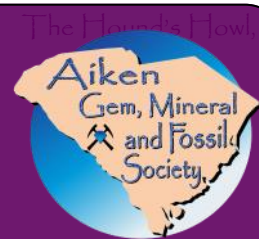




THE HOUND'S HOWL

AIKEN GEM, MINERAL and FOSSIL SOCIETY AIKEN, SC



Volume 54, No. 1

Est. 1962

January 2016

From the Editor

There's a midwinter hush that occurs for many of us. For some, it's a deep reflection over the past year's events—our balance of joys, troubles, fun, and hurdles yet to be surmounted. Others make lists of our annual resolutions to curb our vices and choose a different trajectory of thoughts and behaviors for the future.

For our Club, 2016 is wide open for possibilities. There are plenty of slots available for programs and presenters; contact Debbie Baer with your suggestions. A sign up sheet for refreshments will be passed around at the meeting. Thankfully, the Field Trip Committee has field trips on the slate for this spring. If you think of a place where you'd like to collect or museum to visit, let them know (Board member contacts are on page 2).

The Show Committee, chaired by Chris Glass, has been hard at work for months to iron out the details for our 28th annual Aiken–Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show, coming up in March. Another Bag & Tag event will be scheduled to assemble mineral and fossil specimens. It's not too soon to consider putting in a case display of your specimens for the GMF Show. The deadline to reserve a case is February 15. The Show is free to all Club members.

Earlier this year, the Board decided to simplify our Club's membership so most of us will renew in January. Those joining July and later only pay half price for the remainder of 2016, and then full price at the new year.

Need a name badge? Check out page 9 for where to have one made with our Club's logo. Wearing your badge at the Show and our meetings helps others to match your name with your face in the future, too.

We have many generous Club members. One of our long time members is Bob McDivitt, who for the last decade has been unable to make it to our meetings. Bob built the geode cracker that thrills young people at every classroom visit and annual event. Many of us remember the gorgeous mineral spheres that he crafted. Bob recently donated \$100 for the purchase of small geodes. Thank you, Bob, for this gift that will delight so many in the future. You are our treasure!

See you on Friday, January 8!

Shellie Newell

TRIVIA C H A L L E N G E

Friday, January 8

7:00 pm, Room 200

USC– Aiken Science Building

Brush up on your geology because it's time for our annual game show! Get ready to laugh, get stumped, come up with the correct answer, and maybe win a prize. Margaret Marion and Jim Sproull have been on the hunt for great Rockhound Trivia questions. It's a silly fun game to challenge our grey matter and giggle quotient.

Come kick off the New Year with some fun. After a brief business meeting, let the game BEGIN!



Renew Your Membership

In This Issue

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- 9 – AGMFS Calendar; AGMFS Membership Form

AGMFS Officers and Committees 2015

President: Shellie T. Newell

(803) 663-7752 / president@aikengmfs.org

Vice President: Debbie Baer

(803) 295-7897 / vicepresident@aikengmfs.org

Secretary: Dede Biles

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Editor Emeritus, Historian: Barbara Fenstermacher

(803) 649-0959 / bfenster2@bellsouth.net

Field Trip Committee/ DMC Liaison: John Kolmar, Dede Biles, Don Horne, Jim Gee, and Debbie Baer

(803) 642-3767 (John) / lkolmar@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Barbara Fenstermacher

Webmistress: Patti Bennett webmaster @aikengmfs.org

Federation and USCA Liaison: B. Fenstermacher

Librarians: Jerry Lipsky and Jim Jewett

Meeting Minutes ~ December 11

- We gathered at USC Aiken on December 11 for our 10th meeting of the year, which was our Holiday Dinner and Pirate Gift Exchange. Twenty-nine members and guests were present. President Walt Kubilius called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- President Walt Kubilius made a motion that there be a two-steal limit on each gift during the Pirate Gift Exchange. The motion was seconded, and it passed on a vote by the Club.
- Jerry Lipsky made a motion that the number of gifts stolen from a person be limited to two. That motion was second, but it did not pass on a vote by the club.
- The slate of officers for 2016 was approved by a vote of the club. *Hounds Howl* Editor Shellie Newell will succeed Walt Kubilius as president, and Debbie Baer will succeed *Hounds Howl* Editor Emeritus and Historian Barbara Fenstermacher as vice president. Herb Martin and Dede Biles will continue to serve as treasurer and secretary, respectively.
- Editor Shellie Newell announced Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies Bulletin Editor's contest and presented the awards. Winners were entered into the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Bulletin Editor's Contest for national judging. These articles appeared in the 2014 issues of *The Hound's Howl*. Our newsletter won First Place for small bulletins in the SFMS and placed Third in that category for the AFMS. She encouraged everyone to submit articles for publication and possible future accolades by the Federations.
- Field Trip Committee Chair John Kolmar discussed upcoming field trips.
- We enjoyed a potluck dinner with many tasty dishes

brought by the members, including a ham provided and cooked by Herman Kunis.

- The Pirate Gift Exchange followed our dinner, and members unwrapped—and in some cases stole—many interesting presents. Those gifts included a fossil fish, a piece of barite from Morocco, fishtail selenite, and big piece of agatized Withlocoochie coral. There were also cabochons, jewelry, potato rake, and other tools among the presents.
- Everyone had a good time.

Respectfully submitted,
Dede Biles

Milestones



- 2 – Michael Potvin
- 7 – Karin Willoughby
- 9 – Joyce Ostrawski
- 13 – James Jewett
- 17 – Jenna Potvin
- 18 – Shellie Newell
- 25 – Matthew Lyon
- ? – Chuck Paul



January 19

David Dunlap & Sharon Sterrett

In Memoriam

Marvin W. Tarpley

1920–2015



Mr. Marvin W. Tarpley (Tarp) passed away on December 9. He is survived by his son, James M. Tarpley and James's wife Debbie. As a young man, Tarp studied aircraft radar installation and repair in the Civil Service. He served in the South Pacific on Tinian Island in the Army Corps during WWII, and later was a broadcast engineer in Savannah and Augusta, GA. For 30 years, he made many significant contributions to the DOE Savannah River Site. Tarp's final years were spent enjoying playing the piano, studying college level video courses, reading, and hanging out with his family, dog, and cat.



Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Bulletin Editor's Contest by Shellie Newell

Every year, bulletin editors throughout the 7 regional Federations pour through the prior year's newsletters and pull the best articles. Each must be original. It also must satisfy AFMS requirements for a particular category. Those articles that place in each category in the SFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest (BEAC) are then compiled and sent to the AFMS for national judging.

Mark Easterbrook served as Chair for the SFMS BEAC. I am very grateful for his support throughout the submission process. Not only did he shepherd all SFMS bulletin editor contributors through the forms, details, and deadline, he also found judges who rigorously reviewed every submission. Mark certainly was generous with his time and expertise as I made the final preparations.

Editor Emeritus Barbara Fenstermacher's support was instrumental. We met several times to review every original article that appeared in 2014. It takes a lot of thought and time for this project, something she did by herself for nearly 20 years for our Club. Her wisdom and expertise is simply invaluable. Thank you, Barbara!

Finally, many thanks go to every Club member who provided an article for *The Hound's Howl* as well as those who offered field trips or programs—primarily Walt Kubilius and the Field Trip Committee—that were developed into articles.

2015 Winners of the SFMS BEAC

Small Bulletins:

First Place, *The Hound's Howl*, Shellie Newell, Editor

Junior Articles, Age 12–17:

First Place, Josie Dyer, Age 12, "Preparation of Grab Bags"

Junior Articles, Under Age 12:

First Place: Jenna Potvin, Age 9, "Lazulite"

Original Adult Articles:

Third Place: Gayla DeBose, "Display Case Guidelines for Competition"

Fourth Place (tie): Chris Glass, "26th Annual Gem,

Mineral, and Fossil Show News"

Original Adult Articles, Advanced:

First Place: Shellie Newell, "Yellowstone's Topography Alters after Wolf Reintroduction."

Second Place: Shellie Newell, "A Non-Collecting Field Trip to Heggie's Rock"

Written Features

Third Place: George Loud, "Colorado Ramblings"

Fifth Place: Walt Kubilius, "1974, My First Rockhounding Trip (Part 1)"

Honorable Mention: Jim Stoops, "Christmas Micro Humor"



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Bulletin Editor's Contest 2015 Winners

Small Bulletins:

Third Place, *The Hound's Howl*, Shellie Newell, Editor

Original Adult Articles:

Honorable Mention: Chris Glass, "26th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show News"

Original Adult Articles, Advanced:

Honorable Mention: Shellie Newell, "A Non-Collecting Field Trip to Heggie's Rock"

Honorable Mention: Shellie Newell, "Yellowstone's Topography Alters After Wolf Reintroduction."

Junior Articles, Under Age 12:

Fifth Place: Jenna Potvin, Age 9, "Lazulite"

Junior Articles, Age 12–17:

Third Place, Josie Dyer, Age 12, "Preparation of Grab Bags"

Do contribute your articles, poetry, and drawings to *The Hound's Howl*. Who knows? You might even win an award! BEAC categories are:

New Editors; Mini, Small, and Large Bulletins; Junior Articles 12–17; Junior Articles Under 12; Adult Poetry; Junior Poetry; Special Publications; Original Adult Articles; Original Adult Articles Advanced; Drawn Features; and Written Features.

December 13 Field Trip The Private Collection of Kenny Jarrett

Kenny Jarrett has been an avid collector since he was a boy exploring his family's land. Bordering the Savannah River, the Cowden Plantation outside of Jackson is 10,000 acres of prime hunting and fishing property. Some of the spear points and arrowheads he has found are set in frames that circle the upper level of his personal museum.

"I open the museum for small groups on Sunday afternoons only," he smiled. "You can get your money back if you don't think it's worth it after the tour."

Internationally renowned for the precision and handcrafted beauty of his family business—Jarrett Rifles—his artisanship is also expressed through a varied collection of early Native American and Civil War artifacts. Mr. Jarrett has reconstructed several items himself. In particular, a clay burial vessel about 3 feet tall had to be pieced together with special glue. This was achieved so perfectly that the incised pattern has no breaks or cracks.

Mr. Jarrett's breadth of knowledge was evident as he tapped his spiral-carved baton on each selection before sharing its story and answering questions. "I read two books a week," he said. "Knowledge is key to determining the authenticity of a piece."

Many rare and historically important items are on display. But he's also collected everyday pieces used in households and by Confederate soldiers. These are interspersed with works of art by John Paul Strain that illustrate events during the Civil War. A Fredric Remington bronze of cowboys racing by is near the front door.

The upper portion of the walls in the large back room are mounted with trophies taken from his own land and big game hunts around the world. Its capstone is a bull elephant trophy roped apart from the rest of the collection by four ivory tusks. Other exhibits include a surgeon's kit, pistols and bullets, a howitzer canon, clay pipes, and other items.

This was quite a departure from our Club's regular field trips. No one asked for their money back.

story and photos by Shellie T. Newell



1. Mr. Jarrett demonstrating an atlatl, an early handle and socket device that when flipped can propel a spear faster and longer than by hand alone.



2. Detail of intact glass bottles (1800s) advertising Augusta manufacturers. "The best place to find them is in old privies," grinned Mr. Jarrett. "It was about the only private place for a husband to escape his wife for a nip of alcohol, and when the bottle was empty it was tossed into the hole."



3. This large burial vessel with a stamped design (~1200 years old) was in pieces before Mr. Jarrett reconstructed it.



4. Rifles used before and during the Civil War. (top→bottom) U.S.N. Starr flint lock rifle (1834, partially seen); Remington (1857); C.S. Richmond low hump rifle (1862); C.S. Richmond high hump rifle (1862); British Tower (1862, the most commonly used rifle among both armies); and an Austrian Import rifle (1862).



6. Tin and copper are not found in the South. Bronze items were hauled to one of two foundries in Augusta to be melted into cannon tubes. This bronze church bell was found by a neighbor on top of the remains of the wagon that had carried it. There is no record of how the bell came to be in the middle of the woods. More than 30 years after trying to purchase it, the neighbor's son gave it to Mr. Jarrett.



5. The Museum's back room houses a wide variety of items, including a few of his trophies (look at the back wall).

December Holiday Dinner and Pirate Gift Exchange ~ AAArrrggghhh!



The smiles say it all. Good eats, good fun, and good friends. Happy Holidays!

Magnificent Micromounts
by Dr. Henry Barwood



Green needles of rockbridgeite on beraunite from the Red Ball Mine, Calhoun County, Alabama. I've run XRD on these and they are rockbridgeite and not kidwellite. Bob Stevens mount and collection. Collected in the 1970s before this locality was stripped of surface material. FOV is about 1.5 x 2 mm. Canon 40D with a 30mm B&L objective, bellows configuration and fluorescent ring light with diffuser. Stacked using Combine ZP.



Iron oxide pseudomorph (possibly lepidochrochite) after strengite from the old Indian Mountain locality north of the extinct town of Bluffton, Cherokee County, Alabama. These are EXTREMELY fragile and this is an exceptional example. The hole is where the original mineral the strengite formed on has dissolved away. FOV is about 1 x 1.5 mm. Canon 40D with a 30mm B&L objective, bellows configuration and fluorescent ring light Stacked using Combine ZP.

Henry (Bumpi) Barwood is Professor of Earth Science, Department of Chemistry and Physics at Troy University in Troy, Alabama. The captions are his.

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or see his book, *Bench Tips for Jewelry Making* on Amazon.com.



Foredom Stand

A quick and easy way to suspend a flexshaft over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from your local hardware store. It attaches with a couple screws and only costs about \$10

I use 1/2 inch galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle."



Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe to hang the motor from. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.

Broken Drills

Have you ever broken a drill bit off in a hole? Sometimes you can grab it with pliers, but other times the steel piece is below the surface in the hole. If this happens, a quick fix is to dissolve the steel in a solution of alum or fresh pickle. The solution will not affect your silver or gold piece.

Alum is typically available from a food store. It's used to preserve some foods. Use about a tablespoon per cup of warm water. Submerge your piece so that the partially drilled hole is facing up to let the bubbles float free and not block the hole.



South Carolina State Stone: Blue Granite

by Chris Glass

Our South Carolina state mineral, blue granite, is quarried in the Midlands and Piedmont area. It is a light gray or blue colored stone. Blue granite became the official stone of South Carolina when House Bill No. 1808 (H1808) was signed by Governor Robert McNair on June 24, 1969. The Act stated that "the blue granite stone of this State has been widely used to beautify all areas of South Carolina." It was first mined in Fairfield, from the mid 1880's until 1946, and was known at the time as Winnsboro Blue.

Granite is an igneous rock, which means that it was formed when magma (molten rock) was trapped beneath the surface of the Earth. There, it intermingled with other rocks and particles (in this case, flecks of mica and quartz), cooling very slowly and then crystallizing.

Granite is found in large plutons on the continents, in areas where the Earth's crust has been deeply eroded. Lavas erupt all over the Earth, but lava with the same composition as granite (rhyolite) only erupts on the continents. This means that granite must form by the melting of continental rocks. That happens for two reasons: adding heat and adding volatiles of water or carbon dioxide or both.

Granite is the most abundant rock in the continental crust. At the surface, granite is exposed in the cores of many mountain ranges, within large areas known as *batholiths*, and in the core areas of continents known as *shields*.

The large mineral crystals in granite are evidence that it cooled slowly from molten rock material. That slow cooling had to have occurred beneath Earth's surface and required a long period of time to occur. The only way that granite rocks are exposed today is after the overlying sedimentary rocks had eroded to the extent that the underlying granite rocks were uplifted.

Granite is known as a signature stone and is highly prized for building material. It is a load-bearing rock that

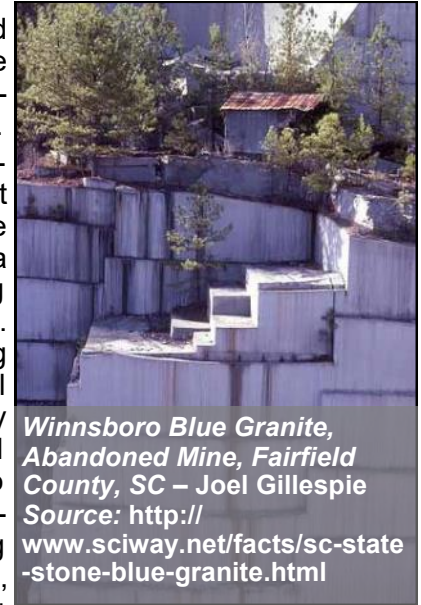
resists weathering and can be shaped and take a high mirror polish because of its grain density.

Granite is the hardest building stone, so it is no wonder that granite slabs and tiles occupy a prominent place among dimensional stones. Its hardness, fascinating colors, and textural patterns make it very popular. Its principal characteristics also include a high load bearing capacity, crushing strength, abrasive strength, amenability to cutting and shaping without secondary flaws, ability to yield thin and large slabs, and, above all, durability.

Due to highly dense grain, it is resistant to staining. Polished granite slabs and granite tiles have achieved a special status as building stones globally. Our South Carolina Statehouse was built with blue granite when it was erected in 1908. The endurance and beauty of the stone can be seen over a century later.

Granite was used for cobblestones, bridges, and building structures in ancient Europe before being prized for its load bearing and beauty characteristics in modern dimension stone in the construction of building exteriors, floors, and patios. Granite withstands the weight of furniture and indoor and outdoor décor.

South Carolina mines massive amounts of granite and is known as one of the largest granite producers in the United States.



Winnsboro Blue Granite, Abandoned Mine, Fairfield County, SC – Joel Gillespie
Source: <http://www.sciway.net/facts/sc-state-stone-blue-granite.html>

Science News Daily: Mammal Diversity Exploded Immediately After Dinosaur Extinction

Scientists at UCLA have been examining placental animal fossils from the Paleocene Epoch (10 million years ago to now), which began immediately prior to the extinction event in the Cenozoic Period. They found that the niches opened by dinosaur extinction allowed the anatomy of more than 5,000 placental animals (including humans) to become far more varied.

Senior author, Dr Anjali Goswami (UCL Genetics, Evolution & Environment), said: "...a lot of competitors and predators of mammals disappeared, meaning that a great deal of the pressure limiting what mammals could do ecologically was removed. They clearly took advantage of that opportunity, as we can see by their

rapid increases in body size and ecological diversity. Mammals evolved a greater variety of forms in the first few million years after the dinosaurs went extinct than in the previous 160 million years of mammal evolution under the rule of dinosaurs."

It has been difficult to place placental animals in the tree of life because of their lack of several features that help plug them into different classifications. To solve the issue, the UCL team developed a special tree of life that includes early forms and those living today.

Full article and source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/12/151221193937.htm>

FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

NOTE: Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Field Trips are open ONLY to all members, in good standing, of clubs that are part of the Dixie Mineral Council (DMC) of the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. (EFLMS). The general public is NOT invited to any other DMC field trip because of insurance liabilities. Society members will receive details of monthly field trips via email.



100 Tellus Drive, Cartersville, GA



Kaleidoscope
OF AMERICAN GEMS

January 1 through
October 2, 2016

The United States has a wide variety of precious gemstones found throughout the country, from the more familiar gems like emerald, sapphire, and turquoise to less familiar gems such as peridot, kunzite, and agate. The new special exhibit in The Vault, *Kaleidoscope of American Gems*, highlights the beauty, rarity, and history of American colored gemstones with an exhibit of gems, jewelry, and objets d'art.

All items in this special exhibit are on loan from the privately-owned gem collection, *Somewhere in the Rainbow*. This exhibit features some of the finest American gemstones, including Arizona garnet, Montana sapphires, and Georgia amethyst. Other items on display include jewelry from one of the most famous American Indian jewelry artists, Charles Loloma, as well as a necklace that highlights one of the best North Carolina Emerald specimens designed by Martha Ann Gilchrist, the first woman ever recognized by an American jewelry design competition.



McKissick Museum
USC in Columbia
301 Gervais St.

Natural Curiosity
ongoing exhibit, 3rd floor



UPCOMING SHOWS

Jan 16–17: 45th Annual Jewelry, Gem, Minerals & Fossil Show & Sale. Sponsored by the Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society. Volusia County Fairgrounds - Tommy Lawrence Building, 3150 E. New York Ave. Deland, FL 32724. Show contact Rosemary van Wandelen 386-479-1509 rrborzo@yahoo.com; <www.tomokagms.org> and <www.tomokafacetersguild.org>

Jan 24–25: Annual Panama City Gem and Mineral Show. Sponsored by the Panama City Gem & Mineral Society. Bay County Fairgrounds, Panama City, Florida. Contact: Steve Shipton at 850-867-0586 or email at shipton3@comcast.net.

Feb. 7–8: 38th Annual Symphony of Gemstones Show and Sale. Sponsored by Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club. Kiwanis Island Recreation Center 951 Kiwanis Island Park Rd., Merritt Island, Florida. Contact Roz Mestre email: roz.mestre@att.net, (321) 431-0159. <www.centralbrevardgems.org>

Feb. 20–21: Gem and Jewelry Show. Sponsored by the Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society. Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL, 32960. Email: tcrandgs@bellsouth.net.

Feb. 27: Annual Show and Sale. Sponsored by Imperial Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society. Saturday 9 –4:30 PM. 175 Lake Hollingsworth Drive, Lakeland, FL 33801. Contact Kim Price at (863) 412-9156; <www.bonevalley.net>

March 6–8: 45th Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show and Sale. Sponsored by the Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society. The Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773. Contact Bill Schmidt at (727) 822-8279; <www.sgams.com/Shows/show.htm>

28th annual Aiken–Augusta

Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show
March 11–13, 2016

Fri & Sat 10–7 Sun 11–5

Julian Smith Casino 2200 Broad St. / Augusta, GA

Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society www.aikengmfs.org

Augusta Gem & Mineral Society <http://agams.club>

For group reservations: C. Glass (706) 284-9239

Are you ready for the Show?

Member badges (only \$11 each) can be ordered by phone and will be ready in two days.

B&S Engraving & Trophy Shop
(706) 863-7501



3733 Washington Road, Augusta, GA 30907



2016 Aiken GMFS Meetings & Calendar			
MONTH	REFRESHMENTS	PRESENTER	PROGRAM
Jan 8	Sharon Sterrett & David Dunlap	Margaret Marion & Jim Sproull	Rockhound Trivia
Feb 12			
Mar 11-13	28th Annual Aiken–Augusta Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show		
Mar 18			
Apr 8			
May 13			
June 10	Barbara Fenstermacher & Chris Glass		Silent Auction
Jul-Aug	Summer Excursion		
Sept 9	All Members		My Favorite Thing
Oct 14		Kim Cochran	His topic of choice
Oct	Science Education and Enrichment Day		
Nov 11			
Dec 8	All Members	Holiday Dinner and Pirate Gift Exchange	



The Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society: 2016 Membership Application

Current Date _____ Please check one: New Renewal

Name _____ DOB (month/day) _____ Spouse's Name: _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Email Address: _____ DO Anniversary _____

Children's Names (those active in Club only) and DOB _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

I give my consent to the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society (AGMFS) to use my name and likeness for publicity purposes and to promote Society activities. Check one: Yes No

Please check *one* type of membership and *one* type of newsletter preference.

Membership: Dues Family \$20 Dues Single \$15 Dues Student \$2 grade/school

[Note: New members joining from July-December, 1/2 price with full price membership in January]

(Family is defined as spouse and/or children under 18 living at the same address)

Newsletter preference: Email (*free* to all members) *or* Snail mail (add \$10 per address per year)

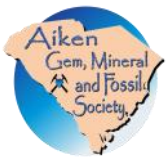
TOTAL: \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Aiken Gem and Mineral Society**

Mail to: **Herb Martin, Treasurer**
6 Brookline Dr.
Aiken, SC 29803

Cash _____ Check # _____

Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____



The Hound's Howl

Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
P.O. Box 267
Aiken, SC 29802-0267

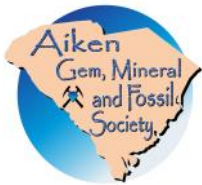
First Class Mail

Friday, January 8, 2016

Rockhound Trivia

7 PM, Room 200

USC-Aiken Science Building



The **Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society** operates as a non-profit, educational organization affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (AFMS), the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. (EFMLS), and the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (SFMS).

The purpose of the Society is to stimulate interest in collection of gem and mineral materials and fossils and to impart knowledge of lapidary work, mineralogy, paleontology, collecting and classification of minerals and fossils, and the application in the art so greater pleasure may be derived from these activities.

The Society meets at 7:00 PM, second Friday of the month, in Room 200 of the USC-Aiken Science Building located in the University complex on University Parkway in Aiken. There are informal meetings in July and August. The annual dues, payable by December 31, are \$20 for a family membership, \$15 for a single adult membership, and \$2 for a junior member.

The *Hound's Howl* is published ten times a year by the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society. An annual subscription is an additional \$10.00 for posted delivery, otherwise it is sent via email delivery. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint material from this bulletin for nonprofit usage, provided the sense or meaning of the material is not changed and proper credit is given to our club and the article's author or photographer. Material written by the editor may not have a byline.

The Society's website, www.aikengmfs.org, offers more information about the history of the club, our annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, education links, and community projects. See photos of our field trips and events on our **Facebook** page.