



## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

November 11, 2013  
Issue 4 Volume 13

Welcome to fall! Brilliant fall colors are finally popping out on the trees and the leaves are coming down in great profusion. Can't complain about the weather either; NMGMS had a fabulous and very well attended field trip this past weekend over to an Alabama surface coal mine. We had more fun climbing over huge piles of slabs in the tailings, while the mine workers were moving tons of rock far below us. Some of the more exquisite fossil specimens were on boulders way too big to even think about moving, so we took lots of pictures. It is hard for me to think about the fact that these fossils will eventually erode away or be buried under again when the mine is covered over during reclamation. But at least we managed to retrieve a nice variety of Pennsylvanian plant fossils and came home with some great pieces. On behalf of all of those who attended, I wish to say "Thank You" to Ashley Allen and the Alabama Paleontological Society for making this trip possible. We are very fortunate to be able to coordinate field trips like this one with our neighboring clubs.

I would also like to thank all of the NMGMS members and guests who attended our annual club picnic. We were lucky this time with weather that was much warmer than last year! We all enjoyed the day, with great food, wonderful company, a wide variety of auction items, grab bags, fun games and many rocks, minerals and fossils to peruse. I would like to thank Reggie and Bunny Bolton for coming over from Birmingham to join us for this event. Hopefully we will be able to spread the word and get other area club members to participate along with us. Our club auction went very well and a big "thank you" to all who donated items for it.

We are currently working on our 2014 schedule of events and will be setting up for another geology day at the Oren Dunn Museum. This time, we are moving the date to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, and are considering the addition of a few vendors at this event. The theme that we are thinking about going with this time for the display cases is, "quartz, one of the most prevalent minerals on earth", or something to that effect. So start looking thru your collections now and think about what you can loan the club for the display. If you have any ideas for additional activities or other theme/display ideas, please let me or Roger Lambert know. We appreciate all of our members' input.

Lastly, with 2013 rapidly coming to a close, it is time for us to get our 2014 officers and committee chairpersons lined up. We will be taking nominations for club officers at the Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The club needs you! We are looking for members who are interested and willing to serve as an officer or on a committee. If you are already a committee chairperson, please consider continuing; we appreciate your hard work! We have a lot of members who are very capable and to continue to grow as an active organization, we need new and fresh ideas. Remember, you'll get a lot more out of your organization, if you put some of yourself into it. All of you have been doing a great job. This is a phenomenal rock and mineral club and we hope to be able to continue to provide our membership with a great organization. In order to do this, we need everyone's help and participation. If any member would like to serve, please jump on board. Like the commercial once said, it's not just a job, it's an adventure!!



### NANCY ROBERTS

Nancy hard at work.

**November 16, 2013**

Tupelo Library 1-3pm

George Phillips "History of Fossil Collection in Mississippi"

Refreshments will be served

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# NMGMS Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2013



## "Meeting Program"

No minutes as we're party having folk and didn't have a meeting but a picnic.  
Following photos by Nancy Roberts.



[https://www.facebook.com/NMGMS/photos\\_stream](https://www.facebook.com/NMGMS/photos_stream)

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# HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

(aka Announcements)

## Mark Your Calendar

### Field Trips

**December 7**

**Union County/Blue Springs Crab Site  
Upper Cretaceous Coon Creek Deposit**

Meet at the site at 9:00a.m.

Along with collecting fossil crabs, you will find turtle and mosasaur bone, shark teeth and vertebrae, mollusks and bi-valves of all kinds, spiny lobsters, small corals, bryozoans and some ammonites.

Contact Nancy Roberts NMGMS Field Trip Chair  
731-689-5336

[Therockhoundlady@yahoo.com](mailto:Therockhoundlady@yahoo.com)

### Next Meeting of the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society

**Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013 from 1 to 3p.m.**

**Lee County Public Library in Tupelo.**

The program following the business meeting will be "The History of Fossil Collecting in Mississippi", by George Phillips, paleontologist with the Museum of Natural Science in Jackson.

Refreshments will be served. Come and join us, and learn about the rich fossil heritage found in this great state.

I got this out of the newsletter of the Montgomery AL rock club. Sounds like a good tip!

**NANCY ROBERTS**

### Fantastic Tumbling Polish

I once knew a gentleman, who sells ground up corncob and Linde-A. His instructions are to take a bar of Ivory soap, shave it into a dish, put it into the microwave, where it will grow by leaps and bounds. You mix this into the corn cob, add Linde-A and you end up with a very fine final polish for anything you want to give a fantastic finish. David (agbdavid@aol.com) (From Rockhounds@drizzle, 8/24/2005. Reprints allowed by "Drizzle" via Arrowhead News, 09/2005)



**November 16, 2013**

Tupelo Library 1-3pm  
George Phillips "History of Fossil Collection in Mississippi"  
Refreshments will be served

**December 14**

Tupelo Library  
10:30am-3:30pm Christmas Luncheon

**January 18**

Tupelo Library 1-3pm pro  
Dr. Terry Panhorst  
Topic TBA

**February 15**

Tupelo Library 1-3pm  
Nikki Kenney  
The History of Indian Beading

**March 15**

Tupelo Library 1-3pm  
NMGMS Annual Birthday Party Meeting

**April 12**

Time and Location TBA  
**\*\*Note:** One week earlier than usual meeting time due to Easter and library is closed that weekend.

**May 17**

Tupelo Library 1-3pm  
Program TBA

## Bead Soup

A place to share knowledge about the lapidary arts.



Nancy's work bottom left,  
Cheryle's bottom right

### More New Skills

Our club is constantly picking up new skills to share. Two members, Cheryle Langford and Nancy Roberts, just returned from a week at the William Holland Lapidary school. The pictures displaying the jewelry they made in their classes show the skills they already had have gone to new heights.

At the November meeting, they will share their experiences with us. In addition to wire wrapping they traveled around a bit to collect staurolite crystals, sapphires, and garnets. They certainly got the most out of the week's classes.



# Old Bones

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

## Field Trip

### Pennsylvanian Carboniferous Alabama Mine\*

**November 2, 2013**

Thank you APS for putting the Alabama Mine Trip together. We did not know what to expect from a trip to a coal mine. I had fears of wandering around all day looking for something that might or might not have been a collectable fossil. The finds were amazing. There is no doubt that from the short period we were on site enough material was collected to keep us all busy through the winter cleaning, preserving and labeling our treasures. If we are able to return I plan to take a large truck with a winch and trailer for the big pieces that we could only ogle and photograph. For 300 million years these plants have been waiting for the sun to shine, it seems such a waste to just cover them up again. Last Saturday was a day well spent.

Mike Schuchs



A good time had by all. Photos by Nancy Roberts and Beverly Kraft.



For more photos  
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.505157222916049.1073741829.232231426875298&type=3&uploaded=71>

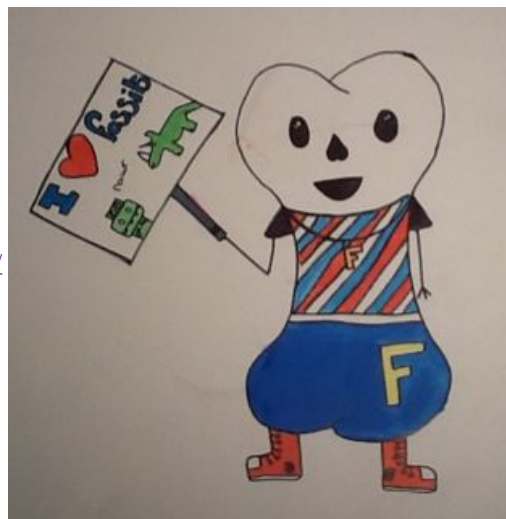
\*Say it three times fast-or even slow.

# Rockheads

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



[www.amfed.org/fra/fra\\_badge.htm](http://www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm)



## PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

MATTHEW LAMBERT

### Attention all Rockheads!

2013 is winding down and there is only one more issue of The Nugget to come out before the end of the year. There are several Rockheads who have already completed the three requirements for the NMGMS Junior Rockhound of the Year Award.

1. Be a member in good standing
2. Write an article or review for The Nugget
3. Give a short presentation or set up a "show and tell" display at one of the meetings.

If you still need to get an article or review published in the newsletter, please get it in to Dana [nuggeteditor@gmail.com](mailto:nuggeteditor@gmail.com) before Dec. 6th. It doesn't need to be long or complicated!

Jim Roberts will be ordering the FRA badges after the Nov. meeting, so be sure and turn in any badge sheets that you have completed to him at that meeting.

#### Rockhead Officers

**President**

Matthew Lambert

**Vice President**

Robin Langford

**Secretary**

Remy Collins

**Field Trip Organizer**

Brittany Lambert

#### Youth Advisors

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[bertiewooster13@gmail.com](mailto:bertiewooster13@gmail.com)

David Lloyd

## Guess What This Is



## ATTENTION

### It's Membership Renewal Time Again!

In the email you received your Nugget, a renewal form was also attached. Please print it out, fill it out, mail it in OR renew at the meeting.

In this case it may be more correctly 'what is this sitting on top of?'. The cars aren't part of the question or answer. A hint (since I knew what it was on top of-but wouldn't have been able to pick the building out of a hundred buildings on a dare till I took the photo). It's the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson MS. Contact [nuggeteditor@gmail.com](mailto:nuggeteditor@gmail.com)