



## **Don't be a wall flower, come to the September Meeting!**

Come early and join the early birds to chat. The meeting this month is on **Tuesday**, September 7, 2021 at 7:00PM. The speaker for the evening will be Eddie Williams our own resident geologist. Don't forget to bring a sample of the mineral of the month...calcite and the rock of the month...sandstone.

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### **Upcoming Events**

8/21	Grab bag party at Jay's House at 10:00 AM
8/21	Executive Board Meeting at Jay's House at 11:30 AM
9/7	Meeting at MAS at 7:00PM
10/7- 10/17	Georgia National Fair
10/30	Fall Festival 10:30AM-2:00PM

11/2-11/6	Picnic and silent auction
11/10-1/15	Festival of Trees Set up
	Festival of Trees at the MAS
	<b>Prez. Box</b>

It has been a long hot summer and we have been enjoying every minute of it. Pam and I took a wonderful cross-country trip earlier this summer. Of course, we did our share of rock hunting and collecting as we traveled. A highlight and bucket list item were to look for Montana moss agates on the Yellowstone River in Montana. Gravel bars were plentiful but almost all were inaccessible to the public or needing a boat. Finally, we did find a nice gravel bar to hunt and had it all to ourselves. The river was full of colorful jaspers, sugar agates and all sorts of quartz, and occasionally a piece of petrified wood. Disappointedly, the famed moss agates were hard to find. Locals told us that they have been picked over long ago, and the only way to get them is to rake them out of the bottom of the river. We did manage to fill up a bucket full of beauties before the sun became too hot to pick. While I was on the river, I kept imagining what the collecting would have been like when Lewis and Clark made their way on the river. Wow wee!

Fall is approaching fast and now is the time to look forward to our fall schedule and events.

The main item we need to address is our new slate of officers and committee chairman to guide our club into 2022. There is need for someone to take on fieldtrips for the next year. Please let a board member know if you want to fill this position.

Our Fall festival is scheduled for Oct 30 at the Museum of Arts and Sciences pavilion. This is always a good event and brings us all together. Stay tuned for further details.

Rapidly approaching is the Georgia National Fair. It runs Oct 7<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>. Our booth is always looks great and is a highlight for



many people, both young and Old. Volunteers (docents) are needed to man out booth, to answer questions, and to watch over the great collection of rocks and minerals. More information on sign-up sheets will be available at our meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone again and hearing all about your summer adventures.

## Georgia's Mining History

This year I was treated to a surprise when the girls in our family took our normal summer trip. We started out at James Floyd State Park and for those of you who don't know (and I didn't), Rep. James Floyd served in the Georgia House of Representative from 1953 to 1974. The Park is surrounded by the Chattahoochee National Forest and is just south of Cloudland Canyon. The Marble Mine Trail is a 1.7-mile trail in the easy to moderate range as you climb uphill, but after an afternoon summer rain shower, the humidity made it a little rough. As the name implies, the trail takes the hiker to an old abandon mine. Rising from the surrounding landscape the man carved cavern is a remanent of the mining days gone by, but before you get to the actual Marble mine you pass vine covered long forgotten mining buildings and of course the outhouse with the moon and stars cutout on the door. The hiker explores the arched rock outcrop that is the opening to the mine's interior. From the boardwalk that goes behind the steady drip of the water falling from the ledge above, you can get a glimpse of the cave system. The water from a stream, ends in a still blue pool beneath the boardwalk.

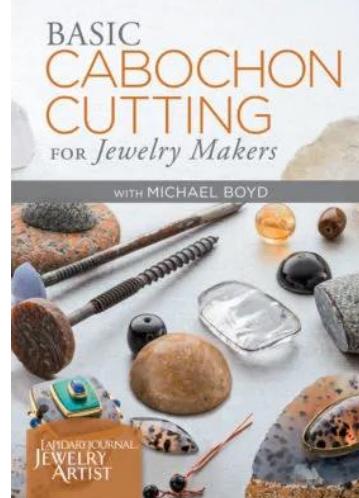


While we were there, we also tried our hand at geocaching. Our hint was to "think like a troll", but getting under a bridge with a bunch of creepy crawlers did not yield the item we were looking for. Better luck next time.

By Tina Perkins

## Resources

This is an interesting and informative resource for those of us who are just learning cabbing. It usually sells for \$33 but was on sale for around \$17 from [interweave.com](http://interweave.com)



## Mid Georgia Meeting Minutes

June, 7 2021

Vice President Tina Perkins called the meeting to order at 7 P.M. with 11 members and 2 visitors in attendance. She welcomed Janet Huggins and Jean Busbee, Betty's sister.



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.

Treasurer: Susan Hargrove said the Museum Rent, Website fees and last month's speaker were paid. She gave the Bank Savings and C.D. balances.

Programs: Jay Batcha mentioned tonight's program was members talking about their favorite Rocks and Digs along with Rock Swap, Rock and Mineral I.D. and Snacks following meeting.

Field Trips: Jay had a sign-up sheet for the June 12,2021 Road side Dig near Buena Vista, Ga. with Hematite, Goethite and Shell Fossil being found.

New Business: Susan mentioned the Perry Fair Club Booth should be on for the Fall and Tina said the Museum's Festival of Trees was on for this winter.

Newsletter: Tina said the deadline for entries was August 12,2021 and encouraged members to send pictures and stories of their summer Rockhounding.

Old Business: Tina said the Website is up and running with Pam Mayer adding pictures and past newsletters. Jay mentioned he, Tina and Bill went to visit Jack Jones store and said it may be ready for the club by the fall also giving details of all the work going on.

President Bill Mayer wanted to remind everyone of the club nominations in the fall.

Jay mentioned the annual Club Picnic would be on October 30,2021 at the Museum and he also said he was teaching a Gem Tree Class at his house on June 19, 2021 with 4 slots open at 10 dollars each.

Mineral of the Month: Eddie Williams spoke on the mineral Chrysocolla saying it was Amorphous silica and copper hydroxide crystal mixture found in copper ore mining areas of Arizona, New Mexico and Chile. It had a color of Blue/green and a Mohs Hardness of 2 to 7. Members had specimens on Hand.

Members concluded the meeting exhibiting and talking about their favorite Rocks and Trips along with Mineral and Rock I.D.

Tuell Walters and Jay Batcha had some Rocks and Minerals for everyone to pick out and take home as gifts. Raffle tickets were drawn for prizes with Snacks, Drinks and Fellowship following.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Respectively submitted by Al Steffanini

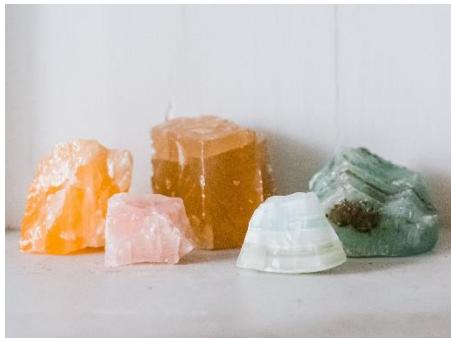
## **Nominations Committee**

At the September Meeting the Nominations Committee should make recommendations for the elections of officers at the October Meeting. The Nominations Committee is composed of three people who are in good standings (dues are not in arrears) appointed by the president of the club. If you would like to hold a position, please let Tina or Jay know as soon as possible.

## **Mineral of the Month**

### **Calcite**

Calcite is a crystalline mineral that contains calcium, carbon, and oxygen. It is a carbonate within the Calcite Group, which means it forms hexagonal crystals. Over 300 different hexagonal crystal forms of calcite have been identified. Important habits of calcite that have been found either singularly or in combination include: long or short prisms with base or rhombohedral terminations, rhombohedral with rhombohedral forms predominant, and scalenohedral with scalenohedral forms predominant. Other characteristics include: perfect cleavage, twinning, a hardness of 2.5-3, specific gravity of 2.71, a vitreous to earthy luster, a variety of colors, but predominantly white, yellow, or without color, and transparent to translucent.



Multicolored calcite

Calcite is found in sedimentary rock masses and calcareous sands, in metamorphic marbles, in marls and chalks. It forms stalactites and stalagmites from carbonate in solution that evaporates in cave environments. It also occurs as travertine in hot and cold springs environments. Within igneous rocks, it occurs in carbonatites and within nepheline syenites. It may exist in lava as a post-lava crystallization product and may also occur in hydrothermal veins associated with sulfide ores.

Calcite is primarily used in the manufacture of cements and lime or mortar. Limestone, primarily consisting of calcium carbonate, is used in the chemical industry, as aggregate, as a soil conditioner, and lithography. Marble and limestone are also used in the aggregate and dimension stone industries.

Iceland spar is used for in optical instruments (Nicol prism used to produce polarized light, prior to the use of polarized plates.) Major quarries of limestone are in Indiana and major quarries of marble are in Vermont, New York, Georgia, and Tennessee. The term 'calcite' originates from the Latin *calx*, meaning burnt lime.

## Rock of the Month

### Sandstone

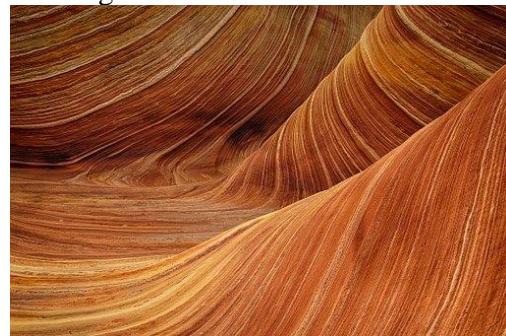
Sandstone is a sedimentary rock, primarily consisting of sand grains, made of silica, which can be strongly or weakly cemented together. The cement can consist of quartz cement, calcium carbonate cement, iron cement, or amber. The

resulting rock color can be white, brown, red, yellow, or gray, often affected by the presence of other minerals or iron staining. Sandstone can be very firm or very friable, depending on the strength of its cement. Because it is formed from the deposition of sediments, sandstone can contain fossils, footprints, mud cracks, and ripple marks. Sandstone is used as decorative stone (flagstone) and in outdoor ovens, fireplaces, patios, porches, and other building ventures. Some sandstone is quite carvable.



Banded sandstone

Sandstone is a very common rock and can be found throughout the world.



Pxhere.com

Desert Sandstone Wave

### Gem Trees with Jay

On June 19, 2021, Sylvia, Katelyn, and Susan showed up for the Gem Tree Class that Jay was teaching. We stayed from around 10:00AM until after 1:00PM and lucky for us, Jay provided us with lunch thanks to Maxine's good planning. Tina took pictures and helped keep things going.



Jay with his students



Katelyn with her tree.

Susan brought several trees for us to look at and Jay had several on display also. All in all, it was a great day.



Display trees



Susan with her tree

## Shows

**With Covid still active and numbers on the rise, make sure the event is still happening by visiting the website listed and using the contact info.**

**September 3-6  
HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society  
Whitmire Center  
310 Lily Pond DR

Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-6, Mon. 9-6  
adults \$4.00, children under 12 free with adult  
Exhibits, Demos, Vendors, Hourly door prizes  
contact Diane M Lapp, 22 Foxmoor Ct, ETOWAH, NC  
28729, (828) 775-8098; Email: dlapp48@gmail.com;  
Website: HCGMS.com

**September 10-12  
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club  
The Winston-Salem Fairgrounds  
421 West 27th Street  
Education Building

Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. Noon-5  
Adults \$3, free admission youth through grade 12 when  
accompanied by an adult  
Show theme: North Carolina Minerals and Gold.  
Nearly 30 dealers, demonstrations, displays, and  
activities for children  
contact Ken Reed; Website: <https://forsythgemclub.com/>

**September 17-19  
ARDEN, NORTH CAROLINA**

MAGMA, Jacquot & Son Mining  
Camp Stephens  
263 Clayton Road  
Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4  
free admission;

14th annual gem, mineral and fossil show, dozens of  
vendors from across the U.S. offering gems, minerals,  
fossils, rocks, artifacts, meteorites, trinitite  
contact Richard Jacquot, NC 28748, (828) 779-4501;  
Email: [rick@wncrocks.com](mailto:rick@wncrocks.com)

Website: [www.AmericanRockhound.com](http://www.AmericanRockhound.com)

**September 17-19  
MARIETTA, GEORGIA**

Bellpoint  
Cobb County Civic Center  
548 S. Marietta Pkwy  
Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5



**Mid Georgia Gem Clips**  
**Official Bulleting of the Mid Georgia Gem and Mineral Society**  
<https://midgeorgiagemandmineral.com> Vol. 21, Issue 6, Sept. 2021



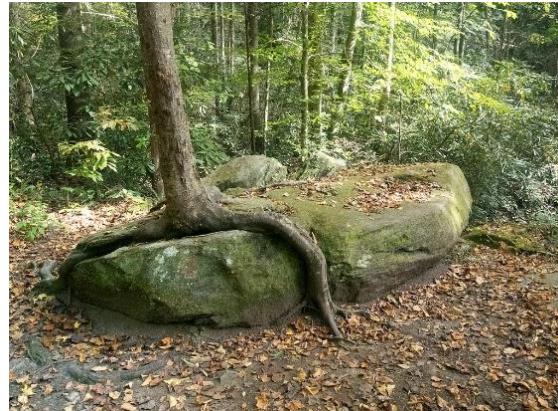
Adults \$5, free admission for children under 15 when accompanied by a paying adult

Select dealers from near and far selling exquisite minerals, gems, jewelry, beads, rocks, geodes, healing stones, fossils, crystals

contact Damian

Email: [mbellpoint@gmail.com](mailto:mbellpoint@gmail.com)

Website: [www.bellpointpromotions.com](http://www.bellpointpromotions.com)



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**September 25-26  
SANFORD, FLORIDA**

Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society, Inc

Sanford Civic Center

401 E. Seminole Blvd

Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4

Adults \$5, Kids \$2, Scouts in uniform Free

Offering: minerals, rocks, fossils, beads, gemstones, hand crafted cabochons, etc. Hosting silent auction, door prizes and family activities

contact Salvatore Sansone, 6100 S. Orange Ave., Ste. 190A, Orlando, FL 32809, (321) 278-9294

Email: [ssfossilhunter@aol.com](mailto:ssfossilhunter@aol.com)

Website: <http://www.cfmgs.org>

**Digs**

At this time there are no DMC digs scheduled until 2022. We will try to have a club dig in the fall (Graves Mountain), in the winter (Jones Island- \$50 per person) and in the spring (Preston, Ga). Keep watching the newsletter for more information.

**Fun Fact**

Did you know that a diamond that is 20-25 points in weight is only the size of a paper match head? It takes 100 points to make a carat. As of this writing, 3 diamonds have been found at the Crater of Diamonds State Park that are bigger than the match head since July 12, 2021. Doesn't it make you want to go hunting.

**Pun of the day**

Question: How does paper beat rock?

Answer: It covers it.

**Blast from the past:**

This month's blast from the past is not so long ago. I got a new phone and well, I had photos that had to be transferred. My favorite was from Jones's pit; the big rock that so many took a swing at to see what was on the inside and what a picture.



February 2017 Newsletter

**Follow-up on Jones Pit**

**December 2016 Field trip**

There were nine members attending this dig at the Jones Pit. It started out cold with a little wind with clear skies. But by the time we started collecting and moving around it was not bad. We had a lot of rain earlier in the week but the ground was so dry it soaked up all the water. There was no standing water in the pit at all! I collected enough Hematite to fill all the grab bags for this year. Everyone found plenty to keep and take home. What a great day it was!

By: Jay Batcha





## **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**

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