



November 7 at 7:00 PM.

### **Museum of Arts and Sciences**

Come join the early birds to chat. Don't forget that dues are due and that if not paid by February's Meeting you will be dropped from the roll. This month's guest speaker is Tina Perkins. She will be speaking on Geological Features of the Southeast United States. Don't forget to bring your mineral of the month-zircon and your rock-pegmatite.

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### **Upcoming Events**

Dues are Due	November 1
November Meeting	November 7
Christmas Party	December 5

### ***President's Message***

Another year of the fair has come and gone. This year was a big success as we sold all of our grab bags and passed out nearly 300 fliers. One person signed up to join the club. Boy did everything cost more. We were the best deal at the fair. The main doors into the building from the fair ground even had our club on them. Thanks to all those who came to work the fair and those who came to set up and take down the displays. Everyone needs to start saving rocks and minerals for the grab bags as Tina has already started cutting them out and she picked up seashells to go in them.

Bill and I are off to William Holland on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bill will be taking advanced cabbage and I am taking beginning silver smith. We will be doing programs about our adventure in February and March of 2023. Next scholarship drawing will be at the Christmas Party in December so be looking for the requirements in the December Newsletter. Speaking of the Christmas Party, start getting your gifts ready (cost should be between 5 and 10 dollars). Gifts should be lapidary, rock, fossil, mineral, etc. related. More about this in the next newsletter.

Hope to see you at the meeting,

President Jay

### ***October Meeting Minutes***

President Jay Batcha called the September meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. with 15 in attendance.

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 the Bank C.D. and savings account balances. She also said she had paid the museum rent and collected two members' dues.

Programs: Tina Perkins said tonight's speakers were Jay Batcha and Bill Mayer talking about their trip from Macon to



Colorado, due to our previous speaker not being able to do the presentation. At this time there is not a speaker for November.

Field Trips: Jay said that there was the Summerville Crazy Lace Agate mention in the bulletin as well as Graves Mountain on the 7-9 of October.

Newsletter: Tina Perkins said the deadline for members to send in input was October 12<sup>th</sup> although the newsletter will be delayed due to members working the fair.

Old Business: Tina said the Club's Banner is hanging up at the fair and that Jay, Susan and Tina setup the displays Saturday. Jay mentioned that it took 6 hours to set up. Tina also stated that she had received a few ideas for the tee-shirt but wants to be able to present all ideas to the club at the next meeting before deciding on a vendor. She mentioned that she had talked to a person who does school tee-shirts and he was willing to give us a good price on using up to four colors.

New Business: Elections were held after Tina read the Nomination Committee's selection and all officer were voted back into their respected offices unanimously. Tina purchased a new printer and has printed fliers for the fair.

Shawn brought up that there would be a Military Art Show November 12<sup>th</sup> in Warner Robins sponsored by the Fina Art Society of Middle Georgia which will also have a Craft Fair. For more information, visit

[www.facebook.com/fasmidga](http://www.facebook.com/fasmidga) or  
[www.fineartsocietyofmiddlega.org](http://www.fineartsocietyofmiddlega.org)

Mineral of the Month: Jay said Tiger's Eye was the mineral of the month. He noted that you can get other colors by beaching out the color with HCl and then dying the tiger's eye. He asked that someone please be willing to fill in for Tuell until he returns from his illness with information on the mineral of the month.

Fossil of the Month: Sharks, Skates, Rays  
Many members brought in teeth and other items from North America and other places.

Many were from the Savannah River Area or other beaches.

Speakers Of the Month:

From the latter part of July and into August, Jay Batcha and Bill Mayer went on a rockhounding trip starting in Macon and ending in Colorado with Bill making a few extra stops on the way back. They put together a wonder overview of their trip which I am going to try to cover below. Their first stop was magnet Cove, Arkansas where they collected Calciocarbonatite (sovite). This intrusive/extrusive rock has greater than 50% carbonate minerals. They had been driving for 650+ miles and collected in the rain after sitting in the car. After 45 minutes the water in the creek began to rise. They stayed in Hot Springs Arkansas overnight and then went to Mt. Ida and the Twin Creek Quartz Crystal Mine. The fee to collect all day is \$25.00. Their next stop was Stanley Draper Lake in Oklahoma City to collect Barite Roses. They spent to night in Enid, Oklahoma where it rained all night. They were going to collect hourglass selenite crystals but the rain had flooded the area. As they continued their trip, they noticed Gypsum on a road cut on US 64 at Red Horse Creek and stopped to collect it when they found selenite some as clear as glass mixed in. Jay said it was clear and magical. Next, they went through Dodge City and toured it. In Cripple Creek, Colorado, they rode the Narrow-Gauge Steam Locomotive through the mining district. The Locomotive was named old Betsy (Jay added sound effects when I asked him to give me the name of the train). They next went to Florissant Fossil Beds where giant sequoia trees (stumps some 20 feet high were preserved and fossilized when they were covered with ash. They were going to the quarry to dig but it was raining and filled with people, so Bill bought some stuff instead. They toured the Mineral Museum at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado which has some amazing specimens. They next went to Leadville where there are numerous old, abandoned mine dumps



and buildings. They collected lead ores, dendritic dolomite, silver ores and pyrite. Next was Creede, Colorado where they toured the Last Chance Mine with the owner Jack Morris. He is restoring the mine and the buildings. He bought the mine for restoration purposes from the owners for the taxes on it (\$2137.00). They had other adventures and collected lots of other things even getting to see a nice waterfall.



Just some of what they collected above and below. Some of us are ready to take a trip after their presentation.



Meeting was dismissed at 8:47PM.  
Respectfully submitted by  
Tina Perkins for Al Steffanini



As of the writing of the newsletter the December DMC dig has not been released so when it comes in, I will be sending it to those of you who have e-mail addresses and will announce it at the Christmas Party.



## Mineral of the Month

### Zircon

Streak: white

Mohs' Hardness: 7.0-7.5

Specific Gravity: 3.9-4.8 (4.6-4.7)

Found: Brazil, Ontario/ Canada, Florida, South Carolina, Georgia/ USA, Germany, Austria, and Sri Lanka

Zircon forms as prismatic crystals with bipyramidal termination and also as radiating fibrous aggregates. Twinned crystals are common. It is colorless, red, brown, yellow, green, blue, and gray. Zircon is a transparent to opaque mineral and its luster may be vitreous, adamantine or greasy.



Gilgit, Gilgit District, Northern Areas, Pakistan  
(Locality at mindat.org)

Zircon forms in igneous rocks such as syenite and in certain metamorphic rocks. Zircon also occurs in many detrital sedimentary rocks where it is a product of weathering and erosion of primary, zircon bearing rocks. Zircon is





often a radioactive mineral because it can contain small amounts of Uranium and Thorium. Zircon was found or mined in Camden County, Wayne County, Washington County, Dekalb County (Stone Mountain Mining) and Brantley County in Georgia.



Mindat.org

Ratnapura, Ratnapura District, Sabaragamuwa Province, Sri Lanka

Zircon is common in the crust of the earth. Average size for a zircon crystal is less than 1/100 of an inch but can grow to an inch or more in pegmatites and carbonatites. Its chemical composition is stable and can be refined to form zirconium metal. A brown zircon heated to 800 to 1000°C will change to a blue or colorless zircon.



<https://www.mindat.org>

Aigner Alp, Schellgaden, Muhr, Tamsweg District, Salzburg, Austria

Zircon is used by geologist for geochronology (determining the age of rocks, fossils, and sediments). Zirconia has been used as a substitute for diamonds as a semi-precious gemstone. Used to make nuclear fuel rods, catalytic converters, and air and water purification systems. Some zircons will fluoresce yellow under UV light. Other uses include steel alloys, lamp filaments, ceramics and some deodorants.

## Rock of the Month

### Pegmatite

A pegmatite is an igneous rock showing a very coarse texture with large interlocking crystals which can range in size from 0.4 inches to three feet. Many of the world's largest crystals are found within pegmatites. Most pegmatites are thought to form from the last fluid fraction of a large crystallizing magma body. This is enriched with volatiles and trace elements. Most pegmatites are of simple composition, however, a few have a complex association with rare elements such as lithium, beryllium, boron, fluorine, tin, tantalum, niobium, rare earth elements and uranium. The center of a pegmatite may have cavities lined with spectacular gemstone crystals.



Elbaite tourmaline (olive-green) and lepidolite mica (violet), from a lithium-enriched pegmatite in Brazil

**Feldspar pegmatite** is an acidic intrusive rock with the same mineral composition as granite, however, it contains a higher proportion of feldspar (white or pink) grayish quartz, and dark mica or amphibole. The total silica content is well over 65%. Due to the slow cooling, pegmatites of this nature are coarse grained and may have crystals many feet long.



Minerals in this pegmatite can be easily identified without a magnifying glass.



Feldspar Pegmatite from Ontario, Canada

**Mica pegmatite** is an acidic intrusive granitic rock with more than 65% silica and over 20% quartz. White muscovite mica may form large sheets over 2.5 inches long within the rock mass. There is also some feldspar and biotite mica.



Muscovite mica, garnet, with some feldspar.



## SHOWS

Be mindful that shows may be cancelled due to Covid-19.

**Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.**  
November 11-13, 2022-Hickory, NC: Fall Show; Hickory Metro Convention Center, 1960 13th Ave. Dr. SE. Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6 Sun. 11-

5; Adults \$6.00, Free admission for children 12 and under, also Military (Retired or active) and Law Enforcement with ID. Admission is good for all three days; Grand Prize drawing entry with paid admission; 30+ vendors selling Gems, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossils. Show Chairperson: Dean Russell; Contact (828) 303-1448 or [cvgmcsecretary@aol.com](mailto:cvgmcsecretary@aol.com); CVGMC Website: [www.cvgmc.com](http://www.cvgmc.com)

### CCGMS Annual Show

November 18 – 20, 2022 Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy., Marietta Ga 30060 Cobb County Civic Center. Friday and Saturday hours will be from 10:00am to 6:00pm. Sunday hours are 10:00am to 5:00pm. Approx. 35 dealers specializing in Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry and Jewelry supplies will provide lots of cool stuff to look over and buy. The club will offer our outstanding grab bags and an opportunity to purchase geodes and have them cracked open. Great stuff for kids and adults. Link(s): [ccgms.org](http://ccgms.org)

**The Columbia, SC Gem & Mineral Society 54th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show**  
Fri. Nov. 18, 10:00 - 6:00; Sat. Nov. 19, 10:00 - 6:00; Sun. Nov. 20, 12:00 - 5:00 Jamil Temple 206 Jamil Rd. Columbia, SC 29210 Jewelry, beads, loose stones, fossils, minerals, gold, silver, & tools for sale Geodes sold & cut Club member's rock collections on exhibit & lapidary demonstrations. Lots of fun for the whole family. South Carolina amethyst on display. Sponsored by The Columbia Gem & Mineral Society \$5.00 for adults, Sixteen & under free. All military & their dependents free. 803-736-9317 [www.cgms.rocks](http://www.cgms.rocks) Link(s): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/322192978738281/>

**Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches**  
November 19-20, 2022 This is the 55th annual gem, mineral, jewelry, bead and fossil show. South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach Florida 33411. Admission \$9, children under 12 free. 2-day admission \$14.





### From the Editor/Program Person/ Bag Lady/ Publicity:

Each month I work on articles for the newsletter and it would be nice if some other people in the club would share their ideas, stories, or pictures.

We still need some **boyish** material, but I have already cut out 130 bags from what I have been given and plan to have them ready by the February meeting for stuffing. Yard sales and estate sales are great places to find material at a cheap price.



Let's help Jay out with the rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils by bringing 100 pieces of something to stuff the bags. Remember that the bags are our main fundraiser each year.

Tina Perkins



### Remembering the Fair

When you work the fair, you meet lots of interesting people and some good friends that you look forward to seeing the next year. This year I learned that two that had always stopped at the club booth are not able to work the fair any more. I also learned that this was one person's last year doing the fair. I joined the club in 2009, but have worked the fair for four years since retiring. I love setting up the displays as well as sitting at the table talking to people as they come up and selling my

Christmas spiders.



I also like getting to know the other club members who work. Jay is there the whole fair and everyone knows him.



Day 1 of the Georgia National Fair.



Bill demonstrating how the capping machine works and making some beautiful cabs.





Jay and Tina at the table. Notice the long sleeves; it was cold in there.



Trees made by a junior member for sell at the fair. She sat and made 4 in one day and talked to people that stopped. She also helped with grab bag sales.



Jay Guitar Picks are always a big hit with people who can't believe they can be made of stone and then when they feel them, they take a second look.



Pam and Bill brought some eye-catching gems and minerals to sell and even sold me one.



Shawn taking over for Bill at the cabbing machine.

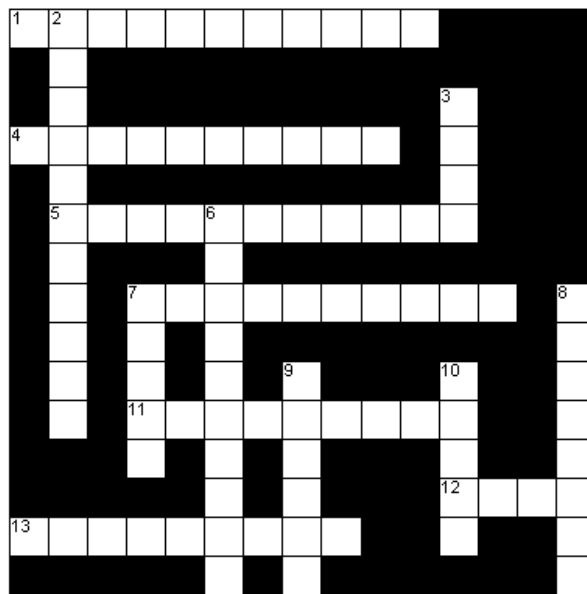


Junior member working on the cabbing machine.

### Scholarship Rules Wild Acres or

#### William Holland School of Lapidary Arts:

1. Must be a member of the club as of February 2022.
2. Not have won this drawing in the last two years.
3. Be 18 years or older.
4. Be at our club Christmas Dinner or have spoken to one of the officers to enter the drawing.
5. You will give a presentation at one of our monthly meetings on you experience/learnings at the school.



#### Across

- 1 Color change gem
- 4 Named for a big cat
- 5 Iridescent feldspar
- 7 Some varieties of this gem resemble a melon
- 11 Known for its green and orange coloring
- 12 The premier red gemstone
- 13 Popular but rare, purple and blue gemstone

#### Down

- 2 Name means "blue rock"
- 3 Famous for Chinese carvings
- 6 Blue gem related to the sea
- 7 Yellow, orange or brown gem
- 8 Purple quartz
- 9 Citrine is a variety of this common mineral
- 10 Comes from a shell fish

### 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 at 7:00 PM.

**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/ Field Trips:** Jay Batcha, 4220 Cyndy Jo Circle, Macon, Ga. 31216, ph. 478-957-5002  
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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 \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Circle your interest(s):

Gems and Minerals      Lapidary      Fossils

Education      Rocks

Make checks payable to:

Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society

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



**Remember**  
**to pay your**  
**dues!**



## **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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