



# Golden Nugget

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## President's Message

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds,

Welcome back, we are off to an exciting start for the Montgomery Gem and Mineral Club. We are kicking the year off with a Shop Club Clean-up Day set for 10:00 am Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Shop is located at 2433 Upper Wetumpka Road, Montgomery, AL 36054 (Ms Iris McGhee's home). We will clean up the shop, service the lapidary equipment, and clean out some of the old rocks and specimens. So please plan on attending. It should only take us a couple of hours, and everyone who comes to help will be able to take home a rock.

Looking back at past activities, this is the time of the year we were usually getting ready for the Wetumpka Impact Crater Tour. However, since March 2020 the Crater Commission has postponed their annual tour of the Crater. I am reaching out to see if they will come and give a talk to our Club for our March Meeting.

I am scheduling a club field trip to the Hogg Mine in LaGrange Georgia for March 2022. We can collect all the rose quartz we want to carry out of the quarry, some small tourmaline and a few remnant pieces of the beryl and aquamarine that was commercially mined several years ago. Tentatively we are looking at March 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>. Go to their website [www.hoggmine.com](http://www.hoggmine.com) for more information. The fee is \$35 for adults, 16 and under free.

The Dothan gem Club has their annual Gem Show at the Peanut Festival grounds on March 12 and 13, 2022.

Our next club meeting is set for Tuesday February 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm. We will be meeting at the Crump Community Center in our regular meeting room. For our new members it's located at 1751 Cong. W.L. Dickinson Drive, Montgomery 36107, but you can better access the entrance from Coliseum Boulevard. Please enter through the back door and it's the first room on your left. We will have a program called 5 Rocks, we are asking everyone to bring 5 Rocks from their collection and be able to discuss about what makes them special, why you collected this rock or just ask for help to identify what type of rock you have.

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

Everyone is encouraged to bring a rock specimen, work of art, big yard rock, etc. for display.

Please be sure to attend, it will be great to see you all again!

Chris Rutherford, President

[chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com](mailto:chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com)

Minutes from the January 18, 2022 Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Rutherford who welcomed our guest and sent out a special thank you to all the members that contributed to making the 2021 Gem and Mineral show a great success.

Iris delivered the treasurers report and it was submitted to the secretary for filing.

Violet gave an update on the 2021 Gem & Mineral Show and stated that it was one of the more successful endeavors we've had.

Frankie is doing a relaunch of the website that will hopefully be functional March 22nd. The new address is MGMS.com.

A workshop clean-up day was scheduled for January 29th if weather permits. Otherwise a makeup day of February 5th is in the works.

The next club meeting is February 15th and everyone was invited to bring 5 minerals or rocks to share or attempt to have identified.

A trip to Hogg Mine is planned for March, more information will be available at the next session.

April is also the Sylacauga Marble Festival kickoff.

Dothan is having their Gem and Mineral show at the weekend of March 12th and 13th.

Jane and Mel Barkley were awarded a lifetime membership to the club as voting on by attending members.

Chris gave pictorial presentation of previous highlights from club events and discussed future plans and trips that might be of interest.

The meeting was then adjourned.

David Sherrod, Secretary     [dsher355@att.net](mailto:dsher355@att.net)



*February Birthdays*

*Happy Birthday to Our Amazing Members  
May your Special Day be filled with more Laughter,  
Love and Happiness than your Heart can Hold!*

*Stephanie Greene-9<sup>th</sup>, Chris Rutherford-10<sup>th</sup>,  
Gary Chinberg-12<sup>th</sup> and Gary Belmont-14<sup>th</sup>*

*A Few Things to Look Forward to in 2022...*

\* Shop Club Clean-up Day set for 10:00 am Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Shop is located at 2433 Upper Wetumpka Road, Montgomery, AL 36054 (MS Iris McGhee's home). We will clean up the shop, service the lapidary equipment, and clean out some of the old rocks and specimens. The more Club Members who volunteer, the lighter the work load for everyone and the sooner we will be finished! So please plan to come on out and help make Our Shop a Clean and Safe Environment for Our Members to work, take classes and practice their craft. Hope to see you there!

\* Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> is our Club Meeting, the board meets at 6:30pm and our membership meeting begins at 7:00pm at the Crump Community Center. Please enter through the back doors and we are in the 1<sup>st</sup> room to the left as you enter. Our February Program is "FIVE ROCKS". We are asking each Member to bring 5 rocks from their collection to share with one another. Example...Tell us about the rocks you chose. What is the name of the rock, where did you find the rock, what made you choose this particular rock to add to your collection...etc. And if you are not sure what type of rock you have, there is always a member available to help you identify your rock. Me...when I draw a blank...I get creative and say..."it's a beautiful green rock with flashes of silver and her name is Gwen"...But then...I had a stroke almost 6 years ago so it's not uncommon for me to forget their names...LOL. But hey...I still love ROCKS and you can find me with a few in my pockets, my truck, my camper... Oh, and speaking of rocks...that reminds me...it's never too early to bring in your donations for this year's grab bags For the Wheel of Fortune! We will need approximately 75lbs of stones to fill the grab bags!

\* Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> is our Club Meeting, the board will meet at 6:30pm and our membership meeting begins at 7:00pm at the Crump Community Center. Please enter through the back doors and we are in the 1<sup>st</sup> room to the left as you enter.

\* Chris Rutherford is reaching out to see if a representative from the Wetumpka Impact Crater Tour will be available to come out to speak to our Club during our March Meeting. The Crater Commission has postponed their annual tour on the Crater since March of 2020.

\* Chris Rutherford is in the process of scheduling a Club Field Trip to the Hogg Mine in LaGrange Georgia for March 2022. We are tentatively looking at March 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> to make the trip. Go to their website [www.hoggmine.com](http://www.hoggmine.com) for more information. The fee is \$35 for adults, 16 and under free. This is a great way to spend the day digging with the whole family!

\* The Dothan Gem Club has their annual Gem Show at the Peanut Festival grounds on March 12 and 13, 2022. If you get the chance to go, please do...it is always nice to support our fellow Clubs when possible.

\* The Sylacauga Marble Festival kicks off April on April 5<sup>th</sup> and runs through April 16<sup>th</sup>. If you have never been you may want to attend. Perhaps take a tour of the Mine, gather some pieces of marble. Stroll through the Festival booths and don't forget to check out the Marble Carvers! This is another fun trip for the whole family!

\* Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> is our Club Meeting. The board will meet at 6:30pm and our membership meeting begins at 7:00pm at the Crump Community Center. Mr. John Gaston from the Birmingham Club will do a presentation on Mineral Identification. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

*Board Members 2022*

President: Chris Rutherford (334) 372-2507 [chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com](mailto:chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com)

1 st Vice President / Programs: **OPEN**

2 nd Vice President / Field Trips: Jim Gaines (334) 517-4566 [gaines46@msn.com](mailto:gaines46@msn.com)

Secretary: David Sherrod (334) 201-4460 [dsher355@att.net](mailto:dsher355@att.net)

Treasurer: Iris McGehee (334) 262-2197 [irismcgehee2433@charter.net](mailto:irismcgehee2433@charter.net)

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Director/Shop POC: Leslie Amato (334) 324-7997 [lgmato@yahoo.com](mailto:lgmato@yahoo.com)

Junior Rockhound Rep. **OPEN**

*52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show*

Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show: Dir. Frankie Boothman (334) 590-1222 [spacetechdude@gmail.com](mailto:spacetechdude@gmail.com)

Committee Co-Chairs: Sabrina Hammond (334) 452-6298 [sabrinahammond1@gmail.com](mailto:sabrinahammond1@gmail.com)

Greg Athey (334) 303-2051 [gsa11459@gmail.com](mailto:gsa11459@gmail.com)

GM&J Show Treasurer: Violet Jones (334) 354-8795 [violetfbjones2013@gmail.com](mailto:violetfbjones2013@gmail.com)

GM&J Show Publicity: Candace Rutherford (334) 467-50650 [alcandyutherford@gmail.com](mailto:alcandyutherford@gmail.com)

E-Mail: your Golden Nugget submissions to: [rockingw@htcnet.net](mailto:rockingw@htcnet.net) (Members are encouraged to submit news, updates, articles, photos and personal adventure stories to the e-mail address above). This is after all **YOUR** newsletter, tell us something about **YOU!!!**

*Please send in your submissions for then March Newsletter by March 8<sup>th</sup>*

Website: <http://www.montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryGemClub> Facebook: If you are on Facebook, like our page. If you are not on Facebook you can still view our page by going to <http://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryGemClub>