

# Lodestar

The Friendly Federation ★ Founded to Serve



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Volume XXIX/Three

March 2004

**Upcoming DMC Field Trip: March 13, 2004** - Cargill Phosphate Mine near Ft. Meade, FL for marine fossils. Sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc. Check your local club newsletter for details.

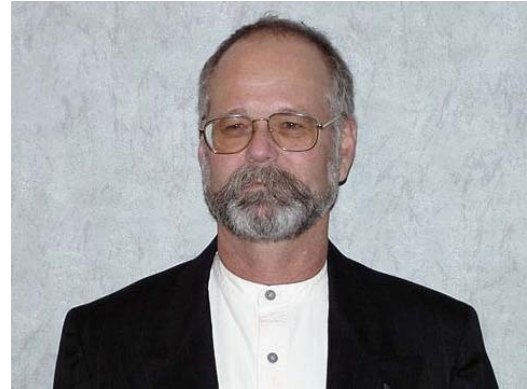
*"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this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

**Workshop Update:** As of March 4th, the deadline for submissions for the March Lodestar, we have only one application each for Cabochons and Glass Bead Making at the April Wildacres Workshop. Both courses will have to be canceled unless we receive several applications soon. Due to publishing delays, this is the last issue of the Lodestar that you will receive before the workshop. Please check the web site or sign up for the workshop mail list by sending an email to: [SFMSworkshops-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:SFMSworkshops-subscribe@yahoo.com).

Betty Baxter will teach Intermediate Wirecraft at the August Wildacres session. It is great that she could replace Lisa Roberts who had a scheduling conflict.

The cancellation notices and any other workshop changes will be sent to all members of the mail list. All registration forms and the most up-to-date information on SFMS Workshops are always available on the SFMS Website at: [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms).

*Fred Sias, SFMS Education Chairman*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to report that the SFMS is alive and well. Our SFMS and AFMS Committee positions are well-staffed with highly qualified members. Our Lodestar is available on-line for the computer literate clubs and members. The workshops are rapidly preparing for the coming seasons. Applications have begun arriving for the first session. Most of our member clubs have renewed for their 2004 memberships. We have new clubs interested in becoming involved with SFMS. Overall, the Federation is in good shape.

2 The Committee Chairs are highly qualified to serve the Federation. However, they can not do all the work by themselves. Please volunteer to help and if asked, please do your best to assist the Committees.

3 Many talented instructors are offering classes for this coming workshop season. The low cost, the information available and the potential fun make our workshops one of the best values available to increase our lapidary knowledge. Enjoy the mountains of north Georgia and North Carolina while becoming proficient at a new (or increased level of) lapidary skill.

7 As your club submits your renewal information, please double check the officers and contact information. Also please check the published information on-line and in the Lodestar. Try as we might, mistakes do slip through. You know how frustrating a wrong phone number, address or email address can be. Don't hesitate to let the appropriate person know the corrected information as soon as possible.

10 We do have a situation with the insurance service which will require a concerted effort to keep us insured. Please volunteer to help in this vital program. We have a detailed discussion scheduled for later in the meeting today.

16 Tomorrow holds surprises and unknowns. It is up to us to make the best of whatever comes along. Working together will help the solutions come more quickly and more easily. I shall work for solutions while learning about new minerals and rocks and making new friends. Please join me in welcoming tomorrow.

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

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Website: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

Email: [sfms@amfed.org](mailto:sfms@amfed.org)

# 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.*

## 2004 SFMS Officers

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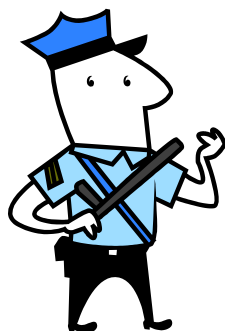
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**The article submittal due date for the April 2004 Lodestar is March 25, 2004.**

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## EDITOR'S REPORT

SFMS 2004 FIRST QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 27, 2004, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

To date two issues of the Lodestar (January and February) have been published and mailed since I was elected as editor at the SFMS 2003 Annual Meeting last Thanksgiving weekend in Roanoke, VA. Although, not perfect by any means, I believe the two issues have been well received.

Both of the above-referenced issues were posted on the SFMS website within days of my submitting the issues to the local printer. This is a first for SFMS and two people have already elected to be deleted from the mailing list and download their copies from the website. I want to encourage everyone with access to the internet to think about downloading their copy from the website as well, rather than receiving a hard copy. The electronic version of the Lodestar is available approximately one week before the printed copies are available for mailing, and the reduction of the mailing list could greatly decrease costs associated with the production and mailing of the Lodestar. Downloaders also receive an additional benefit, the electronic version of the Lodestar is in color! Those of you interested in receiving notification of posting of the electronic version of the Lodestar in lieu of receiving a hard copy via U.S. mail should notify me by email. My email address is: [dpdaniels@mindspring.com](mailto:dpdaniels@mindspring.com), also insert the following address in the cc line of your email: [president@gamineral.org](mailto:president@gamineral.org), as Joan White is printing the labels for mailing.

I obtained a new non-profit mailing permit through my local post office, the main Tucker, GA post office prior to mailing the January 2004 issue of the Lodestar and have since opened a local checking account for the SFMS editor operating account at no charge to SFMS. Current monthly costs aside from incidental office supplies are running at approximately \$110 for postage (approximately \$5 more than when John Watkins was editor) and \$455 for printing (roughly the same as when John Watkins was editor). A total of 487 pieces were mailed in February 2004. There are seventy-seven paid subscriptions and the rest are SFMS officers, member club officers and exchange bulletin copies.

I initially kept the deadline dates for submittal of Lodestar articles to the first of the month in which they were to appear for the January through March 2004 issues. (Note: Your March articles are due this coming Monday.) However, due to the non-profit mailing of the Lodestar, delays are occurring in delivery and time sensitive material is not always reaching subscribers by the appropriate date. **Therefore, beginning with the April issue, deadlines for submittal of articles will be the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month you wish your article to appear. That means, the deadline for the April issue of Lodestar will be March 25, 2004.** Please be timely in your submittals, I have children at home and a fulltime job as well.

In addition, I am passing out four computer diskettes to those article writers that have computers, but are not connected to the internet. Please use these diskettes to submit your articles to me (preferably in Word, but I can also open and save other word processing documents to a Word file if necessary). Use of electronic files will decrease my time retyping articles and forms and prevent introduction of additional errors to the articles. Those submitting your articles to me via email, continue to do so. Unformatted articles submitted as attachments are best.

Hopefully, you have enjoyed the issues of Lodestar that I have edited so far. I am looking forward to continuing as your editor.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Carolyn L. Daniels, Lodestar Editor

## Insurance Alert!

Effective April 1, 2004, Travelers Insurance Company will cease coverage of SFMS activities. Dorothy Elam, Insurance Liaison Officer, Ken Anderson, Treasurer, Ron Denton, Past President, and Bill Waggener, President, have been working steadily since receiving the cancellation notice to replace the insurance company. We have been unsuccessful with Nationwide, Liberty Mutual, Safeco, and Aetna so far. Stated problems include the small size of the account, available coverage in all 10 SFMS states and potential risk exposure. This article is an appeal to all clubs and members for assistance in locating a willing, affordable insurance company to cover our SFMS meetings, shows, and field trips. If you have insurance contact information, please let Dorothy, Ken, or Bill know as soon as possible.

We will continue to actively pursue new insurance. When the new insurance policy is available, all clubs will be notified immediately. There may be an increased cost or new definitions. Such changes will be included in the notification. If your club currently has events scheduled after April 1, 2004, you may wish to investigate alternative insurance coverage. One club has a one-time event policy already planned in case there is a delay in finding new coverage. You should be ready for the worst case scenario: no SFMS coverage for your event.

All SFMS officers are doing their best to meet this new "opportunity". I am confident that SFMS will emerge with improved, superior insurance and that all clubs will benefit in the end. Please help us to expedite our insurance search.

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

Update to the List of 2003-2004 SFMS  
Representatives to AFMS Committees

The mailing and email addresses for David Tuttle, SFMS representative to the AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year committee should be corrected as follows:

85504 Blackmon Road, Yulee, FL 32907  
[dti@net-magic.net](mailto:dti@net-magic.net)

The SFMS representative to the AFMS Boundaries Committee is:

Beryl Ferguson  
414 South Ridgewood Avenue  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
386.677.1049  
[crossbowcreation@aol.com](mailto:crossbowcreation@aol.com)

*Carolyn Daniels, Editor*

March 2004

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

## YOUTH RESOURCES REPORT

### Junior of the Year Jennifer Baldwin

**CONGRATULATIONS, JENNIFER!!** You submitted a very impressive report of your activities!

Jennifer participated in the JOY award contest last year and received runner up recognition, but now she has won the title that she has worked so hard to obtain. Jennifer is 16 years old and in the 11th grade in Collierville, TN. She has been very active in both the youth and adult Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society and has attended several meetings as well as Club field trips. She has written several articles for her Club newsletter including two research papers and seven reports and has worked 22 hours at her three day Club Show. Jennifer is the Secretary of the Micromount Group and co-editor of the MAGS Explorer Youth Newsletter. She has also won 1st prize for her "Venice Beach Fossils" display. Jennifer and her family have been shark teeth collecting in Florida as well as participating in many other field trips during this past year.

Jennifer, we were so pleased to receive your application and read about all the things you do with and for your Club and then that you took the time to tell us about it. You well deserve the title "JUNIOR OF THE YEAR".

Jennifer was given a handsome plaque and a mineral specimen (a large selenite) at the SFMS quarterly board meeting in Jackson, MS on February 28, 2003 to recognize her accomplishment.

The criteria for JOY involves a lot of time, interest and effort, and we think a recognition of participation is appropriate. We can only have one "Junior of the Year" but other contestants are given a memento for their participation.

**KELLY BALDWIN** has received a mineral specimen and a framed certificate as the one who had the second most points. Kelly, a 13 year old member of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society, was the "Junior of the Year 2002".

**MICHAEL BURCH** also received a small mineral specimen and a framed certificate. Michael is 11 years old and a member of the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society, Huntsville, AL. In addition to all his other activities, Michael introduced four new junior members to his Club.

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies is happy and proud to present these well-earned recognitions to our youth. We encourage all interested youth to participate in the 2004 contest by obtaining the criteria from your Club President (they have also been published in the January 2004 Lodestar) and following the guidelines. The contest ends October 21, 2004 and entries must be submitted by November 30, 2004. Announcement of the winner will be at the SFMS Annual Meeting in December 2004.

*Hugh and Leona Sheffield, SFMS Youth Resources Chairmen*



2003 JOY Award, winner Jennifer Baldwin (center), accepting her plaque and prize from SFMS Youth Resources Chairmen, Leona (left) and Hugh (right) Sheffield at the February 2004 SFMS Board Meeting. (Photo by Martin Hart.)



Second place JOY 2003 winner, Kelly Baldwin, accepting her certificate and prize from SFMS Youth Resources Chairs, Leona (left) and Hugh (right) Sheffield at the February 2004 SFMS Board Meeting. (Photo by Joan White.)



Michael Burch's mother (right) accepting his third place JOY award from SFMS Youth Resources Chairs, Leona (left) and Hugh (center) Sheffield at the February 2004 SFMS Board Meeting. (Photo by Martin Hart.)



Jennifer Baldwin uncovering her prize, a selenite specimen, with the help of SFMS Editor, Carolyn Daniels (right). Kelly Baldwin, her sister (left) looking on. (Photo by Joan White.)

**Southeast Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies, Inc.  
December 31, 2003 Treasurer's Report**

General Fund	Actual thru 12/31/03	Annual Budget
Cash Balance 1/1/03	76073.30	76073.30
Income:		
Dues	7761.00	7400.00
Interest	2233.53	1600.00
Wildacres	5526.23	4500.00
William Holland	2746.23	3000.00
Supplies	169.32	100.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>18436.31</b>	<b>16600.00</b>
Expense:		
President	3.18	200.00
First V President	0.00	100.00
Second V President	0.00	100.00
Secretary	939.25	1300.00
Membership Secretary	275.58	350.00
Treasurer	145.09	150.00
Newsletter (net)	5912.77	7000.00
Computer Systems	(50.00)	150.00
Supplies	3.56	400.00
Slide Programs	373.85	400.00
Bulletin Editors' Contest	651.87	700.00
Publications	1462.24	2000.00
Insurance (net)	(1170.18)	0.00
Other Officers	0.00	500.00
AFMS Dues	3759.00	3800.00
AFMS Travel	1180.44	1800.00
Awards	709.25	700.00
SFMS Meeting Hosts	496.57	750.00
SFMS Junior Activities	98.86	250.00
Workshop Improvements	837.00	
W/S Instructor Expense	2850.00	5000.00
W/S Slide Programs	0.00	0.00
W/S Youth	750.00	
Social Concerns	0.00	150.00
Miscellaneous	195.00	250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>19423.73</b>	<b>25.900.00</b>
Cash Balance 12/31/03	75085.88	66773.30
Stamp Program 12/31/03	1861.80	
Workshop Accounts	Wildacres	William Holland
Cash Balance 12/31/03	1500.00	1500.00

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kenneth Anderson*

**Southeast Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies, Inc.  
February 28, 2004 Treasurer's Report**

General Fund	Actual thru 12/31/03	Annual Budget
Cash Balance 1/1/04	75085.88	75085.88
Income:		
Dues	6602.00	7600.00
Interest	342.79	750.00
Wildacres	0.00	4500.00
William Holland	0.00	3000.00
Supplies	0.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>18436.31</b>	<b>16600.00</b>
Expense:		
President	0.00	200.00
First V President	0.00	100.00
Second V President	0.00	100.00
Secretary	0.00	1300.00
Membership Secretary	0.00	350.00
Treasurer	0.00	150.00
Newsletter (net)	1103.09	6850.00
Computer Systems	209.00	350.00
Supplies	0.00	400.00
Slide Programs	36.39	400.00
Bulletin Editors' Contest	0.00	700.00
Publications	58.65	1700.00
Insurance (net)	165.45	0.00
Other Officers	0.00	500.00
AFMS Dues	3879.00	3800.00
AFMS Travel	0.00	1800.00
Awards	16.15	700.00
SFMS Meeting Hosts	0.00	900.00
SFMS Junior Activities	0.00	250.00
Workshop Improvements	0.00	0.00
W/S Instructor Expense	0.00	5000.00
W/S Slide Programs	550.00	0.00
W/S Youth	0.00	0.00
Social Concerns	0.00	150.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6017.73</b>	<b>25.950.00</b>
Cash Balance 2/28/04	76012.94	65085.88
Stamp Program 2/28/04	2634.17	0.00
Workshop Accounts	Wildacres	William Holland
Cash Balance 2/28/04	1500.00	1500.00
Lodestar Operating Account	1300.00	

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Kenneth Anderson*