

***THE MOUNTAIN GEM***  
**OCTOBER 2018**  
**Official Bulletin**  
**Of**  
**Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina**

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 Robert C. Carpenter Community Building, Highway 441 South, Franklin, N.C. Visitors are always welcome.

Forms for membership can be obtained by attending a meeting of the Society.

Dues are \$20 for first family member with \$10 for each additional member. Members under 18 years of age dues are \$5. Membership is from September to September. Non-member subscriptions to *The Mountain Gem* are \$25 per year.

Membership privileges include emailed copies of the newsletter and attending Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips. If requested, hard copy editions of *The Mountain Gem* will be mailed via USPS for an additional \$25 per year.

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 arts and sciences 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.

School tours are always available by contacting the Museum, leave a message and our Educational Chairperson will call you to schedule.

**Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, is a 501 (c)(3) organization and donations may be tax deductible.**

**Please remember us when planning your estate.**



**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: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

November 1 – April 30

Saturdays: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Open Year Round For Tours

And Special Requests

[www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)

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

**Editor: [editor.themountaingem@gmail.com](mailto:editor.themountaingem@gmail.com)**

**Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin,  
North Carolina, is a founding member  
of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies.**

## 2018- 2019 Officers And Board of Directors

President	Jane Morgan	342-8703
Past President	Al Pribble	342-3119
Vice President	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Secretary	Susan L Fritz	524-4936
Treasurer	Kathi Walbridge	349-9615
Assistant Treasurer	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Museum Manager	Duane Haskell	349-5123
Director (2018)	Mike Gillen	678-772-6375
Director (2018)	Tom Parker	342-3619
Director (2019)	Diane Mason	706-379-1718
Director (2019)	Tom Sterrett	349-3374

### Museum

Museum Ass't. Mgr.	Ralph Crawford	524-3279
Curator Emeritus	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Curator	Ralph Crawford	524-3279
Gift Shop Co-Chairs	Anamay Rossomando	349-2807 or 727-367-9196
	Diane Mason	706-379-1718
	Vicki Knisley	371-4954
Museum Workshop	Cy Amrich	356-7816
Ass't. Workshop Mgr.	Virginia Bennis	631-830-5403

### Committee Chairmen

Budget & Finance	Kathi Walbridge	349-9615
	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Calendar Chairman	Jay Mooney	678-488-0620
Door Prizes	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Education	OPEN	
Field Trips	Marsha Harmon	369-7262
Field Trips Ass't.	Lake Holland	369-5421
Gemboree	Norm Holbert	634-0350
Gemboree Ass't.	Kathy Young	941-387-4397
Historian	Ron Rossomando	349-2807 or 727-367-9196
Librarian	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Membership	Ellen Crawford	524-3279
Publications	Ellen Crawford	524-3279
Publicity	George Fritz	524-4936
Programs	OPEN	
Refreshments	OPEN	
Scholarships	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271



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>) 20010(3<sup>rd</sup>)  
2014 (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>) 2014 (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)  
[www.facebook.com/franklingems](https://www.facebook.com/franklingems)

**October Meeting**

Date: October 25, 2018

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: **Robert C Carpenter Community Bldg.  
1288 Georgia Rd. Hwy. 441 Franklin**

Program: **Ken Rush, The Ducktown Basin  
Museum, TN, speaks about history  
of The Copper Basin**



**November Birthdays / Anniversaries**

- 2 – Charlene Galbrecht
- 4 – Jade Kale
- 4 – Pete Rizzo
- 7 – Ron Bischoff
- 7 – Will Seaman
- 8 – Janet Hayles
- 10 – Diana Jurss
- 17 – Virginia Bennis
- 22 – Diane Aiello
- 25 – Stephen & Sherlene Dillon



Membership renewals are past due.

\$20 individual and \$30 family.

Please pay Ellen Crawford at a meeting or mail a check to museum "attn membership".

***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is  
ON or BEFORE  
Thursday, November 15, 2018***



**Jane Morgan, President**



I would like to thank everyone that pitched in to help and brought dishes to make the Installation Dinner a

GREAT success. A special Thank you goes out to Ronnie Beale for coming to do the honor of installing our officers. A big thank you to Vicki Knisley for helping me to get the flowers planted from the dinner and the flower bed completed. Congratulations to all the board members that were installed. I think we have a strong board panel this year and I look forward to working with you all.

I have had a lot of questions from members and good suggestions from several of you. I have put a suggestion box in the meeting room at the Museum. Hopefully you will fill it up. I want to hear from you and when it's on paper I can't forget it. No one is to read or open that box but me.

For those members who have been asking about our Constitution/By Laws/Articles of Incorporation: there is a copy of The Absolute and Final copy of the By Laws and the Articles of Restatement for Nonprofit Corporation (that is on file with the State) in the Library/Office at the Museum. Please make sure it remains there for others to read.

We still need members to volunteer to host. If you don't know how we will train you. We can always use the help. If you can't host there are many many other jobs that you could do. Just let us know and we can find somewhere that you can be a big help. We need NEW and OLD members to step up and stop relying on others.

This is a working club and we NEED to get moving. Things are going to be slowing down for this year, but we still need to be carrying on and preparing for the coming year.

Every year we want it to be better than the one before.

**The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.**  
**Minutes – September 27 19, 2018 – General Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President, Al Pribble on Thursday, September 27, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at First Christian Church of Franklin, Belleview Road. He welcomed special guest County Commissioner Ronnie Beale.

Al Pribble announced that we would have our dinner and then proceed to an abbreviated business meeting with Commissioner Beale presiding over the installation of officers and Board members.

Dean Plesner gave a prayer.

At 7:25 p.m., the business meeting commenced.

It was announced that the October gem show has been cancelled due to low vendor response.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Installation of Officers – County Commissioner Ronnie Beale presided over the installation of our new officers and Board members:

- President – Jane Morgan
- Vice President – Arlon Eldridge
- 2nd Vice President – Duane Haskell
- Treasurer – Kathi Walbridge
- Assistant Treasurer – (Anita) Marie Tsacrios
- Secretary – Susan Fritz
- Board Member – Tom Parker
- Board Member – Mike Gillen
- Board Member – Diane Mason
- Board Member – Tom Sterrett



There being no further business, a motion was made by Diane Mason to adjourn seconded by Vicki Knisley. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan L. Fritz, Secretary*





*Photos by George Fritz*

## Field Trip News

Marsha Harmon - Field Trip Coordinator  
Lake Holland - Assistant



Our next trip will be to Diamond Hill near Abbeville, SC on October 27, rain or shine but no hurricanes please! We will be meeting at the Museum and leaving at 8 am. Standard waivers will be signed, proper safety equipment required, and only current club members are invited. Please get current at our next general meeting on October 25 if you plan to go. In the past we have been fairly lucky hunting crystals (amethyst, skeletal, milky, smoky), and beryl. Car pool possible with notice. Buckets, shovels, rainwear if applicable, newspapers to wrap specimens with boxes to pack goodies, gloves, rake, sledge hammer, pick, lunch and drinks suggested. This is a open pit mine with several areas for you to explore. Portable restroom yes but no water source available within 5 miles. It will cost you: \$20 adults, \$10 seniors and \$5 children 12 & below for admission. The signup sheet is located within the Museum or call either Marsha 828 369-7262 or Lake 828 369-5421 if you are interested.

There will be no DMC trip for November however suggestions are appreciated. Thus far Summerville, GA - banded agate, Brasstown, NC - Staurolites and Chunky Gal mountain, NC - smaragdite/rubies with Buck Creek sifting in the afternoon - corundum, garnets and kyanite are being looked at as possible areas of interest.

## Mineral Word Fun

Stacy Walbridge

Identify the mineral whose name **sounds** like the answer to the clue and is the correct length.

1 - A man in a leotard. (8 Letters)

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2 - One half of the tip of a snake's tongue. (10 Letters)

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3 - A bubbly beverage without calories. (8 Letters)

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4 - A pack animal in the dark. (9 Letters)

-----

5 - A musical instrument mixture. (10 Letters)

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## ANSWERS

- 1 - Hematite
- 2 - Serpentine
- 3 - Sodaite
- 4 - Wulfenite
- 5 - Hornblende



## Gift Shop News

Anamay Rossomando - Co-Chair



Stop by the gift shop to see all our fall themed jewelry and full selection of new member made pendants, earrings, etc. - all at great prices! Never too early to get gifts for the holidays.

A BIG THANK YOU to Vicki Knisley for stepping up to take over Jane Morgan's job as one of the gift shop managers. We look forward to working with her.

Another Reminder: Pumpkin Fest is Saturday October 20th any and all help is appreciated. We still need more people to step up and host; as well as to assist in the other activities outside of the museum.

Starting the first weekend in November the museum is only open on Saturdays. So, we want to end our season on a high note.

Thank you to all our hosts for keeping the gift shop going these pasts few months.

## Make It Day

Diane Mason - Wire Wrap Instructor

What a success! We made 30 pieces for the museum gift shop. People who helped were: Larry Ellert, Vicki Knisley, Diane Mason, Joni Mitchell, Jane Morgan, Barbara Rizzo, Stacy Walbridge and Ellen Williams.

We are thankful for all of the assistance we received. This should hold our inventory until early spring.

Thank you, again for your participation and help.

Diane Mason, Anamay and Jane



## Macon County Leaf Lookers Gemboree CANCELLED

Norm Holbert

I'm writing this on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> soon after speaking with Linda Harbuck of the Chamber of Commerce. The October Leaflookers Gemboree has been **cancelled**. There were not enough vendors signed up to do the show. If it had gone on as planned, the income from the show would not have covered the expenses. I want to thank those of you who had signed up to help at the show. Hopefully future shows will improve on the number of vendors and we will have successful shows.

Again, thank you for your willingness to volunteer. – Norm Holbert

## November Program

Sande Lolli

Free Rock Night! Bring a rock or rocks you no longer want and go home with something special. The more rocks we have the more fun it will be, so start going through your boxes now!



## The Hayesville Fault

Fred Plesner – Curator Emeritus



The mountains that we live in are said to be the oldest on earth. Some say they are 450 million years old or thereabouts, created when tectonic plates underlying an ancient ocean collided with enough force to bring up material from the mantle of the earth many miles below the surface.

One fault in this area is known as the Hayesville fault. It is no longer active, but geologists can detect sutures where the collision of those tectonic plates occurred.

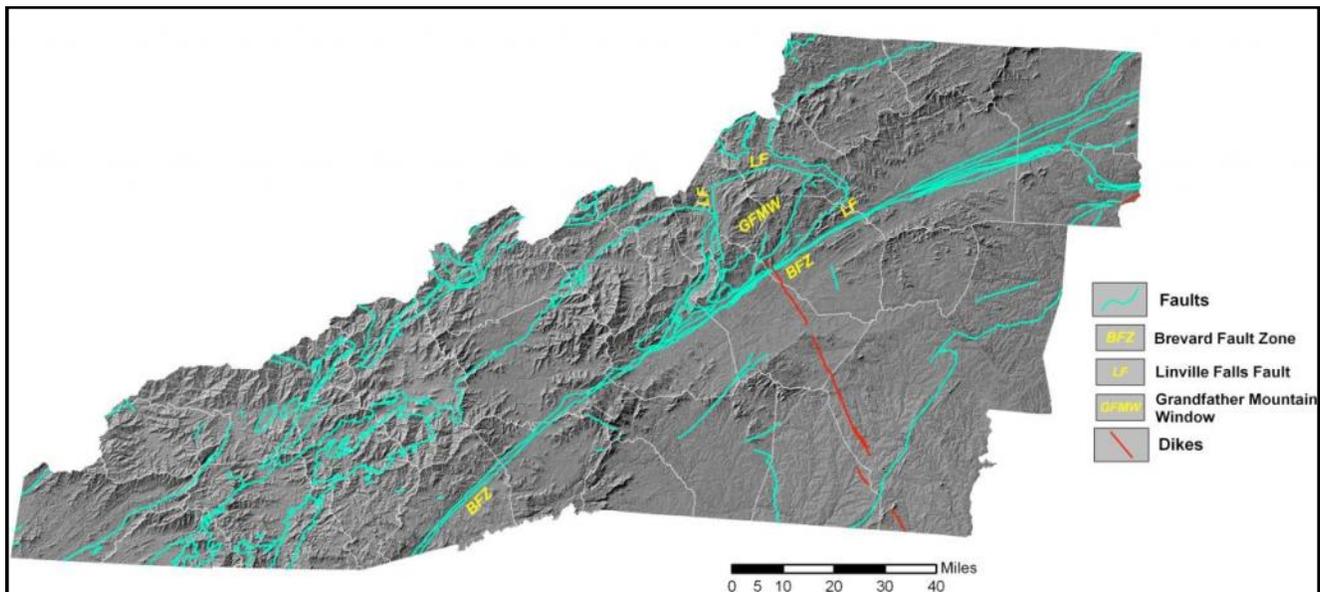
Evidence of the violence of those collisions are scattered across our mountains today. In various locations we find granite from the old continental crust, rocks from the dense bed of the old ocean crust, which are rich in magnesium and iron; and dunnite and olivine from the earth's mantle.

The rubies of Cowee began forming when the material of the earth's mantle spewed out onto the silica-rich rock of the continental crust. The stuff from the mantle (known as ultra-mafic) is silica-poor. It acted as what we call sink, sucking the silica out of the surrounding schist and leaving behind aluminum-rich corundum behind.

Corundum is aluminum oxide that typically forms in six-sided crystals. In its purest form it is colorless. Inclusions of other elements - such as chromium, iron and titanium - produce various beautiful hues which can range from yellow and brown to shades of blue, pink, red, green and even black. The red forms are called rubies; all other colors are called sapphires.

Over millions of years, those imposing mountains much higher than now weathered and wore down to the contours we recognize today. Various rivers formed as heavy rains struck the steep peaks and rushed downward to join other streams on their way to the ocean leaving behind the sediments that form the present Coastal Plain.

Over millions of years, the rocks that held the corundum slowly decomposed and weathered away, allowing the very hard and very heavy rubies and sapphires to concentrate in the gravel beds of Cowee Creek where they are found today. In other locations, the corundum was unexposed and remains embedded in the rock.



## From the Southeast Federation of Mineral Societies



### Gem and Mineral Shows

#### November 16, 17 & 18, Columbia, SC

51st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show; Jamil Temple; 206 Jamil Rd., Columbia, SC 29210, exit 106 off I-26; Friday & Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM and Sunday Noon to 5 PM; Sponsored by the The Columbia, SC Gem & Mineral Society; \$5 for adults; FREE admission for all military & their dependents with ID

#### November 16, 17 & 18, Marietta, GA

33rd Annual Show & Sale; Cobb Civic Center; 548 South Marietta Pkwy., Marietta, GA 30060; Friday & Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM to 5 PM; Sponsored by Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society; FREE admission & parking; contact Mary Ingram Show Chair, 404-915-3588

#### November 30, December 1 & 2, Montgomery, AL

48th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show; Garrett Coliseum; 1555 Federal Dr., Montgomery, AL; Friday 9 AM to 6 PM; Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM and Sunday 11 AM to 5 PM; \$2 Adult or \$3 for weekend pass; FREE parking

#### December 8 & 9, Franklin, TN

38th Annual Earth Treasures Show; Sponsored by Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society; Williamson County Ag Expo Park; 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN 37064; Saturday 9 AM to 6 PM; and Sunday 10 AM to 5 PM; FREE parking; Adults \$5; \$7 for 2-day pass; \$1 Students 18 and under

### Other Events

#### October 20, Downtown Franklin, NC

PumpkinFest; sponsored by Town of Franklin; pumpkin roll; food vendors; autumn festival; music; fun for all ages

#### November 6 & 7, Asheville, NC

Gem & Lapidary Wholesalers, Inc. (G & L W); WNC Ag Center; Tuesday 10 AM to 6 PM and Wednesday 10 AM to 3 PM

#### November 12, Monday, Downtown Franklin, NC

Veterans Day Parade & Ceremony; 10:30 AM Parade (line-up at 10 AM; 11 AM Veterans Ceremony (Gazebo on the Square)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

#### November 24th and December 1st, Saturdays, Downtown Franklin, NC

Winter Wonderland; 5 PM to 8 PM

Month	Board Meeting	General Meeting
January 2018		
February		Anniversary
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		Ice Cream Social
August		Elections
September		Banquet
October	23	25
November	27	29
December	11 4:00	15 End of Year Party <b>Saturday</b> 11:00 am to 4:00

**Monthly General Meetings:** 6:30 PM the last Thursday of the month at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building; 1288 Georgia Road Hwy 441 South  
**Meeting changes will be posted in the monthly news letter.**

**Board Meetings:** 6:30 PM  
 At the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum  
 All Board Meetings are open to the members

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

**THE MOUNTAIN GEM**

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*Editor.themountaingem@gmail.com*

25 Phillips Street  
 Franklin, NC 28734

**First Class Mail**

