



The Lodestar



October 2024



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President's Letter

It seems like hurricane Helene pummeled a lot of the SFMS region with Florida, Georgia Tennessee and the Carolinas taking the brunt of the bad weather. However, I don't think anybody in our region completely escaped the rains and winds. I hope every one of you survived without any damage to your health, home, or property.

The SFMS Annual meeting was scheduled for this past weekend. I was watching the weather closely and considered canceling the meeting more than once. My thanks go out to Jerri Heer and Rick Marshall for keeping me informed on the weather in Florida. As the meeting date got closer it was clear that the storm would be thru Florida and past the meeting spot, in Atlanta, before the meeting was scheduled to occur.

For those of you who attended in-person or online I appreciate your dedication to the SFMS. I expect Jerri Heer will be publishing the minutes of the meeting very soon.

I would like to thank Georgia Mineral

Society for allowing us to use their beautiful clubhouse for the Friday meet-and-greet, and the Saturday annual meeting. I really enjoyed the fantastic food spread they laid out for the Friday meet-and-greet. GMS members are very proud of their facility and were happy to give tours and to demo equipment. Their picnic and the auction that followed were also a blast!!

I would also like to recognize JC and Donna Moore, from the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, who attended all our functions. JC is the AFMS President-Elect and Donna is the AFMS Secretary. My thanks go out to them for the help they provided. It was a pleasure talking to them during their visit to Atlanta.

Be Safe Everyone!!

Danny Griffin
2024 SFMS President



1st Vice President
Vonda Echols

We're on the Web!
southeastfed.org

Well fall is officially here. Hope everyone had a great summer with lots of rock hunting. Our classes at William Holland and Wildacres are over, but these schools are still holding classes, so if you missed SFMS weeks there, please consider taking advantage of the cooler weather and attend a class. I believe you will enjoy the class you take and will learn something new, just open you mind up. We had great attendance during our SFMS weeks and are already getting ready for next year. I am looking forward to attending classes next year.

You know we started a new way to contact clubs last year with our CLUB CONTACT list that is found on our website Southeastfed.org. Upon reviewing the list I noticed several clubs have not update their contact information. I do realize that officers and leaders keep their positions over several years, but I am not sure everyone in a club stays the same. We need each club to review their contact list and change at least one line item. This way we will know your club has reviewed the list, and

the information is correct. We have had reports that the information we, SFMS, is sending out is not getting to all our members. SFMS sends out our newsletter to the editors and presidents listed. If your club information is not correct we can not get this information out to you. Please verify your information, once your state director verifies you have permission to make changes, it will be approved. If you have made changes to your clubs contact information and It has not been changed please contact me.

IVP@southeastfed.org and I will follow up on the change. If you do not let us know you are having difficulty getting the information changed or getting information from us, SFMS, we can not make the corrections. Again if is up to each club to edit and correct their contact information yearly, or when officers change. We want to keep our clubs informed and this list is our best way.

Have a great fall

Vonda Echols

Vp1@southeastfed.org.

Editor

Cindy Reed

David Liles has an interesting article on Documenting Rare & Special Finds this month.

If you would like to share an article please submit it to editor@southeastfed.org by the 25th of the month.

Cindy Reed, SFMS Lodestar Editor



Secretary Message

Jerri Heer



I believe I will be entering my fifth 2-year term as Secretary if the proposed slate is approved and elected. It's been a long run, and I have been proud to serve the Federation faithfully in this capacity. It has taken time to truly learn this position, and I believe I have grown to fill the job responsibly. However, I am in the process of making a permanent move back to Ohio which is in the MWF Region. As such, this will be my final term. I have agreed to continue my membership in a SFMS club and continue to serve through this last term to support Vonda Echols while she serves as President, and to

allow time for the recruitment of a new Secretary.

Now is the time for someone to step forward if they aspire to assume and accept this job while the opportunity still exists to be trained for this vital position. I will entertain all inquiries! I would love the chance to share all that is entailed in this rewarding position.

Meeting Minutes on page 21.

Jerri Heer
SFMS Secretary
419-344-9999

Membership Chair

Rick Marshall



I am at the SFMS Annual Meeting in Norcross, Ga. after following Hurricane Helene up I75 yesterday. Some parts of Florida and Georgia really took a beating from this storm. Please keep all those affected in your thoughts and prayers.

At today's annual meeting I will present a new type of club for membership into the SFMS. The Laing Middle School Geology Club of Mt Pleasant, SC is seeking membership. This club is composed of 2 adult leaders and 15 middle school students. I believe this is a great idea to include the types of clubs to ensure the continuation of what we do and provide

future members and leaders of our clubs!

The rest of this article will look familiar to you if you read last month's Lodestar. I was looking at the Club Contacts list recently getting ready to send 2025 Club Membership renewals in December for 2025. Very few clubs have updated the contact information since the original input. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!! Have a designated person in your club start updating this so we can have correct information. I need to know who to send renewals to, so the process runs as smoothly as possible for all.

Cont. on page 5



Membership Chair—Cont.

There still seems to be some confusion about the annual dues and insurance. I hope this can help to explain the process:

On December 31st I will send out the membership renewal forms. The renewal process automatically sends an email to each club to let them know it is time for SFMS membership renewal.

The email addresses used for the email are determined in this order:

1. From the club contacts list – president and treasurer.
2. If there is no contact information for the president or treasurer, any other contacts found are used.
3. If no contacts are found in the club contacts list, the email addresses in the *2024 All Clubs Membership Dues and Insurance* spreadsheet left from the prior year are used.

If there are no email addresses in the membership spreadsheet, the email is sent to the state director with a message letting the director know that the SFMS does not have contact information for the club.

The person designated by the club then fills out the online membership form with the following:

- Their name
- Their email address
- Their phone number
- Name of the person responsible for paying the dues

- Email address of that person
- Phone number of that person
- Number of adult members **you had on the roster for 2024 as of 12/31/2024**

Number of junior members **you had on the roster for 2024 as of 12/31/2024**

You must also indicate if the club intends to enroll in SFMS liability insurance:

- Yes
- No

Have other insurance

If you choose “Yes”, you have the option to enter up to two show dates to enroll in SFMS show/event insurance. Otherwise, the form goes straight to the submit button.

Then submit the form.

Once the form is submitted, a confirmation email is sent to the following people:

- The person who submitted the membership renewal form

The club Treasurer

Please make out the check to SFMS and mail to the address on the form. This check is for dues only. Insurance is paid separately from membership dues because the insurance rate is determined based on the total number of members reported under membership renewal and whether or not you require show insurance. When the insurance rates are available, the assistant treasurer will send an invoice for the insurance with instructions.

Rick Marshall
SFMS Membership Secretary
407-949-1416



Bob Green

Well, Helene’s name will be retired after this year’s hurricane season ends. And many folks will be haunted forever, unfortunately. Latest news is really heart breaking, too many lives lost, too many homes and businesses destroyed and too much of our infrastructure damaged.

We live in upstate South Carolina and much of this area is a real mess. Too many power lines down thanks to trees that were such a beauty on Thursday morning. Friday afternoon, many were severely damaged.

We lost power just before 6:00AM on Friday morning. We thought we were prepared; we were woefully shy of being ready. Our list of failings included parking the cars close to the house and did not park one close to the street. The result was three trees down across the driveway and now we were isolated. We had discussed that late Thursday afternoon and rationalized, that we would be OK, oh well, first major decision that did not pan out.

Next was forgetting that I had not started the portable generator since summer of 2023. This was a real baddy, here on Friday afternoon, the storm had passed, and the generator reminded me of this failing. Now, this would not have solved the problem, since I had one gallon of new gas. I had 5 gallons of 2-year-old gas, which should have been properly disposed of a year ago. So, if it had started, we had no way to get more gas on our own.

So, here we are with no way to get anything on our own and a generator that I could not restart

thanks to my NOT being prepared. And here I have been emphasized being prepared in this article for the last several years, except for the extreme hazard called Helene. Humiliating, you bet, did not mind my own warnings.

As we headed to the airport thanks to a neighbor who was not isolated, it took over 2 hours to get there. She needed gas and we stopped at several stations on the way to the airport. We got within 2 cars of the pumps at 3 stations to find the stations had run out of gas, DIESEL ONLY. She got us there and after standing in line for over an hour we got our car. It seems way too many of us had forgotten to be prepared.

And with all that we have been through, our woes are significantly TINY compared to many folks and we are very lucky to have been able to escape thanks to a neighbor that got us to the airport to pick up a car and escape to north Georgia. A neighbor in Georgia provided the information that the area had only a glancing blow from Helene.

Our hearts go out to families so distraught by Helene. Many of us are extremely happy to have good neighbors that help in times of crisis.

God bless all and warnings of pending disasters are good, and, when you have 15 inches of rain and wind gusts of 70 miles per hour, those of us not used to this may NOT take the warnings as possibly being catastrophic.

Take care of yourself and each other, as one evening newscaster notes.



SFMS Webmaster

Lori Carter

2024 SFMS Website Contest Closed

Thank you to the clubs that entered the 2024 SFMS Website Contest! The contest was recently updated and now includes a non-compete category. Webmasters receive information from judges about how well the website is communicating what their club offers, and they offer advice for improvements. If your club missed the deadline for this year's contest, keep an eye out for next year's contest. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn from others!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Lori Carter, SFMS Webmaster, webmaster@southeastfed.org

DMC Field Trip Chair

Lori Carter

Thank you to the **Pendleton District Gem & Mineral Society** (Seneca, SC) for hosting the September DMC field trip to collect various minerals at a new site! Plus, the **Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Virginia** hosted a make-up trip to meet their DMC obligation after their trip scheduled for September 2023 was cancelled due to dangerous weather. The **Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society** (Memphis, TN) is scheduled to host in October.

Rockhounds who are members of clubs in the DMC Field trip sharing program enjoy field trips all over the southeast. If your club is not a DMC member and would like to join, you can read about the program on the SFMS website here: <https://www.southeastfed.org/sfms-field-trips/dmc-field-trip-program>, or send me some email. I am happy to answer your questions.

DMC Trip Schedule for the next 6 months

November - Emerald City Rock and Gem Club (Greenwood, SC)

December - Upper Abbeville Gem and Mineral Club (Due West, SC)

January – Open

February - Greensboro Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. (Greensboro, NC)

March - Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Inc. (Mobile, AL)

April - Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Florence, MS)

May - North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Tupelo, MS)

Lori Carter, DMC Coordinator, dmc@southeastfed.org



Scholarship Fund

Thanks to everyone who attended the SFMS workshops this year. And a special thanks to those that purchased extra tickets for the Highland Park Intarsia Machine. In all, we raised \$1,145 for the scholarship fund. I think it was a very successful event and would like to thank Rick Marshall for his help in getting the equipment.

The winner was picked by the youngest member of our group at the end of the

September session. Arlo is 10 years old and had no bias or agenda.

And now, drumroll please.....

The Winner is David Liles.

Congratulations David. We hope you'll send pictures of your projects.

SFMS William Holland Director

Rick Marshall

Congratulations to David Liles who won the Highland Park Intarsia Machine!!! We had a great response to the raffle and raised around \$1,100 for scholarships! Thank you to all you participated and to John and Sherman Rowland of Highland Park for the generous donation!

It won't be long before registration starts for the 2025 SFMS William Holland Workshop! I will be teaching at William Holland during the month of October and will be working out the final details for a great week. Check out the list below of the classes and the instructors we have next year. Make your plans now to attend the week of June 8, 2025!!! I hope you can all find something you like. Parents and Grandparents please note: WE ARE OFFERING A JUNIOR JEWELERS CLASS! Bring those kids and grandkids. One of my granddaughters took this class in June and had a ball. Even made me a beautiful Cuff Bracelet! Class descriptions are being prepared. I'll let you know when registration starts.

Here are the classes and instructors scheduled:

Deb Gates: Junior Jewelers (New instructor & class)
John Wild: Cabochons
Jeff Hunter: Opals 1 & II (New instructor)
Judi Wild: Wire Wrapping
Stephanie: Danz Stained Glass
Pat Lillie: Metal Clay (New Instructor)
Lance Andrus: Faceting (New Instructor)
Barbara Fields: Silver 1 (New instructor)
Zac Tedrow: Silver II (New Instructor)
Jim Hird: Chain Maille I (New Instructor)
Ken Valko: Soapstone Carving (New Instructor)
Jerri Heer: Gem Trees
Bill Boggs: Intarsia
Jodi Miller: Soft Soldering (New Instructor)

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Rick Marshall
SFMS William Holland Director
407-949-1416



SFMS Wildacres Director

Jim Reed

What a wonderful time at the 2nd session at Wildacres in September 2024. There is so much to do at the facility which by the way has a very interesting historical origin (which you read about on their website <https://www.wildacres.org>). The views are wonderful.

I was in Rick Marshall's cabbing 1.5 class and learned a lot from him. He has some different ideas on cutting cabochons including cutting a composite stone. The picture here shows a tiffany stone on top with white marble below. You must use a flat lap to make both stone completely flat and then epoxy both together. When it dries cut you can with a little steeper side to show the bottom stone. This process opens up an area of many future stones to cut.



As I am the interim director, I would like to announce that Gina Phillips has accepted the position for next year. We know she'll do an excellent job. Good luck to you Gina, we wish you all the best.

Jim Reed, SFMS Wildacres Director
Wa-director@southeastfed.org

SFMS Wildacres Registrar

Laura Odria

We had two great weeks of SFMS Wildacres' workshops over the past couple of months. During our first week, we had six classes including forty-six students, instructors and guests. Our second week held seven courses and a group of forty-three students, instructors and guests. The show-n-tell sessions really highlighted the many exceptional talents of both our instructors and members. Both weeks also included other great activities including a live auction, live music and poetry one evening with a bonfire and Smores available, tailgating for students and instructors and game night. It is such a great experience sharing this time with fellow members. We hope you'll all start making plans to join us again next year.

Laura Odria, SFMS Wildacres Registrar
Wa-registrar@southeastfed.org



Documenting Rare and Special Finds

Hi Folks! This month's column is kind of a follow on to last months in that I am again discussing a find I made while on a 2020 Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society (KGMS) field trip to collect fossils and rocks at a Middle Tennessee location. I am going to discuss my unusual find of blue lace agate. I will also touch on how one should document unusual rock, mineral, fossil, and artifact finds so that knowledge of such is not lost to future generations.

I was asked not to be specific about field trip locations in articles that can be easily accessed by non-club members, which in this case includes those NOT members of the Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society. Apparently, the public can see the Lodestar and read the articles there. We want to avoid a situation where irresponsible people abuse collecting privileges, leading to blanket closure of collecting sites. Examples of abuse we want to avoid include excessive digging, leaving trash, destruction of the site and collectables. Along with this often comes aggressive and irresponsible "Collecting and Digging Prowess" displayed on U-Tube videos, Facebook, and other social media outlets. Anyway, you get the picture! Ok, now on to a discussion of documenting a special find without revealing the collecting site to non-club members.

In 2020, I made an unusual find on a Knoxville Germ & Mineral Society field trip. I found a piece of blue lace agate in a hard sandstone matrix! Our field trip leader, Daniel Miller, said that he had never seen this at this site in the 30 years he has been leading field trips there! This was my 1st and only find of agate in the 5 years I have visited the site.

Common finds in this area include crinoid fossils, both as individual pieces, and as masses of pieces in rock. The fossil mineralization material

for individual fossils, and masses of fossils is quartz, with colors ranging from white to rust to burgundy to blue – depending on the type of trace minerals in the quartz. The most common colors seen for the crinoid fossils are the white and the blue. Also, there are also a lot of rocks in the area, including this one, that appear to me to be hard brown sandstone. A typical example looks and feels like sandstone. It can be scratched with a penny and a piece of steel, but it can in turn scratch glass, with the loss of a few grains of sand. There is no reaction to acid, so my example does not appear to contain carbonate minerals (limestone would be the most likely). This sandstone is hard, and sand grains do not easily rub off.

My theory is that older quartz sand sandstone in this area was made harder by later partial quartz mineralization, that served to further bind the sand grains together. This probably happened at approximately the same time that the crinoid fossils in the area were mineralized, via quartz replacement of the original calcium skeletal material (aragonite). See: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aragonite>.

In my opinion, a crack in my piece of the original sandstone allowed for the circulation of quartz bearing mineralized water. This solution subsequently deposited layers of white and blue quartz – to line in and fill the void in the sandstone. Because a crack is filled, the cracked stone is the older rock, and the rock filling the crack is the younger. This formation of agate must have been a unique coming together of circumstances and conditions, since only one example (that I know of) has been found.

(Cont. on Page 10)



Rock Corner by David Liles (Cont.)

Now, ... Case in point – what to do with a special find! What usually happens when someone finds an unusual rock, fossil, or artifact? Well, the discovery is most often removed from the site where it was found and taken home by the finder. Initially, there may be some display and bragging to others about the find and the finding process. In most cases, the object ends up languishing in a box or drawer. There is no written documentation (**Provenance & Provenience**) concerning where and how the object was found, who found it, and who has owned it. The person who did the finding believes that he will either never die, or that he will get around to documenting the finding later. Well, in many cases, “later” never comes, and the details of the find die with the passing of the collector. The object, unless obviously otherwise collectable to others, becomes just another rock or fossil for someone closing an estate to toss out back into a ditch, or to give or sell to another collector.

Some definitions by Wikipedia:

“Provenance”: “The primary purpose of tracing the **provenance** of an object or entity is normally to provide contextual and circumstantial evidence for its original production or discovery, by establishing, as far as practicable, its later history, especially the sequences of its formal ownership, custody and places of storage. The practice has a particular value in helping [authenticate](#) objects. Comparative techniques, expert opinions and the results of scientific tests may also be used to these ends, but establishing provenance is essentially a matter of [documentation](#).”

There is also a related term **“Provenience”**: “In [archaeology](#) and [paleontology](#), the derived term **provenience** is used with a related but very particular meaning, to refer to the location (in modern research, recorded precisely in three dimensions) where an artifact or other ancient item was found. *Provenience* covers an object's complete documented history. An artifact may thus have both a *provenience* and a *provenance*. See

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provenience>).

Ok, the above definitions of “Provenience and Provenience” set the standard for documenting special finds! Discussing my agate in this Rock of the Month column is part of my effort to document my finding. Proper documentation can include:

Taking pictures of the find as it was discovered before collection, and in detail later at home after cleanup. If you can, get GPS coordinates,

Mark details of the find – where and by who - on the object itself with paint or permanent ink. Do this only if the object is not damaged by the process,

Create a written story of your find, print that out, and store that with your find - in its own separate storage container,

Try to get the story and pictures of your find published in some way that can be found by others – now and after you are gone,

If you find something special on public lands, be aware of the laws on collecting and possessing. In any case, photograph the item in place and share the photo and info with park officials. Your finding may make a real difference in research and knowledge of the area and its past.

Remember, document your special finds, but be careful who you tell, so that collecting sites are not abused and ruined. Also, be aware that the inconsiderate actions of a few have resulted in the loss of collecting sites for all rock clubs and responsible individuals.

Well until next month, have fun & keep looking at the ground! That is where the rocks (and fossils) are, I hope you find something special!

David Liles



Rock Corner by David Liles (Cont.)



Examples of Dale Hollow Ribbon Agate

Photo by David Liles



Youth Coordinator Chair
Mike Harrison & Nancy Roberts

Jr. Bulletin Competition

Do you have older junior club members who may not be interested in earning the FRA badges? If so, to keep them interested and active in the club, let them know that the American Federation has a pin that juniors aged 10-17 can earn by helping their club for at least 20 hours of volunteer work. Junior members keep their own record on the AFMS official form.

Let's see if we can get more SFMS juniors to step up and volunteer. I hope to see their names listed among those winning the pin on the AFMS website!

<https://www.juniors.amfed.org/awards-contests-scholarships/juniors-volunteer-award>

Nancy Roberts

Jr. Rockhound 2025 Year in Rocks Photo Contest Winner

We have a winner in the SFMS "2025" Junior photo contest. The judges had a tough time deciding, and all of the entries were very close, but, the 2025 Year in Rocks Contest winner is Cheyenne Chivers of the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society. Other entries are on the next page. The winning entry will become the heading for the SFMS website's officers contact page. Other entries will be shown in a gallery on the website.

The SFMS junior chairpersons would like to thank all of the junior members who participated in the second annual Junior photo contest for the federation's website. All of the entries were excellent. Thank you, and well done!

Also, a big thank you to the two judges who met the challenge of scoring the entries. I Can't wait to see what next year's photo contest entries will be!



Winning Entry Cheyenne Chivers, Huntsville Mineral Society

The first 2 is obsidian pieces, the 0 is quartz, the second 2 is aventurine and the 4 is amethyst. It is outlined in clear, smokey and rose quartz, citrine, amethyst and obsidian



Jr. Rockhound 2025 Year in Rocks Photo Contest Winner Runner Ups

Vasili Feldman, Georgia Mineral Society



2 -Treasures from GMS estate including fossil pine cones and teeth; 0 -Easter egg hunt treasures with an urchin shell that he found this summer; 2 -has shells and shark teeth; 5 -has fluorescent treasures and more from GMS member estate sale and juniors previous grab bag

Yanni Feldman, Georgia Mineral Society



2 -has some grab bag treasures and Easter egg hunt treasures; 0 -has quartz from the junior field trip; 2 -are crinoids from a GMS member estate sale; 5 -also has treasures from the grab bags and a piece of petrified wood from the last field trip in Alabama

Arlen Hewett, North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society



2 -Horn Coral; 0 -Bivalves; 2 -Archimedes; 5 -Goblin Shark Teeth. All found on NMGMS field trips.

Emma Misulia, North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society



2- Calcite, turquoise quartz and obsidian & some other polished rocks; 0 -Shark teeth; 2 -Shark teeth; 5 -Iron pyrite, amber, sodalite, quartz, bituminous coal, amazonite and more.

Shark teeth from 20 Mile Creek in Mississippi north of Tupelo W.M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park



Jr. Rockhound 2025 Year in Rocks Photo Contest Winner Runner Ups



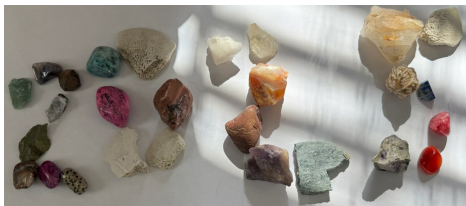
Ellie Misulia, North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society

2 -Amethyst, drusy, quartz; 0 –Polished Orthoceras fossil; 2 – Labradorite, moroxite, fluorite, bornite (peacock ore); 5 –Polished Ammonite halves



Maxwell Sager, Huntsville Mineral Society

Numbers are quartz with a background of Mexican Beach Pebbles



Mackenzie Chivers, Huntsville Mineral Society

Dalmatian jasper, quartz, desert rose and some fossils



Lily Chivers, Huntsville Mineral Society

Amethyst, quartz and obsidian



Upcoming Shows

To add your show to the Southeast Federation Calendar go to: <https://www.southeastfed.org/show-calendar/show-submission-form> This will also update your show in the Lodestar. One Stop Scheduling.

10/11-13/2024 HUNTSVILLE, AL: Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, 1280 Airport Rd, Huntsville, AL 35802. Free parking, food vendors, Friday & Saturday 10AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—5PM. Admission: Adults \$3, \$5 for weekend pass; Primary & Secondary Students \$1, Under 5 – Free. Web site www.Huntsvillegms.org, call 256-534-8803

10/18-20/2024—KNOXVILLE, TN: Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society: Rothchild's Catering, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923; Fri & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Admission: \$8 adults or \$15 for all 3 days, Children 12 & Under- Free. More Info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/822868413339815/?ref=newsfeed>

10/18-20/2024—HICKORY, NC: Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.- An Explosion of Color (The Colorful World of Rocks & Minerals): Hickory Metro Convention Center, 1960 13th Ave Drive SE, Hickory, NC 28602; Fri & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission: \$6 adults good for all 3 days, Children 12 & Under- Free, Law enforcement officers, fire fighters and active or retired military with credentials, Scouts and Leaders in uniform will be admitted free anytime during this 3 day event. For an \$1.00 off an adult admission coupon, got to www.cvgmc.com Special Events. For additional information concerning the show, contact Dean Russell, show chairman, at cvgmcsecretary@aol.com or (828) 303-1448. www.cvgmc.com or Facebook: [Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. Annual Show](#)

10/19-20/2024 SAINT LUCIE, FL: St Lucie Rock & Gem Club 47th Annual Club Show, MidFlorida Event Center, 9221 SE Event Center Pl, St. Lucie, FL 34952: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission \$5; Accompanied minors are free with adult admission. www.slrockandgem.org, slclubshow2023@aol.com

10/19-20/2024—SOUTH CHARLESTON, WV: Kanawha Rock & Gem Club; South Charleston Community Center; 601 Jefferson Road, South Charleston, WV; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Admission: \$3.50 adults, \$2 with Coupon, Children 12 & under Free, Free Parking. Website: <https://www.kanawharockandgemclub.org/2024-annual-show.html>

11/9-10/2024 MELBOURNE, FL: Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society 51st Annual Parade of Gems Crystal, Gem, Jewelry, Rock and Crafts Show, Melbourne Auditorium 625 East Hibiscus Avenue, Melbourne, Florida 32901. Saturday 10AM—5PM, Sunday 10AM—4PM. Admission: \$5 adults Free kids under 13. Website: <https://www.canaveral-mgs.com/our-show.html> Contact: ParadeofGems.Melbourne@gmail.com



Upcoming Shows

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11/9-10/2024 PASCAGOULA, MS: Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society, Jackson County Fairground Civic Center, Lt. Eugene J. Majare Drive, Pascagoula, MS 39567. Saturday 10AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—5PM. Admission: \$5 adults; Kids under 12 Free with Adult. Website: WWW.MGCGMS.ORG, For more information contact Barbie Beatty, 228-238-9900.

11/22-24/2024 COLUMBIA, SC: The Columbia Gem & Mineral Society Annual Club Show, Jamil Temple 206 Jamil Road Columbia, SC 29210: Fri-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5. Admission \$7; 12 & under free; All military & their dependents free with ID Card. Info: www.cgms.rocks

11/22-24/2024—MARIETTA, GA: Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society; Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060; Fri & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; day fun and educational event for the whole family! Free admission and parking! Hourly door prizes! Info: www.ccgms.org

11/23-24/2024 WEST PALM BEACH, FL: Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc., 57TH Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, South Florida Fairgrounds/Expo Center East 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33411. November 23-24, 2024; Saturday 9AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—5PM. Admission: Adults \$10, 2-Day Pass \$15; Children under 12 -Free. <https://gmspb.org>

12/14-15/2024—FRANKLIN, TN: Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society - 43rd Annual Earth Treasures - Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show & Sale: 4215 Long Lane Franklin, TN 37064; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission: \$6 adults, 2 day pass \$10, Children 12 & Under with Adults- Free, Scouts in Uniform -Free. Website: www.MTGMS.org/show.htm; <https://www.facebook.com/mtgms/>

2/22-23/2025—JACKSON, MS: Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society – 66th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show: Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds, 1200 Mississippi St. Jackson, MS 39202; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; Admission: \$8 adults, Students \$3, Scouts & Leaders in Uniform \$2, Children 5 & Under- Free,. Website: www.MTGMS.org/show.htm; www.missgems.org; Information email: mgmsshow@missgems.org; Link(s): <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1ZhivFnPMSAR36uY/>



2024 SFMS Officers

<p>President Danny Griffin (865)406-8802 President@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>First Vice President Vonda Echols (601)259-8801 vp1@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Second Vice President Jason Hamilton (904)294-4744 vp2@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Secretary Jerri Heer (419)344-9999 secretary@southeastfed.org</p>
<p>Membership Rick Marshall (407)949-1416 Membership@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Treasurer Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900 treasurer@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Assistant Treasurer David Liles (865)274-8271 Treasurer2@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Immediate Past President Dennis Buchanan (770)402-9669 President@southeastfed.org</p>
<p>Editor Cindy Reed (863)255-5256 editor@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>AFMS Regional VP from SFMS William (Bill) Waggener (404)354-8752 vp-afms@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Mayo Foundation President William (Bill) Waggener (404)354-8752 Mayopresident@southeastfed.org</p>	

2024 SFMS State Directors

<p>Alabama Chris Rutherford (334) 372-2507 AL@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Florida Meri Jo Theobald (772) 708-5229 FL@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Florida Asst. State Director Janice Wojcik (813) 677-6263 FL3@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Georgia Open GA@southeastfed.org</p>
<p>Mississippi Open MS@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>North Carolina Cyndy Hummel (919)77906220 NC@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>North Carolina (Asst-Western) Kathryn Hackett Fields (828) 231-3555 NC2@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>South Carolina John Narang 803-727-7070 SC@southeastfed.org</p>
<p>Tennessee Teresa Polly (865)258-0795 TN@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Kentucky Open</p>	<p>Virginia Open</p>	



2024 SFMS Committee Chairs

ANNUAL MEETING: TBD, annual-meeting@southeastfed.org.

AUDIT COMMITTEE Rick Marshall, Chair (407)949-1416, Membership@southeastfed.org
Jason Hamilton, (904)294-4744 programs@southeastfed.org
Vonda Echols, (601)259-8801 vp2@southeastfed.org
Bill Waggener, (404)354-8752 mayopresident@southeastfed.org

BULLETIN EDITOR CONTEST: Mark Easterbrook, (843) 276-4016, bulletincontest@southeastfed.org

COMMUNICATIONS: Vonda Echols Chair, (601)259-8801 comm1@southeastfed.org;
Rick Marshall (407)949-1416, comm2@southeastfed.org
Lori Carter, (770)405-9903, comm3@southeastfed.org

CONSTITUTION/BY-LAWS: Danny Griffin, (865) 406-8802, bylaws@southeastfed.org

EDUCATION: Danny Griffin, (865) 406-8802, education@southeastfed.org

WILLIAM HOLLAND DIRECTOR: Rick Marshall, (407)949-1416 wh-director@southeastfed.org

WILLIAM HOLLAND REGISTRAR: Juergen Poppelreuter, (678)576-7034 wh-registar@southeastfed.org

WILDACRES DIRECTOR: Jim Reed, (863)255-0651 WA-Director@southeastfed.org

WILDACRES REGISTRAR: Laura Odria, (407)697-9441 WA-Registrar@southeastfed.org

FIELD TRIPS: Charles Carter, (404) 438-1776 fieldtrips@southeastfed.org

DMC FIELD TRIP SHARING PROGRAM: Lori Carter 'DMC Coordinator' (770) 405-9903 dmc@southeastfed.org

HISTORIAN: Vicki Hodges; (336) 207-0343 historian@southeastfed.org

INSURANCE LIAISON: David Liles, (865) 274-8271 insurance@southeastfed.org

INVENTORY: Danny Griffin, (865)406-8802 inventory@southeastfed.org

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Reggie Bolton, (205) 410-9455 planning-chair@southeastfed.org
Jessie Griffin, (865) 963-7982 planning@southeastfed.org
Dennis Buchanan, 770-402-9669 pastprez@southeastfed.org

NOMINATIONS: Dennis Buchanan, Chair 770-402-9669 pastprez@southeastfed.org
Teresa Polly, TN State Director (865) 258-0795 tn@southeastfed.org
Jim Patterson, (251)510-8527 nom1@southeastfed.org
Rick Marshall,(407)949-1416, Membership@southeastfed.org
2 Positions Open

PUBLICATIONS: Open,-Chair, publications@southeastfed.org
Cindy Reed, (863)255-5256 editor@southeastfed.org
Open

SAFETY: Bob Green, (864) 915-3479 safety@southeastfed.org

Sexual Harassment: Jerri Heer, Chairperson, (419) 344-9999 secretary@southeastfed.org
Vonda Echols, (601)259-8801 vp2@southeastfed.org
Teresa Polly, (865) 258-0795 tn@southeastfed.org
Bill Waggener, (404)354-8752 mayopresident@southeastfed.org
James Gazaway

SOCIAL CONCERNS: Mary Ingram, (404)915-3588 social@southeastfed.org

SUPPLIES: Open supplies1@southeastfed.org

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VIDEO LIBRARY PROGRAMS: Jason Hamilton, (904)294-4744 programs@southeastfed.org

WAYS & MEANS: Danny Griffin, (865)406-8802 waysandmeans@southeastfed.org
Barbi Beatty, Treasurer (228) 238-9900 treasurer@southeastfed.org
David Liles, Asst. Treasurer (865) 274-8271 treasurer2@southeastfed.org

WEBMASTER: Lori Carter, (770)405-9903 webmaster@southeastfed.org

WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Open ws-scholarships@southeastfed.org

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Marty Hart, (615) 331-2690 acroy@gemizo.com

YOUTH RESOURCES: Mike Harrison, (256) 797-2435 youth@southeastfed.org
Nancy Roberts, (731) 689-5336 youth1@southeastfed.org
2 Positions Open

The Friendly Federation



Founded to Serve

2024 Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. Officers

<p>Mayo Foundation President William (Bill) Waggener (404)354-8752 Mayopresi- dent@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Vice President Danny Griffin (865)406-8802 President@southeastfed.org</p>	<p>Treasurer Wayne M. Dodd (770) 689-7777 wmdodd1@comcast.net</p>	<p>SFMS Education Chair Cindy Reed (863)255-5256 education@southeastfed.org</p>
	<p>Director Janet P. Steeper (662)915-2154 janetsteeper@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Secretary Jerri Heer (419)344-9999 secretary@southeastfed.org</p>	

2024 SFMS Representatives to AFMS Committees

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year: Marty Hart, (615) 331-2690 ACROY@gemizo.com

Boundaries: Buddy Shotts, (601) 466-0690 boundaries@southeastfed.org

Bulletin Editors: Mark Easterbrook, (843) 276-4016 bulletincontest@southeastfed.org

Education: Cindy Reed, (863) 255.5256 education@southeastfed.org

Endowment Fund: Open supplies@southeastfed.org

Regional VP, AFMS: William (Bill) Waggener, (404)354-8752 vp-afms@southeastfed.org

Safety: Bob Green, (864) 836-5896 safety@southeastfed.org

Supplies & Publications: Open supplies@southeastfed.org

Uniform Rules: Open uniformrules@southeastfed.org

Ways & Means: Dennis Buchanan, (770) 402-9669 waysandmeans@southeastfed.org

Website Contest: Lori Carter, (770) 405-9903 webmaster@southeastfed.org

The policy of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. is that neither the name nor the logo of the Federation may be used for commercial purposes. If any commercial ventures using the name or the logo of the Federation are found, Member Societies and their members are requested to advise Federation Officers.



AFMS Code of Ethics

(<http://www.amfed.org/ethics.htm>)

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "Image" of Rockhounds everywhere



SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
September 28, 2024 – Norcross, Georgia

Agenda:

1. **Call to Order** – 9:08 am
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Invocation** – Rick Marshall
4. **Introductions** – Introduced J.C. Moore and Donna Moore, President Elect and Secretary of AFMS and proceeded online attendees and around the room.
5. **Host Welcome: Georgia Mineral Society** – Juergen Popplerueter
6. **Quorum Check- 20% of Full Board = (11+7+67).20=17**, have 25– quorum is met
7. **Approval of Agenda** – Motion by Bill Waggener to accept as presented, second by Barbi Beatty, motion carried.
8. **Appointment of Parliamentarian** – J.C. Moore accepted appointment as Parliamentarian
9. **Minutes from June Executive Meeting** – Motion by Teresa Polly to accept as printed, second by Jason Hamilton. Motion carried.
10. **Remarks by President** - In Packet
11. **Officer Reports:**
 - a. 1st Vice President: Vonda Echols – In Packet
 - b. 2nd Vice President: Jason Hamilton– Added that State Director approval processes are underway for Mississippi and Georgia.
 - c. Secretary: Jerri Heer - In Packet
 - d. Treasurer: Barbi Beatty – In Packet
 - e. Assistant Treasurer – David Liles – No Report
 - f. Membership Secretary: Rick Marshall – In Packet
 - g. Lodestar Editor: Cindy Reed– In Packet
 - h. Immediate Past President: Dennis Buchanan – No Report
 - i. Interim AFMS 1st VP – William Waggener – No Report
 - j. Mayo E.F. President: William Waggener – In Packet
12. **State Director Reports:**
 - a. Alabama: Chris Rutherford – In the Packet
 - b. Florida: Meri Jo Theobold – No Report
 - i. Florida Asst Director -Central: Janice Wojcik
 - ii. Florida Asst Director – Open
 - c. Georgia: Open - New Director proposed
 - d. Kentucky: Open
 - e. Mississippi: Open – New Director Proposed
 - f. North Carolina: Cyndy Hummel – No Report
 - i. NC Asst Director – Kathryn Hackett-Fields
 - g. South Carolina: Open
 - h. Tennessee: Teresa Polly – reported that Kingsport club had a good show with great attendance, Knoxville show is next month, and Mid-Tennessee club show is mid-December.
 - i. Virginia: Open
13. **S.F.M.S. Committee Reports:**
 - a. Bulletin Editor's Contest: Mark Easterbrook – In Packet
 - b. Constitution and Bylaws: Danny Griffin - In Packet
 - c. Dixie Mineral Council – Lori Carter – In Packet
 - d. Education: Open

- e. Field Trip: Charles Carter – No Report
- f. Historian: Vickie Hodges – No Report
- g. Inventory – Danny Griffin – In Packet
- h. Long Range Planning: Jesse Griffin, Dennis Buchanan– No Report
- i. Nominations: In Packet
- j. Public Relations: Open
- k. Publications: No Report
- l. Safety: Bob Green- No Report
- m. Slide, Video & DVD Programs: Jason Hamilton – No Report
- n. Supplies: Open
- o. 2024 Annual Meeting Host – Georgia Mineral Society
- p. Ways & Means: Danny Griffin, Vonda Echols, Barbi Beatty – See Budget Proposal
- q. Webmaster: Lori Carter – In Packet
- r. Wildacres Workshop Director: Jim Reed- No Report
- s. Wildacres Workshop Registrar: Laura Odria– In Packet
- t. William Holland Workshop Director: Rick Marshall - In Packet
- u. William Holland Workshop Registrar: Juergen Popplereuter No Report
- v. Workshop Scholarship Committee – Open
- w. Youth Resources: Mike Harrison – Gave verbal Report: Have three new Junior groups active. Groups are using the Diamond Dan and/or the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America. The North Mississippi club has two of it's juniors that are FRA Rockstars having completed all 20 badges. A new badge is being introduced on studying Sand. Our own Lori Carter helped create that badge program.

14. A.F.M.S. Committee Representative

Reports:

- a. A.F.M.S. Newsletter: Open
- b. All American: Open
- c. Boundaries: Open
- d. Bulletin Editors' Advisory: Mark Easterbrook – In Packet
- e. Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame: Mark Easterbrook– In Packet
- f. Club Rockhound of the Year: Marty Hart
- g. Collecting Sites: Open
- h. Conservation and Legislation: Open
- i. Endowment Fund: Open
- j. Inter-Regional Field Trip: Open
- k. Junior Program: Mike Harrison
- l. Program Competition: Open
- m. Public Relations: Open
- n. Publications & Supplies: Open
- o. Safety: Bob Green- No Report
- p. Uniform Rules: Leslie Wayment –No Report
- q. Ways & Means: No Report
- r. Website: Marty Hart – No Report
- s. Website Contest: Lori Carter – Verbal Report – Rules for contest have been redesigned and timing reset so that this year's entrees will be entered for next year's contests.

15. Old Business

- a. Proposal for distribution of Rockhound Roundup Funds – Barbi Beatty reviewed the proposal as printed in the packet. Bill Waggener, made a motion to accept it, Barbi Beatty seconded. During discussion, Teresa Polly brought up that as a full time worker during

the week sometimes she cannot meet with a club during the week and going to the Show on a weekend is the only way she can meet with a club. She always takes time to speak to club leaders when she does so. Juergen suggested amending the line in the proposal to state "The visit should coincide with their monthly meeting, or to visit their club Show". Juergen made the motion to amend the proposal, Teresa seconded. Vonda made a motion to pass the proposal as amended. Barbi seconded, motion carried. Barbi stated that she would create and provide a form for the State Directors to use to submit evidence of their visit and request payment of their stipends.

- b. Disposition of Old Records – Progress – Jerri Heer – Half of the records have been transferred to Vickie Hodges to scan, rest should be delivered in October. Jerri will be or chasing as scanner for Vickie's use shortly. Jerri asked Bill if he had secured permission from Tellus Museum to house physical copies of records after scanning is done. He has not received a response yet, but will follow up. A question was raised from the floor about digital storage after scanning, Jerri indicated that in addition to the "cloud" storage in our website archives, there will be a portable hard drive maintained with digital copies of the records as well as storage of the original paper copies. So there will be 3 levels of redundancy.

16. New Business:

- a. New Club Application: Liang Middle School Geology Club – Mt Pleasant, SC – Rick Marshall presented application of new club at this school. Read over their education plan. Jerri Heer made a motion to accept this new club, Vonda Echols seconded. Motion carried.
- b. Guidelines for SFMS/AFMS Travel – Barbi Beatty – Presented proposal as printed in her report in the packet. Stated that we needed specific guidelines of what can and should be reimbursed, as we have no written policy in effect. Proposal uses US Government guidelines for reimbursement. This is a procedural issue and will be printed and online for future reference. J.C. Moore asked if this applied to Uniform Rules Chair, and was informed that that is not allowed in our Bylaws currently, but is being considered. Barbi Beatty made a motion to accept the proposal, Juergen Popplereuter seconded. Motion carried.
- c. Bylaws Change to expand Annual meeting event options – Danny Griffin and Vonda Echols explained the difficulty securing clubs to host Annual Meetings, and that this proposal opens up more events that qualify to do so, such as this weekend with GMS. Bill Waggener made a note of a punctuation error on section 10, paragraph C, added a comma after public. Jerri Heer made a motion to accept the Bylaws revision as proposed and amended, Juergen seconded. Motion carried.
- d. Refund request from Gem & Mineral Society of the Greater Palm Beaches – Rick Marshall discussed the request based on GMSGPB, claim of an error on their submission. Discussion revolved around fact that AFMS membership dues and insurance premiums were already paid to those entities and not refundable. The historic trend of membership for last few years indicate that the numbers reported are in line with historic numbers for that club. The drop to 71 members is out of line from historic figures. Consensus was that an error on their part is not an obligation on ours, especially since most of those funds have already been expended to outside agencies and cannot be recovered.
- e. Budget – Barbi Beatty explained the changes in the budget from last year:
 - Addition of line item for State Director Stipend @ \$25 per club.
 - Adjusted Insurance figures, which is an in/out transaction
 - Adjusted Workshop figures, also in/out transaction
 - Doubled bonding amount which is still in process and based on other insurance rates doubling
 - Adjusted AFMS Travel based on travel from Vonda's home.Motion made by Bill Waggener to accept budget as proposed, Juergen Seconded. Motion carried.

The next item up will be the election. Danny called a 10 minute Break. Before break started, Juergen asked for clarification on the status of the Scholarship Drawings, Prize drawings etc in the wake of Dave Wayment's passing. Danny said he would look into it and report.

Meeting adjourned for a break at 10:22 am, resumed at 10:33 am.

Election – Slate of Officers:

President: Vonda Echols
1st Vice President: Open
2nd VP: Mike Harrison
Secretary: Jerri Heer
Asst Treas: David Liles
Editor: Cindy Reed
Past Pres: Danny Griffin – Not Elected
AFMS Regional :Open
Mayo Pres: Bill Waggener – Elected by Mayo Board

As Parliamentarian, J.C. Moore asked for nominations from the floor.

For Mayo Board: proposed Directors are Bill Waggener, Wayne Dodd, Jerri Heer and nominated by Bill Waggener – Jesse Griffin. Nominations closed. Vote by affirmation elected this slate of May Directors.

For position of AFMS Regional VP: Steve Henegar was nominated from the floor. Nominations for that position closed. Vote by affirmation elected Steve Henegar for AFMS Regional VP

Editor: Cindy Reed. No nominations from the floor, nominations closed. Vote by affirmation elected Cindy Reed as Editor

Assistant Treasurer: David Liles. No nominations from the floor, nominations closed. Vote by affirmation elected David Liles as Asst Treasurer.

Secretary: Jerri Heer. No nominations from the floor, nominations closed. Vote by affirmation elected Jerri Heer as Secretary.

2nd VP: Mike Harrison: No nominations from the floor, nominations closed. Vote by affirmation elected Mike Harrison as VP 2.

1st VP: Jason Hamilton was nomination from the floor. Nominations closed. Vote by affirmation elected Jason Hamilton as VP 1.

President: Vonda Echols. Lisa Roberts was nominated from the floor. Nominations closed. As a contested race, votes were submitted by physical vote card from eligible voters present and by chat from online voters. Physical cards were counted by the parliamentarian: J.C Moore. Results were 14 for Lisa Roberts and 6 for Vonda. Online votes were 8 for Vonda and 1 for Lisa. Total votes therefore, are 15 for Lisa Roberts, 14 for Vonda Echols. Lisa Roberts was elected as President.

There being no further business, motion made by Danny Griffin an seconded by Bill Waggener. Meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM.

Mayo Meeting immediately following.

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2024 – Young Harris, Georgia

Agenda:

1. **Call to Order** – 9:00 am By Vonda Echols
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Invocation** – by Rick Marshall
4. **Introductions**
5. **Host Welcome:** William Holland by Jerri Heer
6. **Quorum Check- 1/3 of Exec Board = (11+7).33=6**, including virtual attendees we have 11
7. **Approval of Agenda** – Jerri Heer added Item 16 C : Request by Treasurer to purchase a CD. Motion made by Vonda Echols, 2nd by Juergen Popplereuter, Motion Carried.
8. **Appointment of Parliamentarian** – Vivian Marshall
9. **Minutes from Annual Meeting** – Motion to approve by Rick Marshall, 2nd by Bill Waggener, motion carried.
10. **Remarks by President - In Packet**
11. **Officer Reports:**
 - a. 1st Vice President: Vonda Echols – In Packet
 - b. 2nd Vice President: Jason Hamilton– No Report
 - c. Secretary: Jerri Heer - In Packet
 - d. Treasurer: Barbi Beatty – In Packet
 - e. Assistant Treasurer – David Liles – In the Packet
 - f. Membership Secretary: Rick Marshall – In Packet
 - g. Lodestar Editor: Cindy Reed – In Packet
 - h. Immediate Past President: Dennis Buchanan – In the packet
 - i. Interim AFMS 1st VP – William Waggener – No Report
 - j. Mayo E.F. President: William Waggener – In Packet
12. **State Director Reports:**
 - a. Alabama: Chris Rutherford – No report
 - b. Florida: Meri Jo Theobald – No Report
 - i. Florida Asst Director -Central: Janice Wojcik
 - ii. Florida Asst Director – Open
 - c. Georgia: Open No Report (new Candidate: Mike Harrison)
 - d. Kentucky: Open
 - e. Mississippi: Open
 - f. North Carolina: Cyndy Hummel – Nothing to Report
 - i. NC Asst Director – Kathryn Hackett-Fields
 - g. South Carolina: Open
 - h. Tennessee: Teresa Polly - Report read in:

Kingsport Gems & Minerals Society

I talked to Bob Morgan and Jacob had to step down as President because he is going to graduate school out of State. He said that Gene Backlund has volunteered to step in.

Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

On May 18, 2024 KGMS held their May picnic and we interred Travis Paris's ashes at the club house.

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

Lydia New one of MAGS junior members found 3.5" drill/perforator Native American artifact. They sadly reported the loss of Shirley Ruth Chrisman one of their long time members. They are in preparation to make changes to their website.

Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

As always the MTGMS has an impressive list of classes they are teaching.

Middle Tennessee Rockhounds

I talked to Wayne Ramsey at the Chattanooga show and he said that the Middle Tennessee Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Festival ran smoothly. Attendance was slightly down but he believes this was because it was the first beautiful day of Spring after many rainy days. They have also gone field trips to Diamond Hill Mine, Graves Mountain, and Mundy's Landing in Harrodsburg, KY.

Tennessee Valley Rock & Mineral Society

I went to the Chattanooga show May 4th at the Chester Frost Park and checked in how the club is doing. The show was well attended and the vendors did well. Randy said that the live and Zoom meeting combination was working well and they are going to keep streaming the live meetings for those who cannot attend in person.

- i. Virginia: Open

13. S.F.M.S. Committee Reports:

- a. Bulletin Editor's Contest: Mark Easterbrook – In the Packet
- b. Constitution and Bylaws: Danny Griffin - In Packet
- c. Dixie Mineral Council – Lori Carter – In Packet
- d. Education: Cindy Reed – In Packet
- e. Field Trip: Charles Carter – No Report
- f. Historian: Vickie Hodges – No Report
- g. Inventory – Danny Griffin – In Packet
- h. Long Range Planning: Jesse Griffin, Dennis Buchanan– No Report
- i. Nominations: In the Packet
- j. Public Relations: Open
- k. Publications: No Report
- l. Safety: Bob Green- No Report
- m. Slide, Video & DVD Programs: Jason Hamilton – No Report
- n. Supplies: Open – No Report
- o. 2024 Annual Meeting Host – Georgia Mineral Society – In the Packet
- p. Ways & Means: Danny Griffin, Vonda Echols, Barbi Beatty – No Report
- q. Webmaster: Lori Carter – In Packet
- r. Wildacres Workshop Director: Jim Reed- In Packet
- s. Wildacres Workshop Registrar: Laura Odria– In Packet
- t. William Holland Workshop Director: Rick Marshall - In Packet
- u. William Holland Workshop Registrar: Juergen Popplereuter – In Packet
- v. Workshop Scholarship Committee – Open –No Report
- w. Youth Resources: Mike Harrison – No Report

14. A.F.M.S. Committee Representative

Reports:

- a. A.F.M.S. Newsletter: Open
- b. All American: Open
- c. Boundaries: Open - No Report
- d. Bulletin Editors' Advisory: Mark Easterbrook – In Packet
- e. Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame: Mark Easterbrook– In Packet
- f. Club Rockhound of the Year: Marty Hart – In Packet
- g. Collecting Sites: Open
- h. Conservation and Legislation: Open
- i. Endowment Fund: Open –No Report
- j. Inter-Regional Field Trip: Open
- k. Junior Program: Open
- l. Program Competition: Open
- m. Public Relations: Open
- n. Publications & Supplies: No Report - No Report
- o. Safety: Bob Green- No Report
- p. Uniform Rules: Leslie Wayment –No Report
- q. Ways & Means: No Report
- r. Website: Lori Carter– No Report
- s. Website Contest: Lori Carter – Marty Hart added a statement on behalf of Lori Carter that to date she has only one entry for the Website contest. Clubs have until August 31, 2024 to submit their sites. Even if you don't wish to be considered in the contest, you can submit for critique and constructive advice.

15. Old Business

- a. Ideas for distribution of Rockhound Roundup Funds – current suggestions are a \$50 stipend for trips over 100 miles from home. Committee will have a complete proposal at the September Annual Meeting
- b.

16. New Business:

- a. Application for SFMS Membership – Central Florida Club – Rick Marshal reviewed the stats: 42 adult members, 4 juniors for total of 46 members, application and funds submitted are in order. Motion by Jerri Heer, 2nd by Amanda Rollason to accept, Motion carried.
- b. Disposition of Old Records – Secretary – Has possession of 3 2 drawer filing cabinets of Records from 1976 to present. She is moving to Ohio, and does not want to bring them north. Proposes four Options:
 - i. Dispose of records
 - ii. Find another repository of records
 - iii. Find someone to digitize them and store on our Google account and on a hard drive, then dispose of physical records
 - iv. Pay a commercial company to digitize

We have found that Vickie Hodges, our historian is willing to digitize the records if we get them to her and provide her with a scanner to do so. Lori Carter, Webmaster, has indicated that we have 100 Terabytes of storage space available. Teresa Polly indicated concerns that if we then dispose of the records and technology changes so that pdf's are not readable, we will lose the data. Bill Waggener suggested that we approach The Tellus Museum, who currently houses Mayo's records to take these as well. Barbi Beatty suggested that we amend the budget sufficiently to cover the costs of the scanner, hard drive, and storage boxes. With these stipulations in mind, Vonda made a motion the have Vickie Hodges digitize the records, Amend the budget to add \$500 to cover the cost of scanner, hard drive, boxes, etc, and have Bill Waggener approach Tellus for the ultimate storage of the physical records., Barbi Beatty seconded. Motion carried.

- c. Treasurer Suggesting we buy a \$15,000 CD at 4.25% to improve earnings. Discussion followed about amounts available and potential need in the future, but it was decided to stick to the proposed \$15,000. Vonda Echols made a motion to proceed with purchase of an 11 month CD at 4.25% interest in the amount of \$15,000. Jerri Heer seconded, motion carried

Motion made by Bill Waggener to adjourn, second by Amanda Rollason, Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM

There was no Mayo Meeting

Officer Reports:

President

This will be my final meeting as President of the SFMS. I have decided not to run for a second year. This year has been an eventful one for me personally and as President. I encourage each of you to volunteer at your local club level, and within the SFMS, if you see a place where your individual skills can be useful. Its important for new folks to move up to fill places when the old guard moves along. If this doesn't happen both organizations will wilt and die. New blood coming into an organization will provide new direction and ideas that will keep the clubs active and moving forward. My suggestion to the older members of your club, or the SFMS, is to embrace the newer members suggestions and ideas. Don't blow them off as "its not the way we're used to doing it". You never know what might become of your club if you open your mind to new ideas!

It been a pleasure serving as your 2024 President!

Best regards.

Danny Griffin

1st Vice President

Well this year has been exciting!. I have enjoyed serving as your 1st Vice President. We will be starting a new year soon and I see SFMS continuing to grow and improve, as we all should as years go by.

We, the Executive Board, are here to support the local clubs, not just with insurance coverage, but in any way we can.. We need to promote all the benefits we have for local clubs. We have some new clubs this year and have had an increase in membership over the past few years. This is GOOD news for us. Covid hit everyone and every group hard. Recovery is slow but steady. We are seeing a change in the age of our members; we need to reach out to the younger audience if we want to continue to serve the group as a whole. I hope everyone will continue to support SFMS with a positive approach in upcoming year. Let's have a great and better year. Enjoy the positives in your lives!

Vonda Echols

1st Vice President.

Secretary

I believe I will be entering my fifth 2-year term as Secretary if the proposed slate is approved and elected. It's been a long run, and I have been proud to serve the Federation faithfully in this capacity. It has taken time to truly learn this position, and I believe I have grown to fill the job responsibly. However, I am in the process of making a permanent move back to Ohio which is in the MWF Region. As such, this will be my final term. I have agreed to continue my membership in a SFMS club and continue to serve through this last term to support Vonda Echols while she serves as President, and to allow time for the recruitment of a new Secretary.

Now is the time for someone to step forward if they aspire to assume and accept this job while the opportunity still exists to be trained for this vital position. I will entertain all inquiries! I would love the chance to share all that is entailed in this rewarding position.

Jerri Heer

SFMS Secretary

Treasurer

S F M S Treasurer's Report
Report prepared using Date as of January 1, 2024-Sept 24, 2024

INCOME

Workshop Scholarship Income	\$1,145.00
Membership Dues	\$11,767.50
Interest income	\$3.00
Workshop Income Wildacres	\$45,833.50
Workshop Income William Holland	\$42,094.00
Rock Hound Roundup	\$2,566.00
Donations	\$0.00
Insurance Income	\$31,596.00
Youth Program Income	\$0.00
Annual meeting (Banquet)	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$135,005.00

EXPENSES

Workshop Scholarship Expenses	\$0.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00
Treasurer Expenses	\$300.00
Secretary Expenses	\$18.80
Membership Secretary Expenses	\$0.00
Insurance Dues	\$34,299.00
Workshop Misc	\$0.00
Workshop Expenses Wildacres	\$39,007.31
Workshop Expenses William Holland	\$41,582.86
Rock Hound Roundup	\$1,003.62
Federation Meeting/Social Concerns Expenses	\$415.20
Youth Program Expenses	\$104.40
Slide Program Expenses	\$0.00
Awards/Bulletin/Website Contest Expenses	\$1,079.89
AFMS Federation Dues	\$5,868.00
AFMS Officer Travel Expenses	\$5,500.00
Office Supply/printing/postage Expenses	\$0.00
Raffle	\$0.00
Mayo Ed Foundation	\$500.00
Annual meeting	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$129,679.08

NET INCOME	\$5,325.92
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ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP SUMMARY 2024 (not complete)

Roundup Income	\$2,566.00
Roundup Expense	-\$1,003.62
Total	\$1,562.38

WORKSHOP SUMMARY 2024 (not complete)

Wildacres Income	\$45,833.50
Wildacres Expense	-\$39,007.31
Total	\$6,826.19
William Holland Income	\$42,094.00
William Holland Expense	-\$41,582.86
Total	\$511.14
Workshop Income	\$87,927.50
Workshop Expense	-\$80,590.17
Web hosting	-\$33.98
Scholarships Given	\$0.00
Workshop Total	\$7,303.35

All totals are Year to Date
 Respectfully submitted,
 Barbi Beatty
 SFMS Treasurer

Three Financial items for Consideration and Vote:**1. Guidelines for travel reimbursement to the AFMS annual meeting**

SFMS covers two members to attend the AFMS meeting. President and 1st VP or their designated alternates. All expenses must have legible receipts, with date, place and action, furnished to the SFMS treasurer before funds will be released. Not a list of expenses but the original receipts or copies of these. The reimbursement will be based on www.GSA.GOV >Travel rate @ <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>

Modes of Transportation:

Mileage, if traveling in a privately owned vehicle. This will be determined the Federal governments rate of reimbursement. Miles traveled will be determined from their home address to the address of the hotel/meeting, using a standard computer-generated map guidance for the fastest non toll way.

Airfare travel will be economy only, upgrades will be at the traveler's expense. One paid piece of luggage and NO extra weight.

Per Diem Rate Standard: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>

Lodging daily rates, excluding taxes, will be based on the city where the meeting is being held. The number of days for lodging while traveling will be based on an eight-hour driving day.

Lodging expenses will be covered if staying at the suggested accommodation even if outside the recommended lodging rate but not to exceed the total budgeted amount.

We will cover cost of SFMS representatives who are attending meetings for hotel stay one day prior to meeting and one day after the meeting when, necessary.

Meals and Incidental's: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>

M&I will be reimbursed based on the city where the meeting is being held. There will be a per diem daily per meal rate. Adjustment for banquet and breakfast cost in conjunction with the AFMS meetings will be made if it is more than the daily meal rate. Only expenses backed with receipts will be considered for reimbursement. No alcohol will be covered.

All adjustments to expenses should be addressed prior to attending the AFMS meeting with the executive board. Persons traveling as a representative of the SFMS at the AFMS annual meeting will need to fill out a travel reimbursement form and include all necessary receipts and send them to the SFMS Treasurer to be reimbursed.

Submitted by the SFMS Travel Committee
 Barbi Beatty
 Jerri Heer
 Vonda Echols

2. Proposal for State Director Stipends

State Directors financial assistance for visiting the clubs/societies in their state using funds raised by the Rockhound Roundup. The funds raised from the Rockhound Roundup were earmarked to be used to defer some of the cost for State Directors visiting their clubs. As we have held the Rockhound Roundup several years, and profits are now being made, it is time to start dispersing some of the funds. While we do not have a large amount the thought is some extra funds to help with gas might be nice. The proposal is to give the State Director a \$25.00 stipend when they visit a club more than 50 miles from their personal home address. The visit should coincide with their monthly meeting, not to visit their Gem Show. A meeting where the State Directors can meet and discuss any issues, problems or ideas the club might have. The stipend will be issued only once a calendar year per club visit. Proof of attending the meeting will be needed, example: State Directors named in the attendees of the meeting. State Director will submit a SFMS reimbursement form along with proof of attendance to the SFMS treasurer to receive a check for the stipend.

Submitted by the SFMS State Director Stipend Committee
 Barbi Beatty
 Jerri Heer
 Vonda Echols

3. 2025 Budget Proposal (Also Provided on Separate Sheet)

		Proposed		Proposed
Income		2024 Budget	Actual	2025 Budget
			9/24/2024	
Donations		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dues		\$12,000.00	\$11,767.50	\$12,000.00
Interest		\$42.00	\$3.00	\$10.00
Wildacres Workshop		\$46,000.00	\$45,833.50	\$46,000.00

WM Holland Workshop	\$24,000.00	\$42,094.00	\$42,000.00
Rockhound Roundup	\$2,300.00	\$2,566.00	\$2,600.00
Miscellaneous - Other	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$875.00
Insurance	\$23,000.00	\$31,596.00	\$31,600.00
Workshop Scholarship	\$1,000.00	\$1,145.00	\$1,000.00
Total Income	\$107,560.08	\$135,005.00	\$136,085.00
Officers Expense			
Secretary	\$500.00	\$18.80	\$500.00
Membership Secretary	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Treasurer	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$500.00
Other Officers	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Bonding of Officers	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
State Director Stipend			\$1,675.00
Officers Expense Subtotal	\$3,300.00	\$318.80	\$6,375.00
Committee Expenses			
Bulletin/Website Contest	\$800.00	\$1,079.89	\$1,100.00
Editor Lodestar	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Publications	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Insurance	\$23,000.00	\$34,299.00	\$35,000.00
Supplies	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Slide Programs	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Education			
Junior/Scholarships	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Wildacres Workshop	\$34,000.00	\$39,007.31	\$46,000.00
Wm Holland Workshop	\$25,000.00	\$41,582.86	\$42,000.00
Other (advertising etc)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Federation Meetings	\$1,500.00	\$415.20	\$1,500.00
Youth Resources	\$500.00	\$104.40	\$500.00
Social Concerns	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
ALAA	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Committee Expense Subtotal	\$91,450.00	\$116,488.66	\$133,750.00
Miscellaneous Expenses			

Dues American Federation	\$6,000.00	\$5,868.00	\$6,000.00
Officer Travel AFMS	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$4,000.00
Awards	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Mayo Education Foundation	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Workshop Scholarship	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Admin Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Rockhound Roundup	\$1,300.00	\$1,003.62	\$1,300.00
Miscellaneous Expense Subtotal	\$15,900.00	\$12,871.62	\$15,300.00
Summary			
Total Income	\$107,560.08	\$135,005.00	\$136,085.00
Total Expense	\$110,650.00	\$129,679.08	\$155,425.00
Net Income	-\$3,089.00	\$5,325.92	-\$3,089.00

Membership Secretary

In July I visited with our new member, Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society. I welcomed them to the SFMS and gave a detailed presentation on our website. They were very interested in what we have to offer. I look for them to become very active very quickly. I would like to encourage every club to educate your members about the website. It is a good way to stay up to date and educated about the SFMS. If you need help doing this, please let me know. I be glad to help!

I was looking at the Club Contacts list recently getting ready to send 2025 Club Membership renewals in December for 2025. Very few clubs have updated the contact information since the original input. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!! Have a designated person in your club start updating this so we can have correct information. I need to know who to send renewals to, so the process runs as smoothly as possible for all.

There still seems to be some confusion about the annual dues and insurance. I hope this can help to explain the process:

- On December 31st I will send out the membership renewal forms.
- The renewal process automatically sends an email to each club to let them know it is time for SFMS membership renewal.
- The email addresses used for the email are determined in this order:
 1. From the club contacts list – president and treasurer.
 2. If there is no contact information for the president or treasurer, any other contacts found are used.

3. If no contacts are found in the club contacts list, the email addresses in the *2024 All Clubs Membership Dues and Insurance* spreadsheet left from the prior year are used.
4. If there are no email addresses in the membership spreadsheet, the email is sent to the state director with a message letting the director know that the SFMS does not have contact information for the club.

The person designated by the club then fills out the online membership form with the following:

- Their name
- Their email address
- Their phone number
- Name of the person responsible for paying the dues
- Email address of that person
- Phone number of that person
- Number of adult members **you had on the roster for 2024 as of 12/31/2024**
- Number of junior members **you had on the roster for 2024 as of 12/31/2024**

You must also indicate if the club intends to enroll in SFMS liability insurance:

- Yes
- No
- Have other insurance

If you choose “Yes”, you have the option to enter up to two show dates to enroll in SFMS show/event insurance. Otherwise, the form goes straight to the submit button.

Then submit the form. Once the form is submitted, a confirmation email is sent to the following people:

- The person who submitted the membership renewal form
- The club Treasurer

Please make out the check to SFMS and mail to the address on the form. This check is for dues only. Insurance is paid separately from membership dues because the insurance rate is determined based on the total number of members reported under membership renewal and whether or not you require show insurance. When the insurance rates are available, the assistant treasurer will send an invoice for the insurance with instructions.

Rick Marshall
SFMS Membership Secretary
407-949-1416

Lodestar Editor

We have over 700 names on the contact list at this time. If your club isn't receiving the Lodestar, please contact me at editor@southeastfed.org and I will add you. I think we've achieved our goal to streamline the Lodestar and make it easier and faster to download. Each person receives a link to the current month which should open on your browser. If you can't download it, go to <https://www.southeastfed.org/newsletter> where you can find the current issue and back issues. Remember, all show submissions made on the southeastfed.org website will also come

directly to me. This is one stop shopping. You can include your flyer on the website, but I'm no longer putting them in the Lodestar. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, criticisms, suggestions or submissions. Thanks to everyone for making my job easier.

Cindy Reed
SFMS Lodestar Editor

Mayo E.F. President:

The Mayo Educational Foundations was pleased to award three scholarships during the 2024 School Year totaling \$6,000.00:

Catherine Caterham, Attending University of Tennessee, Knoxville - \$2,150.00

Julian Nosarzewski, Attending University of Tennessee, Knoxville - \$1,925.00

Senica Rulison, Attending Eastern Tennessee State University - \$1,925.00

We encourage all clubs to seek out Geology/Environmental Science students at their local Universities who may be interested in this scholarship and may be encouraged to join and support your club, a win-win for both parties!

William Waggener

State Director Reports:

Alabama :

Good Afternoon Rockhounds,

Autumn is the time of year when the Gem Clubs hold their annual Gem and Mineral Shows. First up is the

Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society in Birmingham, Alabama will return to the Irondale Civic Center on September 6-8, 2024 for their 52nd annual gem show. This is always a great show to attend. More information can be found at www.lapidaryclub.com .

Following up next is the Huntsville Alabama Gem and Mineral Society, one of our largest clubs in Alabama, is hosting their annual gem show on October 11-13, 2024. More information can be found at HUNTSVILLE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY (huntsvillegms.org) .

The Mobile Alabama Rock and Society is hosting their annual gem show the weekend of November 29,30 and December 1, 2024 . More information can be found at Annual Jewelry, Gem and Mineral Show — Mobile Rock & Gem Society (mobilerockandgem.com) .

And the Montgomery Gem and Mineralogical Society is hosting the largest gem show in the State of Alabama on December 6-8, 2024. This will be the 54 th annual gem show for the Montgomery club. More information can be found at www.mgms.club .

The Dothan Alabama Gem and Mineral Club, The Wiregrass Rockhounds, held their annual gem show back on April 6 and 7 th , 2024. We hope that they will return back in 2025. For more information please visit their website at www.wiregrassrockhounds.com

Chris Rutherford
Alabama State Director

SFMS Committee Reports:

Bulletin Editor’s Contest

Regarding the Bulletin Editor’s Contest for 2024, there were entries in seven categories from just four clubs. I want to thank these hard-working writers and editors for all that they do for their clubs. I would just ask each of you to encourage your editors to participate in the 2025 contest, which will be much earlier than in recent years. It is a great learning experience to see how to improve your bulletins and publications for your club members. Your editors are the life-blood of your club communication to your membership.

Mark Easterbrook

Constitution and Bylaws:

Danny Griffin, SFMS Constitution & By-Laws Chair

SUBJECT: Physical Separation of the Mayo Educational Foundation Constitution and Bylaws from the SFMS Constitution and Bylaws

The Mayo Educational Foundation Constitution and Bylaws is a stand-alone document from the SFMS Constitution and Bylaws. They were merged for convenience back when the documents were all printed and distributed as hard copies. When the documents were converted to electronic form they were kept as a single document. After this happened it appears that any generic change that applied to both documents were voted on as if they were a single document.

Based on this, I’ve electronically separating the documents into two separate entities. From this time forward any suggested changes that effect both documents will have to be provided as two separate submittals and voted on as two separate documents. Any suggested change that affects a single document with must be submitted and voted on as a separate document.

SUBJECT: Bylaws Revision (Separate Sheet)

DMC Field Trip Program

September 2024 DMC Field Trip Sharing Program Report

Reminder

Because of SFMS liability insurance requirements, the general public cannot attend DMC field trips. Do not post DMC field trip notices where the general public can access them. This includes publicly posting club newsletters with field trip information in them.

DMC Field Trip Schedule for the Next 12 Months

2024

October - Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society (Memphis, TN)

November - Emerald City Rock and Gem Club (Greenwood, SC)

December - Upper Abbeville Gem and Mineral Club (Due West, SC)

2025

January - Open

February - Greensboro Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. (Greensboro, NC)

March - Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Inc. (Mobile, AL)

April - Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Florence, MS)

May - North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Tupelo, MS)

June - Gaston Gem and Mineral Club (Gastonia, NC)

July - Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society (Jacksonville, FL)

August - Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society (Marietta, GA)

September - Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society (Murfreesboro, TN)

Joining the DMC

If your club is not a member of the DMC, it should join! Your members are missing all the fun! If your club joins the DMC, it will be able to offer a DMC field trip every month and members will get to collect all over the southeast! Other than enjoying all of those field trips, all your club will have to do is host a DMC field trip every 2 ½ years or so! Click here for more information about the program and how to join, or go to the SFMS website (www.southeastfed.org), then click "SFMS Field Trips", then "DMC Field Trip Program", then "DMC Membership Details".

Respectfully submitted by

Lori Carter, DMC Coordinator

dmc@southeastfed.org

<https://www.southeastfed.org/sfms-field-trips/dmc-field-trip-program>

SFMS Inventory Chair Report

2024 Annual Meeting

The SFMS Inventory is current and up to date at this time. No additional equipment has been added since the last report. If you have purchased equipment for the SFMS let me know so I can add the equipment to the inventory list. Please provide the following if available:

- Description of the equipment (e.g. Lenovo Laptop) and any ancillary equipment (e.g. mouse/secondary monitor, etc.)
- Quantity
- Serial Number, if available (a photo of the box info may provide everything I need)
- Current caretaker/holder of the equipment
- Any addition notes you deem important

Don't forget to contact the SFMS Treasurer (Barbi Beatty) who may need additional information for her records.

Thanks!

Danny Griffin

SFMS Inventory Chair

(865) 406-8802

Nomination Committee:

The Nominating Committee consists of :Dennis M. Buchanan, Past President and Chair, Teresa Polly, Jim Patterson, and Rick Marshall.

The following officers are elected in the odd years: TREASURER, and MEMBERSHIP

The following officers are elected in even years: ASSISTANT TREASURER, EDITOR, AND SECRETARY.

HERE ARE THE RECOMMENDED SFMS OFFICERS FOR 2025

- PRESIDENT: Vonda Echols
- 1st VICE PRESIDENT: OPEN
- 2nd VICE PRESIDENT: Mike Harrison
- SECRETARY: Jerri Heer
- ASSISTANT TREASURY: David Liles
- EDITOR: Cindy Reed
- PAST PRESIDENT: Danny Griffin
- MAYO FOUNDATION PRESIDENT: ELECTED AT 1ST MEETING BY THE MAYO COMMITTEE

Webmaster

New AFMS Website

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies has a new website. The main URL is <https://www.amfed.org/> There is a cross-reference chart that maps old URL's to new URL's. Please make sure to update any links you may have to the AFMS website.

Club Contacts List

The officers and other volunteers in the SFMS need to be able to keep in communicate with you and your club. Contact information was once updated only once a year, but people changed positions, club elections were held, responsibilities changed – for many reasons the contact information would no longer be current. Now, there is a way for you to keep your club's contact information current and accurate. Any time you need to update information, go to the SFMS website and click the Club Contacts menu item. Instructions for filling out the club contacts form and a link to the form are there. You can add, update, and mark positions as unfilled or not applicable. There are also 4 additional contacts for you to use if the standard set does not fit all of the contacts you want to include. Once you submit the form, your state director must approve the submission, then the list will be updated and you will receive email confirming the changes. If you need any help with the form, please contact me and I will be happy to help. Communications in an organization like ours is critical. Let's keep communications flowing!

If you have any questions, suggestions for the website, or if there is any way I can be of assistance, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted by

Lori Carter, SFMS Webmaster,
webmaster@southeastfed.org

Wildacres Registrar Report

With the first week of SFMS Wildacres workshops quickly approaching, we currently have thirty-five students registered for classes. The Stained-Glass course with Stephanie Danz is full at eight students, Weave-Tap-Drop with Cindy Moore has only one spot available at seven members, and all other classes have four to five students each.

There are already twenty-eight members signed up for the second SFMS week in September. Both the Soapstone Carving and Silver-All-in-Once classes are almost full at seven students each. There is still availability for all remaining courses. Members can sign up now at <https://www.sfmshworkshops.org> to ensure their spot. Can't wait to see you all there.

Laura Odria, SFMS Wildacres Registrar

Wa-registrar@southeastfed.org

William Holland Director

Preparations for the 2025 SFMS William Holland Workshop are well under way. We already have a great start for a great week. Make your plans now to attend the week of June 8, 2025!!!

Here are the classes and instructors scheduled so far:

Deb Gates	Junior Jewelers	(New instructor & class)
Barbara Fields	Silver 1	(New instructor)
John Wild	Cabochons	
Jeff Hunter	Opals 1 & II	(New instructor)
Judi Wild	Wire Wrapping	
Stephanie Danz	Stained Glass	
Pat Lillie	Metal Clay	(New Instructor)
Lance Andrus	Faceting	(New Instructor)
Zac Tedrow	Silver II	(New Instructor)
Jim Hird	Chain Maille	(New Instructor)
Ken Valko	Soapstone Carving	(New Instructor)
Jerri Heer	Gem Trees	

The following classes are also being planned:

- Intarsia
- Soft Soldering

I hope you can all find something you like. Class descriptions are being prepared. I'll let you know when registration starts.

Rick Marshall
SFMS William Holland Director
407-949-1416

AFMS Committees:

AFMS Bulletin Editor's Advisory Committee (BEAC) as SFMS Representative

Regarding the AFMS BEAC as SFMS Representative, the SFMS was unable to participate in the 2024 AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest due to my extended stay in the hospital earlier this year. The AFMS Annual Meeting was held in Ventura, CA back in May.

Mark Easterbrook

AFMS Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame:

Regarding the Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame as SFMS representative, the AFMS now recognizes the current federation President's regional federation. This is a national recognition, not just for the SFMS. This means that the SFMS will nominate recipients once every seven years since we at the SFMS will be hosting once every seven years due to there being seven federations. The next time for SFMS nominations will be in 2027. The SFMS will notify everyone when it is time to nominate again. Nominations only come from other editors.

Mark Easterbrook

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
September 28, 2024 – Norcross, Georgia

Agenda:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Invocation**
4. **Introductions**
5. **Host Welcome: Georgia Mineral Society**
6. **Quorum Check- 20% of Full Board = (11+7+67).20=17, have at least 24 registered – quorum is met**

7. **Approval of Agenda**
8. **Appointment of Parliamentarian**
9. **Minutes from June Executive Meeting**
10. **Remarks by President - In Packet**
11. **Officer Reports:**

- a. 1st Vice President: Vonda Echols – In Packet
- b. 2nd Vice President: Jason Hamilton– No Report
- c. Secretary: Jerri Heer - In Packet
- d. Treasurer: Barbi Beatty – In Packet
- e. Assistant Treasurer – David Liles – No Report
- f. Membership Secretary: Rick Marshall – In Packet
- g. Lodestar Editor: Cindy Reed– In Packet
- h. Immediate Past President: Dennis Buchanan – No Report
- i. Interim AFMS 1st VP – William Waggener – No Report
- j. Mayo E.F. President: William Waggener – In Packet

12. State Director Reports:

- a. Alabama: Chris Rutherford – In the Packet
- b. Florida: Meri Jo Theobald – No Report
 - i. Florida Asst Director - Central: Janice Wojcik
 - ii. Florida Asst Director – Open
- c. Georgia: Open - New Director proposed
- d. Kentucky: Open
- e. Mississippi: Open – New Director Proposed

- f. North Carolina: Cyndy Hummel – No Report
 - i. NC Asst Director – Kathryn Hackett-Fields
- g. South Carolina: Open
- h. Tennessee: Teresa Polly No Report
- i. Virginia: Open

13. S.F.M.S. Committee Reports:

- a. Bulletin Editor's Contest: Mark Easterbrook – In Packet
- b. Constitution and Bylaws: Danny Griffin - In Packet
- c. Dixie Mineral Council – Lori Carter – In Packet
- d. Education: Open
- e. Field Trip: Charles Carter – No Report
- f. Historian: Vickie Hodges – No Report
- g. Inventory – Danny Griffin – In Packet
- h. Long Range Planning: Jesse Griffin, Dennis Buchanan– No Report
- i. Nominations: In Packet
- j. Public Relations: Open
- k. Publications: No Report
- l. Safety: Bob Green- No Report
- m. Slide, Video & DVD Programs: Jason Hamilton – No Report
- n. Supplies: Open
- o. 2024 Annual Meeting Host – Georgia Mineral Society
- p. Ways & Means: Danny Griffin, Vonda Echols, Barbi Beatty – See Budget Proposal
- q. Webmaster: Lori Carter – In Packet
- r. Wildacres Workshop Director: Jim Reed- No Report
- s. Wildacres Workshop Registrar: Laura Odria– In Packet

- t. William Holland Workshop
Director: Rick Marshall - In Packet
- u. William Holland Workshop
Registrar: Juergen Popplereuter
No Report
- v. Workshop Scholarship
Committee – Open
- w. Youth Resources: Mike Harrison
– Will give verbal Report
- c. Bylaws Change to expand
Annual meeting event options –
Danny Griffin
- d. Refund request from Gem &
Mineral Society of the Greater
Palm Beaches – Rick Marshall
- e. Budget – Barbi Beatty
- f. Election – Slate of Officers:
President: Vonda Echols
1st Vice President: Open
2nd VP: Mike Harrison
Secretary: Jerri Heer
Asst Treas: David Liles
Editor: Cindy Reed
Past Pres: Danny Griffin
AFMS Regional :Open
Mayo Pres: Bill Waggener

14. A.F.M.S. Committee Representative

Reports:

- a. A.F.M.S. Newsletter: Open
- b. All American: Open
- c. Boundaries: Open
- d. Bulletin Editors' Advisory: Mark
Easterbrook – In Packet
- e. Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame:
Mark Easterbrook– In Packet
- f. Club Rockhound of the Year:
Marty Hart
- g. Collecting Sites: Open
- h. Conservation and Legislation:
Open
- i. Endowment Fund: Open
- j. Inter-Regional Field Trip: Open
- k. Junior Program: Open
- l. Program Competition: Open
- m. Public Relations: Open
- n. Publications & Supplies: Open
- o. Safety: Bob Green- No Report
- p. Uniform Rules: Leslie Wayment
–No Report
- q. Ways & Means: No Report
- r. Website: Open – No Report
- s. Website Contest: Lori Carter –
No Report

Mayo Meeting immediately following.

15. Old Business

- a. Proposal for distribution of
Rockhound Roundup Funds –
Barbi Beatty
- b. Disposition of Old Records –
Progress – Jerri Heer

16. New Business:

- a. New Club Application: Liang
Middle School Geology Club –
Mt Pleasant, SC – Rick Marshall
- b. Guidelines for SFMS/AFMS
Travel – Barbi Beatty

Income	Proposed	Actual	Proposed
	2024 Budget	9/24/2024	2025 Budget
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dues	\$12,000.00	\$11,767.50	\$12,000.00
Interest	\$42.00	\$3.00	\$10.00
Wildacres Workshop	\$46,000.00	\$45,833.50	\$46,000.00
WM Holland Workshop	\$24,000.00	\$42,094.00	\$42,000.00
Rockhound Roundup	\$2,300.00	\$2,566.00	\$2,600.00
Miscellaneous - Other	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$875.00
Insurance	\$23,000.00	\$31,596.00	\$31,600.00
Workshop Scholarship	\$1,000.00	\$1,145.00	\$1,000.00
Total Income	\$107,560.08	\$135,005.00	\$136,085.00
Officers Expense			
Secretary	\$500.00	\$18.80	\$500.00
Membership Secretary	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Treasurer	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$500.00
Other Officers	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Bonding of Officers	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
State Director Stipen			\$1,675.00
Officers Expense Subtotal	\$3,300.00	\$318.80	\$6,375.00
Committee Expenses			
Bulletin/Website Contest	\$800.00	\$1,079.89	\$1,100.00
Editor Lodestar	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Publications	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Insurance	\$23,000.00	\$34,299.00	\$35,000.00
Supplies	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Slide Programs	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Education			
Junior/Scholarships	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Wildacres Workshop	\$34,000.00	\$39,007.31	\$46,000.00
Wm Holland Workshop	\$25,000.00	\$41,582.86	\$42,000.00
Other (advertising etc)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Federation Meetings	\$1,500.00	\$415.20	\$1,500.00
Youth Resources	\$500.00	\$104.40	\$500.00
Social Concerns	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
ALAA	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Committee Expense Subtotal	\$91,450.00	\$116,488.66	\$133,750.00
Miscellaneous Expenses			
Dues American Federation	\$6,000.00	\$5,868.00	\$6,000.00
Officer Travel AFMS	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$4,000.00
Awards	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Mayo Education Foundation	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Workshop Scholarship	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Admin Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Rockhound Roundup	\$1,300.00	\$1,003.62	\$1,300.00
Miscellaneous Expense Subtotal	\$15,900.00	\$12,871.62	\$15,300.00
Summary			
Total Income	\$107,560.08	\$135,005.00	\$136,085.00
Total Expense	\$110,650.00	\$129,679.08	\$155,425.00
Net Income	-\$3,089.00	\$5,325.92	-\$3,089.00

AFMS MEETING – Ventura, California – May 2024

Representatives for SFMS: Lisa Roberts: on behalf of SFMS President

Collis Antley: on behalf of SFMS 1st VP

"SEASIDE GEMS AT VENTURA"

Diane Cook Show Chair

2024 CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention

Wednesday: We arrived in Ventura on Wednesday in time to check-in at Motel 6 and head to Fairgrounds for the Uniform Rules Meeting.

Thursday- AFMS MEETING < followed by a Luncheon

*Our evening was spent at Surfers Point looking for whale bone and mermaids.

Friday- 10 AM Opening day of show! Customers were lined up at the door to enter. The first building area was huge with many activities.

1. Show merch
2. Demos: gem trees, faceting, silversmithing, cabochons, wire wrapping, fossil prep, soapstone carving
3. Raffle "Kingsley North"
4. Rows and rows of Cases to be Judged. Our own Bill Waggner from Mayo Foundation helped the Uniform Rules Committee judge cases.
5. Grab bags
6. Silent Auction

2:30 PM we attended at lecture by Luis de Los Santos "CONDOR AGATES OF ARGENTINA"

Luis presented a very in depth presentation about collecting Condor Agates.

7:00 PM. Cracker Barrel and Welcome to the Show

What a first day!

Saturday - Show opened at 10AM. We started our day in the huge second building where all the vendors were set up.

11AM- Michael Santos presented a lecture "WHAT'S SO MYSTERIOUS ABOUT METEORITES"

We were invited to stop by his booth For a more in depth, hands on look at some Of his meteorites. Just a side note, his Wife Played the school teacher on " Little house on the Parie"

1PM- Keri Dearborn presented a lecture. "GEOLOGY OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS"

3PM. Maxine Dearborn gave a lecture on "AMBER" Maxine brought many examples of amber and also explained how to clean amber.

* We walked the beach again looking for whale bone and mermaids.

6PM. Happy Hour for Awards Banquet

7PM- Dinner Awards Banquet

8PM- Awards - We lost count , there were so many Awards. We were very impressed with the number of Youth Awards. The SFMS needs to step it up on Juried and non-juried cases at our Shows.

* Cheryl Neary won the Mermaid contest!

Sunday - show opened at 10AM

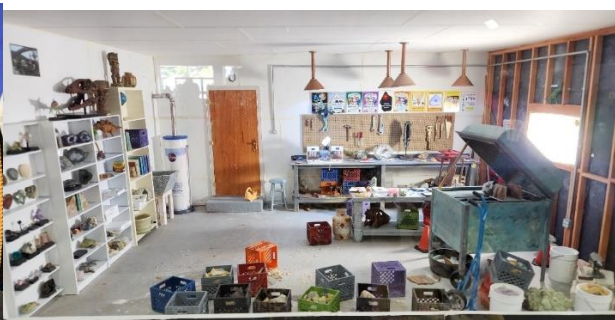
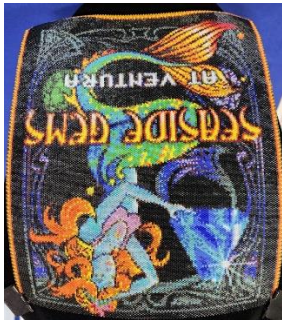
11AM Dick Weber presented a lecture " THE DeGRUSSA COPPER & GOLD MINES" location Australia. * very interesting, when you think of Australia most everyone thinks of Opal.

1PM. Ken Roger's presented a lecture " DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE"

We were honored to represent the Southeast Federation

Lisa Roberts

Collis Antley



Beaded Logo for the show Rockhound garage in miniature

Lunar Rock



Gem tree Case

BYLAWS REVISION = Sept 2024

The following changes have been requested, in writing by Vonda Echols, in time to be officially submitted for review/vote. The changes listed below allows the option of having a special event instead of a gem and mineral show, if circumstance warrant.

The following changes in RED reflect the request:

Article VI – ANNUAL MEETING

Section 1 – Annual Meeting

The Federation shall hold at least one Annual Meeting each calendar year for the following purposes:

A. To hold the Annual Meeting in conjunction with a gem and mineral show **or other special event** which **may** contain exhibits by its members **(if applicable)**.

Section 4 – Hosts

A. The Host shall have the primary responsibility for planning and preparing for the Annual Meeting. The Federation shall arrange its own program for the Annual Meeting and other special meetings. The Uniform Rules Committee shall perform duties as prescribed in the By-Laws for the Show/**Special Event (if applicable)**.

Section 5 – Coordinator

The First Vice-President of the Federation shall act as coordinator for the Federation and Host, and shall keep in close communication with the Host General Chairman on all planning preparation, activities, and developments involved with the Annual Meeting and Show/**Special Event**. The First Vice-President shall meet with the General Show Chairman as early as possible.

Section 6 – Host General Chairman

A. HOST GENERAL CHAIRMAN DUTIES

The Host General Chairman, with the assistance of the SFMS Coordinator (First Vice-President), shall draw up tentative plans for the Annual Meeting (Show/**Special Event**, Banquet, and Editors' Breakfast). The Host General Chairman then shall submit the tentative plans to the proper authorities in the Host Club or Society for their Approval. After the approval of the Host Club or Society, the Host General Chairman and the SFMS Coordinator shall work together to follow through with the plans for the Annual Meeting.

Section 10 – Show/**Special Event**

A Special Event shall consist of:

A. An event that is of interest to the membership and is related to the mineralogy, lapidary arts, paleontology, geology, archaeology, and any related Earth Sciences. These may include, but are not restricted to, auctions, rock swaps, etc.

B. Where applicable, an assemblage of displays of collections related to the subjects of mineralogy, lapidary arts, paleontology, geology, archaeology, and any related Earth Sciences shall be setup at the event.

C. Where applicable, the public for the purpose of advancing public education and arousing public interest in the Earth Sciences, may attend the special event.

D. The First Vice President along with the Host General Chair shall determine the type of event and whether the event is applicable for public attendance and/or displays.