



December Meeting is our Christmas party, see below. There will be no speaker and mineral of the month for December.



Dues are Due

Another year has gone by in no time. It's that time of the year to pay dues. They remain the same 10 dollars for each adult and 2.50 for children under 18 years of age. They are due by November 1st. There is a 3 month grace period to pay your dues. Starting in February if your dues are not current you will not receive the February newsletter.



YOU ARE INVITED TO A CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Annual Christmas dinner is coming up on December 3, 2012. **We meet a half-hour early for the Dinner, which is 7:00pm on Monday.** Please bring a covered dish, something to drink, and a present to swap with, keep cost of presents under \$10.00 and hobby related. So come and enjoy an evening of fellowship.

Just an Important Note

Don't forget we do not have a club meeting in January our next meeting will be February 4, 2013. Also there will not be a January newsletter. I will email everyone if a field trip comes up.

President's Message

The Georgia State Fair in Perry has come and gone for the 2012 season. I would like to thank all those who came out to the fair to work the booth. I had good company for most of the ten days. We met with hundreds of people over those ten days and told them about the club and what it was we did. Quite a few expressed an interest in what we do, including several teachers from around the middle Georgia area. For those who couldn't make it, we had one display case of stones from Georgia, one of fossils, one of what I called an *international* collection of stones and a large display case of stones, jewelry and other items related to the



club. All the displays were made up of parts of various members' collections. I want thank everybody involved for making this another great showing for us.

As the new president of the Middle Georgia Gem and Mineral Society, I would like to try to find some ways to increase the awareness of members of the community. We all need to work on this as a club and strive to increase our membership. I am open to any comments or suggestions as to possible programs that can be implemented. Jay and I are planning to go to a school to do a program on rocks and minerals in Georgia. At least that is what I think Jay is planning; I am there to assist when he goes.

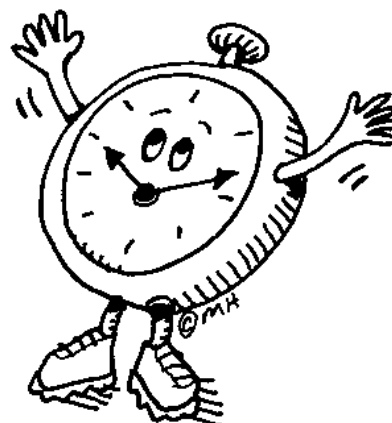
One project I would like to propose is the creation of a new Georgia map of rocks, gems, and fossils and the approximate localities in which they can be found. I want it to be a wall map, poster size with color photos of the items and a small blurb about their properties and their functions. We have small maps that are crude but do not show photos of what they are and do not tell what they are used for. I learned at the fair that most people do not know what the minerals in Georgia are used for. Oh, they know the marble and granite is mined for headstones and tiles but they are ignorant of the other minerals or what they are used for. This is also something that we could possibly sell to teachers and the public to help educate kids on the geography of Georgia. Any and all suggestions would be welcome.

I am looking forward to the coming year and to new growth and look forward to hearing from everybody as to what they believe will help the club grow and prosper. Anyone can feel free to contact me via email at jgsouter@windstream.net or call my cell at 478.454.7273.

I do hope everybody has a great and safe Thanksgiving!!! See you all at the Christmas Party!!!



Ho! Ho! Ho!



November Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM by Jim Souter with 17 members/guests present.

Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. Our club sponsored dig in Cartersville at the Vulcan materials Bartow quarry on November 3 seemed to be successful. 49 Members from various clubs including Knoxville, TN and Jacksonville showed up and took home plenty of the available rocks specimens. We signed up several new members as a result of our display at the Perry fair.

New Business

This month's mineral was lapis lazuli and several members brought in specimens to share. There is the upcoming show at the



Cobb County Civic Center on November 16th thru November 18th.

Mr. Bert Carter was our visiting speaker who is a geologist from Georgia Southwestern. He gave a talk on the Gulf Trough/Suwanne Strait. The talk was quite informative and provided some insights into where they are located and how they were discovered. There were some excellent contour maps of various geological periods in GA and Florida showing the development of the low areas. They also outlined the differences in the fossils found depending on their location in respect to the Trough. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

By: Richard Arnold



Field trips coming up, lets go digging!!!

An Official Field Trip of Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (Host)

Mid-Ga Gem and Mineral Society

9:00 AM until 1:00 PM CDT

Saturday – December, 15th 2012

FEE

WHERE: Wartrace, TN

WHEN: Saturday – December, 15th 2012

DIRECTIONS: Take I24 west if coming from the south. Take exit 97 Beech Grove/Bellbuckle. Take highway 64 to downtown Wartrace. Coming from Nashville take I24 east to exit 97 then highway 64 to Wartrace.

ASSEMBLY TIME: 9:00 AM CDT In the **ONLY** parking lot in downtown Wartrace.

COLLECTING: Horse Mount agate. You will find beautiful agate, some of it carnelian. Hunt slow and look close.

FEE: There is a \$10 per person fee to the owner, and each person must sign a liability waiver (children 6 to 12 years are free).

AGE LIMIT: Everyone is welcome but children must be 6 years or older. They will not be allowed to roam around unattended and must obey all safety requirements and have all safety equipment.

All pets must be under control at all times.

EQUIPMENT: You need to bring a hand tools, small sturdy rakes, small shovels, etc to dig with. Also gloves to protect your hands. Bring a back pack or small buckets for carrying. Boots are recommended.

SEVERAL LODGING SUGGESTIONS: Lodging may be found in nearby Shelbyville or Tullahoma.

ADDED BONUS: You may visit K.W'S Rock museum in Normandy for FREE!! This museum features an outstanding collection of Tennessee Paint Rock Agate personally collected by the owner!!!!

CONTACTS: For further information or alternative directions contact: Barbara Fields, MTGMS President at President@mtgms.org or call my cell phone 615-218-4344
Visit our website www.mtgms.org



Horse Mountain Agate Cabochons



Club Members at dig – Photo by: Richard



Club Members at the dig – Photo by: Richard

Review of our club hosted DMC dig on 11-03-2012 in Cartersville, Ga.

We had 48 people attend the dig with 16 people members of Mid-Ga Gem and Mineral Society. For most distance a couple from Knoxville, Tennessee and someone from the Jacksonville, Florida. With the remaining guess from the Atlanta area clubs. The day started a little cool around 42 degrees. It warmed up into the 60's before the dig was over at 12:00noon. A nice collecting temperature if I say myself. Everyone collected plenty of material. So we will put another club hosted DMC dig in the books, this was our fourth DMC.

By: Jay Batcha

Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society
Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
 Featuring:

- Jewelry
- Gemstones
- Mineral Specimens
- Crystals
- Fossils
- Grab Bags - \$2 each
- Mineral Id classes from 11-3 on Friday and 11-1 on Saturday (register at front desk)
- Lapidary demonstrations Saturday afternoon and Sunday

Show Dates and Time

The show is held the weekend before Thanksgiving each year. Dates for 2012 are November 16, 17 and 18th.



Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

Official Bulletin of the Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society
www.midgagms.org



Friday -10-6 pm

Saturday - 10-6 pm

Sunday -- 10am-5pm

Location

Cobb County Civic Center

548 South Marietta Parkway at Fairground
Street

Marietta, Georgia 30060

Exit 1-75 at exit 263

Georgia Earth and Sky

By: Thomas Thurman

As many of you know I'm actively trying to renew public interest and education over Georgia's paleontology and geologic history. Our fossil record is deep, rich and diverse; but unknown to most Georgians and few teachers. With this in mind, a few years ago I approached researchers at many universities and with their support I assembled a book manuscript over Georgia's fossil record.

Several university researchers participated. In particular, Dr. Burt Carter at Georgia Southwestern advised and assisted *many* times, he even got the visual arts department at Georgia Southwestern involved to create many wonderful illustrations. Dr. David Schwimmer at Columbus State University also advised heavily on this work, and donated a great deal of material. Ashley Quinn, Collections Manager at the Georgia College Natural History Museum and Planetarium (as well as a member of our Society) was also *very* helpful.

In the end, the completed manuscript failed to get published as a book. The economy ate it. (See the Georgia Public Broadcasting Southern Education Desk link.)

<http://www.southerneddesk.org/fusing-art-and-science-through-paleontological-illustration/>

So I opened a web store, Georgia Earth and Sky (Georgiaearthandsky.com) then posted much of the material online as part of an ongoing blog. I invite you to review, comment and share this info. Come back to the blog from time to time as I will be adding material. My intention is to keep an updated record of the science being done.

As it stands now, this site will remain open until the February 1 renewal date. From there we'll see. As a web-store, it isn't self-sustaining, so I may close the store and post the info elsewhere. Dr. Carter has offered to put it up on his website, but I am still open to other suggestions as well. For now, here it is. I hope you find it interesting and informative:

<http://georgiaearthandsky.com/blogs/new>



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Tidbits

Plume or Dendrite?

It is not uncommon to see some agates from West Texas labeled as dendretic, and it is not uncommon to see agate from Montana labeled as plume agate. Is there a fundamental difference between dendrites and plumes?

Plume agate from about 18 miles south of Alpine, Texas has been known since about 1890 having been first recorded by the pioneer geologist Udden. Some of these agates were displayed in the Texas pavilion at the TransMississippi Exposition in St. Louis in 1901. The plumes were characterized by feathery inclusions made up of metallic sulfide minerals, usually marcasite or pyrite. Some other sulfides have been seen to form plumes, including cinnabar, orpiment, realgar and possibly stibnite. In West Texas agates, the agate has formed around the plume.

It is not too uncommon to see an occasional bubble beside one of the tiny sulfide crystals. The West Texas agate is in andesitic rocks of the Oligocene Age. It is known that minerals crystallize out of magma or lava in a given order - Olivine - Biotite - Pyroxene - Amphibole - Biotite, followed by feldspar, quartz, etc. The final products to crystallize are the minerals. These can crystallize in vugs formed by gases in the lava or magma. Thus, the plumes were there first. After the lava flow has been extruded, the highly explosive volcanic eruptions of rhyolite lavas may deposit welded tuffs of ignimbrites over the andesitic rocks. The tuffs are excellent sources for silica. As the tuffs are weathered, silica is leached from them and in turn deposited in the vugs that contain the last stage plumes that crystallized in the vugs formed in the previous eruption.

Thus, in the plume agates, the plume was first and the agate formed around it. Some of the plume forming minerals may be oxidized to an

oxide, such as hematite or limonite - products formed from the weathering of sulfide minerals.

In dendretic agates we have a different story. The agate first forms in a cavity in extrusive rocks or even sedimentary rocks. Oxide minerals such as limonite, pyrolusite, and a host of other manganese and iron minerals form dendrites. The dendrites form when the agate spends some time permeated with solutions (probably water) that are saturated with minerals. The dendrites are laid down in spaces between the bands of agate or along fractures within the agate. There is, then, a fundamental difference between plume and dendrites.

From: The Glacial Drifter 2/92

Rubber Bands: Rubber should not come in contact with silver. NEVER put a rubber band around silver or you will get a permanent stain.

Polish: Try adding a few drops of liquid detergent to the water you use for mixing cerium, tin oxide or chrome oxide. It makes the polishing much easier and faster as the detergent holds the polishing compound to the wheel/buff longer. From Calgary Lapidary *Journal Dec. 2003*
via Rock Collector, Feb., 2007

One Reason for Polishing a Stone All Over - front, back and edges - is that the polish acts as a sealer. It seals and keeps the water in opal; it prevents natural corrosion in rhodinite; it helps stop the absorption of harmful substances such as perspiration and perfume into the stone.
From Rock Chips, Feb. 1998
via Gem Cutters News, Sept, 2007



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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Stamp Program: Ron Davis, ph. 478-788-2616

Club year begins November 1st, a grace period of three months will be given before membership lapses.

Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral
Society
Application for Membership

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____
 Adult(18+) \$10.00 Junior \$2.50 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**



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Save Commemorative Stamps