

***THE MOUNTAIN GEM***  
**Volume MMXIXIII JANUARY 2016**  
**Number 1**  
**Official Bulletin**  
**Of**  
**Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina**

A schedule of our monthly meetings is on the back cover of *The Mountain Gem* as well as on the Society's webpage. Meetings are held at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building, Highway 441 South, Franklin, N.C. Visitors are always welcome.

Forms for membership can be obtained by attending a meeting of the Society.

Dues are \$15 for first family member with \$10 for each additional member. Members under 18 years of age dues are \$3. Membership privileges include newsletter and attending Dixie Mineral Field Trips.

The objectives of this society shall be to effect a close association of those persons who are interested in the study of gems, rocks and minerals and the arts and sciences related to them. We are a working organization that operates and maintains the Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum.

The Society and Museum are self-supporting on a 100% volunteer basis.

**FRANKLIN GEM  
AND MINERAL MUSEUM**

is operated under the direction of the  
Board of Directors of

Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

School tours are always available by contacting our Education Chairman, Diane Aiello at 828-371-2436 or 828-524-3307.



**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

Only Saturdays: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Open Year Round For Tours

And Special Requests

**[www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)**

**Society email: [franklingemsociety@gmail.com](mailto:franklingemsociety@gmail.com)**

**Editor: [editor.themountaingem@gmail.com](mailto:editor.themountaingem@gmail.com)**

**Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin,  
North Carolina, is a founding member  
of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies.**

**Officers And  
Board Of Directors**

President	Al Pribble	369-2548
Past President	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Vice President	Marsha Harmon	369-7262
Secretary	Susan L Fritz	524-4936
Treasurer	Lake Holland	369-5421
Assistant Treasurer	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Director (2016)	Ray Behr	342-6360
Director (2016)	Cy Amrich	356-7816
Director (2017)	Norm Holbert	634-0350
Director (2017)	Jane Morgan	342-8703

**Museum Managers**

Museum Manager	Tom Marsh	369-8915
Museum Ass't. Mgr.	Virginia Bennis	631-830-5403
Curator	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Curator Ass't	Christine Hubinger	349-7360
Gift Shop	Elena Marsh	369-8915
Ass't. Gift Shop	Anamay Rossomando	349-2807 or 727-367-9196
Museum Workshop	John Hayes (Temp)	524-8062
Ass't. Workshop Mgr.	Cy Amrich	356-7816

**Committee Chairmen**

Budget & Finance	Lake Holland	369-5421
	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Calendar Chairman	Virginia Bennis	631-830-5403
Door Prizes	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Education	Diane Aiello	371-2436
Field Trips	Marsha Harmon	369-7262
Field Trips Ass't.	Lake Holland	369-5421
Gemboree	Steve Dillon	706-782-2389
Gemboree Ass't.	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Historian	Ron Rossomando	727-367-9196 or 349-2807
Librarian	Susan L Fritz	524-4936
Membership	Claudette Rollins	349-4834
Publications	Ellen Crawford	404-457-4478
Publicity	George Fritz	524-4936
Programs	Jane Morgan	342-8703
Refreshments	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Scholarships	Christine Hubinger	349-7360



American Federation  
Bulletin Awards  
1994 (7<sup>th</sup>), 1995 (2<sup>nd</sup>),  
1996 (2<sup>nd</sup>), 1997 (5<sup>th</sup>),  
1998 (5<sup>th</sup>), 1999 (3<sup>rd</sup>),  
2000 (5<sup>th</sup>), 2004 (7<sup>th</sup>),  
2005 (2<sup>nd</sup>) 2006 (10<sup>th</sup>)  
2008 (5<sup>th</sup>) 2010(3<sup>rd</sup>)  
2014 (3<sup>rd</sup>)



Southeast Federation  
Bulletin Awards  
1976, 77, 78, 79, 92, 94, 95  
1996-99 (1<sup>st</sup>)  
2003 2<sup>nd</sup> New Editor  
2004 (2<sup>nd</sup>), 2005 (2<sup>nd</sup>)  
2006 (1<sup>st</sup>), 2008 (2<sup>nd</sup>),  
2010(1<sup>st</sup>) 2014 (1<sup>st</sup>)

American Federation (AFMS): [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)  
Southeast Federation (SFMS): [www.amfed.org/sfms](http://www.amfed.org/sfms)  
Franklin Gem Museum and Society:  
[www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)  
[www.facebook.com/franklingems](https://www.facebook.com/franklingems)

**January Meeting**

Date: January 28, 2016  
Day: Thursday  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Place: Robert C Carpenter Community Building on 441 South

**Program:** An informative program “**Treasures From the Vault**” will be presented by our own **Fred Plesner**

**January Birthdays**

- 4 - Jack Jungles
- 5 - Dave Snyder
- 13 - Penny-Lynn Goldstein
- 17 - Scott Newton
- 20 - John Crawford
- 20 - Ralph Crawford
- 23 - Ellen Crawford
- 23 - Claire Miller
- 24 - Jim Mahar
- 28 - Cy Amrich
- 29 - James Mason

**January Anniversaries**

- 1 - David & Kay Swindle
- 10 - Al & Rosie Pribble
- 26 - Art & Mary Anne Zoeckler
- 27 - Quinton & Mittie King
- 29 - John & Dianna Jurss

**February Birthdays**

- 12 - Diane Mason
- 17 - Rex Larkin
- 20 - Vicki Knisley
- 22 - Tom Sterrett

**February Anniversaries**

- 6 - Wally & Doris Smith
- 11 - Tom & Elena Marsh
- 15 - John & Sande Lolli (Hagdom)

**Al Pribble, President**

This is somewhat belated, but it is the first chance I have had to wish everyone a happy, healthy New Year.

Our End-of-Year party went well with Marsha and Virginia running the Rock Bingo game with some new wrinkles but it worked great and I think everyone received a prize. From the wild laughter I heard from one group I know at least they were having fun. Even though we had to move our eating time earlier than in past years it all seemed to go well. Many kudos to all who brought food and helped setup and especially to Jane Morgan for seeing that everything was planned out.

Attendance and sales at the Museum were the best in several years. There were several days that had rather large crowds in the Museum.

There were some great classes last year and I hope as we continue to grow in numbers we will be able to provide even more and greater variety of classes. The Board is taking steps to grow our involvement with the local schools from elementary through high school, since we feel this is one way to get more local residents involved and insure our continued existence into the future.

Please remember that we still need volunteers, if the sign-up sheet doesn't get passed to you at the next meeting – Go look for it!

Rock-On! in 2016

Al Pribble



**Minutes – November 19, 2015 – General Meeting**

Gem & Mineral Society Of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by President, Al Pribble, on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 6:30 PM in the Robert C. Carpenter Community Center meeting room.

Minutes – Al Pribble asked if there were any additions or corrections to the October General Meeting minutes as printed in *The Mountain Gem*. Lake Holland moved that the minutes be accepted as printed and Fred Plesner seconded the motion. Voted on and passed.

Membership – Claudette Rollins reported 36 members and 1 visitor in attendance this evening. We have four new members: Winn Henderson, Jeanne Henrickson, Jean Hayes and Kathleen Jarosz.

Vice President – Marsha Harmon stated that the drawing for a member scholarship to William Holland will be done tonight.

Treasurer's Report – Lake Holland reported we are in the black for the month of October.

Museum Manager – Tom Marsh stated that everything is going well.

Curator – Fred Plesner did not have anything new to report.

Publicity – George Fritz did not have anything new to report.

Gift Shop – Elena Marsh thanked those who have hosted. She reported that she attended the Asheville gem show to buy products for restocking. She reminded everyone of the 10% discount members receive and to think of our gift shop when shopping for Christmas gifts. She stated that Winter Wonderland was coming to downtown on November 28 and December 5. The museum will stay open until 8:00 PM and extra hosts will be needed.

Education – Diane Aiello reported on an excellent tour with Earth Science students from Rabun Gap Nacoochee School who had the opportunity to slice some geodes while there. Ray Behr added that the students were very interesting and well prepared. Diane will be sending a letter out to all area schools explaining that tours are available as well as presentations by us at their schools.

Field Trips - Marsha Harmon reported on the recent field trip to Chunky Gal. Some of the goodies found and brought back are on display on the back table.

**New Business:**

The drawing was held for the member lapidary school scholarship. Garrett Morgan drew the tickets:

- 1) Elena Marsh
- 2) Steve Dillon
- 3) Joyce Jacques
- 4) Christine Hubinger

It was explained that more than one winning ticket is drawn in the event that if the first winner is unable to take advantage of the opportunity; the scholarship would then fall to the next winning person in line, etc. Names are placed in the ticket box based on the number of volunteer hours expended by our members. For those who may not already be aware, there is a sign-up sheet in the museum for each member to list their name and the amount of time spent on Society/museum affairs on a daily basis.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Al Pribble asked the membership if everyone had the opportunity to read the Constitution and By-Laws that were distributed last month. He asked for a show of hands to indicate acceptance of these two documents. He then asked for a show of hands to indicate non-acceptance. There was no opposition whatsoever. The show of

**November Minutes** cont'd from Page 4

hands indicated that everyone accepted. Al Pribble will take these instruments back to the attorney so that the Constitution can be filed with the State of North Carolina.

Al Pribble reminded everyone of the Christmas dinner scheduled for 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 12. If you have not done so, please coordinate with Jane Morgan regarding the covered dish that you will bring.

There being no further business, Norman Holbert made a motion to adjourn and Arlon Eldridge seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by Al Pribble at 6:55 PM.

Garrett Morgan drew tickets for door prizes. Refreshments were served followed by a presentation on quartz given by Fred Plesner and Arlon Eldridge.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan L. Fritz, Secretary*



Ron Rossomando welcomes the first museum visitors in 2016: Maryann & Jody Cowbeck from Kalamazoo, MI

**Minutes – December 12, 2015 – General Meeting**

Gem &amp; Mineral Society Of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by President, Al Pribble at 12:PM, on Saturday, December 12, 2015, in the Robert C. Carpenter Community Center meeting room.

President Al Pribble presented certificates that were awarded by the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) to:

- 1) Rex Larkin – 2015 Bulletin Editors Contest – *The Mountain Gem* - “Brazilian Emeralds”
- 2) Fred Plesner – February 2014 – Original Adult Article - *The Mountain Gem* – “The Hope Diamond”

Certificates were given to the following members for completion of the recent wire wrapping class taught by Diane Mason and assistant, Marsha Harmon:

- 1) Sherry Newton
- 2) Claudette Rollins
- 3) Sherlene Dillon
- 4) Vicki Knisley
- 5) Barbara Rizzo
- 6) Jane Morgan

Diane Mason told the membership that samples of the classes’ completed jewelry items were on display on the table in the back of the room. Diane also presented Marsha Harmon with a certificate for being an A-1 assistant instructor in the wire wrapping class and thanked her for all of her help.



Marsha Harmon was then honored by Diane Mason and Jerry Mason. Marsha has been approved by the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts as a teacher! Diane said that traditionally one who has already been a teacher will present a brand new teacher with his/her name tag. Jerry and Diane presented Marsha with her name tag. Diane Mason, Jerry Mason and Marsha Harmon will be teaching three classes at William Holland in Mineral Identification. Congratulations Marsha!!

As this meeting was established primarily for the annual Christmas dinner and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM. Dean Plesner gave the blessing followed by an afternoon of good food, socializing and playing rock bingo.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan L. Fritz, secretary*

## Gift Shop

Elena Marsh - Gift Shop Manager

The holidays have passed, family and friends have come and gone and now to settle down with thoughts of the next museum season which will be here soon. Anamay has been here to help me with more organization and planning for items to be featured in the gift shop. We are hoping to have another wonderful year! I also want to thank Anamay for her continued energy and enthusiasm in making the purchases and displays of the gift shop top notch – she keeps me on my toes and has my head spinning quite a few times!!



New tee shirts have arrived in larger sizes - L, XL, 2X and 3X. I will bring some of all sizes to the next meeting (January 28, 2016) and members will be able to purchase them. Because of the extra cost for ordering larger sizes, XL, 2X and 3X, will be \$15 for members. The smaller sizes, S, M, L, will still be \$12 for members. In the gift shop, the prices will be \$15 and \$20.

We are also working on the concept of more member made jewelry pieces for sale in the gift shop. Some members are already busy making cabochons and donating them to be wire wrapped or put in a silver setting. Plans will include having wire available for members to use to make these items. More info to come when we have details. If you are interested in making something to donate to the gift shop, please let me know.

A reminder to all members – if you would like training to become a museum host or just want a refresher course, please contact either Tom or me to set up a time when we can go over all the aspects of hosting. It won't take long, there's a 'cheat sheet' for you to keep if you need to jot down your own notes to remember certain steps or procedures (those are also posted in the meeting room on the wall). If you are new to hosting, you will be paired with a member who has hosted many times and they will be there to help you.

Gift shop sales have increased and that has been helped by the friendly and knowledgeable hosts who represent our club and museum. You all have contributed in keeping our museum one of the most visited spots in Franklin and Macon County.

Thanks again for a wonderful year! See you in the museum soon! Elena Marsh

## Notes From The Classroom - Wire Wrap

Diane Mason - Instructor

Thank you all so much for your nice comments about the display the BEGINNING WIRE I students presented at the annual Christmas party. They were a great bunch and worked extremely hard. I am proud to say that they were a success.

In fact they were so good and ambitious that we have planned a BEGINNING WIRE II class for the spring time but have not set up the official dates yet. I also understand that Marsha has some plans for this group later in the year concerning the museum. We should now have a group to draw demonstrations from at the gemborees.

Also, there has been so much response to this class that I am entertaining the possibility of another WIRE I class next fall. If anyone is interested they may contact me by phone or e-mail. [706-379-1718](tel:706-379-1718) [jimndee43@gmail.com](mailto:jimndee43@gmail.com)

On December 17 four of the six beginning wire students made a field trip to my house and studio. We had a wonderful visit with many many snacks. They brought me a four foot holly tree (with berries) as a gift. They knew this was something I had been wanting for a long time since I have three without berries.

After eating we then toured the shops in Brasstown, N.C. and the gift shop at John C. Campbell school. We all enjoyed ourselves.

Absent from our group were Marsha, Sherry, and Claudette. I'm sorry they could not make the trip but am very glad they kept their viruses at home.

Girls, I'll have Jerry plant and care for the tree because if I water a silk flower it will die. Thank you all so very much. Diane

**Field Trip News**

Marsha Harmon - Field Trip Coordinator  
Lake Holland - Assistant



Because of the cold weather our January Field trip will be a visit to The Mineral and Lapidary Museum of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC. January 23, 2016 we will be car-pooling from our museum. Leaving at 10:00 AM and stopping for lunch. The museum is free but lunch is not. Please sign up at our museum or call Lake (828-369-5421) or Marsha (828-369-7262).

This year's field trip schedule is in work and several new locations are under consideration.

**New Locations:**

Nantahala Talc & Limestone - Banded Marble  
Hogg Mine - Quartz  
Copper Basin - Pyrite  
Gainesville National Forest - Gold  
Little Pine Garnet Mine - Garnet  
Ellis-Jones Mine - Amethyst

**Last Year's Locations:**

Diamond Hill - Quartz  
Vulcan Materials - Garnet  
Graves MTN - Various  
Buck Creek - Corundum  
Dahlonge Museum - Gold History  
Hiddenite - Emeralds  
Old Pressley - Sapphire  
Lucky Strike - Gold

These trips are for members of our club so please help us with suggestions of locations that are of interest to you!

We are also scheduled to host a Dixie Mineral Council Federation field trip in August 2016.

Lake Holland and Marsha Harmon appreciate all constructive ideas you wish to share concerning club field trips!

**Project Handmade Pendants**

The club has started a new project to profile a portion of our talent and turn it around into items for our gift shop. We will be making sterling silver pendants with the cooperation of our cabochon crafts people, our wire wrap artist and our gift shop/management personnel. We will be selecting a separate spot in our gift shop to highlight all the talent we possess in our club. At this time we are going to focus first on beautiful pendants and will be listing by name all artist and material descriptions.

The sterling silver wire will be provided by the club and a handful of cabochons have already been donated. If you have slabs with material descriptions, cabochons and/or the ability to wire wrap a pendant please come forward. We can easily work together and produce handmade material that will be highlighted within our own museum.

Please contact Marsha Harmon at 828-369-7262 if you have any questions about our project.





## It's Crystal Clear

Fred Plesner - Curator



Different meanings have and are used for "Crystal" and it's enough to make the word a contender for the confusion sweepstakes. Here are some of the things that crystal can mean.

1. For many people it means a quartz crystal with natural faces.
2. Increasingly the word means not just a crystal with natural faces but with faces that have obviously been helped in some lapidary, quite often a piece of Brazilian crystal,
3. Crystals traditionally used as components in jewelry such as rondels, beads, etc. traditionally cut from crystal but more and more frequently made of glass.
4. To the physicist, mineralogist, chemist, gemologist or scientist it means a piece of material with a precise, orderly arrangement of its constituent atoms that sometimes results in flat external faces. For these people it is still a crystal even if all those flat surfaces have been ground or knocked off.
5. To the homemaker it is all that clear dining ware brought out for company.
6. To the homemaker, artist and collector it is hand carved clear glass, an "objects d'art".
7. Faceted lead glass, especially that manufactured in Austria by Swarovski, is usually called crystal, lead crystal, Swarovski crystal or Austrian crystal.
8. The thin transparent protective shield used to cover a watch or other delicate instrument is called a crystal whether it be glass, plastic, rock crystal or synthetic sapphire.
9. The crystal used in chandeliers. It used to be rock crystal but increasingly it is just cut glass.
10. The term crystal is used for anything resembling crystal in any of its qualities, as in clearness, transparency or purity such as "Crystal Clear".
11. In radio terminology a crystal is a precisely cut quartz crystal wafer (formerly natural, now synthetic) that is used to control frequencies of transmission or reception.
12. Crystal was previously used to describe a diamond grade that corresponds to the current "J" grade.
13. Crystal is a clarity grade of Opal.

Now that we have completely scrambled and confused the word crystal we might as well throw in # 14 and really muddy things up.

14. Page # 82 of the "American Thesaurus of Story" (published in 1942) the word crystal is identified as a more general term for "Toilet".



## Happy Birthday January Babies!



Photo credit: cobalt 123



Image credit: USGS

January's birthstone is the garnet.

The name "garnet" is derived from the Latin "granatum" meaning "pomegranate" because the crystals resemble the red color and seed-like form of this fruit. Most people think of the garnet as a red gemstone, but in fact, it exists in all kinds of colors, such as black, many shades of red and green, or even colorless. The garnet's variety of colors comes from metals such as manganese, iron, calcium, and aluminum. Some varieties even contain mineral fibers that produce the illusion of a four- or six-rayed star within the stone. Green garnets are most highly prized but are very rare. Emerald green and colorless stones are highly valued, followed by pure red garnets.

Garnets are commonly found as small pebbles in streams, where the igneous and metamorphic rocks that contain them have weathered away. They're found in many places around the world, including North and South America, Australia, India, Asia and Spain.

Ancient warriors believed that garnets brought victory. The Crusaders used them as protection against wounds and accidents during their journeys. In contrast, Asiatic warriors believed that glowing garnets, used as bullets, inflicted more severe wounds. In 1892, during hostilities on the Kashmir frontier, the Hanza tribesmen fired on British soldiers with garnet bullets, believing them to be more effective than lead bullets.

In the former Czechoslovakia, evidence of garnet jewelry dating to the Bronze age was found in ancient graves. Garnet jewelry has also been discovered dating back to 3100 B.C. in Egypt, 2300 B.C. in Sumeria, and 2000-1000 B.C. in Sweden. Garnets were treasured in 3rd and 4th century Greece, and continued in popularity during Roman times. Across the Atlantic, Pre-Columbian Aztec and Native Americans also used garnets in their ornaments.

As with many precious stones, garnets were once believed to hold medicinal powers. In Medieval times, it protected its wearer against poisons, wounds and bad dreams, and cured depression. Red garnets relieved fever, hemorrhages and inflammatory diseases.

January's birthstone, the garnet, symbolizes a light heart, loyalty and enduring affections.

<http://earthsky.org/earth/january-birthstone-garnet>



**From the Southeast Federal Mineral Society****Gem and Mineral Shows****February 20 & 21, 2016, VERO BEACH, FL**

Gem & Jewelry Show; Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society; Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM; Vero Beach Community Center at 2266 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960; \$5 Donation at the door, 20 vendors, hourly door prizes; Email contact [tcrandgs@bellsouth.net](mailto:tcrandgs@bellsouth.net)

**February 27, 2016, LAKE LAND, FL**

Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society; Saturday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM; 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801; Hourly door prizes; over 30 dealers; Contact Kim Price, Show chair, at (863) 412-9156, or email [ibvgmfs@gmail.com](mailto:ibvgmfs@gmail.com). Facebook: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society; Website: [www.bonevalley.net](http://www.bonevalley.net)

**March 6, 7 & 8, 2016, ST PETERSBURG, FL**

45th Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show & Sale; First full weekend in March; THE SUNCOAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY; Friday & Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM; The Minnreg Building at 6340 126th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773; FREE PARKING; Show contact: Bill Schmidt, Show Chair, 727 822-8279; Email contact: [SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com) <http://www.sgams.com/Shows/show.htm>

**March 11, 12 & 13, 2016, AUGUSTA, GA**

28th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show; Always Held: 2nd Weekend in March;

Show Contact: Chris Glass 706-284-9239; Sponsoring Clubs: Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society and Augusta Gem and Mineral Society; [www.aikengmfs.org](http://www.aikengmfs.org); [www.agam.club](http://www.agam.club); Friday & Saturday 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Julian Smith Casino at 2200 Broad St., Augusta GA; \$3 per adult or \$5 Weekend pass; Children under 12 Free with an Adult; Co-Chair: Richard McNutt and Chris Glass

**May 8, 9 & 10, 2016, FRANKLIN, NC**

Franklin Gem & Mineral Society; Saturday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Sun day 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM; FREE Admission; door prizes hourly

**WANTED: A Geiger Counter**

If you have a working Geiger counter that is just sitting around collecting dust or hiding in a basement closet, the club might be very interested in obtaining it.

A Geiger counter would be a great additional tool that could be used in the museum during tours or school visits.

If you have or know someone who has one that is no longer being used, please contact the club. You can get in touch with any officer (see Masthead) to discuss the details.

Thanks for considering this,  
Norm Holbert

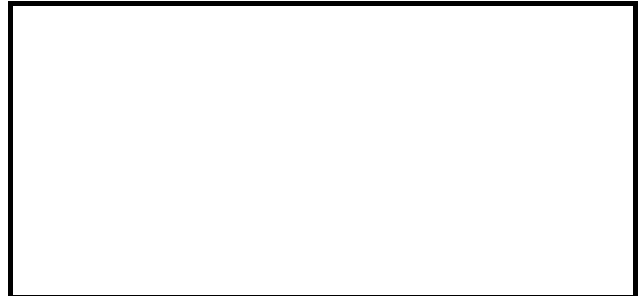


*THE MOUNTAIN GEM*

*Ellen Crawford, Editor*

25 Phillips Street  
Franklin, NC 28734

**First Class Mail**



Month	Board Meeting	General
January (2016)	26	28
February	23	25
March	29	31
April	26	28
May	24	26
June	28	30
July	19	21 Ice Cream Social
August	23	25 Elections
September	27	29 Banquet
October	25	27
November	15	17
December	13	17 End of Year Party

**Monthly General Meetings:** 6:30 PM the last Thursday of the month in the West Large Meeting Room of the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building; 1288 Georgia Road HWY 441 S

**Meeting changes will be posted in the monthly newsletter.**

**Board Meetings:** 6:30 PM  
At the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum  
All Board Meetings are open to the members

*If you wish to submit something before the Board, contact the President prior to meeting.*

***THURSDAY FEBRUARY 4th is  
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE***