



The Nugget

North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

Photo by Alison Schuchs



Ready for Shark Teeth!

Notes from the President's Desk.....May 2018

Here it is May already, and it's the last month before we break for the summer. NMGMS had a very busy spring, with something scheduled just about every weekend. We still have a lapidary workshop coming up on May 12th and our regular club meeting May 19th, so don't pack up and head for the beach just yet. Also, don't forget that Robert Langford will be setting up his fossil ID station at the W.M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park the third Saturday of each month over the summer, so be sure to mark those Saturdays on your calendar. NMGMS will be exhibiting at the Union County Heritage Museum's Fossil Road Show on June 9th, and hopefully we'll have a few members doing a jewelry making demo during the Link Centre's Festival on June 23rd. This event at the Link Centre will be a bit like an "open house", so we will have the opportunity to let people know more about NMGMS and what we do in our lapidary room.

I still am hopeful that our club lapidary room and equipment will get some use over the summer. Since Paul Gunther will be taking a cabochon class in June, he may be able to schedule a few workshop sessions where he can share his newly gained knowledge and skills with other members. Also, if you are interested in learning some jewelry making techniques, let Nikki Kenney know. She hopes to schedule a few "mini" workshops in the room over the summer.

Our fall schedule is already shaping up with the September meeting set for Saturday, September 15th, and our annual picnic at Ballard Park is scheduled for October 20th. We will be scheduling a few metal workshops again this fall, so you can look forward to another enameling session, as well as a pendant workshop involving the use of a jeweler's saw. Fall field trips will be on the docket too, so watch your newsletters and emails for those dates. I plan to see if we can get a trip to the Vulcan Quarry in Parsons, TN lined up this year. So, the next half of our club's year looks like it will be just as fun and exciting as the first half has been.

I hope everyone has some interesting lapidary projects or collecting trips planned for the summer. I encourage all members to pick something new to try or to learn about, or just practice some of the skills and techniques that you learned at one of our metalsmithing workshops. When it gets to be too hot outside for collecting, work on getting your specimens catalogued, or pick up some wire and try a new jewelry project. That way, when we all get back together again this fall, we'll have lots of new ideas and skills to share with our fellow members. By sharing what we've learned with others, we reinforce our own knowledge and expertise. Also, this will help to keep our club full of vitality and interest.

I also would like to encourage all of the Rockheads to continue their work on the FRA badges over the summer. I've got a few summer projects lined up, but I am also looking forward to getting back to our NMGMS activities this coming fall. See y'all then and happy summer rockhounding!

Mark Your Calendar! NMGMS May 19, 2018 Meeting

Photo of Kilauea Volcano by the US Geological Survey



The May meeting of the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society will be on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the Tupelo library from 1-3pm. The program will be on Volcanoes, given by University of Mississippi Professor, Dr. Jennifer Gifford. This promises to be an "explosive" presentation; don't miss it! Refreshments are "pot luck" again, so everyone is asked to bring something.

Other Upcoming NMGMS Events:

June 9, 2018: Fossil Road Show, 10am to 2pm at the Union County Heritage Museum, New Albany, MS.

NMGMS will set up an exhibit table at this event. (See page 2 for details)

June 16, 2018: Collecting at Twenty Mile Creek, Robert Langford's summer schedule. (See page 4 for details)

June 23, 2018: LinkFest at the Link Centre in Tupelo. NMGMS will be hosting mini jewelry "make and take" workshops.

Show Dates:

May 19-20, 2018

39th Annual Harrison County Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

May 19-20, 2018, Saturday 9 am-5pm, Sunday 9am-4pm, Admission: Adults \$5, children (10 and under) free with adult Joppa Shrine Center, 13280 Shriners Blvd, Biloxi, MS 39532, Hwy 67 Woolmarket, Exit 41 N (on I-10 West)

Discount Coupon available at Facebook and Website Facebook.com/gulfportgems, www.gulfportgems.org

June 2-3, 2018

The Tannehill Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show, June 2-3, 2018

The AMLS outdoor show is held at the Tannehill Furnace State Historical Park, 12632 Confederate Parkway, McCalla, AL 35111. The show is Saturday June 2nd Sunday June 3rd, from 9am to 5pm. Admission to the park is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children; there is no additional entrance fee for the show. Take I - 20/59 to Exit #100, or I - 459 to Exit #1 and follow the signs. Contact: Cathy Kellogg, tannehillgemshow@gmail.com

June 2-3, 2018

Marion, Kentucky: June 2-3, 2018 Annual show; Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum, Fohs Hall; 205 N. Walker Street; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission; Hourly door prizes, silent auctions, vendor tables, Indian artifact display, free children's activities sponsored by Roger's Group, Beading Class at 2PM on Saturday and Sunday (charges apply) and museum tours (regular admission charges apply); contact Tina Walker, P.O. Box 391, 205 North Walker Street, Marion, KY 42064, (270)-965-4263; e-mail: beclement@att.net; Web site: clementmineralmuseum.org

June 8-10, 2018

Park Hills, Missouri: June 8-10, 2018 Annual show; Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society, Missouri Mines Historic Site, Park Hills, MO; 4000 State Hwy 32, Park Hills MO 63601; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission; Missouri Mines Historic site and Museum will be open and free to the Public for this event. Free Parking, Food concession stand, Music, Demonstrations, Silent Auctions.; contact Boneta Hensley, 411 Allen Street, Farmington, MO 63640, (573)-760-0488; Email: mojellybean63@yahoo.com; Web site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1249800061698210/>

June 9, 2018

New Albany Fossil Road Show, June 9, 2018, 10am to 2pm at the Union County Heritage Museum in New Albany, MS. Paleontologist George Phillips will be on hand, as well as representatives from the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. The event is free, and attendees can bring objects for identification and/or collections to show. Call 662-538-0014 or email at jill@uchheritagemuseum.com

Field Trip Reviews: NMGMS Field Trip to Trebloc Lime Pit by Nancy Roberts

Photo by Nancy Roberts



“Brrr, this is April?” Normally we like to collect the lime pits when it’s not too hot, but our April 7th field trip felt more like a brisk day in January than a mild spring day in April. Despite temps in the 40’s and a cold wind chill factor, NMGMS members braved the elements for a chance to collect Cretaceous fossils at this old lime quarry. It had previously been a rainy week, so the lime was like slick mud, but we still managed to find shark teeth, oyster shells, and a few bones. Even though we had on extra layers of clothing and those nifty hand warming packets in our boots or gloves, by noon we were pretty much chilled to the bone (ours, not the turtles!). So we called it a day,

then headed for our cars and turned on the heaters. Still, we all had a great time.

Photos by Alison Schuchs and Nancy Roberts

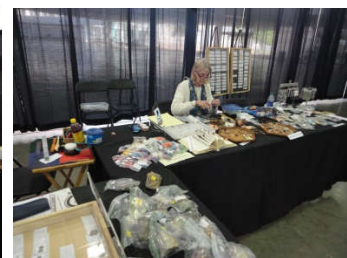


NMGMS Participates: 2018 MAGS “Earth Wide Open” Show

Photo by Nancy Roberts



NMGMS participated as an exhibitor at the Memphis “Earth Wide Open” rock and gem show the weekend of April 28th and 29th. Our club display consisted of specimens that were collected on our field trips, as well as a picture collage of the Rockheads’ activities and badge program. Many show visitors stopped by our table and talked to club members about our field trips, workshops, and other NMGMS activities. Those of us who volunteered at the show enjoyed interacting with the other exhibitors and the MAGS club members who were working the show. Some of our club volunteers demonstrated a few jewelry making techniques, so there were rings, bangle bracelets, pendants, and earrings available for purchase; all hand crafted by NMGMS members. I extend my appreciation and say, “THANK YOU”, to those members who helped man our exhibit table at the show. This gave NMGMS a chance to show a very large number of people what we do and what the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society is all about. This is always a great show with a wide variety of vendors, and we have lots of fun participating. Nancy Roberts



Photos by Nancy and Jim Roberts

NMGMS Participates: Tishomingo County Renaissance Day

Photos by Robert and Cheryle Langford

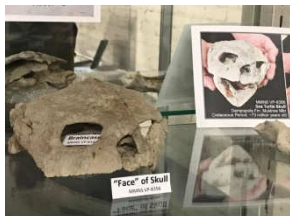


The North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society was invited to exhibit at the Tishomingo County Renaissance Day festival in Iuka, MS this year. So on Saturday, April 21st, Robert and Cheryle Langford set up an exhibit booth and represented NMGMS at the festival. Robert took his Twenty Mile Creek Specimen Identification display cases.



Club News: ODCM Display, "Stones and Bones"

Photo by Alison Schuchs



NMGMS will be taking down our rock and fossil display that is currently at the Oren Dunn City Museum in Tupelo. Take down is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16th at 9:30 a.m. If you can come to help pack up the display, please come to the museum that morning. Specimens that members have loaned the club for this display will be available for you to pick up at the May 19th meeting.

New Website: Thanks to Paul Gunther, NMGMS has a newly updated website.

Check us out at: <http://nmgms.org> It's looking good!

NMGMS Field Trips: Robert Langford's Summer Schedule

Photo of ID Station by Jim Roberts



Mark your Calendars for a Special 2018 Fossil Collecting Activity

Registered Professional Geologist, Robert Langford, will be present at the W. M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park located on Twenty Mile Creek at the Hwy 45 Bridge near Frankstown, in Prentiss County, Mississippi. Robert will be there on a voluntary basis to help novice fossil collectors, to identify their fossils, and to promote the NMGMS by handing out NMGMS information fliers. Family groups and Home Schoolers are very welcome. Boy Scouts, are you working on a BSA

Geology Merit Badge? BSA Geology Merit Badge Forms are available.

Robert's 2018 summer Saturday schedule will be as follows: June 16th, July 21th, and August 18th

List of Things to bring:

Families are in for a treat. This site is extremely wet; be prepared to get very wet. The creek bed is rocky and there is some glass and wire. So have the kids wear shoes that they can wear into the water and a swimsuit. They will also need to bring a change of clothes, towel, sun screen, lunch, and water to drink.

You will need sieving screens that can be made from window screening attached to a frame, but many people use kitchen colanders or the screens you get in summer beach sand toys, just something to let the sand and water through so you can sort through the coarse material to find the fossils. Bring a trowel or a scoop and a couple of small plastic bags or boxes (egg cartons or yogurt cups with lids will do) to keep your fossils safe.

If you need additional direction to the W. M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park, please contact Robert Langford at rlangford@cobbenv.com.

Editor: Here is a very informative video about this locale: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntqiXfD3wBc>

2018 NMGMS Geology Fest & Fossil Road Show

Severe thunderstorms and monsoon rains moved our 2018 event indoors, but the turnout was great, and we all stayed busy at our various activities. A big thank you to all NMGMS members, our guest professionals, the vendors, and the museum personnel who came and helped make this event a success. Fun for all! Nancy Roberts



Photos by Alison Schuchs and Nancy Roberts

Meeting Program Review: April 21, Wire Wrapping/Capture that Stone!

Photo by Jim Roberts



I thoroughly enjoyed the wire wrapping program. Nancy is such a patient teacher and explains things so well. I was excited to learn this technique as I have a lot of sea glass that I collect from my trips home.

Submitted by Alison Schuchs

Photo by Nancy Roberts



Photo by Alison Schuchs



I love learning a new skill and working with my hands. The wire wrapping was not only a learning experience, but was also a lot of fun, and we got something pretty to boot. Thank you so much for the lesson. Submitted by Racheal Hill



Photos by Krista Williamson, Alison Schuchs, and Nancy Roberts



"April Fools" Rock Display:

Photos by Nancy Roberts



At our April NMGMS meeting, members brought in rocks that "looked" like something other than just a plain rock. It is amazing what your eye and brain can make out! Lions!



Moon Rock!



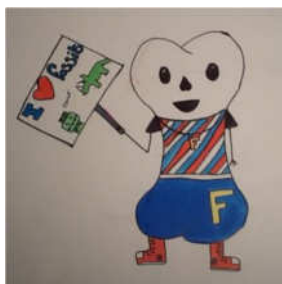
Geometry!



Turtles!



Aliens!



Mascot by Remy Collins



Rockheads:

May 2018

www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm

Rockhead Officers for 2018:

President, Hunter Watson

Vice President, Liam Langford

Secretary, Sydney Thornton

Adult Youth Advisors for 2018:

Diana Watson, jodyanddiana@hotmail.com

Krista Williamson, kristawilliamson2008@yahoo.com

Rockheads April 21, 2018 Meeting: Making "662" Rocks

Photo by Alison Schuchs



We had fun at the April Rockhead meeting. Five members were in attendance last month. We painted rocks for the 662 Rocks program. Everyone got to paint several rocks. Then we joined the adults, and some of the Rockheads did a show and tell from their collections. We ended the day learning about wire wrapping. We got to take home our new creations. Submitted by Sydney Thornton

Show and Tell:

Three Rockheads presented a few of their favorite rocks for a show and tell session at the April 21st meeting.



Well done!

Photos by Alison Schuchs

Next Rockhead Meeting: May 19, 2018 "Minerals and Their Uses"

Photo by Nancy Roberts



At the May 19th meeting, the Rockheads will be working on the Earth Resources badge. They will be going over minerals and their uses in the home and everyday living. How many minerals can you find around the house? You'd be surprised!

Rockhead Makes a Donation! My Day at the Museum by Walter Atkinson

Photo by Kellie Atkinson



On Saturday April 28, 2018, I visited Mr. George Phillips at the Mississippi Natural Science Museum in Jackson. I donated to the museum a sea star arm I found in my backyard. I had a tour of Mr. George's lab. I even saw real dinosaur bones in the catalog room. Afterwards, I enjoyed the museum, as well as their Birds and Bluegrass Festival. It was my seventh birthday! Walter, age 7



Photo by Kellie Atkinson

Editor: Kudos Walter! Your donation helps paleontologists continue their research and study. Fossils are priceless!

SFMS Federation News:



The second quarterly meeting of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies will be held on June 8-9, 2018 at the Tellus Museum in Cartersville, Georgia. For more information about the meeting and activities, go to: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/brd-meeting-details.html>

The SFMS workshop scholarships that NMGMS received have been awarded to members, Paul Gunther and Nelda Bell. Paul will be taking Cabochons at William Holland in June, and Nelda has registered for Silver 1 at Wildacres in August. Congratulations!

For a full description of the classes offered by the federation, check the links that are provided below...

<https://www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies-317959434999844/>

<http://sfmsworkshops.com>

The SFMS Newsletter, the Lodestar, is available for all members to read on line. <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/>

AFMS Federation News:



In Volume 7.1, Number 6, May 2018 issue of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' newsletter, Mark Nelson addressed the problem of "Spear Phishing" member organizations through malicious emails. NMGMS received two of those types of emails several years ago, so we are very aware of this situation. If you receive fraudulent phishing emails, forward them to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Computer Emergency Readiness Team's Anti-Phishing Working Group: phishing-report@us-cert.gov

All Rockhounds should be aware of and comply with proper field trip etiquette. For the list of the AFMS "Code of Ethics", go to, <http://www.amfed.org/ethics.htm>

For more AFMS Federation news, please check out their website: <http://www.amfed.org/>

NMGMS April 21, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes Submitted by Paul Gunther

In attendance: Mike Schuchs, Nancy Roberts, Nikki Kenney, Paul Gunther, and John Byzet.

1. Our 2017 990-N IRS tax form has been filed and accepted.
 2. Our SFMS 2018 insurance has been paid. It remained the same as 2017 at \$2/member.
 3. We have the large pavilion at Ballard Park reserved for our annual picnic and rock swap on October 20, 2018, and it has been paid for.
 4. Nancy will need to write up an amendment to our club bylaws with the change in our annual dues and then get that to Jeremy Martin at the Secretary of State office here in Tupelo.
 5. Justin Thornton had 100 copies of our new brochure printed up, and the printer donated them to NMGMS. Any additional copies will be charged at 25 cents a copy. We will need some new ones for next year showing the change in our dues. We will update the dues rate change on any copies we have left at the end of the year and continue to use them.
 6. It was approved that we get an external hard drive (USB) to store all of the club's finances, rosters, paperwork, notices, etc. (WD 1TB "My Passport" external USB hard drive \$52 on Amazon)
 7. Treasury report: \$417 West Point workshop, \$166 brown bag auction, \$550 Geology Fest. At the end of events, 3 people need to sit down and count the money, making sure they agree on the amount and not to mix where it has come from.
 8. We will hold a drawing for the second SFMS scholarship. Gregg Britt, Barronee Vaughan, and Nelda Bell are interested.
 9. Our next rent payment to the Link Centre will be due in August to be paid by Nikki.
 10. Paul and John are tentatively willing to host a lapidary workshop day in the room on Saturday, May 12th.
 11. Nikki needs to look into getting debit cards for NMGMS to make purchases for NMGMS instead of doing reimbursements.
 12. Need to purchase receipt books to keep up with cash transactions at shows and events.
 13. Use a roll of double tickets for events and keep up with the duplicate tickets to balance against.
 14. New NMGMS website has been published to old web address. Old website can be found at <http://old.nmgms.org>
- Adjourned 1:05

NMGMS Meeting Minutes:**NMGMS Meeting Minutes****Date: April 21, 2018**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Amelia and Julia

Guests were Patsy Zeidman, Peggy Dudley, Gwen Dudley, and David Sleep

March 17, 2018 meeting minutes as printed in the April 2018 Nugget were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Closing Balance as of April 18, 2018 was given by Nikki Kenney

Chairpersons' Reports:

Field Trips: The next NMGMS field trip will be to Twenty Mile Creek on May 5, 2018, weather permitting. Meet at the site **at 10a.m.** This trip includes the Rockheads' hotdog cookout, and Robert Langford will have his ID station setup on site. Mike Schuchs will bring the grill, hotdogs, and buns.

Publicity: (John Byzet and Alison Schuchs) Check out our NMGMS Facebook page.

Membership: (Beth Thornton) We have 147 members on the 2018 roster right now. Dues for 2019 will be \$15 for a single, \$25 for a couple, and \$4 per child. See Beth if you would like a copy of the club roster.

Minutes continued on page 10.

NMGMS Meeting Minutes, continued:**Date: April 21, 2018****Hospitality:**

Refreshments for the May 19, 2018 meeting will be pot luck, so every member is asked to bring something.

Refreshments for the September 15, 2018 meeting will be pot luck, so every member is asked to bring something.

Monetary donations to help out with the refreshments are welcome.

Website: (John Byzet) Paul Gunther has updated our website.

Check us out at www.nmgms.org If you have any photos of NMGMS events, please send a few on to John or Paul for the website.

Newsletter: (Nancy Roberts) Please consider writing a review for a field trip, workshop, or club meeting that you have attended. The deadline for newsletter submissions is the **second Friday** of the month. Email anything for The Nugget to: therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

Youth Members: (Diana Watson and Krista Williamson) The Rockheads are working on 662 Rocks.

Historian: (Cheryle Langford) If you have taken pictures at one of our club events, meetings, or field trips, please print out a few of your favorites for our club yearbook. Turn in any 2018 club memorabilia to Cheryle Langford. Ann Byzet will help as assistant historian.

Geology Fest and Fossil Road Show: (Nancy Roberts, John Byzet, and Rebecca Vallarian) Everyone did a fantastic job at our April 14th Fossil Road Show and Geology Fest. Thank you for a job well done and a great show. Next year it would be held on April 13, 2019, unless we decide to move it to February.

Safety & Lapidary Workshop Chairman: (Mike Schuchs) If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions about the room or equipment, see Mike. Need some safety articles for the newsletter.

Old Business:

1. The museum display will be taken down on Wednesday, May 16th. Loaned specimens will be returned at the May 19th meeting. We will need a few people to help with the take down.

2. Don't forget that NMGMS will be exhibiting at the Memphis rock and gem show next weekend. This is a good opportunity for us to promote the club, to demonstrate some of our jewelry making skills, and to sell some of our donated jewelry items. Volunteers to work at the club table are: Robert & Cheryle Langford, Linda Blackmon, Jim and Nancy Roberts, Jane Coryell, and Nikki Kenney. Anyone else?

Is there any other old business?**New Business:**

1. We have the large pavilion at Ballard Park reserved for our annual picnic and rock swap on Saturday October 20, 2018 from 1 to 4p.m.

2. The May NMGMS meeting will be on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 1 to 3 at the Tupelo library. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Jennifer Gifford, and her program will be about volcanoes.

3. The **New Albany Fossil Road Show** is on Saturday **June 9th, from 10am until 2pm, at the Union County Heritage Museum in New Albany**. Mike and Alison Schuchs tentatively plan to go. We could sell grab bags.

4. Our SFMS 2018 insurance has been paid, and our IRS 990-N 2017 tax form has been filed and accepted.

5. I have not received any information or any tickets pertaining to the 2018 SFMS scholarship raffle. There hasn't been anything in the Lodestar about it either.

6. We have a SFMS workshop scholarship to award. Nelda Bell was drawn with Greg Britt as alternate. Would either be a week in June, one in August, or one in September. Scholarship recipient would be asked to help teach at future NMGMS workshops, when able to.

7. Our September meeting will be Sept 15th 2018.

*****Reminder:**

Please return the name tags to the basket before you leave.

Adjourned at 1:30

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NMGMS meets the third Saturday of the month (except June, July and August) from 1p.m. to 3p.m. at the Lee County Public Library in Tupelo, MS. Any changes will be posted on the website www.nmgms.org, in *The Nugget*, or on the NMGMS Facebook page.

Annual Dues: \$12, single and \$20 family.

The North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society was established in 2001 as a non-profit organization dedicated to education and the collection of rocks, minerals, and fossils. NMGMS is affiliated with the American and Southeast Federations of Mineralogical Societies. Our organization promotes the educational, scientific, and recreational aspects of the hobby in the subjects of mineralogy, geology, paleontology, the lapidary arts, and other areas related to the earth sciences. Through our meeting programs, workshops, field trips and other club activities, we strive to increase the knowledge and skills of our members in these subjects. We not only share knowledge within our club, but we have participated in activities throughout the community.

The Society's newsletter, *The Nugget*, is mailed to members electronically and posted on the website.