

From the President

I apologize that this issue of *The Hound's Howl* is so late. Emotionally it's been like trying to squeeze through a toothpaste tube of things that needed to get done Right! Now!, which has kept me scrambling for the last month.

I hope you and yours had a beautiful holiday season and are raring to tackle this new year.

We hit the ground running with a second Bag and Tag at the Lipsky's home on January 8. Chris Glass brought three large boxes of fluorite, calcite, and selenite rose specimens to donate to our Grab Bag project. Thanks go to Debbie Baer, Dede Biles, Barbara Fenstermacher, Chris Glass, Ken Glass, Robert Glass, Don Horne, John Kolmar, Jerry Lipsky, Sally Lipsky, Margaret Marion, and Jim Sproull for showing up to do the work of packaging. Having a core of willing folks supports both our and the Augusta Gem and Mineral Clubs' annual Show profit. Our half of the profit helps to underwrite programs and events in 2017. Thank you!

On January 12, Barbara Fenstermacher, Chris Glass, Patricia Sims, and I were at Jefferson Elementary school in Warrentonville for their Science Fest. A table of minerals, fossils, and small geode cracking entranced parents and children alike, and 2017 GMF Show publicity was given out.

Field trips are scheduled through May and will be discussed during our next meeting.

Thanks go to Debbie Baer for taking my place for last month's business part of the meeting. Look for photos and two articles by Herb Martin about the Club's December Holiday Party and the Field trip to the Jarrett Museum in the February issue.

I look forward to seeing you on Friday, Jan. 13—a lucky evening! Onwards and Upwards,

Shellie T. Newell



Friday, Jan 13

7:00 pm, Room 200

USC - Aiken Science Building

Jim Sproull and Margaret Marion have prepared a multiple choice program for this year's game. All of us will have a one in four chance to get a question right. Review 2016 issues of *The Hound's Howl* and brush up on your mineral identification, because there will be \$ cash \$ awards for the top three winners.



A membership form is on page 5. Thank you in advance for renewing your membership in the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society!

In This Issue

- 2 – Board Member contacts; December Minutes; Brad's Bench Tips
- 3 – Federation News: Aiken GMFS Winners of the SFMS and AFMS BEAC Awards; William Holland Lapidary School 2017 Classes
- 4 – Field Trips & Events; Upcoming Shows
- 5 – Winter Micromounter's Meeting; Epidote Micromount; AGMFS Calendar; 2017 AGMFS Membership Form

AGMFS Officers and Committees 2016

President: Shellie T. Newell

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

Vice President: Debbie Baer

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

Secretary: Dede Biles

(859) 312-2310 / secretary@aikengmfs.org

Treasurer: Herb W. Martin

(803) 648-0891 / treasurer@aikengmfs.org

Editor: Shellie T. Newell

(803) 663-7752 / houndshowl@gmail.com

Editor Emeritus, Historian and Federation Liaison:

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) / jkolmar@gmail.com

Membership Chair and Federation Liaison: Barbara Fenstermacher bfenster2@bellsouth.net

Webmistress: Patti Bennett webmaster@aikengmfs.org

USCA Liaison: Walt Kubilius

Librarian: Jerry Lipsky

Meeting Minutes ~ December 11

- We gathered for our 10th meeting of the year on Dec. 9 at USC Aiken. We celebrated the holidays with our annual potluck dinner and pirate gift exchange.
- Vice President Debbie Baer conducted the business portion of the meeting because President Shellie Newell was visiting her twin sister in Texas.
- Treasurer Herb Martin presented the Treasurer's Report and took a few renewal memberships.
- Barbara Fenstermacher distributed Bulletin Editor Awards from the Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies annual contests (see right column).
- Jerry Lipsky didn't dress up like Santa Claus as in prior years, but he did oversee the gift exchange and made sure that everybody who participated went home with a present.
- There was plenty of good food to eat, and people enjoyed seeing—and sometimes stealing—many of the interesting, useful, and beautiful gifts.

Respectfully submitted,
Dede Biles

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

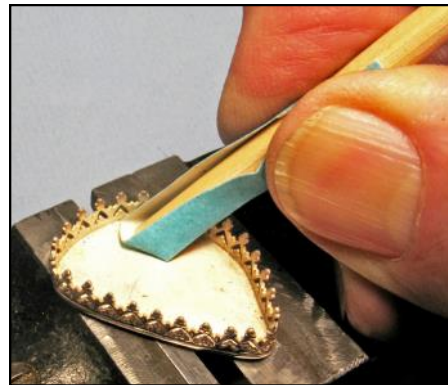
More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or see his book, *Bench Tips for Jewelry Making* on Amazon.com.



SANDING / POLISHING IN TIGHT PLACES

Often you'll need to sand or polish an area that's impossible to reach with even a small wheel on a flexshaft. Other times it might be the bottom of a pocket or inside bottom corner of a box that needs to be finished. One trick for these nit-picky jobs may be left over from your last Chinese dinner — a chopstick.

I've found quite a few uses for these in the shop. Prepare the tip by simply sawing it off at a 45 degree angle. Then apply whatever abrasive grit you will need for the job or hold a strip of sandpaper around the end.

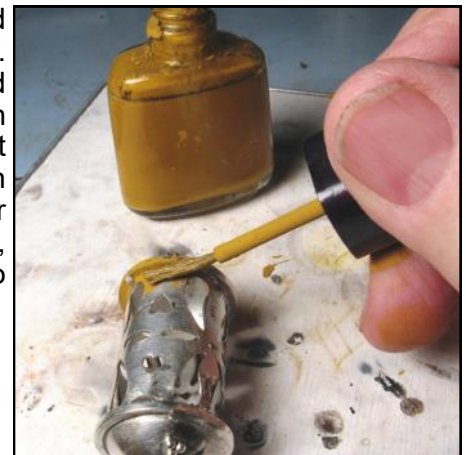


Loose grit can be held onto the tip with a bit of Vaseline or oil. Tripoli or rouge can be just rubbed onto the end of the chopstick.

OCHRE APPLICATOR

Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder won't flow on an area of your piece while you're soldering another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it.

I use recycled nail polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush applicator. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail polish remover, and they're ready to go.





2016 BULLETIN EDITOR'S CONTEST WINNERS

Mark Easterbrook
Chair, SFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest

The following are the results of the 2016 SFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest as announced at the 20 November 2016 SFMS Editor's Breakfast in Marietta,

Georgia in conjunction with the SFMS Annual Meeting. I want to thank all of the entrants this year. There were more entries this year than last year in more categories. However, there were single entries in four of the categories. I hope to see more SFMS club participation for the 2017 contest. It is very easy to enter. Please visit the SFMS website for all of the information: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/bulletin_contest.html>.

Reprinted from *Lodestar Newsletter 2016*; Vol XL: p 25
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_pdf/Lodestar%20December%202016.pdf>

SFMS Website Contest

First Place – Patti Bennett, (Score: 99.5)

AGMFS BEAC Winners: Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

WRITTEN FEATURES

First Place – Jim Stoops: South Dakota Grasslands Agate – *The Hound's Howl*, April 2015

Third Place – Shellie T. Newell: Trona: The Rock in My Biscuits – *The Hound's Howl*, April 2015

ORIGINAL ADULT ARTICLES

Fifth Place – Shellie T. Newell: "Prying an Ancient Whale Skull out of the Ashley River," October 2015

Eighth Place – John Kolmar: "Panning for Gold at the Heritage Gold Mine," June 2015

Honorable Mention – Chris Glass: "Getting the Show on the Road," February 2015

ORIGINAL ADULT ARTICLES - ADVANCED

Second Place – Jerry Lipsky: "Fossil Corals: Anatomy, Taxonomy, and Extinct Sub-Classes," June 2015

Fourth Place – Walt Kubilius: "Haile Gold Mine with Reid Mobley," February 2015

AGMFS Website and BEAC Winners: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Patti Bennett, 6th place, AMFS Website Contest

Jerry Lipsky, 4th Place, Advanced Adult Articles; "Fossil Corals: Anatomy, Taxonomy, and Extinct Sub-classes"

Jim Stoops 7th Place, Features; "South Dakota Grasslands Agate"

Walt Kubilius, 9th Place, Advanced Adult Articles, "Haile Gold Mine with Reid Modley"

Shellie Newell, 16th Place; Features; "Trona: The Rock in My Biscuits"

Education, Lapidary School: William Holland Courses and Instructors

Exciting classes will be offered in the 2017 SFMS workshop for William Holland the week of June 11. New classes and instructors, their bios, class descriptions and pictures are on our Facebook page, Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies <<https://www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies-317959434999844>>

COURSE AND INSTRUCTOR

Inlay Silver I: Chuck Bruce and Micah Kirby
Silver I: Pattie Appleby
Southwest Style Silver 2: Vickie Prillaman
Cabs 2 with intarsia: Paul Roberts
Immersion Enameling Cold Connection: Deborah Mauser
Polymer Clay: Sandi Davis
Beading: Gail DeLuca
Opals I: Cheryl Kasper
Casting Organics: Bill Harr
Faceting: Linda Searcy
Wire I/Spoon Jewelry: Jan Stephens

To register for one of the exciting classes at William Holland SFMS for the week of June 11–17, please fill out the 2017 SFMS Workshop Registration Form. Use legible print handwriting to prevent any errors.

Send your registration form and your payment to:

Heidi Wetzel
William Holland Registrar
10B Gridley Street
Greenville, SC 29609

If you have questions, call 864-328-5868 or email <SFMS.wh@gmail.com>. (Adapted from *Lodestar*, Dec 2016)

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.



Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure Starts Jan. 14

This exciting new planetarium experience takes audiences on a remarkable journey into the relatively unexplored world of the “other dinosaurs,” those reptiles that lived beneath the water. Follow a family of Dolichorhynchops, also known informally as “Dollies,” as they traverse ancient waters populated with saber-toothed fish, prehistoric sharks and giant squid. Sea Monsters is narrated by Tony Award-winning actor Liev Schreiber and features an original score by Richard Evans, David Rhodes and Peter Gabriel. *Show Run Time: 40 mins.*



301 Gervais St., Columbia, SC

<Reprinted from <http://scmuseum.org/>>

UPCOMING SHOWS 2017

January 21–22, 2017: 46th Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show & Sale. Sponsored by the Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society. Sat 10–6/Sun 10–5 at the Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 E. New York Ave, Deland, FL 32724. Admission \$4; children under 12 free. Contact: Susan Morris, 386.843.0152; tgmsshow2017@gmail.com; \$1-off coupon on the web: <www.tomokagms.org or www.tomokafacetersguild.org>

Jan 23–24: Annual Panama City Gem and Mineral Show. Sponsored by the Panama City Gem & Mineral Society. Central Panhandle Fairgrounds 2230 E. 15th St., Panama City, Florida. Sat 9–5 / Sun 9–4. Admission and parking is free. Contact Steve Shipton, show chair, 850-867-0586 or e-mail: shipton3@comcast.net.

Feb. 6–7: 39th Annual Symphony of Gemstones Show and Sale. Sponsored by Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club. Sat. & Sun 10–5. Admission: adult \$5 (\$1 discount coupon on website and in local papers), children under 12 are free when accompanied by adult. Kiwanis Island Recreation Center, 951 Kiwanis Island Park Rd., off SR 520 Exit on I95 going East, entrance is just east of the Merritt Island Mall, turn at the sign. Contact information: Roz Mestre, 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. Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4. \$5 Donation at the door. Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960. Contact: treasurecoastrockandgem@gmail.com

Feb 25: Annual Show and Sale. Sponsored by the Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society. Sat 9–4:30. 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801. Contact: Kim Price, 863-412-9156, IBVGMFS@gmail.com, <<http://www.bonevalley.net>>

Feb 25–26: 58th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show. Sponsored by the Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (MGMS). Sat 9–6/Sun 10–5 at the Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds, Jackson, Mississippi. Adults \$6, students \$3; Scouts and Leaders in Uniform \$2; Children 5 and under, free. Info at rock2lanes@gmail.com or <www.missgms.org>.

March 11-13: 29th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Co-sponsored by the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society and the Augusta Gem & Mineral Society. Fri & Sat 10–6/Sun 11–5. Julian Smith Casino / 2200 Broad St. / Augusta GA. Admission: \$3 per day or \$5 Weekend pass for one adult; children under 12 FREE with an adult. Chair Richard McNutt, 706-650-8280; <www.aikengmfs.org or agam.club>

Micromounter's Winter Gathering in Florida on February 23-25

Jim Stoops will be one of several presenters at this annual event. More information will be in the February issue. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Yellow epidote, FOV 2.3mm. This specimen is from the 3M Quarry (Sweet Home, Arkansas) roof pendant material.

Specimen and caption courtesy of Jim Stoops.

2017 Aiken GMFS Meetings & Calendar			
MONTH	REFRESHMENTS	PRESENTER	PROGRAM
Jan 13	Sharon Sterrett & Chris Glass	Jim Sproull & Margaret Marion	Rockhound Jeopardy
Feb 10	Jim Gee & John Kolmar	Jerry Lipsky	Echinoderms
Mar 9-11	28th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show		
Mar 17	Patricia Martin & Shellie Newell	Herb Martin	Buying Diamonds
Apr 14	Shellie Newell & Barbara Fenstermacher	Woody Sanderson	Kaolin: More uses than Carters has liver pills
May 12	Linda Sarkany & Marilyn Hodge		
June 9		All Members	Silent Auction
Jul-Aug	Summer Excursion		
Sept 8		All Members	My Favorite Thing
Oct 13		Kim Cochran	His topic of choice
Oct	Science Education and Enrichment Day		
Nov 10			
Dec 8	All Members	Holiday Dinner and Pirate Gift Exchange	



Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society: 2017 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)

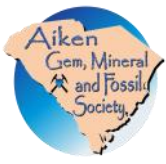
TOTAL: \$ _____

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

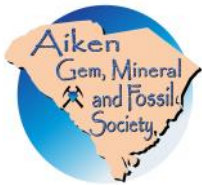
First Class Mail

Rockhound Jeopardy!

January 13, 2017

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.