

THE MOUNTAIN GEM
Volume XLI NOVEMBER 2013
Number 11
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.



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

President	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
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Vice President	Ray Behr	349-0827
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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	349-2807/727-367-9196
Museum Workshop	Al Pribble	369-2548
Ass't. Workshop Mgr.	John Hayes	524-8062
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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	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

General Meeting

Date: November 21

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Macon County Community Center on 441 South

Program: Fred Plesner will share his visit to the Colorado Museum.

Note that this is NOT the last Thursday of the month.

December

Birthdays

3 – Christine Hubinger

8 – Linda Sterrett

8 – Deborah Wright

9 – Jeff Sutphin

12 – Marina Fisher

17 – Jo Dawn Loewy

20 – Ray Behr

22 – Linda Behr

28 – Ernest A. Klatt, Jr.



Anniversaries

4 – Albert & Sandra Moccia

8 – David & Linda Smith

15 – Tom & Diane Aiello



Arlon Eldridge



Hello again from the president.

I would just like to thank everyone for a wonderful first general meeting. I am looking forward to many more of the same.

We are in need of a **chairperson** for the **end of year party** so if someone could do this just give Ray or me a call to volunteer.

I will not be here for our next board meeting so if anyone has anything that they want to present to the board. You can just give me a call and we can set it up so Ray will know about it in advance.

Also for all our members that have come forward to host in the museum, thanks so much!

The “End of the Year” party will be on Saturday,
December 14th
from 1-5 p.m. at the Community Center.

We will need covered dishes to accompany the club’s provided meats.

(The December newsletter will be mailed AFTER the “End of the Year Party!”)

Minutes – October 17, 2013 – General Meeting

The Gem & Mineral Society Of Franklin, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by president, Arlon Eldridge, at 6:40 p.m. in the Community Center meeting room.

Membership – Linda Behr reported 31 members and 5 visitors present. She stated that Claudette Rollins' husband had recently passed away. Arlon Eldridge introduced and welcomed a special friend and visitor to the meeting, Doug Morgan.

Treasurer's Report – In the absence of Marie Tsacrios due to illness, Norm Holbert reported that for the month of September we had an income of \$1323.73 with expenses of \$551.80 leaving a net income of \$771.93.

End of Year Party: Arlon Eldridge passed around two sign-up sheets for the End of Year Party to be held on Saturday, December 14th from 1:00 until 5:00 p.m. There are two sheets – one for assistance and one for bringing food items. It is also necessary that we have a chairperson to oversee this event.

Museum Manager – Al Pribble stated that electrical work had been done in the meeting room. He praised Laura Anderson, Scheduling Chairwoman, for getting the month of October covered in terms of hosting. However, he encouraged everyone to host at least one day, which is 4 hours, per month. With winter approaching, soon the museum will only be open on Saturdays.

Al also reminded us that whomever comes to the museum **to use equipment they are required to put their name on the sign-in sheet there, note the date and how long they were on the equipment.** This will help in determining how many hours are spent on the wheels for charge of use and replacement purposes.

Museum Curator – Fred Plesner is currently in Colorado. Sharon John had nothing new to report.

Gift Shop - Elena Marsh reminded us that this was our museum, our gift shop and our club. She indicated the gift shop would be a wonderful place to shop for Christmas gifts; members get a 10% discount.

Gemboree – Jack Jungles reported that set-up will be on Thursday, October 24th. Norm Holbert indicated that he is very busy working on the “Mother's Day Gemboree and Craft Show” that we will be sponsoring in May for which he would like to see be “family friendly” and have no admission charge. He has spoken with many crafters and they are anxious to collaborate with us. Getting vendors is not easy. He stated he needed two volunteers for the May show: one for publicity and one to head up youth activities for the Gemboree. Tom Sterrett reminded Arlon about billboard advertising. He is working on same and will be obtaining eight steel signs that will go along the roadside. This will be discussed further at the next Board Meeting.

Newsletter – Linda Behr announced the deadline for the newsletter will be, Thursday, October 24th. She reminded members to check the back of the newsletter for meeting dates.

Field Trip – Arlon reported that the Southeastern Federation field trip to his mine was extremely successful. He thanked everyone for coming out to help; there were 14 members who came to help. There were 26 visitors despite it being a miserably cold and rainy day. Many of the out of town visitors have already returned to the mine.

Arlon gave a very special thank you to John Hayes who was the first one to arrive and the last one to leave.

Arlon advised that tonight John Hayes has stones laid out on the back table for anyone to take whatever they like.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments were served followed by the evening's guest speaker, Arlon Eldridge, with assistance from Tom Sterrett. Arlon gave an extremely interesting and informative talk on crystals and quartz from Brazil. He brought many examples with him and many door prizes. In fact, every single person in the room went away with a door prize! Arlon discussed one special specimen of smoky topaz, with a retail value of \$300. He explained how smoky topaz differs from smoky quartz. At the end of his talk, he made a special presentation of this specimen to Linda Behr in appreciation of all of her consistent hard work in preparing and printing our wonderful newsletter each and every month.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan L. Fritz, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes will no longer be published. The board decided that since it usually is repetitive of the General Meeting Minutes, it will be omitted. However, these are available upon request.

DUES DUES DUES

Please send them to the museum with attention: membership chairman.



Students visiting the museum Indian Artifacts room. Pictured is "tour guide" Fred Plesner. Picture taken by Diane Aiello on October 11, 2013

Coming Events

November 22-24, 2013 Marietta, GA

28th Annual Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show in Marietta, GA. Find amazing rocks, gemstones, minerals and fossils from all over the world!

Choose from a large selection of beautiful beads, jewelry and jewelry making supplies. Fun for the whole family, with faceting and jewelry making demonstrations, a fluorescent mineral room, and many interesting displays. Hourly Door Prizes. Free Admission and Free Parking.

Cobb County Civic Center, 548 Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA. Hours: 10am -6pm

November 22-23, 10am-5pm November 24

November 22-24, 2013 Columbia, SC

The Columbia SC Gem and Mineral Society will hold its 46th annual gem, mineral and jewelry show at Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Road, Columbia, SC 29210 (Exit 106A off I26). Hours: Friday 10am to 7pm; Saturday 10am to 6pm; Sunday Noon to 5pm. 24 Retail Vendors – jewelry, beads, loose stones, fossils, gold, silver and tools for sale. Lots of fun for the whole family. Admission is \$5 for adults, children sixteen and under are free with adult. All military and their dependents are free. Grand Prize Award – Tourmaline/Topaz specimen from Pakistan (Est. \$450) donated by PAK Designs (Patrick and Anne Kelly). Publicity – Sue Shrader ashreader@mindspring.com (803) 736-9317, Fax (803) 736-2578; Dealers – Sharon Sterrett ssterrett@sc.rr.com (803) 356-1472

December 14-15 Franklin, TN - "Earth Treasures"

Show: Ag Expo Park; ; Sat 9am-6pm; Sun 10am-5pm; Adults \$4; Jewelry, slabs/rough, minerals, fossils, collectibles, tools, equipment, silent auction, demonstrations, and door prizes. Over 30 dealers. www.MTGMS.org.

Member News

Reporting by Linda Behr

As most of you know we made a trip to Tampa for **Ray Behr's** brother's funeral.

Marilyn Kolle has moved to Florida for the winter. She was able to sell all of Jerry's stone cutting items.

Wally and Doris Smith called me to let me know that they have gone south for the winter.

Our club received a very nice note from **Shirley Burley** complimenting Fred Plesner's article on the Blue Diamond. She said that Lee has his ups and downs and she misses everyone here.

We received dues payment from **Penny-Lynn Goldstein**. It is wonderful that she is doing better.

Al Pribble attended William Holland School on the club's scholarship. He plans on submitting an article for us next month.

What a surprise to see **Joe Pinkous** at the Gemboree!



Gift Shop

By Elena Marsh



WE have had a great few months since we opened 6 days a week in May – and WE is in caps because without each and every one of our members, WE would not have been able to realize a great season. Each and every member is important so thank you to each and every one of you who have worked in any capacity to keep the Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum one of the top places to visit when in Franklin. Thank you to each host who took time out of their busy schedules to keep the museum open. Thank you to all who donated items for resale in the gift shop. Thank you to Doris Smith and Anamay Rossomando for their tireless efforts to help me with the gift shop purchases, displays and sales. Thank you to the officers and board members who put trust in me to be the gift shop manager.

The beautiful amethyst that was donated by Marty Martinez has been sold by Fran Rasmusson. Fran has a wonderful way about her that draws visitors to the gift shop section of the museum and is able to show them that 'something they cannot live without' to take home with them as a memory of Franklin and the museum. Of course, Fred is an excellent host who goes into great detail about each room and specimen.

Displays change almost weekly. Check out the wonderful book selection.

Hope to see you in the museum sometime soon!



New member:
Joyce Jacques



Arlon Eldridge and Linda Behr with the smoky topaz, a rare find. Refer to "Program Report."

Falling, Falling and Falling

By Linda Behr for *The Mountain Gem*

I wish that I were referring to the falling leaves but I am not. I have heard of several people falling and the very severe after effects.

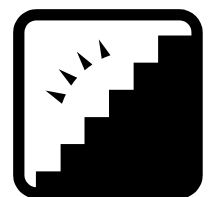
My friend, Helen fell and broke her arm. She was wearing socks around the house. Helen was in her 60's at the time.

Another dear friend, Jerry fell several times and his injuries were severe enough that the brain could not hold the blood. His surgery went fine but his platelets were too thin and kept bleeding. I attended his funeral.

Okay, now that I have your attention, our nephew was wearing socks around the house and fell down the stairs. His first head injury occurred when he hit his head in the attic. He now has two places in his head where the bleeding started. As a result, the doctors removed part of his skull to avoid pressure on the brain. We are waiting for his daily updates.

SUGGESTIONS: Please do not wear socks around the house as shoes; and watch out for the head. If you suffer from a headache after a fall, contact the doctor.

As a mother of a Boy Scout, one rule taught was to always leave one hand free while carrying items.



Program Report

By Rex Larkin

November's program was presented by our new President, Arlon Eldridge, assisted by Tom "Vanna White" Sterrett, who so aptly pointed out different locations on the map; proof positive that a couple of courses in hand modeling can do wonders. "I'll buy a vowel, Tom!"

Anyway, Arlon's program was on the many types of quartz crystals to be found in Brazil, perhaps the richest and most diverse source, not only for quartz, but many other gems and minerals in South America. Not only did Arlon bring samples of these different types, he gifted different people in the audience with them.

Joe Foreman received a specimen from southern Brazil, where the samples are cloudy and mostly strip-mined. His was tunnel-mined—and we know how hazardous that can be in Brazil. Tom Marsh received a mineral from the Azuzu Falls area (part of the Iguazú Falls), which is Brazil's version of Niagara Falls.

Ray Behr received smoky quartz from Arlon's own mine—more about that later.

Around the area of Sao Paulo, Brazil's largest city (19 million people) Fran Rasmusson and Elena Marsh won pieces of smoky quartz. Rex Larkin, John Hayes and Marty Martinez got double crystal samples (crystals in two different directions) from the province Minos Suros. Other lucky ones were Al Pribble, Jack Jungles, and Linda Behr. A gift of a polished crystal from a friend of Arlon's in Rio de Janeiro was presented to visitor Doug Morgan.

A cautionary note here concerning amethyst/ametrine from Bolivia—a lot of heat fakery, as with quartz is used to produce stones that only show their "true colors," or lack of them, under light in a dark place—if they are clear, they are the real deal. Some "dealers" use heat and radiation to produce smoky quartz.

I could not possibly keep up with all the door prize winners; suffice it to say, every one benefitted from Arlon's generosity, and no one left for home empty-handed.

Some facts from Arlon's ranch in Brazil—various pack animals are kept for trips to his mine. His ranch also contains 4,000 coffee trees, and 300 banana trees, which eighteen people work for their own benefit. When they do work his mine, they keep 15% of what they mine. His wife, Sonia is funding the college expenses of one of the Brazilian children.

Also a surprise to all: Arlon presented Linda Behr with a smoky topaz which can retail for several hundred dollars; for all her good work as editor—a reward we all agree she rightly deserves.

Arlon was a literal "gold mine" of information about Brazil and its people. The 2016 Olympics, for one thing, will only be of limited benefit, and temporary, at that. You also don't find guns outside the larger cities—the preferred weapons being the machete. Warlords rule the rural areas, crimes such as molestation and rape are handled by the *disappearance* of the perpetrators. With its wildly fluctuating currency, you have two classes of people, the very rich and the poor.

An interesting fact is that Brazil runs its cars and trucks off of sugar cane fuels and does very well with it. Throughout its history, Brazil has had six capitals, one of which was Brazilia, literally carved out of the jungle, in the middle of *nowhere*.

Hmmm...that gives me an idea about our capital, Washington, DC.

Arlon, thank you not only for sharing your knowledge with us, but making a foreign country come alive. Your generosity is beyond all bounds, and we are very lucky, and look forward to months of your presidency for our Society.



Partially listed are the newly elected officers of the AFMS: President, Richard Jaeger; President-Elect, Marion Roberts; 1st Vice President, Matt Charsky; **Secretary**, Anne Cook; Treasurer, Pat LaRue



<http://www.amlands.org/AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION, INC.>

July-Sept. 2013 - ALAA 2nd Quarter Newsletter Protecting the Public Lands for the Public

A grassroots 501-C-4 Educational, non-profit organization dedicated to keeping public lands open for the public

Important information can be attained by going to the above website.

SFMS elections were held at the SFMS Annual Meeting and below are your elected officials for 2014.

James Darnell, President

David Wayment, 1st VP

Lisa Roberts, 2nd VP

Mari Webb, Treasurer

Ann Monroe, AFMS 4th VP

Bill Waggener, President, Mayo Education Foundation

Wayne Dodd, Treasurer, Mayo Education Foundation



THIS IS GREAT!

An incredible 360 degree tour of the Smithsonian...

Here is something special, a virtual tour of the Smithsonian Museum room by room. It is really something with a 360 degree viewing by using your cursor. You easily spend days/weeks looking at everything. Just marvelous for kids and adults. Follow the blue arrows on the floor to move into new rooms.

Shows inside and outside of the museum and there little cameras here and there which show detailed info on certain things. If you click on the floors (upper right corner) you get a floor plan of that floor and you can click on a blue circle and go directly to that room.

Truly incredible web site.

Watch it in full screen when you open this up. Use the roller on your mouse to move in and out. Look for the "arrows" on the floor and click on them. They take you to other places.

<http://www.mnh.si.edu/vtp/1-desktop/>

Jim Flora SFMS Webmaster

E-Mail jimflora@windstream.net

(Those of us who have visited the Smithsonian Museum will appreciate this opportunity to revisit some of the rooms.... your editor)



Humor

A North Carolina Highway Department employee stopped at a farm and talked with a farmer. He told the farmer, "I need to inspect your property for a possible new road."

The farmer said, "OK, but don't get out in that pasture

over there."

The man flashed his identification card and said, "I have the authority of the State to go anywhere I want. See this card?"

So the farmer went about his farm chores. It wasn't too much later that the farmer heard loud screams and yelling. He looked over and saw the man running for his life, and right behind him was the farmer's huge prize bull.

The farmer yelled out, "Show him your card....Show him your card!"

<http://www.ncfbmagazine.org/2008/08/on-the-lighter-side/print/>



Marking Your Tools

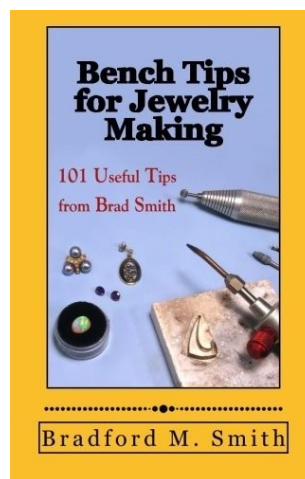
More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or search for "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

It makes sense to mark your tools if you ever lend them to friends or take them out to classes or workshops. Question is how to mark them permanently. For metal tools, I use a very small ball bur running fast in the Dremel or Foredom to "engrave" my initials. Other times I'll form the initials with a number of hits with a center punch.

But for hammer handles and other wooden tools, the country boy in me came back and thought "Why not make a branding iron?" If you'd like to try one, all you need is a little scrap copper or nickel about 22-24 gauge, a piece of heavy brass or copper for a base, about 6 inches of metal rod and a piece of wood for the handle.

I formed my initials from a couple 4mm strips of sheet nickel. The "S" was one piece, but the "B" was three pieces soldered together with hard solder. (Remember to form the letters backwards). I then soldered the letters with medium onto a piece of 1/8 inch thick brass bar to act as a heat sink. Finally, I soldered a piece of 1/8 round rod on the back of the brass bar as a shaft to join to a wooden handle.

(From editor: These tips are submitted freely from Brad Smith for our publications. If you are interested in getting more information on his books, go to his website.benchtips@yahoo.com)



Humor

Absentmindedness



The man of the house finally took all the disabled umbrellas to the repairer. Next morning on his way to his office, when he got up to leave the street car, he absentmindedly laid hold of the umbrella belonging to a woman beside him, for he was in the habit of carrying one. The woman cried "Stop thief!" rescued her umbrella and covered the man with shame and confusion.

That same day, he stopped at the repairer, and received all eight of his umbrellas duly restored. As he entered a street car, with the unwrapped umbrellas tucked under his arm, he was horrified to behold glaring at him the lady of his morning adventure. Her voice came to him charged with a withering scorn:

"Huh! Had a good day, didn't you!"

www.innocentenglish.com/classic-old-funny-jokes/best-classic-funny-stories-of-1900s.html



Via the Internet Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club News September 2013

Peacock Ore: Prettiest when Tarnished

By: Mei Poy

When something is dirty, we usually clean it. We have car washes, dishwashers, and washing machines. We live in a world of dirt that has been made more sterile than ever before in history. However, some things are made prettier when they aren't clean. The copper Statue of Liberty is now green from the tarnish building up over the years, and now it is famous for this green color and not its original brown color. Peacock ore is another example of a famously unclean specimen. It is a rock commonly found in the collections of beginning rock collectors and admired for its vibrant and metallic colors. Peacock ore is a pet name, referring to rocks made of the minerals bornite and chalcopyrite. The colors of peacock ore are actually tarnish upon the ore's surface. There are many unique properties that define this beautifully dirty rock.

The official chemical formula of bornite is Cu_5FeS_4 and chalcopyrite is CuFeS_2 . The ore is very soft, with a hardness of three on the Moh's hardness scale. This opaque rock has a beautiful metallic luster that is a result of the metallic elements within the ore. Peacock ore is very brittle and streaks a gray black color.

In addition to these basic characteristics, peacock ore has wide structural variety. These rocks can be found in isometric crystals, but only at extremely high temperatures. The ore is found in globular and unstructured formations at temperatures lower than 228 degrees Celsius, or 442.4 degrees Fahrenheit. The structure can be a number of various formations, such as tetrahedral, octahedral, dodecahedral, or orthorhombic. The cleavage of peacock ore is very poor because the rock is more globular than crystalline in shape.

The most interesting aspect of peacock ore is its unique colorations. At first glance, peacock ore appears to be a rock made of metals that glimmer rainbow colors. However, this is only partly true. The process that causes peacock ore to have a variety of colors is similar to rust on a car. The paint on a car protects the metal structure underneath from the air. When the paint is scratched away and the metal is exposed, you will see rust form. This red-orange compound is created when the iron on the car and oxygen in the air react. Similarly, the colors of peacock ore are a result of what is called oxidation, an elemental reaction with oxygen. This tarnish forms on the outer surface where the copper in the rock comes in contact with the air. However, the oxides from peacock ore are stronger than rust, so the tarnish protects the rest of the rock from being oxidized. The oxidation occurs at an atomic level and the beautiful colors you see are actually only atoms thick. If you were to scratch the surface or break the rock, you would find that this rainbow rock is actually more of a red brown color. Although this is true, removing the tarnish or breaking the rock and exposing untarnished areas will start the oxidation process all over again, and a new layer of tarnish will form within a few hours.

The color of the tarnish is also fascinating. Over time, the tarnish actually turns black; however, the specimens we usually see are colored with greens, yellows, blues, and purples. The greens and yellows are from the oxidation of chalcopyrite, and the blues and purples are from the bornite. The oxidation of the copper in the minerals results in the creation of some copper oxide, which is Cu_2O . This solid is black, but the fact that it is formed at an atomic thinness on the peacock ore allows for the beautiful colors. Colors are created when light bounces off objects. Light has a property called wavelength, which can be long and short. Certain wave lengths we cannot see, but the wavelengths we can see cause our eyes to register different colors. The various wave lengths proceed in the order of the rainbow with red as the longest and purple as the shortest. White light is actually a mixture of all the various wavelengths. As stated before, a person can see colors because of light bouncing off an object. As the light bounces, some of the light is absorbed, and the rest bounces off. Depending on the wavelengths bouncing off, the eyes see different colors. The thickness of the layer of tarnish in a certain area causes the variation in color. A thicker area absorbs more of the shorter wavelengths and causes a blue or purple color instead of a green or yellow. The thicker the layer gets in a certain area, the closer that area gets to being black, which is when the tarnish absorbs all visible wavelengths.

Cont'd to next page

Cont'd from page 10.

The world is so worried about dirt and germs that we live our lives trying to sterilize everything with our antibacterial soap and hand sanitizer and disinfectant aerosol cans. We have endless web-sites and discussions on how to best polish silver-ware or to remove tarnish from copper. However, those who study or simply enjoy rocks know better than to sterilize the world because there are so many treasures hiding in the dirt and the mud just waiting to be admired. As much as we love to be clean, we cannot be afraid of the dirt. Remember, don't judge a book by its cover, but a pretty cover never hurts.

Sources:

Handbook of Mineralogy. Tucson: Mineral Data Publ., 1990. Print.

"THE MINERAL BORNITE." *BORNITE (Copper Iron Sulfide)*. Amethyst Galleries Inc. Web. <<http://www.galleries.com/Bornite>>.

"The Mineral Bornite." *Bornite Peacock Ore: The Mineral Bornite Information and Pictures*. Hershel Friedman. Web. <<http://www.minerals.net/mineral/bornite.aspx>>.

"What Is Peacock's Ore in Chemistry?" *The Times Of India*. Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd, 26 Jan. 2003. Web. <http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2003-01-26/open-space/27284724_1_colours-ore-chemistry>.

From: *Flint Flashes*, August, 2013; via: *Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club News* September 2013



Thank you Christine Hubinger and Martha Ahrens for trying to find a specimen in our museum.

The above specimen is from the Internet.

Wild Turkey Facts

Author unknown published in the Franklin Press

The domestic farm raised turkey most Americans eat on Thanksgiving Day is nothing like the wild turkey feasted on by the Pilgrims and Native Americans.



With Thanksgiving Day approaching here are a few facts about the tasty game bird chosen as the main course for the first feast:

- Wild turkeys, now almost seven million strong, were almost extinct in the early 1900s.
- Wild turkeys can run up to 25 mph. Usain Bolt, the fastest known human, averaged 23-25 mph during his world record, 100 meters.
- Wild turkeys, which have as many as 6,000 feathers, can fly as fast as 55 mph. most domestic turkeys are too heavy to fly.
- Wild turkeys roost (sleep) in trees, often as high as 50 feet off the ground.

This year's lucky raffle winner is
Alicia Frazee of
Holly Springs,
North Carolina.



We need a chairperson
to be
responsible for
directing the
December party.



Helpers are already signed up.
Please contact Arlon if you will accept this position.

THE MOUNTAIN GEM

Linda Behr, Editor

25 Phillips Street

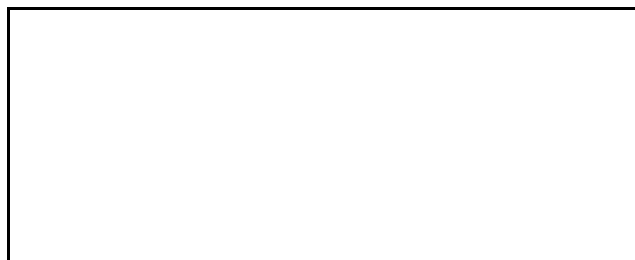
Franklin, NC 28734



Next Meeting:

Fred Plesner will present a
program on his recent visit to
the Colorado School of Mines
Museum

First Class Mail



Board and General Meetings for 2013

MONTH	BOARD	GENERAL
NOVEMBER	19	21
DECEMBER	Dec. 10 is Board Dec 14 End of Year Party 1 pm-5 pm Saturday	

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 news-
letter.**

Board Meetings: 6:30 p.m.

At the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum

All Board Meetings are open to the members.