

THE MOUNTAIN GEM
Volume MMXVII JULY 2015
Number 7
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 Facilities Building, Highway 441 South, Franklin, N.C. Visitors are always welcome.

Forms for membership can be obtained by attending a meeting. Two meetings are requested before joining.

Dues are \$15 for first family member with \$10 for each additional member. Members under 18 years of age dues are \$3. Membership privileges include newsletter and attending Dixie Mineral Field Trips.

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.

**FRANKLIN GEM
AND MINERAL MUSEUM**

is operated under the direction of the
Board of Directors of
Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

School tours are always available by contacting our Education Chairman, Diane Aiello at 828-371-2436 or 828-524-3307.



**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: editor.themountaingem@gmail.com

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

2014-2015 Officers

Board Of Directors

President	Al Pribble	369-2548
Past President	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Vice President	Tom Sterrett	349-3774
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Treasurer	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
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Director 2016	Ray Behr	342-6360
Director 2016	Cy Amrich	356-7816
Director (2015)	TBD	
Director (2015)	Jane Morgan	342-8703

Museum Managers

Museum Manager	Tom Marsh	369-8915
Museum Ass't. Mgr.	TBD	
Curator	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Curator Ass't	Christine Hubinger	349-7360
Gift Shop.	Elena Marsh	369-8915
Ass't. Gift Shop	Anamay Rossomando	349-2807 or 727-367-9196
Museum Workshop	John Hayes (Temp.)	524-8062
Ass't. Workshop Mgr.	Cy Amrich	356-7816

Committee Chairmen

Budget & Finance	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
	Norm Holbert	634-0350
Calendar Chairman	Virginia Bennis	631-830-5403
Door Prizes	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Education	Diane Aiello	371-2436
Field Trips	Marsha Harmon	369-7262
Gemboree	TBD	
Gemboree Ass't.	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Historian	Ron Rossomando	727-367-9196 or 349-2807
Librarian	Susan L Fritz	524-4936
Membership	Claudette Rollins	349-4834
Publications	Ellen Crawford	404-457-4478
Publicity	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Programs	Jane Morgan	342-8703
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)

2014 (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) 2014 (1st)

American Federation (AFMS): www.amfed.org

Southeast Federation (SFMS): www.amfed.org/sfms

Franklin Gem Museum and Society:

www.fgmm.org

www.facebook.com/franklingems

Date: July 16, 2015
Day: Thursday
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Robert C Carpenter Community Building on 441 South
Program: **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

August Birthdays

6 - Garrett Morgan
 6 - Linda Smith
 22 - John Greist
 22 - Edward Magness
 25 - Art Zoeckler
 29 - Theresa Holland
 31 - Arlon Eldridge



August Anniversaries

3 - Tom & Linda Sterrett
 9 - Doug & Jane Morgan
 14 - Gary & Susan Gaetano
 20 - Jerry & Diane Mason
 30 - Fred & Dean Plesner



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
AUGUST 13th, Thursday



Al Pribble

Summer is here and even though the temperature is still mild the tourist season is heating up and the temperature will soon follow. The crowds in the museum are coming in from all parts of the US and foreign countries and we would like for every member to take some part in volunteering to help in this mission.



We have received a lot of good reviews on the web site TripAdvisor.com, in fact we were awarded the Certificate of Excellence for the many excellent ratings we have received from travelers. So – Come on down! You can be a part of the fun and enjoy some good camaraderie with fellow club members.

If you want to see some of the comments from the visitors try this web site:

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g49146-d255222-Reviews-Franklin_Gem_and_Mineral_Museum-Franklin_North_Carolina.html

July means we will be having the Ice Cream Social with Arlon Eldridge providing the ice cream, so, bring your favorite topping and dig in.

The July Gemboree is less than two weeks away! Hosting and Demonstrating positions are still open. Stop by the museum and sign up or check your calendar before the meeting and be prepared to sign up then. Don't forget - due to the Show our meeting will be early this month.

To all of our members - the Museum has used all of the keys for those who wish to host, so, if you have a key with a number over 100 and are no longer able to host or you know someone who is not needing their key would you please return it? If you cannot come by, just mail it to the Museum at 25 Phillips St, Franklin, NC 28734. It will save us some money, thanks.

Happy Rockhounding!

Minutes – JUNE 25 , 2015 – General Meeting

Gem & Mineral Society Of Franklin, North Carolina

The meeting was called to order by President, Al Pribble, on , June 25, 2015, at 6:35 p.m. in the Robert C. Carpenter Community Center meeting room.

Minutes – The general meeting minutes for June printed in the newsletter were accepted with one correction, motion having been made by Ray Behr and seconded by Jane Morgan.

Membership – Claudette Rollins reported 42 members and 11 guests in attendance this evening. We have four new members: Scott Newton, Sherry Newton, Pete Rizzo and Barbara Rizzo.

Vice President – Tom Sterrett did not have anything to report.

Treasurer's Report – Marie Tsacrios is ill this evening. Norm Holbert reported that we are “in the black.”

Museum Manager – Tom Marsh reported that the new cameras are up and running. He gave a big thank you to Ralph Crawford and Ron Rossomondo for all of their help. He mentioned that if anyone would like to host at the museum and is *not* trained, please contact either him or Elena and they will make arrangements to train you.

Curator/Publicity – Fred Plesner reported that he spoke at the 4H Club and that representatives from three different counties were present. They had been gem mining and he is hopeful they will come and visit the museum. He said we have our new brochures, some of which have been distributed at the I-77N, 95N, 85N, and Piedmont Triad Welcome Center. Some were also sent to Eastern Michigan University, per their request. The Cowee School sent a letter regarding the Heritage Festival, which is a no-go this year. We have been invited to participate in the Cowee School festival on 08/15, where it would be good to have a booth. We already have displays at the Rickman Store. He stated he has a meeting scheduled on 06/29 with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the upcoming gem show. He passed around two sheets for members to volunteer to help with set-up, hosting or demonstrating during the four-day gem show. Set up day will be Wednesday, July 22, at 8 a.m.

Education – Diane Aiello is absent this evening.

Gift Shop – Elena Marsh stated things are going very well. She and Anamay Rossomondo have been busy restocking. Elena mentioned that we have two employees (who are also members) now working in the museum. She indicated that if you are hosting and feeling overwhelmed that these ladies can assist with guests or in the gift shop. She reported that the museum made almost \$300 on Tartan's Day and that lots of members showed up to assist. She said we have a display at Macon Bank for the month of June, located in the back lobby, which depicts and represents our museum. She also reported that the museum is now a certified wildlife habitat and that we are awaiting a beautiful sign for outside by the fountain area. On Saturday, the Fourth of July, she said she would like to have the museum be open by 10 a.m. and that we will require extra hosts that day. She thanked Sherlene Dillon and Ellen Crawford for the refreshments this evening. Elena reminded everyone that next month we will be having an ice cream social and everyone is asked to bring an ice cream topping!

Wally Smith inquired as to how many displays the museum has in Franklin. The answer was: Rickman Store, Franklin Library, Franklin Courthouse, Chamber of Commerce and only until the end of the June, the back lobby at Macon Bank on Main Street. Fred Plesner also said there are smaller displays at East Franklin Elementary School and at Franklin High School.

Field Trips - Marsha Harmon reported on upcoming field trips:

June 27, Saturday. Dahlonega. Meet 8 a.m. at the museum to carpool.

July 3, Friday. Holland School, Young Harris (will include luncheon). Meet 8:30 a.m. at the museum.

She reminded participants to please pitch in for gasoline. There are other trips that are being considered and discussed to include Needmore, Hiddenite and Corundum Hill. If you want to participate, have inquiries, questions or suggestions, please contact Marsha directly.



Minutes cont'd from page 4Old Business:

Fred Plesner also mentioned that elections will be held in August. If there a position in which you are interested, please let Arlon Eldridge know.

Al Pribble mentioned the equipment/machinery in the museum. Now that we have two employees working there, available hours are expanded but to call ahead just to double check. Please remember that there is an equipment fee – honor system – money is to be placed inside the envelope that hangs on the wall.

New Business:

Virginia Bennis passed sheets around for members to sign to host at the museum.

Al Pribble told members to check the membership table. There are lists for our newsletter data base there that Ellen Crawford is trying to coordinate. He urged everyone who can to please sign up to receive the newsletter via email as it is much, much cheaper than snail mail and saves the Society a great deal of money, plus it arrives faster and you can print it out if you like for a hard copy.

Our newsletters are posted by Cy Amrich on the www.fgmm.org website.

Al Pribble gave out two certificates this evening: Congratulations to Lake and Teresa Holland. They have completed the class on cabochons. Their work is on display on the back table.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Marsha Harmon and seconded by Ray Behr to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by president Al Pribble at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments were served followed by a talk by Arlon Eldridge on Brazilian mica and Brazilian emeralds. Arlon gave out pieces of Brazilian mica to everyone present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan L. Fritz, secretary



Al presented Certificates to Lake & Teresa Holland for completion of Cabochon Class



Welcome New Members Scott & Sherry Newton (above) and Pete & Barbara Rizzo (no photo)

Wildlife Habitat Certification

Elena Marsh

Since our back garden area has been the home of several nesting birds and also has some amazing flowering trees and flowers (and has been planted with native bee balm and cone flower), the museum has now been certified as a WILDLIFE HABITAT. The Board approved the purchase of a beautiful sign now featured in the back garden for all to see. The Wildlife Habitat Certificate is hanging in the front entrance of the museum near the framed petrified wood.

A notification about this designation will be sent to all the local papers in the hopes that some articles and pictures will be published. This is a wonderful way to draw more attention to our museum and club. Thanks to everyone involved for their hard work to bring this about!



Gift Shop

Elena Marsh - Gift Shop Manager



Who would have thought that so many visitors could have already arrived in Franklin, toured the museum and made purchases in the gift shop! I know our hosts have been working very hard to accommodate everyone that comes thru the doors, greeting them and offering information about the displays in the museum, the mines and other museums

they may want to visit in town and our area, and also suggesting purchasing items in the gift shop as a memento of their visit. It is very helpful to those new to the area to offer some small guidance to what else Franklin and Macon County offer.

Tartan Days on Saturday, the 20th, was an exceptional day, not only for visitors who toured the museum but also for the amount of members who stopped by to help host and lend a hand. It is so great to see such enthusiasm in promoting our club and museum.



We have gotten many positive comments about our beautiful display in the Macon Bank's back lobby. And I am sure we have gotten several more locals to stop in to see more about the museum and the club once they saw the display. Special thanks to Anamay for working so hard to set up the entire arrangement. I also received a comment from a friend who had recently brought her grandchildren to the museum – she indicated the hosts that day were very friendly, attentive to what the children were asking and she wanted me to know how much that meant to her. In today's world, too many times we forget to extend a smile or a word to others – and sometimes that is all that is needed to make their day (and surprisingly it makes you feel good too)!

Gift Shop con't from Page 6

Anamay and I are now anticipating a very busy buying trip to the July's gem show. Many of the items bought at the May show have already been sold. Please stop by the gift shop and check out all the new jewelry and books available - remember club members get a 10% discount on any purchases over \$10.

Thanks again for any and all donations of jewelry from club members. They are greatly appreciated. Anamay and I make sure we price and display those as quickly as we can --you can usually find them in the 'rounder' case.

Although I say it a lot but I NEVER want this to be taken for granted – THANKS FOR HOSTING – you are representing the club in the finest way.

See you in the museum soon! Elena

Field Trip News

Marsha Harmon - Field Trip Coordinator - 369-7262



Our field trip to Dahlonega, GA on **June 27th** had a great turn out. Special thank you to Fran for joining this fun loving group. The Gold Museum was the highlight of our trip and the hosts all very knowledgeable about gold history throughout the US. This little town provided multiple interest to include fine chocolates and fine food which we enjoyed during our picnic. The Consolidated Gold Mine tour allowed most of us an up close and personal view of hard rock mining which took place over a 100 years ago in Dahlonega. Indoor gold panning proved to be educational but most of this group would have appreciated a cold stream and a pan more. Watch out National Forest areas we are now ready to pan on our own.

Seven down proof members enjoyed a visit to William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, GA, on July 3rd. A personal tour was provided into 8 of 13 classes that were held that week and a wonderful "show and tell" opportunity was not wasted by us. Diane and Jerry Mason, instructors at the school and member of our club were very helpful in making this all happen. Our club does offer a scholarship to one lucky club member based on volunteer hours at our museum. They can choose from Hollands or Wildwood Acres, both schools are close by. Ron, this years winner was on our trip and seemed to be excited about his up coming class there. Volunteer and good things happen... Being in the area, we also stopped by John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC, to take in their "show and tell". The first week fiddle class seemed to be the highlight there. Unfortunately, the trip to Mason Farm Staurolite Prospect had to be cancelled, but may be rescheduled on a future date?

August 1st, Saturday we head north to Emerald Hollow Mine in Hiddenite, NC. Sign up Sheet on Museum Bulletin Board. Contact Marsh for more info.

The Corundum Hill search party: Ralph, Ellen and myself, found a great winter location for rock-hounds. The under growth and possibility of snakes are high this time of year. We now have a connection on the Hill.



Field Trip News con't from Page 7

Graves Mountain will be having a free rock hunt October 2-4 and we plan to be there at least one of those days. A wide variety of material such as rutile, kyanite, pyrite, and iridescent hematite can be found there.

A different location on Ellijay Road has been scouted with pleasing amounts of garnets and some quartz found. Thank you again Ralph and Ellen.

The Nantahala Talc & Limestone Quarry in Swain County is currently under observation for a future trip as requested.

Please just let me know where or what you are interested in!



From the Southeast Federal Mineral Society

An Official Field Trip of the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society (Asheville, NC) HOST
An Official Field Trip of the Athens Rock and Gem Club 9:00 AM to dusk Saturday, July 18, 2015 to the Little Pine Garnet Mine, Madison County, N.C. FEE Site

DIRECTIONS: From Asheville take I-26 west to US 25-70 (exit 19A for Marshall, NC right exit). From north of Marshall, take I-26 south to US 29-70 (exit 19 for Marshall). Travel US 25-70 toward Marshall approx. 12.6 miles and turn left on Little Pine Road. There will be a sign for Sandy Bottom Trail Rides at this corner. Follow Little Pine Road 3.8 miles and turn left onto Caney Fork Road. Parking will be at the end of Caney Fork Road. Collectors will car-pool from here to the site. Maps and/or directions will be available from the office to the mine site. We will meet at the office of Sandy Bottom trail Rides 1459 Caney Fork Road, Marshall, NC 28753 at 9:00 AM. Release forms must be turned in and admittance fee paid. You will receive a ticket which you must keep with you. Representatives randomly visit the collecting site and check collectors. From I-240 at Asheville time should be 35 to 40 minutes. (approx. 25 miles). The Sandy Bottom Trail Rides website also had maps and directions sandybottomtrailrides.net.

HISTORY: Little Pine was worked commercially around 1904-05 for Garnets to produce sandpaper (garnet paper). Good crystals of Almandine Garnets can be readily found from ½ to 4 or more inches. Some remain in the Chlorite schist matrix and can be cleaned to produce very showy matrix specimens. There are some crystals that exhibit an elongated growth that is very desirable. Note: All DMC member clubs are required to maintain field trip liability insurance!

ASSEMBLY: Parking at the collecting site is limited, so members of attending clubs should arrange to car-pool from the meeting site to the collecting area. The road into the mine crosses a shallow stream, however most vehicles should pass without problems. WE CANNOT BLOCK THE DRIVE as it is also a homeowner's access road.

EQUIPMENT: For dump collecting bring scratching tools, small shovel, or pick type rock hammers. To enter the mine, a hardhat and some type of headlamp is necessary. The ceiling of this mine has some loose material and is not suited for children. DO NOT dig into or weaken the support columns! Believe it or not people do this foolish thing. Fill in all dug holes.

COST: The Dixie Mineral Council Group is receiving a discounted rate of \$20.00 per person per day. There is not a special rate for children who attend! Please identify yourself as being a member of the Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip to receive this rate!

The collecting limit is one gallon of Garnets per person. Children 8 and older allowed with close adult supervision. There are dump areas that are child friendly; however there is also a mine shaft and tunnel where children should not be allowed to venture.

RELEASE FORM: Each individual MUST fill out a Sandy Bottom Trail Rides release form. Go to their website - sandybottomtrailrides.net to download form. It will save time if you have these completed prior to arrival. Children under 18 must have a parent or guardian fill out a form on their behalf NO EXCEPTIONS.

A Port-O-Let is located at the mine site. Bring water, food, and bug repellent. No pets.

Please contact Marsha Harmon if interested.

The Sancy Diamond - Mystery and Intrigue

Fred Plesner Curator The Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum

The Sancy Diamond is a Pale Yellow stone weighing 55.23 carats. It is a shield-shaped stone comprised of two back to back crowns (the typical upper half or portion of a faceted stone). A very unusual cut, especially by any Western standard.

Where did it come from? No one knows. It is most likely from India and probably belonged to some Mogul of antiquity.

How it got to Europe is a mystery because there are several stories making the rounds about its origins. One story is that the stone belonged to Charles the Bold of Burgundy. After Charles died it passed to his cousin, Manuel I of Portugal. Some sources claim that the stone eventually was sold to Nicolas de Harley, Seigneur de Sancy. Other stories claim that it was purchased in Constantinople in 1570 by de Sancy. De Sancy

served as the French ambassador to the Ottoman court and eventually became Superintendent of Finance.

Henry III of France suffered from premature baldness and was a vicious and vain man and it has been said that he borrowed the stone to wear as an ornament on his hat. His successor (Henry IV) is said to have borrowed the stone for more practical purposes, he used it as collateral for a loan to raise an army.

De Sancy later sold the diamond to James I of England (the successor of Queen Elizabeth). It acquired its name here since it was listed in the inventory of crown jewels kept in the Tower of London in 1605 as "one fayre dya-monde, cut in facets, bought of Sauncy." The diamond passed down the various English monarchs until the unfortunate James II was forced to sell it. It was sold to Cardinal Mazarin of France for 25,000 Pounds. The Cardinal then bequeathed the diamond to the French Crown upon his death in 1661.

Another story claims that the stone then in the possession of James II, having to take refuge in France after losing the Battle of the Boyne was in effect forced to sell the stone to his host, Louis the XIV. Another story claims that during the English Civil War, Queen Henrietta Maria took the stone to the Continent and pledged it to the Duke of Epemon for 460,000 Livres. It is said that in 1857, that Cardinal Mazarin with the Queens permission paid off the Duke of Epemon, took possession of the stone and then bequeathed the stone to Louis XIV.

The Sancy was then kept in in the Garde Meuble (Royal Treasury) until the French Revolution at which time it disappeared when brigands looted the royal treasury. Among other treasures stolen at this time were the Regent diamond and the French Blue which became known as the Hope diamond.

The Sancy diamond reappeared in 1828 when it was sold by a French merchant to Prince Anatole Demidoff of Russia. The Prince is recorded as selling the stone in 1865 for \$100,000. Two years latter it was displayed at the Paris Exposition, bearing a price tag of FR 1,000,000 (one million francs).

In 1906, the Sancy was purchased by William Waldorf Astor (1st Viscount Astor) as a wedding present when his son (latter 2nd Viscount Astor) married Nancy Langhorne of Virginia. After Lady Astor's death in 1964, the Sancy was inherited by her son the 3rd Viscount Astor and eventually it was passed to the 4th Viscount Astor, who sold it to the Louvre for \$1,000,000 in 1978. Here it was placed in the Apollo Gallery and it is said to be mounted in mounting that permits it to be used as a head ornament. Although it is a yellow diamond it is nearly colorless and could be said to have only a tint of color.

The Maharajah of Patiala, India also claims ownership of the Sancy Diamond. Here a discrepancy exists. The diamond that he owns, although of similar cut is actually heavier than the claimed weight of the Sancy diamond by some 10%. The Maharajah's diamond weighs in at a whopping 60.40 carats.

Attributes: The Story of the Gems, Herbert P. Whitlock, Dover Publications, Inc., Mineola, N.Y., 1942

Sancy, en.wikipedia.org, the internet

Sancy, famousdiamonds. tripod.com, the internet



Attention Faceters - "Let's Talk Faceting"

Where: At the museum

When: August 6, 2015

6:30 - 8:30 pm



Topics: Black wax dopping, faceting equipment, tangent ratio changes, GemCad, etc.

Ask questions, share information and experiences.

If planning on attending, please call the museum and let them know so I will have any idea of how many handouts I will need.

Thanks and hope to see our faceters there.

Norm Holbert



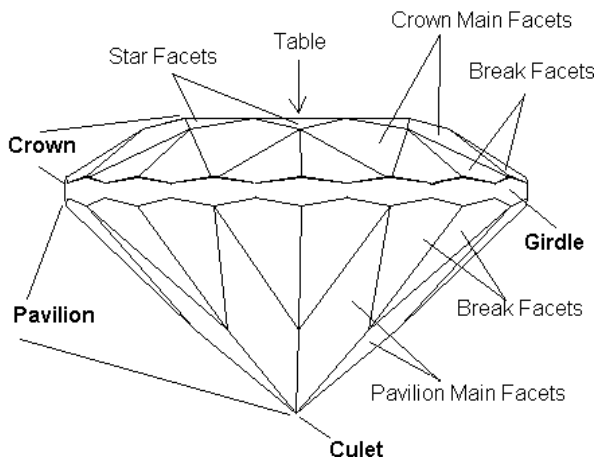
August Birthstone

Two birthstones are available for August birth-days: *Peridot* and *Sardonyx*

Peridot is said to host magical powers and healing properties to protect against nightmares and to bring the wearer power, influence, and a wonderful year. As peridot is a gemstone that forms deep inside the Earth and brought to the surface by volcanoes, in Hawaii, peridot symbolizes the tears of Pele, the goddess of fire and volcanoes. Today, most of the peridot supply comes from Arizona; other sources are China, Myanmar, and Pakistan. This gemstone comes in several color variations ranging from yellowish green to brown, but most consumers are attracted to the bright lime greens and olive greens. Peridot, in smaller sizes, often is used in beaded necklaces and bracelets.



Sardonyx is a form of onyx and is recognized by its layers of reddish brown and white banding. It was popular with the ancient Greeks and Romans who carried into battle talismans of sardonyx engraved with images of heroes such as Mars or Hercules, believing that this would bring courage and victory. Because of its attractive banding, sardonyx has long been used to fashion cameos (carved raised figures) and intaglios (the reverse of cameos). This gemstone is found throughout the world. The most attractive specimens are found in India, but material also is mined in Czechoslovakia, Brazil, Uruguay, Germany, and in the United States.



The Gemboree is rapidly approaching. Volunteers are still needed for set up Wednesday morning, July 22nd. Time slots are available for demonstrations, hosting, over all security, break down, etc.

Sign up sheets are located in the Museum Meeting Room on the table.

Please call Cy Amrich at 356-7816 for more information.

NOTE: New and current email for Editor, Ellen Crawford, is: editor.themountaingem@gmail.com

Please use this email going forward and update your records.

Upcoming Shows

July 22-26-FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA, Highlands Road Gem Show; Highway 441 & Highlands Road

July 23-25 - FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA, Franklin Faceters Frolic; The Factory 1024 Georgia Rd (US 441); Thurs 9-5; Fri 9-8; Sat 9-4; Free; promoted by Norm Holbert

July 23-26—FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA: Macon County Gemboree; Robert C. Carpenter Building; 1288 Georgia Road/US 441; Thurs. - Sat. 10 am-6 pm, Sun. 10 am-4 pm; Adults \$3.00, Children under 12 free; Thurs. Senior Citizen Day \$1.00; Sun. Macon County Residents Day \$1.00; Sponsored by The Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce and The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

July 30-August 2-SPRUCE PINE, NORTH CAROLINA; North Carolina Mineral & Gem Festival; Bridge Coliseum; 12183 S 226 Highway; \$1 Thurs Senior Citizen Day; \$3 Adults; Children under 10 free; Thurs-Sat 10-6; Sunday 12:30-5; Sponsored by Mitchell Co Chamber of Commerce

August 7-9-W. Springfield, MA; East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show; Expo Center; 1305 Memorial Ave., Hours Fri & Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5; \$6. Adults; \$5 Parking

Other Events

July 16-26-WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA; Folkmoot USA; www.folkmootusa.org

July 18-FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA; Appalachian Heritage Festival; Downtown Franklin; Hours 9-5; Sponsored by Franklin Downtown Merchants

August 7 & 8-FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA; Mountain High BBQ Festival & Car Show Wayne Proffitt Agricultural Center ; Fri 11-8; Sat 10-6; Adults \$5 one day; \$8 both days; Children 12 and under free

August 15-FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA; Cowee School Celebration and Macon County Heritage Day; Hours 10-4; Historic Cowee School; Free



THE MOUNTAIN GEM

25 Phillips Street

Franklin, NC 28734

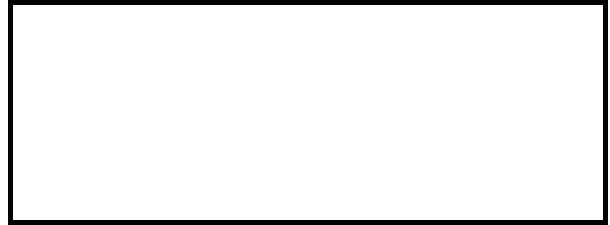


Ice Cream Social

**REMEMBER TO
BRING TOPPINGS**



First Class Mail



50th Annual Macon Co Gemboree

July 23 -July 26, 2015

Thursday - Saturday 10am - 5 pm

Sunday 11am - 4pm

Month	Board Meeting	General
January	27	29
February	24	26
March	24	26
April	21	23
May	26	28
June	23	25
July	14	16 Ice Cream Social
August	25	27
September	22	24 Banquet
October	27	29
November	17	19
December	8	12 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.