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President's Report

– Craig Hamilton, President

Hello everyone. I trust you all have weathered the Winter and now are ready for some more Spring like days.



The SFMS Meeting in Augusta was well attended, but I would like to see more of our members join us. It is very important to keep information flowing to our Clubs.

The SFMS is currently looking for a 2nd Vice President for 2018. Hearty thanks to Teresa Polly for remaining and filling that position for now.

Also, we need a new Assistant Treasurer because Barbi Beatty has moved into the Treasurers office. SFMS needs to fill these positions. Please consider this important part of the function for SFMS to remain strong and effective.

Little ROCK stuff now. Did you know “Florida has Rocks”. Yes we do. Just a little insight concerning rocks in Florida. Over the years I have talked to many people who think that Florida does not have rock. So folks think all we have is SAND! We may have an over abundance of sand in the state, but under it all is Limestone. Soft, hard and Very Hard. The really hard stuff is called Chert. The Indians used it extensively for tool making and arrowheads. Why we even have petrified wood. I know of several locations where wood can be found.

A short list of Rocks and Minerals are: Limestone, petrified wood, agatized coral, from many locations. State stone is “Tampa Bay Coral”. Others are: quartz, kaolin, clay, calcite, gypsum, phosphate, monazite, ilmenite, rutile, dolostone, and sand. Shell rock in Florida is known as Coqunia. Plus, building sand.

To learn more information about Florida's Heavy Mineral sands you are invited to attend The International Sand Collectors Society's meetings September 21-23, 2018. This meeting will occur with the Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society Fall Show the same weekend. The location is at the Morocco Temple on St.Johns Bluff Rd., Jacksonville, Florida

First Vice President's Report

Second Vice President's Report

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

State Representative Reports

Committee Reports

Safety

– Bob Green, Safety Chair

Happy end to winter, maybe. It has been a somewhat unusual winter and it continues. I won 3rd prize and get to go to Toronto next week and it should be noted there is snow there.

Hopefully the weather is getting closer to normal, whatever normal is now-a-days. It has been warm and the outdoors are slowly getting greener. We have been working outdoors whenever the weather permits. As many in the south remember, we have had many weekends of rain. Yes, we need rain. We have had several instances of intermittent cold and that has stunted many plants, however the pollen is at record levels.

This brings us to the message this month; your personal health. This includes not only monitoring and understanding your personal health with regular visits to your personal doctor for you annual check-up and understanding what your body is telling you. And we all must be very diligent with our outside activities. In other words many of us are really lucky to have achieved our elevated age. As many of us age, our agility and balance is diminished. This should mean we older folks be more careful with outdoor activities. As many remember, several years ago, I ruptured my Achilles tendon doing something stupid. This was a real wake-up call and I keep the boot in a very visible place and my temporary handicap sticker also clearly visible as a reminder. I do not wish anyone the agony of a ruptured Achilles. So, do what is within your body's capabilities. A friend of ours has heart issues and he sometimes overdoes it and has to take off



a day or two to recover from his over-doing it. His job requires a lot of fairly strenuous activities. Anyway, he has the perfect monitor, his wife.

On the agility side, we have a rock garden and weeding the garden requires walking through the various arrangements. I learned over the last couple of years that my agility has diminished. Last year, I had our small over-active dog close by. The dog is very inquisitive and in the span of an hour, the dog tripped me twice, the first time I was annoyed at the dog, the second time, I was annoyed at myself for not paying attention to what he was up to. Fortunately in both cases, the only thing injured was my ego.

And with outdoor activities, wear the proper personal protection, safety glasses in particular. Proper footwear is also required. A very long time ago, I ran into a young man that had lost a couple of toes. I asked how he did that and his answer was he was mowing grass in his bathing suit and wearing flip-flops. His foot slipped on a slope and his foot intersected with the mower.

I know a friend who used her weed whacker while she was wearing shorts. The debris generated by the weed whacker impacted her legs and she had multiple small scratches on her legs. So wear long pants when doing such activities.

And as many of you may remember, several years ago, the company I work for had a safety record of 40 million hours without a lost time accident. About that time, higher end flip-flops, or whatever they are called when they cost more than a dollar was the rage. In the span of two (2) months, we had seven (7) lost time accidents all trips and falls and all but one associated with the flip-flops.

So, wear what is responsible and be careful. Do not over-do it.

And as last month be safe and enjoy the warmer weather when it finally gets here..

DMC Field Trip

January DMC Field Trip Report

Hosted by the Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club

By Marlin Swikert

On January 13, fifty two amateur paleontologists from various clubs descended on a Vulcan limestone quarry in Florida. It was a bit breezy & chilly by Florida standards, but that never stopped a true fossil hunter! Within several hours most everyone had a bucket full of 30 MYA (Million Years Ago) marine fossils...echinoids, bivalve and gastropod shell casts & molds, worm tubes, sponges and coral. We also had "Bob", a "Limestone Retriever", who would pick up a chunk of limestone and drop it at your



feet (or in your bucket) then proudly give you a "woof" of approval! A true Rock Hound! There was much camaraderie between the groups and swapping stories of their favorite digs. After determining I had no new species or museum quality specimens, I decided to make a collage of my Vulcan finds. I glued most of my finds on a piece of fossiliferous limestone and added a little lacquer coating...voila...my "Vulcan Mine Meld". (Trekkie fans will understand the reference!) BIG thanks to the quarry people for allowing us to poke around the old mine.



[Clubs that are interested in the SFMS DMC field trip sharing program can learn more about the program and download a membership application form from the DMC pages on the SFMS website: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/dmc/dmc.htm>]



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

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

May 11 – 13, 2018; Marietta, GA



www.gamineral.org
A Non-Profit Educational
Organization

ROCK SHOW

*To help our members educate
ourselves and the public
in Earth science topics*

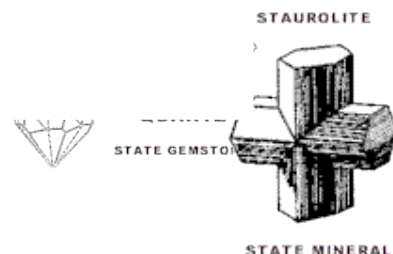
The Georgia Mineral Society's
50th Annual Mother's Day Weekend

**Celebrating
50 Years
of Rocks!!!**

Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show

2018	Friday	May 11	10 AM – 6 PM
	Saturday	May 12	10 AM – 6 PM
	Sunday	May 13	Noon – 5 PM

EXCITING AUCTION SATURDAY AT 1 PM



**Cobb Civic Center
548 South Marietta Pkwy SE
Marietta, GA**

Over 30 Dealers!

Door Prizes!

*Special Door Prizes
for Students!*

*Win a Great Prize for
Yourself and for
Your School!*



Free Parking!

Free Admission!

Free Demos!



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

November 10 & 11, 2018; Melbourne, FL

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society

45th Annual Parade of Gems Show

November 10 & 11, 2018

50 Dealers displaying & selling Jewelry, gems, minerals, crystals, fossils, tools, rocks, slabs.

Demonstrations; hourly prizes; grand prize

Children's Mineral Discoveries

Melbourne Auditorium

[625 East Hibiscus Blvd.](#)

[Melbourne, FL 32901](#)

More info; www.canaveral-mgs.com

Show Chairman,

Don McLamb

[570 Seabreeze Drive](#)

[Indialantic, FL 32903](#)

321-723-2592

fdjmc@aol.com

November 16 – 18, 2018, Columbia, SC

2018
51st Annual

Gem Mineral & Jewelry Show

Jamil Temple
206 Jamil Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210
Exit 106 off I-26

Special Grand Prize Drawing Award for 2017
Calcite with Celestite from Clay County, Ohio
Donated by Universal Rock Shop
Value \$240.00

Nov. 16, 10-6
Nov. 17, 10-6
Nov. 18, 12-5

Adults \$5.00...
Children 16 & Under Free
3 Day Pass \$10.00

All Military & Dependents
FREE with ID
803-736-9317
www.cgms.rocks

\$1.00 Off Coupon

Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
A Non-Profit Educational Organization

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