

**NMGMS**  
**P. O. Box 1445**  
**Tupelo, MS 38802**  
 Website: <http://nmgms.brigidsforge.com>

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**Notes: From The President's Desk**

**Happy Birthday NMGMS!**

The North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society is about to celebrate its ninth birthday as a club. We have had eight really good years already and it looks like we will be having yet another. Our membership stands at 76, 23 of which are junior members. We have lots of great programs and field trips ahead and many good ideas in the works. The attendance at our regular meetings has increased and we are managing to get the word out to the community that there is an active rock and mineral club in the area. Several members have been doing outreach programs at the local schools and we did something really different; had a float in the 2009 Christmas Parade. Over the past nine years, our club has had two Kids' Day events, has had several members teach one day lapidary classes through adult continuing education programs at local junior colleges and has awarded several members with scholarships to attend classes at the William Holland Lapidary School in Young Harris, GA. At some of our regular meetings and workshops, members have learned to do wire wrapping, chain making, bead stringing, needle bead work, gem trees and other artistic lapidary endeavors. We have learned about fossils, gems, minerals, crystals, volcanoes and meteorites through fellow members, videos and guest speakers. So how do we follow such a class act? I think we can do it; no, I know we can do it! We will continue to grow not only in numbers, but also in our knowledge of and enthusiasm for all of the related areas of interest to our rock and gem club. How? By all of our

members continuing to work together in supporting the fabulous organization that we have all worked so very hard to create. Cheers to a job well done!

**Respectfully,**  
**Nancy Roberts**



**Drusy Quartz.**  
**Photo Provided by Parker Noyes.**

**We should have gone on this Field Trip!!!!**

**Attention all NMGMS Members:**

NMGMS Secretary, Hannah Tybor, has very reluctantly requested to be relieved of her duties. Due to a very heavy schedule, Hannah will not be able to attend any of this year's meetings until after school is out. She feels that it is not fair to be constantly asking someone else to take her place. So, we will be taking nominations for this elected club position at our March meeting. The club secretary is responsible for compiling the minutes by taking notes during the meeting. Occasionally, the secretary may be called upon to write a letter or send

**Next Meeting**

Saturday, March 20, 2010  
 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
 Location: Lee County Library  
 Program: NMGMS Birthday  
 See the last Page for directions.

a card. We need a member who can be at most of the meetings and preferably has a computer with Internet access, but that is not mandatory. We can always get someone else to type up the final copy. Nancy Roberts, Pres. NMGMS

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### **NMGMS Officer and Committee Chair Folders**

Since the January 16th meeting of NMGMS was the first one of the new year, we had quite a few things to talk about and in order to finish up and make time for our great program, I forgot to mention a couple of items. Floy Hawkins has been working very hard at putting together some folders for the officers and committee chairpersons, so that they can more easily keep together all of their papers, information, job descriptions, contacts and other pertinent data that they collect during the year while serving in their club position. Hopefully, in having these folders, it will make the transition from one chairperson to the next easier at the beginning of each new year. So, if you are leaving a position, and haven't already done so, please turn over to the new officer or chairperson, whatever papers, notes, folders, information and even ideas that you have pertaining to the committee or office that you held. I ask all past officers and chairpersons to please give any assistance when needed to help out during this transition period. Since we are assigned the library meeting room from noon until 4 p.m., would the club officers and chairpersons kindly come early, so that we can work together on completing these folders?

**Respectfully, Nancy Roberts**

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### **Door Prizes, Door Prizes!**

Yes, NMGMS still need 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!

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### **Save those Stamps!**

Kathy Westbrook, our new stamp chair, is hoping to have lots of stamps to turn in to the federation so we'll have a good chance at a 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. Get all of your friends and relatives saving too. Hey, even your place of business. So, get out those scissors and start today!

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### **Attention all NMGMS Members:**

NMGMS Secretary, Hannah Tybor, has very reluctantly requested to be relieved of her duties. Due to a very heavy schedule, Hannah will not be able to attend any of this year's meetings until after school is out. She feels that it is not fair to be constantly asking someone else to take her place. So, we will be taking nominations for this elected club position at our March meeting. The club secretary is responsible for compiling the minutes by taking notes during the meeting. Occasionally, the secretary may be called upon to write a letter or send a card. We need a member who can be at most of the meetings and preferably has a computer with Internet access, but that is not mandatory. We can always get someone else to type up the final copy.

**Thank you,  
Nancy Roberts,**

## NMGMS Minutes for Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The February meeting of NMGMS was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by President Nancy Roberts. The pledge of allegiance was led by Jim Roberts. Guests that were present were introduced, Richard Keyes from Huntsville, Allen Carr from Memphis, and John Byzet's grandson, Cannon Davenport. New members, Kendal Bullock and his sons, Ethan and Ryan were also introduced.

Nancy asked if there were any corrections to be made to the January minutes as printed in the Nugget; none were given, so it was moved that the minutes be adopted as printed and the motion carried. Nancy then gave out the Treasurer's report and stated that the current balance in the bank account was \$1854.03. She also reported that the dues to the Southeast Federation totaling \$81.25 had been paid and that the bill for the Federation insurance was \$104 and would be paid shortly.

The two upcoming field trips were announced. The first one, set for Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, will be to the Blue Springs crab site in Union Co. Mississippi. Nancy Roberts mentioned that the start time was set for 10a.m., but that she would be staying until 3 o'clock, so anyone who wanted to, could come after lunch. The second field trip, set for Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, will be to Union Chapel Mine and either Sugartown or Mallard Creek Mine in Alabama. The group will meet at Uncle Joe's CITGO in Jasper, AL at 9a.m. This trip is a joint field trip with the Alabama Paleontological Society. Nancy passed out copies of the directions for the March field trip.

Membership total was reported to be 65 currently paid members, consisting of 46 adults and 19 juniors. Nancy said that several other past members had paid today, so the total was nearer 70. She also stated that the membership roster would be completed and passed out at the March meeting.

Host and hostesses were asked to sign up for the April, May and June meetings. It was noted that for March, Clarice Turner, Bob Marshall and Floy Hawkins were bringing the refreshments. President, Nancy Roberts, said that we may not need anyone for the April meeting, so Reginald Rose and Robert Langford signed up to do the refreshments for the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and June was left until next month.

Nancy explained that due to health reasons, the club's current stamp chair, Rena Everett, had asked to be relieved. Some questions were asked about what this entailed, so Nancy explained the stamp program; how the federation sells the stamps that are collected and then uses the proceeds to fund scholarships to the lapidary schools, William Holland and Wild Acres. She explained that by saving stamps and sending them into the federation, NMGMS then gets a chance at getting one of these scholarships. Kathy Westbrook volunteered to take on the position of club stamp chair.

Since club historian, Susan Curry was ill and not present, Nancy asked that anyone who brought in photos, newspaper articles, etc. for the club scrapbook, to please give them to Mary Reed and she would get them to Susan. Robert Langford reported that he needed some follow up articles for the Nugget and requested that one on the beading workshop be turned in, along with some pictures of this workshop.

Reginald Rose gave a report on the club's publicity. He stated that he, along with Bill and Floy Hawkins, had been doing various science programs for the local schools. Reginald also asked that all members let him know what other media outlets in the area could be contacted and given information about our club. He asked for email addresses, phone numbers or mailing addresses for these enterprises.

President Nancy Roberts briefly went over the Junior Rock Hound of the Year award and handed out copies of this program to the junior members. She mentioned that the March meeting would be a good time for any interested junior member to give their presentation.

Next under old business covered, was the printing up of a new club brochure. Mary Reed had gotten a quote from her friend who printed up the last brochure. The cost would be \$55 per 500 copies done in black and white ink on plain paper. Nancy said that she had created the original brochure on her old computer using the Broderbund "Print

Master” program and would see if she could make the changes. John Byzet volunteered to try it on his computer, if Nancy couldn’t do it.

Mary Reed then talked about the upcoming April meeting/program that is set to take place at French Camp on the Natchez Trace near Ackerman, MS. We would be meeting for lunch at the Council House first and then the planetarium has invited us to sit in on some of the seminars that will be going on that day for amateur astronomers. Mary stated that these seminars will be given by professionals in the field. There would be a \$5 per person donation. Mary went on to give a short history of the site and the school there. She mentioned that the planetarium has some excellent telescopes. She also stated that the library auditorium was now available to us for that Saturday, so it was decided that we would finalize this at the March meeting.

New business was then brought up and Nancy explained that in past years, the club has donated money to the library’s book fund to show our appreciation for the use of their facilities. She asked if there was a motion to do this again for this year. Mary Reed asked if we might find out about buying a microwave oven for the library kitchen instead and Floy Hawkins said that she would contact Bonnie Gaines and find out what the library would prefer. A decision on this was tabled until a later date. A vote was then taken on whether or not to have the Brown Bag Auction at our March meeting. All members were in favor of doing this, so Nancy explained how this auction works. Everyone brings two items, each one concealed in a brown paper bag. One nice item is to be rock or lapidary related and the other can be something cute, funny or silly, but no junk, please!

The program for the March meeting was then discussed. March is traditionally NMGMS’s birthday party and Nancy Roberts stated that this one would be the club’s ninth birthday. All members were asked to bring something to display that will show what we all have been doing over the past year in the rock, mineral, gem, fossil or lapidary fields. Nancy said that this was our chance to “show off our stuff”. At this time, copies of the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society’s constitution and bylaws were passed out. Nancy suggested that all members put together their own personal NMGMS club folder containing their copy of the constitution and bylaws, the membership roster, a hard copy of any of the email addresses that they use in dealing with club business and any other papers pertinent to the club. She emphasized that this was especially important for all of the officers and committee chairs, so that when it came time to turn over their job to someone else, all of the necessary information needed for the handling of that position would be contained in that folder. Nancy also mentioned that one amendment had been made to the constitution and bylaws and that was that the beginning of the club’s fiscal year was now January instead of March.

Nancy then reminded members of some upcoming events: the MGMS Gem and Mineral Show in Jackson, MS on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, the Fossil Road Show on March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson, MS and the club’s March 26<sup>th</sup> field trip to Birmingham Ridge, which is being conducted from 9 until noon, for the eighth grade science class of Ms. Summer Allen. Nancy then announced that Harbor Freight had rock tumblers on sale for a very good price and that the door prizes and refreshments would commence after the program. It was then moved that the meeting adjourn. Nancy introduced Richard Keyes, the guest speaker and the program on the Mississippian fossils of North Alabama commenced.

**Respectfully submitted**  
**by Jim Roberts;**  
**Edited and typed by Nancy Roberts**

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### **FOLLOW UP TO: February 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting Program**

At our Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, NMGMS members enjoyed a slide presentation on the Mississippian fossils of Northern Alabama presented by Richard Keyes of Huntsville. Richard’s slides included a geologic map of Alabama, showing where the Mississippian formations were located and then went on to show pictures of specimens he had collected, giving a very good representation of the fauna

found in the Mississippian fossil record. Some of the groups represented were, corals, brachiopods, crinoids, blastoids, starfish, gastropods, and bryozoans. The Mississippian Period was a period of warm, shallow seas when much of North America, except for the far west and the east coast, was under water. Richard's slide presentation was very concise, educational and interesting. This presentation contained in part, picture plates that will be appearing in his new book, soon to be published. We are all looking forward to seeing his book when it comes out, as it will be an excellent field guide to the fossils of the Tennessee River Area. We wish to thank Richard Keyes for the very excellent program that he gave and for sharing some of his expertise in the area of Paleozoic fossils with us.

Submitted by,  
Nancy Roberts



**Photo Provided by Nancy Roberts  
(Richard Keyes and Victoria Langford)**

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### **Rock Swap**

The Central Arkansas Rock Gem and Mineral Club of Little Rock is having the 2010 annual swap meet on April 17 this year at Burns Park in N. Little Rock. We would like to invite MAGS members to attend. The idea is to try and get rockhounds from all over the area to come together for fun, trading, and great fellowship. We would like to promote more joint gatherings in the future for swaps, field trips or whatever. There is no charge to attend or set up a table for trading or selling. There is a large covered area with picnic tables and also more space in the parking lot for those who want to tailgate. Indoor restrooms are next to the location along with a playground for children. Snacks and drinks will be available. Bring something to trade or just come to look around and meet other rockhounds, you are sure to have a

great time. The swap is from 8 AM till darkthirty or when we just can't stand any more fun. Take exit 150 (Military Drive) from Interstate 40 and go north ¼ mile and take the first left and go about ¼ mile to the end of the road. The swap is at the Elder Johnson Pavilion just past the park visitor center. There are signs with maps located along the roads.

From: Parker Noyes and as printed in the MAGS online newsletter

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## **A Chance to Help in a Real Research Project**

Everyone,

Has anyone found banded *Pycnodonte* shells at the Blue Springs site? Or any other Cretaceous site in northeast Mississippi? Bret Bennington at Hofstra Univ. is doing research on this phenomenon and asked me to round up some samples from the Upper Cretaceous of the northeastern Gulf. The attached example (owned by Miss. Off. Geol.) is the only complete specimen I've seen from Blue Springs (or anywhere), but I've found several fragments.



Thanks!

George E. Phillips

Paleontology Curator

Conservation & Biodiversity Section

[Mississippi Museum of Natural Science](#)

[Mississippi Dept. Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks](#)

2148 Riverside Drive

Jackson, Mississippi 39202-1353

(601) 354-7303, ext. 149, work (8:AM-5:PM, Mon-Fri) [Apologies, voice mail is not available.]

(601) 672-9606, mobile (anytime)

**March 26<sup>th</sup> Field Trip to Birmingham Ridge Lime Quarry**

The Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> field trip for NMGMS will be to Birmingham Ridge. This field trip is being conducted for Ms. Summer Allen's eighth grade science class and will be from 9 a.m. until noon. Plan to be there a little early, before the students arrive. Please come out and share your knowledge of and enthusiasm for paleontology and NMGMS! This locale on Birmingham Ridge Road is an old lime quarry and contains numerous Cretaceous period fossils. Lots of large *Exogyra*, oysters and other bi-valves are found there; as a matter of fact, they are literally lying all over the place! Also some shark teeth, bony fish teeth, shark vertebrae and mosasaur vertebrae have been found. The access down into the quarry is fairly easy and so is the collecting. Bring cardboard flats or a bucket and some smaller containers for the little fossils. You can also bring a hand trowel, a screwdriver for prying and your rock hammer, but they are not absolutely necessary, as most of it is surface collecting. We will meet at the quarry at 8:45 a.m. on Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Directions: From Hwy 45 take the Guntown exit onto Hwy 348 and head west. Go about 5.6 miles and there will be a beige store, Graves Market, on the right, turn left here onto Birmingham Ridge Road. Go south less than 1 mile. Where the road makes a bend to the left, the quarry entrance will be on the right. You can see an old metal shed on the property, park in front of this structure. Look for my cardboard NMGMS sign. Please let me know if you are planning on attending this field trip.

Thanks. Nancy Roberts, NMGMS Field Trip Chair

[therockhoundlady@yahoo.com](mailto:therockhoundlady@yahoo.com) Home: 731-689-5336 / Cell: 731-727-5574

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**NMGMS Field Trip: Vulcan Quarry Field Trip for Saturday, April 10, 2010**

As always, the quarry personnel have requested that I call again several days before the 10th to verify that they will be open on that Saturday and can let us in to collect. So watch your emails, or give me a call prior to the 10th.

This is the rescheduled field trip to the Vulcan Quarry in Parsons, TN. This facility is huge and we have a very large area in which to collect. Be prepared to do some climbing, as some of the tailings piles can be a bit steep. There are plenty of easier collecting spots along the quarry roads where we will be. The Devonian fossils are very abundant here. You can't help but step on them! Large crinoid stems and some calyxes, many brachiopods, several types of coral and quite a few trilobites can be found. No one goes home empty handed!

Plan to meet at the quarry office at 7a.m. Saturday morning to sign in and then be escorted back to the collecting area. The quarry closes at noon. so after a lunch stop at the Hardees in Parsons, we will go down to the Hwy 69 road

cuts near the TN River where I have collected trilobites and other Silurian/Devonian fossils. If you would like to spend Friday night at the Deerfield Inn in Parsons, the # is 731-847-4700. Rooms are \$52.99 plus tax per night.

If you can't make the quarry office exactly at 7a.m., that's okay. I contacted the office personnel and you can come anytime as long as you sign in at the office first and tell them that you are with NMGMS. They will escort you back to the collecting site. You still have to be out by noon. The Vulcan Quarry requires that all underage children MUST have a waiver that is signed by a parent before they will be allowed into the quarry to collect, so be sure to fill out the one provided and bring it with you, if you have children attending this field trip. We all have to sign the quarry waiver when we get there. Call or email me if you plan to go and let me know what time you think you might get there, that way if you are not there by seven, I can let the office personnel know who is yet to come. Thanks, Nancy Roberts 731-689-5336 H 731-727-5574C or [therockhoundlady@yahoo.com](mailto:therockhoundlady@yahoo.com) P.S. I will have copies of the waiver available at the March meeting.

Directions From Tupelo: Take Hwy 45N heading to Jackson TN. About 13miles N of Selmer TN at Henderson, you will come to a 4 way stop where Hwy 100 crosses Hwy 45 (this is now a traffic light). Turn right (head east) onto Hwy 100. Take Hwy 100 to Hwy 69 in Decaturville (approx. 30 miles). Turn North (left) onto Hwy 69, heading to Parsons, TN. The quarry is on the right side of Hwy 69 north of Parsons, approx 3 miles N of the Hwy 69 /412 intersection in the town, or about 2 miles N of the Deerfield Inn. (you will see a lot of dump trucks entering the quarry). You must report at the office to sign in.

Directions from Pickwick TN: Take Hwy 128 over the Pickwick Dam, heading toward Savannah. Before you get to Savannah, turn right onto 226, take this Hwy to a "T" stop at Hwy 64. Turn right onto 64, heading east. Shortly after you pass the Savannah Vulcan quarry, turn left onto Hwy 128N. Take this to a "T" stop at Hwy 114. Turn left onto 114. This takes you over the TN River bridge. Stay on this Hwy114/69. About a mile or two after the bridge, Hwy114 goes off to the left DON'T TURN stay straight (this is now Hwy 69N) Take this all the way to Parsons and the quarry. Parsons is approximately 20 miles north of the TN River Bridge.

Optional Directions from Tupelo: Take Hwy 45N to Corinth. Turn onto Hwy 72E and go to Hwy 25 in Iuka. Take Hwy 25N all the way to Hwy 57 in Counce and at the stop sign there, turn right, go over the dam and then follow the directions from Pickwick to Parsons.



**Inline Attachment Follows: NMGMS waiver.txt**

North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society

Release, Waiver and Indemnity Agreement

The Undersigned hereby acknowledges his/her understanding that mineral, rock and fossil collecting is an inherently dangerous activity which can result in serious bodily injury or death, and/or property damage and hereby confirms his/her voluntary assumption of the risk of such injury, death or damage. The Undersigned, in return for the privilege of attending field trips related to the collection of and/or study of minerals, rocks and fossils, or any other event or activity conducted or hosted by the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (NMGMS), hereinafter collectively and individually referred to as "NMGMS Events", hereby releases the NMGMS, NMGMS' members, NMGMS' chairpersons and officers, NMGMS Event leaders or organizers and hosts, landowners and mine or quarry operators from any and all liability claims resulting from injury to or death of the undersigned or his/her minor children or damage to his/her property resulting from any cause whatsoever related to participation in NMGMS Events. The Undersigned agrees to comply with any and all rules and restrictions which may be communicated to the undersigned by the NMGMS Event leader and/or landowner and mine or quarry operator and acknowledges that failure to comply will result in immediate expulsion from the premises. The Undersigned acknowledges that this release covers all NMGMS Events and will remain in effect at all times unless or until it is revoked by written notice to the current President of the NMGMS and receipt of such revocation is acknowledged.

The Undersigned further attests to his/her intent to be legally bound by affixing his/her signature to this release.

Adult Name(s) (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

List all minor/dependent children and ages of Undersigned

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**Let's "Chew the Fat"!**

Come and join fellow NMGMS members for a Dutch-treat supper at the Atlanta Bread Company Restaurant 312 S. Gloster, Tupelo after the March 20th meeting. We can relax, eat, enjoy each other's company, and have a very impromptu brainstorming, idea hashing, and have a heck of a good time!

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**Next Beading Workshop Planned!**

For all of you beaders out there, Nancy Roberts and Floy Hawkins have scheduled the next beading workshop for March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10a.m. until 3 p.m. at the home of Floy Hawkins, 606 S. Church St. Tupelo, MS. In this workshop, we will be continuing to work on the tubular herringbone bracelet and introduce participants to the peyote stitch. We will be making the toggle for the bracelet with the peyote stitch. Please bring a brown bag lunch and any tools or supplies that you already have. If you were at the first workshop, bring the bracelet that you started and the beads that you were using. Please bring any other beads that you would like to work with. We will have some thread, tools and beads on hand. If you could not make the first workshop, please feel free to come to this one. We can get you started on your bracelet and you will catch up fast!

If you are interested and plan to attend, please RSVP Floy Hawkins at 662-231-1178 or email her at [studiohawkins@gmail.com](mailto:studiohawkins@gmail.com). We had lots of fun at the first workshop and everyone enjoyed learning to work with seed beads. Hope to see you there!

**From Nancy**

P.S. This workshop will be a fun and relaxed, where you will get a chance to try your hand at seed beading and see some of the exciting jewelry that you will be able to create using these techniques.

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**Useful Webb Sites**

Here are a few websites that we think everyone would find interesting and useful.

**For Fossils:**

- 1) <http://www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/KPS/pages/fossilphoto.html> (great for Paleozoic fossils)
- 2) <http://www.lakeneosho.org/Paleolist/index.html#91>
- 3) <http://strata.geology.wisc.edu/mibasin/>
- 4) [www.oceansofkansas.com](http://www.oceansofkansas.com) (great for Cretaceous fossils)

**For Rocks and Minerals:**

- 1) [www.Mindat.org](http://www.Mindat.org)
- 2) [www.minerals.net](http://www.minerals.net)
- 3) <http://geology.about.com/library/bl/images/blrockindex.htm> they have great pictures and also have fossil and mineral pictures as well as ID.

**Geology Books:**

- 1) "Dictionary of Geologic Terms" by the American Geological Institute

**Respectfully, Nancy Roberts and Robert Langford**

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**More Fun at the MGMS Rock & Mineral Show**

Jim and I really enjoyed the Jackson club's rock and mineral show this year. We went down on Friday and set up our pop-up camper in the fairgrounds parking lot. There were quite a few campers there this time and we had HOT water in the bathrooms this year, yeah!!!! Bill and Floy Hawkins came down on Friday too, with their camper. We had to hustle to get our camper set up and then all of our displays put into the cases that the Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society (MGMS) provided to us. Floy and I set up one case with all of the beaded jewelry that we have been making and I had brought down a bunch of my TN trilobites for a display case. Bill and Floy did a display composed of the stuff used in their classroom presentation and they also displayed their sphere collection. Jim and I helped Christy Criss set up her booth and get it ready for the weekend sale. We all participated in the Friday evening pot luck supper that MGMS puts on for the set up crew and all of the dealers. Set up day is a great time to be there; you get to visit with all of the club members that are working and there is a certain amount of excitement and anticipation in the air that is catching.

On Saturday and Sunday, Jim and I worked with Christy Criss at her booth, while Bill and Floy helped with ticket sales and worked at the club's demonstration table. It was really great to see some of the other club members there too. Actually a lot of NMGMS members are also members of MGMS. Mary Reed, Susan Curry and Jessie Frye were all there for the weekend. Mary Reed helped out too, at Christy's booth for awhile. She was very helpful to a lot of the customers who needed advice on color selection, etc. Christy sells lots of fantastic gemstones and beads and many of her customers were picking things out for different jewelry projects. It was a lot of fun for those of us who make jewelry to see what the other lapidary artists were doing. Many of the Jackson club members are excellent artists in their own right and had beautiful things set up in their display cases. Needless to say, we all took time out to wander around and buy all kinds of goodies. I managed to get plenty of beads and gemstones along with some very nice display cases for my fossils.

There were many dealers there selling fabulous fossils and I had to keep myself from drooling over them. There were oodles of gorgeous beads and fresh water pearls and lots of lovely things for making your own jewelry. There were lapidary tools of all kinds for sale and of course some all ready made up jewelry, especially wire wrapped things. The kids enjoyed the geode dealer. They were awe struck when they saw their geode cracked open, and the wonderful crystal interior exposed. The two days went by very fast and of course we were all dead tired after the weekend affair, but we had such a good time doing it. Sunday evening, Jim and I helped Christy pack up all of her inventory and then she, Jim, Bill, Floy and I had a very tasty supper of Chicken Spaghetti in the Hawkins' trailer. We gave a toast to another great show and all agreed that we were already looking forward to the next one!

Submitted by,  
**Nancy Roberts**



Display 1, How Mineral are Used  
(Photo provided by Floy Hawkins)



Display 2, Completed Beading Projects  
(Photo provided by Floy Hawkins)



Display 3, Mineral & Rock Spheres  
(Photo provided by Floy Hawkins)

**North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society  
2010 Meeting Schedule**

**Sat., March 20<sup>th</sup>, Time 1 to 3 p.m.**

Hostesses/Hosts: Bob Marshall, Clarice Turner,  
and Floy Hawkins  
Lee County Public Library  
Program: NMGMS Members will  
be displaying their projects  
and collections from the past year

**Sat., April 17<sup>th</sup>, Time: Meet at Noon**

French Camp Historic Site  
and Planetarium  
Along the Natchez Trace

**Sat., May 15<sup>th</sup>, Time 1 to 3 p.m.**

Hostesses/Hosts: Robert Langford and  
Reginald Rose  
Lee County Public Library  
Program: Working with Polymer  
Clay, Flow Hawkins and  
Nancy Roberts

**Sat., June 19 Time 1 to 3 p.m.**

Hostesses/Hosts: Robert Langford and Kim  
Southworth  
Lee County Public Library  
Program: DVD  
"Leonardo the Dinosaur"

**July through August Summer Break  
(No Meetings)**

**Sat., September 18<sup>th</sup>, Time 1 to 3 p.m.**

Hostesses/Hosts: John & Ann Byzet  
Lee County Public Library  
Program: Basic Mineral Identification,  
Robert A. Langford, RPG

**Sat., October 30<sup>th</sup>, Time 11 to 3 p.m.**

Annual Club Picnic and Possible Rock Swap  
Location: TBA

**Around the Country**

**Rockhound Shows**



**April 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> : 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gen & Mineral  
Show, Westgate Park, Dothan, AL**

**Dothan Gem & Mineral Club**

Sat: 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Sun: 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

James Grant Recreation Center, 501 Recreation Road,  
Free Parking

Show Contact: Arnie Lambert,

344-792-7116

Email contact: [arlambert@comcast.net](mailto:arlambert@comcast.net)

**April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> : Memphis Mineral, Fossil, and  
Jewelry Show, Memphis International Agricenter**

**(MIA), Expo Center, West Pavilion & A-Wing**

**Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society**

Sat. and Sun.: Hours not announced

MIA, 7777 Walnut Grove, Memphis, TN

Costs: Adults \$5, Children 12 and under \$2, and Scouts  
Free

Show Contact: W.C. McDaniel 901-274-7706

Reprinted from the *Lodestar* & the SFMS website

***The Nugget***

**NMGMS Newsletter**

c/o Robert A. Langford, Editor

121 Willow Creek Road

Saltillo, MS 38866

**Directions**

**Directions to Lee County Library**

Take East Main Street to Madison St. (near United Methodist Church); turn  
North; go two blocks to the corner of Madison & Jefferson St. Library is  
there. **Or** from Gloster Street turn east on to Jefferson St. until you get to  
Madison St.