



## JUNE MEETING

The meeting will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Pavilion at the Museum of Arts and Sciences starting at 7:30 PM. This is the last meeting before our summer break.

Everybody will be speaking about their favorite Rock/Mineral/Fossil/something made which is the Mineral of the Month. So, everyone should have a Mineral of the Month this time!!! (bring pictures and have a story about your choice)

Bring an unidentified Rock/Mineral/Fossil that you would like to try to get identified, who knows maybe we can brainstorm together and identify the unknown. Be sure to have on your thinking cap. Bring a light, loupe, mineral/fossil books, magnified glass, and whatever can assist us in this challenge!

### Rock/Mineral/Fossil Swap!!!

Everyone brings some of his or her extra surplus stuff and we will try to get it swapped for something you don't have. The more selection you can bring the better the chance we can get a good swap going. We might do this in the parking lot if it is a pretty evening to do so! Sort-a-like a tailgate party and don't forget there will be some light snacks to go along with the meeting.

We should call this a 3 for 1 night!

So, come enjoy the last meeting before the summer break.

Program Chair Jay Batcha



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 28<sup>th</sup> Museum of Aviation 8:30-12:30  
Need one volunteer to help set up and talk to students.

TBD: Grab Bag Party at Jay's House

July 20<sup>th</sup> Museum of Aviation 8:30-2:30

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon

Landing. We will be setting up the following

tables and need at least 6 people or more to help:

(1) Rock and Mineral Identification

(4) Rock, Mineral and Fossils

(1) Microminerals

Contact Tina if you can help.



### Prez Box

I have been thinking on what I should be writing about this month, figuring what could I write about? So, I started to jot down all the things that the club has done in the last few months and also planning on doing. Then there was a lot to say. To start, we had 2 successful public outreach programs, the Science Olympiad (March) and the Young Astronaut's Day at the Museum of Aviation (May). Both were well attended and reached out to many kids and adults. Big thanks to Jay and Tina for putting these together.

Wasn't it great to see a good turnout for our meeting? With 3 new members attending for the first time too. I believe good programs and field trips equal greater membership and participation. Thanks to Jay for being our program chair.

Our program by Dr. Daniel Snyder was outstanding also. It sure got me to thinking of how x rays save so much painstaking work of freeing the fossil from the host rock. This is where the new technology pays off big time in making 3D images. Seeing in 3D really improves the perception on seeing an item in real time and enables scientists to quickly visualize the objects that ordinarily would not have been seen. Scientists can now go back and reexamine all the fossils collected previously and see them from a different perspective. I wonder why kind of hidden secrets will be discovered in the process.

Did you all have fun at the picnic? Get enough to eat? There was plenty of good food to be eaten and rock deals to be had. We had our fingers crossed on the weather, but we had a



great day of beautiful weather. Our silent auction brought the club \$409.75; this will be a great benefit to the club's operation. Thanks to all who donated items to the auction. Next year, we won't have to worry about the rain as we will be under cover at our Museum. Our coming June meeting is going to be fun and different. Jay gave description of what the program includes. We also need to fill the position of Vice President. If you would like to take on the responsibility for that office, please send me an e-mail so that it can be brought up at the June meeting. One other important item that will happen at the June meeting is voting on our revised constitution and bylaws. The committee has been working on this for months and it is time to bring it to a vote.

## **Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws**

**Constitution and by-laws vote this June meeting!!!** There has been some significant changes and some little ones too. We incorporated issues brought up by you and clarified procedures to make things run more smoothly. Briefly, here are the highlights that were done:

- We made the wording gender equal, by eliminating all the he's and just substituting the person responsible.
- Added 3 new positions/committees, they are the Nominating and Education committees and a sunshine person.
- Article 6, we clarified the nomination and election process by adding dates to make sure things get done in an orderly fashion.
- Article 8, this is new, the yearly scholarship for one lucky winner each year. A lot of time and money goes into raising funds for this, so we want to see that the process is fair and the club gets a return in its investment.

- Article 11, we redefined a quorum, now it will take 8 members and 2 officers present to have a qualifying vote.
- Writing checks now will require 2 signatures
- Official club documents will now be preserved digitally and on paper.

These are the highlights that have been done. Please take some time and read the documents that were sent to you in April. What you don't see is all the hard work and effort that went into this revision process. I would like to thank Susan, Blade, Al, Tina, and Jay for the hours spent working on this.

### **Have a great and safe summer time everyone.**

After our June meeting, we won't be meeting until Tuesday Sept 3. All though we won't get together for July and August, I know we are going to be going on some great rock adventures across our country. While doing so, take some photos of the places you visited and interesting sites you seen. And always remember to collect rocks for our grab bags. Wishing you safe traveling, great adventures, and tasty barbeques this summer.

See you all this September if not before,  
President Bill Mayer



## **May Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Mayer at 7:31 pm with 18 members in attendance. Bill introduced 3 new members to the club, Gail Johnston, Will Applebury and George Ruff.

**Speaker:** Our speaker for the night was Geologist Dr. Daniel Snyder a professor at Middle Georgia State University. He talked about x-rays in Geology showing how they are produced and used in studies of fossils. A slideshow revealed fossils in slate and shale formations from radiograph images. He also said combining x-rays and computers, C.T. scanning technologies were discovered.



Examples of 3 dimensional scans involved a T-Rex named Sue and prehistoric shark bicuspid with pictures of the projects. Daniel connected these technologies to our club saying we could have fun creating shapes of fossils with computers and 3 D printers. Thingiverse.com have these images to download and print.

**Adoption of Minutes:** The reading of minutes from the previous two meetings were taken from the newsletters, a motion was made and the minutes adopted.

**Treasury Report:** Susan gave the balances of the accounts and said the silent auction at the picnic generated \$409.75 in income.

**Publicity/ Newsletter:** Tina reported five members were at the Museum of Aviation's Young Astronaut's Day representing the club; a hands-on display table with club brochures and free samples of polished rocks were available along with a handout of jobs for a geology degree, colleges that offer geology degrees, and salary distributions. She said in July she would also be setting up a display table needing volunteers for the Apollo Moon Mission 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Tina also mentioned newsletter deadlines for stories and news. Jim Souter talked about the website and also mentioned everyone being on the lookout for someone selling bulk arrowheads after reading about a large theft of them.

**Program/ Field Trips:** Jay said next month's June 3rd meeting would not have a speaker but instead everyone brings an unknown rock, a rock to swap and a favorite specimen with a story about it. Tina mentioned having snacks and activities also. Jay talked about the May 18 Chunky Gal Mountain dig. The Cornelia, Ga. Club will be hosting this dig. Also mentioned was the May 17 SFMS Round Up in Suwannee, Florida. Jay also talked about the fun and great food all had at the Picnic.

**Sunshine Committee:** Sharon Milner had four cards on the table for everyone to sign.

**Old Business:** Jay presented Tuell Walters with a framed certificate recognizing him as an Honorary member. He also talked about how

the rain held off at the picnic, stating next year's picnic will be held at the Museum of Arts and Sciences pavilion. Bill talked about the executive council meeting saying the Dues structure had been revised and emailed to members to review before the vote tonight. The increase is in line with many other local rock clubs and is needed for our club to operate. Rent, scholarship, newsletter, programs and other club functions all require money. Still, dues are still a bargain for what our club has to offer or can bring to you and your family. A motion was made to accept the new rate and a show of hands approved the revision. Rate will go in effect for November 1, 2019 dues.

**New Business:** Tina has mentioned that the Club put together a Christmas Tree for the Museums annual Christmas Tree exhibit. Jay will be getting us the information. Susan asked the club to be thinking about the Fair now to start getting up schedules of volunteers to set up and work the display tables. Jay said he was getting together another Bag stuffing party soon. Bill talked about the William Holland Flyer and also said the revised constitution was emailed to members to look over with a vote coming at the June 3rd meeting. He also said there was a vacancy for the Vice President position and asked for a volunteer.

**Education:** The mineral of the month was Fossils. Tuell Walters spoke on how fossils were preserved life forms and were evident in mud, clay, slates and rock formations. Many members brought great examples for display and gave information on their origins. Two door prizes were awarded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted  
Al Steffanini



### *Mineral of the Month*

The Mineral of the Month is a little different this month and everybody should have one to bring to the meeting in June. It is your favorite





Rock, Mineral, Fossil, or something created, that you own. Please bring your specimen or specimens (if you have more the one of that favorite) in to share with the other members. I would like you to share with everyone where and how you acquired it. What it is and why this specimen has fascinated, captivated, engrossed, enchanted, transfixed, and mesmerized you so much! And get any other information you know of about that Rock, Mineral, or Fossil.

What catches one's attention to gravitate to a particular rock, mineral, or fossil? It can be as simple as its beauty, to as complex as the chemical makeup of a mineral fascinating the person. Another reason could be the location that a fossil was collected at. To some it is the power or healing ability of the crystal. An awesome piece of jewelry made with a gemologist's favorite gemstone. There are as many reasons as there are rockhounds. Most likely that favorite item is close at hand. It could be sitting on the table next to you as you read this. You may even be wearing it now! But grab it and carefully bring it in and show it off to everyone you might convince someone to switch their favorite rock, mineral, or fossil.



## **LOCAL EVENTS/ CLUB NEWS**

### **Museum of Aviation**

#### **Young Astronaut's Day**

The club had two tables set up at the museum for the students and parents to look at as well as talk to members. We handed out close to 90 membership applications and information about careers in Geology. A special thank you to Al Steffanini, Eddie Williams, Jay Batcha, Sharon Milner, and Tina Perkins for manning the tables. Before leaving the coordinator of the even asked us back for next year. Two and a half hours well spent.



Sharon and Eddie (picture by Tina)



Al and Jay (picture by Tina)



Manning the tables with plenty of guests around. Jay talking about the club. (pic by Sharon Milner)





The three display pictures above were taken by Sharon Milner and were just part of what was displayed on two tables for parents and students.

### CLUB PICNIC

The club held its annual picnic on May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historic Park. We had 17 in attendance. It was a beautiful day and the rain held off until we were leaving. The silent auction yielded \$409.75 toward the club's budget for the year.



Plenty of stuff was available for the silent auction. Tom and Linda Batcha, Eddie Williams and Betty Sue Smith look over the items on the tables.



Betty Sue Smith, Gary Gordon, Al and Sherrill Steffanini, Richard Arnold and Martha taking a tour of the last set of tables.







Maxine Batcha, Pam Mayer, and Sharon Milner look over the table of food. (all above pictures from picnic taken by Tina)



Good food and great company always go together. (Pic by Sharon Milner)

### Science Olympiad Kits

The six Science Olympiad kits have been loaned to the Museum. Tina put together activities to go along with the Rocks and Minerals which included a set of Rock ID cards for each specimen, a rock cycle activity, a practice test just like we normally use for the science Olympiad at Rutland Middle School, a list of resources, and information about the club. These will be checked out by teachers to use in their classrooms for two weeks. Thanks to Tina, Jay, Blade, and Bill for donating materials for the kits.



Example of what is in each box



Stack before delivery



ID cards as well as a practice test

## APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**When Armstrong called: "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed" He was telling Mission Control that the Apollo 11 LM had successfully landed on the moon.**

This summer our club will have the honor and opportunity to participate in the anniversary celebration at the Museum of Aviation at Robins, AFB. We will be set up in the Nugteren Hanger from about



9:30AM until about 2:30 PM. This is National Moon Day and across the country there will be events celebrating NASA's achievement. Tina is working with the Museum of Aviation for that day and would love for you to help if you can. Fliers will be going up around town and will be e-mailed to media and other contacts. This is our time to shine.

## SHOWS

Bell Point Gem Show  
Cartersville, Ga.  
June 7-9, 2019  
5450 State Route 20,  
Cartersville, Georgia 30121

Tellus Science Museum RockFest  
June 8, 2019  
Hours: 10:00-5:00  
100 Tellus Drive Cartersville, Ga.  
Right off I-75 Exit 293  
Regular Admission Price for non-members

## DIGS

An Official Field Trip of the Henderson County  
Gem and Mineral Society (Hendersonville,  
NC) (HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the (Mid Ga. Gem  
and Mineral Society)

Friday, June 21, 2019  
Meet at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time  
At site from 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Thermal City Gold Mine  
5240 US 221 North Highway, Union Mills, NC  
28167

Limit 35 People  
Registration Required  
Fee: \$10 per person site fee  
TRIP: A unique experience, family-friendly  
and hosted by people who are real prospectors!  
Anyone who wants to pan or prospect for gold  
is welcome. Here you can learn about and  
enjoy the tradition and history of gold mining

in North Carolina. Lots of other NC gems and minerals to find, see or buy. Camping available and a shop to buy rockhounding equipment.  
COLLECTING: The material from the site or river bed will be easy to work with, and we're hoping for a nice, hot day to enjoy the water. Comfortable, covered flume areas for sluicing. Other possible finds common to this area of NC include: moonstone, emerald, citrine, ruby, aventurine, smoky quartz, tourmaline, etc. You will have assistance if needed to identify your finds.

BRING: Screens and pans are available with your \$10 fee for the day, but for river prospecting please bring your own equipment. A sluice of your own can be set up in the river. If you're more experienced or want a LOT of material, the site has 4 high bankers they will load, or bring your own equipment and save \$10 a load. Cost is \$60 per load or \$70 for screened material when using site's equipment. Share the cost with a few friends!

REQUIREMENTS: Because this site is public and set up for all ages to enjoy, just the basic requirements for your particular group's safety and comfort. We should always have beverages/water, sunscreen/hats, sturdy shoes and the like but no hiking is required. In the water, use safety and move carefully. We will have a first-aid kit and some bottled water.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: If you choose to pan for gold in the river, you must use your own equipment. Check the website for more options. Fee: \$10.00 per person for the day.  
REGISTRATION: Trip size will be limited to 35 persons. Please register so we have a head-count and can contact anyone on a wait list.  
Email: Kathryn Hackett Fields at [Kahfields@Reagan.com](mailto:Kahfields@Reagan.com), subject line: HCGMS Field Trip. If you can "ride share" one or more from the meeting place to the site, please include that.

Can also register at HCGMS monthly Club meeting, May 20 or June 17 (if not full by then). The Thermal City Gold Mine website is your best source for comprehensive



information, and for camping details/costs. You can also call Tim Barton, 828-577-4505.

**CHILDREN (Yes):** The site encourages “ages 3 to 93” and adult supervision appropriate to ages. The flume is covered allowing fun rain or shine.

**PETS (No):** Best left safely and comfortably at home; not allowed when camping.

**FACILITIES:** Facilities are adequate for a group, and there is a museum and rock shop as well as a wide variety of equipment for purchase. Picnic tables and beautiful surroundings.

**FEE:** \$10 per person. There may be additional fees depending on equipment and material desired.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The Club will bring bottled water, some ice and morning snacks along with a few folding tables and coolers for lunch bags.

Bring your lunch, and enjoy the many area offerings after your day.

**DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:** Our meeting place and registration check-off will be the Ingles at 550 Rt. 9 in Black Mtn. area. Look for green Subaru Forrester with a balloon to find the spot. This location is about 30 miles from the site. Ride-sharing can be done at this point to have less vehicles on-site.

Take the NC-9 exit # 64 off of I-40 East (Montreat /Black Mtn.), go .24 miles then turn right onto NC Hwy. 9/Black Mtn., up another .2 miles and see Ingles on the right. We will wait there from 9 - 9:25 a.m. before leaving for the site by 9:30. Thermal City Gold Mine is about another 21 miles down I-40 East, Exit 85, then US 221 South for 8.76 mi.

**CONTACT:** Tim Barton may be contacted for general information and meeting place location at 828-577-4505. Day-of-trip contact phone is 828-231-3555, text or call Kathryn, (Trip Registrant)

## **For our Junior Members:**

Can you guess the identity of each of these specimens from the description? All of them can be found in Georgia!

#1 Streak: white; Hardness: 3; Specific gravity: 2.6-2.8; crystals: trigonal; can be colorless, white, grey, yellow to brown, reddish, bluish, black but is seldom green. Fluorescence under UV light

#2 Streak: white; Hardness: 4 (defining mineral); Specific gravity 3.1-3.2; found in all colors; Crystal: isometric cubic; transparent; phosphorescent; halide.

#3 Streak: white; Hardness: vertical 4-4.5/ horizontal 6-7; Specific gravity: 3.5-3.7; colors include blue, yellowish green, white, and pink; mother of pearl luster; found in metamorphic rocks; triclinic structure.

## **FROM THE EDITOR:**

If you have a story you would like to share about reason for collecting rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils, the club would love to hear about it. It can be up to 350 words and can include a picture.

Are you willing to demonstrate a skill you have? Maybe you would like to talk about your hobby to the club or you would like to do a presentation. If you have a talent you would like to share with the club by all means contact Jay Batcha so he can put you on the program for one month. We all need to share what we know about rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and the lapidary arts. Many skills are being forgotten because they are not being passed on to others.

See you at the June meeting,

Tina Perkins, editor





**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:**

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**Sunshine Chairperson:** Sharon Milner  
[milner3791@gmail.com](mailto:milner3791@gmail.com)

**Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral**  
**Society Application for**  
**Membership**

Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

State\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Adult (18+) \$10.00 Junior \$2.50

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.



## **Mid-Georgia Gem Clips**



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Macon, Georgia**

**Member of Southeast Federation of  
Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies  
Member of American Federation of  
Mineralogical Societies**



## **Mid-Georgia Gem Clips**

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