



## October 4, 2021

Come early and join the early birds to chat. The meeting this month is on October 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM. This is election night. The speaker for the evening will be Clare Swinford from the Museum of Aviation. Clare will be speaking about the programs they offer through NASA and STEM grants. Don't forget to bring a sample of the mineral of the month...Galena and the fossil of the month Belemnite.

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## **Upcoming Events**

- Sept. 16 National Collect Rocks Day at the Museum of Arts and Sciences from 1-4PM
- Oct. 1-3 Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig- see information under digs.
- October 3 Fair set up day at 9:00
- October 4 Meeting at the Museum of Arts and Sciences at 7:00 PM
- October 7-17 Georgia National Fair
- October 30 Fall Festival at the Museum of Arts and Sciences' Pavilion from 10AM-2 PM

November 1 Meeting at 7:00 (Dues are due at this meeting. See club information for fee amount.)

November 2, 2021 Decorating for Festival of Trees

Nov.10-Jan. 15 Festival of Trees

## **Prez. Box**

After a long hot summer of collecting rocks and not much club work, it is time to get back into the swing of things. It was good to get back together again and visit with all you. Fall is rapidly approaching and our club's activities are picking up fast. The fair, the fall festival and club elections all happen in the next two months. Not to forget the Festival of Trees at the museum. Since I was little, going to the fair was something special. The livestock barns, candy apples, rows of exhibits and displays, art, photography and of course the carnival. I can still remember tossing dimes into a mountain of glassware hoping they would land in one. And guess what, our club's booth is in the middle of all this and waiting for you to visit. We are located in the building that houses the arts, crafts, wood workers and quilt makers. It is a wonderful place to be. I get a kick out of the stilt people and their brightly colored costumes. Susan will have the sign-up sheet at the meeting. Thanks to our nomination committee for coming up with a list of officers for the year 2022. Voting will take place at our October meeting too, with installation at our November meeting. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

Prez Bill



## **Nominations**

The nomination committee (Tina Perkins, Tuell Walters, and Jay Batcha) has made the following recommendations for officers for the 2021-2022 club year:

President: Jay Batcha  
Vice President: Bill Mayer



Secretary: Al Steffanini

Treasurer: Susan Hargrove

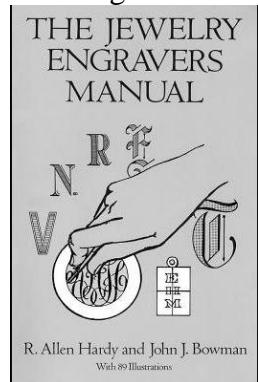
If you would like to have your name added to this list, contact one of the committee members. We are looking for someone to take the Field Trip Chair. We all love to go on field trips so why not volunteer to help out the club.



### Resources:

The Jewelry Engraver's Manual by R. Allen Hardy is an \$11.95 paperback available from Barnes and Nobel. This comprehensive and practical manual by two educators and master craftsmen teaches every step of the engraving process.

Clear, step-by-step instructions, accompanied by scores of illustrations, tell how to cut initials and inscriptions using a variety of alphabets, including script, ribbon, vertical script, and Roman letters as well as block and Old English. You'll also learn how to design and cut initials in monograms, what forms to use for properly decorating and embellishing engraved work, and how to correctly shape and maintain tools, particularly square script gravers — a tool basic to many different kinds of engraving. A glossary of terms and extensive, helpful question-and-answer section round out this immensely beneficial guide.



**To Keep Silver from Tarnishing**  
**Tarnish is caused by sulfur gases in the air.**  
**Chalk is a natural absorber of sulfur. So,**  
**place sticks of blackboard chalk in your**

**cases, jewelry boxes, jewelry drawer, or just around your silver jewelry.**

(from <<http://www.rocks4u.com>, via Quarry Quips, 6/09



### Mid Georgia Meeting Minutes

President Bill Mayer called the September meeting to order with 14 in attendance. He welcomed 4 visitors Andrew Warnock, his son Aaron Warnock, SFMS former director and club member Kim Cochran and temporary State Director Diana Poppelreuter.

**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 C.D. and savings balances and mentioned members could start paying dues for next year.

**Programs:** Jay Batcha said our club Geologist Eddie Williams was our speaker tonight and Claire Swinford will speak at the October meeting.

**Field Trips:** Jay talked about a club trip to Cochran, Ga. On October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> to a collectors' auction of cabs, slabs, tumbled stones, minerals, crystals and rocks by the pound (this has been cancelled). Jay also said he was tentatively looking at a dig in Monticello, Ga. To collect Smokey Quartz, Mica and Feldspar. Also mentioned was the annual Fall Graves Mountain Dig open to the public in October. He said on September 16 the Museum of Arts and Sciences would recognize National Collecting Rocks Day from 1 to 4 P.M. and had club members to man the tables of Rock Specimens on display. Susan also mentioned there was a sign-up sheet for volunteers to man the Club's Booth at the Georgia National Fair October 7 thru the 17.

**Newsletter:** Tina Perkins said the deadline for members to send in input was September 15.



**Old Business:** Tina showed a picture of the Clubs Logo that would be put on the new Club Banner.

**New Business:** Diana Poppelreuter temporary Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies State Director gave an update on the new SFMS newsletter, website and Facebook page. She said there were links to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and many other pages for getting forms, finding clubs, updating clubs, field trips and a large section for Kids' activities and programs. She mentioned the Suwannee Music Festival coming up in February and the SFMS Annual meeting November 19-21 in North Carolina.

Jay, Tina and Tuell Walters of the Nomination Committee said the club nominations for upcoming year were Jay Batcha for President, Bill Mayer for Vice President, Susan Hargrove for Treasurer and Al Steffanini for Secretary. Jay said anyone wanting to volunteer to be Field Trip Chairperson can let him know. Also mentioned was the Club's Fall Festival coming October 30 at the Museum's Pavilion with Halloween Theme, bring your own lunch and Silent Auction.

**Education:** Tuell Walters spoke on the Mineral of the Month Calcite, saying it had a MOH hardness of 3. Calcite is a part of Limestone important to forming shells and coral. It is found in Georgia with many different colors and forms. Members had many specimens on display and gave information about them.

Sandstone was the Rock of the month with specimens to view also. A drawing was held for the specimens on display and prizes gave out.

**Speaker:** Eddie Williams spoke on Mineralogy of the Earth's Crust. With a slide show presentation he explained that there were 5000 Minerals in the Earth's Crust of three types. These Minerals are Primary and Secondary forms of Igneous, Metamorphic and Sedimentary rock. He also said 8 Primary

Elements of Oxygen, Silica, Aluminum, Iron, Calcium, Potassium, Sodium and Magnesium made up most of the Minerals. Chemist Humphrey Davy discovered most of these elements with the Silica group of minerals making up 92% of the Crust. Eddie mentioned that the Earth's most abundant Mineral Perovskite now named Bridgmanite, is actually in the Earth's Mantle and was discovered in a meteorite. He answered questions and had some past Geological Magazines on display.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:11 P.M.  
Respectively submitted by Al Steffanini



## **Mineral of the Month** **Galena**

Galena is lead sulfide (PbS). It is in the isometric crystal system and usually occurs as a cube. Dodecahedron and trioctahedron crystals are rare. It has a perfect cleavage and, when cleaved, forms smaller cubes. Galena has a hardness of 2.5 with a specific gravity of 7.4-7.6, being one of the heavier minerals. It has a bright metallic luster and a lead-gray color and streak.

Distinguishing characteristics include the good cleavage, high specific gravity, softness, and lead-gray streak.

Inclusions in galena can include silver (making it an important ore of silver), zinc, cadmium, strontium, arsenic and bismuth. When found in hydrothermal veins, it is found in association with other silver minerals.

Oxidation can alter galena to anglesite, a lead sulfate, or cerussite, a lead carbonate.

As a very common metallic sulfide, galena is found in association with sphalerite, pyrite, marcasite, chalcopyrite, cerussite, anglesite, dolomite, calcite, quartz, barite, and fluorite. Hydrothermal veins and pegmatites of igneous origin, contact metamorphic deposits, and replacement bodies in sedimentary limestones are all potential sources of Galena. Galena may also be disseminated within sedimentary deposits.

Significant deposits of Galena have been found in Germany, England, and Australia, as well as



the United States, specifically the tri-state district of Missouri, Oklahoma, and Kansas.



Baxter Springs, Cherokee County, Kansas  
[Galena: Mineral information, data and localities. \(mindat.org\)](#)

As a primary source of lead and silver, the mineral has historically been important in the manufacture of paints, lead batteries, piping, sheeting, lead bird and buck shot, fishing sinkers, and as a gasoline additive, among other uses. However, the toxicity of lead has resulted in the diminished use, both because of its toxicity to humans and its toxicity to the environment and animals. Lead is still a major component in radiation protective equipment, including lead aprons used in dental offices where x-rays are made.

The word Galena comes from the Latin “galena”, a name originally given to lead ore. Eddie Williams, retired geologist



## Fossil of the Month

This month we are taking a trip to the Jurassic and Cretaceous period of Earth's history and looking at Belemnites. These animals are represented in a time period of about 135 million years. Belemnites were marine animals belonging to the phylum Mollusca and the class Cephalopoda. Living relatives today are the squid and the cuttlefish. They had a squid-like body with a hard internal skeleton. In the tale was a bullet shaped feature called the rostrum which was used as a

counterbalance for the tentacles on the other end of the animal.



Picture from mindat.org  
Specimen from Portugal

Fibrous calcite crystals arranged at right angles to the surface made up the rostrum, which had growth rings like a tree trunk. Belemnites are a geologist's tool. Most fossils are found in sedimentary rocks; however, belemnites may also be found in metamorphic rock. They had a worldwide distribution. Belemnites can be used as a tool for determining the direction of the current prevalent during the deposition of the original sediment on the sea floor. By examining the oxygen isotopes in the calcite crystals, geologist can determine the water temperature during the time when the belemnite lived. The rostrum is somewhat resistant to chemical change during conversion from sedimentary rock to metamorphic rock. Belemnite is the state fossil for Delaware.



Mindat.org  
Found in Portugal  
Belemnite fossils have been recorded occurring in the Blufftown Formation which may be found in west Georgia in the Chattahoochee River Valley.



## DIGS

### Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig

October 1st- 3rd, 2021

Lincolnton, Georgia

Jr. Norman has announced his fall "Rock Swap and Dig" at the mountain. As of this posting, the dig is on for October and back to normal. No reservations needed. Covid safety precautions must be observed. Masks must be worn when at food and vending booths. Social distancing must be adhered to. If something changes, it will be posted here.



The mountain will be open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All attendees must stop at the welcome table to sign a liability release and make a contribution/donation to help with the cost of providing porta johns and golf carts. The dig will end and everyone must be off the mountain by 6:00 p.m. each day.

There will be an area in the parking lot for vendors to sell and trade minerals. Hot food and drinks will be available for purchase on the mountain all three days.

## Shows

**Due to Covid-19 Pandemic, always check with sponsor to make sure it is still going to take place!!!**

2021 Ashville, NC Gem Shows

September 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>

December 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

Friday and Saturday 9-6

Sunday 10-4  
 Camp Stephens  
 263 Clayton Road  
 Arden, North Carolina 28704

Free Admission

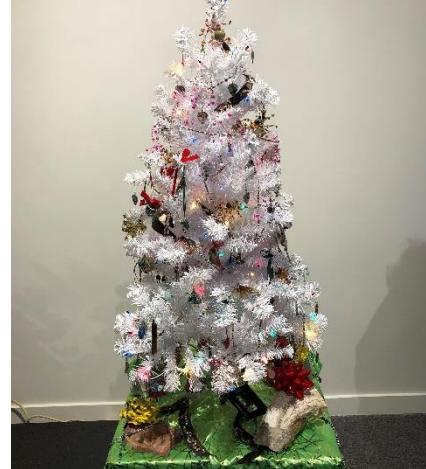
Indoor and outdoor vendors offering gems, minerals, fossils, artifacts, rocks, meteorites, trinitite, silver and gold Jewelry, crystals and other hobby related items.



## Festival of Trees

The Festival of Trees is almost here and we will again be participating. We will be setting up our tree on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 AM. We have done this for the last two years and have tried to place some different ornaments on the tree each year. The first year, Sylvia, Jay, Bill, Sharon, Betty Sue, Al and Tina made the ornaments. Last year new ornaments were made by Jay, Tina, and Launa. (Hopefully, I did not leave anyone out!) All ornaments are kept in a box from one year to the next so we can switch out and use different ones. If you are creative with wire wrapping, make some new ornaments for us, and if not, come help decorate the tree.

Tree from 2020







## 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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