

THE MOUNTAIN GEM
Volume MMXIV JANUARY 2014
Number 1
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.



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@gmail.com

Editor: themountaingem@fastmail.fm

**2013-2014 Officers And
Board Of Directors**

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Director (2015)	Marty Martinez	332-8453

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Curator Ass't	Sharon John	421-0518
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Museum Workshop	Al Pribble	369-2548
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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
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Publications	Linda Behr	349-0827
Publicity	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Programs	Marty Martinez	332-8453
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

General Meeting

Date: January 30, 2014

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Macon County Community Center on 441 South

Program: About 15 minute long movie with some samples from the mine to look at.

Journey through precious stone amethyst production sites in the Brazil State of Para. Tour around the underground mineral exploration in active mines in Brazil.

It has been brought to my attention that I have omitted club members' birthdays and anniversaries.



PLEASE!

Let me know if I have done this.
We like to recognize these special dates for our society members.
Contact your editor for errors.
themountaingem@fastmail.fm
Or 349-0827

Arlon Eldridge

Hello from the President,

I would like to start by saying thanks to all our board members and all of our committee chairmen for all their hard work and commitment to making the club a place people like to go and have fun.



Also I would like give a special thanks to Ray Behr for taking the controls while I was away in November.

As for our "end of the year" party the only thing I can say--you would of had to be there to see what a good time we had as the food was great and we had a lot of fun with the bingo. I would also like to thank a couple of more ladies for a well organized dinner (Laura Anderson and Elena Marsh). Thanks so much ladies and everyone else who went all out for this night. I am looking forward to many more good meetings this year.

Also I will have the budget ready at our next board meeting. Hope everyone had a very merry Christmas.

Visit our club's website.

It is wonderful!!!

www.fgmm.org

Minutes – November 21, 2013 – General Meeting**The Gem & Mineral Society Of Franklin, Inc.**

In the absence of president, Arlon Eldridge, the meeting was called to order by vice-president, Raymond Behr, at 6:42 p.m. in the Community Center meeting room.

Minutes – Ray asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the last meeting. There being none, Al Pribble moved and Jack Jungles seconded that the minutes be accepted as printed. The motion carried.

Museum Manager – Al Pribble stated as of November 1, the museum is open for the winter. He reported Tom and Elena Marsh had sold a geode and had a good first Saturday opening.

He said three alarms had gone off in the early morning hours at the museum this month. Unsure what is causing this but after consulting pest control, it could be a bat.

He said there are drill bits on the back table for purchase: ten for \$1; long ones \$1 each.

Al voiced his gratitude for being at William Holland school in October and says he may give a class in January on silver soldering.

Al reported a large donation from Diana Leipertz. We will either keep most items or auction them.

Education – Diane Aiello said we need more people to be trained to give demonstrations or give lectures. She asked for a list of those who are trained to do cabochon. She absolutely needs some backup. John Hayes or Al Pribble offered to train anyone who can assist. She said the children also love watching the slicing of geodes. Ray Behr reiterated that one of our main purposes is education.

Diane stated that she has an upcoming Kiwanis meeting where she will talk about the upcoming downtown Winter Wonderland and describe our museum, which will be good publicity.

Curator – Fred Plesner said there will be a general cleaning day of the museum in early spring.

Publicity – Fred Plesner told the group about his cancer and radiation treatments. Rex Larkin will be assisting with publicity during this time.

Winter Wonderland will be two Fridays in a row, December 6 and 13 from 5 to 8 p.m. and the museum will be open both nights. We need people to cover these times. There is a sign-up sheet available. We will be advertising that the museum will be open both Friday nights.

Fred stated he is still working with the Rickman store on mining history in Cowee Valley. He wants to set up an exhibit by our museum.

October Gemboree – Fred said this year's vendor attendance was down and so was the cash. Obviously, this was not a particularly good show.

Membership – Linda Behr reported 21 members in attendance tonight with three new members and two guests. New members will be receiving a card and name tag.

Publications – Linda reported there will not be a newsletter sent until close to Christmas as she will be on vacation. There will be another newsletter sent out in January prior to that January meeting.

Gift Shop – Elena has purchased rock jigsaw puzzles for the museum and brought samples with her so we could see them. These are American made. John Hayes stated he will provide a nice Petoskey stone: \$18 for a member – normal price would be \$20.00.

She attended a gift shop symposium in Pigeon Forge, which afforded the opportunity to network and allowed her to purchase a few nice things for the gift shop. She reported selling two cathedral geodes at the museum. She stated we have new 2-page donation forms that are in a folder by the cash register.

New Appointees – Ray Behr read the list of all appointees, recently voted on and approved by Board members.

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Minutes Cont'd

May 2014 Gemboree – Norm Holbert said that 30 contracts had been mailed out. He also asked members to donate items for a silent auction.

End of Year Party – Laura Anderson will be chairperson. There are two lists: food items to be brought and helpers for set-up and clean up. Linda Behr said Rock Bingo will be played and we all need to bring an item or items to be utilized for prizes.

Selling of Tables – Arlon Eldridge reported we will be selling our wooden tables. If a member wants to purchase one or more, they need to talk to Arlon or Jack Jungles. Money received will go towards the purchase of new tables.

William Holland Scholarship – This is based on hours volunteered. Ray said to be sure to log any hours as they do add up. Linda Smith says this also helps with grant applications in terms of how much activity there is in a club. Three tickets will be drawn for one week's schooling at William Holland. The Board decided that whoever wins has two weeks to accept or reject.

Ray Behr reported that Arlon Eldridge is on his way back from Brazil and that Lon Peden had called to say he could not be here tonight; he is sick with the flu.

There being no further business, motion for adjournment was made by Laura Anderson seconded by Al Pribble. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Refreshments were served followed by the evening's guest speaker, Fred Plesner. Fred gave a very informative talk about the Colorado School of Mines where he recently visited. He brought some samples of rocks to pass around the room. Door prizes were won by: Fred Plesner, Elena Marsh, Marsha Harmon, John Hayes, Claudette Rollins, Joyce Jacques, Tom Aiello and Linda Behr.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan L. Fritz, Secretary

The Smithsonian Gem and Mineral Collection

- The Gemological Institute of America has an article with five

videos and a photo gallery that gives you a "behind the scenes"

look at the Smithsonian Gem and Mineral

<http://www.gia.edu/gia-news-research-smithsonian-gemmineral->

Sylvia Edwards passed away in November. Some of you might remember her as Eleanor Davis' daughter who had an organ transplant. She had several years to live after the transplant. Some members would come across her in Franklin. It was so good to see her getting around.



We have had several new members. I hope to publish their pictures in future newsletters.

THANK YOU to all the club members who have submitted pictures of our society events.

Linda Behr, editor

**NEW WEBSITE**

ADDRESS: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm

NEW DMC EMAIL ADDRESS

- sfms-dmc@amfed.org



Gift Shop



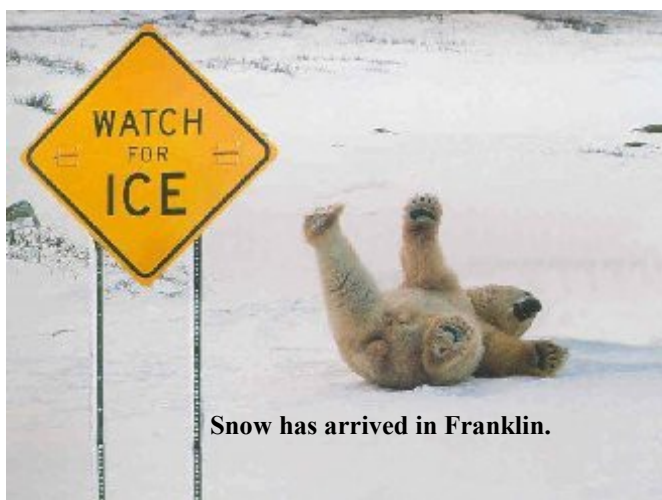
From Elena Marsh

The holidays have passed, family and friends have come and gone and now to settle down with thoughts of the next museum season which will be here soon. Anamay has been here to help me with more organization and planning for items to be featured in the gift shop. With her expertise, we are hoping to have another wonderful year with many new members and hosts that have joined our club.

A reminder to all members – if you would like training to become a museum host or just want a refresher course, please contact either Al Pribble or me to set up a time when we can go over all the aspects of volunteering; it won't take long. There's a 'cheat sheet' for you to keep if you need to jot down your own notes to remember certain steps or procedures (those are also posted in the meeting room on the wall).

Gift shop sales have increased and that has been helped by the friendly and knowledgeable hosts that represent our museum. You all have contributed in keeping our museum one of the most visited spots in Macon County.

Thanks again for a wonderful year! See you in the museum soon!



Snow has arrived in Franklin.

Humor from Children

Via Internet



It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. "Is that a dog you got back there?" he asked. "It sure is," I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, "What'd he do?"

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my four-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

"Guess what I learned at school today," a second-grader said to her mother. Then, without waiting for a reply, continued, "I learned how to make babies." Quite shocked, her mother asked, "And how is that?" "It's simple," the child said. "You just change the y to i and add es."

January Birthdays

- 4 – Jack Jungles
- 5 – Dave Snyder
- 13 – Penny-Lynn Goldstein
- 20 – John Crawford
- 23 – Claire Miller



January Anniversaries

- 1 – David & Kay Swindle
- 20 – Marty & Rebecca Martinez
- 26 – Art & Mary Anne Zoeckler
- 27 – Quinton & Mittie King
- 29 – John & Susan Jurss

The following safety information is available on the North Carolina doj.gov
Protect Yourself From ID Theft
Guard Your Personal Information to Protect Yourself From Identity Theft

Protect Your Social Security Number

- Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet.
- Give your Social Security Number (SSN) only when absolutely necessary.
- Ask why a SSN is needed, who has access to it, and how it will be kept confidential.

Don't print your SSN or driver's license number on your checks.

Destroy Documents You Don't Need

- Shred old bank statements, insurance forms, credit applications, etc.

Sign up for alerts to learn about shred-a-thons in your area, or check our list of events.

Destroy receipts that show your credit card number. It's illegal in North Carolina for a business to print the full credit card number on a customer's electronically generated receipt.

Monitor Your Finances

- Limit the number of credit cards you carry.
- Watch for missing bills and review your monthly statements carefully. Contact your creditors if a bill doesn't arrive when expected or includes charges you don't recognize. Use automatic deposit for payroll, social security or other federal benefit checks. To sign up for automatic deposit of Social Security checks and other federal benefit payments, call (800) 333-1795 or visit www.godirect.org.
- Keep copies of credit cards (front and back) in a safe place in case a card is lost or stolen.
- Review your Social Security Earnings and Benefits Statement for errors in your yearly salary. To order a statement, call (800) 772-1213.

"Opt out" of sharing your nonpublic personal information or credit report information with other businesses.

Watch Over Your Credit Reports

You are entitled to one free credit report each year from each nationwide credit bureau. To get your free report, go to www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228.

To track your credit during the year, request a free report from a different credit bureau every four months.

Get a Free Security Freeze

Stop identity thieves from getting new credit in your name by placing a security freeze on your credit.

All North Carolina consumers can now get free security freezes online. Identity theft victims and seniors can also get free security freezes by mail or phone.

Protect Passwords

- Don't carry your personal identification numbers (PIN) in your wallet or purse.
- Don't share PINs or passwords, even with close friends or relatives.
- Avoid using easily available information for your PINs or passwords such as your mother's maiden name, your or a family member's birth date, your SSN or phone number, or a series of consecutive numbers (i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4).

Choose a different PIN for each account.

Protect Your Mail

Call 1 (888) 5-OPT-OUT or visit www.optoutprescreen.com to stop pre-approved credit card applications that a thief could steal and use to get credit in your name.

- Place outgoing mail into a locked mailbox such as a blue postal service box.
- Don't leave incoming mail sitting in an unlocked mailbox.

Cut down on junk mail by contacting the Direct Marketing Association www.dmachoice.org

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Protect Your Information Online

Beware of phishing, emails that claim to come from a bank, Internet Service Provider, business or charity and ask you to confirm your personal information or account number. Forward the email to spam@uce.gov.

- Never send your SSN or financial account numbers by email or transmit these numbers online unless using a secure website or encryption software.
- Shop only on secure websites, and read website privacy policies

Beware of Scams and Frauds

Never give personal information to telemarketers who call you on the phone. To cut down on unwanted telemarketing calls, sign up for the Do Not Call Registry, www.donotcall.gov or call (888) 382-1222.

Double-check references for door-to-door sales, home repair offers and other products.

Verify that charities, businesses and others who contact you are who they claim to be before you provide any personal information. If you think the request for information is legitimate, hang up and contact the company at a number you know is valid to verify the request.

Sign up for alerts to hear about the latest scams:

<http://www.ncdoj.gov/getdoc/81f620da-dc31-49cc-9e05-ea61c222ad>

Program Report

By Rex Larkin

November's program was presented by Fred Plesner. It was an interesting talk on his and his wife, Dean's trip to see their son in Golden, Colorado. He gave us an in-depth picture of the town and its surroundings, including the museums and of course, the Coors Brewery, the largest domestic brewery in our country.

Incidentally, Adolph Coors, the conservative founder of the brewery, thought the east coast was "too liberal," thus limited his sales to the western United States. Eastern retailers used subterfuge to Coors beer to us in the early days, like running trucks, (which had to be refrigerated) down through Mexico and across the country. And also in the early days, one paid \$6.00 for a six pack! How times have changed. I remember in my *hippie* days in California, which had no Sunday beer sales, signs on store coolers saying "Coors will be back on Monday." Today, the Coors Brewery is so big; it looks like a large city.

Anyway, before Colorado achieved statehood, it was called the Territory of Jefferson, after the purchase. Golden was the original capital of the new state. The Colorado School of Mines, located downtown, ranks number 28th in the nation for excellence, and teaches only science. Golden also has the regional Golden Earthquake Center, and the Buffalo Bill Museum. The city has a railroad museum besides a mines' museum, so there is something for everyone.

Famous people from Golden include Ward Bond, Douglas Fairbanks and George Pullman, whose last name should tell you all you need to know.

Legend has it that the students at the School of Mines must carry 101 rocks under the big M at the school entrance. The Mine Museum has a gold and silver collection protected by armored glass...this is astounding. It has meteorites as well as a moon rock, uranium, other rocks besides a world-class collection of mining equipment. In fact, over 50,000 specimens can be seen, about ten times as many as we have in our own museum. You may also find some locally Macon County samples, some interactive displays-one of which is radioactive.

The Railroad Museum has over 100 engines, and also the "Flying Goose"—a smaller, self propelled car (powered by Buick engines), to carry smaller passenger loads.

Next to the stadium is a marker commemorating the deaths of six miners, who struck water underground, and who bodies were never recovered. A spring still flows by the monument.

Fred and Dean also roamed the nearby mountains which dwarf our beloved Smoky Mountains.

Thank you, Fred, for an informative and interesting talk.

There is a very interesting program on the Weather Channel called ***The Prospectors***.



These ordinary prospectors are searching in Colorado for precious gems, such as topaz, aquamarine and rhodochrosite. The prospectors use picks, sledgehammers and dynamite to send boulders down the mountainside in search of that special specimen.

Mini Drill Press

By Brad Smith

If you find yourself drilling a number of small holes for your work, you might want to look at the small, inexpensive drill presses now available. They take up just minimal space on your bench and are always ready to give you nice straight holes. Some models even have a variable speed control. I've been very pleased with a low-priced one that's been well-used in my classes for over a year.

Because these machines are only a foot high, they're limited as to the size of workpieces that can fit into the machine and the size of the drill bits you can use. But I've had no problems with drill bits up to about 3/16" (4.5mm), even drilling steel.

The machines are sold by a number of companies. If you do get one, be sure to buy a spare belt because they are generally not available at local hardware stores.

Laser Welding

A question came up this week about how to solder some jump rings to hold blue topaz briolettes onto a necklace. We've all heard about ways to do some soldering close to a stone, and some of us have sized a ring without taking the stones out of their mounts. We've used wet paper towels, garnet sand, cooling gels, and my favorite of suspending the stone in a dish of water. All techniques bank on the principal of using a small, hot flame to do the job quickly before the stone gets hot enough to crack or change color.

But each job is somewhat of a gamble. Some stones are hardy and some are frail. Jades and jaspers will generally take a lot of heat, but I'd never chance it with the likes of topaz or opal. Trying to shield a stone from the torch is always a betting game, and sometimes you lose.

If you're worried about soldering something close to a stone, perhaps it's time to consider a no-heat method like laser welding. Most jewelry stores have laser welders these days, and the cost of having it done is quite affordable. They used to have problems doing silver, but now seem to do it routinely.

I've used a local shop twice in the last year, once for a piece with little emeralds a "friend" asked me to repair and for a second piece where I needed a safety catch and didn't want the torch heat to expose all the solder lines again.

The following attribution is requested with each publication: More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or search for "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

February Birthdays

- 17 – Rex Larkin
- 17 – Kay Swindle
- 21 – David Swindle
- 22 – Tom Sterrett



February Anniversaries

- 6 – Wally & Doris Smith
- 11 – Tom & Elena Marsh
- 15 – John & Sande Lolli (Hagdorn)



Jailbird, Marie Tsacrios hosting during Pumpkin Fest.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee (All rules apply.)

An Official Field Trip of the Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society (Birmingham, AL)
(HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

Gravel Pit/Coal Mine, Brookwood, AL.

TO: GRAVEL PIT /COAL MINES, BROOKWOOD, ALABAMA

DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 2014

MEETING TIME: 9:00 A.M. **(Central Time Zone)**

MEETING PLACE: AT THE SITE 330 15'31.77" N 87022'10.30" W

DIRECTIONS: From Birmingham, AL. Get onto I-20 / I-59 and go south to the Brookwood Exit (Exit 86) Exit and turn right onto Tuscaloosa County Hwy. 59. Go north until you come to Hwy. 216. Turn left onto Hwy. 216 and go approximately 2 ½ miles. After crossing the railroad tracks (via a concrete bridge), turn onto the first paved road to the right. The site entrance is past the office buildings and through the pipe storage yard. All attendees must sign in, sign a release and sign out.

BRING: Sack lunch, plenty of drinks, buckets, hammer, appropriate dress, and good gloves.

NOTES: We will be looking for petrified wood, jasper, agate, crazy blue lace, and oolite. This site has an abundance of water smoothed quartz pebbles shaped like a double sided cabochon. Small amounts of many other types of rock are found including petrified wood, jasper, agate, marine fossils, Indian paint pots and any number of other unknown materials. This is an old alluvial deposit containing rocks eroded from the Appalachian Mountains since their formation 400 million years ago. This site is an old gravel quarry that is now producing natural gas field. All equipment, materials and ponds are strictly off limits. The SFMS code of ethics should be strictly observed. The property owner has been generous to let us collect here for many years and we would not want anything to jeopardize that.

CONTACT: REGGIE and BUNNY BOLTON reggie@newenvirons.net 205-870-7721 or 205-410-9455

Please let us know if you are planning on attending. This is a large site but we can not manage more than about 75 visitors.



Here are listed some of Bob Hope's sayings. Enjoy!!!

"You know you are getting old when the candles cost more than the cake."

"Middle age is when your age starts to show around your middle."

"If you haven't any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble."

"I grew up with six brothers. That's how I learned to dance - waiting for the bathroom."

"I left England when I was four because I found out I could never be King."

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.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

An Official Field Trip of the Athens Rock and Gem Club (Athens, GA) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC



9:00 AM TO 5:00PM

Saturday, January 18, 2014

Stoney Bluff near Girard, GA

"Savannah River Agate"

Where: Stoney Bluff outside of Girard, GA

Assembly Time: 9:00 am. at the vacant lot just south of the Post Office in Girard, GA

Stoney Bluff is located about 30 miles south of Augusta, Ga. and just east of the small town of Girard. We will assemble in Girard at 9 am in the vacant lot just south of the Post Office (do not park in the Post Office parking lot). The collecting site is only a few miles away at the end of Stoney Bluff Rd. Colorful, agatized material can be found on the surface at the site. Bring plenty of water and dress for the weather

Collecting: Beautiful "Savannah River Agate" fossils and micro minerals. This material is actually a conglomeration of agate, jasper, chert, and opalite all mixed together to form a layered specimen that will tumble or cab into beautiful display pieces. This rock occurs as black and brown mottled agate and in a large range of pastel colors from greens to yellows to violets. The fossils you may find are from 30-35 million years old Oligocene age deposits. The micro minerals are located in vugs of the agate/chert rock.

Tools: light digging tools and small pry bars to free larger boulders from the sandy soil. Leather gloves are recommended. If you plan to look for micro-minerals by busting the larger agate/chert specimens, you will also need some chisels and a sledge. More importantly you NEED eye protection (face shield would be best) and long heavy pants as this agate can act like shrapnel when cracked with a rock hammer or sledge!

Directions: from I-20 in Augusta, GA.

From I-20 in Augusta get onto I-520 (Bobby Jones Expressway) and head toward the south end of the expressway. When you reach Exit 9 (Mike Padgett Hwy), exit and head south (most likely Hwy 56 at that point) approx. 15 mi. to McBean, GA. Just beyond McBean turn left onto Hwy 23 and follow it SE about 14 mi. to Girard, Ga.

Directions from I-16 just west of Savannah, GA

Exit I-16 at US301/US25 (Exit #116) and head north approx. 10 mi to Statesboro, GA Continue north on US 301 from Statesboro approx 20 mi to Sylvania, Ga. Continue north on US301 from Sylvania about 5 miles to junction with Hwy 24. Turn left onto Hwy 24 and drive 14 mi to Sardis, GA. In Sardis pick up Hwy 23 and drive 6 miles to Girard, GA.

Field Trip Leader: Contact: Jim Maudsley 706-353-1792 or jamesm24@charter.net.

THE MOUNTAIN GEM

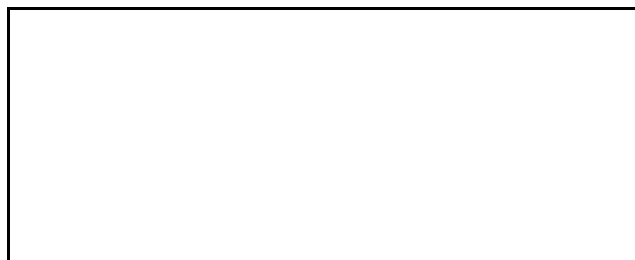
Linda Behr, Editor

25 Phillips Street

Franklin, NC 28734



First Class Mail



Month	Board Meeting	General
January	28	30
February	25	27
March	25	27
April	22	24
May	27	29
June	24	26
July	15	17
August	26	28
September	23	25 Banquet
October	28	30
November	18	20
December	9	13 end of Year party

Monthly General Meetings: 6:30 p.m. the last Thursday of the month in the 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.