



THE GOLDEN NUGGET

Jul 2006
Number 06 - 07



The Official Voice of the Montgomery, Alabama Gem & Mineral Society

July Program

When: Thursday, July 13th, 7:00 p.m.
Where: Mureal Crump Community Center
1735 Highland Ave.
Montgomery, AL
What: Sherron Schaefer & Pam Barnes
of High Strung Beads



Refreshments



Clara Glover will provide the drinks and Iris M^cGehee will provide the snacks for this month's meeting.

Next month's refreshments will be provided by the Toney's, drinks, and Minnie Jerido, snacks.

Please remember to bring paper plates, napkins and cups. Ice is available at the community center.

Happy Birthday!



Leonard Davenport - 1st
Mary Holland - 16th
Gloria Mann - 17th
Linda Lord - 19th

R.J.'s Trivia Vug

By R.J. Harris

1. What gem is known as the "Gem of Spring?"
2. What is known as the "Gem of the Gods?"
3. What is known as the "Stone of Courage?"
4. Where does the U.S. Government keep its supply of silver?"
5. A lump of pure gold the size of a matchbox can be flattened into a sheet the size of: a tennis court, a basketball court, or a football field?

Answers on page 3.

From Rock Buster News, newsletter of Central PA RMC, via The Hounds Howl, May 2006



Workshop Saturdays

Remember the workshop is open on the first and third Saturdays of each month. It's your workshop, so take advantage of the opportunity to utilize the facility. This month the workshop will be open the 1st and 15th.



Hope you had a great 4th of July and paused to remember those that gave us our freedoms!

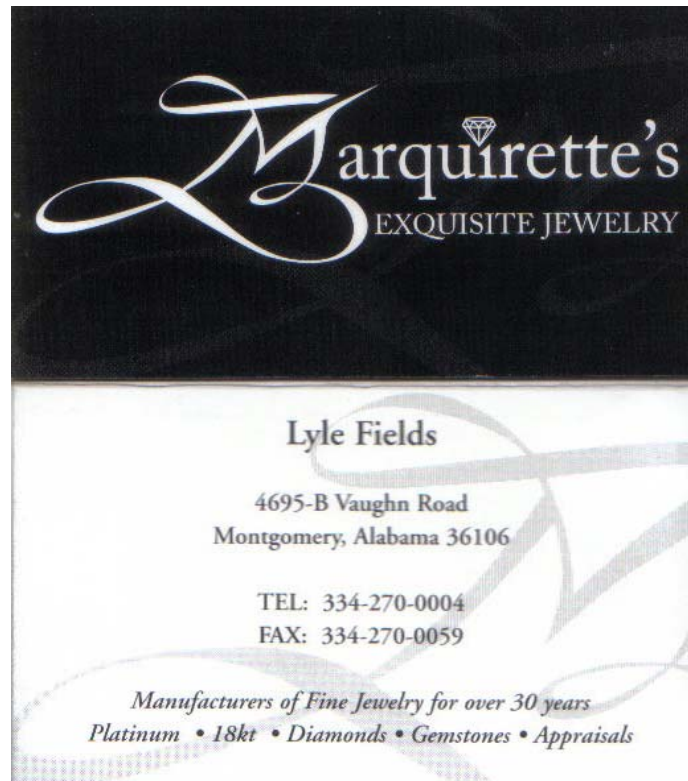


Thanks!

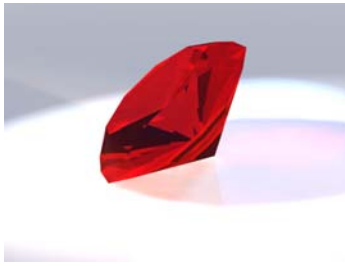
Thanks to Pam Smith of Native American Treasures for putting us in contact with Ronnie Williams of the Lower Creek Scogee Indian Tribe of East Starkland Alabama. Ronnie gave a presentation at our April meeting on knapping, heat treating rocks, and rock samples used in knapping, some of which were from Alabama.



Thanks to Lyle Fields and Amy Wilson of Marqurette's who gave a presentation at our March meeting on colored gems, showing several samples of gemstones, to include Black Diamonds, Pariba Tourmaline and Green Sapphire. Lyle also discussed Diamond buying from De Beers, dispelling many myths of the diamond trade.



Ruby: July's Gemstone



The ruby, known as the "Lord of the Gems" because of its rarity and beauty, is the accepted gemstone for July birthdays, also 15th and 40th anniversaries. Its name is derived from the Latin word "ruber", which simply means red. The ruby is a very durable gemstone; its hardness is surpassed only by the diamond. The Ruby, like the sapphire, is a variety of corundum and only exists as a true red in color. The finest color is a vivid, almost pure spectral red with a very faint undertone of blue, as seen in Burmese rubies which are considered the finest. Large rubies are very scarce and costly, worth more than 2 to 3 times a diamond of equal size and quality.

In ancient times, rubies were thought to contain a glowing spark struck from the planet Mars. Ancient lore held that the ruby was capable of curing illness and reconciling lover's quarrels. Hindus believed its deep red color came from an eternal fire which was capable of boiling water. The highest quality rubies were said to protect their owners from all kinds of misfortune. A fine ruby assured the owner he would live in harmony with his neighbors and would protect his stature in life, his home and his land. Its protective powers were said to be intensified when set in jewelry, and worn on the left side.

Virtually all rubies are heated to permanently improve their color and appearance. The finest rubies come from Burma, having been mined there since ancient times. Other sources include Thailand, Vietnam, Kenya, Tanzania, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and India. As with all gemstones, care should be taken to protect it from scratches and sharp blows.

Terry Fetzer



Southeast Federation (Phase 1)/AFMS Convention

Hosts: Middle Tennessee Gem Society

Nashville, Tennessee

Show: August 18-20, 2006

Convention: August 15-20, 2006

Southeast Federation (Phase 2)

Hosts: Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society

Montgomery, Alabama

December 1-3, 2006



Answers to R.J.'s Trivia Vug

1. Emerald
2. Opal
3. Ruby
4. U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.
5. A tennis court

Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society
Workshop Scholarship Program Points Record Sheet

Name _____

<u>Point</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Meeting – Reg. or Board	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1	Scheduled Field Trip	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1/2hr	Work at show or event	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1	Attend Club Workshop	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2 per	Exhibit/case @ show	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1	Bring stamps, labels, box tops	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	Recruiting a new member	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	Article for Golden Nugget	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5	Arrange a field trip (non chair)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5	Lecture to outside group	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5	Program at the meeting	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5/yr	Serving as Officer or Comm. Chair	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5	Teach club sponsored workshop	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTALS:														_____

WIN A TRIP TO THE FEDERATION WORKSHOP OF YOUR CHOICE

It's simple, really. Keep this sheet and record the points earned each month according to points allowed in the left hand column. If you accumulate 25 or more points by the end of the year, turn in your page at the January meeting. The first two names drawn will win tuition to a Federation workshop of his/her choice at either William Holland School of Lapidary Arts or Wildacres Retreat. Two second names will be drawn as alternates since the prizes cannot be carried over to future years.

Of course, the winners will be responsible for their own transportation to and from the workshop and for any cost of materials used in class. The materials cost varies according to the class taken, but if your finances are limited, you can choose to take a less expensive course.

A trip to the workshop is a dream come true. Give it your best shot. Someone as to win, and it could just be you.

Upcoming Shows

July 26-30, 2006 - 41st Annual Macon County Gemboree. Macon County Community Building US 441S. One of the largest and oldest gem & mineral shows in the southeast. Sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin and the Franklin Chamber of Commerce (800-336-7829). Hours 10am to 6pm Wednesday-Saturday, 12 noon to 5pm Sunday. Admission is \$2, children under 12 free.



General Information

The purpose of the Golden Nugget is to inform members of news about gems and minerals along with news about club, state, and regional activities of interest to our members. Most important, the Golden Nugget provides a way for each of us to share information about projects and to pass on tips that will help others enjoy our hobby. Unless members are willing to contribute, *The Golden Nugget* cannot meet this latter purpose.

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Meetings of the Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society are held every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Mureal Crump Adult Center, 1735 Highland Avenue, Montgomery, AL. The annual gem show replaces the December meeting. Anyone interested in gems and minerals is invited to attend. Field trips, workshops, and classes are held at various locations. These are announced at monthly meetings.

The Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

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Don't forget to save and bring in those stamps and Box Tops for Education too!

We still need members to sign-up to bring drinks for September's and November's meetings. Also, need a member to bring snacks for the October meeting.

Club Officers

President: James Easterling, 875-3089
1st Vice Pres.: Laura Hirst, 590-6946
2nd Vice Pres.: David Sherrod, 285-5537
Secretary: Mary Lou McHugh, 272-1817

Treasurer: Iris McGehee, 262-7275
Director: Harold Glover, 285-3501
Director: Terry Fetzer, 271-6849

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Commemorative Stamps**



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