



Cabber Gabber

Official Bulletin of
Mobile Rock and Gem Society



Founded 1960

Clubhouse: 1324 Forest Dell Rd, off Moffett Rd, Mobile, Alabama 36618

www.mobilerockandgem.com

Member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

7pm
February 14, 2012

Guest Speaker:
Cretaceous Flora in Alabama

Dr. Brian Axsmith

CLUBHOUSE
1324 Forest Dell
Mobile, AL



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The President's Pen Jim Darnell

We had quite an interesting meeting last month. *Dr. David Allison* did an extremely interesting presentation on [geological] mapping. I was especially interested in mapping up around Cheaha State Park in Alabama. He also enumerated on how our scholarships are used for the students in the Earth Sciences department.



Those of you who were unable to go on the field trip to Brilliant, Alabama missed an impressive "Show and Tell". Several members brought some of the most beautiful specimens of Brilliant Petrified Wood I have ever seen. Perhaps we will see more available at our May 12 Gem-O-Rama.

We did not have a "Split the Pot" in January, so everyone who comes to our February meeting should be able to purchase twice as many.

It is scholarship time again. Anyone who wishes to apply for the MRGS annual scholarship (member dues must be on record as having been paid by January 31st, 2012) should fill out the form published in this month's *Cabber Gabber*.

Also, it's **TAX** time, again! The Mobile Rock and Gem Society is a 501(C)3 non-profit. Therefore, your contributions to the club by December 31, 2011 are tax deductible for 2011.

We received seven applications for membership at our January meeting. This does not include any applications that

were mailed to the club.

I also want to remind all members that we have a fully equipped workshop, and our workshops are held on the Friday and Saturday following our general meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. *Neal Hazen* will be here 6:30 PM till closing on Friday, and *Larry Landry* will be here on Saturday, 9:00 AM till closing. Bring your treasures, rocks and slabs and use your workshop to create something beautiful. We are encouraging members to create some interesting items for display at our annual show Thanksgiving weekend.

See you, second Tuesday of the month,

Jim Darnell

Guest Speaker: Dr. Brian Axsmith
Professor, University of South Alabama
Ph.D. - Botany



Research Interests:
Paleobotany
Paleoecology
Systematic

**MEMBERSHIP
DUES ARE NOW
PAST DUE!**
See p. 10 for fees.

MOBILE ROCK AND GEM SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING January 5, 2012

The executive board of Mobile Rock and Gem Society met at the clubhouse at 7pm on January 5, 2012. Those attending the meeting were *Phil Kaiser, Jim Darnell, Cindy Harbour, Bill Harbour, Jim Patterson, John Hendrix, Ben Davis, and Mary Daves.*



President *Jim Darnell* called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved as published in the *Cabber Gabber*.

Cindy Harbour read the treasurer's report, and after discussion, it was accepted. *Phil Kaiser* recommended that MRGS present monetary gifts to University of South Alabama, University of Mobile, and Bishop State College. This will be brought before the members for approval.

There was a good response for the monetary gifts to the Ronald McDonald House.

Mary Daves announced that *Michelle Peterson* has given the club four DVD's about Alabama.

Phil Kaiser showed the nice items *Robert Vrbaskovich* has sent to the club.

Larry Landry was not at the meeting to report on field trips.

President *Jim Darnell* announced the club Gem-O-Rama on Saturday, May 5, and the annual club auction on September 11 this year.

The board approved the purchase of a new white board for teaching the junior members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, *Mary Daves*, Secretary

=====

MOBILE ROCK AND GEM SOCIETY MEETING JANUARY 10, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Mobile Rock and Gem Society was held at the clubhouse on January 10, 2012 at 7pm. President *Jim Darnell* called the meeting to order. We had the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes were approved as published in the *Cabber Gabber*.

John Hendrix introduced *Dr. David Allison*, who had the program about the trip his class at the University of South Alabama will take in May to make geological maps. For the first time, they will go to Mount Cheaha State Park and then to a state park in Texas for two weeks to make maps. From there they will go to Taos, New Mexico for two weeks to study that geological area and make maps, where they will climb Weir Peak, the highest point in New Mexico. They will have an optional trip to the north rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona.

After the program, we went back to our regular meeting. *Cindy Harbour* read the treasurer's report, which was approved as read. Guests at the meeting were *Mark Cooper*,

David Hammer, Randy Brannon, Tony Young, Vernon David, and George and Jane Davis.

Michelle Peterson has accepted the junior club directorship, with the help of *Bonita Harris*. She reported on the December meeting and plans for the juniors to earn a AFMS badge at the meeting on January 28. *Mrs. Peterson* also is planning to have a geology day at Council School in March.

Larry Landry reported on a Dixie Mineral Council (DMC) field trip to Norwood, North Carolina, on February 25 for quartz crystals up to four inches. Time will be on Saturday from 9:30 until 5:30. He has changed the date of our DMC trip to Brilliant, Alabama for Brilliant petrified wood to the second weekend in April because the first weekend is Easter.

Larry Landry will have a workshop this Saturday from 9am until 1pm. *Neal Hazen* will have a workshop this Friday night.

The club will have a drawing at our March meeting for a scholarship to a 2012 SFMS workshop.



The club is planning to have our carpet cleaned this month.

John Hendrix reported on the stamp fund and reminded everybody what stamps can and cannot be used. Cut them carefully so as not to get the edges. Keep about a quarter of an inch on and do not cut perforations. Any stamps from red envelopes cannot be used, as the red dye comes through when they are soaked to get the stamps from the envelope.

The members voted to give money to local colleges: University of South Alabama \$1000, Bishop State, \$1000, and to the University of Mobile \$500. At the University of South Alabama, the funds are matched.

SHOW AND TELL: *Mary Daves* - book, DVD (available from the Mobile Public Library) about wire jewelry and two Lake Superior agates. *Ben Davis* - showed how he put the shark tooth he found at St. Stephens on a hat. *Larry Landry* - Brilliant crystallized wood he dug on the field trip to Brilliant, Alabama in December. *Vernon David* - displayed Brilliant wood he dug on the trip. He told us he power water cleaned it six times before he got all the clay out of it. *Phil Kaiser* - boxes and letter received from *Robert Vrbaskovich*. *Mr. Vrbaskovich* has collected and worked with several clubs over the years, always giving specimens to the children who attend shows. *Don King* - opal he polished recently. *Ben Childress* - sand dollars and sea biscuits he found in Conecuh County.

There was no split-the-pot this month. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to finish our silent auction fifteen minutes after adjournment and enjoy refreshments.

We adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, *Mary Daves*, Secretary

Happy February Birthday!



- Teresa Boone
- Ben Davis
- Don King
- Steve Lange
- Gerald Ollhoft

Name missing from the birthday list?
Are your dues up to date?

Amethyst Used by permission: <http://www.gemsociety.org/info/gems/Amethyst.htm>

CHEMISTRY SiO₂
CRYSTALLOGRAPHY Hexagonal
REFRACTIVE INDEX 1.544 - 1.553
HARDNESS 7
SPECIFIC GRAVITY 2.651
CLEAVAGE None
HEAT SENSITIVE No



WEARABILITY* Very Good
SPECIAL CARE INSTRUCTIONS None
ENHANCEMENTS Amethyst can be heat treated to improve the color or change it to citrine. Not common.
***Wearability** is graded as Excellent, Very Good, Good, Poor, and Forget It!

Crystalline quartz in colors ranging from pale lilac to deep reddish purple and ranging from transparent to translucent is known as amethyst. Siberian mines once produced the world's finest stones with particularly rich purple color that glowed with reddish and/or bluish highlights. Today the term



Siberian no longer is a place designation as the mines are long since worked out, but instead is used as a "grade" term, implying colors similar to the original stones from Siberia.

Today's major sources are Brazil, Bolivia and Uruguay in South America and Zambia in Africa. Brazilian stones can be found in huge sizes, but generally are moderate in color. They often suffer from color-banding, which sometimes is visible despite efforts of the cutter to minimize it.

Many amethyst lovers prefer the usually smaller, but more richly colored stones coming from Zambia and, more recently, from Uruguay.

Very light amethyst which once was considered low grade, has gained a recent boost in popularity by intensive marketing on TV shopping programs and the clever marketing strategy of calling it "Rose de France". To my mind these light stones have their greatest appeal when given fancy and unusual cuts, where the artistry of cutting is more on display than the material itself.

At hardness 7 and with no particular warnings on care necessary, amethyst makes a fine jewelry gem for all purposes. Lower grades of material are cabbed, carved, and made into a great variety of beads and other ornamental objects.

2011 Show Report

The number of people attending the 2011 show was down approximately 5% over last year (based on gate donations collected and other data). Our expenses were almost exactly the same as last year with the cost of the facility and advertising being about the same. The amount the club made over expenses was also down about 5% over last year according to my best estimate.

We were short one dealer due to a dealer being severely injured the morning of set up. (The Board of Directors agreed that it would be appropriate to refund her booth fee) From talking with the dealers during the show, many said their sales were off this year, but were expecting it because of the depressed economy. I heard that sales were off at other shows they had already attended as well. There were some suggestions from dealers (solicited by *Rodney Boone*, Dealer Chairman): reduce the number of dealers, get the fairgrounds to fix the electric problems and the leaks (the latter two the Board of Directors and our members also feel is essential), and not to have duplications of dealers selling the same things. I believe the decrease in the number of people attending is also attributable to the depressed economy. There were some comments that the Iron Bowl was a detractor, but this has been an annual situation. The Iron Bowl has been played on Thanksgiving weekend far long before we re-instituted our shows.

We could blame the Iron Bowl, the weather, and possibly could come up with other things if we really tried to account for attendance, sales and our earning being down. I really think the major cause is the depressed economy. All things considered, I feel the show was still a success because we were able to earn enough to continue scholarships to the local colleges/universities and help with maintenance of upkeep of the club house.

I also want to thank *Jim Patterson* for stepping up and accepting the job of show chairman for next year. I'm confident he will do a superb job, and I will assist him in any way I can in putting on a great 2012 show.

Jerry Shirey

Mobile Rock and Gem Society 2011 Annual Show
More photos on following pages.





Education, Collecting, Fellowship, Fun, Sales
Mobile Rock and Gem Society
2011 Annual Show
Great Gulf State Fairgrounds, Mobile, Alabama
Thanksgiving Weekend

All photos: Lotus Buccola, Photographer/Owner
 Darkshi Creations, www.DarkshiCreations.com

Annual Christmas Party
 December 13, 2011
 Guest Speaker: *Paul Giardina*,
 Ronald McDonald House
 Installation of Officers
 Party!



Installation of 2012 Officers



Thank you to all who brought the delicious food. There was an abundance!



All photos: Lotus Buccola,
 Photographer/Owner
 Darkshi Creations,
www.DarkshiCreations.com



Dixie Mineral Field Trips

Website for DMC

<http://www.gaminerol.org/dmc.htm>



The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc

The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

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An Official Field Trip of Mobile Rock and Gem Society

Larry Landry, MRGS FT coordinator.

An Official Field Trip of The Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society (Greenville, SC)(HOST)

9:30 AM, **Saturday, February 25, 2012**

Burgin Quartz Mine, 40764 Old Cottonville Rd, Norwood, NC
FEE AREA

Time: Sat., Feb. 25, 2012 from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm

Cost: \$10.00 per person and you must sign a release.

What to find: Quartz crystals, often clear and sometimes huge up to 4 inches across and a few inches long.

What to bring: Sledge hammers, chisels, rock hammers, safety glasses, gloves, dirt sifting tools, buckets, newspaper to wrap specimens, drink and food. (Subway and Bojangles are only a couple of miles away if you prefer to eat out.)

Directions: Use MapQuest /GPS for your exact directions. Norwood is due east of Charlotte, NC, on Route 52 just south of Albemarle. Turn right (heading south) on Route 52 and follow it to the Subway on the right just inside the Norwood town limits. Turn right and then turn right again on the other side of Subway on S. Stanly School Rd. Follow it to the Old Cottonville Road on the left and turn left there. Drive under the railroad trestle and turn left onto a dirt lane. Follow the lane over a low ridge and watch for the digging area on the right. There is plenty of parking.

For information: **Bill Wetzel** at 864-306-6749.

Brandt Wetzel's Cell 864-404-000



An Official Field Trip of **Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Club (Chattanooga, TN)(HOST)**

9:00 AM CST Saturday, March 24, 2012

Rose Creek, Cumberland Plateau, Gruntli, TN

Cost: Free **Time:** Saturday, March 24, 2012 9:00 AM CDT

What to find: large fern, tree bark fossils of the Mississippian and Pennsylvanian eras in black and red slate.

What to bring: gloves, buckets, pry bar, rock hammer, change of clothes (it will be wet), newspaper to wrap fossils, drink and food. There are no food services.

Directions: Meet in Hardees parking lot in Monteagle, Tn. on I-24. Top of Monteagle, exit #134. Will leave for the site promptly at 9:20 Central Time. Don't be late . . .

For further information call **Dennis Nixson (423) 702-1373**

Dixie Mineral Council (DMC) Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose:

To collect field trip information from its member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.

Please reply by e-mail to:

dmc@gaminerol.org

World Wide Web site for the DMC is:

<http://www.gaminerol.org/dmc.htm>

DMC is a program of the Field Trip Committee of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
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"Earth first...we'll collect on the other planets later."

Paleozoic Field Trip Information

alabamapaleo Yahoo! Group

Union Chapel Mine Steven C. Minkin Paleozoic Footprint Site
Usually 8am-noon 2nd Sat monthly

NOTICE!! Get clear details before taking this field trip.

MRGS Contact: **Glenn Wimpee**
pawpawtiger@centurytel.net

APS usually meets at Wal-Mart, Hwy 78 in Sumiton, AL.

Supplies: Bring water bottle, hammer & chisel, cardboard flats, paper for wrapping specimens, toilet paper (multi-purpose paper).

Vertebrate Trackway from Walker Co. Alabama <http://bama.ua.edu/~rbuta/monograph/>



Cabbing and Lapidary Workshops

Friday, February 17, 2012 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Neal Hazen (251) 786-1184

Saturday, February 18, 9 am -1 pm

Larry Landry (251) 653-8459, Jim Darnell (Opals)

Faceting Classes

7pm on first and third *Mondays*

Bill Harbour (251) 666-2434 or

Jerry Shirey (251)786-4777

Basic Wire Work Class

4th Saturday following junior club meeting

Bonita L Harris (251) 865-9157

Gem Show Finds (Part 2 of 3)
Benjamin Childress, MRGS member

Part 3 will be published in March 2012.

Well after much thinking, I decided to purchase an 11-gram *Sikhote-Alin Meteorite*. The specimen is a type known as an "Individual", fragment that broke off the main mass early in the descent. It has a nice fusion crust with a few regmaglypts features on one side. The other specimen type is known as "Shrapnel", which are fragments formed by the destruction of large pieces that hit the ground at high velocities and exploded into an impact crater.

The *Sikhote-Alin Meteorites* are composed of approximately 93% iron, 5.9% nickel, 0.42% cobalt, 0.46% phosphorus, and 0.28% sulfur, with trace amounts of germanium and iridium. Minerals present include taenite, plessite, troilite, chromite, kamacite, and schreibersite. The impact sites coordinates are 48 deg 9.6' N, 134 deg 39' E. The fall was witnessed on February 12, 1947 in eastern part of Russia between Vladivostok and Khabarovsk, at 10:38 am local time. As the meteorite estimated at 70 to 100 tons, traveling at a speed of about 14 km/s (8.7 mi/s), entered the atmosphere, it started to vaporize and fragment from the frictional heating force of entry. At an altitude of about 5.6 km (3.5 mi), the largest mass apparently broke up in a violent explosion, becoming a brilliant elongated bolide (fireball) visible in full sunlight.

The bolide's smoke trail from its entry was estimated at 32 km (20 mi) long and remained in the sky for several hours after impact. The bolide's impact generated a crater field ellipse that covered an area of about 1.3 sq km (0.50 sq mi). Some of the fragments made 24 major craters more than 9 m (29.5 ft) across, 98 small craters under 9 m (29.5 ft) across, numerous penetration holes, and the largest of the crater was about 26 m (85 ft) across and 6 m (20 ft) deep. Other fragments of the meteorite were also driven into the surrounding trees.

Encircling the crater field ellipse is a Scattering ellipse, which contained small pieces and stretched northward from the crater field in the entry direction, its egg-shaped ellipse encircles an area 4 km x 12 km (2.5 mi x 7.5 mi) from the heart of the crater field.

A cool fact is that on November 20, 1957, the Soviet Union issued a stamp for the 10th anniversary of the Sikhote-Alin meteorite shower. It reproduces a painting by P. J. Medvedev, a Soviet artist who witnessed the fall while he was sitting in his window starting a sketch when the fireball appeared, so he immediately began drawing what he saw. Also the largest piece of the Sikhote-Alin meteorite, which weighs 1,745 kilograms (3,847 lbs) and is about 3.5 m (11.5 ft) in diameter, is on display in the Fersman Mineralogical Museum in Moscow. (*Sources not available*)

Is your membership current?

Surfin' With Neal *by Neal Hazen*
 It's been a slow couple of months for Geology news, but we're back at ya!. So, what do cotton candy and rocks have in common? What if I told you the answer is "planets"? Yep, that's what the scientists are telling us. I'd tell you more, but I know this is one article you're gonna want to read for yourself. Here's the link: <http://www.physorg.com/news/2011-03-candy-floss-evidence-solar.html> Enjoy!

Eight thousand years BC found Neolithic peoples in the Middle East doing some amazing things. For one thing, they made some pretty fancy obsidian jewelry. Imagine, if you will, a bracelet not just oval in cross-section, but having an outer ridge of perfect proportions. Now imagine the whole thing polished as well, or better, than today's lens makers can do. It's an amazing piece of jewelry, and you can see it, and learn more, at: <http://www.physorg.com/news/2011-12-oldest-obsidian-bracelet-reveals-amazing.html>



Member Steve Lange is my instructor at Bishop State. Have you ever taken his Watch Repair classes? If you have, you'll know why quartz timepieces are not properly called "watches". The fact is, most watches today are generally worn as jewelry, rather than as a means of keeping time. With the digital age, new functionality is rapidly being added to create watches that do more and more, and ... Today, your "smart-watch" can tell you the time, as well as alert you to incoming text messages and sort through them for relevance to a set of parameters you control. They can play music or photos, monitor your health, or alert you and medical caregivers when your child has a seizure or tremors. See what else they can do, and who's making them at: <http://www.physorg.com/news/2011-12-small-technology.html>

We are all familiar with the diamond's capacity to entangle us in relationships, but did you know they can entangle each other? Yep it seems that, under certain conditions involving lasers, one diamond can influence another one up to half a foot away. Read more at: <http://www.physorg.com/news/2011-12-quantum-world-diamonds.html> Maybe you'll see diamonds in the i-Phones of the future – able to communicate with each other across Outer Space!

Don't you wish your were reading the electronic version of the *Cabber Gabber* so all you have to do is click on these links, instead of typing them in to your computer, so you can look at them?



NOT FOR SALE! A MRGS member's display box at the 2011 Show. Visitors wanted to purchase some of the items.

Housekeeping Schedule for Mobile Rock and Gem Society Clubhouse



February -
March
April

New volunteers should join one of the scheduled teams and see what needs to be done. Clean up is always the weekend before our general meeting.

Clean-up teams can contact *Jim Darnell*, if they cannot clean as scheduled. Thank you all for helping!

MRGS Library



Mary Daves, librarian

Videos, books, magazines related to lapidary arts are available for check out.

Junior Rockhounds

Saturday, February 25, 2012 9-noon

Michelle Peterson mysticks@hotmail.com

Activities: AFMS Lapidary Arts AFMS Badge #4
http://www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm

- 4.1 Learning about lapidary rocks.
 - 4.2 Choosing a lapidary project.
 - 4.3 *Workshop safety and maintenance* (required to earn this badge).
 - 4.4 *Completing a lapidary project* (required to earn this badge).
 - 4.5 Sharing your lapidary project.
- To earn your Lapidary Arts badge, you need to complete at least 3 of the 5 activities.

Qualified junior members 12 years and up may use the workshop to cut cabs. *Bonita Harris* bonitaharris@mchsi.com




Upcoming MRGS Events

John Hendrix, program chairman

February: *Dr. Brian Axsmith, Un of So Al*
 March: open
 April: *Bill Harbour* Faceting
 May: *Read Stowe*
Gem-O-Rama
 June: *Kim Cochran*
 September: **Annual Auction**

Upcoming Mineral, Gem, and Jewelry Shows

Feb. 11-12, 2012 , Merritt Island, FL.
 35th Annual Symphony of Gemstones Show. Sat, 11th, and Sun, 12th, 10-5.

 Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club, Inc.
 Kiwanis Island Park, 950 Kiwanis Park Rd., SR 520 west of Wal-Mart
 Rough and cut gems, minerals, fine jewelry, equipment, supplies, books, beads. Exhibits and demonstrations.
 Donation \$4.00. For information, call 321-799-8536

OTHER SCHEDULED EVENTS

OCEAN SPRINGS, MS

THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
 CLUB MEETINGS - 2:30 PM
 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
 (EXCEPT MAY AND NOVEMBER)
 Ocean Springs Library
 Dewey Avenue
<http://www.mgcgms.org/>

GULFPORT, MS

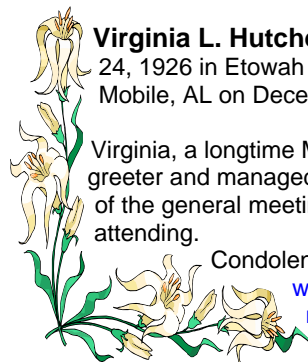
HARRISON COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
 WORKSHOP AND MEETING
 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
WWW.GULFPORTGEMS.ORG

Condolences

Virginia L. Hutcheson age 85, born September 24, 1926 in Etowah County, AL passed away in Mobile, AL on December 14, 2011.

Virginia, a longtime MRGS member, was the "official" greeter and managed the "split-the-pot" sales at many of the general meetings until illness kept her from attending.

Condolences may be offered at
www.radneyfuneralhome-mobile.com.



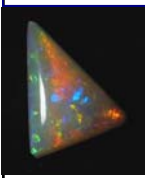
Classifieds

Mobile Rock and Gem Society Yahoo Group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mobilerockandgemsociety>
 Email: mobilerockandgemsociety@yahoogroups.com.
 You must be a member to post. If you have any question, please contact *Bill Harbour* at bcharbour78@yahoo.com.



Wear your club badge. Don't have one?
 See Cindy Harbour, and she'll be glad to order you one.

Windsong Opal Imports



Jim Darnell
jamezrobdarn@bellsouth.net
 Member: MRGS & AOS
 (228)-875-2310

Specializing
 in: Opal
 rough and
 finished
 stones

Opal Beads and more

Information Brochure for NEW Members

The MRGS new members club brochure explains all the society's 'happenings and doings'. These brochures are available at the clubhouse.

Canceled Stamps



The club sends canceled stamps to the Southeast Federation for the scholarship fundraiser. Those who bring the stamps are eligible for a scholarship drawing to a SFMS lapidary workshop.

Most stamps are now "forever" stamps, but they are still requested, except for canceled liberty bell stamps.



Please do not cut the stamps; leave some room around the stamps and do not cut the perforations!

BRING YOUR STAMPS EACH MONTH



Membership cards are available.
 See *Jim Darnell*.

MOBILE ROCK AND GEM SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Applicant's Name _____ Today's Date _____
 Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone Home (____) _____ - _____ Work # (____) _____ - _____
 E-mail _____

I (we) am (are) applying for:

- ___ Husband & Wife Membership \$25.00 per year (Jan. 1- Dec. 31.) includes MRGS *Cabber Gabber* newsletter
- ___ Individual Adult Membership \$15.00 per year (Jan. 1- Dec. 31.) includes MRGS *Cabber Gabber* newsletter
- ___ Family Membership (Husband & Wife) \$25.00 /each Junior \$3.00 includes MRGS *Cabber Gabber* newsletter
- ___ Junior Membership (ages 9-17) \$5.00 per year (Jan. 1- Dec. 31.) **no** MRGS *Cabber Gabber*

Applicant's Signature _____ Birth month _____
 Spouse's Signature _____ Birth month _____
 Sponsor _____ Date _____

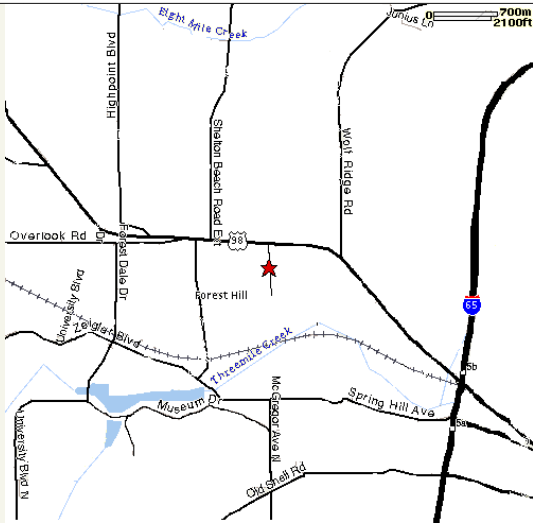
Make checks payable to:
 Mobile Rock and Gem Society
 Mail to: MRGS Treasurer
 1324 Forest Dell
 Mobile, AL 36618



MOBILE ROCK and GEM SOCIETY
Annual dues are from January 1– December 31

Clubhouse: 1324 Forest Dell Rd, off Moffett Rd, Mobile, AL

Meeting Date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm



PURPOSE OF MOBILE ROCK and GEM SOCIETY

- A. Stimulate interest in the earth sciences including lapidary arts, mineralogy, petrology, paleontology, geology, and other related fields and to encourage the study therein.
- B. Sponsor an educational program to increase the knowledge of members and the general public regarding the properties, identification and evaluation of rocks, minerals, fossils and other related subjects by holding monthly meetings with lectures by qualified experts or lapidary-related demonstrations.
- C. Sponsor field trips to collect and study various kinds of rocks, fossils, and minerals.
- D. Maintain a library of reference materials on lapidary arts, mineralogy, petrology, paleontology, geology, and other related fields.
- E. Display gems, fossils, mineral and lapidary specimens at the Mobile Museum of Art, Greater Gulf States Fair, area universities and other venues when invited.
- F. Conduct an annual show for the general public at a nominal fee where members and nonmembers demonstrate lapidary techniques and display collections of gems, fossils, and minerals.
- G. Conduct an annual Gem-O-Rama where members and nonmembers may swap, trade sell, purchase or observe gem, fossil, and mineral specimens and other related material.

A Junior Member is a member age 7-17 years.
 They do not have the right to vote or hold office but shall have all powers and privileges conferred by these By-Laws.
 A Senior Member is a member 18 years or older.
 They shall have all the powers and privileges conferred by these By-Laws including the right to vote and hold office.

Officers and Board of Directors for 2012

President: Jim Darnell
 251 633-5875
 6700 Wall St Apartment 7E
 Mobile, AL 36695
 jamezrobdarn@bellsouth.net

Vice-President: John Hendrix
 251 866-7553
 17925 Celeste Road
 Citronelle, AL 36522
 johnau64@bellsouth.net

Treasurer: Cindy Harbour
 251 666-2484
 1864 Wildwood Place
 Mobile, AL 36609
 bcharbour78@yahoo.com

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 251 928-9335
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 Mobile, AL 36695
 bonitaharris@mchsi.com

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 Phil Kaiser.....251-479-7447
 kaiserpw@att.net

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 Michelle Peterson
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Clubhouse: Gerald Jones.....251-344-8784

Librarian: Mary Louise Davesmldaves44@hotmail.com
Nametags: \$7.00 each in advance. *See Cindy Harbour.*
Phone Committee: Nick & Genie Lukes.....251 479-8912
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Special Events & Refreshment Committee:Selena and Lotus Buccola
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Sunshine Committee: *If you know of a member who is sick or hospitalized, please contact* Teresa Boone.....251 633-5551 or
 Anna Marie Brown.....251 432-0566

Tee shirts and caps: Roger Crow251 725-1853
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Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Dixie Mineral Council: <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/index.html>

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts and Wildacres
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/.pdf>

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Articles are due by the 20th of each month.

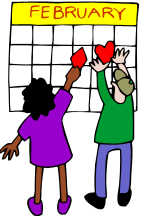
Mobile Rock and Gem Society




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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
PLEASE FORWARD**

February 14, 2012
"Cretaceous Flora in Alabama"
Dr. Axsmith



AMETHYST		February 2012				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1.	2. 7pm Executive Bd Mtg 	1.	4.
5.	6. 7pm Faceting Class	7.	8.	9.	10.	11. Paleozoic FT Contact Glenn Wimpee see p 7.
12.	13	14 7pm General Mtg  Guest Speaker: Dr. B. Axsmith	15	16	17 6:30 -9:30 pm Cabbing Workshop	18 9am-1pm Cabbing & Opal Workshop
19	20 7pm Faceting Class 	21	22	23	24	25 DM FT p 7 9-noon Junior Rockhounds 1:30-4pm Wire wrap
26	27	28	29			