

Photo by Nancy Roberts



The Nugget

North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



Crinoid Calyx from Parsons, TN

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

Happy Holidays NMGMS! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our membership for their support and participation in our organization; through everyone's efforts, we had another fantastic year. We had some great workshops, field trips, and meeting programs. The Rockheads worked hard towards FRA badges and had fun while they were learning new things. We made strides in our lapidary workroom and acquired some new supplies and equipment. Despite the rain, the Fossil Road Show and Geology Fest event was well attended, and the museum displays were quite interesting. I am looking forward to next year's activities, and I hope, by working together, we can keep this momentum going.

Several people have asked about membership in NMGMS for a junior who was not residing with them or was not a relative at all. Well, I'm excited to emphatically say yes, yes, yes! With the new 2019 applications, you can add a junior to your individual or couple membership for the very small fee of \$4 per child. So, if you know of a neighbor, friend, or relative's child who is interested and would love to participate in the Rockheads, please consider sponsoring them. If you can get their whole family to join, all the better, but sometimes it's just one in the family who really shows an interest in rocks or fossils. We need to help them have the opportunity to enjoy their interest and learn more about these things. There are NMGMS members who are willing to sponsor a junior member if you can't, so let us know where we can help.

Looking ahead, we made a slight program change for January. NMGMS member Randy Burleson has graciously volunteered to do a flint knapping demonstration for us, so we'll move the wire ring project to the April meeting. Also, please note that the January and February meeting dates are not on our usual third Saturday of the month. The Tupelo library is closed on those weekends due to federal holidays. The West Point Arts Council is excited to have NMGMS members teach an enameling class for them next month and I am planning to schedule a few more workshops at the Link Center. Be sure to watch the newsletters and emails for notices. We will work on scheduling our spring break field trip to the Mt. Ida area for quartz crystals in March, and the next Fossil Road Show at the museum will be on April 13, 2019. So with meetings, workshops, field trips, etc., you can see that NMGMS already has a busy 2019 lined up!

To close out 2018, I hope to see everyone at the club Christmas party on the 15th. Join your fellow members for some good food and great rockhound camaraderie. The last official business for the year will be to elect the 2019 slate of officers. See the board meeting minutes for the list. I am wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.

Nancy Roberts

Mark Your Calendar!

Photo by Nancy Roberts



The Holidays are coming!

The NMGMS annual Christmas party and potluck luncheon will be on **Saturday, December 15, 2018 from 11a.m. until 3p.m., upstairs at the Lee County Public Library in Tupelo, MS.**

The club will provide a ham for the luncheon, and members attending are asked to bring a potluck dish to share. We will have a gift exchange. If you wish to participate, bring a gift (\$10 max) and label it either as a man, woman, or child's gift. We are asking members to bring a few canned goods or other nonperishable food items for our club's contribution to a local food pantry. We will also participate in the "Toys for Tots" program, so please bring a new toy to donate. The toys will be dropped off at the Oren Dunn City Museum after the party.

We will be doing the "Night before Christmas" ornament exchange. If you would like to participate in the game and ornament exchange, just bring an ornament. They can be handmade or store bought. Everyone that brings an ornament will go home with one. Hope to see everyone there to help NMGMS celebrate another great year.

Remember, this is when NMGMS passes out badges, awards, and certificates to members for their accomplishments.

Other Upcoming NMGMS Events:

January 12, 2019: NMGMS January meeting from 1-3pm at the Tupelo Library. Program: Flint Knapping Demonstration by Randy Burleson. **

January 19, 2019: NMGMS enameling workshop for the West Point Arts Council in West Point, MS (See page 3 for details).

January 19, 2019: NMGMS Lapidary Workshop at the Link Centre. (See page 3 for details).

January 26, 2019: NMGMS field trip to Alabama for Mississippian fossils. (See page 3 for details)

February 9, 2019: NMGMS February meeting from 1-3pm at the Tupelo Library. Speaker: Dr. Julie Retrum. **

****Note!** January and February meeting dates are changed due to the library being closed on the third weekend of those months.

Show Dates:

December 8 - 9, 2018

Franklin, TN Mid Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society's 38th Annual Earth Treasures Show

Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show and Sale

Saturday, December 8, 9am to 6pm Sunday, December 9, 10am to 5pm.

Williamson County Ag Expo Park, 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN 37064

Admission: \$5 (2 day pass, \$7), students (18 and under) \$1, children 12 and under free with an adult.

Scout Youth in Uniform are free. For more information, go to <http://www.mtgms.org/show.htm>.

February 23-24th, 2019

Jackson Mississippi, 60th Gem Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show, Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society

Saturday, February 23 from 9 am to 6 pm, Sunday, February 24 from 10 am to 5 pm

Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds, 1200 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39202

Admission: Adults \$6, Students \$3, Scouts & Leaders in Uniform \$2, and Children 5 & under—Free

Additional information: rock2lanes[]gmail.com, Club website: www.missgms.org

NMGMS Field Trip: January 26, 2019 Trip to Alabama

Photo by Hope Spencer



The first NMGMS field trip for 2019 will be on **Saturday, January 26th** to collect Mississippian fossils from the Bangor Formation. We will be collecting fossils such as bryozoans, blastoids, brachiopods, and corals. We will meet at the gas station/convenience store in Belgreen, AL on Hwy 24 and 187, approximately 17 miles east of Red Bay, AL at **9:00 a.m.**

Bring small containers, cardboard flats, and a bucket for carrying your fossils and gear.

Newspapers, paper towels, or aluminum foil are recommended for wrapping up those that are fragile. A rock hammer, chisel, and something to pry with are also handy to have. Wear boots or shoes that can get wet or muddy, and bring a hat, water, sunscreen, safety glasses, etc. A backpack or extra bucket is good to have, since we will be walking and carrying our gear with us. Watch your email for directions and more details. If you plan to attend, contact Nancy Roberts, therockhoundlady@yahoo.com H: 731-689-5336

More Upcoming NMGMS Events: Enameling Workshop January 19, 2019

Photo by Nancy Roberts



The West Point/Clay County Arts Council is hosting another wonderful day of jewelry design with the North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society, an Enameling on Copper Workshop!

If you would like to learn how to enamel designs with powdered glass onto copper metal for making jewelry pieces, this is the class for you. Enameling is a really fun process; the results are very exciting and make unique components to include in your jewelry creations. In this workshop, you will be torch firing a variety of colored enamels onto copper disks to create a pendant and a pair of earrings. The class is limited to 12 students, so sign up early. This is a beginner/intermediate level class. The \$45 class fee includes all materials plus the use of the torches and tools. This is really a

fun project and the results will amaze you! Please bring a brown bag lunch. There is a refrigerator and microwave oven available.

When: Saturday, January 19, 2019

Where: Louise Campbell Center for the Arts, 235 Commerce St., West Point, MS Time: 10 to 4 Class fee: \$45

Class is limited to **12**, so please let us know if you plan to attend.

Contact Nancy Roberts, (therockhoundlady@yahoo.com), or Kathy Dyess, (kathydyess@bellsouth.net) with questions, or to let us know that you want to join us. Feel free to call Kathy at 662-494-5678

If you plan to come, please mail a check for \$45 to:

[WP/CC Arts Council, P.O. Box 105, West Point, MS 39773](#) so that we receive it before Friday, January 18, 2019

Lapidary Workshop, January 19, 2019

Photo by Nancy Roberts



Our NMGMS lapidary room #136 at the Link Center in Tupelo will be open on **Saturday, January 19, 2019** at **10a.m.** for those members interested. **There are two large slab saws and a 10 inch saw available, as well as two trim saws and three cab machines.** Bring some stones that you would like to slab. We have a box of slabs that you can "play" with, if you don't have any of your own.

The cabochon machines are available for those members certified to use them. Beginners are welcome! Jim Roberts and/or Paul Gunther will be on hand to help with the saws and to get

members certified to use the equipment.

Lapidary fee: \$1 per cut with the 12 or 10 inch saws, \$2 an hour on the cab machine and trim saw.

Bring a brown bag lunch. Please email therockhoundlady@yahoo.com, or latergator2003@yahoo.com, if you plan to attend. Junior members must be accompanied by a parent.

Meeting Program Review: NMGMS November 17, 2018 Meeting

Photo by Nancy Roberts



The program at our November club meeting was related to the upcoming holiday. Everyone got to custom make their own Christmas tree ornament! We chose from templates of several different shapes made from copper wire and then were provided with a length of straight wire and several bins of beads of all different sizes and colors. The instructions were simple (even I could follow them). You added beads to your wire, picking whatever suited you, then twisted the wire in a zig-zag pattern across the template. Everyone had fun deciding on the colors and sizes of the beads and threading them onto the wire. I ended up with a gingerbread man that

will definitely be hung on our tree. This program got everyone in the holiday spirit and ready for our club's Christmas party at the December meeting. Submitted by Jim Roberts

Photos by Nancy Roberts



Photo by Nancy Roberts



Bead Soup: A Place to Talk "Shop"! By Nancy Roberts



The idea for the beaded wire Christmas decoration that we did at our last club meeting came from NMGMS member Bernice Burkeen. She said to make the frames like Christmas shapes, use cookie cutters! What a great idea, and it worked out well.

Here is how to make the frames:

Using 2 feet of 16, 18, or 20 gauge craft wire, make a wrapped loop on one end of the wire. Place the wrapped loop at the top of the cookie cutter, holding it firmly in place or securing the wire at the top with a piece of tape.



Using the cookie cutter as a mandrel, work the wire around the shape with your fingers, taping to secure as you go, if needed. Use chain nose pliers to make any sharp bends. (I used copper coated craft wire, so was able to make all bends by hand).

Continue to work the wire around; when you get back to the top, wrap the tail wire around the loop below your first wraps once or twice, then remove your wire shape from the cookie cutter. Wrap the tail wire around several more times and trim off the excess wire. Work-harden (stiffen) the shape by hammering it on a bench block with a nylon or rawhide hammer.



All Bead Soup photos by Nancy Roberts

Workshop Review: November Copper Bangle Workshop

Photo by Beverly P. Kraft



This was the first jewelry workshop that Hunter and I participated in, and we are hooked! We had a great time learning how to work with metal and all of the different steps required. Nancy and the other instructors were so patient, helpful, and supportive.....even when my designs became "organic shapes", LOL. It was a relaxed and enjoyable day. Hunter and I are looking forward to another workshop to learn more metal working techniques.

Submitted by Diana Watson

Jonas and I loved the bangle class; it was easy, and we were able to hone our skills such as annealing, soldering, and hammering. Submitted by Leslie Lane

This was the first workshop where we worked with silver wire solder and flux. We quickly learned that the key to a successful solder join is a tight fit and keeping your eye on the flux and solder. We had fun working with heavy gauges of copper wire; annealing, forging, and shaping the wire to make a "wave" bangle. Hammering the ends of the wire to make nice "paddles" was a technique that we practiced. For our second bangle, we flattened the wire in several places and then produced a twisted wire by using a portable drill and Vise grips. Amazing how just the flat areas twist while the rest of the wire remains round! We soldered the ends of the twisted wire together to make a bangle bracelet. After

making three of these twisted wire bangles, we were becoming much more adept at the soldering process. Everyone went home with at least 5 bangles. Great fun and good experience for all! Submitted by Nancy Roberts



All Copper Bangle Workshop photos by Beverly P. Kraft

NMGMS Participates: Link Centre Holiday Market

Photo by Nancy Roberts



The North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society participated in a Holiday Market at the Link Centre in Tupelo on Dec. 1, 2018. Club members set up a booth and sold handcrafted jewelry items that were made and donated by fellow NMGMS members. There were more vendors this year; some were fellow NMGMS members! The event was well attended. Proceeds from the sales go to our lapidary workshops. Submitted by Nancy Roberts



Photo by Nancy Roberts



Mascot by Remy Collins

NMGMS Junior Members

Rockheads

December 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' November 17, 2018 Meeting:

Photo by Krista Williamson



At the November meeting the Rockheads made dinosaur masks, and we gave a presentation to the adults about our dinosaurs. We learned the meaning of their names, when they lived, their size, and diet. Afterwards, we enjoyed Hunter's presentation on the Petrified Forest. We ended with making Christmas ornaments with beads. Submitted by Sydney Thornton



Photos by Nancy Roberts

Rockhead Works Toward Earning an FRA Badge:

Photo by Nancy Roberts



In order to meet requirements for the Communications Badge, Hunter Watson put together an excellent slide show and oral report on his trip to the Petrified National Forest. He was well prepared, had maps and examples, answered all questions, and kept everyone's attention. Well done Hunter! Submitted by Nancy Roberts



Photos by Nancy Roberts

Club News:

Photo by Jim Roberts



NMGMS Rockheads President, Hunter Watson, took first place in the Southeast Federation's Junior Articles 12 - 17 division of the 2018 Bulletin Competition with his article titled "Tennessee State Fossil". Congratulations Hunter!

The January NMGMS meeting will be on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at the Tupelo library from 1-3pm. Program will be a flint knapping demonstration given by NMGMS member Randy Burleson.

Photo by Nancy Roberts



Notice to members:

The following slate of officers for 2019 will be presented for election by the membership at the Dec. 15th meeting: President, Nancy Roberts, Vice President, Paul Gunther, Treasurer, Rachael Hill, and Secretary, Krista Williamson.

Reminder! Time to Renew Your Membership

2019 is fast approaching, and it is time to renew your NMGMS membership. At the NMGMS March 17, 2018 meeting, the members present voted unanimously to change the club dues to the following rate: \$15 for a single membership, \$25 for a couple, and \$4 for each child. This change has been added to the club bylaws and takes effect now with our 2019 renewals and new memberships.

Our club treasurer will be available to collect your dues at our meetings, or you can make checks payable to NMGMS (\$15 single, \$25 for a couple and \$4 for each child) and mail them along with an application form to: NMGMS, P.O. Box 1445, Tupelo, MS 38802. **You can also pay your dues with PayPal from our club website.** An application form is located on the website: www.nmgms.org

NMGMS Members: "Show and Tell"

At the November meeting, several members brought their collections and projects to show. Nice work!



Sydney and Amelia Thornton's rock collection



Paul Gunther's cabochons

Before,



After! All Photos by Nancy Roberts

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. News:



The 31st Annual Meeting of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies will be held in October of 2019 in conjunction with the Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society's rock and gem show. The show is held the second weekend of October. Watch for further updates. Since Huntsville is close to Tupelo, I recommend that NMGMS members try to attend. It's a great show too! Nancy Roberts

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

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News:



On the AFMS website at, <http://www.amfed.org/lewisclark.htm>, you will find a downloadable pdf of an AFMS publication edited by Brenda J Hankins entitled: "Lewis and Clark: Rockhounding on the Way to the Pacific". This very informative guide was put together by members from all regions of the Federation. It is a traveler's guide to the rocks, minerals, and fossils that you would encounter as you travel along the Lewis and Clark Trail. Not only is this guide full of information on areas to see and places to visit along the Trail, it also contains many interactive items, like puzzles, activities, and drawings. It is a great resource for a junior group or anyone wanting to learn more about what the explorers saw as they traveled west.

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

The *AFMS Newsletter* is available for all members to read on line

Alabama Marble by Chris Rutherford

Photo by Chris Rutherford



Greetings Fellow Rockhounds, I recently took a trip to north Alabama and camped at the Guntersville State Park. As a geologist, I never mind taking the scenic route when time permits it because I get to experience the sights and wonders that our state has to offer. On my way home from Guntersville, we stopped in Sylacauga at the huge marble quarry pit. If you have never seen it, I fully recommend it. Alabama is home to the whitest marble in the world. The marble vein that runs through Sylacauga runs nearly 32 miles long and is approximately 600' thick. The earliest recorded history of the Talladega marble belt was during General Andrew Jackson's expeditionary force against the Creek Indians in 1814. Commercial mining did not start until 1834. Alabama marble has been mined continuously since then and is displayed in museums, buildings, and monuments across the world. However, most marble mining today is for industrial

uses, such as filler in PVC pipe, and not structural uses, such as building clad or statues. Note from Chris Rutherford, "I have been fascinated with the marble quarries in Sylacauga after I read a history of Andrew Jackson's campaign against the Creek Indians in the War of 1812. Members of his Officer's Corp noted all the fine marble deposits in the area and earmarked the land for themselves after the war."

Chris Rutherford's "Alabama Marble" excerpt reprinted with his permission from his President's Message in the November 2018 issue of *The Golden Nugget*.

For more information about Alabama marble:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sylacauga_marble

<http://www.madeinalabama.com/2014/11/sylacauga-marble-quarry/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Imerys-Gantts-Quarry/438810789545068>

http://www.sylacauga.net/sn_history.htm

Note: The observation point is open to the public.

www.nmgms.org



Photo by Chris Rutherford

TROUBLING COURT RULING by MATTHEW LYBANON, MAGS EDITOR

Artist's model of the Montana Dueling Dinosaurs is based on geographical placement of the fossils.

Credit: Image courtesy of Black Hills Institute of Geological Research Inc. and Katie Busch, Owner/Partner CK Preparations)



A recent court decision (only applies to Montana but could spread to other states) reclassified fossils as minerals that now fall under the purview of Mineral Rights, taking their legal ownership from the land or property owner and placing them under the domain of the property's mineral rights holder. This split decision changes the long-held legal opinion that allowed ranchers and other property holders the right to allow fossil collecting on their property. This ruling applies to all fossils: vertebrates, invertebrates, and plants.

The drastic change in established law now puts academic and commercial paleontologists, as well as the casual fossil collector and museum collections, in great peril. If you don't have the permission of the owner of the mineral rights, you cannot take any fossils from privately owned land even if you have the land owner's permission. Even more importantly, if you have fossils from Montana in your possession, you may lose those fossils to the owners of the mineral rights.

The 9th Circuit has granted a 30-day extension of time for attorneys to file a petition for rehearing and for the Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences (AAPS) to submit an Amicus Brief. The AAPS created a [Go Fund Me](#) page to raise funds to have an attorney produce and file an Amicus Brief, the goal being to ask the court for an *en banc* hearing by a larger panel of judges and get this decision overturned. The goal is to raise \$70,000 for lawyer and court fees. The extension is only until December 19, so anyone wishing to contribute should not wait long.

The AAPS is a public charity under IRS section 501(c)(3). As such, it is tax exempt for income tax purposes and is permitted to receive tax deductible gifts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service. Donations to this Go-Fund Me page are totally tax deductible here in the United States. 100% of all donations will be used for the purposes stated. Donation letters will be provided for tax purposes on request.

Editor's Note: This information was provided by Linda McCall, former President, North Carolina Fossil Club, and Research Fellow, University of Texas at Austin.

Matthew Lybanon's article is reprinted with his permission from the MAGS Rockhound News, Volume 64 ♦ Number 12 ♦ December 2018 ♦

For more information: <https://www.aaps.net/newsletter-index.html>

https://billingsgazette.com/news/government-and-politics/in-fight-over-montana-s-dueling-dinosaurs-judges-say-fossils/article_c7d80590-6e46-5c52-bec0-ef5e681c2ed5.htm

<https://www.apnews.com/edf5eefad9664ed3a1886a8aaf0251c1>

NMGMS Meeting Minutes:



NMGMS November 17, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes:

1. A \$20 vendor fee was paid to the Link Centre via our PayPal account for our jewelry sales table at the Holiday Market on December 1, 2018. We will also open our Lapidary room during this time for members to use.
2. Jewelry sales at the Robins Street Art Stroll totaled \$216, activities sales at the ODCM Dogtrot Festival totaled \$27, Copper bangle workshop fees totaled \$140, memberships so far, new \$45, renewals, \$93, picnic sales and donations were \$323.75, lapidary and supplies sold were \$17.
3. October/November expenses were: ink cartridges, \$109.70, Rockheads supplies, \$31.37, picnic food, \$61.38, bangle workshop supplies, \$58.98, and sales tax, \$15.

Continued on Page 10

NMGMS November 17, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes...continued:

4. There was a misprint recorded in the May meeting minutes. Motion passed to edit May meeting minutes to show the correct bank balance.
 5. Paul has asked that we replace some of the sanding/polishing belts on the cab machines. Prices for silicon carbide grit are about \$2 each, up to 800grit. Prices for aluminum oxide are about \$3 each, up to 1800 grit. Prices for diamond resin belts 120 mesh to 100,000mesh are about 70 to \$130 dollars each! Motion passed to order 600, 1800, and 3000 grit belts, as well as a new set of templates. Expected cost for the order to be around \$150. Also ask Mike about getting a motor to possibly set up the 3000 grit on a wheel of its own.
 6. We are having difficulty in getting members to volunteer for officer and committee positions. Nominations of officers for 2019 as follows: President: Nancy Roberts, Vice President: Paul Gunther, Secretary: Krista Williamson Treasurer: Rachael Hill, Field Trips: Nancy Roberts, Publicity: John Byzet, Membership: Diana Watson (Name tags, Sign in sheet, and Applications), Hospitality: Ann Byzet will help, Website: Paul Gunther, Newsletter editor: Nancy Roberts Youth Advisor: Beth and Justine Thornton, Historian: Rebecca Vallarian, Event Chairs: Rebecca, Nikki, Nancy, Cheryl, Ann and John Byzet, Safety and Lapidary Workroom: Jim Roberts and Paul Gunther, Workshops: Nikki and Nancy
 7. Motion passed to have 100 copies of club brochures printed.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm. Submitted by Paul Gunther

NMGMS Meeting Minutes**Date: November 17, 2018**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Nancy Roberts
Introduced new members Randy & Barbara Burleson

Members approved the September 15, 2018 meeting minutes as printed in the October 2018 Nugget.

Treasurer's Report: Closing Balance as of October 31, 2018 was given by Nikki Kenney

Chairpersons' Reports:

Field Trips: The next NMGMS field trip will be on Saturday December 8, 2018 below the Pickwick Dam in Counce, TN and collect in the gravel deposits along the river. We will meet around 10:00 am. The January field trip will be January 26, 2019 to Lost Creek, Alabama for Mississippian fossils. (See email or Nugget for details)

Publicity: (John Byzet and Alison Schuchs) We are getting very low on club brochures. Justin Thornton has made the necessary changes to the club brochure, reflecting our new dues rates. We will print 100 copies of the new brochures at \$.25 a copy. Check out our NMGMS Facebook page.

Membership: (Beth Thornton) Reminder! The time to renew your membership in NMGMS is fast approaching; 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.

Anyone need a new member packet or a patch? ****Note:** Please just list on the club application form only those persons who are actually joining.

Hospitality:

Refreshments: Paul Gunther volunteered to do the ham for the Christmas party pot- luck luncheon, Dec. 15th All members attending the luncheon are asked to bring a casserole, salad or dessert.

Monetary donations to help out with the refreshments are welcome.

Website: (John Byzet) Paul Gunther has the new website running. It is a WordPress site. Anyone else interested in helping with the website? Old website can be found at <http://old.nmgms.org>

Check us out at www.nmgms.org If you have any photos of NMGMS events, please send a few on to Paul for the website. If you happened to miss an issue of our newsletter, previous issues of The Nugget are posted on the NMGMS website.

Minutes continued on page 11.

NMGMS Meeting Minutes, continued:**Date: November 17, 2018**

Newsletter: (Nancy Roberts) We have received the awards from the SFMS Bulletin Competition. (Awards were handed out) 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 TheNugget to: therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

Youth Members: (Diana Watson and Krista Williamson) Beth Thornton has volunteered to be the Youth Advisor for the Rockheads next year. Badges need to be completed by the November meeting, so we can get them before the December awards.

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. **Anyone else interested in helping with the yearbook?**

Geology Fest and Fossil Road Show: (Nancy Roberts, John Byzet, and Rebecca Vallarian) We are scheduled to hold the next Geology Fest and Fossil Road Show at the ODCM on April 13, 2019. We will be setting up displays at the museum early in March. We are looking for rocks from different states around the country and world, if you have any you would like to loan.

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. We will now take nominations for the 2019 NMGMS officers: President, Nancy Roberts, Vice President, **Paul Gunther**, Treasurer, **Rachael Hill**, Secretary, Krista Williamson. Are there any nominations from the floor? No nominations from the floor. We will be electing these officers next month. We need a hospitality chairperson!

No other old business.

New Business:

1. NMGMS will have a jewelry sales table at the Link Centre on Saturday, December 1st, from 10am until 4pm. We will need a few club members volunteer to help work our sales table and a few volunteers to assist the Link Center with this event. Volunteers will either man the food sales tables or help where needed. Volunteers: Nikki, Nancy and possibly Cheryle.

2. The lapidary workshop room will be open on Saturday, December 1st, so if you are interested, come by. The cab machines and slab saws will be available. Shop the Holiday Market downstairs too!

3. On Saturday, January 19, 2019, NMGMS members will be teaching an enameling class hosted by the West Point/Clay County Arts Council in West Point, MS. The cost for the class is \$45. **Watch your emails and The Nugget for details.**

4. The December meeting will be the Christmas Party/ luncheon on **Saturday, December 15th at the library from 11a.m. to 3p.m.** We will have a short meeting and then eat at noon. (We actually have the room starting at 10:30.) The club will provide a ham, and members are asked to bring a potluck dish. We will have a gift exchange (\$10 max.); everyone who wants to participate brings a gift either for a man, woman, or child. We will be collecting foodstuffs for a local charity, a "toy for tots", and holding the "Night before Christmas" ornament exchange.

5. The January 2019 meeting will be a week earlier, since the library is closed on holiday weekends. Meeting is January 12, 2019 from 1-3pm at the Tupelo library. We will be making wire rings and adding beads to them. Fun!

Adjourned at 1:52pm Submitted by Paul Gunther

NMGMS 2018 Officers:

President/Field Trip Chair:

Nancy Roberts
25 Amber Lane
Counce, TN 38326
(731)689-5336
therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Paul Gunther
101 Westover Heights
Booneville, MS 38829
662-643-4210
paul.gunther@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Mike Schuchs
1148 Lake Dr.
Fulton, MS 38843
(662)862-3160
mike.schuchs@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Nikki Kenney
PO Box 808
Tupelo, MS 38802
662-844-6142
nmgms@comcast.net

Committees:

Publicity Chair/Web Master:

John Byzet
1209 Queensgate Dr
Tupelo, MS 38801
(662)844-9841
wa4iax@comcast.net

Hospitality:

Rebecca Vallarian
308 Meadowbrook Circle
Armory, MS 38821
(662)256-2040
janiegirl@vallarian.com

Membership:

Beth Thornton
104 Grand Ridge Rd.
Starkville, MS 39759 (662)320-9805
bethunderwood78@hotmail.com

Historian:

Cheryle Langford
121 Willow Creek Rd
Salttillo, MS 38866 (662)869-2278
cherlang7@att.net

Newsletter editor:

Nancy Roberts
25 Amber Ln
Counce, TN 38326
(731)689-5336
therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

Junior Youth Advisor:

Diana Watson
2312 Hwy 70E
Jackson, TN 38305
731-427-3946
jodyanddiana@hotmail.com



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 Starting 2019: \$15 for a single, \$25 for a couple, and \$4 each child.

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 a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. and is affiliated with the American Federation 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.