

South Central Federation

Newsletter



JULY - AUGUST , 2015

Member of: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



**COMING
OCTOBER 23-25!**
AGMS Presents:
GEM CAPERS 2015
and

AFMS & SCFMS SHOW AND CONVENTION
54th Annual Gemstones, Mineral & Fossil
Show Featuring PEGMATITES

Will be given away on Sunday October 25, 2015, at the AFMS/SCFMS Convention and Show. Ticket comes free with show entry. The winner does not need to be present to win.

This Show will be held in our own South Central Federation in Austin, TX.



Plan now to attend. It will be a show to remember and you won't want to miss this one. See you there.

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**LET'S REMEMBER OUR
MILITARY TROOPS AND
THEIR FAMILIES**



SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION OF MINERAL SOCIETIES, INC.

SCFMS OFFICERS 2014-2015

President: Sue Dale Miller
3509 Wayland Drive
Fort Worth, Texas 76133
817-229-0336
sdalemiller@sbcglobal.net

Executive V-P: Ann James
2738 FM 92 South
Woodville, TX 75979
409-429-7444
earthscache3@yahoo.com

Secretary: Shiara Trumble
21142 Southern Colony Ct.
Katy, Texas 77449
281-463-7954
Shiaratrumble@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Don Shurtz
4004 Dublin Road
Allen, TX 75003
972-509-2821
don-shurtz@gmail.com

Exec. Secretary: Ray Duplechain
7200 Cypress Lakes Apt. Blvd. Apt. 420
Baton Rouge, LA 70884
225-978-0031
rayduplechain@hotmail.com

Past President: John Nash
737 FM 254 South
Jasper, TX, 75951
409-384-3974
jonnash1937@yahoo.com

**SCFMS WEB-SITE:
WWW.SCFMS.NET**



PURPOSE

To promote popular interest and education in the various earth sciences, in particular those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the science of minerals, fossils, as well as their associated fields.

To cooperate with educational and scientific institutions or other groups engaged in increasing knowledge in the earth sciences.

To cooperate with or become members of similar Federations in the United States and elsewhere.

To assist in the formation of earth sciences societies in localities where public interest justifies their formation.

E-MAIL ADDRESS CORRECTION AND CHANGES

It is each members responsibility to send your E-mail Addresses to the SCFMS Editor Paul W. Good, pmgood@verizon.net

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY

DUPLICATION

Material in this Newsletter may be duplicated for non-

commercial purposes providing full credit is given. For Commercial use, the individual author(s) must be contacted for approval.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The DEADLINE for each Newsletter is the 10th of the following months: January - March - May - July - September and November. As a reminder! Shop hints and tips that are used in this Newsletter, have not been evaluated for safety or reliability by myself. Please use caution and safety when trying out any new idea.

ANNUAL SHOW

The Austin Gem and Mineral Society, Austin, TX will host the AFMS-SCFMS combined Show in 2015, to be held on **October 23-25..**

So, mark your calendar and plan to be there for that show. We will be having more information about the festivities as time goes on, which are being planned at this moment.

ANNUAL MEETING:

The Federation's annual meeting will be held on **October 24, 2015..**

ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

Newsletter Editor: Paul W. Good
150 Nel Court, Kyle, TX 78640
512-268-4555
pmgood@verizon.net
Your Editor is a member of S.C.R.I.B.E.





America, our Heritage is Freedom

HAVE A RED, WHITE AND BLUE JULY 4th

We know what is, RED, WHITE AND BLUE.
Yes, but what does that mean to you.
A tail gate party and lots of noise,
or visiting family and those joys.

Do our young people know what it means?
That some went to war in their teens.
The Fourth of July, has great meaning.
Disaster at our nations was careening.

The 4th wasn't always just for fun.
It meant something, being an American.
Despots and dictators had to be stopped.
Knowing our freedom could not be swapped.

For the life we enjoy, others paid the price.
For our joy today, was their sacrifice.
Some who enjoy the Fourth of July.
the greatness of America, would deny.

Today's freedoms, would not be ours,
except our heroes fought evil powers.
They kept us free, to enjoy our lives.
By constant vigilance, freedom survives.

This Fourth of July, have you fun.
See a game, have a dog in a bun.
Don't take freedom for granted, for a day.
Thieves of freedom will have their way.

**By Terrell William Proctor, J.D.
4 July 2015
Houston, Texas
SCFMS Conservation & Legislation Chair**

SUE'S DIGS



Sue Dale Miller, SCFMS President

It is now 3 months till the Austin/SCFMS/AFMS show. It is time to get your reports in to the SCFMS Secretary Shiara Trumble. The Secretary needs to mail a copy of the agenda with the reports 60 days prior to the meeting so please get your reports to Shiara ASAP.

If there is new business you need to bring up please let me know before the meeting so it can be included in the agenda.

There are 3 officer positions that need filling. If you know someone who wants a job please let the nomination committee aware.

**THE AUSTIN GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY IN HOSTING THE
AMERICAN AND SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATIONS SHOW
OCTOBER 23-25, 2015**

**PALMER EVENT CENTER
900 BARTON SPRINGS ROAD, AUSTIN, TEXAS
TIMES**

Friday, October 23, (9am-6pm), 2015
Saturday, October 24 (9am-6pm) 2015
Sunday, October 25 (10am-5pm), 2015

ADMISSION

**Adults: \$8; Seniors: \$7;
Ages 13 - 18: \$2 Ages 12 & under free
proudly sponsored by: SILICON LABS**

YOU ALWAYS 'MEASURE' UP!

Recipe for Success

Take 11 volunteers.
Mix gently in the library.
Marinate with creativity,
dedication and kindness.
Let simmer.

Sprinkle with laughter and enthusiasm!

**Club support leads
to participation.
Participation
leads to increased
membership
and club activities.**



From Ann's View
SCFMS Executive Vice-President

Greetings SCFMS Rockhounds:

I hope you are all beginning to make your plans to attend the SCFMS Annual Meeting. I'm certain that it will be a great show and should be very exciting since SCFMS is hosting the AFMS Meeting this year. This will give us an opportunity to have fellowship with other rockhounds across the U. S.

I will be one of the SCFMS representatives at the AFMS Annual meeting. One of my duties at the meeting is to read a list of names of those SCFMS members that have died in the past year. I ask that each club contact me (earthscache3@yahoo.com) and provide the names of members that have passed since July 2014. I need them by September 1.

Our 2015 SCFMS Scholarship Honoree, Linda Simpson, member of the Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society and the Corpus Christi Geological Society has worked diligently at seeking candidates from our region to be awarded the scholarships from the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. The selection process has been completed and the two recipients have been determined. Linda will be recognized at the Annual Meeting as will the two scholarship recipients - Elia O. Gil (Texas A & M University at Corpus Christi) and Ruby Saldana (Texas A & M at Kingsville)

It is now time to start thinking about the 2016 SCFMS Scholarship Honoree. The Honoree selection process is as follows : Any club or club member can submit a nomination of someone they feel has greatly contributed in the area of earth science education. Background information of the nominee including education as well as a list of their contributions to earth sciences is to be submitted and will be the basis upon which the selection committee chooses the Honoree for the AFMS Scholarship. The selection committee consists of the SCFMS President, Executive Vice-President and Past President. Once the Honoree is selected, he/she selects a University/Universities which have graduate studies in earth sciences. The Honoree works with a professor from that University to select the two students that will receive \$4000 each in scholarship funds. So please begin considering who might be a great candidate for the 2016 AFMS Scholarship Honoree.

Please send all Honoree nominations and names of deceased club members to my email - earthscache3@yahoo.com.

Ann James
Executive Vice President, SCFMS

SAFETY

STARTS WITH YOU

SAFETY

HAS NO QUITTING TIME

2015 AFMS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (SCFMS)

By Ann James SCFMS Chair

ELIA GIL & RUBY SALDANA



**Elia Gil – Texas A & M University at
Corpus Christi**

Education

BS in Geology – August 2014

Masters Program – Environmental Science
(Expected Graduation – May 2017)

Thesis topic: Geoscience Education

Recommendation provided by:

**Dr. Tania-Maria Anders, Professional Assistant
Professor, Coordinator for Geoscience Education
and Outreach Texas**

**Ruby Saldana – Texas A & M University at
Kingsville**

Education

BS General Agriculture (minor – Plant and
Soil Science)

MS – Expected graduation (May 2017)

Recommendation provided by

Dr. Shad Nelson, Professor, Soil Scientist, Ph.D



THE POPCORN MINERAL...!!!

Perlite, the unique, so-called popcorn mineral, is one of the most surprising actors of the mineral kingdom. Being a highly hydrated variety of lava, it explodes almost explosive force when brought quickly under high temperatures between 1600 and 1700 degrees. It is found in a number of localities in our western mountains, but some of the

best deposits are located near Lovelock, Nevada and Grants, New Mexico. A carload of crushed, when expanded, produces between 10 and 20 carloads of plaster-making aggregate, and a cubic foot of the expanded pellets may weigh as little as two pounds.

(from the Pineywoods Rooter, 7/97)



SAFETY REPORT
SAFETY IN THE SHOP
By Owen Martin, SCFMS Safety



SLIPS, TIPS, AND FALLS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION
by Jacob Agbor, Safety Professional, Houston, TX

Almost anyone who watches television can instantly recognize the slip hazard presented when they see the image of a banana peel lying on the floor. Typically an unsuspecting person comes around the corner, slips, flips and falls in a heap on the floor...Laughs!! As funny as this may seem when portrayed on TV, falls are one of the leading causes of unintentional injuries in the United States, accounting for approximately 8.9 million visits to the emergency room annually (2011 NSC Injury facts).

Slip, trip & fall (STF) hazards can be found lurking around the workplace, our homes, and everyday life, but go unnoticed to many unsuspecting eyes. These hazards present themselves in the forms of a minor water spill on the hallway floor, a PlayStation power cord lying harmlessly across the living room floor, a carpet end which is sticking out of place by the doorway, an uneven surface of a sidewalk, or a questionably competent person using a bar stool as a ladder. All of these hazards and situations occur in our everyday life and as such frequently get overlooked and accepted as the norm, all the while escaping the reality of the grave potential for injury that could occur in an instant.

Slips, trips and falls can happen anywhere, and the resulting Injuries can include sprains & strains, bruises & contusions, fractures, abrasions & lacerations, concussions, and even up to disability or death. The immediate and hidden cost of such injuries include lost wages & out of pocket expenses, pain, temporary or permanent disability, reduced quality of life, depression & death. Slips, trips & falls make up the majority of general industry accidents accounting for 15% of all accidental deaths. They are also the second leading cause of disabling injuries, only behind motor vehicle accidents, and annually account for over 17% of all disabling occupational injuries (USDOL).

From the work place to the streets to your own home, the same holds true; Only YOU can be truly responsible for YOUR OWN SAFETY, and one of the 1st steps in the right direction is learning to always be aware of your surroundings. Some other measures to take include:

- * Know where STF hazards are common in your daily life (shoes by the door, back packs on the floor, chairs out of place, the dishwasher's open door, puddles of water, slippery soap in the bath, etc.),
- * Practicing good housekeeping both at home and at work,
- * Keeping areas tidy and free of clutter,
- * Utilizing safe walking practices by following designated walking paths,
- * Wearing proper footwear with good fit & traction, and,
- * Even by learning techniques on how to "fall properly," something that could reduce the effect of a "landing" after an STF.

(continued on page 10)



FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS CORNER

By: Michelle Talcott



Summer Time Fun

Since it is summer time, our junior club is taking a couple of months off. I am including some internet links for the kids to check out. Enjoy the summer!

Links to some great websites for kids, borrowed from MICHIGAN'S MIDWEST FEDERATION AFFILIATED ROCK CLUBS <http://www.mirockclubspages.org/index.html>

Geology-for-Kids

Totally Free Children's Learning Network

www.kidsgeo.com/geology-for-kids/index.php

Kid Info

web's best student, teacher, & parent resource.

www.kidinfo.com/science/geology.html

Rocks for Kids

This site is for kids of all ages who love rocks.

www.rocksforkids.com/

Science Kids

Rocks, Minerals & Soils

Facts, quizzes, lessons, projects, games (Rocks, minerals & soils game), experiments, videos, images

www.sciencekids.co.nz/geology.html

Rock Tumbling Hobby

andy321.proboards.com/

National Geographic Phenomena

phenomena.nationalgeographic.com/2014/02/25/a-tale-of-two-turtles/



STUDENTS YOUR LESSON FOR TODAY IS MARCASTITE

Marcasite (FeS_2), sometimes called white pyrites, is similar but lighter and more brittle than true pyrites. It occurs in radiating and coxcomb forms, as crustations and concretions, in clays, peat, and coal, H6; Sp. Gr. 4.8: crystals common. Specimens crumble and break up on standing.

Ref: Rocks and Minerals, by Hergert S. Zim and Paul R. Shaffer

FROM MY NOTEBOOK

Mary Trammell, Past President, SCFMS

THE BOLA TIE

One of the first lapidary items Wayne completed was a bola tie. We have questioned where and when the bola tie originated. Our friend, Jim in Arizona said, "the State of Arizona claims it was THEIR ORIGINAL." The State of Arizona designated the bola tie as the official neckwear for any and all functions. In fact you would feel undressed without a bola.

Webster, bola: a noun, a weapon consisting of two or more stone or iron balls attached to the ends of a cord for hurling at and entangling an animal. Bola, a noun, a long heavy Philippine single-edged knife. Some distinction that should be made in the pronunciation and a general slur of the word is not the answer. The bola tie is an item of wearing apparel consisting of leather or string with a sliding clasp attached. To keep the exposed ends from fraying a hollow tip is attached, keeping in harmony the time placed on the clasp. Regardless of your design you will have a unique piece. A bola tie makes great gifts.

(Editor's note: The above article was written by Mary and published in the 8/1989 issue of Cross Timbers Talk).



CORAL

By: Annie Lynn Leatherwood

One of the rarest and most sought after gem is coral. It is so valuable that it is often called "Red Gold". For centuries it was classified as vegetable or mineral origin. Later studies have found it is the calcareous skeletal remains of minute sea animals.

It has a rock-like harness and comes in many colors and shades of deep red, oranges to white. The most prized color is a pink called "Angel Skin". The next is "Moousk Ox Blood Red" followed by "Cherry Red".

The value of coral has caused the supplies to diminish and divers must go deeper and deeper to find any of value. Pure coral is so scarce, a gram of it is equivalent to a gram of gold.

There have been found beads of coral in the caves of early man, as well as in the graves of the Babylonians and Egyptians. The coral was used as ornaments and possibly as a charm to ensure safe passage of the souls.

The Indians of the southwest consider coral to have great powers in healing and good luck. The Hopi was using coral necklaces in their snake dances as early as 1870. The Navajo women wears coral as a symbol of social status of success and popularity.

Coral, like gold, is where you find it and is very valuable in the gem world.

(From Cross Timbers Talk, 8/1989. Annie Lynn was a member of the club at that time.)

HALITE

Halite is the mineral form of sodium chloride, NaCl, commonly known as rock salt. Halite occurs as cubic crystals that are typically colorless to white, but may also be light blue, dark blue or pink. Halite typically forms in sedimentary rocks of evaporative association and may form immense beds, in cave deposits, dried up playas and enclosed lakes, and in salt domes. Its crystallization comes from over saturated brines in open vugs formed by pressurized gas.

Halite's crystal structure is predominantly cubes but is also found in granular, fibrous or compact forms. It has a vitreous luster and a hardness of 2 to 2.5 on the Mohs scale.

Halite occurs all over the world but the most notable deposits are in Germany, Poland, Sicily, and India. Rose to pink colored cubes are formed in the salinas such as the Salton Sea and Searles Lake in California. Halite is found in extensive underground beds in the Michigan Basin, underlying Ohio, Michigan and New York, as numerous salt domes along the Gulf Coast, and in the Permian

Basin of Texas and New Mexico. Rare large golden halite cubes were found in the PCA mine, in the Carlsbad potash district, of Eddy County, New Mexico.

The large crystals, measuring more than 1 meter in size, were discovered in April of 1962, and a second cave was discovered several months later with even larger crystals.

The remarkable "golden" color of the crystals came from finely dispersed iron oxides, which are quite common in these deposits. Smaller crystals were recovered by miners but the fate of these crystals is unknown. At the moment there are plans under way to flood the entire mine and convert it into a salt brine production facility which will mean the loss of any remaining crystals.

Information for this article came from: www.newworldencyclopedia.org; <http://giantcrystals.strahlen.org/AmericaCarlsbad.htm> and www.cochise.edu.

via The Quarry, 6-7/10; via Pick - Hammer News, 5/10; to us via Golden Spike News. 7/14

(Continued from page 06)

After all is said and done a good "slip, trip, tumble and fall" is great for laughs on TV, but in real life an STF is a very serious matter which can permanently and negatively affect our lives. As such it's good to know that there's still hope out there for preventing slips, trips & falls and their resulting injuries. As such we should all take the personal responsibility for our own safety, then spread the word and influence those around us, family, friends & coworkers, to do the same. Only by doing so can we raise awareness to the "reality" of this issue, and thus minimize potential impacts to our everyday lives.

WHAT IS A ROCKHOUND

In summary a rockhound is:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| A Mineralogist | A Botanist |
| A Geologist | A Herpetologist |
| A Paleontologist | An Entomologist |
| An Archaeologist | A Lapidary |
| A Biologist | A Student |

“LAPIDARY OF THE MONTH”
Articles Sought for Rock & Gem Contributing Articles

by: Jim Bruce_Thompson, Rock & Gem Contributing Author

Rock & Gem is the officially sponsored hobby magazine of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies—our official magazine! They and Senior Consulting Editor Bob Jones have done much to promote rockhounding and rock clubs like those to which you and I belong. As you may know, I’m a regular contributing author, as well, mostly with articles for their “Rock & Gem Kids” section. Recently, *Rock & Gem* Managing Editor Lynn Varon has asked my help soliciting articles from within the ranks of the regional and national Federations for their “Lapidary of the Month” feature.

“Lapidary of the Month” is usually the very first article appearing in each issue of the magazine. In it, a lapidary artist (amateur or professional) describes a relatively simple project with a photo and step-by-step procedures for others to follow. For an example, see page 8 of the July 2015 issue. We would like to encourage *you* to write such a contribution! Here are the specifications:

A 500-word description telling step-by-step how you crafted your lapidary project from start to finish, saved as a document file.

At least one close-up digital color photograph of the finished project (with camera set for high resolution, i.e., 300 dpi at 4 inches by 5 inches, minimum).

Send your document file and digital photo (.tif or .jpg) as attachments in an email to editor@rockngem.com with the subject line “Lapidary of the Month.”

Include your name and a street address (not a PO Box) for prize delivery should your entry be selected for publication. (Only winners will be notified.)

Authors of articles selected to appear in “Lapidary of the Month” receive a two-speed Dremel Model 200 N/40 MultiPro kit and a wall plaque in recognition of their creativity and craftsmanship. (Thus the need for a street address.)

For questions or further submission details, please contact Lynn Varon at *Rock & Gem*, 5235 Mission Oaks Blvd. #201, Camarillo, CA 93012, phone (972) 448-4626, email editor@rockngem.com. Here’s to good projects and good writing—and to seeing *you* as a Lapidary of the Month!

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
WILL BE SEPTEMBER 10, 2015**

HAVING FUN: JUNIORS

“Spotlight On Juniors” Articles Requested for Rock & Gem Kids

by: Jim Bruce Thompson, AFMS & CFMS Juniors Program Chair

I write monthly articles for the “Rock & Gem Kids” section of *Rock & Gem* magazine. Most often, these introduce kids to a mineral or fossil or to some interesting aspect of rocks (gemstone lore, official state rocks and fossils, minerals with special effects like asterism or fluorescence, etc.). But I’ve also run several articles about especially outstanding juniors. I’d like to do more such profiles but despite various calls in the past, no one has sent me suggestions recently.

Do you have a kid in your society who is “rock crazy” and over-the-top enthusiastic? Please contact me with names and details about kids who deserve special recognition as inspirational role models for other kids, and I’ll be happy to do a write-up on them for “Rock & Gem Kids.” A great starting point might be any kids that your local society has named “Junior Rockhound of the Year” via the regional and national Federations’ member recognition programs or kids who have won any other Federation or school-sponsored awards related to our hobby, such as kids who have earned trophies in competitive exhibiting or who have participated in a local science fair.

I’ll need enough details that will allow me to craft an article ranging 250 to 300 words. What is the junior member’s name and what club or society is s/he affiliated with? What especially noteworthy accomplishments has s/he notched up related to our hobby? How might this child serve as a role model to others? See page 43 of the July 2015 issue of *Rock & Gem* for an example with the

article entitled “Spotlight on Juniors: Liliya Starts a Rock Club!”

In addition to info about the kids you nominate, I’ll need a couple of photos, preferably showing the kids engaged with the hobby. These should be digital color photographs with camera set for high resolution (i.e., 300 dpi at 4 inches by 5 inches, minimum). As with any photos of children intended for publication, I will need a photo permission and release form signed by the parent or guardian.

For further information—and to get a copy of the photo release form—please contact me at jbraceth@roadrunner.com. That’s the email address, as well, for sending info about your outstanding junior and for sending photos and release forms as electronic attachments. Here’s to recognizing our very best and most enthusiastic juniors and to acknowledging their efforts in a hobby that’s fun!

THE PEBBLE-PUP

By Catherine L. McFadden

Drinking from Mother Nature’s Cup,
Is the ever growing, Pebble Pup.
He starts out small, learning each day,
And so very soon he has something to say.

A new perspective from which to see,
The way a rockhound’s aim should be.
Listen well to the Pebble Pup,
He’ll be a great Rockhound when he grows up!!

THE SOUTH CENTRAL ENDOWMENT FUND ED RIES CHAIR

The Endowment Fund for the SCFMS was created at the Federation meeting in Waco, Texas, in March 1984. It was set up to be funded by voluntary donations of individual members and SCFMS organizations.

At each Federation show there is a silent auction of hobby related items that have been donated by individual members and SCFMS organizations. There has been a silent auction at every SCFMS meeting since 1985.

To help the Endowment Fund, the Patrons were established at the 1985 SCFMS meeting in Wichita Falls, Texas. A Patron is a member who donates \$100.00 or for whom a \$100.00 donation was made to the Endowment Fund. There Patrons are recognized and given a special patron pin, a patron certificate, and have their name engraved on a bronze plate and placed on the patron plaque which is displayed at each SCFMS show and convention.

In 1986 in order to recognize the donations from the various organizations, the "Patron Clubs" of the SCFMS

Endowment Fund was established. All SCFMS organizations that donate \$100.00 plus \$1.00 per member are recognized as a Patron Club. Additional donations by the organization which equal \$100.00 plus \$1.00 per member bring the organization to a Patron II, III, etc. Each organization is recognized and given a patron certificate and the organization's name is engraved on a bronze plate and placed on the Patron Club plaque, which is displayed at the SCFMS show and convention.

The Endowment Fund is a permanent Fund. Only the interest can be used to help support the activities of the Federation.

Contributions should be sent to:

Ed Ries, Endowment Fund Chair:
4611 27th Street,
Lubbock, TX 79414-2616



SHOP HINTS

A good gadget to clean and polish silver can be purchased at the office supply store. Ask for a fiberglass eraser. It is sort of a brush, and gets down into the smallest crack and does a beautiful cleaning job. This is especially fine for intricate silver jewelry that you have hand cast.

To get a high polish on onyx and other stones that are difficult to polish, mix in a wide mouth jar 3 tablespoons of water with 1/2 tablespoon oxalic acid. Dip your cab in this...then polish. (from Gem Time via the Rockytier, to us via S.I.E.S.)



WOODSY THE OWL SENDS THESE GREETINGS TO ALL ROCKHOUSES IN THE SCFMS:

"Thanks for helping spread the word."

"Give a Hoot - Don't Pollute"

Lend a Hand -
Care for the Land"

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Paul W. Good



KYLE COUPLE'S TRADITION EXHIBITS ROCK SPECIMENS

Kyle residents Paul and Margaret Good, true students of and enthusiasts for gems and minerals, are in their 45th year of sharing their collections with public school students. And for more than a decade that sharing has been one of the great stories of Hays CISD local volunteerism. We caught up with the couple when sharing one of their newly-delivered exhibits with Science Hall Elementary School (SHES) students. Their Librarian, Staci Perkins, brought a privileged group of students in for a personal introduction to the new exhibit, one like those that currently get show time at eight HCISD campuses, those in addition to Science Hall including Carpenter Hill, Fuentes, Elm Grove, Negley, and Kyle Elementaries, Wallace Middle School, and Hays High School.

With his wife providing, reinforcement and support, Good is obviously comfortable talking with young students and encouraging them to engage in a discussion of geology and its universe of specimens---many of which the couple has with them. The discussion rages from where



specimens were found to exchanges about how best to collect them. All in all, the Goods provide a very special and personal service to the students they voluntarily serve--something they have happily done since 1970 in a variety of communities across the country.

The Good's gave each student, librarians and their fifth grade Science teacher a piece of petrified wood.

(editor's note) I also must say that the petrified wood that was given to all that were present, was donated to me by members of the Pine Country GMS when they hosted the SCFMS show in August 2012. Thank you very



Much for your generous donation. Paul

(From The Editor's Desk Continued from previous page).

As you may have already read the previous page telling about our trip to Science Hall Elementary School in Kyle. At first I was not going to publish that article, but with some encouragement from others, I agreed to do so.

The main reason that I went ahead to publish it, as I am doing so, in hopes of encouraging others to do the same. I know of several of our rockhound friends who have a good collecting of Rocks, Minerals and Fossils. Go to a school in your area and ask the Librarian or Principal to allow you to set up a display.

Many will be happy to allow you to do it and you will enjoy doing so. We have a lot of things that the students have said about our displays, that we could write a small book.

The following are examples of what some of the students have said to Margaret and I:

A couple of girls, maybe 3rd graders said at the same time: "We like your Emma eggs". So I ask "Why do you like my Emma eggs?" They answered together, "Because our names are Emma."

THANK YOU

Just a note to say THANK YOU to all who sent an article for this newsletter:

**Terrell Proctor
Sue Dale Miller
Ann James
Owen Martin
Michelle Talcott**

**Mary Trammell
Bruce Thompson
Catherine McFadden
Margaret Good**

Well, that is all for this month's newsletter.
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER. PAUL

A 5th grader came over to me as I was changing a display and said: "Thank you very much". I said "Why are you thanking me?" He then put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a key chain that had an Ocho (English = Geode) from Brazil and he said, "I have carried this rock in my pocket for two years and never knew the name of it, until now".

One girl gave the Librarian a note and ask her to give it to me the next time that I came to change the rocks. The note said, "You have one specimen incorrectly identified. The purple one - you have it as an amethyst and I know it is not amethyst as my birthstone is an amethyst. Sure enough, it was a fluorite, so I just had to change the label.

There have been times that we go to a grocery store and a student will tap his parents on their arm and say to them: "That's the rock people that come to our school and leave a display for us to look at".

So after 45 years, we still enjoy going to the schools and displaying our geology exhibits. I hope that others will get out there and do some exhibiting for the schools. You won't be sorry and you probably will enjoy it very much. Thanks for listening. Paul

THE CRAFTSMAN'S WORK

**Born as a beauty in the head of a man,
Conceived with a purpose by his mind,
Through craft and art well entwined.**

**Realized at last by the skill of his hand,
Not as art, for its sake alone;
Instead, to serve a common need
The craftsman's worth is fondly done.**

(from the "Rocky Reader", February, 1999

(author unknown)



SCFMS ORGANIZATIONS SHOW DATES FOR 2015

Mary Trammell, SCFMS Show Co-ordinator

August 08-09, 2015
Baton Rouge, LA
Baton Rouge
G&MS
Baton Rouge Marriot
5500 Hilton Dr.

August 15-16, 2015
Bossier City, LA
Ark-LA-Tex G&MS
Bossier City Civic Ctr.

August 22-23, 2015
Jasper, TX
Pine Country G&MS
Events Center

September 25-27, 2015
Humble, TX
Houston G&MS
Humble Civic Center

October 10-11, 2015
Temple, TX
Tri-City G&MS
Mayborn Civic Ctr.

October 10-11, 2015
Fort Worth, TX
Cowtown
GM&Glassoc
CERA

AFMS-SCFMS
October 23-25, 2015
Austin, TX
Austin G&MS
Palmer Events Ctr.

October 25-26, 2015
Glen Rose, TX
Paleo. Soc. Of Austin
Somervell Expo Ctr.
Hwy 67

November 07-08, 2015
Amarillo, TX
Golden Spread G&MS
Amarillo Civic Ctr.

November 07-08, 2015
Midland, TX
Midland G&MS
Midland Ctr.

November 14-15, 2015
Round Rock, TX
Paleo Soc. Of Austin
Old Settlers Park
Hwy 79 E

November 21-22, 2015
Mesquite, TX
Dallas G&MS
Restiol Ctr. Exhibit Hall

2015 REGIONAL FEDERATION CONVENTIONS AND SHOWS

Rocky Mountain
Federation
August 15-17, 2015
Hermiston, OR

South Central & American
Federations
October 23-25, 2015
Austin, TX

Southeast
Federation
November 06-08, 2015
Melbourne, FL

**THE SCFMS NEEDS FUTURE SHOW
BIDS FOR THE
YEAR OF 2016 AND BEYOND**
Please contact Mary Trammell,
SCFMS Show Chair
1401 East U. S. Highway 67,
Stephenville, TX 76401
254-965-3948,
Trammell@our-town.com

**DO IT TODAY
DON'T LET THE
TIME PASS
BY**



HIT THE TRAIL

by Margaret Good

Summer is here.
It sure is hot.
There's still some rocks
I have not got.
So pack your bags.
Let's hit the trail.
Search out treasures.
For sure won't fail.
Will bring them back
For show and tell.
Keep some; give some;
A few to sell.