



Golden Nugget

Inside this issue:

Page 1

Presidents Message

Page 2

Minutes from July's
Meeting

August Birthday's

Pages 3

Detailed Info August's
Field Trip

Pages 4

Board Members
& Social Media Info

President's Message

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds,

Our next club meeting is set for Tuesday August 16, 2022 at 7:00 pm. We will be meeting at the Crump Community Center in our regular meeting room. This month we will have Club Member, Gary Chinberg give us a presentation on the Crystal Mines of Western Arkansas. Hopefully Gary will have lots of nice specimens and door prizes for our meeting.

On Saturday, August 20, 2022 the club will have a collecting field trip at Club Member Mel Barkley's farm in Macon County. We will meet at Mel's' cabin, take a tractor and wagon ride down to Uphapee Creek, and then wade up and down the creek for a couple of hours collecting carnelian, fossilized tree specimens, and any other cool rocks you have to have. Please take you a couple of five-gallon buckets. We ask everyone to please RSVP so we have enough food for all who attend. Additional information about the trip is in a separate article in this edition of our newsletter.

For our September club meeting, James Lowery with the Wetumpka Impact Crater will return to our club and give us a presentation on the Historic Birmingham Mineral Railroad Project. Birmingham has a unique history that's based on the surrounding geology that has fuel the steel industry there for well over a hundred years. In the Birmingham area, the primary ingredients that comprise the steel industry: coal, limestone, and iron ore are all found in close proximity and easily accessible. A fourth mineral (granite) is also nearby and helped construct the railroads that tied all the other industries together. If there is enough interest after the presentation, we will research a field trip to the Birmingham area to view the Vulcan statue and other important geologic features of the Magic City.

The Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society (Birmingham Gem Club) is holding their annual Gem Show Labor Day weekend (Sept. 2-3, 2022) at the Bessemer Civic Center. Adults are \$5, teens \$3, and 12 and under are free.

Our Gem Show is just four months way and we are making great progress for the show. We have approximately 29 dealers signed up already and we have over 175 tables booked. Our floor space is filled out and we have several new dealers attending the show this year. Check back soon for more details and opportunities to volunteer for the show.

As always, please bring in some door prizes for our monthly meeting, the more prizes offered, the more opportunities to win.

Chris Rutherford, President

chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com

Minutes from the July Meeting

The meeting was called to order by president, Chris Rutherford.

Iris updated the treasurers' report.

David gave a shop report and stated the roof had been worked on, the air conditioners were in place, and the 10 inch trim saw had a new blade.

The trip to Marianna, FL caverns was called off due to lack of member interest.

The annual trip to Mel Barclays' cabin is on for August 20th. We need a head count at the next meeting to know how many to prepare for.

David will be at the shop Saturday July 23rd for a rock and mineral ID for anyone interested.

Levan noted the B'ham club was having a rock swap July 31st at the workshop in Leeds and to see him for details. The B'ham club is also having their annual Gem and Mineral Show at the Bessemer Civic Center the Labor Day weekend.

Toni Bruner, currently with Legacy Partners Environmental Education gave an excellent presentation on the karst geology of Alabama covering caves, sinkholes, and underground springs. Toni has 17 years experience as a caver and shared her extensive knowledge with all things related to subterranean Alabama. She covered the numerous sites, types of formations, historic significance, and wildlife associated with these natural treasures. There was a question and answer session and members got to examine some of the artifacts she brought.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Secretary, David Sherrrod



August Birthdays!

*May your Birthday be filled with more Love, Joy
and Laughter than your Heart Can Hold!*

*Seth Lauritson 14th, Minnie Jerido 16th
Ann Connelly and Laura Ann Rutherford 20th
Paul Sadler 24th, Bob Weisber 31st*

.....



MGMS Field Trip Memo

Mel Barkley Farm, Macon County, Alabama

Uphapee Creek Collecting Trip – Saturday August 20, 2022 – 10:00 am

The Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society is pleased to announce the details for our Summer 2022 collecting field trip to Mel's, located at 1847 Wire Road, Tuskegee, Alabama.

From Interstate I-85, take exit #42 onto State Road 186 and then immediately turn right onto County Road 53. Proceed approximately 1.5 miles and turn right onto a dirt road where there should be a mailbox with balloons or flags on it. Please proceed through a couple of gates to the end of the dirt road at Mel's cabin. The latitude/longitude is 32.47374, -85.66155 to Mel's cabin if you want to plug that into your GPS.

We ask everyone that is attending to be there by 10:00 am. We will load up on a wagon and travel down to the Uphapee Creek where you can wade up and down the creek collecting various fossilized tree fern specimens, red carnelian quartz, and other interesting rocks you encounter. Please bring appropriate shoes and clothes to wade in a creek. As far as tools, you won't need a lot besides a couple of buckets, raking tool, and maybe something to help you wade in the creek. And don't forget that sunscreen!!!

We will stay at the Creek for a couple of hours and then return to the cabin for a meal of hotdogs, chips, and drinks provided by the club. We ask that everyone who plans on attending please RSVP through an email, phone call, Facebook or club website page so we can get a head count on the amount of food to bring. And if you want to bring some food, drinks, desserts, bottled water, please feel free to do so, it would be very much appreciated.

The Barkley Farm sits in a unique geologic location in Alabama. It is located at the approximate boundary of the Inner Piedmont Belt from the Paleozoic Era (some of the oldest rock formations in the Alabama) and the Gulf Coastal Plains of the Mesozoic Era (some of the youngest rock formations in Alabama). The age difference in the rocks found here at the creek intersection where we will be collecting at is 300 million years.

*Tuesday, 16 August at 6:30pm Board Meeting followed at 7:00 by our Membership Meeting. We will be meeting at the Crump Center located at 1751 Cong. W.L. Dickinson Drive, Montgomery 36107, but you can better access the entrance from Coliseum Boulevard. Please remember to enter through the back door and we are in the first room on the left.

Board Members 2022

*President: Chris Rutherford (334) 372-2507 president@mgms.club
*1st Vice President / Programs: OPEN
*2nd Vice President / Field Trips: Jim Gaines (334) 517-4566 gaines46@msn.com
*Secretary: David Sherrod (334) 201-4460 dsher355@att.net
*Treasurer: Iris McGehee (334) 262-2197 irismcgehee2433@charter.net
*Newsletter Editor: Cyn Wilson (334) 322-5897 rockingw@htcnet.net or goldennugget@mgms.club
*Webmaster: Frankie Boothman (334) 590-1222 webmaster@mgms.club
*Director/Shop POC: Leslie Amato (334) 324-7997 lgmato@yahoo.com
*Junior Rockhound Rep. OPEN
Gem Mineral & Jewelry Show
*GM&J Show Dir: Frankie Boothman (334) 590-1222 spacetechnode@gmail.com
*GM&J Show Contact Chair: Chris Rutherford (334)372-2507 gemshow@mgms.club
*GM&J Show Treasurer: Violet Jones (334) 354-8795 violetfbjones2013@gmail.com
*GM&J Show Publicity: Candace Rutherford (334) 467-50650 publicity@mgms.club
*Committee Co-Chairs: Sabrina Hammond (334) 452-6298 sabrinahammond1@gmail.com
Greg Athey (334) 303-2051 gsa11459@gmail.com

**Deadline for our September Newsletter is: Friday, September 9th*

**Our September Club Meeting is Tuesday, September 20th*

**Check out our new Web Site!!! <http://www.mgms.club>*

Webmaster: Frankie Boothman webmaster@mgms.club

And like us on Facebook!!! <http://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryGemClub>