



March 2018

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President's Report

– Craig Hamilton

“How is it working for you”? Maybe you have heard this expression



before. As being President it is expected of that person to be a leader, with power and authority. Yes that may be true. Also that person at the top can and should be one who leads by example through direction and encouragement.

Work has never been something in my life that I've been afraid of. Not always enjoyable, but necessary. That is if you want to get the job done.

WORK: here are a couple definitions of the word (WORK). 1. activity in which one exerts strength or performs a task. 2. Sustained physical or mental effort to achieve an objective or result.

The above mentions several aspects of WORK. How about a team of horses or a crew on a ship. Many tasks with many hands can accomplish great feats of work.

SFMS has work to do. We have a good team. Let's keep up the force of work to accomplish our tasks and objectives. As I see SFMS, it is an organization of like-minded individuals connected by a common goal and expected to work together to ACCOMPLISH THE OBJECTIVES.

PLAN ----- WORK ----- EXECUTE

So we can see ourselves in this way. Where is my place in the PLAN. What is my part of the WORK. And, what is my part as a team member to EXECUTE. How are we (US) going to implement the Plan.

I am thankful for our SFMS TEAM. Not one office, not one person is unnecessary. On the contrary. We ALL are necessary in the function of this organization. It will take TEAM WORK.

We as the overseer for the Southeast area of the U.S. Need to continue to inform, educate and encourage ALL our CLUBS. I also would like to ask ALL State Directors to plan on attending at least one yearly SFMS meeting. Please make every effort to contact and visit ALL the member Clubs in your area of responsibility. Thank you State Directors and the SFMS Clubs will THANK you. Be encouraged. Ask people in your Club to take an active part in SFMS. We NEED YOU.

Hope to see you at the next SFMS meeting.

First Vice President's Report

Second Vice President's Report

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Safety Committee

Bob Green, Chair

Greetings and welcome to the near end of winter. It has been cold in the upstate this week, a carry-over from last week. The cold did kill back some of the bushes that got a head start and as usual haste makes waste. Spring is rapidly approaching and with the time change, we do have more opportunities to get the chores that we have been postponing finally started and hopefully finished.

Last year we had the pool deck redone, we now have a very lovely concrete deck that replaced the spalling concrete that had been in place for some 30 years. The bad part is the folks that did the concrete, happened to let too much concrete get into the water return to the pump and we have limited flow, then as they were working on the new deck, someone got the idea that they had to cut around one of the



water returns, so now I have to get that fixed. So the lessons from this are; make certain you know the contractor and also monitor what they are doing. Unfortunately we were out of town when the work was being performed. This has little to do with safety other than to watch your money.

Spring is a great time. Our flowers have been really pretty this year. Spring is actually a little late for transplanting certain trees, but we have been blessed with rain on something like 5 of the last 6 weekends, so no transplanting. Anyway, one episode that made me realize that even when the plants are dormant, their root system is still alive. After we moved into the house a number of years ago, I was transplanting Iris from an area adjacent to the woods. I had forgotten that there was poison ivy in the area, so about 3 days later; I had a wonderful case of the itches and welts. Poison ivy and mosquitos are my favorite species. I am also the mosquito magnet at our house. Since that time, I have been waging an on-going war with the poison ivy.

We also let the wisteria get out of control, so I have been trying to get that under control. The wisteria is pretty, but it is just a notch away from kudzu as far as speed of growth and the way it spreads and oh by the way, it kills the trees, it climbs into. As a result, we have a number of dead trees to remove and this calls for an expert to do this. I do not want to be on "America's Funniest Home Video" program, by having a tree suddenly appear in one of the bedrooms. Again, the safety aspect being, do not risk life and limb, trying to remove trees and other objects that are beyond your abilities.

So, spring is a time for rebirth, just be careful and watch out for those things that can make your spring a time of recovery from an unexpected event.

Be safe and enjoy the warmer weather when it finally gets here..

Obituary

Ronald Joseph Denton

(July 2, 1939 - February 19, 2018)

Mr. Ronald Joseph Denton, age 78 of Brasstown Creek Estates, Young Harris, passed away peacefully, with his loving wife by his side and surrounded by close friends, on Monday February 19, 2018, in the Union General Hospital, following an extended illness. Mr. Denton was born on Jul2, 1939, in Jamaica, NY, the son of the late Joseph C Denton and the late Dorothy Lee Denton. Ronald was a member of Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church and the Ft. Benning Masonic Lodge F&AM. He began his career with the U S Customs service as a Sky Marshall and retired as a

Senior Special Agent from Customs' National Firearms Program Staff at Fort Benning, GA, as an instructor, after spending many years of working drug interdiction in FL, NC and SC. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Robert Lee Denton, his only sibling, a NYPD Officer, killed in the line of duty. Surviving Mr. Denton are his loving wife and best friend of thirty-two years, Anna Wetherington Denton of Young Harris, one daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Todd Pangman of Centreville, VA, one son and daughter-in-law, Ron (Jr) and Karen Denton of Isle of Palms, SC, sister-in-law, Ilene W. Caton of Gastonia, NC, brother-in-law, Les Wetherington of New Bern, NC, nieces and nephews, Michelle, Angie, Kasi, Evan and Dana; four grandchildren. Matthew, Bryce, Alexandra and Connor, a host of church family and many friends. Ron loved rockhounding, taking classes at William Holland school of Lapidary arts and especially opal cutting. **He was Past President of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Society, past president of the Tri-State gem & Mineral Club and east Alabama Gem & Mineral Society.** He was a Towns County Sherriff's Office CLEA volunteer. He loved boating, golfing, touring the US in his motor home, and taking cruises with his wife and friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date at the Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church with interment to following in the Green Leak Memorial Park Cemetery, in New Bern, NC. In lieu of flowers if you wish, the family requests that donations be made to Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church or William Holland School of Lapidary arts in memory of Mr. Denton. Mountain View Funeral Home in Blairsville is in charge of arrangements. You may sign the family guestbook and send condolences on line at www.mountainviewfuneralhome.com.

Member Classified Advertising

(members of affiliated clubs/societies may submit classified advertising for personal materials that are related to the goals of the Federation and its member clubs/societies).

GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS

February 24 & 25, 2018, Jackson, MS

Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society

59th Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show

Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds, Jackson, Mississippi

Saturday, February 24, 2018 (9 am to 6 pm)

Sunday, February 25, 2018 (10 am to 5 pm)

Admission:

Adults \$6

Students \$3

Scouts & Leaders in Uniform \$2

Children 5 & under—Free

MGMS website: www.missgems.org ☼ Over 25 dealers of gems, fossils, minerals, jewelry, lapidary tools, beads, and more

☼ Demonstrations of lapidary art including flint knapping, cabochon cutting, and jewelry making

☼ Exhibits and educational opportunities by colleges and state organizations

☼ Children's activities (adults are welcomed too)

☼ Touch and See Table

☼ Displays by MGMS members of their own collections or lapidary work

☼ Hourly door prizes, and a “GRAND PRIZE” drawing.

March 24-25, 2018, Lexington, KY

Sponsored by Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Club

Clarion Hotel, 1950 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY

Near Exit 115 off I-75/I-64

Hours: Sat 9 AM-6 PM, Sun 11 AM-5 PM

Show includes minerals, jewelry, equipment dealers, exhibits, KY Agate, fluorescent displays, hour prizes, silent auction.

Admission: \$2 Adults, \$1 Children, \$5 Max Family. Scouts in uniform free.

Info:

Jane Volk, lexgemshow@outlook.com

Allen Ferrell, kyrock2010kentucky@yahoo.com

April 28 – 29, 2018; Memphis, TN

Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show

“The Earth Wide Open”

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

Memphis International Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Rd. Memphis, TN

Saturday, April 28 9-6:00 and Sunday, April 29 10-5,

Adults \$5.00, 2 day pass \$8.00, Children 12 and under \$2.00. Scouts in uniform free

Dealers, Exhibits, Demonstrations, Grand and Hourly door prizes. Kids Area with

Rockzone featuring Gem and Fossil Dig, Geode Bowling, and Rocks Around the Clock.

Includes “The MAGS Rock Banquet” a table full of rocks that look like real food.

Developed and maintained by the club since 1980

web: www.TheEarthWideOpen.com, email info@theearthwideopen.com .

Show Chair James Butchko 901 743-0058

Dealer Chair WC McDaniel 901-274-7706, 901-490-3575

July 28 to August 5, 2018, Spruce Pine, NC

The 34th Annual Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show

put on by the Parkway Fire and Rescue to raise money for new equipment.

Over 60 US and International dealers with almost any kind of jewelry, gemstone and mineral specimens, fossil, lapidary equipment and more you might want. Each booth is 20 foot by 40 foot so there are LOTS of items for sale.

Parking and admission are free.

Food is available.

Hours: 10 to 6 daily with many vendors open earlier and later because they are staying with their booth.

Address: 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine, NC 28777. This location is on the hill above the previous location.

Contact: Donna Collis collisdonna@yahoo.com 828-765-5519

2018 SFMS Officers

<p>President</p> <p>Craig Hamilton 4046 Conga St Jacksonville, FL 32257 904-994-4729 cbhshell@att.net</p>	<p>First Vice President</p> <p>Reggie Bolton 4781 Bear Creel Rd. Sterrett, AL 35147 205-419-9455 reggie@newenvirons.net</p>	<p>Second Vice President (Acting) - Teresa Polly</p> <p>6115 Atkins Rd Knoxville, TN 37918 865-258-0795 teresapolly@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Jeri Heer 7301 N Howard Av Tampa FL 33604-5224 419-344-9999 Jheerx6@aol.com</p>
<p>Membership</p> <p>Jason Hamilton 7141 Natal Ave Jacksonville, FL 32219 904-786-7605 Silver-rocks@comcast.net</p>	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>(Acting) - Barbi Beatty</p> <p>7700 Fountainbleau Rd Ocean Springs, MS 39564 228-238-9900 mgcgms@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Assistant Treasurer</p> <p>Barbi Beaty</p> <p>7700 Fountainbleau Rd Ocean Springs, MS 39564 228-238-9900 mgcgms@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Immediate Past President</p> <p>Teresa Polly</p> <p>6115 Atkins Rd Knoxville, TN 37918 (865) 258-0795 teresapolly@bellsouth.net</p>
<p>Mayo Foundation President</p> <p>William (Bill) Waggener</p> <p>1909 Moores Mill Road Atlanta, GA 30318-1309 404.354.8752 waggener80@yahoo.com</p>	<p>AFMS President</p>		<p>Editor</p> <p>John Atwell Rasmussen</p> <p>276 Lacy Lane Easley, SC 29640 (864) 607-6990 sfms.lodestar@gmail.com</p>

2018 SFMS State Directors

<p style="text-align: center;">Alabama</p> <p>Philip W. Kaiser, Jr. 2447 River Forest Dr Mobile, AL 36605 251-479-7447 kaiserpw@att.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Florida</p> <p>Jeff Ursillo 15234 Lakes of Delray Blvd # 251 Delray Beach, FL 33484 561-706-9549 bnmjjeff@aol.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Georgia</p> <p>Scott Forward 424 Tanglewood Dr Canton, GA 30115 (770) 479-9678 Cell: (678) 993-5276 scotforward@ymail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Kentucky</p> <p>Charles Oldham 7405 West Highway 22 Crestwood, KY 40014 502-541-6953 charlesoldham@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Louisiana</p> <p>Dr Bridget Joubert PO Box 5402 Alexandria, LA 71307 318-443-5184 jemarler@aol.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mississippi</p> <p>Buddy Shotts P.O. Box 427 Lucedale, MS 39452 (601) 466-0690 buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">North Carolina</p> <p>Gail Ferguson 6851 Bryanstone Way Fayetteville, NC 28314 (317)-440-1111 transformationarts@outlook.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">South Carolina</p> <p>Bob Green 115 Sycamore Drive Marietta, SC 29661 (864) 836-5896 greentop@bellsouth.net</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Tennessee</p> <p>Robert Morghan 181 Harmony Acres Dr E, Jonesborough, TN 37659 423-956-9486 morganjewelry@msn.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Virginia</p> <p>William Osburn 7720 Newport Road Catawba, VA 24070 540-384-5039 bill@schorlite.com</p>	

2018 SFMS Committee Chairs

BULLETIN CONTEST: Mark Easterbrook, 6701 Dorchester Road, Apt 1007, North Charleston, SC 29418 803-276-4016 asgardsgc@earthlink.net

BOUNDARIES: Buddy Shotts, P.O.Box 427, Lucedale, MS 39452 601-466-0690
buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net

CONSTITUTION/BY-LAWS: Lisa Fitch, 10033 Kingston Rd, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520 228-216-4684 lapidaryarts@hotmail.com

EDUCATION: Lisa Roberts, 10328 Briar Bay Loop, Jonesboro, GA 30238; 423-494-7096;
antleycreations@yahoo.com

FIELD TRIPS DMC Program: Charles and Lori Carter, 4138 Steve Reynolds Blvd, Norcross, GA 30093-3059 770-998-7949 sfms-dmc@amfed.org

HISTORIAN: Don Monroe, 350 Lapidary Ln., Young Harris, GA 30582 706-379-9662;
donmonroe@windstream.net

INSURANCE LIAISON: Barbi Beatty, 7700 Fountainbleau Rd, Ocean Springs, MS 39564 228-238-9900 mgcgms@bellsouth.net

LONG RANGE PLANNING: David Wayment, PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432 aastainedglass@bellsouth.net Lisa Roberts, 10328 Briar Bay Loop, Jonesboro, GA 30238 423-494-7096 Antleycreations@yahoo.com; Teresa Polly, 6115 Atkins Rd, Knoxville, TN 37918 865-258-0795 teresapolly@bellsouth.net

NOMINATIONS: Teresa Polly, 6115 Atkins Rd, Knoxville, TN 37918 865-258-0795
teresapolly@bellsouth.net

SAFETY: Bob Green, 116 Sycamore Dr, Marietta, SC 29661 864-836-5896 greentop@bellsouth.net

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Marty Hart, 4935 Olivia Dr, Antioch, TN 37013 615-331-2690
ACROY@gemizo.com

VIDEO PROGRAMS: cJason Hamilton, 7141 Natal Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 904-294-4744 Silver-Rocks@comcast.net

SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS: David Wayment, PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432 aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

UNIFORM RULES: Leslie Wayment. P.O.Box 780791. Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

WAYS & MEANS: Reggie Bolton, 4781 Bear Creek Rd, Sterrett, AL 35124 205-678-8772
reggie@newenvirons.net

WEBMASTER: Jeff Ursillo, 15234 Lakes of Delray Blvd #251, Delray Beach, FL 33484 561-706-9549 bnmjjeff@aol.com

WORKSHOP DIRECTOR: Jim & Cindy Reed 5740 Hebron Lane, Lakeland, FL 33812 863-644-6665 rocks57@tampabay.rr.com

WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR: David Wayment, PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432 aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

WILLIAM HOLLAND DIRECTOR: Kristine Robertson 229 N. Kentucky Avenue Lakeland, FL 33801 (863) 640-2887 roberkm33@icloud.com

WILLIAM HOLLAND REGISTRAR: Amy Bland 4408 Orangewood Loop East, (863) 205-6565
registraramybland@gmail.com

WILDACRES DIRECTOR: Gail DeLuca (865) 6078070 gail@whitefoxbeads.com

WILDACRES REGISTRAR: Linda Matvy, (865) 357-7917, wildacresregistrar@gmail.com

2018 Annual Meeting Host: Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society - September 21-23, 2018 Jason Hamilton, 7141 Natal Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 904-294-4744 Silver-Rocks@comcast.net

2018 Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. Officers/Director

<p>President</p> <p>William (Bill) Waggener</p> <p>1909 Moores Mill Road Atlanta, GA 30318-1309</p> <p>404.354.8752</p> <p>waggener80@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Vice President</p> <p>Teresa Polly</p> <p>6115 Atkins Rd Knoxville, TN 37918 (865) 258-0795</p> <p>teresapolly@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Wayne M. Dodd</p> <p>10495 Stonefield Landing Johns Creek, GA 30097 (770) 497-9790</p> <p>wmdodd1@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>SFMS Education Chair</p>
	<p>Director</p> <p>Charlotte Mayo Bryant</p> <p>506 Rain Song Rd. Dalton, GA 30270 (706) 278-8344</p>	<p>Director</p> <p>Janet P. Steeper</p> <p>725 Dayton Valley Rd Dayton, NV 89403 662.915.2154</p> <p>janetsteeper@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Jeri Heer</p> <p>7301 N Howard Av Tampa FL 33604-5224 419-344-9999</p> <p>Jheerx6@aol.com</p>

2018 SFMS Representatives to AFMS Committees

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year: Marty Hart, 4935 Olivia Dr, Antioch, TN 37013 615-331-2690
ACROY@gemizo.com

Boundaries: Buddy Shotts, P.O. Box 427, Lucedale, MS 39452 601-466-0690
buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net

Bulletin Editors: Mark Easterbrook, 6701 Dorchester Rd Apt 1007, North Charleston, SC 29418 803-276-4016
asgardsgc@earthlink.net

Education: Danny Griffin, 1320 Byrd Cir, Kingston, TN 37763 865-406-8802
gcjinc@comcast.net

Endowment Fund: David Wayment, PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

Regional VP, AFMS: David Wayment, PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

Safety: Bob Green, 116 Sycamore Dr, Marietta, SC 29661 864-836-5896
greentop@bellsouth.net

Supplies & Publications: David Wayment, PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978-0791 772-532-6432
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

Uniform Rules: Leslie Wayment, P.O. Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978 772-539-2409
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

Ways & Means: Reggie Bolton, 4781 Bear Creek Rd, Sterrett, AL 35124 205-678-8772

reggie@newenvirons.net

Web Master: Jeff Ursillo, 15234 Lakes of Delray Blvd #251, Delray Beach, FL 33484 561-706-9549
bnmjjeff@aol.com

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