



**October Meeting**  
 At the Museum of Arts and Sciences  
 on Monday,  
 October 06, 2014 at 7:30pm.

Helen Forgay will be the speaker this month. She will be talking on her trip to Wildacres and the Silversmithing class she attend there.

### **President Message**

Just a reminder, we have the Perry fair just around the corner. We invite all club members to come out and support us by working the booth, demonstrating to the public what we do and who we are. I will be there most of the time and will be demonstrating cabochons and telling people about the club. Contact Susan if you are interested in working the booth any so we can get the tickets to you in time. You can work the booth for a few hours and then spend the rest of the day in the fair taking in the sights and sounds.

In the recent news, there has been a find of gigantic proportions. The *Dreadnoughtus*, meaning 'feared of nothing' was so large that he had very few, if any, threats out there. He was over 75 feet long and weighed over 65 tons. This makes him one of the largest land animals ever found. He was found in Argentina, South America. He was at least 7 times more massive than the dreaded *T-Rex*. What is amazing is that this was not fully grown when it died.

For more information;

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-05/behemoth-argentine-dinosaur-dreadnoughtus-made-t-rex-look-puny/5721220>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jyoTwDfXZ6c&feature=share>

I spoke with Betty Sue and she is at home. She came home from the hospital alone because Rene was in the hospital with his own problems. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers.

We ask that when you go rock hunting, you remember these basic rules;

- 1) If you open the gate, close the gate.
- 2) If you dig a hole, fill up the hole.
- 3) If you bring in trash, take out the trash, if there is trash there, take it out too.
- 4) Ask before digging. Do not go onto property if you do not have permission.
- 5) Be respectful of those around you at all times.
- 6) Be safe and protect yourself and others when in the field.
- 7) Have fun and enjoy the craft, for it IS what we do.

Don't forget the next meeting and bring a friend with you....

Jim  
[jgsouter@windstream.net](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup>.



### **Officer Election Time is here Again!**

It is time to start thinking who will be next year 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.

## **Fair News**

The Club is invited back for this year's Georgia National Fair in Perry. The Fair will be October 2-12.

We will be located in approximately the same place as in the past three years. The primary purpose of what goes on in this building is to promote the Arts and hobbies of Georgia artists and residents. We use this time to educate the public about gems, minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts and to promote the Club. The Fair's expectation is that we will be demonstrating as much as we can manage. It is not necessary that you demonstrate – we need docents to talk with the public. People are generally eager to talk about gems & minerals, etc. and interested in the Club. If you would like to bring some of your collection to display while you are there as a docent, that would be

great!

Since we are demonstrating we are allowed to sell on a limited basis. As in prior years we may sell lapidary related items we have made; things that require some level of skill to produce. The only other people in this building allowed to sell are the Artists-in-Residence (in the Georgia Living section, not referring to the adjoining Fine Arts). If anyone is planning on selling, remember that the space allowed for your display is approximately 3 x 3 feet. If you plan on selling you must also be demonstrating. Please arrange for any equipment and tools you will need; do not assume any equipment will be provided.

The Fair allows us to sell grab bags as a fund raiser for the Club. Various Club members have been working on these grab bags since last year's Fair. We sold all of the bags we had prepared last year and likely could have sold more. A special Thanks to Tina Perkins for sewing 500 bags! And Thanks to everyone else that donated fabric, sewed bags, donated items for the bags and stuffed those 500 bags! We'll need more for next year so remember to collect extra when you go on a field trip!

Right now we are on the calendar to set up on Monday, September 22. We'll announce the time at the September meeting and we'll ask Jay to send out a reminder email of the date & time when we get closer to the setup day. If you have any specimens you would like to display, bring them to the Fair grounds on the 22<sup>nd</sup> or you may get them to Jay or bring them to the September meeting. Please mark all your items in some way if you cannot be at the display setup. On the day of setup all of the cases are locked by the Fair personnel before anyone leaves. Same when we take the display down; the cases are not unlocked until everyone responsible for items in the cases is present.



If you would like to do cent please contact Susan or Phil Hargrove as soon as possible so we can arrange the schedule. The absolute deadline to sign up is our September meeting.

The Fair needs the name and addresses and how many days (or parts of days) you commit to. You will be mailed tickets and a parking pass. We need to be conscious of keeping our space neat and orderly and the display fully accessible to the public. Remember that no open drinks are allowed in this building and no eating. There is a dining area in the back of the building that we can use.

Contact Susan at 478-837-5327 or Phil at 478-550-8199 or email [susanbphilh@pstel.net](mailto:susanbphilh@pstel.net).

Thanks and see you at the Fair!

*By: Susan*

## ***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**

Members are requested to help with the setup for the Perry fair display on September 22 starting about 10am.

### **New Business**

Two new members were welcomed to the meeting and they talked about their interest in the club.

A volunteer signup sheet for our club display was passed around for the upcoming state fair October 2nd thru 12th. The mineral of the month is Malachite. Numerous nice specimens were brought in and discussed about.

Jim took over the presentation for the month in lieu of Kim Cochran who had experienced car trouble. He gave a talk on toxicity of various minerals with excerpts taken from Rock & Gem magazine. Some were toxic due to compounds involved in their makeup and others were because of bacteria growth within. Some of the more

common minerals were Amber, Cinnabar, Stibnite, Mother of Pearl and Tiger eye. Following his talk there was a DVD on how to complete Solid Rivet projects utilizing cold connections. The talk was quite informative and provided some interesting insights into the necessary precautions to be taken when handling some of these specimens. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

***By: Richard Arnold***



Sphalerite – Idarado Mine, Telluride, Colorado

## **Sphalerite** **The Mineral of the Month**

Sphalerite is a zinc sulfide mineral with a chemical composition of (Zn,Fe)S. It is found in metamorphic, igneous, and sedimentary rocks in many parts of the world. Sphalerite is the most commonly encountered zinc mineral and the world's most important ore of zinc.

Dozens of countries have mines that produce sphalerite. Recent top producers include Australia, Bolivia, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Peru, and the United States. In the United States, sphalerite is produced in Alaska, Idaho, Missouri, and Tennessee.



The name sphalerite is from the Greek word "sphaleros" which means deceiving or treacherous (or Sphalerite is named after Greek word for "mistaken", because the mineral was often mistaken for galena, but contained no lead.). This name is in response to the many different appearances of sphalerite and because it can be challenging to identify in hand specimens. Names for sphalerite used in the past or by miners include "zinc blende," "blackjack," "steel jack," and "rosin jack."

Sphalerite forms clear crystals with colors ranging from pale yellow to orange and red shades, with the presence of iron it forms dark, opaque metallic crystals.

Gem-quality material often has yellowish to honey brown, red to orange, or green color. The brilliant cut best displays sphalerite's high dispersion of 0.156 (three times as high as for diamond). Because of its softness and fragility sphalerite gems are usually used as collector's pieces and sometimes set into pendants.



## DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

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Committee

An Official Field Trip of The KYANA  
Geological Society, Louisville, KY  
(HOST)

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

**Saturday, October 11,  
2014**

**Taylorsville, Spencer  
County, Kentucky**

**"Ordovician rocks  
and fossils"**

Our plans, weather permitting, will be to take the participants on Saturday the 11th to a series of road cuts in the area of Taylorsville, Spencer County, Kentucky. We will be collecting Upper Ordovician fossils. The stratigraphic section ranges from the [Eden Fm - older name based on faunal assemblage Caster, Dalve, & Pope 1955 or the Kope based on Litho logy Martin 1975] up through the Liberty or Bull Fork Fm. A good reference for these fossils is Cincinnati Fossils, An Elementary Guide to the Ordovician Rocks and Fossils of the Cincinnati, Ohio Region, by R.A. Davis, Publication 10, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, 1720 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, Phone [513] 621-3889.

The primary formation we will be collecting in is the McMillan or Grant Lake, or the Maysvillian Stage . Most of



the fossils will be loose, very little digging is required. There are about 100 different fossils in these units. Most participants can expect to find, with some diligence, 25 different fossils. There are many varieties of brachiopods, bryozoans, pelecypods, gastropods, along with corals, cephalopods, rare finds include trilobites, edrioasteroids, and a very rare cycloostoid was found here a couple of years ago.

The highway department has severely scrapped most of the cuts on Hwy 44, thus reducing the usual amount of rubble, making collecting more difficult to find fossils.

Taylorsville State Park will be our meeting site for Saturday morning October 11, 2014. Highway 155/55 runs north south through the town of Taylorsville, turn east on to highway 44, take highway 44 to highway 248, take highway 248 east to the entrance of Taylorsville State Park, turn south on Park Road, pass the Park Office and to the covered picnic shelters, park here. If you go too far, you will end up at the Possum Ridge Boat Ramp.

I would like to leave the meeting area at 9:00 AM EST. We will be collecting along highway 44 and perhaps highway 155.

If you arrive early please, do not collect these stretches of highway.

At a time yet to be determined, we will break from collecting and join KYANA Geological Society at our Annual Picnic at one of the covered shelters where we met in the morning. It is a pot-luck with KYANA providing the meat [fried chicken] and the drinks. You are not required to provide anything, it is our treat!

For the afternoon we will either continue to collect the Taylorsville area or travel to the Frankfort area and collect in the Middle Ordovician, Lexington Limestone along the valley of the Lower Kentucky River [very pretty]. The KYANA Fossil Study Group has been investigating this area and has been tracking trilobite bearing layers in hope of finding Kentucky's largest Ordovician trilobite *Isotelus* sp. We have found hundreds of tails, a few heads, some thorax segments attached to tails and at least three trilobites that were all there except for the head. One small enrolled one was complete. The *Isotelus* trilobites range in size from one inch to ten inches in size in these deposits.

There will be enough KYANA member guides to do both.

What to bring: Standard rock hound tools [hammer, chisels, goggles, wrapping materials, buckets] we will be in the sun, sunscreen, sun hat, sun glasses.



8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, October 5, 2014

You can access our website  
<http://kyanageo.org/> and see some of  
 these fossils and more.

The camping rates at Taylorsville Lake  
 are; Primitive \$15 Sunday - Thursday, \$  
 17 Friday & Saturday RV \$ 21 Sunday -  
 Thursday, \$23 Friday & Saturday  
 There are a number of hotels and  
 motels nearby.

Contact Charles Oldham for additional  
 information [charlesoldham@ymail.com](mailto:charlesoldham@ymail.com)  
 or 502-2410-8755.



*Rutile from Graves Mountain*

## Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"

8 am to 6 pm, Friday, October 3, 2014  
 8 am to 6 pm, Sat., October 4, 2014

**"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 two three day  
 digs and rock swaps on the  
 Mountain during the current year. 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.  
 Don't forget to bring some extra money  
 to buy the special "Graves Mountain  
 Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

**THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO  
 ALL.  
 NO NEED TO SIGN-UP, JUST SHOW UP**



**FOR ALL "ROCK SWAP AND DIGS"!  
Mark your calendar and tell all your  
friends about these great events!**

Contact Information:  
Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) -  
706.359.1544 (his business)  
or 706.401.3173 (his cell)

Graves mountain is accessible and open for mineral collecting by colleges, universities, and gem and mineral societies. Groups as small as two INDIVIDUAL mineral collectors can now reserve the mountain!

In order to gain access, (except for the two yearly "Rock Swaps and Digs") you will need to contact the caretaker, Clarence Norman, Jr (Junior) at 706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.401.3173 (his cell). Give him a call and he can reserve the mountain exclusively for your group. All of the mineral societies that come here to collect, offer the caretaker a donation for his trouble and effort in keeping the mountain open and assessable to them. Please consider what it is worth to your mineral society to be able to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!

#### 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).
- NO child under the age of 12 years old is to be allowed on the

mountain because of all the dangers involved.

**ALL 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.)



## Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

**OCTOBER 3 – 5, 2014**

**36th Annual Gaston Gem & Mineral Show  
Dallas, NC**

**Hours: Fri & Sat, 9am - 6pm - Sunday 9am - 5pm**

**Gaston County Park  
1303 Dallas Cherryville Hwy, Dallas NC.  
28034 (HWY 279)  
or GPS 120 Leisure Lane, Dallas, NC 28034**

**From North, 321 south, exit at Dallas and turn right, it is on the left.**

**From South, 321 north and take the 2nd exit to "Cherryville". Go over 321 and drive 1/2 mile on left.**

**FREE ADMITTANCE and FREE PARKING**

**Minerals and Fossils from around the world.**

**Cutting material, Quality Gemstones, Wire wrapping, settings, Geodes, Jewelry, etc.**

**SLUICE - A real working sluice, \$3 & \$5**

**sand buckets; perfect for children and adults. Amethyst, Quartz Crystals, Faceted Stones mixed at random in buckets; you must might get that special stone or treasure!**

**Hourly Raffles for Prizes, not just a jewelry show, FUN FOR ALL**

**Additional information on the show can be directed toward this years Show Chairman, Rick Perkins, at 704-825-9456**

**Also, we have set up a website page online at <http://gastongemclub.weebly.com/our-show.html> where you may be able to get more information or answers to any questions you may have.**

**October 17 - 19, 2014**

**24th Annual Gem & Mineral Show  
Knoxville, TN**

**Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society**

**Fri. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

**Sat. 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**Sun. 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave,  
Knoxville, TN**

**Admission: \$5 per day or 3 day pass for \$8  
Children under 12 FREE**

**The Gem and Mineral Show will have many vendors that offer great products including a wide variety of jewelry, rare fossil and mineral specimens, meteorites, gems of all colors shapes & sizes, lapidary & jewelry equipment, and much more.**

**[www.knoxrocks.org/gemshow.html](http://www.knoxrocks.org/gemshow.html)**



**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 / Webmaster:** Jim Souter, ph. 478-454-7273, [jsouter@windstream.net](mailto:jsouter@windstream.net)

**Vice President:** Phil Hargrove, 86 Clear Branch Rd, Butler Ga. 31006, ph. 478-862-5327  
[susanbphilh@pstel.net](mailto:susanbphilh@pstel.net)

**Secretary / Photographer,** Richard Arnold,  
 ph. 678-682-9860

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 also Tuell Walters, ph. 478-922-7200,  
[supernova1346@gmail.com](mailto:supernova1346@gmail.com)

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

**Club year begins November 1<sup>st</sup>, 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  
4220 Cyndy Jo Circle  
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Save Commemorative Stamps