



# THE GOLDEN NUGGET

Nov/Dec 2007  
Number 07 - 10



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

## Nov Program

**When:** Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Mureal Crump Community Center  
1735 Highland Ave.  
Montgomery, AL  
**What:** Show planning and preparation.  
Election of club officers.



## Refreshments



Drucilla Hornsby will provide the drinks and Minnie Jerido will provide the snacks for this month's meeting.

There will be a sign-up list at the meeting for refreshments for next year. Please sign up to bring either snacks or drinks. If **everyone** signs up, we can fill up the schedule for the whole year.

## Happy Birthday!



**Laura Hirst - 11/23**  
**Julie Tatum- 12/01**  
**Randy Hirst - 12/08**  
**Charles Deacy - 12/11**  
**Helen Kerbey - 12/17**  
**James Easterling - 12/17**  
**Mike Mitchell - 12/19**

## Editor Wanted!



After doing the club's newsletter for over 5 years, I've decided to pass the paper and quill on to someone else. I'd like to say a special thanks to all of you that have contributed articles over the years and especially to Iris M<sup>c</sup>Gehee, my roving reporter, who tried to contribute at least one article every month.

If you would like to take over as editor of *The Golden Nugget*, please contact me and I will give you everything I have, including an occasional article.

See you at the show!  
Terry

# ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

## SHOW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Planning is getting urgent for our 2007 Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show November 30<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>. It takes a lot of time and hard work by a lot of people to put it on, but it's also a lot of fun. It helps educate the public about our hobby in its various aspects and is our primary source of income.

Following the business session at the November meeting, we will be devoting the program time to finalizing plans for the show. The show begins with the set up of the dealers' dinner and the showcases on Thursday morning, November 29<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. and concludes after the show ends at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday night, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Each member is expected to commit work time, not only at the dealers' dinner, but also at least 2 hours, preferably more (if possible, and doesn't have to be consecutively) during the weekend at the information table and/or the demonstration table. We need everyone's cooperation in making the show a success.

The hours of the show will be: Friday – 9:00 – 6:00 (Students' Day – 9:00 – 2:00); Saturday – 10:00 – 6:00; and Sunday – 11:00 – 5:00. Please choose the hours you will agree to work and be prepared to sign up for the information and/or demonstration tables at the meeting. **IF YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING, please notify Iris McGehee at 262-7275 when you can work.** Also, write the time down when you agree to work (forms will be available at the meeting). Everyone involved is too busy during the weekend to phone you to remind you of your obligations.

Julie Tatum will be handling the dealers' dinner this year. The dinner will be at 6:00 on Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. The club will provide the meat, cole slaw, potato salad and bread. We will be serving approximately 150 people, so plan to prepare large enough servings (double or triple recipes) to help feed this number. Plan to bring a casserole or dessert. We naturally need more casseroles than desserts. If you cannot cook a casserole, Sunday Dinner has a large variety at reasonable prices that you might purchase. Also, if you cannot cook and do not want to purchase a casserole to bring, we will need tea (both sweetened and unsweetened) and lemonade. Sign up at the meeting what you will bring. Here again, if YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING, call Julie at 244-9462 and let her know what you can be depended on to bring. **THESE DISHES NEED TO BE AT THE COLISEUM NO LATER THAN 5:30 ON NOVEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>.**

We have 15 showcases that need your "Treasure Display". Make plans to put something in a case. These will be judged during the show and ribbons will be awarded. The size of each showcase is: 31 inches long, 12 ½ inches high, and 11 ¼ inches deep. Some of you have beautiful mineral specimens, beading, wire wrapped jewelry, gem trees, cabochons, faceted stones, fossils, arrowheads, or any lapidary art items, so plan to display to the public what you can do. When others see these items on display, it might create an interest in joining the Club. Remember to label items put in the cases, so everyone can see exactly what the item is that you are displaying. **These cases MUST BE FILLED BEFORE THE SHOW OPENS ON FRIDAY AT 9:00.**

Hope to see you at the meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

Iris McGehee

# Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society Minutes

## October 11, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Iris McGehee, who presided in the absence of the president.

The September minutes were approved as published in the Golden Nugget.

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

David Sherrod announced a field trip Saturday in the Georgiana area to hunt sharks teeth. He gave directions where to meet.

Iris announced that the Education Kits were ready to be delivered to Morningview School and asked for volunteers to go with her for the presentation when a date has been determined. Drucilla Hornsby and Mary Lou McHugh agreed to go.

Iris asked for volunteers to be on the Nominating Committee. There was no response. She then asked if there was anyone who would like to be nominated for an office. Mary Lou McHugh said she would like to continue to be the secretary, and Iris McGehee said she would be willing to be the treasurer.

Megan Jones' application for membership was approved.

Jean McDonald announced that Frontier Days will be held at Fort Toulouse Nov. 7-10.

Iris announced that several members were awarded ribbons for their exhibits at the Fair.

Refreshments were provided by Minnie Jerido and Julie Tatum.

Laura Hirst introduced Ken Cochran of the Georgia Mineral Society. Ken is a former curator of the Weiman Museum at Cartersville, Georgia. He told of a Foundation that now has the museum and is expecting to expand and enhance the museum and has the funds to do so. He gave an interesting talk on ways the public is fooled by fake, misnamed, treated and enhanced gems. He urged that we know our jeweler and ask questions even questions we may not think relevant.

After the program, the meeting was adjourned,

Mary Lou McHugh,  
Secretary



Thanks to everyone who put items to display at the Alabama National Fair and congratulations to all who won ribbons. Also, thanks to the ones who took the time to go to the Fair and represent our Club by demonstrating beading, wire wrapping, faceting, etc. Hopefully by doing this, we got publicity for the Club.

Iris McGehee

## ADVENTURE AT CATOMA CREEK

The weekend of October 20<sup>th</sup> was cooler, but not too cold to go on a personal field trip. So we packed up the Blazer and drove out Highway 331 to Catoma Creek. Mud boots were fine to walk across the cool creek since the water was low, but flowing. At first, digging in the sand and looking in the almost clear water revealed nothing but mussel shells, snails, and lots of hard packed clay. However, after walking down the creek and scraping several exposed banks, Mike found the first of some metallic looking rocks. After that, we were competing to see who could find the “big” one.

We came home with multiple examples, varying shapes, and colors of what we believe to be limonite (see picture below). As you look at the photo, let us know if you have a differing opinion. (Earlier in the year, Jeff Edwards brought in similar samples from Catoma Creek.)

Oh, the largest specimen is one I extracted!

Linda Griebel



You only have until January 6<sup>th</sup> to see A T. Rex Named Sue at the Anniston Museum of Natural History.

## Upcoming Shows

**Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, Mobile, AL – Mobile Rock & Gem Society.** 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock & Gem Show, Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds, Zeigler & Cody, Mobile, AL. Hours: Fri, 2 pm – 7 pm; Sat, 9 am – 6 pm; Sun, 10 am – 5 pm. **Admission:** \$3.00, Children under 12 free with Adult.

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup> – Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, Montgomery, AL – Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society.** 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show. Garrett Coliseum. Hours: Fri, 9 am – 6 pm; Sat, 10 am – 6 pm; Sun, 11 am – 5 pm. Contact: Jane Barkley, 334-277-2722. **FREE!**

**Nov 9–11 – Pascagoula, MS: Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society.** (Being held in conjunction with the SFMS Annual Meeting in Biloxi, MS). Civic Center Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds. Hours: Fri & Sat, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm; Sun, 10:00 am – 5.00 pm. Contact: John Wright, Show Chairman, 3304 Nottingham Rd., Ocean Springs, MS 39564, Phone: 228.875.9192, or osjbw@datasync.com.

**Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, Nashville, TN – Middle Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society.** 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Treasures Show. Creative Arts Bldg, Tennessee State Fairgrounds. Hours: Sat, 9 am – 6 pm; Sun, 10 am – 5 pm. **Admission:** \$3.00, Children under 12 free with Adult.

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## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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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## 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<sup>c</sup>Hugh, 272-1817

Treasurer: Iris M<sup>c</sup>Gehee, 262-7275  
Director: Harold Glover, 285-3501  
Director: Terry Fetzer, 271-6849

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING / MERRY CHRISTMAS / HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Terry L. Fetzer, Editor  
The Golden Nugget  
Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society  
1837 Heatherton Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36106  
Email: GoldenNugget@Knology.Net

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