

FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Nature's Treasures

Dec 21, 2017

*** *Public Version* ***



MEETING: There is no program meeting for December. Instead there is the annual Holiday/Show Rewards dinner.



PROGRAM: There is no program meeting for the month.



Refreshments: Since there is no program meeting for December, there will be no refreshments provided.

.2017 Refreshment List

January	Sandra & Stephanie Myers, Jim Jones	July	Beards, Sturiks
February	Brent Beck, Charles Whicker	August	Picnic
March	Bakers, Hughes	September	Show
April	McGilvarys, Brouhles	October	Caroline Jones, Daniel Bowles
May	Goodes, Pete Smith	November	Marions, Reeds
June	Gaskills, Schlottmans	December	Holiday/Show Dinner

If you enjoy the refreshments, please be prepared to take a turn in furnishing them. NOTE: if you volunteer to bring refreshments, please do so. If you are unable to attend for any reason, contact Vickie Gaskill or Jeanne Schlottman prior to the meeting so that alternate arrangements can be made.

Note: Due to equipment issues in the meeting area kitchen, it will be necessary for the refreshments providers to also bring ice for the drinks, at least for the next couple of months.



DON'T FORGET YOUR NAME TAGS



No December Program

Just a reminder that there is no program meeting for December. Instead the club will hold its annual show and holiday celebration dinner.



Inclement Weather Procedure

We have already had an early taste of winter, with the main season just around the corner. With it comes chances for bad weather for the next few months, so it is time to review the procedures to be followed in case of bad or threatening weather on any of the event or meeting dates.

If inclement weather is a possibility, plans are to try to make a go/no-go decision by the day before the meeting. If the decision is made to cancel, an email alert will be sent out, as well as a notice posted on the club web page. Members who do not have email or internet capability should call one of the officers.



Refreshment Volunteer Time

As you may notice we have reached the end our refreshments list for the current year. There is no regular meeting in December.

However, that also puts us closer to January of next year and starting the cycle all over again. So, it's time to be thinking about volunteering for next year. Anyone willing to participate should contact Vickie or Jeanne as soon as possible. The objective is to have all of the slots accounted for before next year begins.



Membership Renewal Soon Due

As the year comes to a close it is a reminder that most members will need to renew their membership soon. Renewals are due by the end of the year. Members who have not renewed by the end of February will be dropped from the roster.

A copy of the membership form is included in this newsletter. The form can also be downloaded from the club's web site. Note that ALL members, *including existing members*, must fill out the form each year so that FGMC can keep the records up to date.

Membership can be renewed at any of the upcoming meetings, including at the December dinner. Or they can be mailed to the Treasurer.



Annual Holiday/Show Celebration Dinner

December is the time for our annual Holiday / Show Rewards Dinner.

The dinner is both a chance for the families to get together plus a reward for those who worked at the show.

If you worked at the show, then the club will cover the cost of the meal for you and your immediate family (spouse, dependent children).

If you are a new member who joined at or after the show (September or later), the club will also cover your family's meal. And we hope that you will join us at the show next year.

If you are an existing member but did not work at the show, we also encourage you to come out, but we do ask that you cover your own meals' costs.



New Officers

The November meeting included elections for the officers and directors for the coming year:

President:	Al Gaskill	
Vice-President:	Jeff Schlottman	
Secretary:	Lisa Reed	
Treasurer:	Alex McGilvary	
Directors	David Goode Sandra Myers Sherry Marion Ken Reed	

The new officers will be installed at the end of the December meeting/dinner and will assume their functions at the first of the new year.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The DMC January trip will occur before the January newsletter will be published, so it is included in the December newsletter.



Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip

An Official Field Trip of the Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club, (Tampa, FL)) - HOST
An Official Field Trip of the Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club

Note: DMC Field Trips are for club members of DMC-affiliated clubs and their families only. Liability issues mean that these trips cannot be attended by the general public unless otherwise noted.

Vulcan Limestone Mine

TRIP: Echinoids (fossil sand dollars and urchins), druzy calcite crystals, and chert for cabbing. There are shark teeth but seldom found.

BRING: This is surface hunting, so digging tools are not necessary, other than a screw driver or butter knife to pry fossils from dirt. A rock hammer is helpful at times if you want a piece of chert. We park at the hunting site, so you can leave your lunch, drinks and cooler in the car. Sun screen might be handy. Bring drinks and snacks as we stay until 12:00 noon and/or 2:00 PM.

REQUIREMENTS: Sturdy closed shoes or sneakers, no sandals or open toed shoes. Jeans or long pants are preferred to protect your knees and long sleeve shirt or sun screen. If it is a bright day, a hat or ball cap would be useful.

CHILDREN: Yes.

PETS: No.

FACILITIES: The one thing they do not have is a restroom, stop at the gas station in Brooksville before you arrive.



Reviewing: Bornite

From Geology.com/minerals

A copper iron sulfide mineral often called "peacock ore" because of its tarnish.

What is Bornite?

Bornite is a copper iron sulfide mineral with a chemical composition of Cu_5FeS_4 . It occurs in igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks. Mined concentrations of bornite occur in hydrothermal veins, contact metamorphic zones, and in the enriched zone of many sulfide mineral deposits. Chalcopyrite, marcasite, and pyrite are other sulfide minerals commonly associated with bornite. Small amounts of bornite are also found disseminated through mafic igneous rocks and carbonaceous shales.

"Peacock Ore"

Bornite is easily recognized because it tarnishes to iridescent shades of blue, purple, red, green and yellow. It is commonly called "peacock ore" or "purple copper ore" after these iridescent colors. Upon surface exposure, bornite will weather to chalcocite or other copper minerals.

Bornite is a popular and fast-selling mineral specimen at museums, mineral shows, and tourist shops. However, some material sold as "peacock ore" has a tarnish with spectacular colors - greatly exceeding what is expected on bornite. This material is frequently chalcopyrite that has been intentionally tarnished with acid. This treatment is done to produce an item that is visually appealing and sells rapidly.

Bornite crystals with an iridescent tarnish up to about 1.5 centimeters across on calcite from the Karagandy Province, Kazakhstan. Specimen and photo by Arkenstone / www.iRocks.com.

Physical Properties of Bornite

The colorful iridescent tarnish of bornite and its low hardness are very helpful for separating bornite from other minerals with a submetallic to metallic luster. Few of them have a similar tarnish, and most of them are much harder.

Physical Properties of Bornite

Chemical Classification	Sulfide
Color	Reddish brown or brownish red on a fresh surface. Iridescent purple, blue, and black on a tarnished surface.
Streak	Grayish black
Luster	Submetallic to metallic
Diaphaneity	Opaque
Cleavage	Poor
Mohs Hardness	3
Specific Gravity	5.0 to 5.1
Diagnostic Properties	Color, tarnish, lower hardness than similar minerals. Almost always found in massive occurrences and very rarely as tiny crystals.
Chemical Composition	Copper iron sulfide, Cu_5FeS_4
Crystal System	Orthorhombic
Uses	Primarily an ore of copper.



Author: Hobart M. King, Ph.D.



Meeting Minutes

The November meeting of the FGMC was held on Thursday, Nov 15, 2017.

Steve Hebert (club member) led an hour presentation on wire wrapping.

15 club members were present.

Slate of Officers:

President: Al Gaskill

V-P: Jeff Schlottmann

Secretary: Lisa Reed

Treasurer: Alex McGilvary

Slate of Officers accepted and voted in by acclamation.

Motion made and seconded to hold the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Show in 2018.

Appointment by current President Jean Schlottmann for 2018:

Show Committee Chairman- Arville Marion

Newsletter Editor: Wayne Ketner

Hospitality Chairperson: Vickie Gaskill

Door prize won by Jean Schottmann- a polished malachite specimen.

Refreshments provided by the Marion and Reed families and were enjoyed "around the table" due the small number in attendance.

Christmas Dinner to be held at the Golden Corral at Hanes Mall on December 21 at 6 pm - to celebrate Christmas and to reward the volunteers that worked at the 2017 FGM Show.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Reed, substituting for Wayne Ketner, Secretary



Nature's Treasures

Nature's Treasures is the monthly newsletter of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club.

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Field Trip Chair	Stephanie Myers	
Club Web Site:	https://forsythgemclub.com/	