

The Nugget



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

April 15, 2013 Volume 13 Issue 1

What a great birthday NMGMS had last month! We celebrated the close of our twelfth year with a really nice, very well attended meeting and lots of interesting displays presented by the membership; not to mention all of the wonderful refreshments and the fantastic "NMGMS" cake that looked too awesome to eat! There were even quite a few guests, who had such a good time that they signed up right then and there! A big "THANK YOU" goes to all who brought something to display and to everyone who participated in the Brown Bag auction. It was lots of fun and we had quite a few nice surprises!

I always enjoy looking over all of the interesting items that are set out for viewing at our birthday meeting, especially those presented by the junior members. It looked like our club field trips had provided some excellent opportunities for collecting over the past year. Some of the displays were a little "thinner" this time, because many of us still have specimens and lapidary items on loan at the Oren Dunn Museum in Tupelo. Speaking of which, if you haven't been over there to see our club display, please make an effort to go and see it. It is well worth the trip and we will be taking it down after April. A portion of that setup will be taken over to the Tupelo library, to be placed on display there for the summer.

I'd like to take a few moments to mention how proud I am of our junior members. They have all worked very hard at making their group a very viable part of NMGMS and have shown how capable they are in every aspect of our organization. They all help out and participate in our club meetings, field trips and other club events. Many of them worked very hard alongside of the adults during our Geology Day at the museum, and some even attend our beading workshops! They have been actively pursuing the Future Rockhounds of America program sponsored by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and this was very evident at our March meeting when youth leader, Jim Roberts, was able to present quite a few of the FRA badges to the Rockheads present. Way to go Rockheads! Having an active junior group within NMGMS was one of the goals set by the original founding members, so I know we are all very pleased to note that this was accomplished and the Rockheads are continuing to grow as we add new family memberships over the years. The Rockheads are planning, all on their own by the way, a May field trip to Twenty Mile Creek on May 4th, so let's all come out and show our support.

NANCY ROBERTS



Nancy. Working. She knew I'd use this.
No idea who took it. THAT subject will be in Editor's Note.
I hate to be predictable....but come on.
The title picture is drussy from the museum Nancy tells us about in the Old Bones section.
So I know who took the title photo-Captain Jim Roberts (his super hero ID is Captain Mysterious. The challenge to get a full face shot with his cooperation-in the editor's opinion blackmail may be used.
Editor likes the idea of evil plans...but not carried out plans. So don't go that way. Guessing asking with a good reason might work. What is the prize? A surprize.)



Nugget
Deadline
The absolute deadline is High Noon on the Second Friday of every month, to come out the following Monday.
Already ignored. Control Editor!

Deadline
The deadline for submissions for
May 13, 2013
Edition will be
May 10, 2013

NMGMS

Meeting Minutes



Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given by Nancy Roberts, Andrew Diaz and Liam and Victoria Langford

Introduction of guests and new members: Michelle and Willow Crosby, John Stanford, Marla Elmore, James Carol Pettigrew, Carroll Pettigrew, Cory Thomas, and Donna Dooley.

Approval of the January and February minutes as printed in the February and March Nuggets were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Closing Balance as of Friday, March 15th \$ 2270.21

REVIEW OF COMMITTEE'S

Field Trips:

The April field trip is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th to the old Robertson Lime pit on Hwy 47 in Trebloc, MS. The group will meet at the lime pit at 9a.m. (see email or handout for directions)

Publicity: (Bob Reinhaus) The club had great TV coverage of our Feb. 16th Geology Day at the Oren Dunn Museum. There have been many requests to speak at meetings, schools and summer camps already!

Membership: (Ann Byzet). Dues are overdue! Since the first of the year at least 10 new members and the 2013 membership roster was distributed to the group. All memberships that haven't been renewed will be removed from the email list. So if you haven't renewed yet, please do so ASAP. All of our members are important and we want to keep everyone on the email list! **DUES ARE \$12 PER PERSON AND \$20 PER FAMILY** Ann Byzet has "new member" packets available and club patches are available for \$2 each.

Hospitality: Refreshments: April: Nancy Roberts and Robert Diaz May: Belinda Loyd
Additional volunteer needed for May.

Website: (John Byzet) Website has been updated and paid up for the next 6 months.... Check us out at www.nmgms.org

Newsletter: (Dana Jones) Club President Nancy Roberts submitted the December issue of The Nugget and several articles to the 2013 SFMS Bulletin competition. Members are asked to send article for publishing. Each issue of the Nugget needs a meeting program review and a field trip and/or workshop review included. It was requested that members attending club events consider submitting their thoughts, comments and/or critiques. **Remember to please send anything that is for the newsletter to Dana's email at: nuggeteditor@gmail.com**

Youth Members: (Dana Jones and Jim Roberts) Volunteers: David Loyd
The Rockheads are working extremely hard on their FRA badge requirements and have completed many of them. The floor was turned over to Jim Roberts for acknowledging their accomplishments. Robin and Victoria Langford along with Andrew Diaz received several badges each.

Stamps: (Kathy Westbrook) Members are encouraged to save stamps, by cutting them off of the envelope and leaving a half inch margin of paper around the stamp if possible.

Historian: (Shirley Randel) Shirley Randel is the new NMGMS historian. Everyone should continue to collect any 2013 club related photos, newspaper articles, show flyers or other memorabilia.

If you take photos at any NMGMS event, please print out a few hard copies to submit to Shirley for the yearbook.

Show/Kids Day: (Roger Loyd, Bob Reinhaus, John Byzet and Robert Langford)

Our Geology Day at the museum was a huge success. There were 450 attending the event and the club made approximately \$400. The museum has requested that we do it again! By a unanimous board decision, we purchased the spin and win spinner for \$150! All of the grab bags were sold and all of the material for the fishing game was used. Activity supplies will need to be replenished before the clubs next event.

Safety: (David Loyd)

******* Please be sure to sign a liability release waiver, if you have not yet done so.**

Information received from the insurance representative regarding the liability waivers re-enforced the decision that all members must have a release waiver on file and all invited guests on field trips must sign a waiver.

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Mark Your Calendar

April 20, 2013

Tupelo Library 1-3 p.m.
"Amazing Family of Quartz" Myra Soroczak

HEAR YE, HEAR YE! (aka Announcements)

May 18, 2013 Resin Encasing
Tupelo Library by Nancy
1-3p.m. Phillips
Program
Lampwork Refreshments:
Basics by Belinda Lloyd/
Dana and Mechelle
Remy Jones. Crosby

OLD BUSINESS:

The Oren Dunn Museum display will run until the end of April. Glenn Klein's book "Faceting History: Cutting Diamonds & Colored Stones" will be donated to the library in Bill Hawkins' memory. A bird book, to be determined, will also be donated in his memory.

The group was reminded of the NMGMS Geology Merit Badge class scheduled for March 23rd at the Oren Dunn Museum. Robert Langford and Justin Hobart volunteered to teach this class. The class fee is \$5, and a rock kit is provided along with a worksheet.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Byzet, Robert Langford and Roger Lambert met in February with a school group of about 60 students touring the club display at the Oren Dunn City Museum. Each member presented on minerals, geology and fossils. Janice Anthony, museum curator, has asked if we can be available for three more scheduled class tours the summer camp program. The dates are:

Wednesday, April 3, 9 to 11:30 - School Group

Volunteers: John & Ann Byzet/Roger Lambert

Friday, April 12, 9 to 11 - School Group.

Tuesday, April 16, 9 to 11 - School Group

ODCM Summer Camp Program

Volunteers: David Loyd

Tuesday, June 11, from 9: 30 to 11:30

John & Ann Byzet

Tupelo Summer Camp Program

"Dig Into Reading"

Friday, July 12

Volunteers: Roger Lambert

Monday, July 15 – Friday, July 19

Volunteers: needed

The set up will be the "sand box" rock and fossil "dig"

The Club has been invited back as an exhibitor at the MAGS Rock and Gem show April 27th and 28th; we will set up the club display/information table. David & Belinda Loyd have volunteered to assist for the two days event.

A beading workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd from 10:30 am until 4pm at the Women's Center located at 215 N. Gloster Street, Tupelo. We will be working with wire, chain, jump rings, beads, links and other findings to complete a multi-strand necklace. Most materials will be provided and the class kits are \$5. Bring a brown bag lunch.

The NMGMS board members are currently investigating the possibility of our organization applying to become an LLC for liability reasons. The application fee is \$50.00. Motion was made to approve and seconded to apply for the LLC distinction.

APPROVED



Members present were asked if the club would like to award a William Holland Scholarship this year and if so, to whom. The cost of the scholarship (approximately \$350) was discussed. It was decided to table the decision at this time. Marla Elmore has asked Nancy Roberts to speak at a Thursday Civitan Luncheon in Tupelo. The only date she is available is May 2nd. If anyone can help out with this contact Nancy Roberts. Topic: area geologic history; some show and tell and a little bit about NMGMS.

** Check out the library's display cases. Vicki Manning asked if we would set up a display there to run thru the summer months.

REMINDER

The April meeting will be at the Tupelo library on **April 20, 2013 from 1 to 3p.m.** Myra Soroczak will be doing a power point presentation on the "Members of the Quartz Family".

Motion to Adjourn.....



Billie G Wright

July 6, 1935 – April 10, 2013

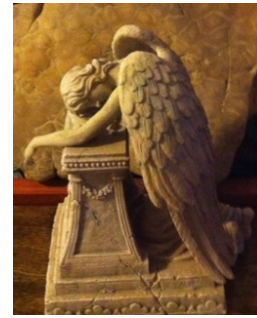
www.mgcmgs.org/ For those who may not know John and Billie Wright, they have been tremendous supporters of rock and gem groups throughout the Country. They worked tirelessly for many years on local levels, federation levels and national levels. Billie will be missed by many throughout the country. The mailing address for John and the family is 3304 Nottingham Road, Ocean Springs, MS 39564 for those who might like to send a card or condolences.

Mrs. Billie Garland Wright went to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ April 10, 2013. She was the first daughter born to Leland and Katharine Garland in Biloxi, Mississippi, July 6, 1935. She is survived by her beloved husband of 59 years, John M. Wright, five daughters, 17 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

Billie was a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Ocean Springs where she also sang in the choir for 35 years plus, served on the Worship Committee, on the Financial Committee, was a teacher in the adult Sunday School services, prepared communion, and was a Wedding Director. Her church was a huge part of her life. She is a Past Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star and a Past Matron of Adah Chapter #49, OES. Billie was a member and past President of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society. She was also a member of the Harrison County and Mobile Gem and Mineral Societies. She is a retired civil servant having worked 23 years for the USAF, most of the time at Keesler AFB with the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron (active duty unit).

Services will be Monday, April 15, 2013 at the First Presbyterian Church, 921 Ocean Ave., Ocean Springs, MS. Visitation will be between 5:00pm until 6:00pm, followed by a funeral at 6:00pm. A reception will immediately follow. Flowers can be sent to the First Presbyterian Church of Ocean Springs, MS or memorials can be made to Ochsner Clinic Foundation, Heart Transplant, 1514 Jefferson Hwy, Jefferson, LA 70121 or Alumni Development Records, Duke University, Box 90581, Durham, NC 27708.

Billie Wright is the wife of our NMGMS honorary member John Wright.



John Wright was the "divine one" in assisting us with the start up of NMGMS. I couldn't have accomplished so much in such a short amount of time to get us into the SFMS without his help. Billie had severe heart disease & was in an experimental cardiac program through Duke University. She was not a rock hound, but she was always by his side. Even going on our AL Garnet field trip that John led.

Floy Hawkins

APRIL 2013

April 27-28, 2013

Memphis, TN.

Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show
Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society
"The Earth Wide Open"
Memphis International Agricenter,
Expo Center, West Pavilion & A-wing 7777
Walnut Grove Rd. Memphis, TN
www.TheEarthWideOpen.com,
info@theearthwideopen.com.
Show Chair James Butchko 901 743-0058
Dealer Chair WC McDaniel 901-274-7706.

April 27-28, 2013

Dothan, AL

Dothan Gem and Mineral Club
James Grant Recreation Center
Westgate Park,
Contact Arnie Lambert 334-792-7116
alambert@comcast.net. See
www.wiregrassrockhounds.com

May 10, 11, 12, 2013

Franklin, NC

Show and Sale
Franklin Chamber of Commerce
Macon County Community Bldg
1288 Georgia Rd.; Fir 10-6
Contact Linda Harbuck
425 Porter St.
Franklin NC 28734
(828) 524-3161
lindah@franklinchamber.com
www.visitfranklin.com

June 1-2

Birmingham AL

Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society
40th Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry
Show
Tannehill Historical Ironworks Park
12632 Confederate Pkwy.
Mc Calla, AL. 35111.
Contact Gene Blackerby
geneblackerby@labidaryclub.com
(205) 807-6777. www.lapidaryclub.com

Rock Shows and the Like

Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig" Dates

- 8 am to 6 pm, Friday, April 26, 2013
- 8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, April 27, 2013
- 8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, April 28, 2013

"You are invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!"

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during April and October of 2013. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the Hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain. There will be several golf cart type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport.

The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks:

Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events. Contact Information: Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) - 706.359.3862 (business) or 706.401.3173 (cell) THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL SFMS CLUBS and the GENERAL PUBLIC!

Meeting Program



The meeting program was what else? A party. Also a brown bag auction and member displays.

There were mild battles over the bidding, awesome displays. And best of all, a birthday cake.

Bead Soup

A place to share knowledge about the lapidary arts.



Beadapalooza

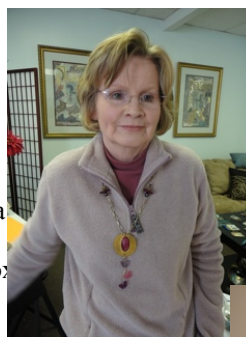
NMGMS was able to procure the Women's Center in Tupelo for a beading workshop on Saturday, March 23 and despite the threat of rain and thunder storms, we had a great afternoon. At this workshop, we were learning to work with wire and chain. We made our own jump rings, learned to make simple loops for eye pins and then wrapped loops for making beaded components and pendants, which we incorporated into our chain necklaces. Everyone in attendance got to make their very own creation using a combination of metals from copper, brass, gunmetal and silver. We all had fun watching each other experiment with different techniques, like making a wire spiral or doing some hammering to add texture and strength to a wire component. The absolute highlight of the day was the opening of a large box left for us by fellow NMGMS and beader Cathy Miller. Oh my gosh, we were in bead heaven! Cathy had left us a box full of old jewelry and beads from pieces she had been collecting for a long time. There was everything from vintage to mod, crafty to glamorous, far out to romantic; you name it, it was in there. We had a great time sorting thru and picking out things to use in our own pieces. What a delight! Talk about recycling! It was so very interesting to see what someone would choose and how they incorporated it into their design. Everyone went home with a "new" and unique necklace, plus Clarice Turner taught us how to make a simple wire wrapped ring. The afternoon ended way too soon and we all hated to have to pack those treasures back up. So, that box is anxiously waiting for the next workshop and we are too!

NANCY ROBERTS

Stuck on You

Here's a great tip for getting things unglued! At our March 23rd workshop, we got to "play" with a lot of old, vintage jewelry. Some of the components that we wanted to use in our "new" pieces, were glued onto old clip-on earring backs and were just too stubborn to remove by prying. I remembered a trick from the days when I used to polish cabs, and that was to put the piece in the freezer. So, we tried it and viola! It really works, effortlessly. The bead just popped off and the glue came off nice and cleanly! Give it a try.

NANCY ROBERTS





Old Bones

To share knowledge of fossil, gem, and mineral collecting and preparation.

A Most Incredible **NANCY**
Fluorite Collection **ROBERTS**



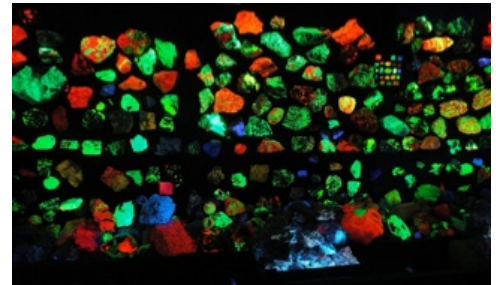
Over the Easter holiday, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to visit the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum in Marion, KY. This museum contains the personal collection of Mr. Clement, who worked as a geologist and operated several mines there in the KY/IL fluorspar mining district. There are literally thousands of specimens in this collection, nearly all of which come from the 5 counties (3 in KY and 2 in IL) that make up "the district". The specimens range from the very small to the very large, with many of them weighing several hundred pounds each!

Prior to 1873, the major minerals mined in the mining belt of Southern IL and KY, were lead and zinc. Shortly thereafter, industrial uses for fluorspar were recognized, and since then, this area has produced over 40% of the world's fluorspar needs. Fluorite is used in the production of steel, aluminum, chemicals, glass and nuclear processes. Besides zinc, lead and fluorspar, trace elements such as, silver, copper, cadmium and gallium have also been recovered in the district.

Of course, I was in rock hound heaven. I never saw so many outstanding pieces of fluorite all in one place. I wish I could have put one of those gigantic pieces in the car, but had to settle for a small specimen that I purchased in the gift shop. They have digs there thru out the year too, in conjunction with this museum, and a big rock and gem show in June. The museum curator told us that the present fluorite vein in the mine they use for the digs is about to play out, but they are hoping to be able to make contact with it again in another location.

I sure hope so!! On an interesting note, some of the digs are scheduled at night, since many of the fluorite minerals are fluorescent. The Columbia mine that they use for these night digs was partly owned by President Andrew Jackson back in 1836!

Upcoming digs for 2013 are scheduled for: May 11th, June 1st and 2nd (the show dates), July 6th, August 3rd, Sept. 7th and Oct. 5th. For more information about the show, or to register for one of these digs, go to www.clementmineralmuseum.org Plan to make a trip up to Marion, KY; it is well worth the drive!



Guess What This Is

**Summer is
Coming!!**

Please remember the summer issues!
For July- The Jackson Dome Volcano
Since the volcano was active during the
Cretaceous:

For August- Cretaceous Mississippi
Of course any idea is welcome.

Contact

nuggeteditor@gmail.com

Rockheads

"The fossil hunter does not kill, he resurrects."

G. G. Simpson

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

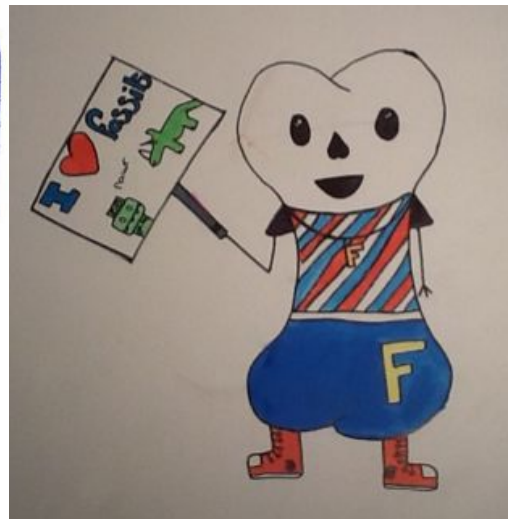
I truly thank all those that assisted in making this project become a reality.

MATTHEW LAMBERT

Matthew's Science Fair Roger Lambert



www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm



Any student in grades 7 - 12 that placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in their category at the Regional level qualified to participate in the Mississippi State Science and Engineering Fair, which was held at Jackson State University on March 26, 2013. Matthew had the honor of placing first in the Earth, Space and Environmental Science category while participating in the Region IV competition earlier in March, which made him eligible to participate.

Over 600 participants were entered to compete in the 2013 Mississippi State Science and Engineering Fair, 42 of which were in the Earth, Space and Environmental Science category. The judging began at 9AM and didn't end until well after 3PM.; a long and stressful day, that ended with Matthew placing second in state with this year's project, "Mississippi's Prehistoric Past as Revealed by Fossil Fish." A project that utilized fossilized fish otoliths in an attempt to recreate a portion of the ancient environment that existed over 70 million years ago.

The International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), the world's largest international pre-college science competition, provides a forum for more than 1,500 high school students from about 70 countries, regions, and territories to showcase their independent research as they compete for over \$3 million annually. The Intel ISEF is the premier global science competition for students in grades 9-12. Even though Matthew's placing is eligible to advance to the 2013 ISEF in Phoenix, AZ, his grade level in school made him ineligible.



Rockhead Officers

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Robin Langford

Secretary

Remy Collins

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Brittany Lambert

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David Lloyd

Notice to NMGMS Rockheads: On **Saturday May 4th, 2013**, the NMGMS Rockheads will sponsor a field trip to the famous Frankstown "Shark Teeth" Site, the W. M. Browning Cretaceous Fossil Park (the Site), which is located on Twenty Mile Creek in Prentiss County, Mississippi. We will meet at the Site by **9:00 a.m.** Parking is on the eastern side of US Highway 45 in the flat grassy area, just off of the side road and includes under the bridge. We will be sifting through the creek's sand and gravel for shark teeth and other small Cretaceous fossils. Be prepared to get wet and take precautions to limit sun exposure! You will be down in the creek, so you need to be able to go down the bank and get in the water. There is a somewhat steep, sandy path leading down the bank on both sides of the bridge. So, wear shoes that can get wet and a walking stick is a good idea. Bring a screening device, like a colander, sieve, or homemade screen made out of hardware cloth and a wooden frame, or fiber screening put into a large plastic embroidery hoop. Also, you will need a small garden trowel or scoop. Small plastic jars with tight fitting lids, zip loc bags or pill bottles make excellent storage containers for the fossils. There are no facilities here. Be sure to bring plenty of drinking water, a hat, sunscreen, a towel, and dry cloths to change into. This is a wild site so watch for poison ivy on the banks and snakes at all times. You will find many different kinds of teeth here, shark, ray, bony fish, Mosasaurs, and crocodile; also some vertebrae, turtle bone, scoots, petrified wood and lots more. Many of the teeth are good sized, but most are very small, so be sure to check out anything that is black and shiny!

This will be lots of fun for all ages. If you plan to go on this field trip, please notify:

Victoria Langford at 662-869-2278H

or at rlangford@cobbenv.com or thechainmailman@yahoo.com or Nancy Roberts therockhoundlady@yahoo.com 731-689-5336.

Lunch: The Rockheads will be running a fund raiser for the group by selling prepared onsite Chips and Hot Dogs with all the fixings, which Mr. Jim will be preparing. These will be \$1 each. Please bring dollar bills (change will be difficult) and your own drinks and chips.

Additionally: My geologist Dad will kick off his 20-Mile Creek Summer 2013 Program. He will be set up the white pavilion on top of the creek bank near the Hot Dogs. He will have fossil identification books and fossil labels. He will assist you in identifying and logging your best finds.