

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
JACKSONVILLE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY,  
INC.**

The undersigned subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation, each a natural person competent to contract, hereby associate themselves together to form a corporation, not for profit, under the laws of the State of Florida.

**Article I. Name**

The name of this corporation is:  
JACKSONVILLE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

**Article II. Purpose**

The purpose and object of this corporation is to stimulate interest in Earth Sciences by furtherance of the activities of the members of this Society. To disseminate knowledge, methods and procedures for the collection, identification, classification, cutting, polishing, setting and mounting of specimens for these activities; to promote good fellowship proper ethics and conduct in the relationships of said members with each other and with members of other Earth science societies in pursuit of these activities.

**Article III. Membership**

The membership of this corporation shall consist of not less than three (3) members. Membership shall be limited to persons who are actively participating in any phase of work mentioned in the statement of purpose. The manner of admissions to membership in said corporation shall be specified in the By-Laws. Only Active members, as defined in the By-Laws, shall have voting privileges.

**Article IV. Term of Existence**

This corporation is to exist perpetually.

**Article V. Subscribers**

The name and address of each subscriber of these Articles of Incorporation are:

Name	Residence Address
Henry C. Bickner	2767 Lydia Street Jacksonville, Florida
Edward H. Tutt	1813 Bartram Circle, West Jacksonville, Florida
Emery C. Geise	6422 Solandra Drive Jacksonville, Florida

**Articles VI. Officers**

The business affairs of this corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors. The number of directors may be increased or diminished from time to time by By-Laws adopted by the membership, but shall never be less than three (3). The directors shall be elected from and by the membership of said corporation. The term of office of directors shall be for such length of time, not less than one (1) year, as the membership of said corporation may provide by its By-Laws. In addition to the said Board of Directors, the corporation shall also have a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and such other officers as may be necessary. The officers shall be elected from and by the membership of said corporation. The term of office of the officers shall be such length of time, not less than one (1) year, as the membership of said corporation may provide by its By-Laws. All legal instruments of the corporation shall be signed by said President or Vice President, sealed with the corporate seal, and attested by said Secretary; or in such manner as may be authorized by law.

**Article VII. First Officers**

The names of the officers who are to serve until the first election under the Articles of Incorporation are as follows:

Name	Title
Henry C. Bickner	President
Edward H. Tutt	Vice President
Bettie Timmerman	Secretary
P.W.Holstun	Treasurer

**Article VIII. Initial Directors**

The names and posts office addresses of the members of the first Board of Directors are:

Name	Residential Address
Henry C. Bickner	27 Lydia Street Jacksonville, Florida
Edward H. Tutt	1813 Bartram Circle, West Jacksonville, Florida
Bettie Timmerman	1251 Hamilton Street Jacksonville, Florida
P. W. Holstun	5235 Attleboro Avenue Jacksonville, Florida

**Article IX. By-Laws**

The By-Laws of this corporation are to be made, altered or rescinded upon a favorable majority vote of the active members present at any regular business meeting of the corporation, except that By-Laws regulating the amounts of money to be paid as dues or fees shall require a two-thirds favorable vote of the active members.

**Article X. Amendment**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by a two-thirds favorable vote of the members present at any regular business meeting of the corporation in the following manner:

**Section 1.** An amendment to these articles may be proposed by any active member by written communication to the Secretary, endorsed by a number of active members equal to not less than five (5) per cent of the active members of the corporation.

**Section 2.** A proposed amendment shall be submitted to a committee of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Immediate Past President, if any, for review and recommendations.

**Section 3.** The proposed amendment, with recommendations of the committee, if any, shall be presented to the Society by the President not later than the third regular business meeting following submission to the committee. Written notice, including copy of the proposed amendment, shall be sent to all active members not less than ten (10) days prior to the next regular business meeting following the meeting at which the amendment was presented to the Society.

**Section 4.** A two-thirds vote of the active members present at a regular business meeting held immediately following the mailing of the written notice shall be necessary for the approval of an amendment to these articles.

**Section 5.** After the adoption of a proposed amendment, it shall be filed with the Secretary of State in the manner provided by law.

**Section 6.** The President shall cause notice of adoption of any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation to be published.

**Article XI. Regular Business Meetings**

The corporation shall hold a regular business meeting not less than once each calendar month, on a day to be specified in the By-Laws.

**Article XII. Corporate Powers**

The corporation shall be authorized to receive, administer disburse and invest gifts, devises and bequests by or from any persons, firms or

corporations; to issue bonds, notes, debentures and evidences of indebtedness, and to secure the same by mortgage, deed of trust or otherwise. The corporation shall have power to make such contracts and to do such things as shall be authorized and directed by the members of this corporation by a favorable majority vote of the members at any regular business meeting of the corporation, or any meeting called for that purpose. This corporation shall enjoy all the privileges and responsibilities and powers authorized by law and not herein specifically limited.

(Seal) /S/ Henry C. Bickner

(Seal) /S/ Edward H. Tutt

(Seal) /S/ Emery C. Geise

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF DUVAL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day, before me, the undersigned officer, duly authorized in the State and County aforesaid to take acknowledgments, personally appeared HENRY C, BICKNER, EDWARD H. TUTT and EMERY C. GEISE, to me known to be the persons described as subscribers in and who executed the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, and acknowledged to and before me that they subscribed to said Articles of Incorporation.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the County and State aforesaid this 18th day of October, 1960.

/S/ Robert L. Rowe, Jr.  
Notary Public, State of Florida at Large  
My commission expires July 24, 1963  
(Notary Seal)

## **BY-LAWS**

### **JACKSONVILLE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

#### **Article I** Membership

**Section 1.** An Active member shall be a person who is at least 18 years of age, who is actively participating in the Society and who is not delinquent in payment of dues.

**Section 2.** A Student member shall be a person under 18 years of age, who is actively participating in the society and who is not delinquent in payment of dues. Student members shall automatically become Active members upon reaching their 18th birthday.

**Section 3.** Procedure for Admission of New Members.

a. The applicant shall make application on forms provided by the Membership Committee.

b. The applicant shall secure endorsement of this form by one active member of the Society.

c. The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of each applicant for membership and shall act upon all applications. If the actions of the Committee is unfavorable in any case, the Committee shall notify the applicant of their action and shall return any fees that have been advanced. If the action of the Committee shall be favorable, the application form shall go to the Membership Chairman together with any fees or payments which have been advanced. Membership shall date from the date of the application.

d. The Secretary shall notify all persons whose applications have been acted upon favorably and shall forward to the new member his membership card and a letter of welcome.

## **Article II Dues and Fees**

**Section 1.** Dues for active members shall be determined by the general membership. The dues will be due and payable on the anniversary month of each year of when the member joined.

**Section 2.** Dues shall accompany application for membership.

**Section 3.** Special assessments shall be levied only in case of an emergency, and them only by a two-thirds vote of the members in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting.

### **Section 4. Delinquent Members**

A member shall be considered delinquent if his dues are not paid within one month after being due. Thereupon, voting privileges shall be revoked and any publications discontinued. As of one month after the anniversary date the Treasurer shall forward a second notice to delinquent members with a statement that membership will be discontinued if back dues are not paid.

Members who fail to pay their dues by two months after the anniversary dates shall be dropped from membership in the Society. If, within the following thirty (30) days, dues for the past and current period are paid, membership shall be reinstated.

### **Section 5. Treasurer's Reports on Members in Arrears.**

Each month the Treasurer shall furnish the Secretary and the President with the following reports:

a. A list of the members whose dues are delinquent, and who are suspended.

b. A list of members whose membership has been discontinued.

c. A list of any reinstated members.

**Section 6.** Publications - Payments of dues shall entitle the members to receive any publications of the Society, and a current Directory. Hand-out sheets will be distributed only to those present.

### **Article III Officers**

**Section 1.** Officers shall be nominated by a nominating committee appointed by the President in the November Meeting to report in the December meeting. Officers shall be elected in December to take office January 1st. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

#### **Section 2. Board of Directors**

a. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Elected officers, the immediate Past President, and three (3) elected Board Members.

### **Article IV Duties of the Officers**

**Section 1.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall perform such duties as usually pertain to that office.

**Section 2.** The Vice President shall perform all duties of the President during his absence or disability and shall assist the President as the needs dictate. Should the President die, the Vice President will assume the duties of President and a new Vice President is appointed by the Board of Directors by the second meeting after the death of the President. The term of office is only until the next normal election.

**Section 3.** The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Society, maintain an accurate list of all members and their addresses, furnish the Treasurer and the Publications Committee a list of all changes of address or membership by the fifteenth of each month, forward to the Treasurer all fees received, notify all members regarding special meetings, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

**Section 4.** The Treasurer shall collect all dues, take charge of all funds of the Society, make disbursements as authorized, furnish to the Secretary a monthly list of changes of membership, and perform all other duties pertaining to that office.

**Section 5.** In the event of the vacancy of any of the elective offices other than that of the President, the President shall appoint a nominating committee to report at the next regular business meeting. The vacancy in the office shall be filled for the unexpired term only.

**Section 6 Removal.** An officer may be removed with cause by a majority vote of the Board. "With cause" could be, but not limited to; conduct which reflects negatively on JGMS, dereliction of duty, or actions which endanger the lives and/or property of JGMS members. The person or persons bringing removal actions will notify, in writing, the President or Vice President. THE President or Vice President will act immediately. The member under consideration for removal will be notified of the reason for the contemplated removal sixty (60) days in

advance of the vote by either the President, first, or the Vice President of JGMS. The person considered for removal shall be able to call a Board Hearing so the accused has a chance to confront the accuser and receive a fair hearing. The member is encouraged to respond and the response is to be mailed within seven (7) days to the Board of Directors.

#### **Article V** Committees

**Section 1.** There shall be the following standing committees:

- Membership
- Program and Education
- Projects
- Library and Archives
- Publications and Publicity
- Exhibits
- Field Trips

**Section 2.** These committees shall be appointed by the President.

**Section 3.** The President shall appoint any special committees he deems necessary.

**Section 4.** An Auditing Committee shall be appointed by the President in November to audit the books in December, and make their report at the January meeting.

#### **Article VI** Meetings

**Section 1.** The regular business meeting shall be held once per month on the first Thursday of the month.

**Section 2.** A quorum for conducting business at any regular or called meeting shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the active membership.

**Section 3.** Special meetings shall be on call by the President.

**Section 4.** The order of business at regular and special meetings, when so desired by the President, shall be:

- Call to order, pledge of allegiance, approval of the minutes, Treasurer's report, report of each standing committee, report of any special committees, reading of any communications, unfinished business, new business, program and adjournment.

**Section 5.** There shall be no buying or selling, or trading during the time of the meeting unless this is a part of the program for the meeting.

**Section 6.** The rules contained in Roberts's Rules of Order, Revised

Seventy-fifth Anniversary Edition, shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the By-Laws or the special rules of this Society.

## **AFMS Code of Ethics**

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations and rules governing collecting on public land and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind, such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning materials – matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will support the Rockhound Project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter, Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with Field Trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my Club or Federation Officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other property authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment future generations and for public education and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of Natural Resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.