



Monday, November 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Museum of Arts and Sciences

Come early to chat with the early birds. The Mineral of the month is Apatite and the Rock of the month is Metaquartzite. Our speaker for the month is Diana McClarnon. She is the Fine Arts Director for the Georgia National Fair and she will be talking with us about the categories and how to enter items. Please bring an item and be prepared with questions for her. The Maker's Challenge for this month is: "Your Best Display" of rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, or lapidary items in a display that is no more than 16 x 12. So, bring in the displays. Jay will also be showing us how easy it is to carve a bar of soap which will be the Maker's Challenge for February. Go ahead and start thinking about our Christmas Party and a five-to-ten-dollar gift. Lots going on so please **read** the newsletter carefully.

Table of Contents

President's Message	page 01
Meeting Minutes	page 02
Let's Go Diggin'	page 03
Shows	page 04
Schedule	page 05
Mineral of the Month	page 05
Rock of the Month	page 06
Fair Pics	page 06
Nominations Committee	page 07
Junior Meeting	page 07
Festival of Trees	page 07
Scholarship rules	page 07
Blast from the past	page 07
Club Information	page 08

Upcoming Events

Juniors Meeting	Oct. 26
Festival of Trees set up	Nov. 12
Auction for Tuell	Nov. 16

President's Message

It has been a great four months as your temporary President. I hope I did a good job. I hope everyone enjoyed the Junior Rock Hounds' Brooke and Aaron's presentation at the last meeting. They spoke on indigenous people and their artifacts which was appropriate since we celebrated Columbus Day/ Indigenous Peoples Day on the 14th of October. Don't forget that **Dues** are due. Elections were held and Shawn agreed to stay as Interim until someone volunteered. We will vote again if that happens. As for now I am staying on as Vice President starting at the November meeting. The Fair is over for another year and we had a great time. We sold 417 bags at the Fair and 22 at the Museum of Arts and Sciences before the fair. We also were given \$10 plus as gifts from people who bought bags. We had 61 bags left over from the fair. I want to thank all those who set up, worked the booth, and took down our display stuff: Al, Sherrill, George, Tina, Susan, Sherry, Katelyn, James, Tate, Pam, Bill, Lorri, and Leslie Ann. We had one person sign up and many others that were interested especially when they heard we had a Junior Rock Hound Group. Start thinking about the Christmas Party since it is only six weeks away. Also, if you want to be entered in the scholarship, please submit your name to one of the Officers. Rules for the drawing are later in the newsletter. If you have any fossils for the tree, bring them to the November meeting. We will be having the last Auction for Tuell on November 16th with viewing of lots from 12:30- 1:00 and the auction from 1:00-3:00PM. You will need to bring a chair and anything else you might need. No food or drink will be served at this Auction. There will be rocks, a tumbler, and books for the sale. Tina will be sending out more information around the 30th of October.

Have a great Day,
Temporary President.
Jay



October Meeting Minutes

Temporary Club President Jay was not in attendance due to his wife's illness so Shawn Riddley filled in for him. We had two visitors (members from the 80's) and two new members who signed up and came to the last Junior Rock Hound meeting. Please welcome Ava, Jamie, and Jason (not present at meeting- Jamie added him Monday tonight), Matthew, and Bonnie and Mike. There were 22 in attendance. Shawn called the meeting to order at 7:02PM. He talked about previous speakers and events that have happened in the last few months. He also talked about the Maker's Challenge and asked if the club wanted to continue to this starting with next month. Club members agreed to continue with the challenge.

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. Shawn said that Jay, Al, and James were at the fair today.

Treasurer Report: Susan Hargrove said there was no expenses to report and Club dues were due in November. She read the checking and savings balances. Tina added that we had made about \$624 from the fair and the Museum of Arts and Science's Georgia Day.

Programs: Tina said that the program tonight was being done by 14-year-old Aaron and 10-year-old Brooklyn. They would be talking about Native American Artifacts.

Field Trips: Tina sent out an email, about the November 9th dig at Diamond Hill Mine.

Newsletter: Tina Perkins said the deadline to put something in the newsletter is October 14, 2024. She also mentioned a JR Rockhound meeting on October 26 to work on the Clubs Christmas tree ornaments.

Educational: George Ruff gave information on the Mineral of the Month Bauxite and the Fossil of the Month Petrified Wood. Members had Specimens on display as well as some members brought artifacts to display. There was no drawing for door prizes. Tina

apologized for not bringing them but she is staying with her mother who is also ill.

New Business: Nomination committee said no one had offered to be president and therefore there would also not be a president. It was voted that Susan would stay as Treasurer and Al would be the Secretary. It was also voted that Jay would stay vice president and Shawn would stay on as an interim until someone volunteered. Please contact Tina, Jay, or Al if you would like to serve as president.

Helen brought lots of artifacts and said that from 12-4 at Indian Springs (McIntosh Hotel) there would be people there to help identify and give information on the artifacts.

Tuell's last auction has been set for November 16th from 12:30- 3:00. Other information will be sent closer to time. The Milner Auction will be held in either March or April with more information to come in February. There are lots of slabs and specimens. Some of the material will be used for later club auctions and as door prizes and drawings.

Speakers: Aaron started off the presentation talking about Native American Artifacts and where to find them. His first suggestion was to ask around to see if anyone has found any. He used the areas where he had been searching to show how to look at the environment to see signs of where they got the stones, where they made the artifacts and then nearby settlements. He found Lithic pieces, pottery from the woodland period, and talked about pictographs from out west as well as organics such as hides and farming. Brooklyn talked about the structures they used such as thatched roof houses and teepees. Shells from the coast were found at the Indian Mounds in Macon. The two junior rock hounds did an outstanding job.

Meeting Adjourned at 8: 15P.M.

Al was working the fair so Tina took minutes.



Let's Go Digging

An Official Field Trip of the Emerald City
Rock and Gem Club (Greenwood, SC) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Mid- Ga Gem and
Mineral Society

Saturday, November 9, 2024
9:00 am to 5:00 pm EasternTime

Diamond Hill Mine
Abbeville, SC

No Attendance Limit

Registration Required (Link is below)

Fees: (See below)



TRIP: Diamond Hill is a South Carolina favorite spot for collecting quartz crystals. The collecting area covers 5-6 acres of turned over earth. Over millions of years, erosion has occurred to the southern part of the Appalachian Mountains which is one of the oldest mountain chains in the world. This has exposed a small 3-acre spot full of some of the widest variety quartz crystals in the world, known as Diamond Hill! Some of the best Amethyst, Smoky, Skeletal (Elestial), Angle Plated, Iron & Manganese Oxide coated, Aura, and other crystals are found here! Other minerals including Beryl, Garnet and Epidote have also been recovered!

COLLECTING: There are several kinds of quartz clusters such as amethyst (harder to find), smokey, skeletal, and druzy. Other

minerals such as garnet, epidote, and beryl can be found by surface collection or digging. There are deep main pits and about 5-6 acres of dirt piles that contain quartz crystals to surface collect or to dig through. Digging is allowed anywhere on the property unless marked and no digging in parking area please.



BRING: Gloves, safety glasses, and tools such as shovel, rake, screwdriver, pick (bamboo skewers help gently dig dirt out from between crystals), trowel or rock hammer. Boxes or flats and newspaper are recommended for carrying your finds. Stout shoes are good for climbing around mounds of turned over dirt. There is no water on site. Bring food and drink. This is an exposed area, so bring sunscreen - even in November!



REQUIREMENTS/RULES:

No throwing rocks in the pit.

No Trailers Allowed

Shirts and Shoes are required for digging.

Limit on rocks is a car/truck load.

FEES:

\$20 for adults,

\$15 veterans



\$10 for teens 13-17, and seniors 65+,

\$5 children 6-12,

children 5 and under free

REGISTRATION: Click [here](#) to fill out a registration form. If you register and are unable to attend the trip, please let us know so we can update the registration list for an accurate head count.

CHILDREN (Yes): Yes, all children are welcome and must be accompanied by a paid adult in the mine area.

PETS (Yes): No pets are allowed.

FACILITIES: There is an outhouse and a Port-a-potty available. The nearest gas station is about 5 miles away.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: There is ample parking at the site.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

Registered participants will be sent a confirmation email with directions and meeting place details.

CARPOOLING: The registration form has a place for you to indicate if you need a ride; if you can offer a ride; or if you would like to drive or share a carpool ride. If you choose any of these options, your name, email address, and club name will be shared with other members who also choose one of the options. Then, you can communicate with one another to arrange carpools.

CONTACT: Marcie Rude, e-mail:

tmdavis3@yahoo.com, Cell: 864-500-029

Society! This exciting event is perfect for gem enthusiasts, hobbyists, rockhounds, Holiday shoppers and families looking for a unique and educational outing. Highlights of the Event: Finished Jewelry: Discover stunning, handcrafted pieces from talented artisans. Natural Gems: Explore a variety of beautiful, natural gemstones. Jewelry Components: Find everything you need to create your own jewelry. Rocks and Minerals: Perfect for rockhounds and collectors. Crystals: Ideal for those interested in the metaphysical properties of crystals. Rock Dig for Kids: A fun, hands-on activity where children can dig for their own treasures. Silent Auction: Bid on unique items and support the Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society. Whether you're looking to add to your collection, start a new hobby, start (or finish!) your Holiday shopping, or simply enjoy a day out with the family, the Parade of Gems offers something for everyone. Don't miss this opportunity to explore, learn, and shop from a diverse array of vendors. Admission: \$5 adults Free kids under 13 Website:

<https://www.canaveral-mgs.com/our-show.html>
Contact:

ParadeofGems.Melbourne@gmail.com Bring your friends and family and experience the wonder of the earth at the 51st Annual Parade of Gems! Link(s): <https://www.canaveral-mgs.com/our-show.html>

Shows

As always check before you go to make sure everything is a go for the show.

Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society

November 9 – 10, 2024

Time: 10am - 5pm / 10am - 4pm

Melbourne Auditorium

625 East Hibiscus Avenue,

Melbourne, Florida 32901

Join us for the 51st Annual Parade of Gems, hosted by the Canaveral Mineral and Gem

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society

November 9 – 10, 2024

Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show

Jackson County Fairgrounds Civic Center

Lt. Eugene J. Majare Drive

Pascagoula, MS 39567

Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 10-5.

Adult Admission \$5.00 and Children under 12 free w/adult. 1 door prize ticket with each paid admission. Come See: Exhibits,

Demonstrations, Education Resources,

Available for Purchase: Fossils, Gemstones,



Jewelry, Supplies and More. For more information contact Barbie Beatty, 2282389900. Link(s): WWW.MGCGMS.ORG

Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society

November 22 – 24, 2024

[Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060](#)

Three days of fun and educational event for the whole family! Free admission and parking! Hourly door prizes! Find amazing rocks, crystals, gemstones, minerals, and fossils from all over the world! Choose from a large selection of beautiful beads, unique jewelry, and jewelry-making supplies. We'll have display cases by gem club members, lapidary demonstrations of gem and mineral polishing, grab bags, silent auctions, geode cracking, and mineral ID classes!

Link(s): www.ccgms.org

The Columbia Gem & Mineral Society

November 22 – 24, 2024

[Jamil Temple 206 Jamil Road Columbia, SC 29210](#)

Fri Nov. 22, 10:00 - 6:00

Sat. Nov. 23, 10:00 - 6:00.

Sun. Nov. 24, 12:00 - 5:00

\$7.00 for adults

Twelve & under free.

All military & their dependents free with ID

Card Link(s): www.cgms.rocks

Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, inc.

November 23 – 24, 2024

[South Florida Fairgrounds/Expo Center East 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach, Fl. 33411](#)

57th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead and Fossil Show

Link(s): <https://gmspb.org/>

Schedule for 2024-2025

Date	Mineral	Rock	Fossil
2/3	Jadeite		Coral (can be a beach find)
3/3	Malachite	Mudstone	
4/7	Garnierite		Fern leaf
5/5	Borax	Concretion (septarian or non-septarian)	
6/2	Bring	your favorite	specimen

Mineral of the Month

Apatite

Apatite is a mineral containing Calcium, Phosphate and either chlorine, Fluorite, or hydroxide. The name was invented by A.G. Werner in the 1780's from a Greek verb apatit meaning to deceive. It was renamed in 1860 by Carl Rammelsberg to emphasize the chemical composition. Crystals of apatite are short to long hexagonal prisms. Apatite is often confused with beryl, milarite, and phenakite. It can be massive, coarse granular to compact, sub fibrous, scaly, stalactitic, earthy, and oolitic. May be rock forming in beds of great extent or nodular concretions in clays and shales.



Blue Apatite

Fluorapatite is colorless to white when pure, but can also be green, blue, pink, yellow, brown, violet, and purple. It has a vitreous, sub vitreous, resinous, waxy, or greasy luster. Its specific gravity is 3.1-3.25 and it is the "5" on the Mohs hardness scale. It is transparent to translucent. It is found in igneous rocks and metamorphic limestone. It can be found in Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California,



Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Maine, Iowa, Michigan, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, and many more. In Georgia it can be found in Cherokee County in the Ball Ground Mining District, in Jasper County at the American Feldspar Corp. Pit and the Enon Church Mine, in Lumpkin County at Dahlonega, in Monroe County at Culloden, in Oconee County at North High Shoals, and throughout Upson County including at the Steven Rock Mica Mine, Maulding Mine, and the Mitchell Creek Mine with many others.



Green Apatite

Apatite is used for fertilizer, phosphoric acid, hydrofluoric acid, gemstones, pigments, and ore of rare earth elements.

Rock of the Month Metaquartzite

Metaquartzite is a rock subtype. It is a granoblastic metamorphic rock consisting mainly of quartz (90%) which gives it a crystalline structure and is formed by recrystallization of sandstone or chert by either regional or thermal metamorphism. It has a medium grain to fine grain composition. It has a sugary appearance. At high magnification other minerals are visible including feldspar and mica. Metaquartzite has a very even texture. This metamorphic rock forms under low pressure and high temperature. It is non-foliated. It is used for decorative dimension stone, as crushed rock for highway construction, and as a source of silica for production of silicon and silicon compounds.



Metamorphic Rocks - Earth Science: Rock Types (weebly.com)

Pictures from the Fair

We all had lots of fun at the fair and some of us will still be working through October 15 when our booth comes down. For those of you who could not attend, we have some photographs to share with you. To see more than what is below, go to our Facebook page. Hope to see you at the meeting.



Susan, Jay, Sherry, Tina, Sherrill, and Al.
Not pictured- George



Tina with cabinet #1



Georgia box with all the things you can find in Georgia and our new UV case. Lots of people wanted the Uranium glass that was inside.



Hard workers- Jay, Al, and James



Jay and his 4-H group that has lots of questions.

Junior Rock Hounds

We will be meeting on October 26 at 10:00-12:00... We will be finishing our fossil imprint ornaments. We will also do the ID Test for prizes and have lunch. Please let me know if you plan to attend and the number coming. A special thank you to James Gazaway and Mary Ann Dorriety for the donation of jewelry making supplies to the Juniors. They are being used for some of the Christmas ornaments.

Nominations Committee

Officers were elected for the Vice President (Jay), Secretary (Al), and Treasurer (Susan). Shawn agreed to be Interim President until someone volunteered to be President. As of this newsletter, Bill Mayer has talked to two members of the nominations committee about putting his name in. He will decide by the November Meeting and we will vote if he says he will do it.

Festival of Trees Announcement



Don't forget we need decorations for the "Fossil Tree" we are doing this year. The Jrs. have been working on it with shark's teeth and will be finishing imprint ornaments on the October 26th they will work on fossil ornaments. If you can donate ornaments for the tree talk to Jay or Tina since they usually do the decorating.

Scholarship Rules

Wild Acres or

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts:

1. Must be a member of the club as of February 2024.
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 your experience/learnings at the school.

Blast from the Past

From November 2012

Tidbits

Bench Tips by: Brad Smith



TEMPLATES

Whenever I have to make more than 2-3 exact copies of anything, I think of making a template. A template lets me easily draw the shape of an item. Art stores sell templates for common shapes like circles, ovals, hearts, etc, but if you need other shapes, it's easy to make your own. Simply cut the shape out of sheet plastic, copper or brass. The brass template let's me quickly trace the design of these ginkgo leaf earrings onto silver sheet, and the nickel template makes it easy to drill the pin inlay pattern into the ironwood. After finding a poor selection of stock templates for ovals at my local art store, I was pleased with the wide selection on Cool Tools at <http://www.cooltools.us/>. If you order, be sure to look for the 10% off code each month on their Home page.

Kingsley North also has some nice templates at <http://www.kingsleynorth.com/>

BenchTips by: Brad Smith can be found at facebook.com/BenchTips or groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/



DENTAL TOOLS

A ready source of free tools is your local dentist. Dental picks can be reworked into wax tools or straightened and sharpened to make a stylus for marking and layout. The steel in these tools is high quality, and the handles are designed for comfort. A special note however - don't try to

bend one of the tips to a different shape - the steel will snap. To change the shape, heat the tip to red hot and bend it with pliers while it's hot. And don't forget to ask your dentist for some of the cutting burs they throw out. These are useful for a variety of things. It's best to call a week or two before your visit and ask the dentist to put some of these tools aside for you. It's good practice also to ask that they run them through the sterilizer for you.

FAKES & FRAUDS

Unfortunately, there's a growing amount of deception and outright fraud these days at gem and mineral shows and in some of the online venues that sell these items. Often "genuine turquoise beads" turn out to be dyed magnesite, and I've been told that the majority of colored stones being sold typically have had some "enhancement" done to them.

If you're interested in what kind of fakes and frauds have been uncovered, there's a well-done page at: <http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugfakes.htm>

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:

Interim President: Shawn Ripley, phone: 509-499-5946 ripleystudio@yahoo.com

Vice Pres./ Programs/ Field Trips: Jay Batcha, 4220 Cyndy Jo Circle, Macon, Ga. 31216, ph. 478-957-5002 rocky1s@yahoo.com



Secretary: Al Steffanini, ph. 478-396-4279,
aldosteffanini@hotmail.com

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

Editor/ Jrs: Tina Perkins, ph. 478-
542-0388, fossilhunterofgeorgia@gmail.com

Education Chair/ Field Trip Helper: George
Ruff, 706-648-6986 gsruffsr@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair: Andrew Warnock, 478-230-0803
aswarnock@gmail.com

Field Trip Helper: Tim Brotzge.
tim.brotzge@gmail.com 770-772-8644

Web Master/ Facebook: Pam Mayer,
pam5mayer@gmail.com

Scarecrow from 2023 Ga. National Fair.



**In this club...we always have
something to crow about so let's get
digging.**



Dues are Due

Another year has gone by in no time.
It's that time of the year to pay dues.

Snail mail prices may need to go up
since people are paying \$5.00 for the
newsletter/ other mailed items to be
mailed and it is costing the club \$8.03
since just for postage.

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.



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

Tina Perkins, editor
106 Brown Dr.
Warner Robins, Ga. 31093