

***THE MOUNTAIN GEM***  
**Volume MMXIV AUGUST 2014**  
**Number 8**  
**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 webpage. 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.



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**

Visit our website at  
[www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)

Society email:  
[franklingemsociety@gmail.com](mailto:franklingemsociety@gmail.com)

## 2013-2014 Officers And

### Board Of Directors

|                     |                |          |
|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| President           | Arlon Eldridge | 369-5271 |
| Past President      | Lon Peden      | 371-8450 |
| Vice President      | Ray Behr       | 349-0827 |
| Secretary           | Susan Fritz    | 524-4936 |
| Treasurer           | Marie Tsacrios | 369-5791 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Norm Holbert   | 634-0350 |
| Director (2014)     | Diane Aiello   | 371-2436 |
| Director (2014)     | Linda Smith    | 342-8288 |
| Director (2015)     | Tommy Marsh    | 369-8915 |
| Director (2015)     | Marty Martinez | 332-8453 |

### 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       | 421-0518 |
| Gift Shop.           | Elena Marsh       | 369-8915 |
| Ass't. Gift Shop     | Anamay Rossomando |          |
| Museum Workshop      | Al Pribble        | 369-2548 |
| Ass't. Workshop Mgr. | John Hayes        | 524-8062 |
| Calendar Chairman    | Laura Anderson    | 371-4816 |

### Committee Chairmen

|                  |                    |          |
|------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Budget & Finance | Marie Tsacrios     | 369-5791 |
|                  | Norm Holbert       | 634-0350 |
| 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        | 421-0518 |
| Librarian        | Dean Plesner       | 349-4224 |
| Membership       | Claudette Rollins  | 349-4834 |
| Publications     | Linda Behr         | 349-0827 |
| Publicity        | Fred Plesner       | 349-4224 |
| Programs         | Marty Martinez     | 332-8453 |
| Refreshments     | Dean Plesner       | 349-4224 |
| Scholarships     | Christine Hubinger | 349-7360 |



### American Federation Bulletin Awards

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



### Southeast Federation Bulletin Awards

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

American Federation (AFMS): [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)  
Southeast Federation (SFMS): [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms)  
Franklin Gem Museum and Society:  
[www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)

**General Meeting**

Date: August 28  
 Time: 6:30 p.m.  
 Day: Thursday  
 Where: Community Center  
 on 441 South

**Program:**

**Our guest speaker will be**

**Kim Cochran**; his talk will be on **GOLD**.

As in past years, his talks have always been great, so you won't want to miss it.

**Election for 2015 officers.**

2015  
 Membership renewals are  
 due in September.  
 Please pay  
 Claudette Rollins,  
 membership chairlady.  
 Either mail to the museum  
 "attention membership" or  
 pay at a meeting.

Mississippi Gulf Coast  
 Gem and Mineral Society  
 will host the SFMS meeting  
 in Pascagoula, Miss.  
 November 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>,  
 2014. More information on  
 lodging, banquet menu and  
 their annual show to follow in the Lodestar.

**Arlon Eldridge, President**

From the president

As always I would like to say thanks to all our members that worked many hours in the museum and at the gem show during the July rush. Also a special thanks to Jack Jungles and Fred Plesner for the many hours at the gem show.

It is time again for our election of officers which will be held at our next regular meeting on August 28, so come on out and vote for the person of your choice.

Also we will have signup sheets at our next board and regular meeting for any one that can bring food and sweets for our Installation Banquet which will be held on September 25. Meats and drinks will be provided by club. Commissioner Ronnie Beal will be present to install the officers.

Hope to see everyone at the meetings.  
 Thanks.

**September Birthdays**

2 – Elena Marsh  
 2 – Paul V. Thomas  
 9 – Marie Tsacrios  
 15 – Claudette Rollins  
 16 – James Granato  
 26 – Frances Martinelli  
 29 – Norm Holbert  
 30 – Denis Bernard

**September Anniversaries**

3 -- John & Mary Greist  
 12 -- Jack & Brenda Jungles  
 19 -- Robbie & Janet Hayles  
 20 – Edward & Sandra Magness  
 26 – Bill & Marina Fisher

**Minutes – July 17, 2014 – General Meeting  
The Gem & Mineral Society Of Franklin, Inc.**

The meeting was called to order by President, Arlon Eldridge, on Thursday, July 17, 2014, at 6:35 p.m. in the Community Center building meeting room.

Minutes - Arlon Eldridge asked for any corrections or additions to the June minutes and there were none.

Membership – Claudette Rollins reported tonight we have 49 members and 5 guests present.

Nominations: Arlon Eldridge asked for nominations from the floor. For the Board of Directors, he explained that three positions are two-year terms and one position is a one-year term (when Tom Marsh resigns from the Board when elected as Museum Manager).

President – none

Vice President – none

Secretary – none

Treasurer – none

Assistant Treasurer – none

Board of Directors – Marty Martinez nominated Lon Peden

Linda Smith nominated Linda Behr to replace Tom Marsh

**New Elected Position** Museum Manager – Lon Peden nominated Tom Marsh

Ray Behr made a motion to close the nominations and Marie Tsacrios seconded the motion.

Vice President – Ray Behr mentioned the Folk Festival and that the museum will be open late on Saturday and more volunteers are needed. He also mentioned that we need hosts to mingle and be available to assist or relieve vendors during the Gemboree. During the Gemboree, should a host notice someone stealing they are to immediately notify Fred Plesner or Jack Jungles.

Treasurer's Report – Marie Tsacrios reported a deficit due to a year's insurance payment. She reported \$936.90 in gift shop sales.

Museum Manager – Al Pribble reiterated the security procedure at the museum and reminded everyone to listen for the alarm and to have both of the hosts check the front door to make certain it is locked. He asked hosts to greet everyone, ask if they would like a little history, tell them about each room, and to be certain that the cash register remains manned at all times. He reminded us not to get attached to one person or a couple. The museum is getting so busy with visitors that three hosts per day may be required due to our increased volume.

Al Pribble reported that we are working on the air conditioning unit. He said the a/c works upstairs and in the back part of the building. In the meanwhile, he stated there are fans available; two oscillating fans and a box fan.

Arlon Eldridge said that he spoke to Ronnie Beale and has asked him to further educate Bob Scott, Mayor, about our museum. He said both the Mayor and the Sheriff will be at our Installation Banquet and that the other commissioners have been invited to attend.

Arlon Eldridge also mentioned that he has spoken to Commissioner Beale about getting signs for the highway indicating our museum and this is in the works. He stated that approximately 100 county commissioners from across the state will be meeting in Asheville in August and they maybe interested in touring our museum.

Publicity – Fred Plesner mentioned the Folk Festival Saturday during which time the museum will be open and requested extra hosts to help out. He read a great article that was in the Dalton, Georgia newspaper wherein the writer had visited our museum. He mentioned that Brad Hicks, publisher of the E-Z Guide, will be in town soon. Next Thursday Fred will be doing another radio broadcast to be aired the Saturday of the Gemboree weekend. While in Florida, Fred brought back some limestone for the museum.

**Cont'd to page 6**

The following members  
are running for office

President - Al Pribble  
Vice President - Tom Sterrett  
Secretary - Susan Fritz  
Treasurer - Marie Tsacrios  
Assist. Tres - Norm Holbert  
Board of Directors 2015-2017  
Claudette Rollins  
Ray Behr  
Lon Peden  
Museum Manager - Tom Marsh







July ice cream party

**General Meeting Minutes cont'd from page 4**

**Gift Shop** – Elena Marsh thanked each member who hosted last month. She said it was great to see all our members back from Florida. She acknowledged those who signed up right away to host during the summer. She requested hosts write down the name of any book sold on the receipt page so she knows what to reorder. She reported that Dean Plesner and Christine Hubinger sorted through all the old magazines and these are on the back table tonight available to anyone for a small donation. Elena mentioned that she would be willing to train or re-train anyone wanting to host (please contact her to set this up). She acknowledged Anamay Rossomando who works so hard for the gift shop behind the scenes.

**Education** – Diane Aiello reported we have four tours coming up very soon. She said it is very satisfying to see the young children enjoying the tours. She encouraged members to volunteer as hosts during a tour.

**Other Business** – John Hayes reported that three members have finished their jade work. He said he will set up a gem tray at the museum.

Arlon Eldridge introduced two founding members who are with us this evening – Mr. and Mrs. John Crawford. He mentioned that John Crawford was an airplane pilot trainer during the War.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m., after which Jarrett Morgan drew the tickets for door prizes and everyone enjoyed an ice cream social.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan L. Fritz, Secretary*

**She just slipped away twice.**

By Fred Plesner for The Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum

Macon County Sheriff C. L. Ingram and his deputies Rufe Coffey, Frank Norton and Derald Ashe had laid a net for bootleggers who were reported to be using the Highlands – Dillard, Georgia Road on Friday, April 4, 1930. The officers did not find the whiskey runners they were looking for but they did stop a trio of bootleggers composed of Dude Guffey, Theodore Waldrop and Mrs. Zeb Capps. While officers were arresting Guffey and Waldrop, Mrs. Capps made a run for it into the adjacent woods above the road. Deputy Coffey followed her and managed to catch her after she made her way back to the road at another point.

All three of the prisoners were from Sylva and were taken to the Macon County Jail and charged with the possession of 10 gallons of non-tax paid whiskey. A large truck which the trio was using to transport the contraband whiskey was also taken into custody. Mrs. Capps' husband was already lodged in the jail, having been charged with stealing hogs.

Later in the night while the jailor, Bill Edwards was unlocking the trap door that leads into Macon county's antique jail Mrs. Capps tip toed down the steps while the jailors back was turned and exited by way of the back door (Now in the old boiler room behind the fluorescence room) to make her escape. Mrs. Capps was not recaptured after making her last escape.

Attributes: The Franklin Press – April 19, 1930



New member  
Lake Holland

New Member  
Theresa  
Holland

**John Speer has donated a large amount of specimens to the Museum.  
More information to follow.**



**Gift Shop**

From Elena Marsh

There seems to be an extreme amount of visitors to the museum and gift shop for the month of July! Tourists are in town and are enjoying their time here. Many more Franklin residents are coming to the museum too. Some days we have been visited by over 70 people and this is in the middle of the week! Weekends are even busier.

Thank you to all hosts who continue to donate their time and efforts to keep the museum open six days a week. The museum staff has been hearing wonderful comments about the friendliness of our members while hosting.

Special THANK YOU to Linda Behr and Diane Aiello who have recently donated jewelry items to sell in the shop. If you see new displays stands on our shelves with jewelry items on them, many of those have been donated by Dean Plesner! Anamay and I were anticipating buying some of these same stands at the gem show – and appreciate the timing of Dean's offer to donate those to be used in the gift shop. What wonderful and generous folks we have in our club!

If any new members wish to be trained as hosts, please contact either Al Pribble or me to set up a time at your convenience to review the procedures. When you are first learning to be a host, we will pair you with other hosts who will help you through the process of opening, closing, talking to the visitors, using the register, filling out the daily sales receipt and just feeling comfortable in the museum.

**Please remember to list the name of any book(s) sold on the sales report for each day. This helps keep an inventory of what books are selling and which ones may need to be reordered.**

Although hosts may be tempted to change displays or arrangements on the shelves or cases, it would be greatly appreciated if this be completed only by either Anamay or me. We have lists of what items we have and what sell but if things are changed or rearranged by others, we may not realize something needs to be restocked or reordered. We visit the museum/gift shop several times a week and will make sure the shelves and displays are full. Please leave us a note in the Gift Shop Mgr's mailbox if you have any concerns.

Shopping at the gem show has been an exciting and a learning adventure for Anamay and me. Making selections of items to display and sell each season is fun and exhausting. Please make sure you stop by the museum and gift shop soon to see the new jewelry and gem specimens already on display - you may need to buy something for that special person (that just may be you!) –and remember Christmas is really 'just around the corner.' A correction to the 10% discount for members making purchases in the gift shop – a \$10 minimum is required. This information had been posted in the gift shop but I was unaware of the note. I apologize for the incorrect information given in the past and I hope that does not stop members from buying.

See you in the museum soon! Elena

***August 29-September 1, 2014, Hendersonville, NC***

The Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society presents: Gemstones of North Carolina

Times Fri -Sat- Sun 10:00am - 600pm

Mon 10:00am - 5:00pm

Location: Lily Pond Rd.

Hendersonville, NC

The Gem and Mineral Spectacular will take place in conjunction with the annual Apple Festival over Labor Day weekend. We will have vendors, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes, and refreshments.

Admission is \$4.00; children under 12 are free.

Show chairman is Landen Gailey (404)277-9000

**Thank You**

Gemboree dealer, Amjad Chohan and his family have given the museum five specimens from Pakistan. Listed are the individual family member and what each wanted to donate.

Amjad Chohan - tourmaline from the Chu Pu Mine, Skardu District, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan. (His donation is the ONLY specimen from that particular mine).

Mehak Gul Chohan - black tourmaline - Skardu District.....etc., as above

Farah Naz Chohan - beryllonite - Skardu District.....etc.

Muhammad Bilal Chohan - red mica quartz - Skardu District.....etc.

Nayab Amjad Chohan - epidote - Skardu District.....etc.



Thanks to Ron Rossomando for some of these pictures.



2014 Heritage Day at the Museum



Visitor choosing rock for youngest "rockhound"





**Thoughts from Rex**

By Rex Larkin

I don't have a program report to make this newsletter issue, so I thought I could recount some things that happened while I was museum-sitting on Heritage Day. Though the weather did not cooperate until noon, the streets were filled with tourists and locals, and had a steady flow of people through the museum. In fact, we filled a whole sales sheet with purchases, so we certainly viewed the day as a success.

Many of us try to get many of you to sit at the museum, at least for four hours a month during the season, and there are reasons for this, but I have to say the main one is your allegiance to our wonderful Society.

Another reason for sitting, volunteer as a member, is the amazing array of people that you will meet. People, of course, from the States—but a surprising amount come from all around the world. I can only credit our website for this.

Two instances happened on Heritage Day that makes me proud to give back: a middle-aged man and his wife, recently having moved to Franklin, came into the museum, and we began talking. Turns out, he has done much exploring of fluorite, and found many Indian artifacts and different fossils as well as giant shark's teeth, giant sloth claws and several other types. He is very interested in our collection of Indian artifacts, and our fossil's room upstairs. He also expressed interest in joining, so I gave him our membership brochure. But the kicker was that he wanted to later donate some of his collection to us!

In my experience, I have had many people come in to have us help to identify rocks either found locally, or other locations—usually there is someone at the museum that can oblige. But (and this happened twice in one day), I have had people show up with literally boxes full of things that they want to donate. Some dealers, seeing our collection and vendors also, have contributed to our museum. You get excited just being at the museum when this happens! (Note from editor: all donations go through procedures. Refer to blue notebook in Gift Shop.)

Another memorable incident happened when the grandson of a man named Bennie B. Haire came in and told us about his grandfather.

After returning home from World War II, where he was wounded, Bennie visited our jail, and not just overnight. He was caught moonshining, and he also had been "inside" for various episodes of his wild and woolly youth. One time, the deputy was talking to him through the bars, when Bennie braced himself, and kicked the deputy through the bars. The shocked deputy asked him if he would like to be sent up to the federal prison and Bennie said that it would be just fine but to make sure his wife received his disability check. He was also hoping for three square meals a day!

Long story short—Bennie later became a Baptist minister! So, give some time to help out at the museum—you can be shy and ignorant like me, and still do a good job.



**2014 Gemboree  
Hosts &  
Demonstrators**



**DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee**

An Official Field Trip of the Cobb County Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. (Marietta, GA) (HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Inc.



9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Saturday, September 20, 2014 Sandersville, Georgia

Participation limited to 37 due to parking, you must register for this trip!

Collect: Fossils: sand dollars, skate teeth, shark teeth, vertebrate bone (such as Manatee), and a host of marine invertebrates (clam, oysters, snails). You will also find chert at this location. There will be about a 1/4 mile hike and a bit of a scramble down to the creek where we will be collecting, from the parking area.

Geology: The fossils are in the Sandersville Limestone and upper Eocene (Jacksonian) marine unit which is about 28 to 26 million years old. The base of the Sandersville Limestone is the Twiggs Clay where the Georgia Teckites (Georgiites) have been determined to be coming from.

Tools: Two screens: as 1/4 inch hardware cloth to pick through the coarser sand on the top screen with window screen on the bottom for the finer sand, but you can use a colander. Some of the shark teeth are an inch long and others are less than 1/4 in long. Shark and skate teeth will be found by sieving the sand and gravel in the stream. You will want a small or larger shovel to dig the gravel out of the stream to scoop into your colander or screens. You will want a chisel and hammer to get the sand dollars out of the rock. One of our participants brought a regular shovel to dig into the stream bed and found some large manatee bones as well as shark teeth. You will also want to bring something to carry your finds in. Bags and small containers are great for shark and skate teeth. You may want to bring paper to wrap sand dollars to put in your bucket, but they are very solid. You will need waterproof boots to wade in the stream, and an extra set of clothing in case you get wet.

Long waterproof gloves are nice to have. Please bring fluids, and a snack or your lunch. We will provide hand wipes so you can clean your hands before you eat.

Children: 12 and over with adult supervision are welcome. No dogs will be allowed.

Directions: The trip is to Sandersville, GA which is in east central Georgia. Sandersville is east of Macon and Milledgeville in the kaolin belt of Georgia. We will email directions and the meeting place to the first 37 participants who register for the trip by emailing [ccgms.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:ccgms.fieldtrips@gmail.com).

Special: We are pleased that our favorite Paleontologist and CCGMS Field Trip Team Leader, Dr. John Anderson will coming back to GA to lead this trip for our club. He now serves as the Dean of the School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics at Virginia Western Community College in Roanoke, VA. John is wonderful at answering questions and helping trip participants, making field trips a very special experience for fossil buffs. We will also have two of our geologists available to help with questions and collecting techniques.

Contact: CCGMS Field Trip Team Coordinator, Toby Stewart at [ccgms.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:ccgms.fieldtrips@gmail.com) to secure your spot on this trip. The meeting place and contact number will be emailed to confirmed participants.\*



Pictured above is **Laura Anderson**,  
our museum calendar chairlady.  
Her telephone number is on inside  
of newsletter.



**Claudette Rollins** is our membership chairlady.  
Her telephone number is on the inside  
of the newsletter.

**The Rock Hound Quiz***A Priority Check from Dot Hussey*

1. When you've been so busy going on field trips that your house is dirty, you: a) clean house; b) put the vacuum in reverse and blow out the dirt; c) learn to live with it. It will only come back if removed.
  2. When you are soaking rocks in the bathtub, kitchen sink or the lavatory and you need a bath, you: a) remove the rocks from tub; b) bathe in the creek; c) stay dirty. In a short time you will be digging rocks and getting dirty again.
  3. You are given the choice of being a guest for a weekend at the White House or going on a rock hunt, you: a) take the first plane to Washington; b) ask the president to come to your house between rock hunts; c) get out your shovel and hammer. There are places in the hills you haven't explored yet.
  4. When your back aches so badly you can barely move, you: a) visit an orthopedist; b) stay in bed; c) go rock hunting. There's no telling what goodies you will find.
  5. When you have rocks on every surface of your furniture, tables, beds and chairs and in all the cabinets, drawers and shelves, in the basement, attic, garage and the floors are covered except for small paths to the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom, you: a) have a sale or give away a lot; b) dump some on the driveway (you can still see and enjoy them); c) build an annex and two more garages.
  6. When you have been awarded a 30-day, all expense trip around the world plus \$50,000 spending money and the plane leaves the same day as a rock hunt is scheduled, you: a) ask if the date can be changed to winter when there are no field trips; b) when you find the date can't be changed, you catch the plane; c) go rock hunting.
  7. When you have won free housecleaning daily services for five years, you: a) grab it, sit back and relax; b) let them clean a room which has no rocks in it. They might suck up a priceless gem in the vacuum; c) turn it down. If they take all the dust off the tables etc., where would you write messages as to where you are rock hunting that day?
  8. When you have broken your best hammer and shovel and you have the choice of buying new ones or the week's groceries, you: a) buy the food; b) go on a strict diet for a week; c) move in and eat with your neighbors and buy the new tools.
  9. When you have a one-day choice of buying a new vehicle at a large discount or rock hounding in a site where you have never been which is usually closed, you: a) buy the new car; b) take a long hard look at your old clunker which shows signs of being on its last legs; c) you go on a rock hunt. After all, it hasn't failed you in forty years of rock field trips.
  10. When your kitchen floor is dirty, you: a) mop it; b) pretend it's a lawn and plant grass seed; c) go rock hunting.
  11. When the roof is leaking, you: a) repair it; b) pray for dry weather; c) go rock hunting.
  12. When your mother-in-law plans a visit, you: a) meet her at the airport and tell her you are delighted to see her; b) tell her it up to her to clean the rocks off the bed; c) leave town for a rock hunt.
  13. When the kitchen sink is full of rocks and all the dishes are dirty, you: a) put the rocks outside; b) buy a small tub for rock cleaning; c) use paper plates.
  14. When you are offered a \$50-million diamond necklace for ten dollars you: a) buy it and put it with your other gems under the bed; b) sell it and invest the money; c) use the ten dollars for gas to go rock hunting. It's more fun to find your own gems.
  15. When all your clothes are dirty, you: a) stay home and wash them; b) throw all of them away; c) rotate them, wearing the cleaner ones first. After all, they will just get dirty again on a rock hunt.
- When you have a broken arm and leg, you: a) go to the emergency room; b) drink herb tea and eat macrobiotic food; c) get a wheelchair. You still have a usable arm and leg left. Go rock hunting.

**SCORE:** All "a" and "b" answers score 0. All "c" answers score 5,000 points each. Add up your score. I'm too tired from rock hunting to work out a complicated formula such as that. If you scored less than 150,000, you need more indoctrination.

Source: *THE MOUNTAIN MINERAL MONTHLY* 5/2004; *THE GLACIAL DRIFTER* 8/2004

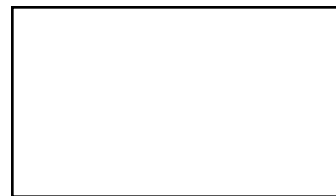


## THE MOUNTAIN GEM

Linda Behr, Editor  
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Franklin, NC 28734

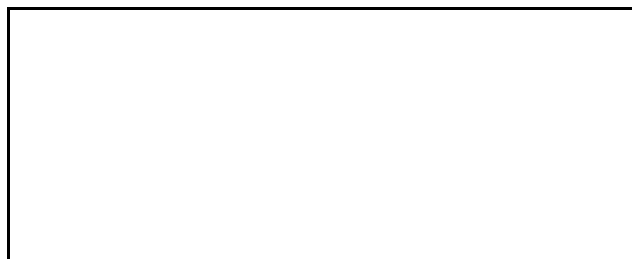


themountaingem@fastmail.fm



### Election night

**Kim Cochran, will be  
presenting his  
program on Gold**



| Month     | Board Meeting | General                          |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------------------|
|           |               |                                  |
|           |               |                                  |
|           |               |                                  |
|           |               |                                  |
|           |               |                                  |
|           |               |                                  |
|           |               |                                  |
| August    | 26            | 28                               |
| September | 23            | 25 Banquet                       |
| October   | 28            | 30                               |
| November  | 18            | 20                               |
| December  | 9             | 13 end of Year party<br>1—5 P.M. |

General Meetings: 6:30 p.m. the last Thursday of the month (note changes)

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.