



THE HOUND'S HOWL



AIKEN GEM, MINERAL and FOSSIL SOCIETY
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA

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MAY 2018

From the Editor...

Every Spring, as the weather improves dramatically in our "neck of the woods," our thoughts navigate to field trips and hopes of finding the treasures we have always hoped for.

It is also the time when the Federations advertise their yearly workshops at Wildacres Retreat and William Holland Lapidary School. You have received a few of these messages via email in the last month with photos of lapidary pieces the results of the classes.

You are encouraged to consider attending a workshop to take advantage of a unique opportunity: an inexpensive vacation in the mountains together with a learning experience. I came away from my Wildacres trip with fond memories of new friends, good food, relaxation time, and my first effort working with stained glass art that I will always treasure.

The **SFMS Week at William Holland is June 10-16** with Gemstone Faceting, Intarsia, Bead Weaving, Cabochons 1, Immersion Enameling and Cold Connection, Intro to Inlay/Silver 1, Junior Rockhounds, Wirecraft 1, Silver 2 – Rings, Silver 1, and Wire 2.

The **SFMS Weeks at Wildacres are August 20-26** with Casting, Chain Maille, Intro to Gem ID, Metal Clay – Tangible Moments, Metalwork Special Projects, Silver 1, and Wire **and September 17-23** with Chain Maille, Cold Connection, Electro-Etching, Enameling, Intro to Inlay, and Seed Bead Weaving.

Check out www.sfmssworkshops.com for more information and a registration form.

The **EFMLS Weeks at Wildacres are May 21-27 and September 3-9**. Spring classes are: Beaded Bezel, Cabochons, Faceting, Cold connections, Electro-etching Beginner and Intermediate, Loop & Loop Chains Beginner and Advanced, Silversmithing Basic and Intermediate, Viking Knit, and Wirewrapping Basic. Fall classes are the above, and Chasing & Repousse, and Geology 1 and 2.

Check out efmls-wildacres.org for more information and news about the Speakers-in-Residence: Helen Serras-Herman – Gem Artist/Author and Alfredo Petrov – Explorer, Raconteur, and Mineral Dealer.

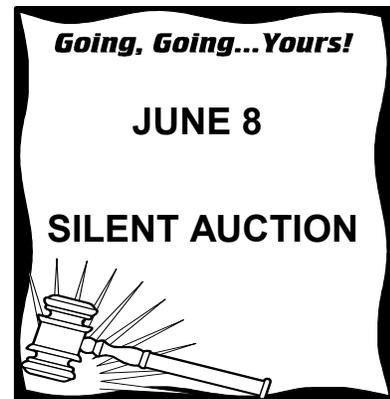
Class schedules and registration forms will be available at the May meeting.

Barbara Fenstermacher

May 11 Program

We recently learned that Chris Moore will not be able to be with us for the May 11 program. Debbie quickly put in some calls and was able to schedule Dave Hanes, The Dinosaur Hunter who has found Cretaceous Era dinosaurs in Mississippi.

More information will be sent closer to the date.



It's not too early to look through your collections and decide items to be donated or sold. If donated, look for the bid sheet with 100% to AGMFS; if not, the bid sheet will note 20% to AGMFS and 80% to seller.

Hobby-related items are requested: specimens, books, field trip equipment, jewelry, workshop equipment, etc. Anyone can buy, so bring friends and family to enjoy the experience, but you must be a dues-paid-up member to sell.

More information in the June newsletter.

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Member News



Diane Provost
Trenton, SC



Margaret Marion – 1st Mike Bennett – 7th
Allie Bennett – 14th David Graley – 29th
Janet English – 28th



Jim and Karin Gee – 30th



April Show 'n Tell



Naomi Pine very proudly showed off her Trancas geode from Mexico received from her Grandfather and purchased in Kinnelon, New Jersey.

Photo by Ken Glass



She also brought shark teeth, vertebra and other beach finds from Drum Island.



Photo by Jessica Pine

April Meeting Minutes

The Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society met on April 13, 2018 in Room 200 of the USC Aiken Science and Engineering Building. President Walt Kubilius called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. **Visitors** were Diane Provost and Connie Breght.

Kathleen Wallis gave the **Treasurer's Report**. The Shellie Memorial Fund has \$905.00.

Debbie Baer gave the **Vice President's Report**. Dr. Christopher Moore will speak in May. In June we will have the silent auction. When we return in September it will be "My Favorite Things" and Kim Cochran will speak in October. In November the program will be given by Herman Kunis. December will be the holiday party with pirate gift exchange.

John Kolmar gave the **Field Trip Report**. The field trip location in Due West, SC will be open to the club on April 21, 2018; pay \$25.00 in advance to John Kolmar. We will be the first club to dig at this site. DMC field trip hosted by our Club at Graves Mountain will be Friday, April 27, 2018. There will be a suggested donation of \$15.00 for admission and \$3.00 for golf cart rides.

Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig will take place on April 27, 28 and 29, 2018. John said because of the detour on 378 it is best to take I-20 to Exit 172 to get the Graves Mountain. On May 19, 2018 there is a field trip to the dump site behind the municipal building in Harleyville, SC. New material should be there to look through. Members will receive info on field trips by email.

Chris Glass reported on the **Show**. Chris said as soon as all bills are paid final distribution is made and our club will receive their share of the profits. The display cases need work; each year those in the worst condition will be replaced and hoping to keep the glass front. The rental on Julian Smith Casino is going up.

Old Business: John Whatley has finished the power point presentation on Graves Mountain that he and Shellie began last year. CDs were given to Walt Kubilius, Barbara Fenstermacher and Jim Stoops in our Club. A copy will be given to Patti Bennett for the website.

New Business: There was no new business.

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Show and Tell: "Miss N," Naomi Pine, showed a geode given to by her Grandfather in New Jersey. She also showed her fossils from Drum Island.

We enjoyed **Refreshments** supplied by Mark and Nancy Pitts and Herb and Pat Martin.

Program: Carol Jantzen told us about her plan for The Frederick's Mineral Gallery at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center. The Gallery is a work in progress. Carol shared the story of her Father's lifetime of collecting.

Submitted by Sharon Sterrett, Secretary

Field Trip Report

By John Kolmar

On April 21, over 20 club members traveled to Due West, SC, for an expedition to Ashley Mine. The weather was perfect for a great day of digging. Jerry



Lipsky found a really big beryl specimen (see photo). Jim Gee found a beautiful specimen of smoky quartz. One of our younger members found a fabulous arrowhead. All in all, everyone had a great

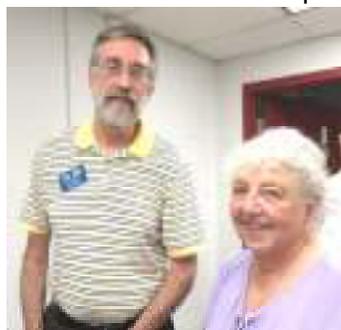
time.

Some are still working on removing clay and stain from their amethyst and smoky quartz. Don't forget to bring your finds to the May 11 meeting for Show 'n Tell.



The Fredericks Mineral Gallery

A crowd of 30-plus gathered for our April meeting to hear Dr. Carol Jantzen speak of her life-long interest in



Walt Kubilius and Dr. Jantzen

the hobby and the future establishment of the Fredericks Mineral Gallery at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center in memory of her father Theodore and mother Clara.

We were not disappointed as she recounted her father Ted's collecting experiences in the late 1930s and 40s in the Northeast (Mine Hill in Roxbury, CT; Strickland Quarry in Portland, CT; and Palermo Quarry in NH) and her early years when her family lived in Brooklyn, New York and she joined him on field trips. In 1948, her father audited classes in mineralogy in Brooklyn College; this led to a future career and business collecting minerals and rocks and assembling them into educational geology "kits" and marketing them for schools across the country. Dr. Jantzen recalled the summers spent collecting and assembling the kits in the living room and typing the # codes for

each specimen. Educational booklets followed and she helped in their publication.

As the business expanded, the American Museum of Natural History, the Hayden Planetarium, and other prestigious institutions and universities were included as clients.

Ted was an active member in a number of clubs in Long Island and taught Adult Education classes in the identification of minerals in the 1960s and 70s. He was inducted into the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame in 1998 for recognition in the field of geology education.

Dr. Jantzen has worked at the Savannah River National Laboratory for 35 years and has a PhD in Materials Science & Engineering with a specialty in glass chemistry. Her father visited frequently in Aiken in his later years and upon his passing in 2009 at the age of 93, she knew the way to honor him and her mother was to establish an educational mineral exhibit that would be funded by their estate – the Fredericks Mineral Gallery at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center.

As a prelude, she has donated a 250-pound perthite twin crystal from the Ruggles Mine and, in 2017, a fossilized raptor egg from Mongolia that is 75 million years old (only 6 in the U.S.). The Norm and Liz Bauman collection was recently acquired also.

Preparation for the Mineral Gallery has included the purchase of 4 cabinets and consulting with the Tellus Science Museum for display designs. Currently the Gallery is located in classrooms and halls in RPSEC though the future home is planned to be in the space presently used for the planetarium as appropriations for the new planetarium wing is deliberated by the State Legislature. When established, the Gallery will include a fossil room, fluorescent minerals section, wall displays, and special exhibits, such as "Rocks That You Eat" and "Minerals That Take Care if You."

As a Club devoted to mineral and fossil education, we will follow the development of the Gallery closely and offer assistance so this remarkable contribution to our region's development comes to fruition.

For Aiken Standard articles written by member Dede Biles, google Ruth Patrick Science Education Center/news dinosaur egg.

Photo by Ken Glass

The Wonder of Tucson in February

By Donna Smith, Wayne Co. GMC, New York

I am assuming that many of our members have been to the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, but I want to encourage those who have not to go sometime. This February was my first visit, and it was a jaw-dropping experience for me.

This event is THE largest of its kind in the world. The main show at the Convention Center is hosted by the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. They had a club booth where I got a warm welcome. This year's theme was "Crystals and Crystal Forms." They focus on education and they had obtained specimens from Carnegie Mellon, the Smithsonian, and museums in Toronto, Scotland and Los Angeles to complement pieces from their own collections. The large event is run exclusively by volunteers, just like our very own GemFest in Canandaigua.



The displays at the Main Show were colorful and breathtaking. Look at that amazonite with smoky quartz in the middle of the middle row!



And then there was this: a wondrous display of the multitude of crystal forms that our favorite minerals display, all cut in wood. One could stand there for hours soaking in all that information.

Ed & I were at the main event for only one day and, of course, did not see everything. Here are a few highlights:

- I met a woman who makes the most beautiful silver jewelry. **Turza Wells** can be found online and on Etsy if you want to see her work. Her husband (**Andrew Shows**) makes the polished stones she uses. I bought a lovely "C" shaped inlaid bracelet.
- There was a woman named **Susan Judy** who makes large flat wall hangings of stone. Some are landscape, some geometric, some containing fossils. They were absolutely extraordinary. Her work was featured in the Feb. 2016 **Rock & Gem** magazine and is also online.
- We saw **Joe Dorris** and his family (**from the TV show "Prospectors"**). They displayed a 3-foot-wide amazonite cluster that his son had pieced together. The Dorris family uses heavy machinery to excavate amazonite and smoky quartz in their Colorado Mt. mine. Joe is also the author of mineral and mining books.



Mindat.org had an exhibit focused on the origin of mineral names. Who knew how complicated that seemingly simple process can be!

The next day we went to the 22nd Street Show - several large tents filled with vendors. All-in-all there are forty-two (that's right, 42) different venues!! Many more tents and arenas and rock shops and even hotels host shows. We were there near the end and did get some end-of-show deals, but I can only imagine the pieces and artwork that had already been purchased.

We also went to Quartzite where we saw Ron Coleman in his booth of Arkansas crystals. Those on the November Arkansas collecting trip remember his fabulous quartz and the tour he gave of the cleaning facility in Jessieville. This time, he did not have bushel baskets of crystals for us to take home.





Some of the displays were large, in fact probably large enough to pique Glenn's collecting interest, from an agate butterfly on the left to the huge turquoise "nugget" in the middle. The piece on the right looks like a piece of art, and to a point it is! It is a large, naturally sculpted sand concretion: simply stunning.

The Convention Center was THE BEST. It was so much fun for me to see such variety in very professional exhibit cases and displays. Everyone was friendly and shared information. I did not feel that I had to "buy." It was more like being in a magnificent museum, very exciting and educational. I definitely hope to return in 2019 and plan to spend more time!!

From: Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club News, 4/18



Field Trips

May 10–13

Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC Show, Robert C. Carpenter Building in Franklin.

Contact: normholbert@comcast.net Club

May 11-13

The Georgia Mineral Society's 50th Annual Mother's Day Weekend celebrating 50 Years of Rocks!! Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show Fri. and Sat. 10 AM - 6 PM; Sun. Noon - 5 PM EXCITING AUCTION SATURDAY AT 1 PM Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy SE, Marietta, GA



May 19

DMC Field Trip – You must be an active member of a Federation club to attend. An official field trip of the Lowcountry GMS,

Charleston, SC (Host) An official field trip of the Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club. Hours: 10-3, No Fee 119 Railroad Ave., Harleyville, SC 29448. No limit on # of attendees, No registration required. Collecting site is ~ size of a tennis court. For Eocene fossils.

July 28 – August 5, Spruce Pine, NC

The 34th Annual Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show; Free Parking & Admission! Demos by the Parkway Fire&Rescue to raise money for new equipment. Hours: 10-6. Over 60 US and International dealers. Each booth is 20 x 40 feet. Parking and admission are free. Food is available. Address: 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine, NC 28777. This location is on the hill above the previous location. Contact Donna Collis 828-765-5519 or collisdonna@yahoo.com

REFRESHMENTS 2018

DATE	NAME	PHONE
1/12	cancelled	
2/9	Sally & Jerry Lipsky; S.Sterrett/D.Dunlap	865.382.2159© 803.331.4882©
3/16	B.Fenstermacher; Chris Glass	803.646.6957© 706.284.9239©
4/13	Mark/Nancy Pitts; Herb/Pat Martin	803.270.8719© 803.648.0891
5/11	Linda Sarkany; Kathleen Wallis	803.642.1284
6/8	Marilyn Hodge Dennis Scherer; Jessica Pine	803-649-0174 717-991-4241
9 /14	Chris Glass;	706.284.9239©
10/12	Margaret Marion Jim Sproull;	803-641-0816
11/ 9	Debra Baer; Kelly Hovey	803-295-7897
12/14	POTLUCK SUPPER	

AGMFS Officers and Committees 2018

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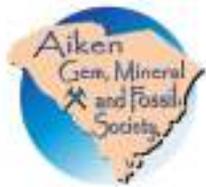
Field Trip Committee/ DMC Liaison: John Kolmar, Jim Gee, Debbie Baer and Herb Martin

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

Webmistress: Patti Bennett webmaster@aikengmfs.org

USCA Liaison: Walt Kubilius

Librarian/Bag'nTag Coordinator: Jerry Lipsky



Hound's Howl
Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society
P.O. Box 267
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

May 2018

**Program: The Dinosaur Hunter,
David Hanes**

May 11, 7 p.m.

Room 200, USCA Science Bldg.



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.

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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.