



## Wake up! Time for Club events to start back!

The September meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 at 7:30 at the Museum of Arts and Sciences. Come early to talk to members you may not have seen in a while.

**Speaker** for the evening is **Kim Cochran**. Kim will be talking about “Organic Gemstones”

### Upcoming Events:

October 3-13, 2019 Ga. National Fair -Come by our booth and visit or volunteer to help. Call or Email Susan to help.

October 7, 2019 Eddie Williams will be talking at our meeting about Crater of Diamonds’ Geology. If you have been there, bring what you found to share.

### “Prez” Box

I hope everyone is having a great summer and are collecting and finding buried treasures. Don’t forget to take photos to share with the club and also to save some materials for the club grab bags. The heat and humidity sure will wear a person down. My June and July were spent building a chicken coop and pen. I could only work for a few hours each morning before succumbing to the sun. Come this winter, as we shiver, we’ll all look back and wish it was summer again.

The Apollo 11 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was a huge success. We all need to give Tina a big hand for putting this all together for our club. It gave us loads of publicity and recognition in our community. There were lots of oohs and aahs going on and plenty of hands eager to touch and feel them all. Tina has pictures and more later in the newsletter. I would also like to thank our rock friends from the GMS for coming down and helping us out for our big day. Having never been at the museum before, I have been looking forward to the day so I could finally see all the neat aircraft and space exhibits. And I wasn’t disappointed. Aircraft, rockets, army trucks, jets and bombers, along with all the support, history for it all and the special display of real moon rocks. I didn’t have time to see everything, so I can now plan on going back to see it again.

While looking at our awesome display of rocks, minerals and fossils, it occurred to me how all of them were unique and different. We have been blessed with an incredible and diverse earth. Speaking mainly about earthly things, what would it be like if everything was the same? What if there is only one type of tree on the earth? No matter where you went, it was the same tree. Fish, what if all the oceans in the world there swam the same fish. How would going fishing and catch the same thing every time? What if all the rocks beneath our feet looked the same? Well there probably wouldn’t be very many rock clubs. Us humans were designed and built to seek and explore our world from the tiniest atoms to the biggest mountains and deepest oceans. Exploring and discovering all the different rocks and minerals is a primal force in rockhounds. Every specimen is uniquely different, and the next one will be different too, and the one after that. The urge to seek and find cannot be stopped. Kim Cochran is our program speaker this month, I am always glad to see and hear Kim give a program. He is so knowledgeable about



everything in the mineral kingdom. And this month's program is just going to be fascinating. What did you think of the June meeting format? I found it much more interactive, friendlier and casual. What about the idea of having member's rock photos to show and tell? It could be a program all in itself or part of the June program. If you have any ideas on programs or speakers let Jay or I know of them. I hope to see you all at the meeting this September.

Bill Mayer, President

## National Fair

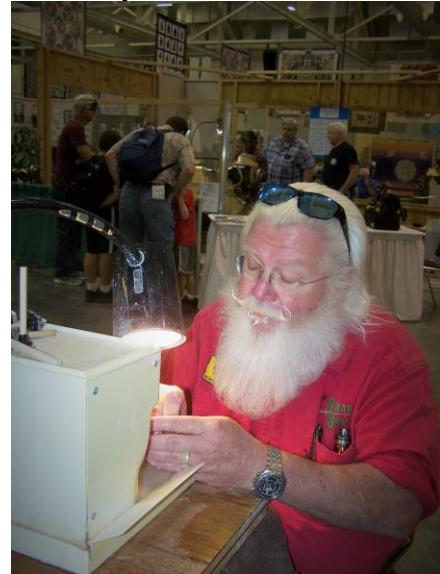
The club's annual big event is on the horizon, the Georgia National Fair in Perry. It runs from Oct 3 to 13. We have several displays of impressive rocks, minerals, fossils, and cabbing demonstrations. It is our main fundraiser for the year as we sell our grab bags. This year we have 500 grab bags, sewn by Tina and a friend of Jay's who did 50 bags, to sell. The fair not only gives us the opportunity to show off our specimens, we also show off our club to the public and share our hobby with everyone. It is a fun week of sharing and talking to people about rocks. Which we all like to talk about. Three people in the booth at one time is a good number to have each day. And with 10 days to fill it will need quite a lot of man hours to fill the positions. So whatever time you can donate and fill in please let Susan know soon. We'll have sign-up sheets at our September meeting also. Set up day will be Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup> with more details to come. Each demonstrator will receive 1 ticket per day and one parking pass.

"Last year we had a terrific time at the fair talking to people about materials from Georgia and demonstrating cabbing processes. I can't wait until this year's fair." (Editor)

Pictures from last year's fair:



Jay at one of the tables.



Neil Demonstrating cab making.

## Nominating Committee

We now have filled our nominating committee. Special thanks to Tina, Jay, and Sharon for stepping up and filling the 3 positions. Over the next few weeks they will make decisions on who shall run for our elected offices who shall guide us for 2020. Of course, nominations can be brought up from the floor during our September and October meetings. Voting will take place at our October meeting.



President: Bill Mayer  
Vice President: Tina Perkins  
Secretary: Al Steffanini  
Treasurer: Susan Hargrove

Appointed Positions:

Nomination Committee: Tina Perkins,  
Jay Batcha, Sharon Milner  
Sunshine Person: Sharon Milner  
Programs/ Field Trips: Jay Batcha  
Education: Tuell Walters  
Editor/ Publicity: Tina Perkins

## Constitution

The newly revised constitution and bylaws is set to be voted on this coming meeting. It is a culmination of 6 months of time and effort to bring the document up to date with current policies. At the last June meeting, we fell short of the required number of members needed to vote on the change. Currently, 15 is required for any vote on the constitution. The new bylaws will require 8 members, with at least 2 of them being elected officials to constitute a quorum. So, come on out to the meeting and help us get over this hurdle.

## MEETING MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm by President Bill Mayer.

There were 22 in attendance. Two visitors who joined after the meeting introduced themselves as Steve and Laurie Kovarovic. Also new Junior members introducing themselves were Sophia Maddux and sister Violet Maddux.

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

**Treasurer Report:** Susan talked about dues collected and speaker fees (gift cards). Also, she mentioned club account balances.

**Programs:** Jay mentioned our speaker for the September 3, 2019 club meeting will be Kim Cochran.

**Field Trips:** Jay said the club didn't have any trips planned thru the summer break, but mentioned a DMC trip to Thermal City Gold Mine on June 21.

**Club Events:** Tina mentioned the event coming to the Museum of Aviation. The Club will have rocks, gems, fossils, and minerals on display for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon Mission on July 20. We have microminerals, sand, cabbing, and other activities also. Tina mentioned the Club Display Case on loan to the Museum was almost finished. (Pictures included later)

**Website:** Webmaster Jim Souter will put pictures sent to him from members summer field trips on the website.

**Sunshine Committee:** Sharon mentioned there were no cards to be mailed out

**Old Business:** Susan mentioned the fair and some members volunteered to help with the club display table. Jay also mentioned getting together to fill grab bags for the fair on June 29.

**New Business:** Bill stated the Club Constitution revision was ready to be voted on but there were not enough members in attendance for a vote. Voting will now take place at the September meeting.

### Mineral of the month:

Everyone's favorite Gem, Mineral or fossil. Members gave a personal history and story about their display items.

**Door Prizes:** Everyone was encouraged to take home many Gem and Mineral specimens on display that members donated. Jay said tonight's program has three activities:

Tina passed out a test for everyone to try. Jay asked the members for information about their favorite items on display. Many members brought unknown specimens and mysterious rocks for identification. Jay, Bill, Eddie, Tuell and Jim examined the items and came up with identities.

Tina and Sharon provided snacks, desserts, and drinks for everyone to enjoy, and Jay had some of the Club's old photo albums on the table for viewing. The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.



Respectively submitted,  
Al Steffanini

### Mineral of the Month

#### **FLUORITE**

Fluorite is a halide mineral. It crystalizes in an isometric cubic habit. It is colorless unless impurities are present. Due to contamination with so many different impurities, Fluorite has been dubbed “the most colorful mineral in the



Deep green isolated fluorite crystal on a mica matrix. Erongo Mountain, Namibia (from Wikipedia)

world.” It is transparent to translucent. Fluorite has a white streak and a vitreous luster. The specific gravity can vary from 3.175 to 3.56 if rare earth elements are present. It is a defining mineral on the Mohs scale at 4. It is a globally occurring mineral with significant deposits in over 9,000 areas. Fluorite is a fluorescent mineral under UV light. Fluorite also exhibits the property of thermoluminescence or giving off light when heated.



Saxony, Germany Mineral Specimen  
(from irocks.com)

### **LOCAL EVENTS/ CLUB NEWS**

#### **Grab Bag Party at Jay's House**

Thanks to Tina (the bag lady according to Bill and Jay) we filled the last 150 grab bags June 29, 2019 at Jay's house. Thanks to Jay, Tom, Linda, Eddie, Bill and Tina for showing up to help fill the bags. We now have 500 to sell at the fair (\$3.00 each). After the fair we will be getting materials together for next year. We all should be contributing to what goes in the grab bags. If you have 50+ extra small pieces of a rock, fossil, or mineral, please give to Jay for the grab bags. At this time, we have plenty of fabric and yarn so no donations are needed.

#### **MUSEUM OF AVIATION DISPLAY**

Thanks to the materials loaned to the club from Jay, Susan, Bill and Sharon, we now have a beautiful display at the MOA. Hundreds of museum visitors, students and teachers will pass by the display over the next nine months. All the items in the display are from Georgia allowing everyone to see just how special our club and state is to it inhabitants. A special thank you to Tina for setting it up and former club member Blade for making the labels. Check out the pictures:



Full cabinet with specimens from Georgia.



Shelf with Club Information and two other shelves with specimens.



## 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### APOLLO 11 Moon Landing

The event was celebrated at the Museum of Aviation with our club setting up foot print pallets for people to make their footprint on the moon, a sand and micromineral table, four tables containing gems, minerals, and fossils as well as two games for kids and those kids at heart, a table with handouts for kids based on Georgia Performance Standards and other giveaways such as polished rocks, a table with meteorites, a tektite, moon memorabilia, club information, and club pictures for those interested in learning more about us, a table for gem, mineral, rock, and fossil ID, a cabbing station outside and a demonstration on wire wrapping and jewelry making. A big thank you to the following people from the Ga. Mineral Society for helping our club members (Jay Batcha, Bill Mayer, Tina Perkins, George Ruff, Sharon Milner, and Kim Cochran) out: Lori and Charles Carter, Juergen and Dianna Poppelreuter, Christina and Cameron Clines. We could not have done it without them. At the end of the event, we were able to watch a special thirty minutes screening of "Chasing the Moon." Moon Rocks and Meteorites were also on display as well as rovers and a virtual reality tour of the moon.



**Kim Cochran working the ID table.**



**Bill and Sharon at the gem, mineral and fossil display.**



**Jay and Lori with microminerals and sand.**

NASA has been tasked to get us back to the moon before 2024 and I would love to see us get there. More milestones are to come with the Apollo 12, 14 and 15 celebrations.  
(Article and Pictures by Tina Perkins)

## **SHOWS**

September 6-15, 2019

### **Denver Colorado Shows**

Use the link below to see a list of all venues:

<https://xpopress.com/show/exposearch>

September 6-8, 2019

### **Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club Jewelry, Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show**

Winston-Salem Fair Grounds  
Educational Building  
Winston-Salem, NC

September 13-15, 2019

### **GTS Gift and Jewelry Show**

Ashville, NC  
United States Cellular Center Exhibition Hall

September 13-15, 2019

Ashville, NC

### **MAGMA Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show**

Camp Stephens Boy Scout Camp

September 13-15, 2019

### **Treasures of the Earth Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show**

Richmond Raceway Complex  
Richmond, VA

September 20-22, 2019

### **Bellpoint Gem Show**

Marietta, GA  
Cobb County Civic Center

September 20-22, 2019

### **Shenandoah Valley Gem and Mineral Show**

Augusta Expo  
Fishersville, VA



## DIGS

Official Field Trip of the Rome Georgia  
Mineral Society (Rome, GA)  
An Official Field Trip of the Mid Ga. Gem and  
Mineral Society  
Sunday, September 22, 2019  
9:00 AM EST  
Summerville, GA

**TRIP:** This location is a small, family owned quarry that has been a popular location for local clubs for many years. There will also be an optional side trip to a location close by where a variety of cutting material will be for sale.

**COLLECTING:** This location is known for its colorful lace banded chert/agate. Most of the material is loose and ranges in size from pebbles to boulders. Some of the material is good for lapidary use and some of it is more suitable for specimens.

**BRING:** Rock hammer, small sledge, chisel, scratching tools, buckets, and a spray bottle with water to wet the rocks so you can see the color better. You may also need sunscreen and gloves, plus a dolly is recommended for hauling out large rocks and heavy buckets.

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

**TERRAIN AND ACCESSIBILITY:** There are flat areas and areas with loose rock. People with mobility issues may have some difficulty navigating over and around boulders. There may also be soft, muddy areas if it rains before or during the trip. Collecting area is within 100 yards from where we park.

**CHILDREN (Yes):** Children are allowed but they must have adult supervision at all times.

**PETS (Yes):** No pets allowed.

**FACILITIES:** There are NO facilities at either location. Food and restrooms are several miles away.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** There are many hotels in Rome, GA, which is approximately half an hour away from the collecting site.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Rome Georgia Mineral Society members will be available to answer questions about the location. There will also be a table with examples of collecting material, water, and snacks.

### DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

Mount Berry Mall, Rome, GA

Mall Parking Lot near Zaxby's

**CONTACT:** Dori Madden 706-767-5759 Bob Madden 706-853-1748



Banded lace chert/agate

## VOLUNTEERING

**There are probably many reasons why you joined the Mid Ga. Gem and Mineral Society, but are you really a part of the club or just an on-looker. Volunteering to help out at a club event will give you a sense of purpose and validate why you are interested in rocks, gems, minerals, fossils or the lapidary arts. Volunteering actually is healthy for you and people who volunteer early in life actually live longer than those who do not. Volunteering fosters strong relationships with other members of the club. Participating with children**



**actually strengthens family bonds. Volunteering can be good for your career since you can network with others and bounce ideas off other people. Volunteering helps the club become more active in society as a whole. We understand that some members are not physically able due to health issues and that some share their knowledge by writing articles for this newsletter. With that said, each of us is capable of helping out in some way; donating time, energy, or money or specimens for the grab bags. I hope this has given each of you some food for thought.**

Tina Perkins, editor

### **Junior Members**

Jokes from

<https://owlcation.com/stem/Lapidary-Jokes-For-The-Discerning-Rockhound>

**Q:** Why did the prospector throw his ore samples away?

**A: He took them for granite**

**Q:** Why did the prospector take a bath with his rocks?

**A. Because they were soapstone**

**Q:** Where do rocks sleep?

**A: Bedrock**

**Q:** Why wasn't the geologist hungry?

**A: He lost his apatite**

**Q:** What did the boy volcano say to the girl volcano?

**A: I lava you**

**Q:** What do you do with dead geologist?

**A: Barium**

## **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, on Forsyth Street in Macon, Georgia.

Except: No meeting January, July, and August. The annual Christmas Party is the first Monday in December. September meeting is 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](mailto:orebilly@gmail.com)

**Vice President: (Vacant)**

**Secretary:** Al Steffanini  
Ph. 478-396-4279, [aldosteaffanini@hotmail.com](mailto:aldosteaffanini@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Susan Hargrove,  
86 Clear Branch Rd, Butler Ga. 31006,  
cell. 478-837-5327, [susanbphilh@pstel.net](mailto:susanbphilh@pstel.net)

**Editor/ Publicity:** Tina Perkins  
Ph. 478-542-0388  
[fossilhunterofgeorgia@gmail.com](mailto:fossilhunterofgeorgia@gmail.com)

**Field Trips / Programs:** Jay Batcha,  
4220 Cyndy Jo Circle, Macon, Ga. 31216,  
ph. 478-784-1965, Cell 478-957-5002  
[rockyls@cox.net](mailto:rockyls@cox.net)

**Education Chairperson:** Tuell Walters,  
ph. 478-922-7200  
[firecomet46@gmail.com](mailto:firecomet46@gmail.com)



**Web Master:** Jim Souter,  
ph. 478-454-7273, [jgsouter@charter.net](mailto:jgsouter@charter.net)



## Dues will be due November 1

November starts a new club year. There is a grace period until February 1, 2020. Please send in dues to Susan Hargrove.

### NEW DUES STRUCTURE STARTS

|                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Senior (65+)</b>         | <b>\$10.00</b> |
| <b>Adults (18-64)</b>       | <b>\$15.00</b> |
| <b>Family (2-4 members)</b> | <b>\$25.00</b> |
| <b>Addition members</b>     | <b>\$ 5.00</b> |
| <b>Juniors (5-17)</b>       | <b>\$ 5.00</b> |
| <b>Mailed newsletter</b>    | <b>\$ 5.00</b> |

## How Do You Become a Rockhound?

**By Susan Day- author of joke website**

Buy a large bag of marbles and carry it with you whenever you go looking for rocks. Every time you pick up a rock and put it in your pocket, take out one of the marbles from the bag and throw it over your left shoulder.

Any time you see one of your marbles, pick it up along with the rock nearest to it - the rock goes in your pocket, the marble into the marble bag.

When you have finally lost all of your marbles, you are a rock hound!

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Senior (65+) \$10.00

Family (2-4 members) \$25.00

Additional members \$5.00 each

Mailed Newsletter \$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.



## **Mid-Georgia Gem Clips**

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

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



## **Mid-Georgia Gem Clips**

Tina Perkins, Editor  
106 Brown Drive  
Warner Robins, Ga.