



THE MOUNTAIN GEM - December 2019

Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina



EDITOR'S NOTE

Stacy Walbridge



Up near the Canadian border there is an asbestos mine/quarry called the VAG quarry. At one time it was the largest producer of asbestos in North America.

The quarry has been closed for several years and is classified as an EPA Superfund site due to the environmental effects of processing the asbestos. When it was open, mineral collecting was allowed on the weekends and some of the prettiest red and orange garnets were found there. The quarry is now fenced and guarded so mineral collecting has not been allowed for several years and probably won't ever be allowed again. I always wanted to find some of those garnets but only groundhogs get to dig there now.



"Still Diggin" on Belvidere Mountain Eden Mills, Vermont,
Printed by permission - Fred Wilda Watercolor @
<http://naturesfinestcreations.com>

Several years ago Kathi and I were searching for wulfenite in a remote area of Arizona. I was prowling around on the side of a hill while Kathi was surface skimming down by the trail when a white pickup truck came down the mountain and stopped beside Kathi. I was a little concerned as we were miles away from anyone and hadn't expected

Franklin Gem and Mineral Society

Club Officers and Board of Directors

President: Jane Morgan, (828-342-8703)
Past President: Al Pribble, (828-342-3119)
Vice President: Arlon Eldridge, (828-369-5271)
Secretary: Susan Fritz, (828-524-4936)
Treasurer: Lake Holland, (828-369-5421)
Assistant Treasurer: Kathi Walbridge, (828-349-9615)
Museum Manager: Duane Haskell, (828-349-5123)
Director (2020): Larry Ellert, (828-349-0774)
Director (2020): Tom Parker, (828-342-3619)
Director (2019): Diane Mason, (706-379-1718)
Director (2019): Tom Sterrett, (828-349-3774)

Committees

Membership: Tom Parker and Diane Mason
Museum Curator: Larry Ellert, (828-349-0774)
Curator Emeritus: Fred Plesner, (828-349-4224)
Museum Gift Shop: Anamay Rossomando (828-349-2807), Vicki Knisley (828-371-4954), & Diane Mason
Museum Workshop: Virginia Bennis (631-830-5403)
Publicity: George Fritz, (828-524-4936)
Field Trip Coordinator: Marsha Harmon, (828 369-7262)
Program Coordinator: Kathi Walbridge
Museum Calendar: Jay Mooney, (678-488-0620)
Gemborees: Kathy Green, (941-387-4397), Norm Holbert (825-421-7776)
Education/Tours: Marsha Harmon, (828 369-7262)
Asst Education/Tours: Ron Rossomando (828-349-2807)
Scholarships: Al Pribble
Newsletter Editor: Stacy Walbridge [fgmseditor@gmail.com]

The Club is a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Southeast Federation of the Mineralogical Societies.



The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, is a 501 (c)(3) organization and donations may be tax deductible. Please remember us when planning your estate.

Club Website: <http://www.fgmm.org>

Club Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/franklingems>

Club Newsletter: fgmseditor@gmail.com,

Club Contact E-mail: franklingemsociety@gmail.com

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company so I grabbed my hammer and walked down to the truck.

I could see Kathi talking to the driver and pointing up the hill towards me. As I approached, the driver got out of his truck and we introduced ourselves. Come to find out he was from New Hampshire and was out mineral collecting for the day while his buddy was in Tucson for the annual gem and mineral show. He had driven to Arizona from New Hampshire and decided to make the most of his trip by searching for different minerals in the states that he crossed.

We traded stories about some common areas where we collected in New England when he said that he had collected at an old asbestos quarry in northern Vermont. I realized that he was talking about the VAG Quarry so I told him of my desire to find one of those beautiful garnets that used to be found there. He motioned me over to the back seat of his truck and pulled out a flat of minerals. In the flat were several small red and orange garnets from the VAG quarry. He handed me a red Garnet and said that he had plenty and wanted me to have this one. I was dumbfounded and at that moment realized that rock collectors are some of the most generous and nicest people that I've ever met.



During this time of year I like to think of all the things that I'm thankful for and look forward to the new year with renewed hope for the good things that will come. Throughout this issue are sprinkled comments by club officers and committee members on what they are thankful for and their hopes for the new year. For me I'm looking forward to some great field trips, improving my wire wrapping, and getting to better know some of the other members.



"As the winds start to blow, the leaves fall and winter is here the year is coming to a close. As I look back over the past months and think of members that have passed on and others that have been ill, I am thankful for the time we have had with each other, old members and new ones and remember the ones too sick to be with us. We have had a lot of things come together and projects getting done. There has been a lot of interest and members pulling together to help in all the events. I am glad to see the new members stepping up to help as well as our old ones. Sometimes I (and the board) get so preoccupied that we don't always get the chance to say Thank You to ALL the members and how much we do appreciate your hard work. How we love the flowers around the Museum, how we like hearing the fountain again, how much we appreciate the host/host scheduling/and the sales in the Gift Shop, and anytime we hear "I can help with that". We do appreciate you. Thank You All for making this past year a wonderful one. Have a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!" **Jane Morgan**



"As a member of the club I enjoy taking pictures at the monthly meetings. Being able to share the photos of member creations for the newsletter for those who cannot attend to be able to see. Also to work with all of the newspapers who publish my submissions of our meetings. My hope for the coming year is for everyone to enjoy good health and enjoy life." **George Fritz**

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Minutes: November 21, 2019

Susan Fritz

Photographs by George Fritz

President Jane Morgan called the meeting to order on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the John C. Carpenter Community Building.

President – As President Jane Morgan was busy taking care of our refreshments, Vice President Arlon Eldridge called the meeting to order on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 6:35 p.m. at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building.

Vice President – Arlon Eldridge announced the passing of our member, Louise Maney, on 11/08/19. The membership stood and took a moment of silence and prayer to remember Louise.

Minutes – Arlon Eldridge asked for any corrections, deletions or additions to the October 2019 minutes as printed in the newsletter. There being none, a motion was made by Stacy Walbridge and seconded by Diane Mason that the minutes be accepted. Voted and passed.

Treasurer – Lake Holland reported that we were in the plus column for the month of October.

Membership – Tom Parker reported 33 members, one visitor and one guest.

Museum Manager – Duane Haskell did not have anything new to report.

Curator – Larry Ellert reported that the inventory is completed. They will be putting out some new displays; in particular the trilobite.

Curator Emeritus – Fred Plesner visited Colorado and is donating a large specimen of purpurite and another specimen of pumice.

Gift Shop – Diane Mason stated things are slow as we are now down to having the museum open only on Saturdays. She thanked volunteer hosts. On Friday, 01/17, she will hold a “Make It” day at the museum focusing on wire wrapped earrings. She invited all who have already taken the wire wrap class to come in and help out. All items made will be donated for sale in the gift shop.

Newsletter Editor – Stacy Walbridge stated the newsletter deadline is Tuesday, 12/09.



New Members Earl McGaughey and
Varshana Dholakia



Purpurite specimen donated by Fred Plesner

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Minutes (Continued)

Publicity – George Fritz reported he submitted a photo of Jenny McMahan, mini-grant recipient, to the newspapers requesting publication.

Field Trips – Marsha Harmon has a field trip planned to Chunky Gal on 12/07. Please see her for details. Fairy cross samples collected at Brasstown are on display on the back table.



Staurolite (Fairy Cross) samples recently collected near Brasstown

Education – Marsha Harmon hosted a tour this morning with 3 & 4 year olds from Macon Program for Progress. She has had two other tours in the past two weeks. She thanked all who assisted with hosting.

Scholarships – Al Pribble announced that a \$300 mini-grant has been presented to science teacher Jenny McMahan, Nantahala School. Macon Middle School is now interested in a grant; this will be discussed with the Board of Directors..

Programs – Kathi Walbridge reported our General meeting for December will be our end-of-year dinner/party on Saturday, 12/14, at First Christian Church. She reminded us to remember to bring an inexpensive, unwrapped gift to be used for rock bingo prizes.

NEW BUSINESS:



Cary Endrizzi, Instructor Jerry Mason, Larry Ellert, and Diane Endrizzi

Cabochon instructor Jerry Mason presented Certificates of Completion to Diane Endrizzi, Cary Endrizzi and Larry Ellert for recently completing Cabochon training.

We were again reminded of the end-of-year General meeting, dinner and party. Bushy Hartman has volunteered to be the coordinator. We will meet at First Christian Church on Saturday, 12/14 at approximately 11 a.m.

Winter Wonderland will once again be held in downtown Franklin on two Saturday evenings: 11/30 and 12/07. The museum will stay open until 8 p.m. Volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheets are available.

Door prize winning tickets were drawn and prizes distributed.

There being no further business, Vice President Arlon Eldridge adjourned the business meeting at 7:05 p.m.

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Members enjoyed refreshments. Our program tonight was an informative talk and slide show on Montana sapphires presented by Tom Parker.



"I am grateful for the camaraderie and vast array of knowledge and expertise of our members. I am thankful for everyone who volunteers and works hard for the betterment of our Society and museum. My hope for the future is that our membership continues to grow." **Susan Fritz**

17 Days in August

Tom Parker

Photos courtesy of 46 Degree Resources.

In August of this year, Tom Parker packed up his truck and headed north for Sapphires in Montana. He wasn't far outside of North Carolina when he picked up a motorcycle escort as this was the week for the Sturgis, ND motorcycle rally. Arriving without incident he spent several days combing through gravel looking for another Montana Queen Sapphire. Tom gave a brief presentation to the club on what he found as well as some information on the causes of different color sapphires and the different coloration obtained with heat treating. Following is a summary of his presentation.



MONTANA SAPPHIRE ROUGH BEFORE HEAT TREATMENT

Natural Sapphires :



This photo shows about 35 carats of rough Montana Sapphire from Dry Creek located just outside of Phillipsburg

MONTANA SAPPHIRE ROUGH AFTER HEAT TREATMENT

Heat-treated Sapphires:

This photo shows about 49 carats of rough Montana sapphire from the El Dorado Bar that have received heat treatment



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MONTANA SAPPHIRE FACETED GEMS

Sapphire color suites: These "color suites" contain colorful fancy sapphires from the Dry Cottonwood Creek area of Montana. The stones measure 2.5 mm to 2.6 mm each. All have been heat treated.

Natural Color in Corundum

Corundum has one of the greatest natural color ranges in mineralogy. It occurs in hues of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. This is a bit of a surprise because corundum is an allochromatic mineral. "Allochromatic" means that pure corundum (Al_2O_3) is colorless or white. Corundum of different colors are produced when trace amounts of other elements or defects in the corundum crystal lattice cause selective absorption of certain wavelengths of light. The causes of color in ruby and sapphire are well researched and documented.



For example, Chromium is the primary cause of the red color of ruby and the color of pink sapphire. A combination of iron and titanium causes the color of blue sapphire.

The cause of color in the many hues of fancy sapphire is less well researched. Vanadium can cause a grayish blue to green color. Iron and a missing electron can produce a strong yellow color. Iron alone can cause a pale yellow color. Chromium with a missing electron can cause an orange color. Interactions between trace elements and lattice defects produce many other colors.

The most popular colors are usually pure hues, such as red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple. All of these, with the exception of emerald green, are found naturally in sapphire.



"I see a renewed interest in club activities by our members and the officers. I don't know exactly why but I think it may be because we're all trying a little harder. We've loosened up a bit and perhaps put the fun back in it. I like the way people have been getting the word out about our club as we have signed up new members at shows and almost each monthly meeting since March/April. We've gotten some great additions in our new membership also and I thank each one of them for their support. We still need to keep the effort up for recruiting our clubs volunteers and creating volunteerism as 2nd nature within our membership. We should strive to promote a general thought of.... Individuals, Doing what we can, when we can. Happy to see our scholarship and grant program blossoming more this year. We might look into making it more visible to the local community." **Tom Parker**

"I would like to thank all those who volunteered during our gem shows this year. You are so greatly appreciated. Many blessing in the year to come." **Kathy Green**

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"I am thankful for all the volunteers that staff the museum and I am most thankful that the water fountain is holding water and no one has taken all the rocks. I look forward to the coming year for the club to spread the word about the Society to like minded individuals." **Tom Sterrett**

FIELD TRIPS

Marsha Harmon

Due West, SC Nov 23

On November 23 our club participated in the DMC Johnson Family Farm Field Trip held in Due West, SC. We managed to find epidote, smoky quartz, beryl but were skunked with no amethyst. One thing for sure we encountered enough rain to sink a battle ship. Led by Marsha Harmon; Jenny and Jay Mooney, Bushy and Mike Hartman, and Kathi and Stacy Walbridge explored the several hundred acre farm looking for the treasured minerals. There were three distinct mineral areas with small veins running throughout the property.



Amethyst sample pulled from the wet clay

The first site near the parking area was noted for amethyst. A small vein of quartz ran parallel to the power line about 3 feet below the surface. It was here that one of the other DMC members recovered a nice piece of Amethyst in the afternoon. Our group surfaced skimmed the area for a couple of hours then moved to the epidote pit. On the walk to the pit we encountered a collector returning who had found an inch long epidote crystal in matrix lying under a bush.

Mike Hartman recovered several large pieces of matrix containing numerous small epidote crystals but the rest of us came up empty. By the early afternoon

we hitched a ride to the beryl site where we dug next to several other visitors. Kathi Walbridge and Bushy Hartman found several small pieces of beryl while Stacy Walbridge recovered a two inch long partial beryl crystal. Rain throughout the day hadn't dampened our spirits and as we packed up to leave we agreed that it was a good day collecting.



Epidote found under a bush.

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Mike & Bushy Hartman, Kathi Walbridge, and Marsha Harmon taking the easy path to the Beryl location



Marsha Harmon and Bushy Hartman



Stacy & Kathi Walbridge before they got dirty

Chunky Gal, December 7

Chunky Gal MTN a local, Smaragdite with Rubies location was especially fruitful to us on December 7th. It is always nice to have some new faces on our trips. Pictured l to R is Old Mark, Bushy, Charlotte, Marsha, Larry, New Mark and Matt.

Upcoming Trips

For those who are now near Brooksville, FL or want to be, the DMC trip on January 11, 2020 will be a Fossil collecting trip, to the Vulcan Limestone Mine. Please call Marsha at 828 369-7262 for detailed information. You must be a current member of the Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin to participate in all Field Trips.



Chunky Gal Participants: (l. to r.) Mark Bonaparte, Bushy Hartman, Charlotte Frye, Marsha Harmon, Larry Ellert, Mark Laing and Matt Castor



"I love learning from our members: not only rock and mineral subject matter but who to call for local expertise. So far I've found a handy man, a great yard person, and who to call for reasonable tree removal (thanx gang). I am wishing for our club to become more familiar with all its members. I challenge you to walk up to a member you know very little about and introduce yourself. Search for a common thread and respect each others differences. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!" **Marsha Harmon**

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"I like that teacher's are starting to use the mini grants to help more students. Over the past year we've had very interesting programs and are having good field trips but unfortunately I don't get to go on many. We are having good quality workshop classes."
Lake Holland

NOTES FROM THE CLASSROOM



"I am thankful that the general membership took our new application in a positive way. It has helped tremendously with the number of volunteers that the museum has seen come to work. The good feedback that we got was/is a tremendous factor when we start looking for workers. No one seems to get upset when we (the class instructors) now ask them how they have volunteered before they are admitted into a class. From two years ago, this is a huge POSITIVE move in the right direction. AND.....on another positive note...It has been GREAT seeing more of Tom and Elena Marsh this past year. Hope to see more of them in the future!"
Diane Mason

JEWELRY BENCH TIPS DIVIDERS

A set of dividers is a tool I find very useful in laying out the geometry of a piece I'm making. It has two needle-like tips with an adjustment to set the spacing between them. They can be used to transfer a measurement. Let's say you need a 7mm wide strip of sheet metal. Set the spacing between the divider tips to 7 mm on the ruler. Then lay the sheet on the bench, put one tip against the edge, and run the dividers down the edge scribing a line parallel to the edge.

Dividers can be used to mark equal segments of a line or arc. For instance, assume a line between A and B that might be straight or curved, and you want to divide it into 5 equal lengths. Set the dividers to an estimate of the distance. Starting at Point A, use the dividers to mark off five lengths along the line. If you end up short of Point B, lengthen the distance on the dividers. If you end up overshooting Point B, shorten the length of your dividers. After a few tries, the length on the dividers will be the exact distance you need to mark the 5 segments.



Dividers can let you quickly find the center of a circular disk. With one tip of the dividers at the edge of the disk, set the other tip to an estimate of where the center might be. Fix one tip of the dividers at the 3 o'clock position and scribe an arc with the other tip near the center. Do this again from the 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and 12 o'clock positions. The arcs at the center will form a small four-sided box, and the center of the box is at the center of the disk.



Work Smarter With Brad's "How To" Jewelry Books
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

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“As the new Workshop Manager I’m looking forward to expanding the number and types of classes we will offer in the new year. I would like to thank all of those who have helped with the equipment and will help in the future.” **Virginia Bennis**

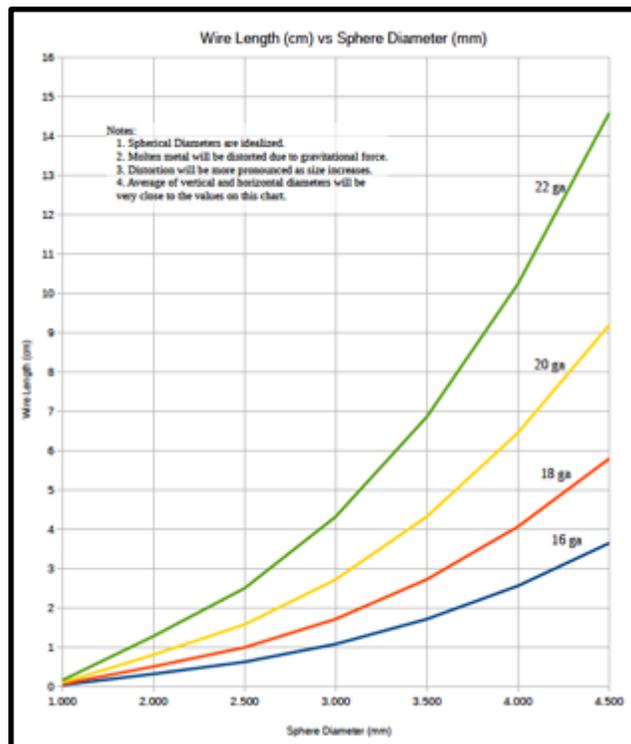


“Accepting the position of Curator for our wonderful museum left me somewhat overwhelmed and somewhat unsure of my ability to fulfill the requirements of the job. Thanks to the patience and cooperation of many of the club members and staff. I feel the museum is moving in a positive direction. I especially want to thank my assistant Mark Laing for his dedication to the completion of the inventory.” **Larry Ellert**

Silver Spheres Al Pribble

In the process of working with silver I have at times needed a sphere of silver or maybe several for decoration. This was especially true for making ear-wires. The problem was I never knew how much wire was needed to make a given size sphere. So, I decided that I could put my high school physics and math classes to good use by making a chart that would tell me how much wire I needed for a given diameter sphere. The result is shown here. Also, if you have several pieces of scrap wire of different gauge you can make matching spheres by using the chart. Since the chart only applies to wire, if you want to use scrap sheet for making spheres, one way to do so is to weigh the pieces to get uniform size. This doesn't tell what diameter you will get, but they should match.

I might say, in case some are unaware, a sphere on one end of an ear-wire is easily made by holding the wire vertically (if you do not use pliers you will probably only do so once!) and start melting the wire from the bottom until you have the size you need. I have tested the chart for accuracy on the smaller sizes and there are some caveats as noted on the chart. I have found it works well to lay the fluxed wire on a charcoal block and heat until it melts, as it does so it will form a ball.



I am thankful for all that helped throughout the year and for another year of membership growth. I am wishing for an expanded workshop.” **Al Pribble**

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*I am thankful for Tom Sterrett getting the fountain running and for Larry and Mark completing the museum inventory. **Duane Haskell***



*I would like to thank all of you that hosted the museum this year, especially those of you that pitched in with short notice and those that hosted often. I appreciated all that helped out whether you hosted once or multiple times. **Jay Mooney***

EDUCATION/TOURS

Marsha Harmon

Thank you to Jenny McMahon from Nantahala Elementary School, for bringing to our Museum 42 visitors. Jenny's school was awarded a scholarship through our club program. The 2nd thru 5th grade classes and their assistants were a great group for our 5 volunteers to entertain on November 15th.

On the 21st of November Bethany Mouller along with a couple teachers/parents brought us 30, 3 and 4 year olds from Macon Program for Progress. This group is still producing many a funny story from our club volunteers.

Special thank you to all our club volunteers in whatever way they choose to help out. If you are interested in helping please contact us about your areas of interest.

UTAH ARCHES

Fred Plesner, Curator Emeritus

Arches National Park made the national news the morning of November 29 when 2 people died and another was injured there. It is a wild and beautiful place and it is easy to see how slips and falls could happen.

The park covers roughly 119 square miles of Utah just to the north of Moab and receives 8 to 10 inches of rain per year. There are over 2,000 cataloged arches in the park and all of them created over eons of time.

My wife, Dean and I, visited the park on November 1st on our recent vacation to Colorado to visit our son in Grand Junction. One of the unusual things that I learned was how they were using the park to study erosion.

One of the arches known as the North Window has a crack in it and the National Park Service has installed a crackmeter in it to measure the tension between the fins or sides of the crack. This crackmeter has found patterns in the crack's activity as the temperature and the seasons change.

That data has shown that the crack expands and contracts up to 2.1 centimeters (0.82 inches) annually and yet its range of movement remains constant from year to year. Over the course of one day the crack can move 0.57 millimeters (0.02 inches) Someday this crack will expand beyond its normal range and collapse as the Wall Arch did in 2008.



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2020 Meeting/Event Schedule

December 14th, 2019 - End of Year Banquet/Rock Bingo

January 30th - Regular Meeting

February 27th - Regular Meeting

March 26th - Regular Meeting

April 30th - Regular Meeting

May 8th to 10th - Mother's Day Gemboree

May 28th - Regular Meeting

June 25th - Regular Meeting

July 24th to 26th - Faceters Frolic

July 30th - Regular Meeting / Ice Cream Social

August 27th - Regular Meeting / Elections

September 24th - Installation Banquet

October 17th - PumpkinFest

October 29th - Regular Meeting

November 19th - Regular Meeting

November 28th - Winter Wonderland

December 5th - Winter Wonderland

December 19th - End of Year Banquet

**January Newsletter Deadline is
Monday, January 17, 2020**



*It has been enjoyable finding and talking with people to speak at our meetings. The past year we had remarkable presentations - some of the best were from our own members! I am very thankful for all the opportunities the FGMS provides for its members: interesting programs, a fantastic museum, field trips, classes, and wonderful camaraderie! I also enjoyed the school tours at the museum. **Kathi Walbridge***

UPCOMING SHOWS

**14-15 December 2019: Franklin, Tennessee
39th Annual Earth Treasures Show**

Organized by: Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society
Williamson County Ag Expo Park (4215 Long Lane,
Franklin) Admission: \$5 (\$7 for a 2-Day pass),
Children under 12 and Scouts in uniform - FREE

14-15 December 2019: FLETCHER, NC

Annual show; Mountain Area Gem and Mineral
Association; WNC Agriculture Center, 1301 Fanning
Bridge Road; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; free
admission; 2nd annual Holiday, Gem, Mineral and
Fossil Show, with vendors offering rocks, gems,

minerals, jewelry, fossils, meteorites, Viking artifacts,
among others

January 10-12; LARGO, FLORIDA

Annual show; Pinellas Geological Society; Central
Park Performing Arts Center, 105 Central Park Ave.;
Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-5; Adults \$2, free
admission for children under 12; Vendors offering
minerals, slabs, fossils, cut gems, jewelry, exhibits, and
demonstrations

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January 18-19; DELAND, FLORIDA:

Annual show; Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society; Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 E New York Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; \$4 for adults (visit www.tomokagms.org to save \$1), free admission for children 12 and under free with paid adult; More than 50 vendors offering jewelry, minerals, gems, and fossils, displays, and activities for children;

1-2 February; MERRITT ISLAND, FLORIDA:

Show and sale; Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club; Kiwanis Recreation Ctr, 951 Kiwanis Island Park Road; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5 (\$1 off admission coupon on club website and Facebook), free admission for children under 12 accompanied by paid adult; Vendors, cabbing demonstrations, displays, and activities for children

22-23 February; JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

Annual show; Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society; Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds, 1200 Mississippi Street; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$6, Students \$3, Scouts and leaders in uniform \$2, free admission for children under 5; More than 25 dealers offering gems, fossils, minerals, jewelry, lapidary, tools, beads, with demonstrations, exhibits, and activities for children

From PGS Outcroppings Newsletter
Outcroppings Humor Corner

What has one eye but can not see?

A needle.

How does NASA organize a party?

They Planet.

What did the big flower say to the little flower?

Hi, Bud.

How many tickles does it take to get an octopus to laugh?

Ten tickles.

Why is no one friends with Dracula?

Because he's a pain in the neck.

What can you keep after giving it to someone?

Your word.

What has four fingers and one thumb, but isn't alive?

A glove.

What cannot talk but will always reply when spoken to?

An echo.

Three doctors said that Bill was their brother. Bill said he had no brothers. Who was lying?

No one. The doctors were Bill's sisters.

The more that there is of this, the less you see. What is it?

Darkness.

People buy me to eat, but never eat me. What am I?

Plates and Cutlery.

What belongs to you but others use it more than you do?

Your Name.

What 4 letter word can be written forward, backward, or upside down, and can still be read from left to right?

Noon.

What three letters change a girl into a woman?

Age.

What can be opened but cannot be closed?

An Egg.

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End of Year Banquet

The next meeting will be an end of year banquet held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, December 14th at the First Christian Church, 156 Belleview Park Rd, Franklin, NC 28734.

In addition to bringing a food or desert item to share bring an inexpensive gift (unwrapped) or a mineral/fossil related item (no leaverites) for rock bingo prizes.

FGMS Board meets the Tuesday before the regular meeting at 4:00 pm at the Museum

Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum

25 Phillips Street, Franklin, NC 28734



Phone: 828-369-7831

In the Old Jail House

FREE ADMISSION

May 1 – October 31

Monday Thru Saturday: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

November 1 – April 30

Saturdays: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Open Year Round For Tours

And Special Requests