

THE MOUNTAIN GEM
Volume XL1 APRIL 2013
Number 2
Official Bulletin
Of
The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc. is a founding member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. A schedule of our monthly meetings is on the back cover of *The Mountain Gem* as well as on the Society's web-page. Meetings are held at the Macon County Community Facilities Building, Highway 441 South, Franklin, N.C. Visitors are always welcome.

The objectives of this society shall be to effect a close association of those persons who are interested in the study of gems, rocks and minerals and the sciences and arts related to them. We are a working organization that operates and maintains The Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum.

The Society and Museum are self-supporting on a 100% volunteer basis.

**The FRANKLIN GEM
AND MINERAL MUSEUM**

is operated under the direction of the
Board of Directors of

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Inc.

School tours are always available by contacting our Education Chairman, Diane Aiello.

Membership in the Society is \$15.00 per person with \$10 each additional family member, and \$3.00 for junior (pebble pups).

Membership is from September to September.

Non-member subscription to *The Mountain Gem* is \$15.00 per year. Donations are tax deductible.

Articles written by members of our club may be borrowed provided credit is given to the author and *The Mountain Gem*.



The Franklin Gem and Mineral
Museum

25 Phillips Street
Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 828-369-7831

In the Old Jail House

FREE ADMISSION

May 1 - October 31

Monday Thru Saturday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

November 1 - April 30:

Only Saturdays: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Open Year Round For Tours

And Special Requests

www.fgmm.org

Society email:
franklingemsociety@fastmail.fm

**2012-2013 Officers And
Board Of Directors**

President	Lon Peden	371-8450
Past President	Tom Morley	1-331-9512
Vice President	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Secretary	Ray Behr	349-0827
Treasurer	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Assistant Treasurer	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Director (2014)	Linda Smith	342-8288
Director (2013)	Wally Smith	386-626-4082
Director (2014)	Diane Aiello	371-2436
Director (2013)	Al Pribble	369-2548

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+++++

Museum Managers

**Museum Manager	Al Pribble	369-2548
Museum Ass't. Mgr.	Tommy Marsh	369-8915
**Curator	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Curator Ass't	Sharon John	369-0161
**Gift Shop.	Elena Marsh	369-8915
Ass't. Gift Shop	Doris Smith	386-626-4082
Museum Workshop	Al Pribble	369-2548
Ass't. Workshop Mgr.	John Hayes	524-8062
Calendar Chairman	Al Pribble	369-2548

**2012-2013
Committee Chairmen**

Budget & Finance	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Constitution/By-Laws	Linda Behr	349-0827
Door Prizes	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Education	Diane Aiello	371-2436
Field Trips	Lon Peden	371-8450
Gemboree	Jack Jungles	369-6664
Gemboree Ass't.	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Historian	Sharon John	369-0161
Librarian	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Membership	Linda Behr	349-0827
**Publications	Linda Behr	349-0827
Publicity	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Programs	Linda Smith	342-8288
Refreshments	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Scholarships	Jean Emerson	828-293-7784



**American Federation
Bulletin Awards**

1994 (7th), 1995 (2nd),
1996 (2nd), 1997 (5th),
1998 (5th), 1999 (3rd),
2000 (5th), 2004 (7th),
2005 (2nd) 2006 (10th)
2008 (5th) 2010(3rd)



**Southeast Federation
Bulletin Awards**

1976, 77, 78, 79, 92, 94, 95
1996-99 (1st)
2003 2nd New Editor
2004 (2nd), 2005 (2nd)
2006 (1st), 2008 (2nd),
2010(1st)

American Federation (AFMS): www.amfed.org
Southeast Federation (SFMS): www.amfed.org/sfms
Franklin Gem Museum and Society: www.fgmm.org
Email for the Society is: franklingemsociety@fastmail.fm

General Meeting

Date: April 23, 2013

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Macon County
Community Center
on 441 South

Program:
Flintknapping
by
guest speaker,
Bill



Lon Peden, President

There is no president's message this month.

Sharon John has stepped down as Secretary.

Ray Behr was elected Secretary at the March meeting.

We will need a historian, as well.

Sharon was behind the scenes doing multi jobs.

She has decided to stay in Franklin and with the club but will be on a hiatus for awhile.

May Celebrations

Birthdays

- 5 - Anamay Rossomando
- 5 - Chick Snyder
- 11 - Sande Lolli
- 17 - Mary Anne Zoeckler
- 18 - Belinda McGuire
- 20 - Fred Rasmusson
- 23 - Robbie Hayles
- 29 - Quinton King
- 31 - Jerry Kolle



Anniversaries

- 3 - Ron & Anamay Rossomando
- 13 - Ray & Linda Behr
- 16 - Fred & Frances Rasmusson



2013 raffle items

Gift shop

By Elena Marsh

The gift shop continues to see new displays, highlighting some of the gems and items that should draw the attention of our many visitors that spend time in our museum. Books available in the gift shop will also be featured in the rooms throughout the museum.

The Aquamarine necklace and earrings for this year's raffle are now in the circular display case in the museum with a small note indicating what the stones are, where they were mined and also that they were cut and faceted by a club member. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 for one ticket, \$5 for 6. These tickets will be behind the counter in the gift shop, usually on top of the TV monitor along with the jar to put the tickets in. Please make sure each ticket has the name and phone number of the person buying it. Remember, it is not necessary to be present to win – drawing is October 2013.

Trail Days which was held March 30 was a huge success for the museum and gift shop. Diane Aiello and I set up tables in front of the museum with items for sale. The event brought many people to our area, to tour and to purchase items. The museum was buzzing with visitors. Some of the through hikers from the Appalachian Trail even stopped in to visit us.

I want to thank Al Pribble and John Hayes for doing such a wonderful job in the back rooms of the museum. They have helped me tremendously during the recent renovations with boxing up items, moving and getting my storage areas ready for use again. I could not do it all myself and with the help of those two men and my husband, Tom, I can now 'see the light at the end of the tunnel' as May quickly approaches and we get ready to open the museum full time.

Thank you to all who have been recycling items in the museum and also at the meetings during refreshment time. If anyone has any extra silverware that they would like to donate to be used for refreshments, please bring them to the next meeting.

Remember that the museum will be open 6 days a week beginning May 1. We hope to have lots of volunteers signing up for slots to keep the museum open each of those days.

Al Pribble and I will be having a short training of the museum and gift shop for hosts on Thursday, April 18, at 6:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars so you can attend.

Elena Marsh

The March Board meeting minutes will be available at the April General Meeting.
The transcript was too large
for the newsletter.

If you want them emailed; the copy that I received is now on a PDF.

Coming Events

May 4-5, 2013: North Charleston, SC. Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show, "Art by Nature". Charleston Area Convention Center; Exhibit Hall A. Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-5. FREE admission and FREE parking; hourly door prizes, demonstrations, fossil dig, geode cracking. Contact Karen Havenstein of Charleston, SC at (843) 795-2956; e-mail: fossils@comcast.net; Web site: www.lowcountrygemandmineralsociety.org

May 10-11-12, 2013: Marietta, GA Gem and Mineral Show, Auction THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY Fri: 10 AM to 7PM; Sat: 10AM-7PM; Sun: Noon-5PM The Cobb County Civic Center, 548 So. Marietta Parkway and Fairground St., Marietta, GA Exit I-75 at Exit #263 and turn west onto Marietta Pkwy/SR 120 Loop. Drive 2 miles and turn left onto S Fairground St. and then immediately right to the Cobb Civic Center's parking lot. Show contact: Tom Batcha, 678-407-4224 Email: T.Batch@comcast.net

GMS Website: <http://www.gamineral.org>

May 10-12 Franklin, NC 12th Annual Mother's Day Gemboree; Macon County Community Bldg.; Friday-Saturday 10a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; contact: email: facc@franklin-chamber.com, phone: toll free 1-866-372-5546 or locally 828-524-3161.

Apologies from your editor:

Tommy Marsh has been chosen by Al Pribble to be the Assistant Museum Manager, not John Hayes as published in last month's inside page.



Newsletter deadline is May 13th.

FRANKLIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY MARCH 28TH, 2013 at community building room. President Lon Peden called the meeting to order.

LON- OPENING

SIGN UP FOR TSHIRTS TO BE ORDERED MONDAY \$15 MEDIUM BLUE WITH GEM AND MINERAL SOCIEY ON FRONT AND JAILHOUSE ROCK ON BACK

TREASURERS REPORT: INCOME 873.50 , EXPENSES 1226.96 BANK STATEMENT AMOUNT 10862.02

NEWSLETTER RECEIPT-EMAIL OR PRINTED, SIGN UP FOR EMAIL IF POSSIBLE

TAXES BEING DONE AND GOING OUT NEXT TUESDAY

CHECK OUT TRIPADVISERS.COM- WE HAVE 4 AND 5 STAR REVIEWS-GREAT ADVERTISING

2 METAL SIGNS PUT UP ON FENCE OUTSIDE MUSEUM TO STOP PEOPLE FROM TAKING STONES,TO IMPROVE FOUNTAIN, ETC. ALSO A CAMERA (SIMULATED) AND MORE LIGHTING WILL BE PUT UP. THE CHIEF OF POLICE CAN ENFORCE SIGNS IF WE CHOOSE

HOW MANY VISITORS AT MEETING?

LINDA S-5 TONIGHT

LON- HOW MANY MEMBERS

LINDA S.-23 PRESENT TONIGHT AND TOTAL 67 WITH SOME DOUBLING IN A HOUSEHOLD

LON- SHARON JOHN RESIGNED AND LEFT AREA COMPLETELY LEAVING AN OPENING FOR SECRETARY, ASST. CURATOR, AND HISTORIAN. JANET HAYLES AGREED TO PROTEMP AS SECRETARY UNTIL A REPLACEMENT IS FOUND AND AL WILL CHOOSE AN ASST. CURATOR BUT WE STILL NEED TO FIND A HISTORIAN

LINDA S.- NOMINATES RAY BEHR FOR SECRETARY

LON- THIS NEEDS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD FIRST

LINDA S- NOT ACCORDING TO BY LAWS -NEEDS TO BE CONDUCTED AT NEXT REGULAR MEETING

LON- THEN WE NEED TO HAVE A WRITTEN ELECTION -JANET HAYLES OR RAY BEHR FOR SECRETARY

LINDA S. WE CAN DO THAT

ARLON -EXPRESSES CONCERNS REGARDING HOW AND WHY RAY LEFT PREVIOUSLY

LON- CONDUCTS WRITTEN ELECTION

"I'd rather be a failure at something I enjoy
than be a success at something I hate."

George Burns

LON- REQUIREMENTS TO BE A MEMBER, BESIDES DUES?.

LINDA B. TIME, TIME, TIME

LON- HOSTING, VOLUNTEERING AT MUSEUM-CHECK LIST HAS BEEN MADE TO HELP AT MUSEUM.

HOSTING IS A LOT OF FUN AND VERY REWARDING.

LINDA S.- FOR EVERY 4 HRS YOU WORK YOU GET A CHANCE TO WIN WILLIAM HOLLIS SCHOOL OF LAPIDARY

LON- AL PRIBBLE (2ND NAME DRAWN- 1ST DIDN'T ACCETP) WON LAST DRAWING. AND WE WILL START DRAWING IN DECEMBER TO GET BETTER SCHOO DATES SELECTION

ELENA- RUNS GIFT SHOP WANTED TO SAY SOMETHING

ELENA- SPOKE ABOUT CHANGES IN MUSEUM, 2 OF JOE MUESTERS BOOKS FROM AL WERE DONATED AND WILL BE DISPLAYED IN ROOMS WITH A SIGN THAT THE BOOK IS AVAILABLE IN THE GIFT SHOP.

TRAIL DAYS THIS SATURDAY WE WILL HAVE A FEW THINGS DISPLAYED OUTSIDE THE MUSEUM TO CATCH SOME PEOPLES EYES AND BRING SOME ATTENTION TO THE MUSEUM.

I SPOKE TO ANIMAE ROSAMONDA A RECENTLY RE-ENROLLED MEMBER WHO WILL BE HERE THIS SPRING ALONG WITH DORIS WILL BE HELPING ME WITH THE DISPLAYS TO MAKE EVERYTHING NEW AND FRESH- A BOOST FOR THE GIFT SHOP

TRAVELADVISOR.COM AND ALSO THE BLOG FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MUSEUM AND SOME MUCH NEEDED PRI

OH RECYCLE! PLEASE REMEMBER

LON- AL COME TELL US MORE

AL- HALF OF CARPETING DONE, IN MEETING ROOM ON WEDNESDAY AND LOOKS GOOD. ALMOST EVERYTHING OUT OF LIBRARY SO IT CAN GET CARPETED.

DIANE TOLD ME WE GOT THE BOX OF WINDMILLS THAT WE WILL PLACE ALONG THE FENCE IN SUPPORT OF CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH SUPPORT AND TO BRING ATTENTION TO KIDS PLACE

NOTICED ON SATURDAYS THERES SO MANY LOCALS THAT ARENT FAMILIAR WITH US OR EVEN WHAT WE HAVE IN THE MUSEUM WE NEED TO GET THE WORD OUT

ID LIKE TO MEET WITH THE HOST AND HAVE A CLASS ON APRIL 18 SO ELENA AND I CAN REVIEW ALL THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE FROM OPENING UP TO CLOSING.

UNANSWERED PRAYER

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why.

"Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages. "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon.."

"How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked

Via Internet



- LON- RAY BEHR ELECTED BY A VOTE OF 17-7 RAY WILL START AT NEXT BOARD MEETING TO TAKE MINUTES. CALLED RAY ON PHONE TO SHARE NEWS.
- LON- MAGAZINE AVAILABLE AT MUSEUM
- LON- AKS FRED PLESNER TO COME UP AND TALK
- FRED- TRAIL DAYS SATURDAY, MUSEUM NEEDS TO OPEN AT 10:00 WITH OTHER ONGOING ACTIVITIES
- STREETFEST-RAY LARKEN COME UP AND TELL US ABOUT VENTURE LOCAL MEETING
- RAY- MEETING WEEK AND HALF AGO, CASH MOB AT ROOM FULL OF NUTS AND NEXT AT APRIL 19 OUTDOOR 76-CASH MOB THERE. CULLASAJA RIVER CLEANUP APRIL13.
- TOP CHEF IN AMERICA LIVES IN FRANKLIN JUSTIN BURDETT-NEED TO VOTE AT FOODANDWINEMAGAZINE.COM TO MAKE HIM #1 HIS REST IS IN HIGHLANDS- RUCOOS TABLE.
- WE NEED 4 BANDS FOR STREETFEST IF ANYONE KNOWS ANYONE.
- FRED- EXPOPRESS – LAYOUT OF GEM SHOW AND DEALERS LIST-REFERRED TO CHAMBER. PLUS THEY WISH TO PRINT THREE OF MY STORIES-IF ANYONE ELSE IS INTERESTED IN WRITING AT .20 PER WORK RAY WILL BE GLAD TO GIVE EMAIL ADDRESS
- HERITAGE DAY IS JULY 20-WEEK BEFORE OUR GYMBOREE-BUSY MONTH
- I ALSO WROTE A STORY AT REQUEST OF OUR EDITOR FOR A MAGAZINE HERE-NOT SURE OF NAME, THOUGHT I HAD A COPY HERE
- RADIO PROGRAM- WAS SUPPOSE TO HAPPEN IN MARCH BUT GOT POSTPONED TO APRIL- BETTER FOR US BEFORE OUR OPENING! FRED, LON AND ELENA WILL RECORD RADIO PIECE ON APRIL 17 TO AIR APRIL 20.
- WE HAVE ANOTHER GUN SHOW COMING UP ON APRIL 20-HOPEFULLY WE WILL HEAR FROM THAT SOON TO GET MORE DETAILS
- LON- BRINGS UP DIANE
- DIANE- DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULED AT LIBRARY, GETTING READY TO CHANGE DISPLAY WITH SOME GEODES, STILL NEED GEMS FOUND IN NC FOR ADDITIONAL DISPLAY
- LINDA S. -PROGRAM TONIGHT ON ROCKS AND MINERALS. NEXT MONTHS PROGRAM WILL BE ON SURVIVAL WILDERNESS SKILLS.-TAKEN CARE OF BY TOM SKERRITT
- LON- LINDA B. ANYTHING ELSE
- LINDA B.- NEW MEMBER FEES ARE \$15 AFTER ATTENDING 2 MEETINGS.

Q: What is the most common remark made by 60+ year olds when they enter antique stores?

A: 'I remember these!'



LON- REQUIREMENTS TO BE A MEMBER, BESIDES DUES?.

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A farmer was milking his cow. He was just starting to get a good rhythm going when a bug flew into the barn and started circling his head. Suddenly, the bug flew into the cow's ear. The farmer didn't think much about it, until the bug squirted out into his bucket. It went in one ear and out the udder.

Source: <http://www.ncfbmagazine.org/2010/01/on-the-lighter-side-januaryfebruary-2010/print/>

CAN I GET 3 OR 4 PEOPLE TO HELP FROM MAY 1 TO OCT 31 SO IF WE CAN GET SOME HELP SCHEDULING HOSTING AND VOLUNTEERING I WOULD APPRECIATE IT.

MEETING ROOM GOT PAINTED, THANK YOU JON HAYES. MAY NEED SOME TOUCH UP. I ALSO HAVE A SCHEDULE FOR APRIL WE NEED 6 PEOPLE ON SATURDAYS FROM 12-4:00 THIS SAT THE MAR 30 WE NEED TO OPEN AT 10:00 FOR TRAIL DAYS, SANDY LOLLY WILL BE THERE BUT WE WOULD LIKE SOME ADDITIONAL HELP IF POSSIBLE

LON- WE COULD USE ANOTHER VOLUNTEER/TRAINING CLASS IN MAY ALSO IF WE COULD DO THAT MR JON HAYES COULD YOU COME UP

JOHN- INFO ON WORKSHOP- AL PRIBBLE IS IN CHARGE BUT I DO HELP. MARSHA- PLEASE COME UP

-WHO HAS COMPLETED HER FIRST WORKSHOP IN THE BEGINNERS CAB CLASS-PLEASE COME LOOK AT HER WORK DURING THE COFFEE BREAK. WE NEED TO PRESENT MARSHA WITH A CERTIFICATE AND WE NEED TO GET YOUR PICTURE

WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A CRAFT NIGHT THURSDAY, APRIL 11 AT 630 -PENDANT PROTOTYPE ON BACK TABLE AND THEN ON MAY 2 WELL HAVE SECOND CRAFT NIGHT TO PUT IT ALL TOGETHER AT A PRICE OF \$15.00 WHICH GOES TO BUY MATERIALS AND \$4.00 GOES TO MUSEUM FOR USE OF THE MUSEUM. PLEASE BRING A PICTURE (IT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU) YOU WOULD LIKE TO PUT IN PENDANT

DON'T PLAN ON USING ANY MACHINES TILL AFTER APRIL 11 DUE TO WORK BEING DONE AT THE MUSEUM

LON- JACK ANYTHING? ARLOM ANYTHING?

TONIGHTS FILM ROCKS AND MINERALS, 1ST WELL DO THE RAFFLE

UNKNOWN-ON THE WEATHER CHANNEL, TUESDAYS- THE PROSPECTORS. AT 9:00 PM

ARLOM DONATED RAFFLE PRIZE-COME TELL US ARLOM

ARLOM-AQUAMARINE EARRINGS CUT FAT TO SAVE THE COLOR GUYIN TUSON DONATED STONES AND I DONATED MOUNTS

LON- PRICE-GIFT SHOP MANAGER, AND I WILL HAVE TICKETS AVAILABLE SATURDAY

ELENA- \$1.00 A PIECE OR 6 FOR \$5.00 AVAILABLE IN GIFT SHOP

AND AT GUN SHOWS, ETC. AT MEETINGS, ETC

LON- DRAW DOOR PRIZE AT LAST REGULAR MEETING IN OCTOBER INSTEAD OF AT MUSEUM.

LETS DO TONIGHTS DOOR PRIZES

Quotes:

"The fragrance always stays in the hand that gives the rose."
-- Anonymous

"He who would govern others, first should be master of himself."
-- Philip Massinger

Quirky Museum - World-Class Treasures"

By Fred Plesner

There are those who would say that Franklin, North Carolina was an unlikely place to find a world class museum but the people of Franklin don't think so. The town of Franklin and Macon County have long billed themselves as the "Gem Capital" of the world. This is not because they have more gems but because they have more variety than any other similar location in the world.

The Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum has been called a quirky museum. As museums go, it probably is, since it started out as the Macon County Jail. It has all the charm and character that go with its humble origins. Its exterior is utilitarian and unattractive; its walls are thirty inches thick with every door and window protected by iron bars including the building annex where the jailer and his/her family lived. The building was last used as a jail in 1972. Besides the men, it once had a woman jailer. All of this makes it a very secure place to house some of "Mother Nature's" most beautiful treasures.

Most of the interior doors have been removed but the "jail" atmosphere lingers, particularly upstairs where the old holding cell known as "The Slammer" is retained intact. That unsettled feeling creeps back as one approaches the restrooms because they are also surrounded by iron bars.

The museum collection, though housed in the usual display cabinets, is a very comprehensive and well laid out collection that fills eight rooms and includes specimens from all 50 states and all seven continents, including Antarctica. Starting with the States Room there are specimens from every state, the Indian Artifacts Room with an outstanding collection of Native American Bowls, the North Carolina Room with an extensive state collection including a Macon County display which includes a two and a half pound (1 kg.) Ruby. The Fossil Room collection ranges from fossilized sponges and pine cones to a dinosaur (raptor) egg and the World Room and International Hall cover gems and minerals from all seven continents and outer space (meteorites).

Located in "The Slammer" is the museum's collection of glass and the materials to make it. Included in the display are items used in both the nuclear and space industries. And last but not least, the Museum's Fluorescent Room, containing dozens of mineral specimens which glow and fluoresce under ultraviolet lighting, has been described as "world class." The word most often used by children to describe the experience is "COOL."

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc., a founding member of the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., opened the museum on May 25, 1974. The Society volunteers operate and maintain the Museum as a public service. There is no paid staff and the Society operates the Museum as means of interesting the public into their hobby and interests. The Society considers the mission of the Museum and the Society to be education. The Society has twice been honored as a recipient of the prestigious Governors Award for volunteerism for its outstanding public service.

An outstanding example of the Society is exemplified in Della Samuel, who has been honored by the Society with a Life Membership. Della who is now in her ninety's is still active as a volunteer at the Museum, demonstrating both faceting and cabochon cutting at public events at which the Society participates and as a teacher of lapidary arts at William Holland School of Lapidary Arts. Two years ago while demonstrating at an event she was asked by a television commentator why she did it. Her response was that she felt an obligation to pass on to future generations what she knew of her craft.

The Museum is open to the public six days a week from May through October. Monday - Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.; November through March, it is open Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. and is closed on the 4th of July. The Museum is open by appointment for group tours at other hours by arrangement with the Society's Education Chairman. The Museum is located at 25 Phillips Street in downtown Franklin behind Rankin Square. Call 828-369-7831 for more information or you may visit the Museum's website at www.fgmm.org.

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, N.C. was established in 1972 and meets at the Macon County Community Building, U.S. 441 South. Meetings are usually held on the last Thursday of the month. The Society operates under a board of directors, it is a 501c3 charitable nonprofit, volunteer organization which sponsors educational scholarships for persons interested in the study of geology, earth sciences, lapidary arts and related fields of study.

The Society co-sponsors with the Franklin Chamber of Commerce the Macon County Gemboree in late July as well as the Fall Leaflookers Gemboree in late October. At these events, as well as at area schools, libraries, at the Museum itself and at other public venues the Society leads various lapidary arts demonstrations such as stone faceting, cabochon cutting, wire wrapping, beading and other forms of jewelry making. They also give tips on gem and mineral identification. Cont'd

Quirky Museum - World-Class Treasures"

Cont'd

Anyone interested in becoming a member must be of good character, willing to further the Society's goals, complete a membership application and attend 2 meetings and pay an annual membership fee. It is all pretty simple. You are given an application form at your first meeting, if you bring it back, well that's your second meeting. Membership introduces you to a new group of friends, entitles you to attend various field trips and to take lessons in various lapidary arts at the Museum.

Fred Plesner

828 - 349 - 4224



Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips
The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc
The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee Copyright © All rights reserved.

An Official Field Trip of The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc. (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

9:00 AM EDT to 2:00 PM

Saturday, May 25, 2013

Boxley Aggregates, Piney River Quarry (Amherst County)

739 Warrick Barn Road, Arrington, VA.

The main rock mined here is called APLITE. It is very hard, light-colored, and fine-grained and consists primarily of sodic plagioclase feldspar and quartz in the groundmass and, in some cases, orthoclase feldspar phenocrysts. Like pegmatites, aplite dikes may represent a residual fraction on silica-rich magma after most of the magma has crystallized. CONTACT: David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman. The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc. Web site www.LynchburgRockClub.org Home Phone 540-297-1853 Cell 540-874-5201 (the day of the trip please) Email dbc11@aol.com
(Condensed for publication.)



New member Sande Lolli.



Marsha Harmon received her cabochon class completion certificate from her instructor, John Hayes.

*SPECIAL DONATION
REQUEST –*

If anyone has extra silverware at home that you don't know what to do with (spoons and forks especially) please bring them to the next meeting.

I would like to begin using real utensils for refreshments – this will save the club in the long run because plastic utensils will not be needed as often.

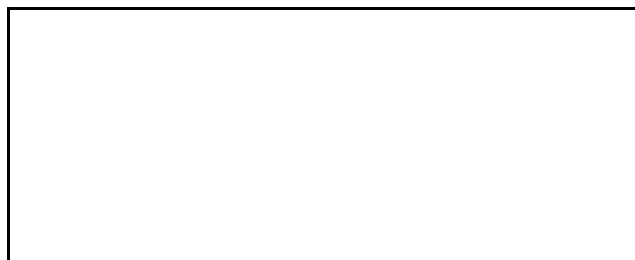
Any donations are appreciated! Any questions, please call Elena at 369-8915. Thanks!

THE MOUNTAIN GEM

Linda Behr, Editor
25 Phillips Street
Franklin, NC 28734
Editor's Email:
themountaingem@fastmail.fm



First Class Mail



Board and General Meetings for 2013

MONTH	BOARD	GENERAL
JANUARY	29	31
FEBRUARY	26	28
MARCH	26	28
APRIL	23	25
MAY	28	30
JUNE	25	27
JULY	16	18
AUGUST	27	29
SEPTEMBER	24	26
OCTOBER	15	17
NOVEMBER	19	21
DECEMBER	1 pm-5 pm Saturday	14 End of Year Party

General Meetings: 6:30 p.m. the last Thursday of the month West Large Meeting Room of the Macon County Community Facilities Building
HWY 441 S

Meeting changes will be posted in the monthly newsletter.

Board Meetings: 6:30 p.m.
At the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum

All Board Meetings are open to the members.

If you want to submit something before the Board, contact the President prior to meeting.