



October Meeting
At the Museum of Arts and
Sciences on Tuesday,
October 07, 2013 at 7:30pm.

Speaker for the October meeting will be Scott Harris. He will be speaking on "The Record of Recent Asteroid Impacts in South America".

President's Message

Well, it's that time again. We are starting back up after a summer break. We are fortunate that this summer hasn't been as hot as it has been in the past. As we are starting back up, it is also time again for the Perry fair. At the fair, we sell the grab bags, demonstrate to the people what our hobby is and tell them what it is that we do. I invite everybody to come out and support the club through either demonstration, or just being there to answer questions that people may have as to what we are and what we do. Last year, we had a good turnout and sold all the grab bags we had. We have started replenishing the bags and will be working on more of them at Jay's house after the dig at Jones Pit Mine on September 21 for all that are interested.

For those who do not know, Gayla has moved to North Carolina and is no longer with our club as an active member. I hope you will join me in wishing her the best as she finds a club up there to join. She will be missed here.

We also welcome two new members, Ben Williams and his daughter. I ask that you make them feel welcome.

We want to keep those who are ill and/or injured in our thoughts and prayers so they may have a speedy recovery. We did miss some at the last meeting and have since found out they are in good health. Our sympathies to Frank and Sharon Milner in the lost of his mother.

I hope everybody remembers that in December to bring your favorite covered dish to the club party.

We have talked about changing the date of the drawing for the scholarship from the June picnic to the Christmas party in December. We need some firmer rules for this. The participants should be actively involved with the club, i.e. attending meetings, digs, or other functions unless restricted by your job. We do have people who cannot attend the meetings due to work and/or health issues but DO contribute to the club by doing things like sewing grab bags, stuffing grab bags, working on the news letter each month. Applicants also understand that the drawing is for a class at either *William Holland School of Lapidary Arts* or *Wildacres* and after returning, they are to give a talk on what it is they learned. We need everybody's support on this. Attendance for the drawing is not mandatory, as we have some members who do work regular jobs but do other work for the club on their own time. But we do ask that the candidates be active members, not just absentia members who just pay dues each year. The names should be submitted in writing by the time of the December meeting. We need people there next month so we can vote on this matter. If you have any other ideas or suggestions as to how



this could be handled, please feel free to bring up the suggestion to us at the meeting. Current stipulations of eligibility will stand as far as dues being paid in full by the first meeting in February and having to wait a year to re-enter if you have already won the scholarship before resubmitting your name. Once again, I ask that you attend the October meeting so we can vote on this matter.

By: Jim Souter

September Meeting Minutes

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

Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. All members interested in the next years Lapidary scholarship are encouraged to attend the next meeting, as a proposal to change the drawing time of year was presented and will be voted upon. The nominating committee for the upcoming year will be appointed during the October meeting also.

New Business

Frank Milner's mother passed away. Our own club sponsored dig is coming up on September 21st at Jones Pit. We will be gathering at the Chevron convenience store on highway 230 exit 122 on I-75 east side at 9:30. We will be digging on private property so we must fill in any holes that we dig. Setup day for the fair exhibit is on Saturday September 14th starting at 10am, volunteers would be gladly appreciated. Also a grab bag stuffing party date at Jay Batcha's will be determined. The mineral of the month is Graphite. The members presented some nice specimens . Kim Cochran was our visiting speaker. He gave a talk on the development of the South American gemstone industry. It told a story of the various European countries primarily moving in and starting to mine the various

gems and minerals. The talk was quite informative and provided some interesting insights into how the gems and mineral interest developed starting in the 18th century on until present day. An interested side note was that the pope declared the capybara to be a fish for the Catholic priests as alternate Friday menu item. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk. A great thanks once again goes out to Mr. Cochran.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

By: Richard Arnold

Officer Election Time is here Again!

It is time to start thinking who will be next years Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer). We will setup the nominating committee at the October meeting. Please think about becoming one of the Officers it would be nice to have a new face and to give the old officers a break. This is the big part of being a member of our club.

More Fair News

Looking forward to the Fair --- October 3 – 13, 2013.

The attendance at the Georgia National Fair is expected to exceed 400,000 again this year. What a great opportunity the Club has by being able to set up a display and make contact with a great many people! We appreciate the participation of members to set-up, docent and demonstrate. As the docent schedule stands right now, every day of the fair we will have someone there for a major portion of the day. Not to mention that Jim Souter will be there every day, all day! I have submitted the names to



the fair personnel for tickets and parking passes. Please give them at least until September 25th to get your tickets to you. Opening day, October 3rd, the Fair opens at 3:00 PM. Every other day it's 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Check out their website at: GeorgiaNationalFair.com.

We'll have member applications on site, great specimens on display and some lapidary equipment. Remember that you are welcome to bring specimens you have collected or bought, or lapidary related items you have made as "show & tell" while you docent.

Enjoy the Fair!

Contact Susan at susanbphilh@pstel.net or call 478-837-5327.

Thanks and see you at the Fair!



Goethite - Cockeysville, Baltimore Co. Maryland

Mineral of the Month

Goethite

Goethite is a very common mineral, and is a frequent matrix material for other more aesthetic minerals. It is usually an ugly dark mineral, though specimens from a handful of locations (especially Colorado) are remarkable for their delicate and beautiful crystal growths or oddly formed botryoidal and stalactitic velvety growths. Goethite is also frequent as black crystal sprays that form within geodes on drusy Quartz. It commonly forms a pseudomorph after other minerals, especially Marcasite, Pyrite, Siderite, and Gypsum. Goethite is named after Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), the famed German poet, philosopher, biologist, and mineral enthusiast.

Goethite is found throughout the world, though collection-worthy specimens are less common. Branching [stalactites](#) and [botryoidal](#) masses, often associated with bright contrasting [Vanadinite](#), come from Four Man Mine, Taouz, Morocco. Recent finds of branching Goethite [pseudomorphs](#) after [Marcasite](#) are exceptional at the Farfara Oasis, in the White Desert of Egypt. Rainbow-like [iridescent](#) Goethite coating [sandstone](#) was found in the Munday's Hill Quarry, Leighton Buzzard, England; and highly [iridescent](#) growths come from Tharsis, Alosno, Spain. Sharp [bladed](#) crystals come from Chaillac, Indre, France.

Fascinating, elongated [pseudomorphs](#) of [Goethite](#) after [Gypsum](#) were found in Santa Eulalia, Chihuahua, Mexico; and rounded Goethite balls have come from Wawa, Ontario, Canada.

In the U.S., exceptionally pretty [acicular](#) Goethite crystals with a sharp luster are found at the Crystal Peak and Lake George areas, Park and Teller Cos., Colorado. Perfectly crystallized Goethite pseudomorphs after [Pyrite](#) come from Pelican Point, Utah Co., Utah; and attractive [botryoidal](#) forms were found in the famous Copper Queen Mine, Bisbee, Cochise Co., Arizona. Large deposits of Goethite can be found in Michigan in the Menominee iron



range, Iron Co.; and in the Marquette iron range, Marquette Co. A highly [iridescent](#) Goethite is well-known from Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co., Georgia. Large [botryoidal](#) plates and clusters can be found in Oreland, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania.

- See more at:

<http://www.minerals.net/mineral/goethite.aspx#sthash.VXpJqF2b.dpuf>

Field trips coming up, lets go digging!!!



Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"

8 am to 6 pm, Friday, October 4, 2013

8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, October 5, 2013

8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, October 6, 2013

"You are invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!"

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during April 2013. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All participants must stop at the welcome

table in the Hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks: Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events.

Contact Information:

Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) -
 706.359.3862 (his business) or
 706.401.3173 (his cell)

THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL SFMS CLUBS and the GENERAL PUBLIC!

Mark your calendar and tell all your members about these two great events!

Please follow this link for a map to Graves Mountain: ([CLICK HERE](#))

DIRECTIONS: From Atlanta's I-285, take I-20 east to the exit for Washington, GA SR 78 (SR 10, SR 17) and turn left. Travel north to Washington, turn right onto SR 378 and drive 11 miles to the Graves Mountain area. The entrance to Graves Mountain is on your right



about 8/10 mile past the Lincoln county line sign. The entrance is a paved road that goes through a gate and up a hill. Please park along the access road and then proceed to the "Welcome Tent" at the end of the pavement to obtain a liability release form and to make a donation for the portable bathrooms, etc.

Graves Mountain code of conduct!

- Park your vehicle in the designated area(at the end of the paved access road but not much beyond the woods to the right of this road).
- **CHILDREN WILL BE ALLOWED DURING THE "Rock Swap and Digs" IF EACH CHILD IS UNDER STRICT ADULT SUPERVISION!**
- ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.
- The caretaker, Junior Norman, has final and absolute say as to where you may safely work.
- Ladders or power tools of any kind will not be allowed. **(HAND TOOLS ONLY!)**
- **STAY AWAY FROM ALL HIGH WALLS!!**
- **NO REPELLING OFF OF ANYTHING!**
- **NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE ON**

**ANY PART OF GRAVES MOUNTAIN BEYOND THE PARKING AREA!
(The caretaker must accompany anyone driving beyond the parking area!)**

- **EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN BY DUSK. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)**

Jim Flora
SFMS Webmaster and Field Trip Chair

Internet website: <http://amfed.org/sfms>
E-Mail: jimflora@windstream.net



Rutile from Graves Mountain, Georgia



**DMC Program of the SFMS Field
Trip Committee**

**Middle Tennessee Rockhounds,
Nashville, TN (Host)**

An Official Field Trip of the Mid-Ga
Gem and Mineral Society

Saturday October 5, 2013

10AM – 2PM CST

**Coon Creek Science Center
McNairy County, Tennessee**

FEE \$15 – Limited to 35 participants

Description: Within the grounds of Coon Creek Science Center, located in rural McNairy County, Tennessee, lies one of the most important fossil sites in North America. Acquired by the Memphis Museum System in 1988, this property contains a treasure lode of superbly preserved Upper Cretaceous marine shells and vertebrate remains left there 70 million years ago when the water of the Gulf of Mexico receded. Coon Creek fossils are mostly marine invertebrates (clams, snails, oysters, shrimp etc.) that are about 75 million years old. They are found in an unconsolidated clay/sand matrix. Coon Creek fossils are very unique because of the state of their preservation. They are original material – the shells have not turned to stone. They are also very abundant with a huge variety of species. Collecting will take place in a “quarry” area. You will be “carving” fossils out of the Coon Creek formation by looking through chunks of the formation that have been loosened from the quarry. Participants will use a curved linoleum knife for collecting. Museum instructors will demonstrate how to collect your fossils and how to clean them. Everyone will find fossils! Some of

the fossils are very fragile. The program includes time for surface collecting in Coon Creek for fossils that have been washed into the stream bed gravel. This will be guided by the museum staff. You keep what you find with a few exceptions. If you find a specimen that would be beneficial for the Museum’s collection or research, the Museum reserves the right to keep that fossil.

See also:

http://www.memphismuseums.org/coon_creek-overview/

Program – Field Paleontology (4 Hours): Introduction – 30 minutes; Collecting Session (quarry and surface) – 2 Hour; Lunch – 30 minutes; Clean and Identify Fossils - 45 minutes

Registration Procedure: After you supply required information by email to Middle Tennessee Rockhounds (MTR), MTR will assign you a registration number by return email – bring registration number the day of the fieldtrip. [Instructions for mailing the \$15 participant fee will be included with registration number.] Once registration reaches 35, registration is closed. To register, email MiddleTnRockhounds@gmail.com with: Name(s; Last, First), Address/ City/State, Phone (include cell for day of trip), club, age of children under 18. Registration request are limited to family members, couples, and significant others; non-related individuals must email separate registration request.

The Middle Tennessee club will take backup reservations in case there are cancellations.

Children: Yes (10 years old and up; must be accompanied by a parent or a guardian)

Pets: No



Rain or Shine: This fieldtrip is rain or shine. The Science Center will cancel only if weather conditions are threatening.

Bring: Boots or shoes that can get wet/dirty, poncho, towel, change of clothes & shoes (for return home), lunch (there is no food nearby & no vending machines at the center), water, bucket, small digging tool (optional; linoleum knives will be furnished), roll of aluminum foil (to protect your finds), and bug spray.

Address: 2985 Hardin Graveyard Road, Adamsville, TN (approximately 2.5 hours from Nashville; approximately 2 hours from Memphis)

Directions: Click "Directions" on http://www.memphismuseums.org/coon_creek-map/, enter your city (in Box A), click on GET DIRECTIONS.

Lodging & Camping: Rooms are available in nearby Henderson and Savannah, Tennessee. Campsites are available at Chickasaw State Park (<http://www.tn.gov/environment/parks/Chickasaw/>) and Mousetail Landing State Park (<http://www.tn.gov/environment/parks/MousetailLanding/>)

Contact: Wayne Ramsey, Fieldtrip Chair MTR; 615-859-7472; WRamsey205@comcast.net or John Stanley, President, MTR; 615-885-5704; jstanley@picagroup.com (no calls after 10pm CST; to register for fieldtrip email MiddleTnRockhounds@gmail.com)

828-369-5271

DIRECTIONS:

From Atlanta, GA

-Take I-85N/GA-403N
 -Keep left to take GA-365 via EXIT 113 toward Gainesville for 52.7 miles

-Merge onto US-23N/US-441N for 49.9 miles
 -Turn Right off of US-23N/US into Cowee Mtn. Ruby Mine

For information contact: Arlon Eldridge

828-369-5271 cowee@yahoo.com



Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

Oct 05-06, 2013

23rd Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show at Lexington, KY near airport
 Sponsored by Rockhounds of Central Kentucky (ROCK)
 Sat: 10 AM - 6 PM;
 Sun: 12 PM - 5 PM

Kentucky National Guard Armory
 4301 Airport Road, Lexington, KY 40510

Show includes minerals, jewelry, equipment dealers, club sales, exhibits, KY Agate, fluorescent displays, hourly prizes, and Grand Prize drawing. Admission: \$2 adults, \$1 children, \$5 max family; Scouts in uniform free.

Show contact: Allen Ferrell, 859-277-2469 or kyrock2010kentucky@yahoo.com.
 Club website: www.lexingtonrockclub.com

October 11-13, 2013 - 43rd Annual New Orleans Gem & Mineral Show Held at the Best Western Plus



Landmark Hotel,
2601 Severn Avenue,
Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 888-9500

Show hours 10am-6pm daily except
Sunday, 10am-4pm. Free Parking.
Adults \$5, 3-day pass \$8, students w/ID
\$3, under 12 free w/Adult.

Dealers of Gems, Minerals, Beads,
Fossils, & Jewelry. Exhibits,
Demonstrations, Fluorescent Mineral
Room, Door Prizes, & Grand Prize.
gemshow2013@gmail.com

October 12, 13, 14, 2013
Huntsville, Alabama
Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society
Fri. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM,
Sat. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM,
Sun. Noon - 5:00 PM

Von Braun Center, 700 Monroe Street,
Huntsville, Al. 35801
Hourly Door Prizes, 30+ dealers
Show Contact: Tony Smith, Show Chair,
256-852-3210
e-mail: tsmith@erc-incorporated.com

October 19 and 20, 2013
Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club
54th Annual Gem/Mineral/Jewelry Show
Saturday, October 19, 2013, 10:am – 5:00 pm
Sunday, October 20, 2013, 10am – 4:00 pm

Location: Strawberry Festival Expo Building,
2301 W. Oak Avenue, Plant City, Florida
Admission: Adults \$5.00; Children 12 to 16 and
Students with ID \$4.00;
Children under 12 free (with parent)

We will have over 40 vendors offering gems,
minerals, beads, fossils, tools, lapidary material,
jewelry making supplies, jewelry and much
more. There will be live demonstrations
throughout the show and hourly Door Prize

drawings. We'll also have a silent auction, touch
table, grab bags and magazine sales. Parking is
free. For more information please visit our
website at www.tampabayrockclub.com

Contact: email,
clubpresident@tampabayrockclub.com
Phone, (813) 831-1944

Tidbits

HARD or TOUGH

The terms "hardness" and
"toughness" are sometimes confused
when comparing the qualities of
gemstones, and there is a great deal
of difference. Diamond is by far the
hardest of gemstones, for it will
scratch, cut or polish any other
stone. But, for toughness (resistance
to chipping and breaking), jade has
diamond beat. A diamond will easily
cut or scratch jade, but a jade
hammer can in turn crush a diamond
to powder. It is the cross matted
structure of jade that makes it nearly
impossibly to break. If you drop a
solid jade cabochon on cement and it
breaks, better check, it probably
wasn't jade. The Chinese used jade
for anvils, just as we use steel, and
sometimes the same anvil was used
for generations. Jade for axes and
hammer-line tools, centuries ago,
was a practical, useful and highly
valued material.

Faceting Machine for Sale

Ron Davis is selling a nice faceting machine he
has 2 and wants to sell one of them. He is
asking \$375.00 please contact him for more
details on the model and what comes with it.
Cell#: 478-737-9796



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

Club year begins November 1st, 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

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: Jim Souter, ph. 478-454-7273,
jgsouter@windstream.net

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 ph. 478-329-1755, cell 478-293-7302
Tpanganan@aol.com

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

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.



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Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

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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