UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

December 2, 2006: Jackson Crossroads Amethyst Mine, Wilkes County, GA for amethyst. Fee site: $15 per day per adult, children 15 years old and younger are free. Host: Columbia Gem & Mineral Society (Columbia, SC). See your local club newsletter for additional information.

“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 heir 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!”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
HEAR YE, HEAR YE

Calling all SFMS Clubs and asking them to send two representatives to the annual Meeting in Montgomery, AL, December 2, 2006. The representatives are needed to transact some very important business; election of officers, approval of 2007 budget and any other business that will affect next year’s plans.

In addition to our meeting, there will be a banquet featuring a very well-known speaker, Dr. Cook from Auburn University and the installation of our new officers. This year’s Bulletin Editor’s awards will be presented at the banquet instead of at a separate function. The editors work very hard and we all need to support their efforts and recognize their accomplishments.

The Montgomery show is well established with dealers that many of us know from years past. We need to express our appreciation to them by attending the show.

Don and I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

Ann Monroe, SFMS President

FAMILY WEEK AT WILLIAM HOLLAND
JUNE 10-16, 2007

Tired of your kids spending the summer playing video games? Are theme parks out of the budget this year? Maybe you want to do something special with your grandchildren, nieces or nephews without spending a fortune? Look no further than the June 2007 workshop at William Holland.

Classes for juniors as well as adult are being offered in June 2007. Parents, grandparents, and others are encouraged to sign up their juniors for this exciting week. Juniors will take two classes while their accompanying adults choose from a variety of regular classes. A special field trip for juniors is being planned, along with an evening program at the Young Harris College planetarium. Other after-class events and activities are also in the works.

Look for details in the Lodestar and in your club newsletters. Plan to take advantage of this fun and economical learning vacation with your juniors.

Julia Larson, Incoming SFMS Education Chair

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

email: 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.

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The article submittal due date for the Dec. 2006 Lodestar is Nov. 25, 2006.
Be Safe – Be Well
Safety Committee – Don Monroe, Chairman

What is in Your pocket?

Many times back on the farm my mother asked me this question. I was expected to give her an inventory which always began with my pocket knife which I have always carried except on airplanes and in the courthouse. I also carried rocks or arrowheads (now isn’t that a surprise?), Minie balls or grapeshot which littered our farm left from the Civil War battle there and anything else that I had found fascinating. I was rarely inclined to tell her if I was also carrying any small snakes or other varmints since her sense of humor definitely had limits. Much later I finally learned that she was simply trying to figure out what was wearing out my pants pockets so quickly.

My reason for discussing things carried in pockets is to talk about things that should be carried and some of the things that shouldn’t. Many industrial plants have strict rules against carrying disposable lighters. When working in areas where flammable gases or liquids are present, it is possible to start a fire simply by leaning against a work bench and thereby pressing the lighter. This is not at all uncommon and can result in burns or even explosions. Other bad things to be avoided in pants pockets include sharp objects such as files, scribes, syringes, pencils or ball point pens and glass which may break.

Have you ever considered your billfold a hazard? Well, it can be if you always carry it in the same back pocket and it is rather thick. Pressure on your backside can actually result in nerve damage. This has often happened to salesmen and others who spend a lot of time in their car.

There are some handy things that you might want to consider having with you such as the following:

- A small sharp pocket knife (I obviously believe in them.),
- A magnifying glass if it is plastic or protected in some sort of case,
- A small tape measure,
- A small compass (don’t get lost),
- Money clip (which can hold a little money and your driver’s license or credit card and take the load off that billfold).

If I had written this article when I was a boy I would not have included the women and girls since they relied on apron pockets and trousers simply were not worn by ladies. Times do change and all of my comments apply to any and all who wear pants.

2006 SFMS SLATE OF NOMINEES

The SFMS Nomination Committee is pleased to present the following slate of nominees for officer elections to take place during Part 2 of the Annual SFMS Meeting in Montgomery, Alabama in December 2006:

- President: Buddy Shotts
- 1st Vice President: Steve Heneger
- 2nd Vice President: Betty James
- Secretary: Beryl Ferguson
- Assistant Treasurer: Roger Campbell
- Lodestar Editor: Carolyn Daniels
- 4th Vice President AFMS: Don Monroe

Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

Eileen Price, SFMS Nomination Committee Chairman
PROGRAM COMPETITION...
WHY?

Have you seen any good programs lately at a Club meeting? * Were any of them produced by a fellow Club member? No doubt, there was a round of applause to show appreciation for the producer’s efforts.

There is a way that producers of presentations can earn more than a round of applause – by entering Program Competition! There are “rewards and recognition” for the winners. Cash prizes defray production costs, an award certificate and pin are presented to the winners and information is published in newsletters and magazines. But more importantly, each winning program is duplicated and distributed to the seven Regional Libraries, making the winning programs available to Clubs across the country -- giving members a chance to enjoy and learn from them for many years.

*If the answer to the first question is "no", perhaps you can borrow an AFMS Winner from the MWF Program Library. There are many excellent programs available.

We admit, not all winners are equal and older programs need to be replaced. You and/or your Club could produce a presentation and enter Program Competition, perhaps to replace an older program. Why not share your interest, your enthusiasm for an aspect of our hobby – so that others may benefit from it and you can reap the rewards? Too late for the 2006 deadline? Start now for 2007.

Guidelines and Rules for 2007 Program Competition are on the AFMS website along with Tips to Develop Programs. If you want more information or have questions, contact:

Your Regional Program Librarian or
AFMS Program Competition

\[\text{c/o Marge Collins}\]
\[\text{3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd.}\]
\[\text{Buchanan MI 49107}\]
\[\text{Telephone: 269.695.4313}\]
\[\text{Email: margaret@qtm.net}\]

SCHOOL DAZE
or
The William Holland Cabochon Class of 2006
by Bruce Siegfried for
The Franklin Gem & Mineral Society

Ohio, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, Mississippi, Missouri, and of course, North Carolina; these are the states from which I met and came to know fellow rock hounds, stone crafters, and jewelry makers.

At William Holland Lapidary School you may start out as strangers, but you quickly develop into friends. For instance, there was the Ohio Bunch, who just two weeks previously, were digging flint at Flint Ridge. One man, who works in construction in Indiana, has the unique hobby of buying jewelry at pawn shops, so he wanted to learn all about faceting. There was a silversmith from Georgia, living in his camper for the week, who sells cabochons on the side at various shows.

But most of all I enjoyed my cabochon instructor, Chris Calloway. Living just a few miles from the school, he went home each night. In the morning, he brought tubs of slabs for us to pick and choose from. He let us (John and I were the only two students), benefit from his experience. He showed us the way with kindness and patience.

Chris is a quiet person, who reads half of the time and cuts cabs the other half; he showed us what we did right and what we did wrong. He cut so many cabs that I silently nicknamed him “Cab Calloway”-but of course that name is already taken! There was lots of other fun to have at school. I started each day by walking a couple of miles, followed by coffee and a hot breakfast. In fact, it seemed that every time you turned around, you found yourself eating a full-course cooked meal. They do not want you to faint from hunger at William Holland. The cook, known as Marty, knows what he is doing, as the food was very good this year. ESPECIALLY THE PEANUT BUTTER PIE!

(Continued on page 10)
SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
ANNUAL MEETING (PHASE 2)

Hosted by
Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society
Montgomery, Alabama
Saturday, December 2, 2006

Hotel: Drury Inn & Suites located at I-85 & Eastern Boulevard, 1124 Eastern Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama. For reservations call: 1.800.325.0720 and use the code SFMS for the rate of $64.00 for King Bed Deluxe or $74.00 for two Queen Beds Deluxe (The rates are for up to six people per room). Rates are valid per room, per night plus tax. Reservations must be made by November 1st for these special rates.


Directions to Drury Inn & Suites: Exit I-85 at Eastern Boulevard. (Motel sign can be seen from the I-85.)

There are R.V. hookups at Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive, the site of the Montgomery Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, for $15.00 per day. The spots are on a first-come, first serve basis, and anyone desiring a spot should go to the Coliseum office any time from 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. (CST) to pay and be assigned a spot.

Directions to Coliseum from Drury Inn & Suites: Turn left on Eastern Bypass after leaving motel parking lot. Travel west approximately 4.2 miles to U.S. 231/Wetumpka exit, turn left and travel about 2.9 miles. Coliseum will be on the right side of Federal Drive (You can’t miss it.)

Show Information: The 36th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, December 1-3. Show times: Friday, 9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.; Saturday, 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.; Sunday, 11:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Free Admission & Parking.

Meeting: The meeting will be held in the Kiwanis Room at Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive.

The Banquet: The banquet will be held at 7:00 P.M. at the Mann Wildlife Learning Museum auditorium and will be served buffet style. It will feature roast beef, boneless chicken breast, tossed garden salad, potatoes O’Brien, buttered green beans almondine, bread, drink, and dessert. Reservations must be made by November 1st and should include your check made payable to the Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society for $20.00 per person and returned to P.O. Box 3273, Montgomery, Alabama 36109-0273.

Directions to Mann Museum from Drury Inn: Travel as if going to Garrett Coliseum. Instead of getting off on the Highway 231 go to Coliseum Blvd. exit. Turn left, go to Gardendale (there is a traffic light there). Turn right and go about 2 blocks to Fairground Road. Turn right again and following the road pass the Zoo on right. Look for Mann Museum sign and parking. It will be on the right hand side of the road.

Name____________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________

Phone ___________________________ Number Attending ___________________

Amount enclosed ________________
APPLICATION FOR SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2007

NAME________________________________________AGE________
ADDRESS______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
PHONE_________________________________________________________________________________________
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 2007. All of the points on this application are for activities between
November 1, 2006 and October 31, 2007. 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, 2007

ALL MATERIAL MUST BE POSTMARKED BY NOVEMBER 10, 2007

THE JUNIOR OF THE YEAR (JOY) WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE DECEMBER 2007 LODestar AND AT
THE 2007 SFMS ANNUAL MEETING! GOOD LUCK!
SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2007 CRITERIA

NOTE: On a separate sheet(s) of paper, list and identify/describe activities and the points attained for each individual activity (i.e. #2 Adult meetings attended: May 2005 (5 points), July 2005 (2 points) etc.).

1. Must be a current, paid Junior member of a club in the Southeast Federation, 5 points ................................................................. _______points

2. Must attend at least one adult meeting, 5 points ........................................... _______points
   Attendance at additional adult meetings, 2 points each ................................... _______points
   (5 points if there is no Junior meeting available to attend)

3. Attendance at Junior meetings/workshops, 5 points each ................................ _______points
   Serving as an officer, committee member or presenter 5 points each meeting ........ _______points

4. Attendance at a Gem and Mineral Club Show other than your own. Show must be recognized by an organized Club or one of the major federations. (Obtain and save show ticket or program), 10 points ................................................................. _______points
   NOTE: Attendance at a primarily rock, gem, mineral, fossil, or earth science museum, National Park, or other exhibit related to our hobby will be considered a “show”. Enter points above, 10 points each

5. Participation in a Gem and Mineral Club sponsored (or Dixie Mineral Council sponsored) field trip, including Junior Club field trips, 15 points each ......................................................... _______points

6. Participation in a family field trip or field trip with a group other than those listed above, 10 points per trip ................................................................. _______points

7. In keeping with the “Each one Teach one” program, a Junior club member can earn 10 points per occasion for sharing our hobby with others by teaching them a defined skill (example - Gem tree making at your club show or presenting a program) ................................................................. _______points

8. In the spirit of sharing our hobby and encouraging growth of the clubs in our Federation, a Junior may earn 5 points for sponsoring a new Junior or adult member and an additional 5 points for attending a meeting to introduce them ................................................................. _______points

NOTE: Articles accepted by the Editor but not yet published by October, 2006 can be counted for this or next year, but for one year only.

(Continued Next Page)
SFMS JUNIOR OF THE YEAR 2007 CRITERIA
(Continued)

9. Publication of a well-researched educational article on some phase of our hobby or the earth sciences in your club bulletin. Accuracy of information and references required. 25 points ……………………………………………………………………………………………._____points

10. Publication of a report in your club bulletin on a Junior Club meeting, workshop or field trip, 10 points each ……………………………………………………………………………………………………______points

11. A Junior Club member winning a regional or national award for articles published in a club bulletin and submitted for competition will receive 25 points for each such recognition…………………………………………………………………………………………….._____points

   NOTE: You may receive points for publication of an article one year and receive points for the same article for recognition the next year…………………………………………………______points

12. Junior sharing our hobby at schools or in other groups by making a presentation may receive 5 points for each presentation if a written verification is obtained at the time from the adult in charge…………………………………………………………………………………………………….______points

13. Junior recognized in school, regional or state Science Fairs for exhibits related to our hobby or to Federation purposes will receive 20 points per recognition………………………………………………….._____points

14. Junior having an exhibit in your club show, 20 points per exhibit……………………………………………………………………………………………………………….______points

15. Junior working at the annual club show will receive 5 points for each hour verified work period………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………._____points

   TOTAL POINTS_________________

For a possible tie breaker describe any other hobby related information regarding publications, activities, or recognitions achieved this past year that might help us evaluate your enthusiasm for winning this JOY award.
SCHOOL DAZE
(Continued from page 4)

Everyone had a fun time at the auction Tuesday night, and tailgating reached a feverish pitch on Thursday night. At Friday lunch, everyone displayed their work, and what beautiful things came out of those classes. We crowded around to gaze at one another's handicrafts. You could have started a jewelry store with all that opal, chain, dichroic glass, turquoise and silver, faceted stones, and of course-cabochons. The days went by so fast, you felt like you were actually in a daze. All too soon, the week was over.

I am grateful to our club and the scholarship arrangement for providing this opportunity. Thank you for the experience I received and the fun time I had this summer.

[Each year a club member who has volunteered for the Franklin Gem & Mineral Society is selected for a scholarship to a lapidary school. The winner is selected by a raffle drawing. The times a volunteer's name is entered in the drawing is determined by how many hours her or she volunteered for the club. Even a winner can be one whose name is entered ONLY once. This year's winner was Ray Behr (who was last year's winner) and since he declined the scholarship, another name was drawn: Bruce Siegfried.]

Submitted by Linda Behr
The Franklin Gem & Mineral Society Editor

2007 SFMS BULLETIN CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

It is time to submit bulletins and articles printed in 2006 for the annual SFMS Bulletin Editors Contest. The contest will be conducted the same as in 2006. All entries must be received by January 14, 2007.

CATEGORIES ARE:

- Mini Bulletins (4 pages or less, including one-page bulletins),
- Small Bulletins (11 pages or less but more than 4),
- Large Bulletins (12 pages or more),
- New Editors/New Bulletins (Any size bulletin. First-time editors only, eligible for first year only),
- Junior Articles (two classes: age 11 and under or age 12-18),
- Adult Articles,
- Advanced Adult Articles (previous 1st Place Adult winner, science career, published author, etc.),
- Poetry (Adult or Junior), and
- Special Publications

Contest entry forms will be provided in the December issue of Lodestar, available on the SFMS website or available from the chairman by request. Editors must fill out the top portion of all forms completely and attach one to each entry. (Clubs with dual membership in SFMS/EFMLS should choose one federation only for each entry.) Two copies of each entry are required (so we have pristine, unmarked copies to send on to AFMS judges).

BULLETINS: Only ONE issue/month may be entered. You are to select the month to be judged. To enter, send TWO copies of your selected month's bulletin to the above address. Note: a page is 8 inches by 11 inches with standard print. Legal-size sheet (8 inches by 14 inches) counts as 1.5 pages. Sheet printed on both sides is TWO pages. Cover sheets are not counted unless content changes in each issue.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES, ALL CLASSES: The EDITOR must select all articles to be judged. If a junior author, age MUST be included on entry form. Only one article is allowed per author. If published in several installments, only ONE part may be entered. Articles MUST be submitted AS PRINTED in the bulletin. Articles must be original, written expressly for the bulletin and related to the rockhound hobby. Minimum length of article is 250 words. Reports (minutes, field trip reports and information of interest only to your club members, etc.) are not Original Articles and should not be entered. Submit TWO copies of each entry.

POETRY: Original poems by Adults or Juniors may be submitted. If Junior, age must be on the entry form. Only one poem is allowed per author. Poems must be original, written expressly for the bulletin, and related to the earth science hobby. Submit two copies of each entry.

NOTE: Articles, poems, and Special Publications may have been published in ANY month of 2006. Author(s) must be member(s) in good standing of the club submitting the entry.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS are original publications, such as a workshop manual, field trip guide, show program (not flyer), club history or anniversary, etc. Clubs may have multiple entries in Special Publications if each entry covers a different subject area. Special Publications may be any length. Submit TWO copies of each entry.

Ed Johnson, 2007 Bulletin Contest Chairman
10215 Macon Road
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Phone (904)768-8442 e-mail: drejjohnson@bellsouth.net
## 2006 REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

### California Federation
- **Location**: Lancaster, California
- **Dates**: June 15-17, 2007

### Eastern Federation
- **Hosts**: Gem and Mineral Society of Palm Beaches, Inc.
- **Location**: West Palm Beach, Florida
- **Dates**: November 17-19, 2006

### Midwest Federation
- **Hosts**: Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society
- **Location**: Houghton, Michigan
- **Dates**: August 11-12, 2007

### Northwest Federation
- **Location**: Butte, MT
- **Dates**: August 3-5, 2007

### Rocky Mountain Federation and AFMS Convention
- **Location**: Roswell, NM
- **Dates**: June 5-10, 2007

### South Central Federation
- **Hosts**: Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society
- **Location**: Bossier City, Louisiana
- **Dates**: August 19-20, 2006

### Southeast Federation (Phase 2)
- **Hosts**: Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society
- **Location**: Montgomery, Alabama
- **Dates**: December 1-3, 2006

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### Remember
- To ensure your show is listed here, send a written notice to the **Lodestar** Editor: Carolyn L. Daniels, 3660 Prince Way, Tucker, GA 30084-8317 or email at: dpdaniels@mindspring.com. ALL SFMS CLUBS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER THEIR EVENT LISTINGS ON THE SFMS WEBSITE AT:

  - http://www.amfed.org/sfms

- Choose **Submission Guidelines** under the SFMS Shows Column heading to find out how to apply.

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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.
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