



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

October 18, 2014 Issue 5 Volume 14

Happy Halloween! I can't believe that we are in the last quarter of 2014 and wrapping up the club's activities for this year. We are also entering the last month before our Geology Day and we've got a lot of things to finalize and prepare for this event. So, be sure to mark our October 18th meeting on your calendar and bring in those loan items for the

displays, as well as, whatever material you are donating for the grab bags, fishing cups, etc. Don't forget those rocks that look like food, too. So, come to the Oct. meeting and be prepared to pitch in with working on all of the pre-event preparations. We need your help!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those members who brought displays to the September meeting. The "Grit to Glam" program turned out to be a really big hit, especially with our guests, the Girl Scouts who meet at the library (I heard that there were quite a few scouts there). They also thoroughly enjoyed doing the keychain project, and I gather that those members, who were helping out with the gluing part of the project, had to work fast. If you happen to see one of our NMGMS members with a polished stone stuck on one of their fingers, then you know that they were one of those working with the quick set epoxy! Thank you all, for helping out.

On another note, if a rockhound is someone who is always hauling rocks around from one place to another, then I surely do qualify. I hauled a box of fluorescent rocks and minerals up to Vermont this summer, in order to do a "magic" show for the kids on Butler Island, and Jim just shook his head when he saw the bags and buckets of Vermont rocks that I tucked away in the truck, when we were packing up to head home. Of course, the box of fluorescent rocks came back too! By the way, my magic show was a big hit with young and old alike. We also had a good time combing the beach after dark with my uv lamp, checking to see if any of the local rocks were fluorescent. Some of them were, too! So, what mineral fluoresces a bright magenta color??

I heard that there were 12 NMGMS and MAGS members who braved the predawn meeting hour for the Sept. 27th field trip to the Vulcan Quarry at Parsons, TN. It was such delight to be allowed back into one of the area's most renowned locales for Devonian fossils. Many brachiopods, horn corals and crinoid stems were collected. Trilobites and a few crinoid calyxes were found also. I'm sure that noon came all too soon for those who attend this trip. I am hoping that we will be able to continue holding field trips to this phenomenal fossil location.

Note: If anyone, who collects at Twenty Mile Creek, has shark teeth to spare, please considering bringing these to the October meeting and donating them for a lapidary activity for the kids at our Geology Day.

NANCY ROBERTS

Nancy in Stowe VT, fall has hit
By Jim Roberts.
Above Giant Sloth courtesy of
slothsanctuary.com.



NMGMS

Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2014



Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag No guests were present during the business meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and passed, to approve the May minutes as printed in the June Nugget. All were in favor, none opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Closing Balance as of 2588.90

Field Trips: There are two NMGMS field trips coming up:

September 27th to the Vulcan quarry in Parsons, TN for Devonian fossils, which was limited to 25 people and no one under 18. Participants MUST have safety glasses or be wearing eye glasses!

October 11th with MAGS to the Memphis Stone and Gravel facility (exact location to be announced via email) for agates, petrified wood, and chert gravels.

These upcoming field trips were mentioned. There were members requesting the location of the gravel quarry to be sent again, due to them not receiving it before. It was also mentioned that they could attend our SeAVP trips on the same day, if they did not wish to visit the quarry. Robert said he would be out at 20 Mile Creek.

Publicity: (John Byzet)

John mentioned he would be printing out fliers for the Geology Day and posting them in businesses around Tupelo. Roger added that the Yocona Area Council Scout office had agreed to publicize the event through their leaders meetings. This will cover the scouting units in the 12 counties in Northeast Mississippi. NOTE: A flier was issued to the Girl Scout leader present at the meeting. She will be mass e-mailing all girl scouts within Lee County about the event.

Membership: (Ann Byzet)

If anyone needs a "new member" packet, see Ann. We still have extra club patches and all members who don't already have a patch, get one; extras are \$2 each.

Hospitality:

Refreshments: Need two volunteers for Oct. 18: Lamberts (will handle snacks and drinks)

Nov. 15: Dana Armstrong and ?

Monetary donations to help out with the refreshments are welcome!

Website: (John Byzet) Check us out at www.nmgms.org

Newsletter: (Dana Jones).

The deadline for submissions is the **second Friday of the month**. One thing that we need for each issue of the Nugget is a meeting program review and a field trip and/or workshop review. We hope that all members will consider submitting a review or article and a big "Thank You" to all who have been contributing. Remember to please send anything that is for the newsletter to Dana's email at: nuggeteditor@gmail.com

Youth Members: (Jim Roberts) The Rockheads are reminded to complete any of the FRA badges that they have been working on, so that Jim can order the badges and have them ready to be handed out at the Dec. party.

This point was mentioned, however, it may be advisable to send the badge link to parents / grandparents as to eliminate any confusion.

Stamps: (Dana Armstrong) Are there any to turn in? The federation does not want the Liberty Bell stamp or the 44 cent Flag stamp anymore. Too many of those were printed and they aren't worth anything. <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/stamp-program.html>

Dana accepted stamps and will be discarding the stamps the federation doesn't accept.

Historian: (Shirley Randle) Shirley has requested that someone else from the club store the yearbooks, as she has very little available space. Is there a club member who would volunteer and is anyone else willing to help serve on this committee?

No volunteers to house materials. However, it was suggested the club obtain cost estimates for storing club materials in a storage facility. It was further added that the facility should be climate controlled as to prevent damage to historical items. John Byzet volunteered to get these estimates.

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

We will be filling the grab bags and fishing cups at our October meeting. We also could use little rocks, crystals and shark teeth etc. for the “sand box”, which is the rock and fossil dig. Need some nice little items as prizes for the spin and win. We can use small lapidary items too.

Safety: (David Loyd) If anyone has any ideas or topics for the safety section of the Nugget, please pass them along to David Loyd or Dana.

Old Business:

Reminder!!! Our Geology Day is scheduled for Nov. 1, 2014 at the Oren Dunn Museum. Set up of the displays will be during the prior week. If you are available to help with the setup, please let Roger Lambert and/or Nancy Roberts know. There will be lots to do!

Activities at this event include: spin and win, rock and fossil dig, fishing game, a lapidary activity, and a fluorescent tent. We will need members to man each of these activities, as well as, the club information table. Ticket takers will also be needed and we hope that all of the Rockheads can participate and help out. I'm sure that will qualify as part of a badge somewhere!

Volunteers: 2 per station (1 needs to be an adult)

NMGMS club table, which will have some things on display and will be selling grab bags and tickets (3for \$1) for the other activities.

Beading table, where we will have beads and stretchy cord for bracelet making; will be using scissors and glue. (1 ticket) Nikki K. and Cheryl L.

Spin and Win game table, handling prizes (1 ticket per spin)

Rock and Fossil Dig, will be outside, or in the firehouse, with a sandbox, scoops and sieves; will be reseeding as needed. (1 ticket per sieve) Fishing Game, will be outside; may need to replenish the cups as needed. (1 ticket per cup fished)

Fluorescent Room, inside handling the UV lamps and light switches, need two adults

Docents to be by the fossil case and the rock and mineral case to answer questions. Roger Lambert

Docents to be by the gem and lapidary cases to answer questions.

*****Be at the museum at 9a.m. on Saturday Nov. 1st!*****

Specimens needed for our Nov. 1st Geology Day display cases:

Rocks and minerals collected in MS that are interesting, unusual and/or have commercial or industrial uses of some type.

Igneous rocks such as basalt or obsidian, Sedimentary rocks like sandstone or limestone and Metamorphic rocks such as slate, marble or schist

Fluorescent minerals

Any jewelry item made at one of our workshops over the past year or any metal jewelry you may have made.

Anything that would fall under the “Rocks in Art” category or “Rocks that look like Food”

Fossils collected in northeast Miss.

Rough and or polished pieces, as well as lapidary items of the following:

Pearls, opal, fire agate, star sapphire, labradorite, sunstone, mother of pearl, tiger eye, aventurine, or any others that show iridescence or other optical effects.

Remind everyone to put their initials on a piece of blue painters tape and place it on the bottom of their loan items and record a brief description of the item on the museum loan sheet.*****

Our October 18th meeting will be a “work day” meeting. We will be filling the grab bags and fishing cups for the geology day, as well as compiling all of the display items for the museum cases. Please bring any loan items to the October

meeting. We will need to get the labels for these made up before the displays are set up.

The areas needing volunteers were mentioned.

It was mentioned that all items for loan of donation toward prizes should be brought to the October meeting.

Tentative volunteers by area of interest

- Club Table – John Byzet, Ann Byzet, Tabitha Lambert
- Fishing Game –
- Fossil Dig –
- Spin and Win –
- Florescent Room – Dana Armstrong /
- Gem and Mineral Docent(s) –
 - Justin Hobart (Gems and Minerals)
 - Rebecca Valarian (Food Table / Mineral Uses around Home)
 - Robert Langford
- Fossil Docent(s) – As an added bonus, we may have a few hands on items.
 - Roger Lambert
 - Nancy Roberts

There was no other old business.

New Business:

Since we have many new junior members, I would like to remind them all that NMGMS has a Junior of the Year award given at the Dec. meeting to those juniors who complete the following:

Is a member in good standing (attends events), has done a “show and tell” presentation or display and has had a review or article printed in the Nugget. There’s still time to get that article written up and in the newsletter!

Rockhound of the Year was mentioned. It was also suggested to send a mass communication email out to all parents / grandparents noting the requirements of the recognition to prevent any confusion. The requirements and checklist could also be printed into the October edition of the Nugget. This e-mail should serve as a checklist to be printed out and turned into the youth leader for confirmation of their achievement.

It is time to start thinking about our club’s 2015 officers. We will be taking nominations at the Nov. meeting. We have been asking officers to serve a two year term. So be thinking about who you would like to have leading your organization in 2014. All present and previous officers are automatically on the nominating committee. If you would like to serve on any of the committees, we’d love to have you! Due to less than favorable attendance, the point was mentioned and tabled till we have more membership in attendance. There were approx. 18 members in attendance

We had approx. 45 girl scouts plus parents visit the activity portion of the meeting that began at 1 PM.

There was no other new business.

*****Reminder:**

HGMS Rock and Gem Show: Huntsville, AL

Location:

Jaycee Community Building, 2180 Airport Road, SW, Huntsville, AL 35802

Friday and Saturday, October 10 & 11: 10 AM to 6 PM Sunday, October 12: Noon to 5 PM

Motion to Adjourn..... Made, Seconded, passed with none opposed.

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

(aka Announcements)

Mark Your Calendar

NMGMS Meeting

October 18, 2014

1 to 3pm

Lee County Public Library in Tupelo

Program: "Let's All Pitch In!"

This will be a "working" meeting, where we will be filling grab bags, cataloging loaned items, filling game bags, etc... Please bring to the meeting any items that you are loaning NMGMS for the display cases or anything that you would like to display, plus those specimens that you have for the grab bags, fishing cups or fossil dig. Also, any grab bags that you may have made over the summer. Don't forget those rocks that look like food too!

So come and join in the preparations for our Geology Day and have some fun in the process!

There's lots to be done and the date is quickly closing!!

Geology Day

November 1, 2014

Oren Dunn Museum.

We are getting down to the wire on our 2nd Geology Day, and from what I hear and see, we are getting a lot of publicity for this event, from the Internet, to fliers, posters and other signs around town. We had over 400 attendees at our very first one at the museum and it looks like we could easily double that number. So, we really need all of you to check around for items that can be used as prizes for the Spin and Win game. These items don't have to be big, because they will be placed onto the number board that is used for this game. Crystals, polished stones, small lapidary items, little dinosaurs, or other geology related figurines, interesting fossils, shark teeth, key rings, beaded items, etc. Look around and see what you can come up with. We will have the small Ziploc bags at the October meeting in which to place these prizes. Let's make someone happy!!

Also, we can't have a successful event without NMGMS membership participation. Each of the featured activities will need a member or two to run it and to collect the tickets. We will also need a few members to act as docents for the displays and to man our club information table. The club will provide lunch for all of those who help out that day. So, come on out to the Oren Dunn Museum in Tupelo at 9a.m. on Nov. 1st to show your support and give your club a hand. I guarantee that you'll have some fun in the process.

NANCY ROBERTS

We are going to try and set up a small display at our Geology Day, similar to the "food table" that gets set up at the MAGS rock and gem show. Of course, that one probably was years in the collecting, but we can certainly make a start. So let's see what we can come up with for our "Rocks that look like Food" display at the museum. Be creative and imaginative, as far as rocks that look like something eatable.

Happy hunting, but don't eat it!!

Please bring all specimens that you have found for this display to our October 18th meeting. Thanks!!

2014 SFMS Annual General Meeting.

This year's event will be held at the Jackson County Fairgrounds Fair Hall located at 2902 Shortcut Road in Pascagoula, MS 39567. The dates are Nov. 7, 8 and 9th 2014. The federation has rooms set aside at the Comfort Inn, located at 6801 SR 63 North, Moss Point, MS 39563. The group rate is \$55 per night. Breakfast is included. The cut off date is Nov. 1st, so please make your reservations ASAP. The hotel number is 228-474-3600. The hotel is about 10 minutes from the fairgrounds. The Miss. Gulf Coast has a lot to offer and we look forward to seeing you in November.

Bill Smith, Pres. MGCGMS

Note: for more information and a copy of the meeting itinerary and forms see the September issue of The Lodestar.

http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_pdf/

[Lodestar_September_2014_Issue.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/_pdf/Lodestar_September_2014_Issue.pdf)

Also, the MGCGMS rock and gem show will be going on at the fairgrounds that weekend. Come on down!

<http://mgcgms.org/annualshow.html>



Old Bones

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

The Disappearing Rock

I've always loved to walk the creeks in the local area looking for things. While never knowing what I'd find, they usually led me to arrowheads, fossils, civil war relics, bones, and of course the friendly water moccasin, to name a few. As I usually attract the latter of the list more so than the first, it's never a dull time. Now, I know we're all rock hounds, so I shouldn't have to ask if you ever looked into the water and saw that nice looking stone all rounded, shiny, and shimmering in the light. You know the one that's just begging to be picked up and taken home. Well, I have too. But, you know, it usually disappears somewhere between being placed in my backpack and getting home. Personally, I used to think that little green men slipped into my backpack and replaced those nice looking stones with all those dull, bland rocks. Either that, or my son was playing a pretty nasty trick on me. If you know him, there is a pretty fair chance it was the latter. Then one day, I found out what happened. If you were at the September 20th meeting at the library, then you learned too, from our "Grit to Glam" program, where fellow members showed off their shiny rocks and gave pointers on how they give their wares the perfect shine. Wet rocks look much better than dry ones, but after processing thru a rock tumbler with various grits and polishes, oh my gosh, what a beautiful result. Can't believe that it's the same rock!

Roger Lambert

Meeting Program



Bead Soup

A place to share knowledge about the lapidary arts.

Grab Bag

Any NMGMS members, who like to sew, please take a look at this cloth bag. We could use some more made up for the grab bags that we sell at our events. Could also use some nice smaller specimens to put in these bags too!

Instructions:

cut an 8x15 inch piece. Notice how it's sewn;

Looks like you'll sew the casing for the draw string first and then do the side and bottom seams. Make seams half inch, so the finished bag is approx. 7x7 inches. Experiment, they don't all have to be exactly the same size or configuration, just colorful and enticing!!!!!!!!!!!!!! . I remember sewing a 3/4 inch turn for the yarn first. Fold in half, then sew the bottom & up the one side, stopping before the yarn tube.

P.S. We will be filling these bags at our October meeting and would like to have at least 30 or so more of these!!

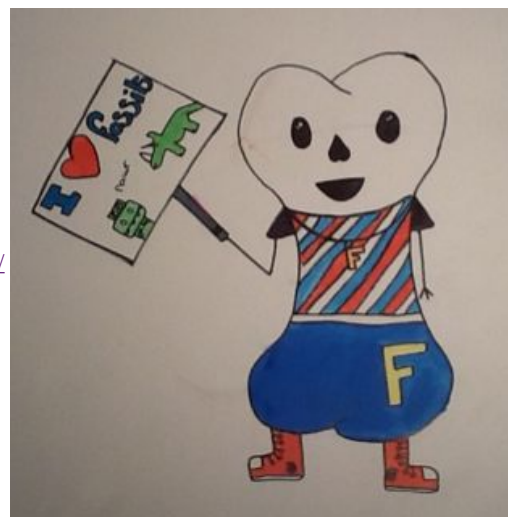
Rockheads

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

G. G. Simpson



www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm



Rockhead Officers

President

Victoria Langford

Vice President

Konrad Armstrong

Secretary

Britanni Lambert

Youth Advisors

Jim Roberts
Latergator2003@yahoo.com

David Lloyd

Attention all Rockheads!

2014 is winding down and there are only two more issues of The Nugget to come out before the end of the year. There are several Rockheads who have completed some of the requirements for the NMGMS Junior Rockhound of the Year Award.

1. Be a member in good standing
2. Write an article or a review of a meeting or field trip 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 or Nancy therockhoundlady@yahoo.com before Dec. 5th. 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.

Badges

The Rockheads are reminded to complete any of the FRA badges that they have been working on, so that Jim can order the badges and have them ready to be handed out at the Dec. party.

Not sure of the badges or their requirements, check out these links:

http://www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm

<http://www.amfed.org/fra/>

[AFMS_FRA_Badge_Manual_Revised_2012.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/fra/AFMS_FRA_Badge_Manual_Revised_2012.pdf)

News

The Rockheads met at the Tupelo library on October 18th. New officers for 2015 were selected. Victoria Langford - president, Konrad Armstrong - vice president, and Brittani Lambert - secretary. Then we talked about activities we would like to do over the next months. We decided to have a Geocache field trip on Saturday November 8th. We will meet at 20 Mile Creek at 1 pm and try to find a few geocaches close by. We also want to have our traditional field trip/hot dog roast at 20 Mile Creek, possibly the 11th of April. One more thing we want to do is take a field trip to a museum, the Pink Palace in Memphis was suggested. submitted by Konrad Armstrong, secretary.

Field Trip

The Rockheads are going to have a field trip on Saturday, November 8. Everyone should meet at the 20 Mile Creek fossil site on Hwy 45, at 1 pm. They will be looking for geocaches in the surrounding area, and will learn a little about latitude and longitude, as well as using a hand held GPS. Some walking will be involved, but nothing too

strenuous. A geocache box will have some small toys/trinkets inside, so if anyone plans on taking something out, they should bring something to put back in. If you would like more information about geocaching, go to Geocaching - The Official Global GPS Cache Hunt Site.

Geocaching - The Official Global GPS Cache Hunt Site
Geocaching is a treasure hunting game where you use a GPS to hide and seek containers with other participants in the activity. Geocaching.com is the listing service...
View on www.geocaching.com