

THE HOUND'S HOWL

AIKEN GEM, MINERAL and FOSSIL SOCIETY
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA



VOLUME 56, No.2

EST. 1962

FEBRUARY 2018



In MEMORIAM



This remembrance is written with sadness and some difficulty as the realization of Shellie's passing has set in and her legacy is felt in so many ways.

We welcomed Shellie into the Club mid-year 2004 and within a short time the creative juices were flowing as Show publicity seemed to be a perfect fit. Working with advertisers and making posters, flyers, coupons – vibrant and colorful – all a work of art produced for the next 12 years.

Beadwork was her hobby and as a Show demonstrator; a way to meet with folks who were drawn to her welcoming smile and invitation to sit and chat. In addition, she helped with set-up and take-down and initiated the Membership table where Club information was available for the visiting public. "Many hands make light work" was her mantra and Bag 'n Tag was born. No more were just a few responsible for bagging more than 6,000 grab bag specimens.

Our small education committee was blessed by her involvement as she enthusiastically helped with school presentations and conversed for hours with SEED attendees about our displays and the hobby.

Also, Shellie served as a Club officer: V.P. in 2008 and 2009 following as President in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016, 2017, and was reelected in 2018.

Her newsletter articles and program reviews brought the *Hound's Howl* to a new level of intellectual focus. Upon my earnest request, Shellie assumed the editor position in 2013, our 51st year; here again, it was a perfect fit. All were proud as Bulletin Editor Awards were achieved in Regional and American Federation contests. Her writing skills as a professional copy editor were admired by many and she would not hesitate to help with proofreading, a research project or power point presentation.

Shellie loved photography, and we enjoy an abundance of visual records of all the Club events that she attended – field trips, meetings and special occasions. Equally so, exceptional photos by others were appreciated, especially from the micromounter community.

Yes, we have been blessed and "have big shoes to fill." I'm sure Shellie is still with us and urging us – "Onwards and Upwards."

Barbara Fenstermacher

FEBRUARY 9 PROGRAM

Rockhound Trivia

Our 14th Trivia event!

Jim Sproull and Margaret Marion guarantee us a challenging game.

HINT! Read the 2017 newsletters. Prizes for the top scores!

Refreshments, too!

Science Bldg., Room 200 @ 7pm

AGMFS MEETING - March 16

Because our regular meeting date is scheduled on the first day of the Show, we will meet on the third Friday.

PROGRAM

Mining for Gems

Presented by Amos Cunningham, owner of a gem mine in Due West, S.C.

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Member News

Welcome New Members

Vicki Newell, DVM
Advance, N.C.

Adela & Ted Dziemanowski
Aiken, S.C.

Birthday Greetings

2 - Ken Baer

9 - Jim Cobb

12 - Pat Martin

18 - Naomi Pine

25 - Paxton Prowse

27 - Bradley Noelle



Happy Anniversary

17 - Jessie and Yates Donnan



5 Weeks to Go!!!

March 9-11
Setup - Thursday, March 8



Chris Glass - Show Chairman 706.284.9239

Wayne Parker - Keeps track of show expenses and sends out dealer contracts.

Kathleen Wallace - Sets up front desk and schedule of volunteers.

Patricia McNutt - Sends in ads to Augusta Family Magazine, mineral magazines and local papers.

Chris Glass - Schedules security and the firemen.

Richard McNutt - Directs the set-up and take-down.

Tim Boiter & Robert Glass - Sorts, prices and cuts geodes outside Casino.

Herman Kunis - Schedules demonstrators.

Gayla DuBose - Sets up the dealer dinner, provides lunch for dealers on Friday and Saturday, and arranges for coffee and breakfast items.

Richard & Patricia McNutt - Secures grand door prize prior to show.

Jerry Lipsky - Organizes the bag 'n tag plus the Ffinal bagging of our grab bags.

Chris Glass - Schedules the display case exhibitors.

Jim Cook - Helps children pan for treasures at the Outdoor gold panning/salted mine.

Chris Wisnieski - Relay for Life and oversees Refreshments for visitors.

AGMFS Officers and Committees 2018

President: TBA

Vice President: Debbie Baer

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

Secretary: Marilyn Hodge

(803) 649-0174 / secretary@aikengmfs.org

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Federation Liaison: Barbara Fenstermacher

Field Trip Committee/ DMC Liaison: John Kolmar,

Jim Gee, Debbie Baer and Herb Martin

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

Webmistress: Patti Bennett

webmaster@aikengmfs.org

USCA Liaison: Walt Kubilius

Librarian/Bag'nTag Coordinator: Jerry Lipsky

Our Show - Our Responsibility

In less than six weeks, the 30th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show will take place at Julian Smith Casino in Augusta, GA. This event relies on all of us for it to take place successfully.

Several sign-up sheets will be passed around at the February meeting so you can select an area to help with the event. Among them are:

Dealer Dinner - This takes place on Thursday evening and allows members a chance to get to know our dealers better. The show committee sets up a potluck and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. Anything from salad to dessert is welcome. Leftovers are used to feed the dealers on Friday and Saturday as they can't leave their booths untended

Front Desk - Three people fill 2- and 3-hour shifts to take in admission fee, give out door prize tickets and pass out grand prize tickets. ▶



Treasure Dig – Susan and John Blas need help manning and refilling the treasure dig box. It is fun to watch the kids sifting for small stones, crystals and fossils.

Grab Bags and Specimen Bags – Many have helped to prepare the specimens for the grab bags; now it is time to help sell them. Over the past few years they have almost sold themselves. Last year was a record – 1300 bags.

Membership Table – Sit and tell people about the Aiken GMFS and the hobby. Club brochures and member applications will be available.

Demonstrations – We have an expert opal cutter, wire wrapper and welcome others who would like to take this time to make some items and demonstrate your craft.

Chris Glass, Show Chair

A Reminder . . . DUES are DUE NOW



You don't want to miss all that the hobby and our club offer – programs, field trips, workshops, newsletter, education, conventions and camaraderie. Plus, members get in the Show free! So renew your membership before March 8. Look for the member application in the newsletter or on www.aikengmfs.org.

FEDERATION NEWS

2018 Federation Workshop Dates

- SFMS** William Holland.....June 10-16
- Wildacres.....August 20-26
- Wildacres.....Sept 17-23

Registration forms/list of classes:
www.amfed.org/sfmsworkshops.com

- EFMLS** Wildacres.....May 21-27
- Wildacres.....Sept 3-9

Information, registration forms, and list of classes on p. 4 of the *EFMLS News* or www.amfed.org/efmls-wildacres.org. William Holland offers continuous classes (not federation) April – October. More on www.lapidaryschool.org.

*

**2018 EFMLS Convention
Region VI, V.P. Report**

By Larry Huffman

As Region VI Vice President, I have three clubs in my territory: Catawba Valley GMC, Tar Heel GMC, and Aiken GMFS. During the past year, I have attended the Hickory and Raleigh shows.

For the first time in several years new and old collecting sites have opened in the region. Most notable is the Hall River Mine in Hiddenite, NC. Located just east of the North American Emerald Mine, it is being opened one weekend a month to local EFMLS/AFMS clubs. The Propst Farm in Lincoln Co., NC has been bought by Mrs. Propst's son-in-law who lives next door and has reopened for a dig fee of \$25.00 (proof of insurance required and your Club membership card).

All three clubs are doing well and adding new members...

--Adapted from report in *EFMLS News*, Jan 2018.

**2018 Wrap up Show Meeting
Thursday, February 8 @ 7 p.m.**

Earth Fare
368 Furys Ferry Rd. #3
Martinez, GA

"Grab Bag Finale"

Sunday, March 4 @ 1:00pm

Meet at the Lipskys (call 865.382.2159 for directions). It's time to fill the 1000 bags!

We Welcome the Southeast Federation!

The Aiken and Augusta Clubs will be hosting the Southeast Federation Quarterly Meeting during our Show. We welcome Craig Hamilton, President; Scott Forward and Bob Green, Georgia and S. Carolina State Directors; and all Federation attendees.

We hope you have an enjoyable visit and look forward to meeting you at the Show.

Want to Build a Display Case?

The EFMLS On-Line Library has directions and graphics for a Federation-style case courtesy of Bruce Himko, Bellevue Rock Club.

--www.amfed.org/efmls/library.htm

ROCK 'n READ

If you are into crystallography, the Jan/Feb 2018 issue of **Rocks&Minerals** is a must-read. Starting with "Introduction to Tucson 2018: Crystals and Crystal Forms" by Robert Cook to "Hematite Twins from the Kalahari Manganese Field..." many facets of the basic concepts are covered and much more. "The Crystal Systems: A Qualitative Visual Guide" is particularly interesting with a possible application for a show case theme."

Find a copy at the Aiken County Library periodicals section and spend time for reading relaxation. ▣

GEODIZED CRINOIDS

A few weeks ago while going through boxes of a donated collection from the 90s, I discovered unusual fossils that appeared to be crinoid calyx geodes. Most were from the Bedford, Indiana vicinity.

The Hoosier state is noted for its crinoid fossils and some of the most famous locations are in the Borden Group rocks that extend in a line from north to south and include Crawfordsville and Monroe Lake. Bedford is south of Monroe Lake. The Borden Group rock layers were deposited as a large river delta was formed during the Mississippian period, 340-350 million years ago, and the environment was perfect for the formation of complete crinoid fossils.

My research did not find many answers to the calyx geode formation though recent posts on the Fossil Forum blog assured me that others were also investigating similar finds.



Calcite is present in the broken geode.

<http://www.thefossilforum.com/index.php?topic/74733-geodized-crinoids-from-brown-county-in/>

http://www.indiana.edu/~paleoind/Resources/Elegantocrinus_hemisphaericus_the_Elegant_sea_lily.pdf

FIELD TRIPS

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 Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. (EFMLS). The general public is NOT invited to any other DMC field trip because of insurance liabilities. Society members will receive details of monthly Club field trips via email.*

M. A. G. M. A. Trips

April 7, 2018

Pipsico Scout Reservation
Surry Co., VA

Miocene and Pliocene Fossils



Graves Mt.

Rock Swap and Dig

April 27-29, 2018

Lincolnton, GA

For information: <http://www.wncrocks.com/magma/magmaupcomingevents.htm>



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
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Sunday, Feb 11, 2018

9am -2pm

Patty Construction Quarry

7525 Hwy 27

Summerville, GA

No Fees



Amore Under the Stars

Wed., Feb. 14, 2018 from 6-9pm

Celebrate Valentine's with a romantic evening at the State Museum featuring a special Valentine's planetarium show, night-sky observing and more. Go to SCmuseum.org for tickets.



Rockhound Trivia

February 9

**Room 200, Science Bldg., USC-Aiken
Business Meeting at 7 p.m.**

2018 Aiken GMFS Meetings & Calendar			
MONTH	REFRESHMENTS	PRESENTER	PROGRAM
Jan 12	Cancelled		
Feb 9	Sally & Jerry Lipsky/ Sharon Sterrett & David Dunlap	Jim Sproull & Margaret Marion	Rockhound Trivia
Mar 9-11	30 th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show		
Mar 16	B. Fenstermacher/ C. Glass	Amos Cunningham	Mining for Gems
Apr 13	Mark & Nancy Pitts/ Herb & Pat Martin	Carol Jantzen	My Life – Mineral Gallery
May 11	Linda Sarkany/	Clovis Sites and Platinum: Evidence Of an Asteroid Hit?	Dr. Christopher Moore
June 8		All Members	Silent Auction
Jul-Aug	Summer Excursion		
Sept 14	Chris Glass/	All Members	My Favorite Thing
Oct	Science Education and Enrichment Day		
Oct 12		Kim Cochran	Topic of his choice
Nov 9			
Dec 14	All Members	Holiday Dinner and Pirate Gift Exchange	

The Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society: 2018 Membership Application

Current Date _____ Please check one: New or 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: _____ Cell/work 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 or No

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

Membership: Dues Family \$20 or Dues Single \$15 or 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

Kathleen Wallis, AFMS Treasurer
 1142 Ridgemont Drive
 Aiken, SC 29803

Cash _____ Check # _____
 Amount: _____ Date: _____

The Hound's Howl

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

February 2018

Program: Rockhound Trivia

Meeting date: February 9 at 7:00 p.m.
USC-Aiken Science Building, Room 200



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 p.m., 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/student 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 non-profit 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 by-line.

The Society's web page, 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.

