http://www.rocksandminerals4u.com/igneous_rocks.html
Reprinted with permission from Doug Mann Via the Rockhounds Hearld newsletter for the Dothan, Mineral &
Gem Club April, 2016 Page 11. www.wiregrassrockhounds.com

Estate Auction of Marquis and Helene Hunt former members of the A.M.L.S.

Due to the death of Helene Hunt at the young age of 104, their children can now have an Estate Sell. It will be held Dec. 13, 14, and 15. Marquis Hunt's equipment is already gone but his rocks are still there. The address is 1580 Berry Road Birmingham, Al. (Homewood) .Here is a sampling of what is available.

Here are a few pictures sent in.



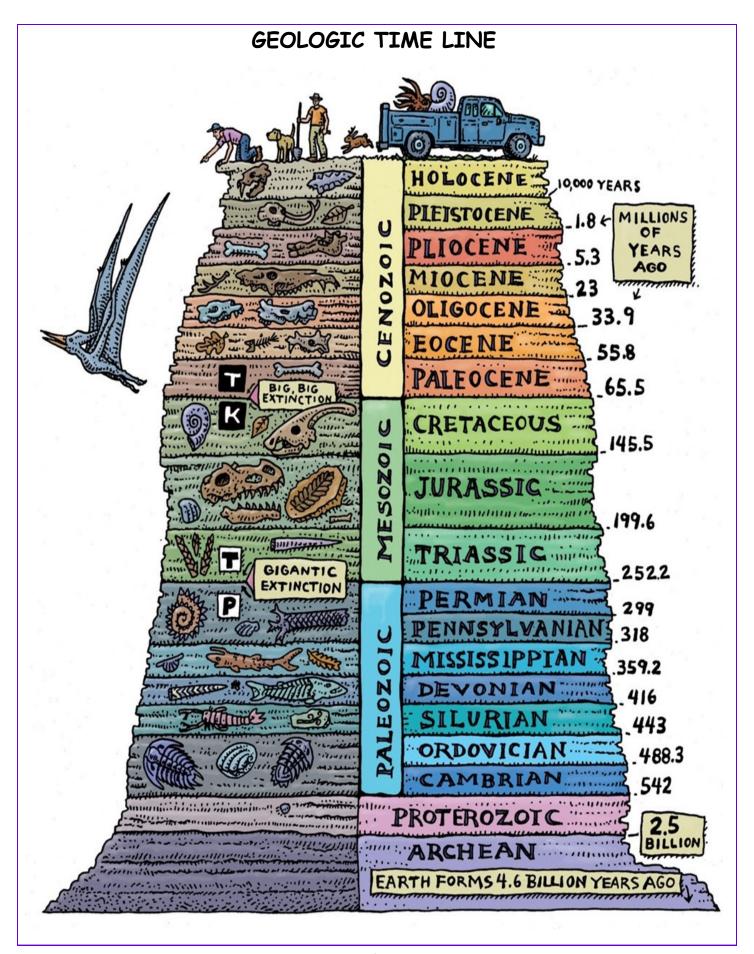








There are many more rocks in wooden boxes but unable to show all. Some were labeled jade, obsidian, and other names, S.S.



DECEMBER 2019

ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP GEODE

Last page funnies ...

A geode sets upon the ground,
How long has this stone been around?
For eons I surmise,
Until at last it met my eyes.
Curiously I look at this irregular sphere,
And wonder how it first got there.
To my shop we make our way,
My diamond saw I put to play.
And as my eyes soon behold,
"Are these bright crystals made of gold?"

Soon the light plays upon my hand,
And shining crystals defy man.
For he cannot with all his skill,
Produce this crystal just revealed.
My eyes have seen beyond mankind,
Nature's beauty indestructible and sublime.
The Maker's art for all to see
Was there to be observed by me.

By Hugh Sheffield (12/02 Outcroppings)

A.M.L.S. Application for N	Aembership	New	Renewal	~~~~ Year
ADULT NAME				
EMAIL ADDRESS				
SECOND NAME				
EMAIL ADDRESS				
CHILDREN'S NAMES & AGES				
ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP _		
HOME PHONE W	ORK/CELL PHONE			
E-MAIL ADDRESS(S)				
Family \$25 Single \$20 Junior /	Student \$15			
		g and / or before SY SOCIETY	ore January 1st o	of the new
Info: Usual Meeting Date: Second Friday of e Park Show takes the place of the June Meeting place: Cahaba Heights United Metho	ach month except for the r meeting.	nonth of June.	The Oak Mounta	in State
Cahaba Heights, AL. 35243 Meeting time: 6:30 p.m. Vis	itors Welcomed!	Date Re	eceived	

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Submittals please	2	3 Workshop pen 12 - 8	4	5	6 Rockhound Roundup	7
8	9	10 Workshop Open 12 - 8	11	12	13 Meeting	14 Don Hill Class at the workshop
15	16	17 Workshop Open 12 -8	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Workshop CLOSED	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31 Workshop CLOSED	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.



Website: http//www.lapidaryclub.com



Sandra Sullivan P.O. Box 1067 Springville, AL. 35146

If undeliverable, please return to the address above.



STAMP

Meeting: Friday DECEMBER 13, 2019

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



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