



Rockhound Roundup

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ALABAMA MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY

July Meeting

Fossils of the Crescent Valley Mine: A New Window on the Coal Age in Ala-

bama" By Ron Buta, emeritus professor of astronomy and astrophysics, University of Alabama

The Crescent Valley Mine is a defunct surface coal mine located in north-central Alabama that was found by the author to be rich in Pennsylvanian period trace and plant fossils in 2011. In 2022, after 11 years of collecting, I began studying these fossils and in my presentation I will describe what I found and what it is like to systematically collect fossils from a given trace fossil site.



Dr. Buta

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Mine Wall

July Meeting: July 12, 6:30 p.m. at Cahaba Heights United Methodist Church

Junior Rockhound NEWS

The second official meeting of our Junior Rockhound club will be at 5:30, July 12, at the regular AMLS meeting place, Cahaba Heights UMC. Allison Reaves has prepared a program for us about the Rock Cycle, including a take-home printout. This meeting will provide the first opportunity to earn a badge.

NOTE FROM ALLISON AND JOHN: Members are asked to bring empty egg cartons to the next meeting for the preparation of a mineral ID kit. It's one of three things needed for the Junior group to earn their first badge! Ya'll I'm getting so excited about this program! I hope the kids love the activities and earning badges! **We hope to see you there!**

Meeting Minutes for approval

AMLS meeting minutes June 14, 2024.

Reggie greeted everyone and John Cook blessed our meeting. We enjoyed the pot luck supper and looked over the emeralds on display for our program.

Reggie asked for visitors to identify themselves and we met Artina. Chuck Neiss also said hello. He has been a member for a while but this was his first meeting. Reggie then introduced our speaker, Carlos Sanchez from Columbia who gave a good program on emeralds. He had some nice examples of cut emeralds as well as raw, uncut ones. CONTINUED

Rockhound Roundup

MINUTES, CONTINUED

After the program Vicki Lais led the business meeting. She began by asking the board to appoint someone to be the hospitality chair. Duties include set up and clean up at meetings and keeping inventory of items needed. Vivian Melof said she could continue as chair but will need some helpers as she is not able to attend all the meetings.

Vicki called for corrections to the May Rockhound Roundup. There were none so Jill Hill moved that they be accepted and Vivian seconded. The motion passed.

Our treasurer, Reggie Bolton, reported that vendor deposits for the September show are still coming in and he has paid for show insurance and the Irondale license. A deposit has been made on the tables for the event. Still working on getting the Jefferson County license. Levan said Irondale has a list of people who have food truck licenses. We need to get a copy and nail down a couple of vendors.

Anthony Piazza volunteered to be on the nominating committee. Jill made a motion to accept and Vivian seconded. The motion passed. Thank you Anthony.

Our membership continues to grow; Allison Reaves is working with John Cook on this. The website has many new pictures of club activities. Members should look at them and contribute as they can.

Yvonne said she can teach a wire wrapping class if there is interest. She is also open to suggestions for other classes. June 30th is the 5th Sunday of the month so there will be a cabbing party at the workshop. Doors will open at noon. Thanks to Levan and Yvonne Foster for hosting. For those unfamiliar this means the workshop will be open for members to use the equipment at no charge and to get instructions on use of the machines. Feel free to bring refreshments!

An e-mail went out to members with changes to bylaws to be reviewed. No objections were forthcoming so Casey moved to accept the changes as written. Chuck seconded and the motion passed. Another step complete in updating the bylaws. Thanks to Vicki Lais for leading this necessary house-keeping.

Meeting adjourned and time for door prizes. Vernon Hunter generously contributed a beautiful piece of raw opal and the lucky winner was Reggie.

PS If you need to get in touch with any board member their information is in the Rockhound Roundup. Board members can help you get in touch with other members as well.

Respectfully submitted by Bunny Bolton

Announcements

Welcome New Members

- S. Artina Ruff
- Fonde Taylor
- Donald and Rebecca Jones
- Tristan Carisch
- Bill and Jane Kitchens

Rock Sale at Sandra Sullivan's 4213 US Highway 11, Springville, AL 205-903-7962

email: doodle35146ss@yahoo.com

Fossils, obsidian, paint rock, shells, slabs, cabinet specimens and raw opals in jars, plus lots more

Call, text, or email before coming

The club received gifts of rocks this month from two different sources. One was Cornelia Watts, whose parents, Frank and Sally Wingate, were past members, and the other was geologist Harry Moritz. Photos of the gift rocks are posted on the website at lapidaryclub.com. Plus a wonderful letter from Cornelia. Be sure to take a look at these contributions on the webpage.

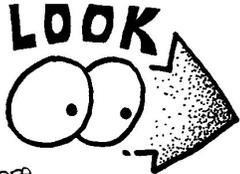


The Dixie Mineral Council, field trip gurus for the SFMS, announces a field trip to the [Lucky Strike gold mine in Hendersonville, NC](#) on August 4. This event is open to club members of the Federation, of which we belong. The link on attending is on the members-only page of the website.

Calendar for July

July 12, 5:30	Junior Rockhound Meeting
July 12, 6:30	Regular Club Meeting
All Tuesdays & Saturdays	Workshop Open (verify on MO Facebook Page)

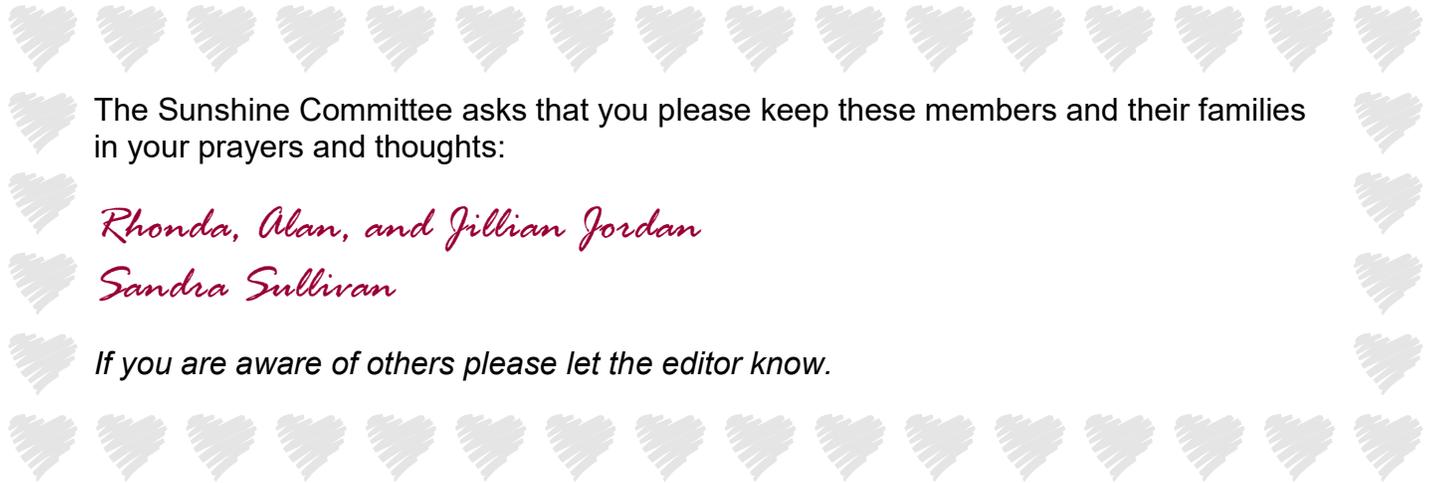
Save the date: Aug. 4, DMC field trip to Lucky Strike Gold Mine, Hendersonville, NC



Show News



Our show is only 8 weeks away! Are you ready? Is your team ready? Since there's no general show chairman this year, each chairperson has been asked to get their own team together. Have you been contacted by your team chairman yet? Check the members-only page of the website for the names and duties of the chairs!



The Sunshine Committee asks that you please keep these members and their families in your prayers and thoughts:

Rhonda, Alan, and Jillian Jordan

Sandra Sullivan

If you are aware of others please let the editor know.

WORKSHOP NEWS

8036 Parkway Drive in Leeds

Come visit, bring a prospective member, use the equipment, or introduce a new member to the skills and processes of lapidary at our workshop in Leeds. Use of equipment is \$5 an hour and includes both saws and lapidary equipment. **Use of equipment is restricted to Members Only.**

Robert Lorino usually opens the workshop on Tuesdays and Levan and Yvonne are usually at workshop Saturdays from 12-5. **Check MO, the members-only Facebook page, for schedule changes. TEXT YVONNE AT 205-602-8280 WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASSES!**