

Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXIX/Eight

November 2004

Upcoming DMC Field Trip: November 20, 2004- Norris Lake, Claiborne Co., TN. Ordovician Age Fossils. Sponsored by the Knoxville (TN) Gem and Mineral Club. Check your local club newsletter for details.

"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!"

Workshop Update: A successful workshop season has ended. The present directors and the new directors have collaborated to plan the five workshops that will be held during 2005. Please check inside for a further discussion of our plans. Then near the end of November look for a brochure in the mail that will have the complete schedule along with course descriptions, instructor's bios, and registration forms. It will be sent as a Lodestar Supplement to all persons on the Lodestar mailing list. Be sure to check the new guidelines and payment schedule.

Fred Sias, SFMS Education Chair

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Ahoy and Greetings to all SFMS members and friends:

Many of our coastal and Florida clubs have been affected by the hurricanes and tropical storms these past few months. Buildings, homes, and personal belongings have been damaged by wind and water. The hazards of coastal living are highlighted once again. Since we are resilient and resourceful humans, trials such as these slow us down but do not stop us. Club meetings and shows go on and collectors benefit from newly exposed strata. My step-granddaughter in Lakeland, FL enjoyed a number of days out of school and learned that electricity is not required to get up in the morning or to go to bed at night. She will grow to be a resourceful rockhound!

As our many of our folks were in harms path, please contact your friends and rockhound acquaintances and let them know that SFMS is thinking of them and hoping that no one was injured or suffered any severe losses.

On a lighter note, I have enjoyed two successive weekends of collecting and enjoyed very much the fellowship and joy of sitting near friends and digging in the dirt. My 8th grade classes appreciate the color and density of the Glendon pyrite, but have yet to see the green in the Shelby muscovite. We try to educate them in the important aspects of rocks and minerals with specimens that we have.

The December Annual Show and Meeting in Norcross, GA will be a stellar event. Competitive and non-competitive displays are registered and the vendors promise a bonanza in jewelry and specimens. Please reserve your place for the Banquet and Editor's Breakfast as soon as possible. The Host Committee needs to finalize the number of seats and choice of meals as soon as possible. Come to Norcross on the second weekend in December and finish that holiday shopping in true rockhound spirit.

*Respectfully submitted ,
William (Bill) G. Waggener, SFMS President*

THE SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.



A Non-Profit, Non-Commercial, Non-Political Organization and
Regional Federation of the American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies



PURPOSE:

To bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of Earth Sciences and the practice of Lapidary Arts and Crafts in the Southeast part of the United States.

OBJECTIVE:

To cooperate with similar Federations to promote public interest in the Earth Sciences and the conservation of natural resources.

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The article submittal due date for the December 2004 Lodestar is November 25, 2004.

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

I am pleased to say that I received all but one or two articles by the October 25th deadline for this issue of Lodestar. This was very helpful to me.

I have decided to give up my position as editor of my local society in order to devote more time to the Lodestar. As of December 20th, I will no longer have to divide my time between the two newsletters. Editing two newsletters, both 16+ pages in length 10 months out of a year (one of which is printed 12 times a year), makes me appreciate those who do this for a living.

I also have to admit that having another senior in high school with all the activities that entails (e.g., college applications to fill out, college visits, studying for the SAT, etc.) has also made it almost high impossible to be editor of both newsletters. One more child to go and maybe I can devote more time to volunteer work such as editing multiple newsletters.

A young junior member of one of our member clubs, the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society, submitted an article to Lodestar that appears on page 17 of this issue. I hope to continue to print such articles as space allows. Let's continue to support our youth in their endeavors.

SFMS Annual Meeting is almost upon us. As a member of the Georgia Mineral Society, the host of the meeting, I know the society is eager and anxious to welcome all. Please make plans to attend. Banquet and Editors' Breakfast reservations are provided in this issue, please complete them and send them in ASAP if you plan to attend.

*See you in Norcross, GA,
Carolyn L. Daniels, SFMS Editor*

NOMINATIONS FOR SFMS OFFICERS

The following individuals are nominated by the SFMS nominating committee for open officer positions in 2005:

President - Eileen Price

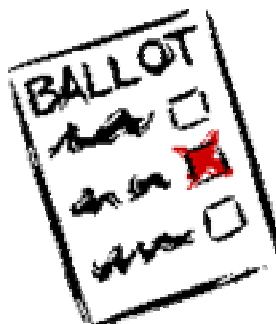
1st Vice President - Ann Monroe

2nd Vice President - Buddy Shotts

Secretary - Betty James

Ass't Treasurer- David Katts

Editor - Carolyn Daniels



Elections for the above positions by the Federation Board of Directors will occur at the 2004 Annual Meeting in December 2004.

*Ron Denton
Nominating Committee Chair*

SOCIAL CONCERNS

I have received an email from Dana Gonzalez reporting that Raymond had cardiac bypass surgery. He started having chest pains while working out; he was taken to the emergency room, and it was determined that he needed the surgery without delay.

I spoke with Dana this morning. She said Raymond is at home now and recovering.

Please keep Raymond (and Dana) in your prayers and send him your good well wishes via cards, telephone calls, and emails.

Dana and Raymond's address is: 6226 Seaton Drive, Columbus, GA 31909, Phone: (706) 327-4474; email: DRG@mchsi.com.

*Anna Denton, Editor (email dated 10/5/04)
The Boulder Bouncer, East Alabama Gem & Mineral Society*

Jim Robinson, current SFMS Stamp Program Chairman and AFMS President Elect, had an angioplasty done on October 15, 2004. He is unsure if he will be able to attend the SFMS Annual meeting. He will be visiting the doctor on November 15th and will find out then if he can travel.

Let's keep Jim in our prayers and hope that he is able to attend the Annual Meeting.

adapted from an email forwarded to the editor on October 29, 2004

YOUTH RESOURCES REPORT

Now it is time to have our Youth begin to consider participating in the contests for 2005. The cover sheet and criteria for the Junior of the Year (JOY) are included in this Lodestar (beginning on page 4). We encourage you to copy these forms and distribute them to your Youth Leader and all Junior members. The application and cover sheet together with explanations, proofs, letters, etc. must be returned to us by **November 10, 2005**. The Points are tallied and a winner is declared before the end of the year. The winner will receive a plaque and a very nice mineral or fossil specimen as a prize. This is a very prestigious individual award and we hope that many youth will consider it a challenge and enjoy acquiring points in order to win. Adult support is acceptable and encouraged. Any Junior member (ages 8-18) of a Gem and Mineral Club that is a member of the Southeast Federation is eligible to participate. The activities listed in the application must take place between **November 1, 2004 and October 31, 2005**. This time period has been established in order for the award to be given in the same year in which it has been achieved.

Every **Club President** is responsible for distributing these forms to the youth, the youth leaders and their parents. We thank you in advance for your part and encouraging your youth to be active members of your club.

*Hugh and Leona Sheffield
SFMS Youth Resources Chairpersons*

November 2004

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

APPLICATION FOR JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2005

NAME _____ AGE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

I, _____, certify that I am a member in good standing of the _____

Gem and Mineral Club, which is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. I am a paid member throughout the calendar Year 2005. All of the points on this application are for activities between November 1, 2004 and October 31, 2005. All entries are true and correct.

PRESIDENT OF THE SPONSORING CLUB

I _____, as President of the sponsoring Club, believe that all the points recorded in this application are true and correct.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

ALL MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY October 31, 2005**ALL MATERIAL MUST BE POSTMARKED BY November 10, 2005**

THE JUNIOR OF THE YEAR (JOY) WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE DECEMBER, 2005 LODESTAR.

GOOD LUCK!