



March Meeting  
At the Museum of Arts and  
Sciences on Monday,  
March 07, 2016 at 7:30pm.

Tuell Walters will be talking about the Jones Pit and its geological formation along with the beautiful gemstone stones found there.

### President's Message

We are off to a good start this year. We want to thank Jay for his presentation on glaciers last month.

We need to start thinking about putting together the grab bags for this next year. We will, from time to time, be asking for people to help one of two ways, either with the collection of materials for the grab bags or the assembly of the bags through stuffing parties at Jay's house, or both. Once again, we want to thank Tina for all her work and efforts in the sewing of the grab bags.

We need lots of small specimens (of the same type) to go into the bags so if you

have at least a hundred specimens of something that you can let go of, let Jay Batcha know. We try to do it in lots of 100 pieces so it will be easier for Jay's labels.

When we are creating our collections, we want to make notes and/or labels for the specimens we collect. We want to make a note of all we know of the specimen, where it comes from, where it was found, what type it is, what date it was collected, etc.... Make a note of the following if possible;

- 1) Name of specimen
- 2) Location of find
- 3) Date of find
- 4) Chemical properties that are known
- 5) Classification (carbonate, sulfate, quartz, etc)
- 6) Type (conglomerate, sedimentary, metamorphic, psudomorph, etc.)

Jay has more information as to what is important to remember and make notes on.

Remember to keep your fragile specimens protected in newspaper and/or bubble wrap to keep them from being damaged.

I hope to see everybody again next month and please remember to bring a friend with you. By sharing our knowledge can we grow as a club.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for the improvement of the club, please email or call.

Your president,  
Jim Souter  
jgsouter@windstream.net  
478.454.7273



## February Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Jim Souter with 14 members/guests present in the planetarium.

### Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. The federation dues and insurance were paid for the upcoming year.

### New Business

This month's mineral was amethyst and several members brought in specimens to share.

Our own Mr. Jay Batcha, longtime member was our speaker for the evening. He gave a talk/slide show presentation on his most recent trip to Alaska with emphasis on glaciers. His talk covered everything that you ever wanted to know about glaciers. His talk was quite informative and provided some insights into some of how the many glaciers there were formed and where they are located. It also included how the glaciers are made consisting of its many parts. The glaciers are broken down into two main types: Alpine and Continental. Alpine are the type of the great majority of all glaciers with only really 2 Continental present currently on the earth. The continental pushes along removes everything in its path where the alpine ones push along various items which they collect along their way. He brought in a multitude of samples that he collected throughout the trip. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

## Upcoming Digs

February 27, 2016 an area adjacent to Girard, Ga. for various agates.

March 12, 2016 Clarkesville, Ga for Kyanite, mica and sometimes graphite specimens are discovered.

By: *Richard Arnold*



Aquamarine 4.63 inches 1168 grams  
Natural Gem Crystal Cluster, Pakistan

## Mineral of the Month

# Aquamarine

### Birthstone of March.

Member of the *beryl* family.

A mineral composed of beryllium aluminum cyclosilicate with the chemical formula  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{Si O}_3)_6$ .

Hardness is 7.5-8 Mohs.

Most are faceted but when cut as a cabochon, they may display a cat's eye effect



known as *asterism*.

The hexagonal crystals may be very small or range up to many meters in size.

Aquamarine (from Latin: *aqua marina* or “water of the sea”) is a blue or cyan variety of beryl. It occurs in most localities which yield ordinary beryl.

The blue color of aquamarine is attributed to  $Fe^{2+}$ . The  $Fe^{3+}$  produces a golden yellow color. If both  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  is found, you get a darker blue which is known as maxxie. The color of maxxie can be reduced by light or heat thus causing a change in the charge changes of  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$ , it can be returned by irradiating the stone with high-energy particles, gamma rays, neutrons or even x-rays

It has been said that the mineral beryl gives the wearer protection against foes in battle or litigation. It makes the wearer unconquerable and amiable, and also quickens the intellect.

Since early times, aquamarine has been believed to endow the wearer with foresight, courage, and happiness. It is said to increase intelligence and make one youthful. As a healing stone, it is said to be effective as a treatment for anxiety and in the Middle Ages it was thought that aquamarine would reduce the effect of poisons.

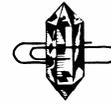
A legend says that sailors wore aquamarine gemstones to keep them safe and prevent seasickness.



Dom Pedro Aquamarine, largest cut aquamarine in the world. 35 cm tall x 10 cm wide at base, weighing 10,363 carats (13.75” tall x 4” wide at base and 4.6 pounds). The Dom Pedro started off as a mass that was 2/3 meters (2 feet) long and weighed close to 60 pounds. It was cut in Idar-Oberstein, Germany by Bernd Musteiner. He spent four months studying the crystal and six months cutting, faceting, and polishing. It is housed in the Smithsonian in Washington, DC today.



The original Dom Pedro Aquamarine uncut.



**Field trips coming up, lets go digging!!!**

## DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

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

**Saturday, March 12, 2016**  
**Clarkesville, GA**  
**10:00 AM**

**FEE: \$10 per person**

**TRIP:** This location was a popular collecting location many years ago but had not been visited for a long time. Jim Haege was instrumental in getting the site reopened a few years ago and since then it has been a fun and productive site.

**COLLECTING:** Kyanite blades and cobbles, small mica books, and graphite specimens (rare). The kyanite ranges from gray to pale blue and may contain graphite. Some of the blades can be polished and, because of the graphite, they have

a curious depth and shimmer when they are polished.

**FEE: \$10 per person**

**BRING:** Material is plentiful and weathering out onto the surface. Bigger blades and cobbles are found by digging. Scratching tools and baggies are all you need for surface collecting, shovel and pick for digging. **All holes must be refilled.** This site can be muddy at times, so a change of clothes would be good too.

**FACILITIES:** There are no facilities at the site, but GMS members will have free water and snacks available for everyone.

**NOTE :** This is our turn to host the DMC trip! Please volunteer for a few minutes in the GMS tent to help hand out water and snacks.

**CHILDREN:** This field trip is suitable for children but they must be supervised at all times.

**PETS:** Because this is a working farm, pets are not allowed.

**SAFETY:** There are electrified fences on the farm so **do not touch any fences.** Field trip leads will open and close gates. This is a working farm and there may be animals present – **do not** approach any of the animals. **Do not** enter pastures where animals are present.

### **DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:**

We will be meeting at 10:00 am Eastern time



Ingles Market (the only Ingles in Clarkesville)  
199 East Louise Street (US Old/Historical 441)  
Clarkesville, GA 30523

Coordinates: 34.603124,-83.517801

- 1) From Atlanta, take I-985 North towards Gainesville
- 2) I-985 will transition to GA 365/US 23
- 3) Continue on GA 365/US 23 to GA 197
- 4) Take GA 197 north to Clarkesville (about 3.5 miles)
- 5) Ingles is on the right, we will meet in the parking lot close to the highway.

CONTACT: Charles Carter, GMS Field Trip Chair  
Home: 770-998-7949 Cell: 770-891-5947  
[fieldtrips@gamineral.org](mailto:fieldtrips@gamineral.org)

**An Official Field Trip of the Athens Rock & Gem Club (HOST)**  
**An Official Field Trip of the Mid-Ga Gem and Mineral Society**

**Saturday, February 27, 2016**  
**Stoney Bluff, Girard, GA**  
**9:00 AM**

**TRIP:** Stoney Bluff is located about 30 miles south of Augusta, Ga and just east of the small town of Girard. We will assemble in Girard at 9 am in the vacant lot just south of the Post Office (do not park in the Post Office parking lot). The collecting site is only a few miles away at the end of Stoney Bluff Rd.

**COLLECTING:** "Savannah River Agate"

**BRING:** Colorful, agatized material can be found on the surface at the site, but many

people usually bring light digging tools and small pry bars to free larger boulders from the sandy soil. Leather gloves are recommended. Bring plenty of water and dress for the weather.

#### **DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:**

##### **Directions from I-20 in Augusta, GA.**

From I-20 in Augusta get onto I-520 (Bobby Jones Expressway) and head toward the south end of the expressway. When you reach Exit 9 (Mike Padgett Hwy), exit and head south (most likely Hwy 56 at that point) approx. 15 mi. to McBean, GA. Just beyond McBean turn left onto Hwy 23 and follow it SE about 14 mi. to Girard. Ga.

##### **Directions from I-16 just west of Savannah, GA**

Exit I-16 at US301/US25 (Exit #116) and head north approx. 10 mi to Statesboro, GA Continue north on US 301 from Statesboro approx 20 mi to Sylvania, Ga. Continue north on US301 from Sylvania about 5 miles to junction with Hwy 24. Turn left onto Hwy 24 and drive 14 mi to Sardis, GA. In Sardis pick up Hwy 23 and drive 6 miles to Girard, GA.

**CONTACT:** Trip chairman: Jim Maudsley  
706-353-1792 or [jamesm24@charter.net](mailto:jamesm24@charter.net)



Savannah River Agate, Girard, Georgia



## Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

**11-13—AUGUSTA, GEORGIA:** Annual show; **Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society and Augusta Gem and Mineral Society**, Julian Smith Casino; 2200 Broad St. ; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5; \$3 Admission, Children under 12 free; 28th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show - Vendors that offer a wide variety of jewelry, rare fossils and mineral specimens, gems of all colors shapes & sizes, lapidary and much more. Club Member Show Cases, Lapidary Demonstrations, Educational Resources, Membership booth where you can talk about becoming a club member, Grab Bags, Treasure Dig, Geode Cutting and Mineral Panning. Hourly Door Prizes and a Grand Prize that will be awarded at the end of the Show on Sunday. ; contact Chris Glass, GA, 706-284-9239; Web site: [www.agams.club](http://www.agams.club) and [www.aikengmfs.org](http://www.aikengmfs.org)

**18-19—JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA:** Annual show; **Intergalactic Bead Show**, UNF University Center; 12000 Alumni Drive; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5; Adults \$4-\$5, Children free; Do you love great quality and prices? Then shop The Intergalactic Bead Show! Our shows provide attendees with the world's finest and rarest beads, precious stones, gems, freshwater pearls and an exquisite collection of finished jewelry. Shop quality. ; contact Shawwna Whitson, (888)-729-6904; Web site: <http://beadshows.com>

**18-20—ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual show; **M.A.G.M.A.**, Camp Stephens; Camp Stephens , 28806; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Numerous indoor vendors with a wide selection of gems, minerals and fossils from North Carolina and around the world. The best show in North Carolina! There are also numerous vendors set up outdoors as well, weather permitting. See you there!; contact Richard Jacquot, PO

Box 542, Leicester, NC 28748, (828)-779-4501; e-mail: rick@wncrocks.com; Web site: [www.americanrockhound.com](http://www.americanrockhound.com)

**18-20—ROME, GEORGIA:** Annual show; **Rome Georgia Mineral Society**, The Forum; 301 Tribune St, 311 E 4th St; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Free Admission; Minerals, gems, fossils, meteorites, jewelry, and Crystals for sale. Lapidary rough. Free mineral and fossil ID, door prizes, and exhibits! Free registration for grand prize – Celestine geode from Madagascar! ; contact Jose Santamaria, 311 E 4th St, Rome, GA 30161, (678)-488-9560; e-mail: rogams.show@gmail.com; Web site: <http://rogams.wordpress.com/gem-and-mineral-show/>

**19-20—DOTHAN, ALABAMA:** Annual show; **Dothan Gem and Mineral Club**, Houston County Farm Center; 1701 East Cottonwood Road; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission ; Minerals, gems, fossils, lapidary rough, beads, and handcrafted items such as jewelry and knapped knives. Door prizes, silent auction, kid grab bags. ; contact Jeff DeRoche, 121 W. Crawford St., Dothan, AL 36301, (334)-673-3554; e-mail: arlambert@comcast.net; Web site: [www.wiregrassrockhounds.com](http://www.wiregrassrockhounds.com)

## Tidbits

Chalk in a Box:

If you have finished jewelry that is not being used, to keep the gold or silver from tarnishing, add a piece of blackboard chalk to the box. This absorbs the moisture, which is one cause of tarnishing. Make sure that the jewelry is absolutely dry and that the box is sealed tightly.

*Source of the above articles: Pineywoods Rooter - March 2013*



**Mid-Georgia Gem Clips**  
**Official Bulletin of Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society**  
**Macon, Georgia**

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

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

**Mid-Georgia Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Application for Membership**

**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.

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.

**Club Officers:**

**President / Web Master:** Jim Souter,  
 ph. 478-454-7273, [jgsouter@windstream.net](mailto:jgsouter@windstream.net)

**Vice President:** Phillip Hargrove, 478-862-5327  
 Cell 478-550-8199 [susanbphilh@pstel.net](mailto:susanbphilh@pstel.net)

**Secretary / Photographer,** Richard Arnold,  
 ph. 678-682-9860 [rarnold216@charter.net](mailto:rarnold216@charter.net)

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



## **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  
4220 Cyndy Jo Circle  
Macon, Ga. 31216

Save Commemorative Stamps