Volume 19 Issue 2 May 13, 2019

The Nugget

North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

Photo by Jim Roberts

Nancy and Daniel collecting fossils

Notes from the President's Desk…..May 2019

Our NMGMS May 18, 2019 meeting is the last meeting until we meet back together in September, but we still have one more field trip to the Alabama Gold Camp May, 25th and 26th scheduled before we head out for summer vacations and travels. Also, Robert Langford will be setting up his fossil ID station at the W.M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park the third weekend of June and July this summer, so be sure to mark those Saturdays on your calendar. He will also be representing NMGMS at the Union County Heritage Museum's Fossil Road Show on June 8, 2019. If you missed the chance to have your fossils identified at our Oren Dunn City Museum event, then don't miss the New Albany show; George Phillips will again be on hand to identify any fossils that are brought in.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who participated in the April 13, 2019 Fossil Road Show and Geology Fest. Their hard work and joint efforts helped to make this year's show a great success. Despite the rain, we had a fantastic turnout and a good show. We were very fortunate to be able to set everything up inside the museum. It takes a lot of time and effort to put on a show, and I think we showed the community that we are a strong organization with a lot of friendly, knowledgeable, and committed members. Thank you, also to George Phillips, Jerry Case, and Robert Langford, for their professional services at this event. We couldn't do it without their expertise in the fields of Geology and Paleontology. I also extend the club's most sincere thanks to Rae Mathis and all of the Oren Dunn City Museum staff for their assistance and support throughout the whole process. We get to meet and work with a lot of great people, make some new friends, and spread the word about the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society while having a great time at the show.

Don't forget our ongoing raffle. The May meeting will be your last chance to purchase a ticket; we will draw the winner at the close of that meeting. Tickets are just $2 each or 3 for $5, and we have some very nice prizes that the winner can choose from. Even though NMGMS doesn't hold meetings over the summer, keep an eye on your emails. Paul Gunther may be able to schedule a few workshop sessions for using the lapidary equipment, and Mike Schuchs hopes to schedule a few field trips. Also, if you are interested in learning some jewelry making techniques, let Nikki Kenney know (nmgms@comcast.net); she hopes to schedule a few "mini" workshops in our Link Centre room over the summer.

It has been brought to my attention that the Southeast Federation and the Dixie Mineral Council are in the process of changing their field trip rules. In the past, we have been "invited" to attend the DMC trips because NMGMS carries the SFMS insurance. However, for the insurance to be effective, the field trip needs to be an "official" club trip, and a field trip notice needs to go out to the membership. The club needs to be a DMC member in order to do that. It looks like the time has come for us to seriously consider joining the Dixie Mineral Council in order to be able to participate in these field trips. It would open up a lot of other southeastern collecting sites to us. As members of the DMC, NMGMS would be required to sponsor a DMC field trip about once every three years. It would have to be to a site that could accommodate a large group of people, and club members would be responsible to oversee the trip. Finding a suitable collecting site that we could oversee has been our dilemma and the reason we have not already joined. This issue could possibly be overcome, and you don't have to commit to the site until a few months before you are due to host the trip. Joining the DMC needs to be approved by the board and our club membership; it would be a commitment we would be required to honor, but it does provide our membership with great opportunities. Nancy Roberts

Mark Your Calendar! NMGMS May 18, 2019 Meeting

Photo by Nancy Roberts

The NMGMS **May 18, 2019** meeting will be held at the Lee County Library from 1 to 3p.m. The program will be on caves, given by University of Mississippi Professor, Dr. Jennifer Gifford. Come and join us to learn all about this exciting underground world. Refreshments are "pot luck", so members are asked to bring something.

NOTE: There will be a board meeting at 12:30pm before the regular meeting. 2019 officers and committee chairpersons are asked to attend. We will be discussing the possibility of joining the Dixie Mineral Council.

For more information: http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_dmc/dmc.htm

Other Upcoming Events:

June 8, 2019: Fossil Road Show, 10am to 2pm at the Union County Heritage Museum, New Albany, MS

June 15, 2019: Collecting at Twenty Mile Creek, Robert Langford's summer schedule. (See page 5 for details)

September 21, 2019: NMGMS September meeting from 1 to 3pm at the Tupelo library. Program will be "Using a Rock Tumbler to Polish Stones", by NMGMS member Mike Schuchs.

Show Dates:

May 18-19, 2019

Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society 40th Anniversary Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
Location: JOPPA Shrine Temple, 13280 Shriners Blvd, Biloxi, MS.
Saturday, May 18th, 9AM-5PM, and Sunday, May 19th, 9AM-4PM
Admission: Adults $5, children (10 and under) free with adult.
Jewelry, Rocks, Gems, Beads, Fossils, Minerals, Demonstrations, Exhibits, Kid's Corner, and Door Prizes Hourly
Discount coupon available: Facebook: facebook.com/gulfportgems, Website: www.gulfportgems.org
E-mail: gulfportgems.show[]gmail.com

June 1-2, 2019

The Tannehill Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show, June 1-2, 2019
The AMLS outdoor show is held at the Tannehill Furnace State Historical Park, 12632 Confederate Parkway, McCalla, AL 35111. The show is **Saturday June 1st and Sunday June 2nd, 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 8, 2019

New Albany Fossil Road Show, June 8, 2019, 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@ucheritagemuseum.com

June 14-16, 2019

22nd Annual Missouri Mines Rock Swap, June 14th-16th, Missouri Mines State Historic Site, Park Hills, MO
4000 State Hwy. 32, P.O. Box 492, Park Hills, MO (573) 431-6226
Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Rock hobbyists from all over the United States will set up outdoors and under tents to sell or swap rock and mineral specimens, fossils, rock jewelry, and other rock related items. The public is invited to participate. The historic site's museum will be open free of charge during regularly scheduled hours throughout the event. Auctions of donated rock related items will be conducted daily to benefit the site's mineral museum. Missouri Mines State Historic Site cohosts the rock swap with the Mineral Area Gem and Mineral Society, a member of the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs.

Meeting Program Review: NMGMS April 6th Wire Rings Program

Photo by Nancy Roberts

At the April NMGMS meeting, members used 20 gauge craft wire and a variety of beads to craft some unique wire rings. No two were alike! Even some of the junior members jumped in and tried their hand at it. I thoroughly enjoyed sharing this quick little project with everyone. The Rockheads also worked on making some beaded stretch bracelets. Nancy Roberts

Photo by Nancy Roberts

We had so much fun making the wire rings! I can now pass this little skill on to others! Thanks for helping us learn a new skill! Submitted by Hope Spencer

Photos by Jim Roberts

Workshop Review: April 7th Lapidary Workshop

Photo by Jim Roberts

A few NMGMS members gathered at the lapidary room on Sunday, April 7th to do a little rock cutting and polishing. Paul Gunther worked on perfecting his cabochon skills while he taught me to cut and polish a cab. We had a chance to try out the new sanding belts. Sophie Gunther helped Nancy sort and bag rocks to be used for the Spin and Win. In the meantime, Jim Roberts managed to remove the motor from our Genie machine so it could be taken to a machine shop for evaluation. Sadly, it has been determined that the Genie motor cannot be fixed. Nancy Roberts

Photos by Jim Roberts

Editor's Note: We have received two more packages of sanding belts, so we now can fill in the gaps between grit sizes. You should be able to turn out a top-notch cabochon now!

Field Trip Review: NMGMS Field Trip to the Trebloc Lime Pit

Photo by Jim Roberts

NMGMS couldn't have asked for a better day to be out collecting Cretaceous fossils on the old lime flats. Exogyra, Pycnodonts, and Marcasite were readily available on the surface, but it took a much closer inspection to find the shark and Enchodus teeth in the wash outs. Several mosasaur vertebrae were found, as well as the first fossil jaw bone of a Rat fish for this deposit. Christopher Martin had no idea that's what he'd found when he spotted the end of what looked like bone poking out of the hillside. The old pit still yields up its treasures!

Krista Williamson sat down in one washout to rest a spell and was just looking through all of the small material that had accumulated there when she spied something different. She showed it to me, and I got very excited. It was a piece of an ammonite; first one I've ever seen from this locale. It was later confirmed by George Phillips to be an ammonite, but even more exciting was that it probably is a part of one of the "helix" shaped ammonites. Krista donated it to the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science since it was a significant find. Ammonites are index fossils and give paleontologists greater insight into the age of a deposit. Submitted by Nancy Roberts

Photo by Krista Williamson

Trebloc was a really great hunt with good weather and nice specimens, especially when one of our members gets a spectacular find. Congratulations to Krista! Submitted by Rebecca Vallarian

Photos by Jim Roberts and Krista Williamson

Upcoming NMGMS Field Trip: Alabama Gold Camp

Photo by Nancy Roberts

The NMGMS field trip to the Alabama Gold Camp has been scheduled for **Memorial Weekend**, **May 25th and 26th**. All junior members (Rockheads) are especially urged to attend, since this will fulfill part of the requirements for the "Gold Panning and Prospecting" FRA badge. There is plenty of information on the camp's website: http://www.alabamagoldcamp.com/home .

If you plan on staying in one of the cabins, reservations must be made at least a week in advance. (Fees:$75 per night for a cabin, $25 for an RV site). They do not take reservations for the campsites. Day passes are $5 per adult, kids 11 and under are free. They do not take credit cards! Since Memorial Weekend may be a popular time, you should make reservations as soon as possible. The nearest motel is in Lineville. There are plenty of motels east and south of Birmingham, but would involve a longer drive to the camp. Cheaha State Park is not too far away.

NMGMS made a field trip to the gold camp in 2016, and everyone had a fabulous time. This is a fun trip; check out the Gold Camp's Facebook page for lots of reviews, pictures, and videos. From their website: ***Anyone*** **entering the camp past the General store area must have a disclaimer release of liability form on file and a current activity card open at the General Store.** Let me know if you are planning to attend. Please make your own reservations.

***We will gather at the General Store at 9:30am on Saturday, May 25th**. Nancy Roberts

NMGMS Field Trips: Robert Langford's Summer Schedule

Photo of ID Station by Jim Roberts

Mark your Calendars for a Special 2019 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 club 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 2019 summer Saturday schedule will be as follows: June 15th and July 20th.

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 or hardware cloth that is attached to a frame, but many people use kitchen colanders or the screens you get in summer beach 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

Photo by Nancy Roberts

Club News: 2019 Fossil Road Show & Geology Fest

Photo by Barbara Burleson

Like last year, rain was again forecast for the day of our Fossil Road Show and Geology Fest at the Oren Dunn City Museum in Tupelo. So on the Friday beforehand, we set everything up inside the museum. It was a bit tight, but we managed to find a spot for all of the activities. Even though we did indeed have a rainy day, 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 Rae Mathis Pounds, Nancy Roberts, and Barbara Burleson

NMGMS Participates: 2019 MAGS "Earth Wide Open" Show

Photo by Nancy Roberts

Once again we were excited to be able to participate as an exhibitor at the Memphis "Earth Wide Open" rock and gem show the weekend of April 27th and 28th. We appreciate MAGS inviting NMGMS to set up every year at their wonderful show. 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. Several of us volunteering at the club table were demonstrating some of the metalsmithing and beading techniques that we do in our NMGMS workshops. Quite a few of the show visitors stopped to ask questions about the club's workshops and what we were working on. Cheryle Langford was making some beautifully crafted wire bangles like the ones she learned to make in a class at William Holland. Nikki Kenney's loom attracted quite a bit of attention. She didn't get much weaving done; she had so many questions to answer! Since we were doing demos, we were able to make available for purchase, the rings, bangle bracelets, pendants, and earrings that were 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 always have lots of fun. Nancy Roberts

Photos by Jim Roberts and Nancy Roberts

Grab Bags: We sold out and need more!

At the April 13th Fossil Road Show and Geology Fest, we sold every grab bag that we had there. We still have plenty of rocks and fossils to fill more, but we need members to volunteer to put together more of the cloth bags. You'll have this coming summer to work on them, and hopefully we'll have a bunch ready to fill when we come back together again in the fall. The construction is not difficult, so if you can sew, please take a look at this cloth bag. Photo by Floy Hawkins

Instructions: Cut an 8x15 inch piece of fabric. Notice how it's sewn;
You'll sew the casing for the draw string first and then do the side and bottom seams. Make seams half an inch, so the finished bag is approximately 7x7 inches. Experiment, they don't all have to be exactly the same size or configuration, just colorful and enticing! I sew a ¾ inch turn for the yarn first (with the yarn already in place). Fold in half, then sew the bottom & up the one side, stopping before the yarn tube. Good luck and thanks!
See Marion's article in *The Nugget,* February 10, 2016, Vol. 15, Issue 9, for step by step photos!

Nancy Roberts

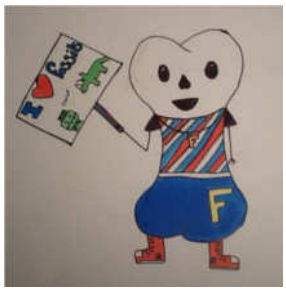
Field Trip Review: "Rain, Rain Go Away - The Rockheads' 2019 Shark Tooth Hunt and Hot Dog Cookout" by Jim Roberts

Photo by Nancy Roberts

For the second year in a row the kid's annual fund raiser at 20 Mile Creek faced a rainy day for this event. Even with the bad forecast, several of the club's families showed up, ready to get down in the creek and hunt for shark teeth. Thankfully, the rain let up mid-morning, and the creek was soon full of eager folks armed with shovels and wire screens.

We soon found out that the creek section right below the parking area was pretty well worked out; very few teeth were found there. The Thornton family wisely went several hundred feet upstream and ended up doing very well. As lunch time arrived, even though the rain was still holding off, Mike set up his grill and the food tables under the bridge like we did last year. There were plenty of hot dogs, chips, drinks, and cookies for all of the very hungry tooth hunters. We enjoyed sitting around, eating, talking, and showing off all our finds. Shortly after finishing lunch and putting everything up, the rain started up again, so we decided to call it a day. Despite the bad weather, everyone had a good time, but we all agreed that after two rainy weather years in a row that next year's event should be sunny and warm!

Photos by Alison Schuchs



Mascot by Remy Collins

NMGMS Junior Members

Rockheads May 2019

www.amfed.org/fra/ fra_badge.htm

Rockhead Officers for 2019:

President, Liam Langford

Vice President, Alex Rogers

Secretary, Julia Williamson

Adult Youth Advisor for 2019:

Beth Thornton, bethunderwood78@hotmail.com

Rockheads' April 6, 2019 Meeting:

FRA Earth in Space Badge

We had a lot of fun at the Rockheads' meeting learning more about meteor impacts. We made meteors crash into two planets. One planet had a good atmosphere and one did not. We compared the size of the craters on each planet. Submitted by Sydney Thornton

Image from the AFMS website

Next Rockhead Meeting: May 18, 2019

Image from the AFMS website

At the next NMGMS meeting, the Rockheads will start on the Gold Panning and Prospecting badge. You'll be in for a treat! Mr. Jim Roberts will have a mock setup, so you can try your hand at gold panning. If you happen to have a gold pan, bring it along to the meeting. Note: If you are planning to go on the field trip to the Alabama Gold Camp, this will be good practice! So Rockheads, go for the gold!

Photo by Nancy Roberts

Attention Rockheads!

We are half way thru our 2019 activities, so now is the time to think about working toward earning the "NMGMS Junior Rockhound of the Year Award". You will earn some nice prizes!

Requirements for the "Junior Rockhound of the Year" award are:

1. Be a member in good standing.
2. Write an article or review for *The Nugget*.
3. Give a short presentation or set up a "show and tell" display at one of the meetings.

Your article or review for the newsletter does not need to be long or complicated. Please send it and any accompanying photos to: therockhoundlady@yahoo.com. If you would like to do a display, bring one along to any of the club meetings.

Photo by Jim Roberts

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. News:

What are the benefits of your local club belonging to the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies?

The Southeast Federation is your link to resources and connections! Association with SFMS spans from your local club and area to the regional level and even expands nationally!

10 point benefits of SFMS:

1. Programs and Archives. 2. Mayo Educational Foundation. 3. Club Development. 4. Interclub Connections
5. Federation Sponsored Club Insurance. 6. Field Trips. 7. Youth Program and Support. 8. Lapidary Education
9. Competitive Cases and Judges. 10. National Affiliations

Learn details of what we have to offer at our 2019 Quarterly Meeting, held during our 1st Annual Rockhound Round-Up in May 2019: May 17, 18, and 19, 2019, Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Rockhound Round-Up Spirit of Suwannee Music Park Live Oak, FL. http://www.amfed.org/sfms
Look for a presentation sent to your local club, after the Quarterly Meeting!

There are still openings for the SFMS June session classes at William Holland! Classes are posted on our NMGMS Facebook page. Visit www.sfmsworkshops.org website for information on SFMS workshops at William Holland and Wildacres; find class descriptions, instructors, dates, fees, registration forms, etc. For questions, contact Kristine@kmarella.com, or call 863-640-2887
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:

NMGMS members took honors in this year's Bulletin Competition!

Results of the 2019 Bulletin Editor's Contest as published in the AFMS Newsletter April-May 2019, pages 6-8:

Large Bulletins, 6th Place, Rosina Echols, Editor, *Rocky Echoes*, Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS. Honorable Mention, Madelyn Anderson, Editor, *Ozark Earth Science Club News,* Ozark Earth Science Club, MWFMS.

Small Bulletins, 2nd Place, Nancy Roberts Editor, *The Nugget,* North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS.

Special Publications, 9th Place, Beverly Pettigrew Kraft, "MGMS 59th Annual Show is February 25-27", Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS

Original Adult Articles, 1st Place, Nancy Roberts, "Safety: Be Prepared", *The Nugget,* North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS. 10th Place, Nikki Kenney, "Credit Cards- Void Them and Save Them", *The Nugget*, North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS. Honorable Mention, Paul Gunther, "A Week at William Holland", *The Nugget*, North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS.

Junior Article Under 12, 3rd Place, Sophie Gunther, "Believe It or Not, I Found shark Teeth", *The Nugget*, North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS. 4th Place, Walter Atkinson, "My Day at the Museum", *The Nugget*, North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS.

Written Feature, 3rd Place, Nikki Kenney, "Easy Peasy Ear Wires", *The Nugget*, North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS. 4th Place, Clarice Turner, "Copper Etching is Fun and Fetching", *The Nugget*, North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS.

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.

NMGMS Meeting Minutes:

NMGMS April 6, 2019 Board meeting minutes: Submitted by Paul Gunther

1. Approved the February 9, 2019 board meeting minutes as printed in the March newsletter.
2. Treasurer's report for March was given by Rachael Hill.
3. March expenses: Our SFMS insurance renewal, $322; PO Box renewal, $92.00; case of butane canisters, $25.99.
4. Our 2018 990-N IRS tax form has been filed and accepted.
5. The new capacitor did not fix the overheating problem with the Genie's motor. Board approved to take the motor to a shop for an estimate to see if it can be fixed.
6. We have sold a few raffle tickets so far, but need to promote it better.
7. Nancy said she is way behind on ordering books to donate to the library in memory of members who have passed away; one for the Wardlaws, as well as, Gary Law and Annette Kelly are needed.
8. Membership to date: 120
9. We need to reserve the large pavilion at Ballard Park for our annual picnic and rock swap in October. Date: Oct. 19th 1pm to close, cost should be $50.
10. Start money in the amount of $200 needed for Oren Dunn Geology Festival.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55pm.
Attendees: Nancy Roberts, Nikki Kenney, John Byzet, Paul Gunther, Rachael Hill, and Robert and Cheryle Langford

NMGMS Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Paul Gunther **Date: April 6, 2019**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Sydney Thornton and Nancy Roberts
Guests and new members are Amanda Reed, Mr. Fleury, and Deanna Boensch

We will have to have a motion to approve the March 16, 2019 meeting minutes next month, since the April Issue of The Nugget has not come out yet.

Treasurer's Report: Closing Balance as of 4/6/2019 was given by Rachael Hill.

Chairpersons' Reports:

Field Trips: The next NMGMS field trip will be the Rockheads' field trip and cookout at Twenty Mile Creek on Saturday, May 4th. Meet at the site **at 10a.m.** NMGMS will be going to the Alabama Gold Camp the weekend of May 25th and 26th. (See email and newsletter for details).

Publicity: (John Byzet) All members are encouraged to sell raffle tickets! We will hold the drawing at our May 18, 2019 meeting. You do not need to be present to win! The winner will get to select between the three prizes.

Membership: (Diana Watson) Reminder!) Members who have not renewed are now delinquent and will no longer be receiving email notices for field trips or workshops. Diana will be compiling the club's 2019 roster. We have 120 members to date.

Hospitality: Our hospitality committee would appreciate donations of plates, cups, napkins, and plastic ware for the refreshment table. Monetary donations are welcome.

Website: (Paul Gunther) Congratulations to Paul for his second place win in the SFMS Website competition! Check us out at www.nmgms.org

Newsletter: (Nancy Roberts) Robert Langford is going to take over as newsletter editor starting with the September issue of *The Nugget*. 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. Also, please submit any photos that you take at our events and meetings.

Minutes continued on page 12.

NMGMS Meeting Minutes cont'd:

NMGMS Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Paul Gunther **Date: April 6, 2019**

Youth Members: (Beth Thornton) The Rockheads are completing the Earth in Space badge and will work on the gold badge next.

Historian: (Rebecca Vallarian) If you have any 2018 or 2019 club memorabilia please give it to Rebecca.

Geology Fest and Fossil Road Show: (Nancy Roberts, John Byzet, and Rebecca Vallarian) We will have a "bake sale" table at this event, so please consider baking cookies, brownies, or other sweets that will hold up without refrigeration and are easy to dispense. Wrap the cookies, brownies, cupcakes, or cake slices in plastic wrap ahead of time please. We will be preparing lunches for the workers and vendors that day.

Safety & Lapidary Workshop Chairman: (Mike Schuchs) Jim Roberts and Paul Gunther will be in charge of the lapidary workroom. If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions about the room or equipment, see either of them. The Genie machine is "out of Order" at present, so we will not be hosting cabbing demos at the Geology Fest.

Old Business:

1. Gem Trees: Hope Spencer, Krista Williamson,and Julia Lunches: Barbara Burleson and Ann Byzet

Ticket/grab bag sales: Rachael Hill and Ann and John Byzet Fossil Rubbings: Rebecca Vallarian and Jim Roberts

Spin and Win: Barbara Burleson and Dawson Jenkins Bean Bag Toss: Hunter, Levi, and Diana Watson

Fishing Game: Gene, Justin, Sydney, and Amelia Thornton Fossil Dig: Reece Hill, Liam Langford, and Keith Hill

Face painting: Cassandra Carr and Vicky Langford Stretch Bracelets: Laney Hill, Maya Spencer, and Beth Thornton

Jewelry Demos: Nikki Kenney and Cheryle Langford Bake Sale: Linda Blackmon and Kathy Thornton

Flint Knapping Demos: Randy Burleson and Alex Rogers Fluorescent Minerals: Mike Schuchs

We dropped the fluorescent mineral display, and Mike Schuchs volunteered to help at the stretch bracelet table.

Note: Will need someone to take over the spin and win when Barbara goes to make the lunches. Diana Watson will help. We also need someone to help Krista with the gemtrees since Hope can't make it until after 12:30pm. Need someone to help take Ann's place with tickets sales when she goes to do lunches.

We will set up as much as we can on Friday, April 12th. Volunteers to help on Friday: Jim Roberts, Barbara Burleson, Gene Thornton, and John and Ann Byzet. Members manning the event need to be at the museum no later than 9am on Saturday, April 13th. Come earlier, if you can, to help with any final setups. Museum opens at 8a.m.

2. **We need 3 easy-ups.** The club has one; can anyone loan us two for the one day at the museum? We do have an inside, rainy day setup plan.

3. NMGMS will set up as an exhibitor at the Memphis rock and gem show the weekend of April 27th and 28th. 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. A list of the club volunteers to work our exhibit needs to be turned in to MAGS by April 15th so exhibitor passes can be made up. If you're not on the list, you'll have to pay to get in.

Volunteers for the MAGS show are: Saturday, April 27th, Jim and Nancy Roberts, Bob and Nikki Kenney, and Cheryle and Robert Langford; Sunday, April 28th, Jim and Nancy Roberts and Cheryle and Robert Langford.

Minutes continued on page 13.

NMGMS Meeting Minutes cont'd:

NMGMS Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Paul Gunther **Date: April 6, 2019**

New Business:

1. The lapidary workshop room will be open on Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 1pm. Jim Roberts and Paul Gunther will be there.

2. The museum display will be taken down on Tuesday, April 23rd. Loaned specimens will be returned at the May 18th meeting. Nikki Kenney, Rebecca Vallarian, and Randy Burleson are to help with the take down.

3. The May meeting will be on **May 18, 2019** at the Tupelo library from **1 to 3p.m.** Program will be on caves, presented by Dr. Jennifer Gifford, of the University of Mississippi Geology Department.

4. There will be a cold connections "tabset" pendant metalsmithing workshop at the Link Centre in Tupelo on **Saturday, May 11th,** upstairs in the conference room from **10a.m. until 4p.m.** You will be using a jeweler's saw. The class is limited to 10 students (NMGMS has 10 saws and bench pins, but you are welcome to bring your own, if you have one), so sign up early. The **$20** class fee includes all materials and use of the tools. (See the April Nugget for details)

Adjourned at 1:34pm

2019 Fossil Road Show & Geology Fest: A Few More Photos

Photos by Rae Mathis Pounds, Nancy Roberts, and Barbara Burleson

Safety Tip! HINT FOR THE FIELD

Bugs do not like the smell of oranges. Peel and eat an orange, but save the peel. Squeeze and rub the peel on your skin. The oil of oranges acts much like the oil of citronella. This is effective on bees, black flies, mosquitoes, and wasps. Do not use bananas as their odor is sweet and attracts these insects. Editor's Note: Be sure you're not allergic to oranges!

Sources: Lowcountry Diggings, May 2019, Hound's Howl, 7-9/2006; via Rock Buster News, 6/2006; and others.

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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 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 became a non-profit corporation in December of 2013. 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.