



June 13, 2012 Volume 12 Issue 3

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Summer's vacation season is here! This is the time of year when we take a break from our busy schedules and routines and spend a little more time doing fun things outdoors with family and friends. So in between traveling, visiting, working in the yard or just plain relaxing, I hope that you will find a little time to continue to enjoy our hobby and to expand your interests and knowledge in the realm of rocks, minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts.

Summer is a good time to do something new and different, too. Do some exploring to places outside of your usual realm of activities. Add some new specimens to your collection or learn about the rocks and minerals from different parts of the country as you are traveling through them. Get out the lapidary equipment or your jewelry making tools and try out some of the new techniques that you learned at our club workshops or elsewhere this past winter. Or just get busy and finally catalog that collection and get caught up on the identification of your specimens. In other words, summer is a great time to get energized!

I encourage all members to pick something new to try or to learn about over the summer and then to share this with your family, friends and the rest of the club. That way, when we all get back together again this fall, we'll have lots of new ideas and skills for our club's programs, workshops, meetings etc., which will help to keep our club full of vitality and interest. By sharing what we've learned with others, we reinforce our own knowledge and expertise while generating outside interest in NMGMS, what we do and what we represent. I also hope that all of the Rockheads will continue to work on the FRA badges over the summer. Parents are encouraged to work with their juniors and to supply the support needed, so that all of the Rockheads will have something to show at their September display.

We are already working on the fall field trip schedule and are planning to get in one more class for the West Point Arts Council, not to mention our club picnic/rock swap and fall meetings. We have several club members who will be attending the William Holland Lapidary School over the next few months, too. So, the next half of our club's year looks like it will be just as fun and exciting as the first half has been. I've got my summer projects lined up and ready to go, but I am also looking forward to getting back to our fall activities. See ya'll then and happy summer rockhounding!

NANCY ROBERTS



Photo by Jim Roberts.

Summer Issues

In the past there has not been a July or August issue of *The Nugget*, we would like to start a special summer issue, perhaps two.

We need contributions please-articles on lapidary skills, fossil informations, reflections on club interests. Photos.

Please contact Dana at nuggeteditor@gmail.com.

What's Inside

Meeting Minutes p 2

Calendar p 3

Field Trip p 3

Workshop p 3

Rockheads p 3

Meeting Program p 4

Old Bones p 4

Bead Soup p 4

Announcements p 4

Fields near Egypt, MS. The field on the left is a Black Belt deposit. The right is red clay. There was a much darker field, my traveling companion was loudly and vociferously opposed to turning around for a photo. The deposits began forming in the Cretaceous by the Mississippi Embayment. It's rich farmland, more importantly home to a unique ecosystem called the Black Prairie. There are few prairie sites left due to farming. Pleistocene fossils can be found in certain areas of these deposits. There is a location on the Natchez Trace in Tupelo to view the soil and many plowed fields show the dark soil. See p 4
Photo by Dana Jones.

June 16

Field Trip to 20 Mile Creek
Starts at 9am with Robert Langford

September 15

Tupelo Library from 1-3pm
Rockheads Displays/Presentations
Refreshments: Belinda Loyd, Robert Diaz

NMGMS

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2012

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given by Nancy Roberts, Britney Lambert, Remy Collins, and Victoria Langford. Everyone was glad to see Kendal and Ryan Bullock, and Bob Marshall at the meeting. The minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed in the Nugget.

Treasurer's Report: Closing balance as of May 15th, 1955.51

Review of Committees:

Field Trips: Our next club field trip will be on **Saturday, June 16th** to the 20 Mile Creek site on Hwy 45. (Frankstown) Meet at the bridge at 9:00a.m.

Don't forget the DMC trip on **May 26th** to Bayou Pierre, sponsored by the Jackson club. You must be an NMGMS member to attend.

Info was in the Nugget

Publicity: (Bob Reinhaus). Everyone was encouraged to take flyers to the Pontotoc area, West Point, Verona, Starkville, Booneville etc. and place in other town libraries and museums. We are going to need some more flyers printed up soon. Justin Hobart has created a full color brochure for the club.

Membership: (Ann Byzet). We have the 2012 membership roster available. We have 100 members.

Hospitality: Sept: Belinda Loyd and Robert Diaz Nov: Nikki Kenny, Robert Langford and Roger Lambert

Website: (John Byzet) Website continues to be updated.... Check us out at www.nmgms.org During the Board meeting earlier it was decided to add the club constitution and bylaws to the website. Robert Langford has developed a fossil ID form in .pdf formatting that will also be added to the website for downloading as needed.

Newsletter: (Dana Jones) Two new sections have been added to the Nugget. Bead Soup and Old Bones are categories for all members to contribute to, as a place to share information, tips, ideas, and web sites. If taking interesting trips this summer, everyone is encouraged to drop Dana an email about it, so we can insert that in the summer issue of the newsletter. nuggeteditor@gmail.com

Youth Members: (Bernice Burkeen) Youth members are encouraged to continue to work on their FRA badges over the summer. Parents can sign off for the juniors when they complete any of the requirements. See www.amfed.org for the badge list and requirements. The September program has been set aside for the Rockheads' displays, projects and awarding of badges. Prizes will be available for those who do a display. Bernice and Cheryl hope to have vests ready for the juniors to personalize and use to display their badges.

Stamps: If there are any to turn in, give them to Mary Reed or Kathy Westbrook

Historian: (Susan Curry) It's time to start saving for the 2012 yearbook. If you take photos at any NMGMS event, please print out a few to submit to Susan for the yearbooks. **Be sure to get some photos of the New Albany show on June 9th and the field trip on June 16th. Send to Dana for the Nugget.**

Show/Kids Day: (Roger Loyd, Bob Reinhaus, John Byzet and Robert Langford). We continue looking around for a location to hold the Kids Day. It has been suggested that we tie in with another Tupelo activity such as the Gum Tree Festival, where it would be outdoors and we wouldn't have to rent a building. Suggestions included Patti Thompson's parking lot or The Link Center parking lot.

Old Business:

The club has ordered 100 patches for the new member packets. Due to the 3 1/2 inch size of the club patch the cost was closer to \$2 per patch. The special was for a 3 inch patch. The patches are due for delivery next week. Members can purchase extra patches for \$2 each.

www.nmgms.org



We had 19 students attend our kumihimo class in West Point on May 12th and after subtracting the cost of the supplies, we cleared enough funds to cover Dana's William Holland scholarship completely. We have also been asked back to instruct a leather wrap bracelet class.

In lieu of a regular club meeting in June, the Union County Heritage Museum's rock and fossil show will be the club event. Roger Lambert will be setting up an exhibit table for the club and will be selling the grab bags. Let him know, if you can come and help out. Any member wishing to set up their own table needs to notify Jill Smith at the museum. Start looking thru your collections for things to donate to our annual picnic and auction on October 27th at Ballard Park. The club will furnish hot dogs, chips and drinks. Club members are asked to bring desserts.

New Business:

Nancy would like to award another club scholarship for a William Holland class, so that Dana can have someone go with her to share expenses. John Byzet, who has worked very hard as both our club treasurer and our webmaster, was nominated. Motion to approve -Approved

A report was given by Dave Hanes regarding the recent SFMS meeting he attended. The meeting was held at Falls Creek Falls, TN. It was attended by 12 people from various clubs in the TN, FL, NC and GA areas. The main focus of the meeting was to encourage youth participation in Rockhound clubs; and keeping the interest of geology and paleontology alive. He also spoke about the SFMS scholarships that are available for graduate students by the Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. There was additional discussion on the requirements for the scholarship.

Roger Lambert will be placing an order for Riker mount display boxes sometime this summer. Let him know if you are interested in combining an order with him.

There was group discussion on the field trip for September. Nancy will try to get permission to visit the Birmingham Ridge site.

A program was given by George Phillips on the role of natural science museums today.

Reminder: No more regular club meetings until September 15th, here at the library. The program will be conducted by the Rockheads and possibly a DVD on volcanoes.

Motion to Adjourn.....

There was a short board meeting prior to the club's regular meeting. Board members discussed the possibility of updating the club's original constitution and bylaws and raising the dues to \$12 per individual and \$20 per family. This will be voted on by the membership this fall. Also on the table for discussion were possible locations for hosting a "Kids' Day" event where the club would not have to rent a building.



2012 Officers

President/Field Trip Chair:

Nancy Roberts
25 Amber Lane
Counce, TN 38326
(731)689-5336
therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Roger Lambert
1817 CR 7002
Corinth, MS 38834
(662)286-3750
roger.lambertjr@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Belinda Loyd
7834 Cherry Valley
Southaven, MS 38671
(662)280-1317
bloyd_utlady@yahoo.com

Treasurer/Webspinner:

John Byzet
1209 Queensgate Dr
Tupelo, MS 38801
(662)844-9841
wa4jax@comcast.net

Appointees

Historian:
Susan Curry
P.O. Box 61
Mathiston, MS 39752
(662)312-1988
sgcurry@netdoor.com

Stamp Chair:

Kathy Westbrook
2753 HWY 82W
Starkville, MS 39759
(662)324-1601
k-westbrook2010@hotmail.com

Publicity Chair

Bob Reinhaus
150 Wright Lane
Counce, TN 38326
(662)872-0461
gulfssouthern@gmail.com

Membership:

Ann Byzet
1209 Queensgate Dr
Tupelo, MS 38801
(662)844-9841
annbyzet@comcast.com

Hospitality:

Robin Langford
121 Willow Creek Rd
Saltito, MS 38866
(662)869-2278

Nugget Editor:

Dana Jones
1868 HWY 310
Waterford, MS 38685
nuggeteditor@gmail.com

Youth Leader:

Bernice Burkeen
214 South Highland Dr
Tupelo, MS 38801
bburkeen@wildblue.net

Mark Your Calendar

June 16

Field Trip to 20 Mile Creek

September 15

Tupelo Library from 1-3pm

Rockheads Displays/Presentations

Refreshments: Belinda Loyd, Robert Diaz

Summer Program

North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society's field trip to the Browning Monument Site located on Twenty Mile Creek in Prentiss County, Mississippi on **Saturday June 16th** at 9:00 a.m. will be the kickoff of a summer program at the site. During this summer program, NMGMS will be represented at the site by a Registered Professional Geologist, Robert Langford, who will be volunteering his time to help novice fossil collectors identify their fossils and to promote NMGMS by handing out NMGMS information fliers.

Robert Langford
662-869-2278H 662-871-0184C
rlangford@cobbenv.com
thechainmailman@yahoo.com
Nancy Roberts
therockhoundlady@yahoo.com

June 16th (Kickoff Date)

July 14th

August 11th

Field Trip

The June field trip hasn't happened yet. Please send photos to nuggeteditor@gmail.com

Rockheads

Frederick Fossilton,
Story of a Bone



Frederick Fossilton, All-American Bone.
By Remy Collins

Frederick Fossilton is an All-American bone. He was just the leg bone of a triceratops that once roamed the Earth over millions of years ago. He is friends with Rochell the rock with shoes on. He prefers to wear clothes because he doesn't enjoy being nude. His favorite color are white, red and blue. He despises dogs and dirt. He doesn't like dirt because he has seen enough of it. Well, you can guess why he doesn't like dogs.

Hey You Guys!

This summer is a great opportunity for you to work on getting a display ready for the September meeting. Also, for looking into badge opportunities from AMFED. If that's not enough for you- please think about sending photos and/or writing an article for *The Nugget*.

For questions about the displays for September contact:

Roger Lambert- roger.lambertjr@yahoo.com

or Bernice Burkeen- bburkeen@wildblue.net

For questions or interest in contributing to *The Nugget*:

Dana Jones- nuggeteditor@gmail.com

July and August
NO MEETINGS

October 27
Annual Picnic and Rock Swap
Large Pavilion at Ballard Park
Tupelo

November 17 TBA
Tupelo Library from 1-3pm
Fossil Cleaning and Prep

December 15 TBA

For a list of rock and gem shows:
<http://www.amfed.org/shows.htm>

Rock and Gem magazine:
www.rockngem.com/showdates



Sieving in the creek.



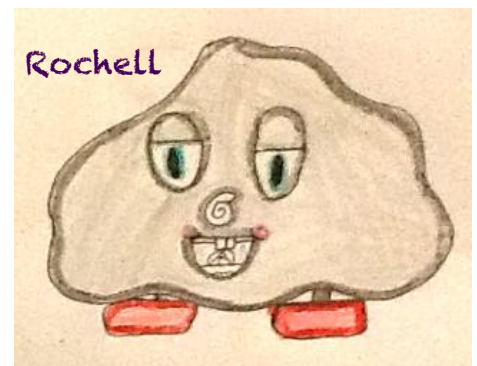
Your host Robert warns that you WILL get wet.



Concretations

Workshop

There are no workshops for June.



Rochell

For badge information see www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm



NMGMS
P.O. Box 1445
Tupelo, MS 38802



Old Bones

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

Bead Soup

A place to share knowledge about the lapidary arts.



Useful Links

Indian River Display sells display cases.
<http://indianriverdisplay.com/black.htm>
Black Hills Institute has information on fossil cleaning, preservation and sells supplies.
<http://www.bhigr.com/>
Alabama Paleontology Society
<http://www.alabamapaleo.org/>

Do you have questions? Have a technique that you'd like to share? A fond memory of something you can share?

Tips? Please contact nuggeteditor@gmail.com

THEROCKHOUNDLADY@YAHOO.COM

Fabric Inspiration

Unsure of how to select colors for your jewelry designs? Go to your local fabric store and look at printed fabrics until one catches your eye. Buy a small piece and study the colors. Then, match beads to the colors and work them into a jewelry design. This approach will work even if you like monochromatic color schemes, because you'll see the range of colors used to achieve that effect.

- Beth Stone, via e-mail May 23, 2012 (Bead Style Magazine)

(aka Announcements)

Door Prizes, Door Prizes!

With the start up of our regular club meetings again in September, NMGMS could use a new collection of specimens and lapidary items for door prizes. We all like to have a chance to take home something new and different and we look forward to the door prizes that have been given out at our club meetings. We thank all of you members who have been bringing these in for us and hope that you all will continue to help out in this regard. So please check through your collections and projects and see what you could bring in for a door prize at the next meeting. So, happy hunting and make someone else happy too!

Save those Stamps!

Kathy Westbrook, our stamp chair, is hoping to have lots of stamps to turn in to the federation so that we'll have a good chance at a William Holland scholarship. So please watch your mail and start cutting off all stamps. It does not matter if they are canceled. We are looking for stamps that are not torn or soiled. Special edition stamps and foreign ones are the best, but any will do. Please be sure to cut the stamps off of the envelope very carefully and leave about 1/2 inch of paper around all sides. You may have to fold open the envelope in order to do that. Turn the stamps that you have collected in to Kathy at our regular meetings. Please get all of your friends and relatives saving too. Hey, even your place of business. So, get out those scissors and start today!

Refreshment Fund

Due to the generosity of our fellow club members, we have continued to enjoy having refreshments at our regular monthly meetings. As our membership has grown, we are providing these tasty delights to many more attendees and guests. We try to rotate this responsibility, so that everyone has a chance to help out.

I understand that many members can't make very many of the club meetings, if any, due to distance and other obligations. If there are any members who have wished to help out with our club hospitalities, but have not been able to for one reason or another, you might consider making a monetary donation to the refreshments for one of our monthly meetings. The money will be used to help provide refreshments for that month and we will note you as one of the hospitality providers in The Nugget. Having refreshments at each meeting gives us a chance to relax and visit with fellow members and guests before we start the program. A big THANK YOU to all who have brought the many fabulous culinary creations in the past.

Meeting Program

BY NANCY PHILLIPS

NMGMS was honored to have one of our club's honorary members, George Phillips, as our guest speaker for the May meeting. Despite suffering from those awful springtime allergies and nearly going hoarse in the process, George enlightened us with many interesting facts and details pertaining to the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science. We learned that the museum plays a big role in the study of all of the flora and fauna both native and invasive to the state of Mississippi. George also noted that the exhibits on the floor of the museum are just a very small portion of the specimen collections that the museum curates. These collections make up a major base for the study of past and present species, helping scientists to put together an overall picture of the states' geologic and environmental history. We sincerely appreciate our speakers donating their time to our organization and wish to say "Thank You" George!

Photo by Jim Roberts.



Photo by Jim Roberts.

(left) would appear Roger (left) and Dave are up to no good. (below) Fossil display by Roger Lambert. (above) George (left) and Robert having a professional discussion.

Photo by Jim Roberts.



Agate, from the March auction. It appears to have been cut.
Photo Dana Jones

Black Belt

The deposit location is shaded in grey.



For further information please visit the source of the map.
<http://mississippientomologicalmuseum.org.msstate.edu/habitats/black.belt.prairie/BlackBeltPrairie.htm>

