

# GOLDEN NUGGET

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds,

We are six months away from the 2023 Gem Show to be held December 1-3, 2023. Our contracts have been mailed out to all of our dealers who have shown interest in returning to our show this year. We have a full waiting list of potential dealers anxious to have a space at our show. We already have new dealers reaching out to us asking about tables. It takes everyone in our club working together to pull off this show and we all need each other to help.



In the May 2023 edition of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies newsletter, the AFMS President Cheryl Neary brought up an interesting point about why people join clubs and organizations. The reason many people join a club is that it allows you to meet new people who live and work in the same general area as yourself and share similar interests. A club allows us to make new friends who enjoy the same interests. Many club members begin talking about subject or participating in a field trip or club activity and then find out you have more in common than just rocks. A relationship with a new friend is started. When Ms. Candy and myself joined our Gem Club several years ago it was to make new friends and to earn some continuing education credits for my Geology license. I am glad that we joined our club and made some lifelong friends. I hope all our club members are making new friends in our club.

As posted the last couple of months, the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies has announced their Federation workshop weeks at William Holland and Wild Acres lapidary resorts. Our club sponsors a scholarship for one lucky club member to attend based on one’s service to the club. After reviewing all the entries, Ms. Magnolia Brown had her name drawn from the pool and is awarded the scholarship.

We will have our regular club meeting on June 20, 2023 at the Crump Community Center for our regularly scheduled meeting on the third Tuesday of the month.

Chris Rutherford, President [chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com](mailto:chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com)



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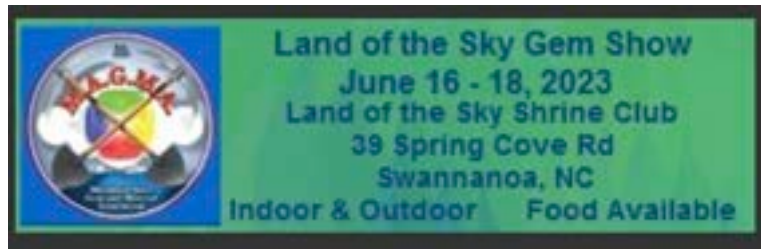


## Program Director

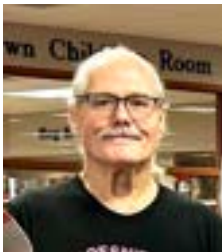
Our program for our June meeting will be  
ROCK BINGO!

Bring some PRIZE worthy ROCKS for us to  
WIN!

Clare



## Secretary's May Minutes



The meeting was called to order by president Chris Rutherford. There were no guests present.

The April minutes were approved as published in the newsletter. Iris delivered the treasurers report and acknowledged a 2000 dollar deposit to the general fund from the show proceeds.

Leslie is still available for the shop if you call ahead at least a couple of days.

Deposit for Garrett Coliseum has been made. Notification to all repeat vendors has been made and an alternate waiting list is being established. There will be an admission increase to 2 dollars per person, with school age individuals receiving free admission.

Dates for this year's show are November 30th for vendors dinner, with the show to run December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

Everyone who attended the April 1st Hogg mine trip had a good time and most went home with at least 1 huge quartz yard rock.

The field trip to Barclay property will be held in conjunction with our Dixie Minerals Council event. Date is most likely September 30th or October 7th. A large turnout is expected.

If anyone has ideas for a field trip please let Chris know. We are in need of a field trip chairman.

Claire Weil recently attended a class at William Holland school on silversmithing using silver alloy argentium and gave a presentation on its properties versus sterling silver. Sterling is 92.5% silver, most often alloyed with copper. Argentium is 93.5% silver and employs germanium. It was mainly the creation of Peter Johns working at Middlesex University in England. Advantages are that it tarnishes less readily, does not produce a firescale when soldering, and is fusible to itself. Disadvantages are a slightly higher cost and it requires a more delicate touch when soldering. Claire shared some examples of her work and passed some of the argentium sheet for examination. After viewing a couple of videos on the subject, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, David Sherrod



## SHOP DAY

On Saturday, June 3, club members met at our shop to learn how to cut rocks, make cabochons and polish their finds! A good time was had by all!



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Check out classes offered at William Holland! Look over the class schedule on <https://www.sfmsworkshops.org/william-holland-classes>

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Don't forget to check our our Facebook page and Website!





## BOARD MEMBERS

President: Chris Rutherford 334.372.2507 [president@mgms.club](mailto:president@mgms.club)  
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We are a member of the Southeast Federation Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Check out their Facebook page!



We are also a member of the American Federation Mineralogical Societies.



Do you like to explore?  
Do you enjoy finding new spots to rockhound?  
**WE NEED A NEW FIELD TRIP CHAIR!**  
Let us know if you're INTERESTED!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**6/24/2023** —APOPKA, FL: Wekiva Gem & Mineral Society; 1937 Lakeville Rd., Apopka, FL 32712; 9am-4pm. Rock Clubs and Individuals are invited to set up and buy, sell and swap anything that is LAPIDARY related! Everything from slabs, rough, specimens, polished stones, finished cabochons, handmade jewelry, to tools and lapidary equipment can be swapped sold or purchased! \$25 per 10x20 space. More info at [Wekivagem.com](http://Wekivagem.com).

**9/1-3/2023** —IRONDALE, AL: Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society; NEW VENUE! Irondale Civic Center (former Zamora Shrine Temple), 3521 Ratliff Rd., Irondale, AL 35210; Friday & Saturday, 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. Adults: \$5; Teens: \$3; 12 & under: FREE. More info: [amlsgemshow@gmail.com](mailto:amlsgemshow@gmail.com); <https://www.facebook.com/events/1307348173327314/>

**10/20-22/2023**—KNOXVILLE, TN: The Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society; Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923, Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5; The Gem Show is open to the public and has an admission fee of \$8 a day for adults or \$15 for the whole show; children under 12 are admitted free. Website <http://www.knoxrocks.org/gem-show/>

**10/21-22/2023** SAINT LUCIE, FL: St Lucie Rock & Gem Club 46th Annual Club Show, MidFlorida Event Center, 9221 SE Event Center Pl, St. Lucie, FL 34952: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission \$5. **We will be hosting the SFMS Annual Meeting.** [www.slcrockandgem.org](http://www.slcrockandgem.org)

**10/21-22/2023** CHALRESTON, WV: Kanawha Rock & Gem Club, South Charleston Community Center 601 Jefferson Road South Charleston WV 25309. October 21 & 22, 2023 Saturday 10AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—4PM. Admission \$2, Military & Children under 12 are FREE. <https://facebook.com/Kanawha-Rock-and-Gem-Club-222696581100304/>





## **AFMS Code of Ethics**

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "Image" of Rockhounds everywhere



Do you have ideas for our newsletter?

Do you have suggestions as to what YOU would like to see in our newsletter?

Then email me!

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