

November 1, 2021

Come early and join the early birds to chat. The meeting this month will not officially start until 7:30, but you can start arriving as early as 6:45PM on November 1, 2021. There will be no speaker, but we will be meeting in the planetarium for a show and installation of officers; Jay Batcha- President, Bill Mayer-VP, Susan Hargrove- Treasurer, and Al Steffanini-Secretary. Committees should also be ready to report for the year. We will also have news from the fair. We need a field trip person! Don't forget to bring a sample of the mineral of the month...quartz crystal (amethyst, smoky, citrine, rose, or milky will do) and rock of the month...slate.

Table of Contents

Upcoming Events	page 1
Prez. Box	page 1
Meeting Minutes	page 2
Mineral of the Month	page 3
Rock of the Month	page 4
Sympathy	page 4
News from the Ga. Nat. Fair	page 5
Shows	page 6
Blast from the Past	page 6
Just for Laughs	page 7
Resources	page 7
Needed	page 7
Club Information	page 8



Upcoming Events

Here are a few things that you should know about...

On October 30th at the Museum of Arts and Sciences' Pavilion we will be having the Harvest Festival. Come dressed for Halloween if you dare since it will have a fall Halloween flare to the event. It starts at 10:00 with people bidding (goes up by 50 cents for each bid) during the silent auction. Bring your own favorite lunch and drink for we will be eating around 12:00 noon and then everyone will have a few more minutes to bid before the auction is closed (1:00PM). Susan will be ready to take your money. All proceeds from the auction help run the club. It is great time for fellowship and fun. If you have some specimens that need to be identified, bring those also. Hope to see you there

Festival of Trees at the Museum of Arts and Sciences starts with decorating our tree on the 2nd of November at 10:00 AM. We would love to have so new ornaments so get creative and come help us decorate. Talk to Jay or Tina for more information.

Christmas is right around the corner and so is the Christmas Party. Start planning ahead. You will need a gift if you come that is between \$5-10. More about the party in the December Newsletter.



Prez. Box

It's fall ya'll. I am typing this in the midst of the National Fair run. An 11 day stretch which takes a big effort on volunteers of our club. It not only a major fund raiser for us it also presents our club to the public. It's the how and why I joined our club. Little did I know that one day I would be behind the counter demonstrating on making cabochons. Also, I would have never thought that I would become a President of the Mid Ga. Gem and Mineral Society. Now after three great years, the office now will be filled by Jay. I would like to think I brought some structure and consistency to our operations as



defined by our by-laws. Our club is small so it takes all of us to keep it running and moving forward. Thanks to all of you for your efforts and generosity.

Prez Bill



Mid Georgia Meeting Minutes

President Bill Mayer called the October meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. with 15 in attendance. He welcomed new members Virginia K and son Nathan.

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 Report: Susan Hargrove gave bank checking and savings balances and mentioned members could start paying dues for next year. She also had collected some money for grab bags sold at the Museum.

Field Trips: Jay Batcha said the trip to the Rock Collection sale in Cochran was cancelled after a buyer bought out the entire collection. He mentioned there were no Club trips scheduled for October.

Newsletter: Tina Perkins said the deadline for members to send in information was October 12.

Website: Pam Mayer has been updating the site and is asking for any old pictures or history of the Club.

Old Business: Bill mentioned that members' dues were due and gave an update on the Club Banner. He said there was a quote on getting the Clubs Logo and Emblem made into Digitalized Files to be used for the Banner and other Projects. Cost was to be \$300.00.

New Business: Jay said the November 1st. Monday meeting would be in the Museum Arts and Sciences Planetarium and in place of a speaker he would have a Planetarium Show for attendees. Bill said a lady from the fair was wanting to give her Fathers Rock Collection

and all equipment to the Club if we would come get it. A discussion was had among members for a date and time to get the collection. Bill also said Jay, Tina and Tuell of the Nominating Committee had nominated Jay for president, Bill for Vice-President, Susan for treasurer and Al Steffanini for Secretary. Ballots were passed out and members voted in the 2022 Clubs Officers. Bill also mentioned Jay, Susan and Tina set up the Club's Booth at the Fair and everything was ready to go. He said there would be a Cabbage Machine set up with demonstrations and that the Booth had volunteers scheduled to help, but that Susan had the calendar if anyone else wanted to sign up. Bill said the Clubs' Fall Festival was October 30, 2021 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. at the Museum of Arts and Sciences Pavilion. There will be a silent auction of rocks and related items and members are to bring their own meal.

Mineral of the Month: Tuell Water's said Galena is of Lead Sulfate composition named after a Roman Senator. It forms in Crystals and Cubes with Silver, Fluoride, and Zinc Sulfide. Members had specimens on display and a raffle followed.

Fossil of the Month: Tuell said Belemnite is a extinct order of Cephalopods from the Jurassic and earlier that are related to Squid, Octopi and Cuttlefish. Specimens were on display and a raffle with prizes followed.

Speaker of the Month: Claire Swinford is the Director Teacher Liaison of NASA, STEM and the Space Foundation Program at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, GA. She said the Education Resource Center trains and helps Teachers and Students Pre k to 12TH grade with workshops, conferences and programs. The Center provides resource kits, lesson plans, guides and books along with Virtual Field Trips and in house activities. These include the new Virtual Ride, Space Station Virtual Visit, Flight Simulators and the Star Lab Portable Planetarium. She also talked about Artemis the future NASA Space Mission and the growing need for Space Geologists.



She said check the website musuemaviation.org for information, events and schedules of programs. They are also running a vendor room with a video for the club that Tina created. Clare also thanked the club for allowing the display to remain at the museum for visitors. We were originally going to change it out every 9 months, but Covid has prevented us from doing so.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:18 P.M.

Respectively submitted by Al Steffanini



Mineral of the Month Quartz Crystal

Quartz Crystal is a crystalline mineral that contains silicon and oxygen. It may have accessory minerals which occur within the crystal itself (Rutile as in rutilated quartz), or which form as secondary minerals on the surface of the crystal (like Iron oxides). Quartz Crystal falls into the Silicate class and generally exhibits a hexagonal crystal with rhombohedral terminations. It usually exhibits conchoidal fracture and rarely shows rhombohedral cleavage. It has a hardness of 7 and a specific gravity of 2.65. Its luster is vitreous to greasy. Quartz Crystal has a white streak and can be found in numerous colors, but most often colorless (clear) to white. Colors are caused by the impurities in the silicon dioxide solution when molten:

Amethyst – coloration is from the presence of iron;



Mindat.org – Veracruz, Mexico

Rose Quartz – rarely crystalline, but the coloration is from the presence of titanium;



Minas Gerais, Brazil
Mindat.org

Smoky Quartz – coloration is from free silicon that was exposed to radioactive material;



Victoria, Australia
Mindat.org

Milky Quartz – coloration is from the presence of minute fluid inclusions;



Mindat.org
Hillsborough Co. New Hampshire

Citrine – coloration is from the presence of colloiddally-suspended hydrous iron oxide.



Viken, Norway
Mindat.org

It is most often identified by its clear nature, conchoidal fracture and hexagonal crystal form. Quartz Crystals may be found in igneous and metamorphic rocks, primarily as vein intrusions in those rocks in association with pegmatites and as a common gangue mineral in hydrothermal metal-bearing veins.

Quartz Crystals may be used in the gemstone industry, optics industry and scientific instrument industry. The term quartz is a German word of ancient derivation. Quartz crystals can be found just about anywhere a pegmatite or hydrothermal vein can be found, throughout the world. Interestingly, another mineral has the same chemical formula as quartz, Lechatelierite.

While this mineral does not form crystals, it consists of fused quartz sands. In the movie, "Sweet Home Alabama", lightning rods are placed in the sands before a thunderstorm rolls in. Lightning strikes the rods and the heat is directed into the sands and fuses the sand into very irregular shapes that can be carved or just polished in the irregular shapes. It can also be found in impact craters.

Rock of the Month SLATE

Slate is a metamorphic rock, derived from the metamorphism of sedimentary rock, usually shale or mudstone. It can be gray or black, indicating the shale had a marine origin, or red, indicating the shale had a terrestrial origin. It usually still maintains a resemblance to its sedimentary layer-cake formation. Because it is metamorphic, any fossils that might have been found in the

precursor shale, are usually destroyed during the metamorphism. The metamorphism may have caused other minerals to become associated with slate, pyrite and quartz being common minerals found with it.



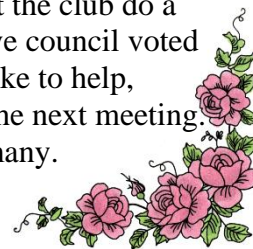
Wisconsin, USA- Mindat.org

Within the metamorphic series, shale (sedimentary) becomes slate (low grade metamorphic), which becomes phyllite (intermediate grade metamorphic), which becomes mica schist (high grade metamorphic). Slate can be found throughout the world. Slate is generally quarried for roofing slates, flagstone, the manufacture of roofing granules, and, in the past, blackboards.



Sympathy

Sharon Milner, a longtime club member passed away recently. Sharon had been an officer in the club, published the newsletter, and so much more. She had a giving heart and a warm spirit. She helped at the fair in 2019 and made decorations which are still in use for the Festival of Trees Club Tree. Sharon also helped make our Mohs Hardness Kits we sell at the fair and to teachers. Her husband Frank asked in lieu of flowers that the club do a monetary gift. The executive council voted to do \$100. If you would like to help, donations will be taken at the next meeting. Sharon will be missed by many.





NEWS FROM THE FAIR



The booth set up took over 6 hours to complete with specimens coming from Jay and Susan with a couple of crabs and a spider from Tina. One of the displays houses only Georgia material, all of which Jay collected except for one piece.



Another display box contains fossils; one of which comes from the road that runs near the fairgrounds as well as at Clinchfield.



A third box contains synthetic and natural gemstones; both cut and uncut specimens. The two large cases contain materials from the United States and around the world. Many people stopped to talk to volunteers about the Fossil Wood Story Board.



Jay holding the Fossil Wood Story Board
Both Jay and Bill gave cabbing demonstrations. Pam made gem trees. Tina made spiders and beaded ornaments for suncatchers and the tree for the Festival of Trees at the Museum of Arts and Sciences.



Tina's spiders

Jay, Bill and Tina were interviewed for a Georgia Living Segment that has already been shown on television. Club members sold polished rocks, guitar picks, and critters made of minerals and glass.



We had several encouraging prospects for new members for this year.



Tina will be sewing grab bags this winter since all of the ones that were stuffed have been sold. If you would like to donate some good sewing thread it will be appreciated. Plan to start stuffing in February. Rock kits (\$8.00) and Mohs Hardness kits (\$10.00) have also sold at the fair. Bags this year were sold for \$4.00 each.

Volunteers at the booth have had a great time talking to people about the club, rocks, gems, minerals and fossils and about what fun it is to be a rock hound. This is also the first year that we have had a junior member at the booth who was recruiting all the young people she talked to about rocks, gem, minerals and fossils. A special thanks to all those who worked: Jay, Tina, Katelyn, Bill, Pam, Susan, Al, and George.

Everyone had a wonderful time at the fair. Next year think about coming out to help. Talking to people about something you love is a blessing.

Editor



Shows

Please remember to check to make sure shows are still scheduled due to Covid-19. Events may change so check before you drive. At this time there are no digs scheduled.



Cobb County Gem and Mineral Show
Cobb County Civic Center, 548 S Marietta
Parkway SE, Marietta, Georgia, United States



Blast From the Past

In February of 2008, Sharon Milner was editor of the club Newsletter. I met Sharon in 2009 when I joined the club and she wanted to know if I would like to do the newsletter. I told her not as long as I was working so Jay Batcha took it over and when I retired, Jay passed it to me. Sharon always put some delightful information in the newsletter so here are some things from 2008.

In 1812 the Mohs Scale of hardness was devised by the German mineralogist Friedrich Mohs (1773-1839), who selected ten minerals because they were common and readily available. The scale is not a linear scale, but somewhat arbitrary. The hardness of some items- Fingernails 2.5, Gold-silver 2.5-3, copper penny 3, Platinum 4-4.5, Iron 4-5, Knife blade 5.5, Glass 6-7, Iron pyrite 6.5, and hardened steel file 7+.

Hardness	Mineral	Associations and Uses
1	Talc	Talcum Powder
2	Gypsum	Plaster of Paris. Gypsum is formed when seawater evaporates from the Earth's surface.



3	Calcite	Limestone and most shells contain calcite
4	Fluorite	Fluorine in fluoride prevents tooth decay.
5	Apatite	When you are hungry you have a big "appetite".
6	Orthoclase	Orthoclase is a feldspar, and in German, "feld" means field.
7	Quartz	
8	Topaz	The November birthstone. Emerald and aquamarine are varieties of beryl with a hardness of 8.
9	Corundum	Sapphire and ruby are varieties of corundum. Twice as hard as topaz.
10	Diamond	Used in jewelry and cutting tools.

JUST FOR LAUGHS

What did the boy volcano say to the girl volcano?

- I Lava you

How did the geology student drown?

- His grades were below sea level

What element is derived from a Norse God?

- Thorium

What weapon can you make from Potassium, Nickel, and Iron?

- KNiFe

<http://www.jokes4us.com>



RESOURCES

Each month I try to put in an article or something of interest for those who like to make cabs and facet stones. This month I found an interesting article and decided to look for more.

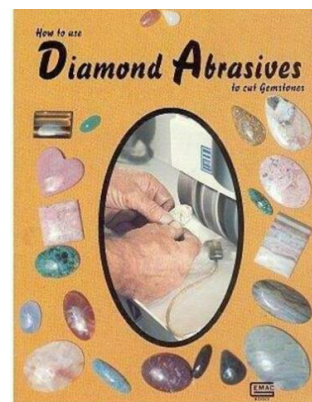
<https://www.gemsociety.org/article/gemstone-business-invest-cut/>

<https://www.gemsociety.org/article/lapidary-fundamentals-gemstone-tumbling/>

Mohs Hardness and the three main rock types

CORUNDUMWFGKYQM
 FSBCHMGPALZBACJ
 XMETAMORPHICWSC
 AQBDKHIHBQRFWUI
 UGHKIUGSSGYPSUM
 OYSNPMNFAJYIMMS
 CRWOQKEYXPSXLVA
 ADTXZQONRYAZQTY
 LTIHUKUBTFWTALC
 CMFAOBSACAQXITV
 IXICMCAARTRLTTR
 TEYUVOLWOTVYOAE
 EYQYZXNACNZEPT
 MKRGWARDSSZSAVQ
 DFLUORITEEEKQZWW

METAMORPHIC	SEDIMENTARY	ORTHOCASE	FLUORITE
CORUNDUM	CALCITE	APATITE	DIAMOND
GYPSUM	QUARTZ	MOHS	TALC
IGNEOUS	TOPAZ		



Book is \$13.45 on Amazon and came with some good reviews.

Needed: The Museum of Aviation's STEM program is in need of shoe boxes. If you have some that you could donate, bring them to the next meeting and give them to Tina.



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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Mid Ga. Gem and Mineral Society
Application for Membership

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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

Family (2 adults and 2 children under 18) \$25.00

Additional children \$5.00

Seniors (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 (listed on this page) 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

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