

November Meeting At the Museum of Arts and Sciences on Monday, November 06, 2017 at 7:30pm.

The speaker for the November meeting will be Kim Cochran. Kim will be talking on Birthstones for all the Months of the Year. The History and how they came to be.

President's Message

Monday, October 16, 2017

Well, this is the end of the 2017 Georgia National Fair in Perry. We picked up three new members at the fair and had a lot of people voice interest in the club. We sold all but 60 of the grab bags, which is somewhat a success. That just means nobody went home empty handed as they have in the past when we ran out. It was a great time though for all those who did come out and help.

I want to ask for people to volunteer to help us get ready for next year. Jay has been having to bear the burden of collecting and busting up rocks for tumbling for the grab bags. Jay, like myself, is not getting any younger and we need people to volunteer to assist with the chores like busting up the material at the anvil so it is small enough for tumbling. Jay already does the newsletter, arranges field trips and presentations. We already have a person, Tina Perkins, who sews our bags for the

grab bags. As one person said when they saw the bags, "This bag is worth the three dollars." Many do not realize the work that goes into the bags though. It takes time to not only obtain the material, it then has to be cleaned, sorted according to size, reduced in size if needed, tumbled if needed, then put into bags. The processes could take months from start to finish. Jay does an exemplary job of making sure the bags have labels for all the stones and where they come from. So, if we can get some volunteers to help him, it would be appreciated.

I'm sorry if this message is short but I am in my hotel room in Perry waiting for us to be able to get into the MMH building to load up all our displays from the fair and am not in my home office. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me,

Sincerely,
Jim Souter, President
jgsouter@windstream.net
478.454.7273

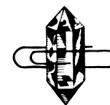
Bill Mayer
Vice-president
orebilly@gmail.com
678.621.3457

Jay Batcha
Editor of Gem Clips
rock1s@cox.net
478.784.1965



The new Club Officers!

Please welcome our new/old Officers:
President: Jim Souter, Vice-President: Bill Mayer, Secretary: Richard Arnold, and Treasurer: Susan Hargrove.



The Fair News

The Georgia National Fair was October 5-15. We were set up in the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building in the area next to the Fine Arts Hall. The primary purpose of what goes on in this building is to promote the Arts and hobbies of Georgia artists and residents. We use this time to educate the public about gems, minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts and to promote the Club. Also, this is the time we raise money to support our expenses for the year. We sold 480 bags and 21 Mosasaurs teeth. We also signed up three new members and hope more will visit our next meeting or two. I would like to thank everybody involved to make this happen!!!!
Jay



Dues are Due

Another year has gone by in no time. It's that time of the year to pay dues. They remain the same 10 dollars for each adult and 2.50 for children under 18 years of age. They are due by November 1st.

October Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Jim Souter with 17 members/guests present.

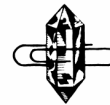
Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. We signed up two new members. The fair docent list was displayed and additional people signed up.

New Business

This month's mineral was Lepidolite and several members brought in specimens to share. The membership nominated and approved the following officers for the upcoming year: Jim Souter as President, Bill Mayer as Vice President, Richard Arnold as Secretary, Susan Hargrove as Treasurer and Jay Batcha as editor of the newsletter, trip chairman, etc. There is an upcoming dig at Jones Pit on December 02 beginning at 10 am.

Our own Jay Batcha was our speaker for this month. He won the scholarship this past year for a week at William Holland in Young Harris, Georgia. William Holland was founded in 1983 making it one of the oldest lapidary schools in the nation. He provided a slide presentation that was an introduction to the facility and how scenic the area around the retreat is. The subject that he decided to complete was the Silver 1 class. The talk was quite informative and provided some insights into what he learned and displayed some of the projects he had



completed. His talk focused mainly on the techniques and different tools required to perform the Silver class. The school provided the class and other activities at night such as an auction and ice cream social events. There was a rock pile that the students were provided with free access to collect. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk. It sounds like it was a very informative yet fun week. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

BY: Richard Arnold

Mineral of the Month Turquoise

Arizona Turquoises



Bisbee Turquoise

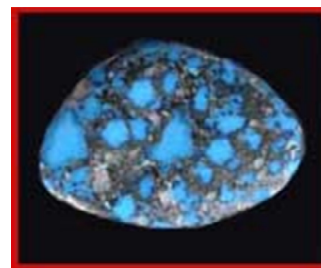
The Bisbee mine "the Lavender Pit", near Bisbee, Arizona, is one of the more famous of the American mines because Bisbee turquoise (also known as "Bisbee Blue" registered name) was one of the first put onto the market. The turquoise mine is part of the Bisbee copper mine (The Copper Queen), the main operation of the site. Bisbee turquoise has developed a reputation as a hard, finely webbed or dendrite, high blue stone, known for its "chocolate brown" matrix. Bisbee Turquoise also comes in a beautiful dark green color. Most of this turquoise has already been mined and what is left is in limbo

due to circumstances with the copper mining in the open pit, it is one of the **most highly** collected stones. Most jewelry being made with this stone today is being made via the orders of the current owners of the mine, the rest (such as ours, which is all hand cut and mounted by **Durango Silver Co.**) is found through old "stashers" or collections that have been obtained.



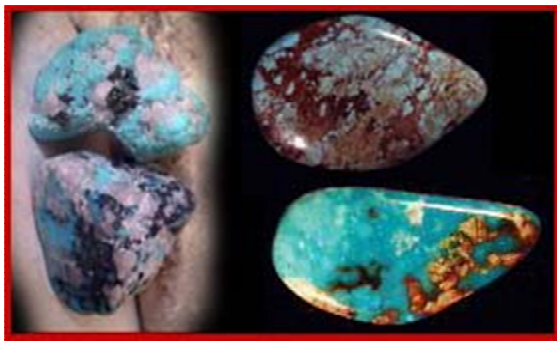
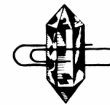
Castle Dome

Most of Arizona's turquoise mines are actually large open pit copper mines that the turquoise deposits are leased. The company or person with the lease is called in to mine the turquoise when they hit a pocket of it as they are copper mining. This is a mine that was very active back in the 1970's. Being in Albuquerque in the turquoise business in the 1970's was very interesting, lots of stone! We bought turquoise from people that would show up at our shop, we would buy it out of their trunks of cars, pick up truck beds, hoods of cars in parking lots.



Ithaca Peak

The Ithaca Peak mine is located in northwestern Arizona above the Kingman mine. The Ithaca Peak mine is famous for its beautiful blue with pyrite matrix. This material is outstanding. It is owned and operated by the Colbaugh's. It is fairly rare to get good Ithaca Peak as main production is focused on Turquoise Mountain. When you do get good Ithaca Peak it is very pricey!



Kingman

The Kingman mine in northwestern Arizona was one of the largest turquoise mines in North America. The terms "Kingman" or "high blue" refer to the blue color usually displayed in this stone. It has become a color standard in the industry. The mine became famous for its rounded, bright blue nuggets with black matrix. Few turquoise mines produced nuggets, especially of this quality. Old natural Kingman Turquoise is rare. The Colbaugh's own this mine and the Turquoise Mountain mine, their company name is Colbough Processing. They have recently gone back into the section of the Kingman mine and are digging and bringing out some new Natural Kingman Turquoise.



Morenci

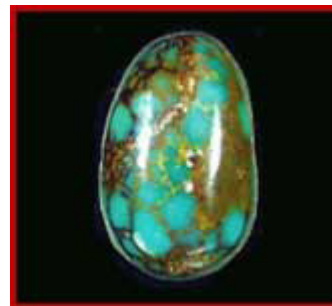
Morenci Turquoise is mined in southeastern Arizona. It is high to light blue in color. Morenci has an unusual matrix of irregular black pyrite that, when polished, often looks like silver. Morenci turquoise is well known because it was one of the

first American turquoises to come on the market. It is very difficult to obtain now because the mine is depleted. It is a collectible turquoise.



Sleeping Beauty

The Sleeping Beauty mine is located near Globe, Arizona. Its turquoise is noted for its solid, light blue color with no matrix. Sleeping Beauty turquoise is the favorite of the Zuni Pueblo silversmiths for use in petit point, needlepoint, and inlay jewelry. This mine is one of the largest in North America and is still operating.



Turquoise Mountain and "Birdseye"

Turquoise Mountain and "Birdseye" turquoise come from the same mine in northwestern Arizona near the Kingman mine. The mine was closed in the 1980s. It is light to high blue, with both webbed and non-webbed matrix. "Birdseye" describes stones from this mine that show areas of light blue circled with dark blue matrix, resembling the eye of a bird. It is a beautiful addition to one's collection.



Some field trips coming up, time to do some digging!!!

An Official Field Trip of the Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Society (Greenville, SC) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Mid-Ga Gem and Mineral Society

Saturday, November 18, 2017

9AM - 3PM Eastern Time

Amos Cunningham Farm

471 George Alewine Rd.

Due West, SC 29639

Registration at the site

Fee: \$25 per person

TRIP: The collection site is known for its beryl, amethyst and smoky quartz. The site is flat to rolling land of South Carolina red clay. The digging areas have been machine trenched down to white kaolite veins that have the beryl and quartz crystals. Dirt and rock removed from the trenches and piled up, also contain beryl and are good places to search. Extracted from Microscope Talk.

COLLECTING: Beryl and quartz crystals.

BRING: A small rock hammer, collection bucket, food & water and personal

protection (including sunscreen, hat, etc.)
Also sturdy shoes and safety glasses.

FEE: \$25 per adult, children 12 and younger free.

REGISTRATION: Bob Green and Bill Wetzell (on site)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Adequate parking. Some places are relatively steep slopes. Not handicap accessible.

CHILDREN: Yes.

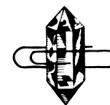
PETS: Yes, on a leash.

FACILITIES: Portable toilets available.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

From I-85 Anderson:

Head southwest on I-85 S
Take exit 19A for US-76 E/Carolina 28 E toward Anderson
Merge onto US-76 E/Clemson Blvd
Turn right onto Phil Watson Rd
Turn left onto State Hwy 971
Turn right at the 1st cross street onto SC-28B/SC-28 Truck E
Turn right onto Hwy 28 S E
Slight left onto SC-185 S
Slight right onto 41/Level Land Rd/State Rd S-4-41
Continue onto SC-201 S
Turn right onto County Rd S-1-220/George Alewine Rd



CONTACT: Bob Green –
[greentop@bellsouth.net](mailto:greenotp@bellsouth.net); Bill Wetzel –
wwetz14@gmail.com



Beryl crystal in matrix (note the negative of the crystal on the right)

MID-GEORGIA FIELD TRIP
DECEMBER 2, 2017
10:00 AM
JONES PIT

Trip: To the Jones Pit in Pulaski County, halfway between Unadilla and Hawkinsville. We will be digging on private property so fill in any holes and pickup your trash, so we can come back.

Meet at: First convenience store on the right (east side of I-75) after crossing bridge on exit #122 (highway 230). Meet at 10:00am on Saturday December 2th.

Fee: Free

Collect: Picture Jasper (looks like Biggs picture jasper from out west) it is nice stuff, also brown agate, goethite / hematite some geodes and some iridescent. Fossil shell cast with drusy quartz and calcite.

Bring: Safety glasses and Gloves are a **must!** Hammers, chisels, scratching tools, digging tools, pry bars, buckets, paper to wrap specimens, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, food and drinks.

Directions: Head south on I-75 from Macon to exit #122, highway 230 (the Unadilla exit). Turn left on highway 230 (towards Unadilla) go about ¼ mile and the convenience store we are meeting at is on the right. It is 34 miles from the I-475/I-75 merge on the southside of Macon.

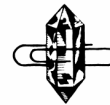
Questions call: Jay's cell # 478-957-5002



Georgia Queen Picture Jasper



Check website
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/>



For more shows coming up in the Southeast and other great information!

Website: <https://www.ccgms.org/annual-show/>

November 17th-19th 2017

Marietta, GA

32nd annual show and sale.

Always scheduled for the weekend prior to Thanksgiving

Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society

Friday 11/17: 10:00am-6:00pm

Saturday 11/18: 10:00am-6:00pm

Sunday 11/19: 10:00am-5:00pm

548 South Marietta Pkwy., Marietta GA 30060

Exit I-75 at Exit #263 and turn west onto Marietta Pkwy|SR 120 Loop.

Drive 2 miles and turn left onto S Fairground St. and then immediately right to the Cobb Civic Center's parking lot.

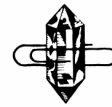
More than 30 Professional Dealers offering minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry and other related materials. The CCGMS will offer Geodes for purchase and cracking, grab bags for the kids and educational demonstrations of lapidary techniques. Display cases showing minerals collected and jewelry made in the club classes & workshops. In addition, we will offer mineral ID classes for kids.

Contact information: Mary Ingram,
mandmingram@gmail.com



For Sale

Past club members Frank and Sharon Milner are selling off most of their rock equipment and a lot of rock. Here is a short list of items for sale A Panther 14inch rock saw for \$500.00, Diamond Pacific 6-inch Genie Grinder/polishing unit with some extra wheels for \$500.00, HP 18inch rock saw for \$500.00, A portable concrete gas powered 14 inch diamond saw for \$500.00, assorted tumblers 3lb, 6lb, and 65lb tumblers with misc. tumbling grit and 15-20 pounds of cerium oxide. Also for sale is misc. cutting rough, slabs, and minerals. Call Frank at cell # 478-293-3406, if you have trouble getting a hold of Frank call Jay at 478-957-5002.



Tidbits

Finding Rock Hunting Maps on the Internet

By Glen Miller

Here are some tips for locating free online maps (primarily USA). The good news is that there is a federal program that publishes digital products online that will provide complete national coverage. The bad news is that it is a federal program, subject to manpower and funding constraints, but it is a very good start. The Internet is a source for many maps of other countries. I have viewed geological maps of Oman and even the Moon and Mars online. Geological and Geophysical Maps – Finding the map you need: Traditionally, one went to a state bookstore to purchase a paper map, hoping it was still in print. The trend today is to publish them online with free access. Tennessee will no longer be printing maps in advance. Maps that aren't online can be purchased for \$20 a map, printed straight from a digital file. About.com - the quick and easy solution for links to state geological maps. About.com pre-

searches and assembles all types and classes of information. If you go to their Geology or Maps sections and poke around, there are pages for state geological maps and state geological organizations. There is also geology.com with similar sources. They also list state authorities and links to their websites. Once in those websites, you may frequently find a free downloadable map for the local area you are looking for. The USGS has taken great steps to centralize the search for geological maps.

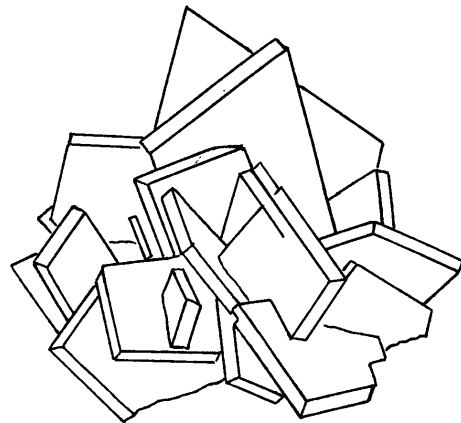
Source: The Glacial Drifter – 4/2010

Rockhound Poem

By Adin Van Wine

Climbing over rocks and crags, Putting rocks in pockets and bags, Walking in mud till each foot weighs a ton, Getting wet and calling it fun. Hiking miles through brush and vines, To hunt the dumps of abandoned mines, Looking in holes and gravel pits, Cracking big rocks into little bits, Doing all this may take some guts. But these are the reasons they call us nuts.

Source: Glacial Drifter – July 2011





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

Vice President: Bill Mayer,
 Cell 678-621-3457 orebilly@gmail.com

Secretary / Photographer, Richard Arnold,
 ph. 678-682-9860 rarnold216@charter.net

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

Editor / 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

Club year begins November 1st, a grace period of three months will be given before membership lapses.

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

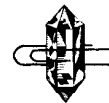
Address_____

List your interests and reasons for joining_____

Make checks payable to:

Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society

Mail to the Treasurer (listed on this page) or bring to a meeting.



Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

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Mineral Society
Macon, Georgia**

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



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