



# GEM SCOOPS



Vol. 49, No. 12

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

December 2011

# Do you want a club?

*"Ponderings*

*from the Podium*

Things are looking up! Ted has had some very positive conversations with a Clemson University official and there is a strong possibility that we may be granted the use of a meeting room in the Hayden Conference Center in the Clemson Botanical Garden as well as an area in that same building in which we will be able to re-establish our Lapidary Workshop. The decision will probably not be finalized until after the first of the New Year, but present indications are favorable.

We will be having a January Meeting on the third Tuesday (January 17) in the proposed meeting room. The program for that meeting will be a look back at the history and accomplishments of the PDGMS and a look forward at the possibilities and future of the Club. The PDGMS isn't dead yet!! Make sure that you attend our Christmas Dinner meeting to get the latest details on efforts to keep the PDGMS alive and well. All attendees will receive a Christmas gift of a mineral specimen.

*Larry*

## JANUARY MEETING January 17, 2011

We are scheduling a January meeting of the PDGMS although the future is unclear. We hope to be meeting in the Hayden Conference Center in the Clemson Gardens. Details later by e-mail.

## DECEMBER MEETING

**DATE:** Tuesday December 20, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

**Please note that the day has been moved to Tuesday.**

**PLACE:** Hibachi Grill Chinese Restaurant in Clemson.

This meeting will be our annual Christmas Dinner Party. The club will not be able to pick up the tab as once before and we will not have a gift exchange. However, each person attending will receive a mineral specimen gift. We hope it won't be the Final meeting of the Club because next year will be our Fiftieth Anniversary year. We are going to move the meeting day back to the 3rd Tuesday of the month to try and attract back some long-time members who can't meet on Wednesday. PLEASE JOIN US.

## Do you want a Club? By ye Olde Editor

The Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society was formed 49 years ago. At that time it was called The Rock Rangers if I remember past history correctly. Our club was a founding member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. It would be a shame to not meet the half century mark because we can't elect a slate of officers.

For a club to continue to exist, we need some officers, especially a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The rest of the duties are handled by Committees or appointed folks such as the Editor.

The President and Vice President are the problem because everyone

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## Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

### Minutes of General Meeting November 16, 2011

**Location:** Central/Clemson Library Meeting Room

**Attendance:** 11 members

President, Larry Boller, called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm. Refreshments were provided by Ed and Jeanne Overly.

**Program:** Virginia Meador set up

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### 2011 Officers

President: Larry Boller 864-296-8077  
V.P.: Ed Overly 864-328-3057  
Secretary: Cecelia Jackson 864-261-3580  
Treasurer: Phyllis Phillips 864-654-8514

### 2011 Directors

Dave Cicimurri 864-650-7115  
Jim Duzenberry 864-654-5741  
Fred Sias 864-654-6833  
Rich Warner 864-654-0913



Photograph by Brian Scott, May 10, 2009

### The Hayden Conference Center on the Clemson University Campus

Link to Web site < <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=19576>>

We have high hopes the PDGMS will be able to meet in this Conference Center on the Clemson Campus. There is also space for a workshop that will enable us to resume lapidary and jewelry-making classes.

## November Minutes (Continued)

30 mineral samples for us to identify. She provided sheets for us to note our best guesses as well as to make notes on related minerals. The display included graphite and diamond, 5 different micas, 4 calcites and a "flexible" sandstone. The club donated a quartz crystal to Virginia for use in her classes at the Camperdown Academy in Greenville. Several members brought in specimens for show, tell and swap.

**Break:** There was no raffle this month. All members are encouraged to bring items to be raffled.

**Business Meeting:** The minutes for the October 2011 meeting were approved unanimously. The treasurer's report was provided by Boller. He also reported that although the board of directors is all set, there is no slate of officers for the coming year. There needs to be a minimum of a President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**New Business:** We have been contacted by a scoutmaster about accompanying a troop of Webelos to Diamond Hill this coming Saturday at 9:00 am. Larry Boller will go; Regina Kerns and Linda Martin may also go.

The next meeting will be the annual Christmas Party, but will be held on at 6:00pm on Tuesday, December 20. Plans are to reserve room at the Hibachi Grill Chinese Restaurant in Clemson. There will be a small gift exchange (less than \$5, and marked "male" or "female") of gem/mineral related items.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

*Regina Kerns*  
Secretary

Keep looking here for the 2012 SFMS Workshop Schedule at Wildacres Retreat and The William Holland School of Lapidary Arts.



## Do You Want a Club? (Continued)

seems to think it is necessary to know something about gems, minerals or jewelry to hold these offices. You really don't. All you have to do is see that the club has a meeting space and time and that there is a program and speaker. However, you are not alone handling these two jobs. We expect the meeting place and time to be settled by the end of this year. The Southeast Federation has a library of slides, tapes, and DVDs that can supply enough material for a couple of year's meetings. Get the members to indicate an area of interest and order the media. It is all free although the club would pay the return postage.

In addition, some of the senior members can supply names of sev-

eral additional persons that can be called on for live presentations. Your editor will continue to handle the Newsletter if a committee chair can be found to get publicity into the newspaper.

**N**ow for the big news: Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find an article about a new space for a club workshop. The club owns a pretty good inventory of tools and equipment for lapidary and jewelry-making workshops. For examples, we own several Diamond Pacific 6-wheel capping machines, torches for jewelry fabrication, a kiln and centrifuge for lost-wax casting, a faceting machine, along with hand tools to support wire-wrap jewelry making, precious metal clay jewelry making, and conventional jewelry fabrication. These were all used to support a Leisure Time Course at

Clemson until we lost our previous shop space. They are all in storage waiting for a location for a new shop.

The few remaining senior members of the club can no longer continue to volunteer to hold things together. All of this will go "down the drain" if we disband the club. Please will someone come to the December meeting and volunteer or recommend someone to take over the Presidential and Vice Presidential positions so we will at least have a structure to continue? Your Editor will continue to put out the newsletter until a new editor can be trained and I am sure all of the other long-time club members will continue to provide help and advice. We just can't continue to handle the daily job of coordinating club activities.

## FROM YOUR SFMS PRESIDENT

Barbara Green



I have been asked what is the benefit for clubs to be a member of SFMS. Listed below are a few of the programs that are there to help your club.

### DMC-Field Trip Sharing Program

Organized trip access to many rockhounding areas, closed to the general public, provides opportunities to collect gems, minerals and fossils. With the laws changing, it helps to go on a DMC field trip and know that you will not be breaking any laws.

### Education Committee

Four Workshops per year:

- Two - William Holland School of Lapidary Arts, Young Harris Georgia
- Two - at Wildacres, Little Switzerland, NC

Scholarships provided by participation in the Stamp Program

### Insurance

Liability Insurance for club shows (Your SFMS club needs it for field trips!!!).

### LODESTAR Newsletters

Much useful information is in there each month

### Library of Programs

Every club can check out these to use as programs for their monthly meetings. Check out the list on-line.

### Youth Resources

Much information is available to help your Young Rockhound program in your club. Subscription to Diamond Dan's Mini Minor's Monthly is available to young rockhounds

### The Mayo Educational Foundation.

Club members who are college students majoring in Geology and Earth Science related fields are eligible for scholarships provided by the Foundation.

As with any program, the more you participate, the more you will benefit. I was very happy to see many new faces at our Annual Meeting this past weekend. All of the above Committees (plus many more that you can find out about on our website, <http://www.amfed.org/sfms/index.html>) need club members help to make them work. We have open positions. If you feel that you can help out in any of these areas, please contact me at [greentop@bellsouth.net](mailto:greentop@bellsouth.net).

**SFMS Website: [www.amfed.org/sfms/](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/)**

# Membership Application Form

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society  
Phyllis Phillips, Treasurer  
c/o Bob Campbell Geology Museum  
Clemson University  
140 Discovery Lane  
Clemson, South Carolina 29634-0130

Please print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Residence Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Spouse's First Name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership \$15.00. Family Membership \$20.00. (Please Circle which and amount enclosed.)  
If Family membership please print children's names below.

\_\_\_\_\_

The Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society serves refreshments at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting is called to order at 7:15 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The club meeting location has yet to be determined for 2012. but is expected to be at a convenient location on the Clemson Campus. The society is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

GEM Scoops  
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FIRST CLASS MAIL