



**December Dinner
At the Museum of Arts and
Sciences on Monday,
December 07, 2015 at
7:00pm.**

The Christmas Party starts 30 minutes earlier than our normal meeting. The drawing for a free week at Wild Acres or William Holland School of Lapidary Arts will be during the 2015 Christmas Party.

Reminder!!!

No meeting or newsletter for January. Next meeting will be in February 1st, 2016

**You are invited to a
Christmas Dinner**

The Annual Christmas dinner is coming up on December 7, 2015. We meet a

half-hour early for the Dinner, which is 7:00pm on Monday. Please bring a covered dish and a present to swap with, keep cost of presents under \$10.00 and hobby related. So come and enjoy an evening of fellowship.

The rules to enter the drawing for a free week lapidary class at Wild Acres or William Holland School of Lapidary Arts:

1. Must be a member of the club as of February 2015.
2. Not have won this drawing in the last two years.
3. Be 18 years or older.
4. Be at our club Christmas Dinner to enter the drawing.
5. You will give a presentation at one of our monthly meeting on you experience/learnings at the school.

President's Message

Here we are approaching the end of another great year. We have learned about sands, seen pictures and heard about Jay's trips, studied and talked about iron ore, bauxite, barite roses, copper, azurite, and sand. We have seen what Neil learned to make in school and what he makes with copper. We have learned that we can sell 500 grab bags if we put our minds to it. (We also learned that one person CAN make a difference as our own Tina sewed all the grab bags for us.)



We have grown a little this year and I hope we continue to grow. We can always bring a friend or family member who might be interested in what we do. I ask that if you have any ideas or suggestions for programs, digs or events to spread the word of what we do to let me know please. I am readily accessible via email or cell phone;
 jgsouter@windstream.net or
 478.454.7273.

I want to thank everybody for their confidence in me as President for another year. I can only pray that I am more effective this year than in the past. Each year, I learn something new and try to pass it on. I also want to thank Jay and Phil for their support. Susan, of course, does a good job of keeping up with the money and membership. I want to thank her for efforts.

I want everybody to have a happy and blessed Christmas season. We will not see each other after the party until next year.

Your president,
 Jim Souter
 jgsouter@windstream.net
 478.454.7273



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.

Officer Election Results

Please welcome our new Officers:
 President: Jim Souter, Vice-President: Phillip Hargrove, Secretary: Richard Arnold, and Treasurer: Susan Hargrove.

November Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 PM by Jim Souter with 21 members/guests present.

Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. We signed up several new members as a result of our display at the Perry fair. The fair was successful in that we sold all of our grab bags (500).

New Business



This month's mineral was garnet and several members brought in specimens to share. There was group discussion detailing the different varieties of the garnet family. This included being present in just about any color that you desire. The membership nominated and approved the following officers for the upcoming year: Jim Souter as President, Phil Hargrove as Vice President, Richard Arnold as Secretary, Susan Hargrove as Treasurer and Jay Batcha as editor of the newsletter, trip chairman, etc. There is an upcoming dig at Jones Pit on December 5 beginning at 10 am.

Next month's meeting is our annual Christmas Party and all are reminded that it starts at 7:00 pm in lieu of 7:30. Everyone is to provide a present (\$5-10) and bring a covered dish and beverage of your choice.

Our own Neil Cowan was our speaker for this month. He won the scholarship this past year for a week at William Holland. The talk was quite informative and provided some insights into what he learned and showed off some of the projects he had completed. His talk focused mainly on the solder techniques and different implements required to perform the Silversmithing class. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

By: Richard Arnold

No Mineral of the Month, this month due to Christmas Dinner!



Field trips coming up, lets go digging!!!

Mid-Georgia Field Trip
December 5, 2015

10:00 am

Jones Pit

Trip:

To the Jones Pit in Pulaski County, halfway between Unadilla and Hawkinsville. We will be digging on private property so fill in any holes and pickup your trash, so we can come back.

Meet at: First convenience store on the right after crossing bridge on exit #122 (highway 230). Meet at 10:00am on Saturday December 5th.

Fee: Free



Collect: Picture Jasper (looks like Biggs picture jasper from out west) nice stuff, brown agate, goethite / hematite some

geodes and some iridescent. Fossil shell cast with druzy quartz and calcite.

Bring: Safety glasses and Gloves are a must bring! Hammers, chisels, scratching tools, digging tools pry bars, buckets, paper to wrap Specimens, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, food and drinks,

Directions: Head south on I-75 from Macon to exit #122, highway 230 (the Unadilla exit). Turn left on highway 230 (towards Unadilla) go about 1/4 mile and the convenience store we are meeting at is on the right. It is 34 miles from the I-475/I-75 merge on the southside of Macon.

If Late: If you miss us at the convenience store, we will be digging at a house on the left side of highway 230 just after you cross into Pulaski County heading towards Hawkinsville. The house has a lot of boulders lining the driveway. Jay's cell # 478-957-5002



Samples of Georgia Queen Picture Jasper

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

An Official Field Trip of The Rome
 Georgia Mineral Society (Rome,
 GA)(HOST)
 An Official Field Trip of the Mid-Ga Gem
 and Mineral Society

**Pennsylvanian Age Plant
 Fossils
 Durham Mines
 Rockcastle Formation
 Walker County, Georgia
 December 5, 2015
 9:00 AM EST - 3:00 PM EST**



The Durham Mines are Georgia's best locality for beautifully preserved Paleozoic plant fossils. Commonly referred to as 'Fern Fossils', but more accurately described as "Coal Fossils", the site offers a wide variety of species: Lycopods such as *Lepidodendron*; giant horsetails such as *Calamites* (and its leaves known as *Annularia*); and seed ferns such as *Pecopteris* and *Alethopteris*. You can occasionally find fossilized seeds. For identification purposes, we will provide a sheet to get you started, but any good fossil book will be useful as well when you get home.

The fossils are found by splitting the abundant shale at the site. Most will yield twigs and bark, but with persistence you will find good leaves.

Date: December 5, 2015

Time: 9:00 AM EST – 3:00 PM EST

Meet: At the site, on Durham Rd. in Walker Co., Ga. This is in the NW corner of the state of Georgia.

430 Durham Rd., Rising Fawn, GA
30738

Directions: From Lafayette, Ga. follow GA Hwy. 136 West for 20 miles, to GA. Hwy 157. Turn right, going North on GA Hwy. 157 for 6.0 miles. Durham Rd. will be on the left. Turn left on Durham Rd. The mines and the parking area are .50 (1/2) mile on the right. Drive time from the intersection of US27 and GA 136 West in Lafayette, is approximately 30 minutes.

Tools: Bring digging tools. A flat chisel and hammer are essential. A small cart or hand truck may be useful for hauling larger pieces of take home material.

Other: Also, bring lunch and fluids. This is a good site for children. Any pets **MUST** be on a leash at all times. This is not a fee site. There is no required fee. However, the Rome Ga. Mineral Society will be collecting small donations for the owner of the site; Lula Land Trust.

This field trip will be postponed if there are any winter weather advisories; watches, or warnings, issued for Walker Co., GA, 24 hours in advance of the trip. Make up date would be the following Saturday.

Contact: Jeff Deere Rome Ga. Mineral Society Field Chair - H (770) 386-5447, C (770) 655-2298 wjdeere@comcast.net or jeff.deere@brownind.com



Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

December 4, 5 & 6, 2015

Please note show date and location changed this year due to renovation of Civic Center.

Gem Mineral and Jewelry Show
Cobb County Gem
and Mineral Society

Friday 10 to 6, Saturday 10 to 6, Sunday
10 to 5

Show location this year only. Jim R. Miller



Park, 2245 Callaway Rd.,
 SW, Marietta, GA 30008-4440

Hourly door prizes. Special drawing for a junior and their school.
 Grab bags on sale for the kids. 30 + dealers.

Educational exhibit cases displayed by club members

Show Contact: Mary Ingram, Show Chairman,
 770-427-1108
 E-mail Contact: mandmingram@gmail.com

Dec 4 - 6, 2015

**The 45th Annual Montgomery Gem,
 Mineral & Jewelry Show
 Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society**

Garrett Coliseum
 1555 Federal Drive
 Montgomery, Alabama

Show Times:

Friday, December 4: 9 AM - 6 PM
 Saturday, December 5: 10 AM - 6 PM
 Sunday, December 6: 11 AM - 5 PM

Admission:
 \$2/Adults or \$3 for weekend pass
 Free/18 & Under with student ID and 1 paid adult ticket.
 Free Parking.
 Free door prize ticket with each paid adult admission.

Dealers will have beads, crystals, geodes, rough, cabochons, gem stones, finished jewelry, tools, supplies and mineral & fossil specimens. Club members will display their

individual collections and will give demonstrations on gem and rock cutting, faceting, cabochon making, and knapping. \$1 Wheel of Fortune.

Web Site:
<http://www.montgomerygemandmineralsociety.com/#!annual-gem-show>

NOTE: The show starts on Friday and is always held the first full weekend (Saturday & Sunday) in December. The 2018 show would start on Nov 30th.

December 12-13, 2015

2nd weekend each December

Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, Fossil Show & Sale

Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society
 Sat: 9AM to 6PM; Sun: 10AM to 5PM

Williamson County AgExpoPark,
 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN 37064
 Exit I-65 at exit #61 (20 miles south of Nashville) and turn east onto Peytonsville Road.

Drive 1/4 mile and turn left onto Long Lane and then right into AgExpoPark's parking lot. Classes, Speakers, Exhibits, Demonstrations, Silent Auction, Hourly Door Prizes, Grand Prize, and OVER 30 DEALERS.

Beads, crystals, geodes, lapidary & faceting rough, slabs, cabochons, gem stones, finished jewelry, native american jewelry, tools, supplies, mineral & fossil specimens, and stone carvings.

Admission \$4 (2-Day Pass \$6.00), students 18 and under \$1, children under 12 free with adult.



For additional information and maps visit www.MTGMS.org/show.htm.
 Show contacts: John Stanley, Show Chair (615-763-5704, Show@MTGMS.org) or Steve Henegar, Dealer Chair, (Show@MTGMS.org)
 Email contact: show@MTGMS.org



For Sale:

Ron Davis is selling a Facet Machine.
 8 inch Facet Machine, made by: Lee Lapidaries of Cleveland, Ohio.
 Included disc are:
 1 – 1200 grit 8 inch Crystalite
 1 - 260 grit 8 inch Crystalite
 2 – 8 inch Acrylic laps
 1 – 8 inch Masterlap
 1 – 6 inch polishing lap Reduced to \$150.00
 Call Ron Davis for more information or if interested at: Home: 478-788-2616 or Cell: 478-737-9760

Tidbits

POT SANDING BRUSH

Sometimes you have a little discoloration or debris to clean from the bottom of a pocket, from an area of coarse textured surface, or from a small space between two soldered objects. Finding something to get into those close areas is always an effort in creativity.

One tool I have for these special occasions is a glass fiber spot sanding brush. It's great for cleaning a small area and doesn't leave deep scratches, only a faint satin finish.

There are probably several manufacturers of these pens, but one is the PrepPen Adjustable Sanding Pen selling for US\$ 11.50 from Amazon. You can see it at <http://www.amazon.com/Prep-Pen-PrepPen-Adjustable-Sanding/.../>

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at facebook.com/BenchTips/ or search for "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon



LOOSE HAMMER HEADS

Flying off the handle is never good, particularly if it's a hammer head. The traditional way to tighten a loose hammer head is a bit of work with wedges, but if the head is basically secure, there's a fast and easy way to tighten a loose head for about 50 cents - superglue.

Simply put a couple drops in from the handle side, let it set up, and then a few drops from the top side. Be sure to get the thin super glue, not



gel. It penetrates better. Packages of two superglues are usually available at the 99 cent store.

Note that this is only a safe practice if the hammer head is just a little loose but is basically secured onto the handle. Gluing is not a fix for a hammer head that has come off the handle or is at risk of coming off.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or search for "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon



ROCKHOUNDS ARE FUNNY

The price of a steak may dismay them, and they may often pass it by, then turn around and spend more per pound on a rock! A Rockhound can't eat the rock, but will proudly display it, dust it, brag about it and then saw it up and polish it to perfection. Rockhounds have been known to move dirty dishes out of the sink so they can wash their rocks. They seem to find Rockhounding therapeutic. If they feel droopy or are moping

around their house, if you ask them, they'll go rock picking with you because no matter what is ailing them, all the ailments are miraculously gone and they feel much better when they're out amongst the rocks! Rockhounds will walk for miles in search of a good specimen, climb mountains and go down into gullies. They get hot, tired and bug-bitten but still continue on for that one special rock. Sometimes they will find their best specimen right next to the tire of their car at the end of the day. Rockhounds are geologist, mineralogist and paleontologist wannabe's. They are interested in everything and are interesting themselves. They are curious, humorous, talented, skillful and all around wonderful people, who wear old shoes, fantastic hats, worn out jeans, and a big smile!
Reprinted from the February 2013 Rocky Mountain Federation News Via the Nov. 2005 Rockhound Record



Jim at our booth at the Perry Fair



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:

President / Web Master: Jim Souter,
 ph. 478-454-7273, jgsouter@windstream.net

Vice President: Phillip Hargrove, 478-862-5327
 Cell 478-550-8199 susanbphilh@pstel.net

Secretary / Photographer, Richard Arnold,
 ph. 678-682-9860 rarnold216@charter.net

Treasurer: Susan Hargrove, 86 Clear Branch Rd,
 Butler Ga. 31006, ph. 478-862-5327,
susanbphilh@pstel.net

Editor / Programs: Jay Batcha,
 4220 Cyndy Jo Circle, Macon, Ga. 31216,
 ph. 478-784-1965, Cell 478-957-5002
rocky1s@cox.net

Education Chairperson: Tuell Walters,
 ph. 478-922-7200
supernova1346@gmail.com

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**



Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

Jay Batcha, Editor
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Save Commemorative Stamps