



THE GOLDEN NUGGET

Jul 2007
Number 07 - 06



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

July Program

When: Thursday, July 12th, 7:00 p.m.
Where: Mureal Crump Community Center
1735 Highland Ave.
Montgomery, AL
What: Guest speaker from Cronier's Fine Jewelry.



Refreshments



Harry Corbin will provide the drinks and Frank Rowell will provide the snacks for this month's meeting.

Next month's refreshments will be provided by David Sherrod and Morning Apperson.

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

Happy Birthday!



Leonard Davenport - 1st
Jody Mallonee - 9th
Mary Holland - 16th
Gloria Mann - 17th
Linda Lord - 19th
John Martin - 29th

Proposed Fieldtrip



A club sponsored trip to Cathedral Caverns, in Woodville, Alabama, is being planned. Please plan to attend this month's meeting to add in your input. Without your participation there can be no trip!

Learn more at:

<http://www.alapark.com/parks/park.cfm?parkid=2>



Workshop Saturdays

Remember the workshop is scheduled to be opened 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 7th and 21st. Remember to please call a board member if you plan on coming out.

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

Trip to the Anniston Museum of Natural History

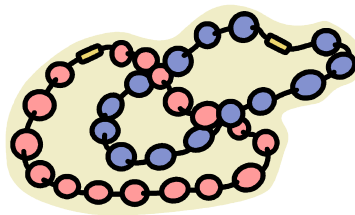


I would like to thank Terry, Becky, Randy, Helen and Helen's husband for attending the trip to Anniston. Mr. Dan Spaulding (Curator of the Anniston Museum of Natural History) was most gracious to give us a personal tour of the storage inventory the museum has. Most museums only display about 10 percent of their inventory so we got to see and handle the other 90 percent. Thank you to Mr. Spaulding and your staff for this very rewarding experience.

Laura Hirst



Beading Workshop



Along with the hot weather on Saturday, June 30th, came a beading class taught by former club member, Sue Medina, at the Ed Lowder Library on Bell Road. Twelve people, including 1 visitor and 2 prospective members attended anticipating making a beaded bracelet by knotting between each bead. Sue put everyone at ease by sharing the first necklace she had made and told everyone that it illustrates what "knot" to do when knotting between beads. Those making bracelets were encouraged to wear their "masterpiece" to the meeting and share with other members what they missed by not attending. The arrangements for the class were made by Clara Glover. In addition to Clara those attending were: Shirley Gomany (visitor), Julie Tatum and her two daughters Mandy and Heather (prospective members), Minnie Jerido, Randy and Laura Hirst, Becky and Terry Fetzer, Mary Lou McHugh, and Mary Holland.

Iris McGehee, Roving Reporter



A Short Course in Human Relations

The six most important words: *"I admit I made a mistake."*

The five most important words: *"You did a good job."*

The four most important words: *"What is your opinion?"*

The three most important words: *"If you please."*

The two most important words: *"Thank you."*

The one most important word: *"We"*

The least important word: *"I"*

Bits & Pieces, Vol. R/No.52

Million year old tooth found in Spain

I found this story about the million year old tooth on Yahoo News.
The story comes from MADRID (AFP).

Researchers released the news on Friday, June 29th, 2007. That they had uncovered a human tooth over one million years old, they estimated that the tooth was the oldest human fossil ever found in Western Europe. It was reported that the molar could be as old as 1.2 million years old.

The Atapuerca Foundation stated that “The tooth represents the oldest human fossil remain of western Europe. Now we finally have the anatomical evidence of the hominids that fabricated tools more than one million years ago.” The foundation added that “Since it is an isolated remain, it is not possible at this point to confirm which Homo species this tooth belongs to. First analyses “allow us to suppose it is an ancestor of Homo antecessor (pioneer).”

Researchers found the molar in the Sima del Elefante section of the Sierra. Where other fossils of mammals have been found, including bison, deer and bear as well as birds and a mouse.

Bermudez de Castro, one of the paleontologists leading the expedition, said that “The fossil appeared to be “well worn” and from an individual between the ages of 20-25.”

For more information: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070702/ts_afp/spainhistoryscience_070629192238

Julie Tatum



May's Wire Wrap Class



The last Saturday in May at the Ed Lowder Montgomery City-County Library on Bell Road, Jane Mobley was kind enough to teach a pendant wire wrapping class for all of those interested. She gave out the supplies needed to complete the project and proceeded to teach all of us present how to wire-wrap a large oval or round pendant.

The class was well attended by a good many of our members, approximately 15, and most completed their pendants before leaving the library. Jane has been teaching wire-wrapping for quite a while and is very proficient.

Speaking for myself, we all seemed to have a good time and learned a good bit about wire-wrapping.

Maybe we could have a Show and Tell Table set up at the November meeting so that everyone can bring anything they have made at workshops or in the Club Workshop to show to the rest of us who have not been as industrious this year.

Hope to see everyone at more workshops in the future.

Linda Lord

Mineralogy of Wales

I don't know if any of you have any mineral specimens from Wales or have any interest in Welsh mineralogy but the Department of Geology at the National Museum Wales has finally completed its 'Mineralogy of Wales' project on-line at http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/mineralogy_of_wales/. All 365 confirmed minerals from the country are listed, with many pictures and details on occurrences, plus information of a further 50 possible minerals. There are 12 'type' minerals for Wales i.e. first found in Wales, including namuwite named after the National Museum Wales. The mineral names used are those approved by the International Mineralogical Association thus for group names such as tourmaline you are directed to dravite, schorl and foitite. Though famous minerals such as gold have been found as nuggets, many of the recent new finds such as brianyoungite are very small and the photographs shown are from scanning electron microscope images. It is heavy on the mineralogical data, and a lot of the minerals are fairly obscure, but if you did just happen to want to know what cymrite is then it is worth a look.

Helen Kerbey



Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society Minutes

June 14, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Rowell.

The Treasurer's report was read by Iris McGehee and filed with the secretary.

Copies of the minutes were passed out. The minutes were approved with a minor correction.

David Sherrod told about the planned Saugahatchee Creek field trip. He also announced that he and Morning Apperson were engaged and plan to be married September 29.

Laura Hirst said there were 5 members who went to the Anniston Museum and they were treated to behind the scenes material that was not on display. She also said that September 22 through January 6 a T-Rex from the Smithsonian would be on display.

Frank said that Jane Mobley's wire wrapping class on May 26 was well attended.

Julie Tatum and Linda Griebel have agreed to be telephone callers.

Terry Fetzer needs articles for the Golden Nugget. There was no newsletter this month due to the lack of articles.

There was a discussion on Scholarships for Southeast Federation workshops.

There was a discussion on repairing the big saw in the workshop.

Clara Glover announced a beading class June 30 at the Louder Library. Sue Medina will be the instructor. Additional information and a sign-up sheet were provided.

Leonard Davenport told of an Indian artifact show in Prattville at the Doster Center.

A discussion ensued about installing insulation in the workshop building.

Refreshments were furnished by Terry and Elise Toney and Linda Lord.

The program was a video on fossils.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mary Lou McHugh,
Secretary

Upcoming Shows

July 25-29, 2007 – 42nd 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.

July 25-29, 2007, – South East Gem Shows. Whistle Stop Gemfest. Whistle Stop Antique Mall, 1281 Georgia Rd. Franklin, NC 9AM – 6PM daily. Contact: Mark or Patricia Smith, 706-490-4515, gemshows@bellsouth.net.

July 26-29, 2007, – Gem & Lapidary Wholesalers Inc., Watauga Festival Center, 426 Watauga Rd. (Hwy 441 North.) Franklin, NC 26th – 28th 10AM to 6PM; 29th 10AM to 3PM. 601-879-8832, fax 601-879-3282, info@glwshows.com or www.glwshows.com.



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.

In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. section 107, this material is distributed without profit or payment to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving this information.



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

Club Officers

President: Frank Rowell, 277-7023
1st Vice Pres.: Laura Hirst, 590-6946
2nd Vice Pres.: David Sherrod, 285-5537
Secretary: Mary Lou M^cHugh, 272-1817

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

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