

THE MOUNTAIN GEM

Volume MMXIV APRIL

Number 4

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

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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 (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: April 24, 2014

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Macon County Community
Center on 441 South

Program: *Show and Tell*

*Show off your favorite specimen and to
tell a story about why it's your favorite.*

May Birthdays

5 – Anamay Rossomando

5 – Chick Snyder

4 - Lon Peden

11 – Sande Lolli

13 – Jane Morgan

17 – Mary Anne Zoeckler

18 – Belinda McGuire

20 – Fred Rasmusson

22 – Amy Fritz

23 – Robbie Hayles

29 – Quinton King

May Anniversaries

5 – Ron & Anamay Rossomando

13 – Ray & Linda Behr

16 – Fred & Frances Rasmusson



The president, Arlon Eldridge

I would just like to start by saying thanks to everyone for all their hard work and dedication as we are now starting to get ready for the season and everything is going well. We are working on some small things that we should have finished by opening day. Lon and his friend should finish the fountain this week and Lon also has finished the T-shirts and we will have them at the board meeting and the regular meeting so everyone that has a pre order can pick them up at the meetings. Also our next big outing will be the gem show so everyone that can host at the show see Norm and sign up. The tables are going fast so if you would like one or more see Susan at the meetings and she will take your order. Also again another great program by Marty, all I can say thanks again Marty and keep 'um coming.



See you at the meetings

Mother's Day Weekend Rock, Gem and
Arts Show dates: Friday, Saturday and
Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the
Community Center on Highway 441/
Georgia Road. FREE Admission,
Sponsored by the Gem & Mineral
Society of Franklin, NC

T-shirts have arrived!

Bring your money to the
General Meeting if you have
already ordered one.

Minutes – March 27, 2014 – General Meeting
The Gem & Mineral Society Of Franklin, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by President, Arlon Eldridge, at 6:45 p.m. in the Community Center building meeting room.

Arlon passed out copies of the proposed 2014 annual budget.

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

Membership – Linda Behr reported 29 members and 2 guests present.

Arlon introduced Virginia Bennis as a brand new member.

Vice President – Ray Behr announced a Faceting II class with a sign up sheet in the museum. He reminded everyone you must have completed the Faceting I class first.

Treasurer's Report – Marie Tsacrios was not present due to the death of her father. Assistant Treasurer Norm Holbert reported for Marie.

Museum Manager – Al Pribble thanked Lon Peden for an excellent job on the outside of the museum. Al Pribble and Tom Marsh have painted and done work in the States Room.

- John Hayes has recently taught a faceting and cabochon class.
- The museum has a 21" monitor if anyone would like to have it and make a donation of \$25 or, alternatively, the monitor may be donated to Reach.
- Al stated there is a need for hosts for two Saturdays in April – April 12 and April 19 as well as one more slot needing to be filled for April 26. There is a sign up sheet on the membership table.
- He reported that he received an invitation for lunch at the Tartan Museum on April 5.

Museum Curator – Fred Plesner said that Spring is coming fast and activities are picking up all over. There is a sign up sheet for the museum clean up day to be held April 16. Lunch will be provided.

- * He reported Trail Days downtown Franklin from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and that the museum will be open. Hosts are scheduled but he said to feel free to drop in and lend a hand.
- * He received a request from SPM Resorts, a company that books lodgings in the Myrtle Beach area. They requested museum information to be utilized for their advertising. He has sent brochures and photos.
- * A half hour radio broadcast was pre-recorded and will be on 1050 AM on the radio dial at 9:25 a.m. on Saturday
- * Fred reminded everyone to take a look at the sign up sheet for the Mother's Day Weekend Rock, Gem and Arts Show and see what times they can sign up for to help. He stated this is *our* show and it will not go off well if members do not volunteer.

Education – Diane Aiello mentioned there were 15 college geology students from New York State who toured the museum. She said their teacher told everyone she was very impressed. They spent over \$100 and made a \$25 donation to the museum. Afterwards, they went to the Cowee Mine and also spent money there. This was a good visit for everyone!

Cont'd to next page.

Minutes cont'd

Gift Shop – Elena Marsh reported that Anamay Rossomando was back for a short while from Florida and the two of them cleaned and re-organized the gift shop. Elena has a new amethyst cathedral that will be for sale. She invited new members to host. With regard to Trail Days, a sign has been placed by the hiking club kiosk and brochures placed there. Unfortunately, rain is predicted for Saturday.

Mother's Day Weekend Rock, Gem and Arts Show (May 9, 10 and 11) – Norm Holbert reported that we are now six weeks out from our Show. He has procured 50 roadside signs and needs five people on Wednesday or Thursday before the show to place them. Jack Jungles will be in charge of set up but will need help. We also need people to help out with demonstrations. Please speak to Norm to let him know how you can help and/or remember there are sign up sheets at the membership table.

William Holland Scholarship – Arlon said the museum work sheet hours were added up. Arlon explained that for every four hours worked at the museum; a member receives one ticket to be put in the jar for a drawing for a scholarship to William Holland School.

Three tickets were drawn from the jar this evening. Winning tickets are:

Elena Marsh

Al Pribble

Laura Anderson

Elena Marsh said that unless there is some sudden, unexpected change of plans, she will accept.

OLD BUSINESS:

Arlon Eldridge and John Hayes presented Marsha Harmon and Claudette Rollins with certificates for having completed John Hayes' faceting class. They worked for three months at the museum over the winter. Their work is displayed tonight on a table in the back of the room. Everyone is cautioned to not pick up the stones but to only look at them.

Fred and Fran Rasmussen telephoned that they will be back in Franklin on May 1. They graciously signed up to host every Tuesday! Doris and Wally Smith will also be back in May and they have also graciously signed up to host every Thursday!

NEW BUSINESS:

Arlon asked if everyone had read the proposed budget. He asked for a motion that the budget be accepted as it is now printed. Norman Holbert so moved and Marty Martinez seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Refreshments were offered. Thank you to Dean Plesner, Elena Marsh and Tom Marsh for their hard work and always providing a very nice table of goodies for us each month.

The gentleman who was to do this evening's program had to cancel due to illness. Marty Martinez quickly scurried to change the program. The membership was treated to a fascinating film on The El Cazador shipwreck, the coins that were found and how the shipwreck changed American history. Marty also brought in original coins for us to view, some of which have been made into jewelry. A question and answer period followed.

Twelve door prize tickets were won by various members.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan L. Fritz, secretary

Curator's Report

From Fred Plesner

With the assistance of Sharon John, Assistant Curator, the bottom 3 shelves of the Mica display in Case # 6 in the North Carolina Room have been replaced. It has been replaced with various historical items from the "Old Jail's" past and several mineral specimens from North Carolina that have not been displayed before. Included among the minerals displayed is a beautiful Emerald crystal from Hiddenite and a piece of Barite.

We wish to thank the Macon County Historical Museum for the loan of several locks and door knobs that were saved from the 1896 fire that ravaged the upper floor.

Gift Shop

From Elena Marsh

The winter months are behind us and spring has sprung – thank goodness!



In preparation of the new season, Anamay and I have once again reviewed our inventory and changed some displays and jewelry items. Take note that we now have an amethyst geode cathedral for sale, located on the shelf just behind the front display case and cash register. New books are being ordered and will also be on sale. Make sure you check out what's new and changed in the shop!

I hope we are all excited about beginning our 40th anniversary year with lots of new club members to share experiences with. When the signup sheet for hosts is passed around during our April meeting, please find at least 4 hours of your time to volunteer and help keep our museum open!

Without you as an active member, our club and museum do not succeed.

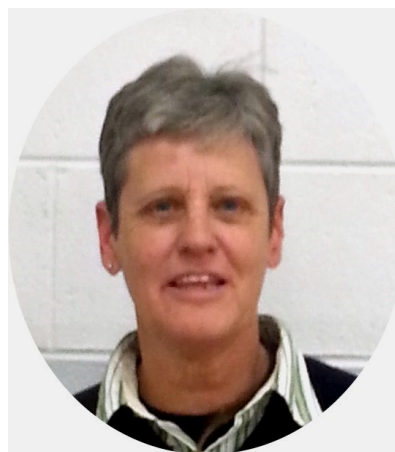
See you in the museum soon –

Interesting Tidbits

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year! (May and October.) Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. The wigs couldn't be washed so to clean them, they could carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term "big wig." Today we often use the term "here comes the Big Wig" because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy. Via Internet



Claudette Rollins and Marsha Harmon pictured with their certificates for finishing their Faceting I class. Also pictured is our president and the instructor.



New member: Virginia Bennis

Manager's Memo:

Al Pribble

Museum Manager

We have several pieces of equipment that either we do not need in the workshop or we do not have room for. After consulting the Assistant managers, it has been decided that the Club members should have first chance at this equipment prior to the Gemboree. If any are not wanted by the members they will be offered at the show.

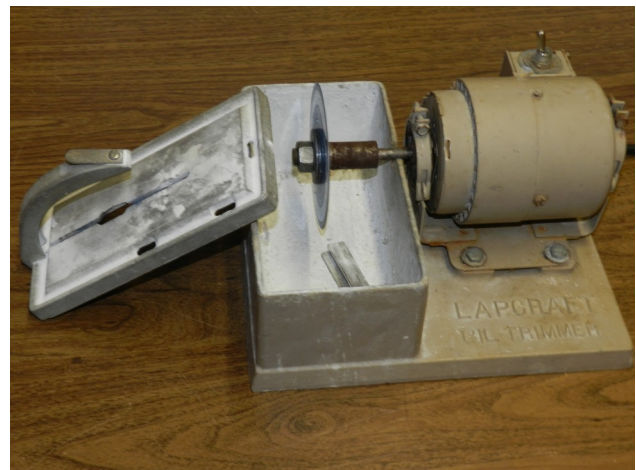
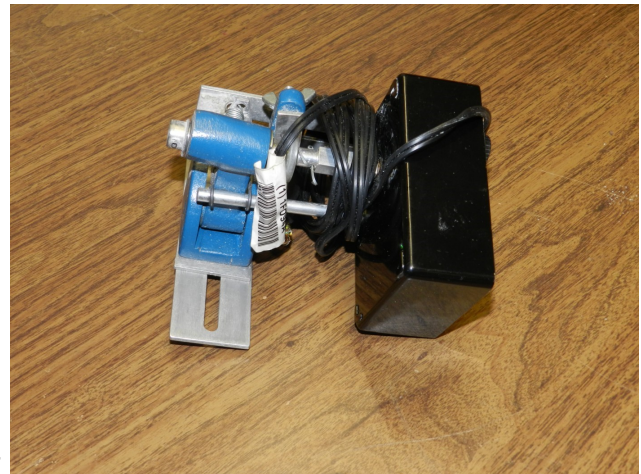
The first is a Li'l Trimmer saw by Lapcraft with a 4" diamond blade. Some have already expressed interest in having the saw; so, I have decided that the fairest way to select who gets it is by having a sealed bid. This will also maximize the income for the Society. The saw sells for \$330 new, and the minimum bid is \$150. The saw does need some minor adjustments.

We also have two Graves Mark I faceting machines. Each have one lap, three gears, one transfer jig and a choice of 6 dops. Both have a two speed motor. With a full set of laps these sell somewhere around \$1000.

These will be sold for \$400, or best offer. If there is more demand than supply the winner will be determined by a drawing at the April 24 meeting. If anyone wants to make an offer, the machines will first be offered at the Gem Show for the set amount. If they do not sell for that amount then they will be sold for the best offer by a member.

There is also a Graves Preforming Attachment, with motor and cam set. This sells new for \$150 new. Club member's price is \$75.

Bids for the saw should be given to me or one of the Board members prior to the meeting on April 24. For out-of-town members you can call me at (828) 342-3119 and I will place your bid amount in an envelope to be opened at the General Meeting. If you want one of the faceting machines also let me know before the meeting.



Program Report By Rex Larkin

I've got a suggestion—instead of having a new person each month present a program, we just have Marty Martinez recount one of his adventures.

Well, I guess we could still have Kim Cochran, but the past three programs by Marty have been great!

Marty talked about his family, commercial fishermen out of the Bayou country, headed up by his uncle Jim; in 1993, about 50 miles off the coast of Mississippi, in a ship named *Mistake*, while casting their nets in search of but-terfish something unexpected occurred. When they hauled their net up from the 300 foot depth, their nets were torn almost completely in half, about a \$10,000 repair. But what had torn their net apart were silver coins, dating from 1732 to 1783—and before this adventure was over, they would bring up 17 tons of these coins.

We watched a video produced by the Learning Channel on this discovery—evidently, after some research; it was ascertained, from the coins and other artifacts (cannons, a ship's bell, etc.) that this treasure was from the Spanish ship *El Cazador* laden with bullion. She either was overloaded or capsized in a storm: she was carrying the first batch of mill-stamped coins for Spain to help in the economy of the Americas. Due to Spain and France's war, France won the land and sold it to the colonies that eventually became our Louisiana Purchase—thus making this find not only lucrative, but also historically valuable for our own history and growth.

Retrieving the treasure was no easy task—costs averaged between \$25,000 and \$40,000 PER DAY for equipment and personnel, especially the divers going over the murky bottom. Then there were the legal challenges: lawyers from Portugal to quick-claim, and other blood suckers, professionals who wanted to help. Fortunately, Mel Fisher in Florida, (who himself was once challenged) challenging Florida's right to the treasure, got the governments to keep their hands off. And the Coast Guard provided around the clock surveillance to keep other opportunists away.

Some coins and equipment were donated to the University of Louisiana; the El Cazador Museum was built in Alabama. Many of these coins, called Spanish Reales, were sold on the Internet. But the sheer quantity, ironically, brought the price down. That being said, the coins were 75-90% silver, besides having special significance.

Marty came with pictures and actual coins for us to view after the program.

Can't wait to see what he comes up with next if our scheduled speaker doesn't show up.

Thanks, Marty.

<http://history.howstuffworks.com/history-vs-myth/el-cazador-shipwreck.htm>



Shop Hints

DOP POTS—DOP WAX: Don't leave your dop pot on continuously because the shellac in the dop wax will dissipate and your stones will fly off the dop stick. Turn it off when not in use.

JASPER: A good test for Jasper is to wet it. If it absorbs water and dries rapidly, throw it away (or at least into your box of tumbling material). It will not take a high polish. If it stays wet and does not dry right away, it contains a high amount of chalcedony (quartz) and will take a good polish.

POLISH: Try adding a few drops of liquid detergent to the water you use for mixing cerium, tin oxide or chrome oxide. It makes the polishing much easier and faster as the detergent holds the polishing compound to the wheel/buff longer.

from *Calgary Lapidary Journal* 12/03, via *Dops and Digs* March 2014

- ◆ I am in shape. Round is a shape.
- ◆ Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- ◆ Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic.
- ◆ Conscience is what hurts when everything else feels so good.
- ◆ Talk is cheap because supply exceeds demand.



Humor - Just To Change The Pace Of Things

By Fred Plesner for the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin

Macon County may be well known for its gems but perhaps; just perhaps, it should be known for its convoluted kinships. Many of us can remember the 1960s and the ballad called "I am My Own Grandpa" and it sounded like a good joke but in Macon County such things weren't jokes, they were a reality and you just may know the decedents of such a relationship.

It begins with Joe Calloway, his wife and their grown-up son named Bill, who lived on Kettle Creek in Macon County.

In the Kettle Creek community there also lived a man by the name of Reuben Smith, who had a wife and a daughter named Sallie. Eventually Mrs. Calloway died leaving as survivors her husband Joe and their son Bill. At about the same time Reuben Smith died leaving his widow and their daughter Sallie. Some time latter Joe Calloway married Sallie, the daughter of Reuben Smith and Joe Calloway's son Bill married the widow Smith.

As a result of these marriages, Bill Calloway became the father-in-law of his own father because his father had married Bill's step-daughter, Sallie. Now by the same token, Sallie became the mother-in-law of her own mother because her mother had married Sallie's step-son. Now, old man Calloway was Bill's father, but he also was Bill's son-in-law at the same time because he had married the daughter of Bill's wife.

Now Bill's wife, the former widow Smith, was Sallie's mother but she also was the step-daughter and the daughter-in-law of her daughter Sallie because she had married the son of Sallie's husband. Sometime after these marriages, a daughter was born to old man Calloway and Sallie, and they named her Mary. About the same time a son, named Sam, was born to Bill and his wife, the former widow Smith.

Now Mary and Bill were sister and brother because they were children of the same father. But Mary being the sister of Bill was also the Aunt of Bill's son Sam. Sam and Sallie were brother and sister because they were the children of the same mother. But Sam, although he was Sallie's brother, was likewise the uncle of Sallie's daughter Mary.

Are you becoming confused? Just stop and re-group because the story really does become confusing from this point on.

Bill, being both the father-in-law and the stepfather of Sallie, became the grandfather of Sallie's daughter Mary, because Bill was the husband of Mary's grandmother, the former widow Smith; while Sallie, as the mother-in-law and stepmother of Bill, became the grandmother of Bill's son Sam, because Sallie was the wife of Sam's grandfather, old man Calloway. So Bill was Mary's brother and grandfather at one and the same time and Sallie was Sam's sister and his grandmother at the same time. Now Bill's son was Bill's father's brother-in-law because he was the brother of old man Calloway's wife. But he was also Bill's uncle because he was the brother of Bill's stepmother.

Mary was also Bill's stepsister because she was the daughter of Bill's stepmother, but Mary was likewise Bill's grandchild because she was the grandchild of Bill's wife.

Quit laughing, it gets better.

So Bill's wife became Bill's grandmother, because Bill was the wife's husband and her grandchild. And as the husband of one's grandmother is necessarily his grandfather, Bill became his own grandfather. By virtue of the same relationship, Sallie's daughter Mary was Sallie's mother's sister-in-law because she was the sister of the widow Smith's husband. But she was also Sallie's aunt because she was the sister of Sallie's stepfather, but Sam was also Sallie's stepbrother because he was the son of Sallie's stepfather.

Sam was Sallie's grandchild because he was the grandchild of Sallie's husband. So Sallie's husband became her grandfather. As the wife of one's grandfather is necessarily her grandmother, Sallie became her own Grandmother.

Quit laughing, here in Macon County it's all in the family.

Attributes: The Asheville Citizen – April 28, 1989 & Book "Random thoughts and the Musings of a Mountaineer" by Felix E. Alley, 1941

Shop Hints

Buff Material: Canvas is useful when polishing heat sensitive stones because it develops little friction. Muslin buffs are recommended for soft stones and gems that are heat sensitive. Leather is a versatile buffing material that is both efficient and economical. Leather generates heat, but not as much as felt. Felt is useful for polishing glass and stones of even texture.

It is not recommended for gemstones that under cut. Friction on felt generates heat rapidly.

From *Northwest Newsletter* 02/2007,
via *Lowcountry Diggings* April 2014

"Golden Egg"

By Linda Behr

Part of this information was obtained from an email from Patrick and Marga of Emeryl Jewelstone®

In 2009, a group of jewelers and gemologists from the United States traveled into the heart of Brazil to find high quality green emeralds. On the 7th day of their journey, after 8 flights covering 13,000 miles and another 2,600 miles on winding, curving roads and horse trails through the mountains and valleys, Emeryl Jewelstone® gemstones by Yellow Emerald were revealed.

This company is proud to announce that the Smithsonian Institute has taken ownership of the "Golden Egg", a 147ct flawless oval gemstone which was discovered in 2009 and is the largest gem they ever found.

This gem will be part of the permanent collection in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. Another large crystal from the mine was also donated to the Smithsonian for their traveling collection.

The "Golden Egg" was insured for \$1,000,000 and traveled throughout the world on tour on many cruise ships and thousands of guests were able to see it.

Now, many more people are going to be able to view this incredible gem for the rest of time.

More information to follow in the future.

http://www.yellowemerald.com/?utm_source=YEM+EMAIL+TEMPLATE+%28Use+This+%26+Edit%29+&utm_campaign=Feb+2014+Smithsonian+-+The+Golden+Egg&utm_medium=email

World History According to Students

This history of the world has been compiled by Richard Lederer from actual student bloopers and mistakes collected by teachers.

The inhabitants of Egypt were called mummies. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere, so certain areas of the dessert are cultivated by irritation. The Egyptians built the Pyramids in the shape of a huge triangular cube. The Pyramids are a range of mountains between France and Spain.

The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Guinesses, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, asked "Am I my brother's son?" God asked Abraham to sacrifice Issac on Mount Montezuma. Jacob, son of Issac, stole his brother's birthmark. Jacob was a partiarth who brought up his twelve sons to be partiarths, but they did not take to it. One of Jacob's sons, Joseph, gave refuse to the Israelites.

Pharaoh forced the Hebrew slaves to make bread without straw. Moses led them to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments.

David was a Hebrew king skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Philatelists, a race of people who lived in Biblical times. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 500 wives and 500 porcupines.

Without the Greeks, we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three kinds of columns – Corinthian, Doric and Ionic. They also had myths. A myth is a female moth. One myth says that the mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Styx until he became intolerable. Achilles appears in "The Illiad", by Homer. Homer also wrote the "Oddity", in which Penelope was the last hardship that Ulysses endured on his journey. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer but by another man of that name.

In the Olympic Games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits, and threw the java. The reward to the victor was a coral wreath. The government of Athen was democratic because the people took the law into their own hands. There were no wars in Greece, as the mountains were so high that they couldn't climb over to see what their neighbors were doing. When they fought the Parisians, the Greeks were outnumbered because the Persians had more men.

Condensed for space.

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 Georgia Mineral Society, Inc. - Atlanta, GA (HOST)

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

10:00 a.m. Eastern (9 a.m. Central)

Saturday, May 17, 2014

Walker County, AL

Fossil Tracks and Pennsylvanian Fossils

Charles Carter, GMS Field Trip Chair

Telephone: 770-998-7949

Cell Phone: 770-891-5947

email: fieldtrips@gamineral.org

WHERE: The Steven C. Minkin Paleozoic Footprint Site in Jasper, AL. Also known as the Union Chapel Mine, this location was days away from being reclaimed when the significance of the fossils found there were realized and reclamation was halted. The site is named for the geologist who led the effort to preserve it for future study. The Alabama Paleontological Society has been instrumental in preserving the site.

COLLECTING: Pennsylvanian fossils, e.g. lepidodendron and calamites plus vertebrate and invertebrate tracks. An excellent field trip guide is available at the Alabama Paleontological Society's website: http://www.alabamapaleo.org/Alabama_Paleontological_Society_files/Minkin%20Guide%20-%20optimized%20Apr%206%202012.pdf

IMPORTANT!!! One of the conditions for collecting fossils here is that you must agree not to sell them. Also, some fossils may be retained by the Alabama Paleontological Society for study.

BRING: You will need to bring a chisel, rock hammer, small sledge, a tool for splitting shale (e.g. heavy duty paint scraper), paper for wrapping specimens, and flats for transporting specimens. Sturdy boots with ankle support (hiking boots) for climbing around rocks, gloves, and protective eyewear should be worn. There are no facilities at the site so bring your lunch, plenty of fluids, and sunscreen.

CHILDREN: This field trip is suitable for children but they must be supervised at all times.

PETS: Pets are allowed if good with strangers and kept on a leash at all times.

All participants must sign a form agreeing to the collecting rules.

Directions And Where To Meet:

We will be meeting at the Wal-Mart in Sumiton, AL at 10:00 am Eastern time, 9:00 a.m. Central Time

Approximate Coordinates: 33.744071,-87.04242

From I-20 in Birmingham:

- 1) Go North on I-65 and take exit 264, 41st Ave N, (Sayreton Road or Daniel Payne Dr.)
- 2) Take a left and go west for about 1 mile and turn right (north) onto Coalburg Road. Note: This area has been under construction so there may be detours.
- 3) Go about 2.2 miles and turn left onto US 78 (Future I-22) and go west
- 4) Go 8.5 miles and turn right (north) on OLD US 78.
- 5) Go 9 miles to Wal-Mart on the right at Sumiton, AL
- 6) We will meet near the gas station there (look for a white Subaru Forester with a license plate on the front that says "Run Forrest Run")

Everyone must sign in before we can caravan to the site.

IMPORTANT! Field trips are open to GMS members and invited clubs only. Failure to comply with GMS and DMC field trip leaders can/will result in immediate dismissal from the field trip site as well as potentially lead to revocation of membership.

THE MOUNTAIN GEM

Linda Behr, Editor

25 Phillips Street

Franklin, NC 28734



First Class Mail

Show and Tell

Show off your favorite specimen and brag about it.

Month	Board Meeting	General
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

Mother's Day Weekend Rock, Gem and Arts Show dates: Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Community Center on Highway 441/ Georgia Road. FREE Admission

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.