



Hope on down to the meeting!!!

The next meeting of the Mid Ga. Gem and Mineral Society will be held April 6, 2020 at 7:30. Come early to chat with the early birds. The speaker for the evening will be Thomas Thurmond. Thomas will be speaking on the Stratigraphy of Oaky Woods, his research with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. This is a local wildlife management area.

Don't forget to bring a sample of the mineral of the month...JASPER! If you haven't completed the club survey, please do so by April 1, 2020.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BGSHDF5>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 21, 2020 Science Olympiad
- March 28, 2020 Gordon Dig
- March 29, 2020 Summerville Dig
- April 6, 2020 Meeting
- April 10, 2020 Grab Bag Party at Jay's
- April 18, 2020 Johnson Creek Farm Dig
- April 24-26, 2020 Graves Mountain
- May 2, 2020 Robo-code Day at the Museum of Aviation
- May 2, 2020 Society Picnic at the Museum of Arts and Sciences

May 4, Meeting/ Speaker will be Bill Witherspoon, co-author of Roadside Geology of Ga. at 6:30PM

Welcome

Please welcome new member Irene Moore and returning members Tom and Linda Batcha, Thomas Thurman and Hank Josey.



Spring time is just around the corner, if not already here. I am hoping the deep cold weather has left us till next fall. Our wood pile has been dwindling down fast as our little wood stove has been busy this winter.

Our survey that was sent out is already having good results for the club. The purpose is to find out what everyone wants to have the club do to improve their attendance and participation. My motivation for me to come to the club was field trips, good programs, and to chat and learn from fellow rockhounds. The survey is your opportunity to let the board know what you want to have happen in the club. Please fill the form online if you haven't done so already. And remember, you can always bring any thing up at our regular meetings too.

Our Mineral of the month is Jasper, I love the jaspers and agates. The colors and patterns are incredible and beautiful. None are the same and they all seem to tell a story about their creation. The picture jaspers are fascinating with their sometimes-intricate patterns. I use to live about 20 miles from Biggs Junction where the Biggs jasper was collected. Now the dig site is played out and the materials is highly sought after. I drove by it every day on my way to work. Unfortunately, my life revolved around work and other activities those days. Southeastern Oregon has many varieties of picture jasper. Wild Horse, Owyhee, and Succor Creek to name a few. That part of Oregon is arid and rocky. Canyons, sagebrush and basalt rock dominate the landscape. Ranches and towns are far and few between. 4x4 trucks, cattle and antelope abound. The Owyhee river cuts it way through the canyons and valleys providing the much-needed water for irrigation. It is also a great trout fishing river too; I caught my biggest brown trout on a fly in this river. Geez, I sure could go back and do that again. It is a great place to visit and camp, just have



plenty of gas in the tank and good tires on your vehicle. Leslie Gulch is a natural scenic area off of Succor Creek, its rock formations are needed to be seen, erosion of the tuff has left large pinnacles capped with mushroom like caps. The gulch winds its' way down to the Owyhee river at bottom, a refreshing break before turning around and driving back out.

Well I got off to rambling, the club banner is on the menu now, it should be a great addition for us as we will have many opportunities to display it. Let's hear your ideas on the design as we get this done. See you at the meeting. Bill Mayer President

Resources

Many times, when I am stuck inside due to weather (monsoon rains in Georgia), I search the internet for ideas of things to create. As I was putting the newsletter together and looking for interesting items, I ran across a website which has two pages of lapidary projects, tools, and information (Fossils and gemstones) and thought I would give it a try. The website is "Lapidary World."

<http://www.lapidaryworld.com/projects.html>

On the site there are banners with topics for you to click on. I didn't click on them all but I did try several out and I did find a few that were obsolete and no longer working. Before I would put anything in the newsletter however I have to try it out so I decided to try the banner entitled "Crystal Flowers Bracelet" by Deb Hall. There is a picture of what it should look like when complete and step by step instructions with pictures to help you through the process. Although I have not finished the bracelet yet due to my injured finger, I hope by the time we meet in April to have it done so I can show it off.

I also subscribe to "Jewelry Marker's Newsletter" from Fire Mountain Gems which has several projects with listed materials each month. One article had a how to on making non-pierced ear rings from pierced ear ring directions something I was interested in since I don't have pierced ears. Just go to the website and subscribe. You don't have to buy their products to get the newsletter.

<https://www.firemountaingems.com/>

If you find a resource that would make a good article to share, please send me all the details. Sharing ideas and information is a way for each of

us to help the other gain knowledge and enjoy being in the society.

Tina

Meeting Minutes

President Bill Mayer called the meeting to order at 7:29 P.M. with 22 members in attendance. He welcomed new and returning members and visitor Samantha Thurman (Thomas' daughter).

Adoption of the Minutes: The reading of the minutes from the previous meeting to be taken from the newsletter. A motion was made and the members approved.

Treasury: Susan Hargrove gave the bank checking and C.D. balances. She also said the rent for the museum was paid up for a year.

Programs: Jay Batcha said Hank Josey, a pharmacist from Dublin and President of the Paleontology Association of Georgia was our speaker tonight. He also said Thomas Thurman Vice President of the Paleontology Association of Georgia would be our April Speaker.

Field Trips: Jay Batcha talked about the BASF mine dig in Gordian, Ga. on March 7, 2020 with 18 signed up to go. He talked about the Suwanee Music Park Roundup rock swap and sale coming up. Also, the Summerville, SC. DMC dig on 3-29-2020 and the Johnson Creek Farm DMC dig on 4-18-2020. Jay gave information on the Graves Mountain Annual Spring Dig April 24, 25 and 26 - 2020 and mentioned trying to arrange a future dig at the Cummings, GA. Quarry.

Publicity: Tina Perkins said the Science Olympiad was coming up on March 21, 2020 and needing volunteers. She also said the Peaches to Beaches yard sale fundraiser was March 13 and 14, 2020. She also mentioned they needed help and donations.

Newsletter: Tina Perkins said the deadline for entries was 3-12-2020.

Old Business: Bill Mayer said the board met and discussed new ideas and there was a list available for members. Tina talked about the Survey for members to take for the Club to gather personal opinions and suggestions on how to improve the Club. She said 18 members had completed the survey and encouraged everyone to participate saying members could use their phones to take it.



New Business: Bill said the Peaches to Beaches Yard Sale on March 13 and 14, 2020 needed MOHs Kits and donations. This event would bring income and club publicity with flyers being handed out. A sign-up sheet was available. Jay talked about the Science Olympiad at Rutland Middle School involving 33 schools. He was asking for volunteers to help grade and rank student testing of Rockhounding from 7:45 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. on 3-21-2020. Bill was also asking members for suggestions on the club buying a banner to be used at events for club publicity. Many gave input on color, size, logo and price. Tina mentioned the club has been more involved with the Museum of Aviation and the Museum was lacking funds for camps and events. She had a list of items for donations (recyclables) and members can help by bringing them the next meeting. (**List appears in newsletter**)

Mineral of the Month: Rutile was the mineral of the month with many specimens on display with members giving information about each.

Other Notes: Eddie Williams had some Geological articles and maps for members to take home.

Speaker: Our speaker tonight was Hank Josey, President of the Georgia Paleontology Association. He talked about the March 7, 2020 BASF Kaolin Mine Dig (moved to March 28, 2020) using a slideshow. He showed the late Eocene Period Geography and Stratigraphy of Central Georgia. Saying three Fauna Zone flows from The Gulf, the Atlantic and Florida came together during the warm ocean level rising here. In the sediment and marine life deposits left behind, many vertebrate and invertebrate fossils were buried in different layers exposed in some Kaolin and Limestone mines. Examples shown were shark's teeth, whale bones, stingray mantles and various species of shells. He also gave many tips and techniques along with a list of mining tools for the upcoming club dig. Many members had questions resulting in more information and personal stories of past digs.

Next meeting will be April 6, 2020 and the Mineral of The Month is Jasper. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

Respectively submitted
Al Steffanini

Jasper

Mineral of the Month

Jasper is actually not a mineral, but a rock, a chemical sedimentary rock comprised primarily of silica. Accessory minerals which can create the wonderful colors found in Jasper include chalcedony, quartz, hematite, pyrolusite, clay, and calcite, to name a few. The rock is comprised of crypto (micro) crystalline (chalcedony) varieties of quartz and various other impurities that add the colors to the rock. They can be formed by direct silica deposition from water, possibly by volcanic solutions at great depth in mid-ocean, or from diagenesis at the expense of organogenetic siliceous sediments. In other words, they can probably be found in association with sedimentary, igneous, or metamorphic rocks, since all of these eventually contribute to sediments. In the U.S., the main concentration of Jasper is in Lake Superior iron ore deposits, Mesabi Range (Minnesota) iron ore deposits, the Jurassic sediments of California, from Novaculite in Arkansas and from volcanism in England and Michigan (Porcellanite). However, Jasper can be found in locations throughout the U.S. and world.

Jasper can be compact, micro-fibrous, splintery, and stratified (with folds and constricted areas) in texture and generally has a conchoidal fracture. Because it is an impure quartz, the hardness is 6.5-7 with a specific gravity of 2.4-2.7. The streak is generally white, however, if the streak is obtained from an accessory mineral in the Jasper, the color of the streak may vary. The rock is not generally soluble in water, however has a water content of 0.1-4%. Non silicon dioxide impurities can range from 1-20%

The primary uses for Jasper are as finished gemstones, hones, and whetstones. It was carved to make seals at the palace of Knosses in 1800 B.C. and the term "Jasper" is referenced in Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, Assyrian, Greek, and Latin writings.



Ocean Jasper

<https://www.gemrockauctions.com/learn/additional-gemstone-information/jasper-gemstones>

Common types include African, Biggs, Brazilian, Ocean, Carrasite, Imperial, Bumblebee, Red, Dalmation, Mookaite, Kabamba, Zebra, Picture, Polychrome, and Yellow. In Georgia, we have what is known as Ga. Queen Picture Jasper which could be found at Jones Pit, near Unadilla.

Eddie Williams



Megalodon Teeth
Fossil of the month



<https://www.buriedtreasurefossils.com/shark-teeth/megalodon/georgia.html>

Best place to find in Georgia: Shark Tooth Island (Jones' Island) or any other bank or dredge island in the Savannah River.

Megalodon (*Carcharocles megalodon*) is a member of an extinct group of sharks that were the largest shark or fish to every live.

Megalodon (big tooth) lived from around 23 million years ago (Miocene) to 2.6 mya

(Pliocene). Fossil teeth have been found around the continental shelf of every continent except Antarctica. Megalodon was a close relative of today's modern Great White Shark. Body size is based on a relative comparison of teeth versus body mass of modern sharks. That means that according to calculations megalodon could have been anywhere from 33.5 to 58.7 feet in length. Some scientists think it may have reached 82 feet in length. It may have resembled a bulky torpedo-shaped fish with a conical snout, large pectoral and dorsal fins, and a strong crescent-shaped tail. It would have preyed upon the ancestors of modern whales. Modern great white sharks reach about 20 feet in length. The largest fish alive now is the Oar Fish (*Regalecus* sp.) at almost 36 feet. The largest megalodon tooth (7 inches) is 3x that of a great white shark. Megalodon hunted in the warm shallow seas around the continents. When the ice age removed water from the oceans and cooled the environment down, megalodon disappeared. Humans have a bite force of about 1300 newtons whereas megalodon would have had almost 83 times that amount at 108,000 newtons. For more information about a South Carolina hot spot, go to

<https://www.wsbtv.com/news/trending-now/giant-prehistoric-megalodon-shark-teeth-found-in-hot-spot-along-carolina-coast-1/798345825/>



Local Events

Science Olympiad

Rutland Middle School

Macon, Ga.

March 21, 2020

Tina, Jay and George will be there!

Perry Dogwood Festival

Perry, Ga.

Arts and Crafts

April 17-18, 2020

Prez. Bill will be there!





Shows

Bell Point Gem Show
548 S Marietta Parkway
Marietta, Ga.
March 20-22, 2020

Tellus Museum Mineral Symposium
100 Tellus Dr.
Cartersville, Ga.
March 21, 2020
<http://tellusmuseum.org/>

The theme will be Fine Mineral Collecting with talks on building a personal collection, appraisals, and field collecting. Attendees will be able to visit a newly opened temporary exhibit featuring the Gail & Jim Spann Mineral Collection.

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club
North Carolina State Fairgrounds
1025 Blue Ridge Rd.,
Kerr Scott Bldg.

Fri. 3-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$3, free admission for children 14 and under; Dealers offering gems, minerals, rocks, with grab bags, demonstration area with gem trees, displays, activities for children; contact Cyndy Hummel, 10609 Chelsea Dr, Raleigh, NC 27603, (919) 779-6220; Email: mchummel@mindspring.com

Central Florida Mineral and Gem Society
Nation Guard Armory
2809 South Fern Creek Ave.
April 10-12, 2020
Fri. 1-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5;
Adults \$5, children \$2



digs

A Mid-Ga Gem and Mineral Society
Field Trip at
BASF Kaolin Quarry

March 28, 2020 at 10:00am to 2:00pm

Gordon, Georgia

No Fee/Registration Required

REGISTRATION: Participants must **register no later** than **March 22nd** because property owner needs a head count. **Must RSVP with Jay (see note at the bottom of dig information).** This is to give you time to plan ahead.

LOCATION: This field trip is in Gordon, Georgia.

COLLECTING: Sharks teeth, stingray dentals, whale bone, and many other marine fossils (from formations above the Kaolin layer mostly Tivola Limestone). Also, can collect Kaolin and Limestone.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: You must have the following safety equipment or you will not be allowed into the quarry: hard hat, safety glasses, steel toed boots/shoes, safety vest (orange/yellow) and gloves. Long pants are also a must. Note from quarry: Closed toe shoes with tread (trail/running shoes or hiking boots recommended, steel toe boots or shoes preferred).

CHILDREN (Yes): Must be accompanied by an adult and watched. **PETS:** No pets allowed.

BRING:

- Bottled water or a reusable bottle to fill before we depart
- Snacks or bag lunch (not a lot of options to eat around here)
- Sunscreen (or a breathable long sleeve shirt)
- Baseball cap, hat, or visor
- Small tools
- Container(s) for collecting samples

VERY IMPORTANT!!! Field trip attendees must be escorted at all times by quarry personnel, so we will caravan into and out of the quarry as a group. If you have an emergency and have to leave before the trip is over, you must be escorted out by quarry personnel. **YOU CANNOT ENTER OR LEAVE ON YOUR OWN. Please obey all rules so we can return in the future.**

Special Conditions: This is an active quarry. **STAY AWAY from all heavy equipment, high walls, ponds, and quarry machinery.**

TERRAIN AND ACCESSIBILITY: This location has flat areas and areas with loose rock. People with mobility issues may have some difficulty navigating over and around boulders. Collecting areas are within 25 yards from where we park.



DIRECTIONS: Directions will be sent via email to registered attendees only. Meeting place will be in Gordon, Georgia and is 21 miles from the I-75/I-16 split in Macon, Ga.

Note: Must RSVP with Jay (cell# 478-957-5002 or email batcha.jay@gmail.com) to find out meeting location and directions!



An Official Field Trip of the Mobile Rock and Gem Society (Mobile, AL) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Mid Ga. Gem and Mineral Society

Sunday, March 29, 2020

9AM - 2PM Eastern Time

Patty Construction Quarry

7525 Hwy 27

Summerville, Ga

Unlimited number/ No Fees

TRIP: The March 2020 SFMS DMC Field Trip is sponsored by the Mobile Rock & Gem Society to collect Summerville Agate at the quarry in Summerville Georgia. This site has been a long time favorite of many collectors. The agate forms within Mississippian age chert as delicate concentric bands. Colors are predominantly gray and red. Sometimes you can find stalactic formations, or pieces covered in druzy quartz. Note: We may have a cabbing demonstration using material collected on-site.

COLLECTING: Material is generally found by simply surface collecting, although there are plenty of large pieces and boulders for those so inclined to break them apart. A couple of guys from Georgia found a huge (about 3 feet diameter) boulder with good pattern and figure throughout and briefly contemplated how they might get it loaded into a truck, but eventually gave up on the idea.

BRING: Eye protection is a must for anyone wishing to break apart material with a rock hammer, or sledge, or are nearby someone else doing so! Things, such as a hammer, chisels, scratching tools, pry bars, buckets, small ground shovels and rakes, paper to wrap specimens, sunscreen, bug spray, food and drinks, sturdy shoes, and gloves. Much of the material is covered with a chalky white chert, and a pail of water is sometimes handy for dipping and identifying the better material. A small cart or hand truck may be useful for hauling larger pieces of take-home material.

DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR THE WEATHER OF THE DAY. This will be in March, so the temp could range from 70's to the teens. Also, be prepared for rain if forecasted.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: This is an ACTIVE QUARRY. NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED anywhere near any of the machinery on the premises. ANY VIOLATION OF THIS RULE may jeopardize future field trips to this site.

REGISTRATION: Register upon arrival at the MRGS tent for insurance purposes and for additional information.

CHILDREN: This is a good site for children.

PETS: Any pets MUST be on a leash at all times.

FACILITIES: In town about 2 miles away. Bottled water will be available at the MRGS tent

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

Directions: From Summerville, Ga. follow US 27 South for 2.20 miles. The site will be on the right between the county owned waste dumpsters and the US Forestry office. Coming north from the Rome area, the site will be on the left side of US 27, and approximately 3.0 miles beyond the intersection of Gore Subligna Rd.

From downtown Summerville (Commerce St.) take U.S. 27S. There will be a left curve, then a right curve. Just past the right curve is the mine (7525 Hwy 27). Look for the Mobile Rock and Gem Society signs.

CONTACT: Larry Landry, Field Trip Chairman, (251) 591-5682

Check out photos at

<http://www.mobilerockandgem.com/field-trips/>



Graves Mountain
April 24-26, 2020
Highway 378
Lincolnton, Georgia

Collecting Rutile, Kyanite, Lazulite, Iridescent Hematite, Pyrophyllite, Pyrite, Ilmenite, Fuchsite, Barite, Sulfur, variscite, woodhouseite, crandallite, strengite, phosphosiderite, cacoxenite, blue quartz, quartz crystals, etc.

"You are invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!"

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during April and October. He will have the



mountain open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the Hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart-type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks:

Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events.

Contact Information:

Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) - 706-359-1544 (his business) or 706-401-3173 (his cell)

THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL

NO NEED TO SIGN-UP, JUST SHOW UP FOR ALL "ROCK SWAP AND DIGS"!

Mark your calendar and tell all your friends about these two great events!

DIRECTIONS: From Atlanta's I-285, take I-20 east to the exit for Washington, GA SR 78 (SR 10, SR 17) and turn left.

Travel north to Washington, turn right onto SR 378 and drive 11 miles to the Graves Mountain area. The entrance to Graves Mountain is on your right about 8/10 mile past the Lincoln county line sign.

-OR-

Just after you exit onto SR 78, turn right onto GA 43 and drive towards Lincolnton about 13 miles. Take a left onto GA 220 going Northwest for about 3 miles to SR 378. Take a left on SR 378 and go about 2 miles. The entrance will be on your left.

The entrance is a paved road that goes through a gate and up a hill. Please park along the access road and then proceed to the "Welcome Tent" at the end of the pavement to obtain a liability release form and to make a donation for the portable bathrooms, etc.

Graves mountain is accessible and open for mineral collecting by colleges, universities, and gem and mineral societies. Groups as small as two

INDIVIDUAL mineral collectors can now reserve the mountain!



An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club (Charlotte, NC) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Mid. Ga. gem and Mineral Society

Johnson Creek Farm

Saturday, April 18, 2020

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Due West, SC

Limit 60 People

Registration Required

Fee: \$25 per person

TRIP: The Johnson Creek Farm is a relatively new site in western South Carolina, not far from Diamond Hill. The site is known for amethyst, epidote, smoky quartz, beryl, and aquamarine.

COLLECTING: There are different areas in which to dig. There is one area that has epidote. Another pit has smoky quartz and amethyst, and there is an area that contains beryl. You can dig in the pit where the veins are exposed or go through the tailing piles left from the excavator.

BRING: Bring your usual digging tools, shovel, and buckets. A hand shovel or handheld garden rake is useful to move material. Ground is red clay soil with crumbly pegmatite formations containing feldspar and quartz. The pits are usually pretty dry unless there has been a heavy rain. You should probably wear rubber boots or sturdy shoes to climb down in the pits. Bring food and plenty of water to drink; there are no stores nearby. The site is an open field with no trees so sunscreen and a hat might be useful!

REQUIREMENTS: Participants must be members of clubs affiliated with DMC and must show their club membership card during check in. [Acceptable proof of membership also includes club name tag, membership dues payment receipt, or current newsletter with valid address label -- DMC Coordinator] No children under 5 years of age, and no dogs or pets.

TERRAIN AND ACCESSIBILITY: Parking is available onsite. Once you sign in at the gate, you will be directed to the parking areas. You can also park on Crawford Road which is adjacent to the property. Onsite parking area is one-tenth of a mile of unpaved road, some areas are bumpy. The terrain is pretty even and flat, but some of the sites require



a little walking to get from one to the other. Pit walls and dump piles can be somewhat steep. **FEE:** Fee is \$25.00 per person with an option to camp out at the facility on Friday night with an additional fee of \$25.00. Registration and payment **MUST** be made in advance, see below.

REGISTRATION: Registration and payment must be made in advance through PayPal using Jason Ashley's PayPal email account: jasona@wctel.net or call him at 864-378-1908 to send a check. Details for registering:

1. Sign up through PayPal as "friends and family" at jasona@wctel.net.
2. You must list the date of the dig you are attending in PayPal notes.
3. You must put the names of all attendees you are paying for in PayPal notes.
4. Once you have signed up correctly digs will be rain or shine and there are no refunds nor are funds transferable to another dig date.

CAMPING: Camping onsite is permitted for an additional fee of \$25 per person. You must register in advance to camp. There are no hookups onsite, but a Porta Potty will be available. The gate will be open and check in for camping will be at 3:00 p.m. Friday. Campers please note: Absolutely no digging is allowed for people that camp on Friday night or you will be asked to leave. Everyone must report to the signup table in the morning before digging. Digging starts at 9 a.m. Saturday, after a brief safety talk.

CHILDREN (Yes): Children 5 years and older are allowed, but there is a \$25.00 fee. Children must be supervised by an adult.

PETS (No): No pets allowed.

FACILITIES: There will be a Porta Potty there by 5:00 Friday evening and all-day Saturday. There is also running water. Bring your own food and drinks as there are none on site.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The nearest lodging would be in Greenwood, SC. The Holiday Inn Express, Comfort Inn and Suites, Fairfield Inn and Suites and Red Roof Inn. Anderson, SC is nearby.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: The dig site is located at 439 Crawford Rd, Due West, SC. You will see a table set up outside in front of the gate by the road.

Jason Ashley will have a list of names of who has paid. Everyone must be a member of a club associated with DMC for insurance reasons.

Everyone must check in and sign a waiver before entering the property. A brief safety talk will be held at 9AM at the signup desk.

CONTACTS: Jason Ashley 864-378-1908, or Mary Fisher, Field Trip Chairman of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club, cell phone 704-564-1594.



Blast from the Past

March 1988

"Phenomena" by James H. Sharpe, Jr. G.G. Approximately 90 of the rocks and minerals that make up the earth's crust can be cut to desired shapes and polished to produce works of art and/or gems of rare and magnificent beauty. Some specimens of one third of those gemstones can be found that possess phenomena that are so breathtakingly beautiful and awe inspiring that we should all be humbly grateful to God for placing these gifts on earth for us to enjoy.

These phenomena can be classified under one of three main types: (1) selective absorption of light, (2) reflection of light from inclusions and (3) interference of light. Selective absorption is the basic cause of body color of everything. On rare occasions the type and degree of absorption produces a specimen sensitive to the slight differences between incandescent light and daylight radiation. Incandescent light contains a predominance of red wavelengths (the longest in the visible light), however daylight contains a predominance of green, blue and violet wavelengths. The result is a difference in the color of the stone, depending on the type of light striking the specimen. This phenomenon is called change of color- the most notable example of a stone displaying it is alexandrite, a variety of chrysoberyl. It would appear that the differences between daylight and incandescent light would cause everything to have a change of color when viewed in two light sources alternately. For a change of color to be obvious the stone must be able to absorb a considerable portion of most of the wavelengths of light emitted, but must be able to readily transmit most of the predominate wavelengths of the light source.

A change of color has been found (but rarely) in natural sapphire, beryl, spinel, and tourmaline. Several synthetic stones can be made to possess



change of color: synthetic alexandrite, alexandrite-like synthetic spinel, and alexandrite-like synthetic corundum, but none of these natural or synthetic stones can approach alexandrite's vivid change and beauty.



Needed Materials List for Museum of Aviation
 These are recyclables:

2-liter bottles (rinsed of course 😊) with caps
 Regular plastic water bottles (rinsed of course 😊) with caps
 Shoeboxes and tissue boxes
 Egg cartons
 Paper towel and toilet paper tubes

Mid-Georgia Gem Clips
Official Bulletin of Mid-Georgia Gem and
Mineral Society
Macon, Georgia

The Club meets on the First Monday of each Month, at The Museum of Arts and Sciences, in Macon, Georgia.

Except: No meeting January, July, and August. The annual Christmas Party is the first Monday in December. September the first Tuesday of the Month

Purpose: To promote the earth sciences, the lapidary arts, and the collection, study and display of rocks, minerals, and fossils; to promote the public awareness of these efforts in educational and recreational activities.

Club Officers:

President: Bill Mayer,
 ph. 678.621.3457, orebilly@gmail.com

Vice Pres/ Editor/Publicity: Tina Perkins
 ph. 478-542-0388,
fossilhunterofgeorgia@gmail.com

Secretary: Al Steffanini
 Ph. 478-396-4279, aldosteffanini@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Susan Hargrove,

86 Clear Branch Rd, Butler Ga. 31006,
 cell. 478-837-5327, susanbphilh@pstel.net

Field Trips / Programs: Jay Batcha,
 4220 Cyndy Jo Circle, Macon, Ga. 31216,
 ph. 478-784-1965, Cell 478-957-5002
rocky1s@cox.net

Education Chairperson: Tuell Walters,
 ph. 478-922-7200
firecomet46@gmail.com

Web Master/ Sunshine: Jim Souter,
 ph. 478-454-7273, jgsouter@charter.net

Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society
Application for Membership
 Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Adult (18 to 64) \$15.00 Junior \$5.00

Family (2 adults and 2 children) \$25.00

Additional membership \$5.00

Senior (65+) \$10.00 Newsletter mailed \$5.00

New _____ Renewal _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

List your interests and reasons for joining

Make checks payable to Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society. Mail to the Treasurer (above) or bring to a meeting. If you want a card to show membership, please send Susan a note when you send in dues or a self-addressed stamped envelope.



Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

**Official Bulletin of Mid-Georgia Gem
and Mineral Society
Macon, Georgia**

**Member of Southeast Federation of
Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies
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Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

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