



Mid-Georgia Gem Clips

Official Bulletin of the Mid-Georgia Gem and Mineral Society

www.midgagms.org

Vol. 17, Issue 7, October, 2017



September Meeting At the Museum of Arts and Sciences on Monday, October 02, 2017 at 7:30pm.

The speaker for the October meeting will be Jay Batcha. I will be talking about my silver class at William Holland. A show and tell you could say.

President's Message

I know we haven't had our meeting yet but Jay is going to be out of town and we felt it was better to have a newsletter early instead of later.

I would like to call your attention to an article that came out in the September 2017 edition of *Rock & Gem* magazine about Arizona voting to accept *lepidolite* as its new state mineral. They chose *lepidolite* because it is one of the most common minerals found in the state. While *copper* is

common, it is the state metal, *turquoise* is the state gem and *petrified wood* is the state gem.

We have the fair coming up October 5-15 and we need people to help man the booth. If you are interested in attending, please notify Susan Hargrove so she can arrange for your tickets and parking pass. You can reach her by phone at 478-837-5327 or email at susanbphilh@pstel.net. I would encourage you all to come out and have a great time at the fair. We just ask that you work the booth for a short period then you can spend the rest of the day participating in the fair.

We still need to meet at Jay's house one more time to finish the grab bags for the fair. I do not know how many are left but it shouldn't take long to finish them out.

If you have any ideas for field trips, club presentations, etc....please contact me at jgsouter@windstream.net, 478.454.7273 or Phil Hargrove, Vice president, e-mail: susanbphilh@pstel.net, cell: 478.862.5327 or Jay Batcha, Editor of Mid-Georgia Gem Clips, e-mail: rocky1s@cox.net, cell: 478.957.5002

Sincerely,
Jim Souter, President
jgsouter@windstream.net
478.454.7273



It is Time to elect club Officers Again!

It is time to start thinking who will be next years Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer). If you are interested in any of the positions please let Jim know ASAP. They could use a break so please step up to the plate and become an office of our club. We will also be forming an election committee and you may also contact any of the committee members if you are interested in helping our club. We are also in need of a field trip chairperson at this time. I can help anyone that steps up and takes the field trip position until they fill comfortable in doing this position.



The Fair News

This year the Georgia National Fair will be October 5-15. We will, as before, set up in the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building in the area next to the Fine Arts Hall. 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 that we have made; things that require some level of (your) 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 you plan on selling, 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 “thousands” of bags over the past several years! And Thanks to everyone that donated fabric, donated items for the bags and stuffed the bags. A big THANKS to Jay Batcha (and Maxine!) for his generosity in tumbling and shipping expenses incurred supplying the majority of what goes into the grab bags, and for hosting the “stuffing parties”. If you have something to donate for the grab bags, please contact Jay at 478-957-5002 as we will be preparing for the 2018 Fair.

The setup will be September 23rd. Everything must be in the building by 9:30. We'll work until everything is completed. This is different from the 30th that was originally scheduled. Take-down will be Oct. 17th at 10:00 AM. If you have any specimens you would like to have included in the display cases, bring them to the Fairgrounds when we setup or you may get them to Jay, Jim or Phil. Please mark all of your items in some way if you



cannot be at the display setup and take-down. On the day of setup all of the cases are locked by the Fair personnel before anyone leaves. Same applies 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. Thanks and see you at the Fair!



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.

September Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Jim Souter with 16 members/guests and 1 new member present.

Old Business

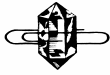
The treasurers' report was read and approved.

New Business

This month's mineral was amber and several members brought in specimens to share. There are upcoming digs at Graves Mountain in October and at Jones Pit on December 2 beginning at 10 am. We signed up several members to act as docents for our display at the Perry fair. It was brought up, seconded and voted on to raise the grab bag price to \$3.

Our own Tom Batcha was our speaker for this month. His talk was on what concretions, conglomerates, geodes, nodules and thundereggs are. These included both similarities and differences. He also presented examples of each along with some that could be characterized as more than one category. Concretions are a mixture of different rocks/gems/fossils/etc that become cemented together by such things as: silica, calcite, dolomite or iron oxides. Conglomerates are a rock made of gravel or other particles that tend to be round by a tumbling action whether in a stream or at a seashore. Geodes are usually round hollow balls sometimes lined with various crystals and are found in both sedimentary and igneous rocks. Nodules are mineral masses generally irregular in shape and with a rough surface. They generally are filled with chert. Thundereggs are a nodule like rock that is solid and similar to a filled geode. They are formed inside of rhyolitic ash layers and are usually round. The talk was quite informative and provided some insights into what he learned and showed off some of the projects he had completed. Tom had also prepared a pop quiz for the members to take along with geology books as prizes for the highest scores. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM. *Some excerpts came from Rocks and Gems by Joel Arem copyright 1973*

BY:Richard Arnold



It can be polished but because of how soft it is, it makes a poor material for jewelry there than pins and pendants.



Lepidolite - Himalaya Mine- San Diego County



Lepidolite - Jequitinhonha valley, Southeast Brazil

Mineral of the Month Lepidolite

Chemistry: $K(Li,Al,Rb)_2(Al,Si)_4O_{10}(F,OH)_2$

Member of the *mica* group of minerals. It is the most abundant lithium-bearing mineral and a secondary source of this metal.

It is also a major source of the rare alkali metals *rubidium* and *caesium*. It was this that led to the discovery of the new element rubidium in 1861.

Notable occurrences include: Brazil; Ural Mountains; Russia; California USA; Canada; and Madagascar.

It is associated with other lithium-bearing minerals like *spodumene* in pegmatite bodies. Lepidolite is restricted to high-lithium [granite pegmatites](#).

Crystal system: Monoclinic

Hardness: $2\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{2}$

Color: Pink, light purple, lavender, light rose red, grey

Luster: Sub-vitreous, resinous, greasy



Some field trips coming up, time to do some digging!!!

Graves Mountain, Lincolnton, GA

8 am to 6 pm, Friday, October 6, 2017

8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, October 7, 2017

8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, October 8, 2017

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 and October. 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.

Minerals to be found: Collecting Rutile, Kyanite, Lazulite, Iridescent Hematite, Pyrophyllite, Pyrite, Ilmenite, Fuchsite, Barite, Sulfur, and rarely: variscite, woodhouseite, crandallite, strengite, phosphosiderite, cacoxenite, blue quartz, quartz crystals, etc.

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) - 706-359-1544 (his business) or 706-401-3173 (his cell)

**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 two great events!

DIRECTIONS: From **Macon, Ga.** Starting at I-75 and I-16, take I-16 east to Spring St. exit (less than 1 mile). Turn left on to Spring St. (Highway 129) towards Gray Ga., Stay on 129 until you get to Eatonton Ga. (around 40 miles). Once you get to the square turn right onto highway 16, turn left on to highway 44 (around 1 mile). Stay on highway 44 until you get to Washington Ga. (around 54 miles) turn right onto highway 78 business and go through town (highway 47 will

merge in with 78 from the right, Don't turn here) (around 2 miles). Take highways 47 / 378 towards Lincoln Ga. (about 12 miles) 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 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 706-401-3173 (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.)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS—WEATHER: This location can become an Unbearably hot place during summer months in Georgia. Most local mineral societies restrict their collecting trips here to September through May. If you decide to venture here during the hotter months, take precautions to avoid heat stroke. Enough said!

QUARRY SAFETY: This quarry contains very high and unstable walls. Loose rocks can and will be dislodged by someone from above or even by the wind. It is suggested that you wear a hard hat and that you stay away from the pit walls. Proper footwear with good ankle support is a must when climbing around the rock piles. Always examine the area above you for loose rocks and boulders. Move the small stuff and avoid the larger ones. Check for anyone working below you and be careful not to dislodge any loose rock. Warn people below by yelling "ROCK", if anything starts going their way. Ladders or power tools of any kind are not allowed. Children younger than 12 are discouraged because of all the dangers involved at this quarry.

Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mountain! All reported violations will be held in strict confidence. Report violations to:

Clarence Norman, Jr
 Norman C E Wrecking Co
 3333 C E Norman Rd
 Lincolnton, GA 30817-3110

706-359-1544 (his business)
 or 706-401-3173 (his cell)



Jasper - Polk County, Ga.
**An Official Field Trip of the Cobb County
 Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. (Marietta, GA)
 (HOST)**
**An Official Field Trip of the Mid-Ga Gem and
 Mineral Society**

**Saturday, October 28, 2017
 Polk County, GA
 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Eastern**

TRIP: This is a favorite collecting trip of CCGMS. New areas are bulldozed each time and jasper is plentiful and easy to find.

COLLECTING: We will collect beautiful jasper pieces that make excellent cabochons. The pieces are multi-colored in reds, yellows, whites, and blacks with both banding and mottled arrangements.

BRING: Rock hammer, small pick or shovel for light digging, a garden rake, work gloves and a bucket to put finds in. Please fill any holes you make as this is a working cattle ranch and we

are grateful to the owner for letting us collect on his land. New areas have been bulldozed so that the jasper is quite easy to find. You



might want to bring a spray bottle of water to clean finds. Bring your lunch and water to drink. The hosting club will have bottled water and snacks available.

CHILDREN: Yes, this is a great trip for children of all ages with parental supervision.

PETS: No. This is a working cattle ranch, no dogs are allowed.

FACILITIES: There are no facilities at the site.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

We will meet at 10:00am Eastern time at the Ingles Market parking lot (1100 Nathan Dean Bypass, Rockmart, GA 30153) next to McDonald's on US Highway 278 (GA-6 Bypass) on the north side of Rockmart, GA. This location is set back about 50 feet along the south-side of the divided highway called the "Nathan Dean Bypass."

DIRECTIONS for Out-of-State Travelers: If you drive into Georgia going south on I-75, then you should take GA-113 West at Cartersville (exit #28). Follow Main Street/West Street through Cartersville and 20 more miles on GA-113 to Rockmart, GA. At the stoplight turn right (East) on US 278 (Nathan Dean Parkway) and go ¼ mile to view the Ingles Parking lot on your left (south side of road) next to McDonalds. If you are coming into Georgia going East on I-20 take exit 11 north on US-27 (Bremen By-Pass) for 25 miles to the Cedartown By-Pass (US 278), where you will exit by-pass following US-278 East for 12 miles to Rockmart, GA. The Ingles Parking lot is on your right, just past McDonalds as you enter Rockmart.

DIRECTIONS for In-State Travelers: Go just beyond the greater Atlanta area going west on I-20 to exit #44, "Thornton Road" (GA-6 North). Turn right and follow GA-6 which turns into US-278 for 33 miles to Rockmart. From the stoplight go ¼ miles straight on US-278 (Nathan Dean Parkway) to view the Ingles Parking lot on your left (south side of road) next to McDonalds.

CONTACT: CCGMS Field Trip Team Leaders: Dion Stewart and Ray Borders Questions: contact Toby or Dion Stewart at ccgms.fieldtrips@gmail.com or 678-417-1786 or Ray Borders at rayborders@charter.net or 770-312-5205. Cell numbers day for the of trip: 770-312-5202 or 678-315-8006.



Jasper - Polk County, Ga.



Check website

<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/>

For more shows coming up in the Southeast and other great information!

October 13, 14, 15, 2017

**49th Annual Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Show
 Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society - Huntsville, AL**

Fri: 10AM to 6 PM;

Sat: 10 AM to 6 PM; Sun: Noon to 5 PM

Jaycees Community Center - 2180 Airport Rd.,
 Huntsville, AL

Located west of Memorial Pkwy & east of Leeman Ferry Rd.

North of Airport Rd. Turn North at Jaycee Dr @ the traffic light.

The 49th annual Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show, sponsored by the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, is the largest jewelry show in the region, the only rock, mineral and gem show in the region, and a great resource for the school earth science curriculum at all levels.

Offerings: National and International Dealers with every type and quality of gem, finished jewelry (costume to fine), beads, art objects, collector specimens (gems, minerals, rocks, fossils, etc.), lapidary and jewelry materials and supplies. Displays and Demonstrations. Children's "gem dig", "mining flume", and presentations. Hourly drawings. Food service. Ample, convenient, FREE parking.

\$3.00 donation at the door, children under 5 - Free.

Contact: 256-534-8803

Website <http://www.huntsvillegms.org>

October 14 - 16, 2016

**25th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
 Knoxville, TN**

Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society

Fri. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Sat. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Sun. 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave, Knoxville, TN

Admission: \$5 per person per day or 3 day pass for \$8 per person, Children under 12 admitted FREE.

The Gem, Mineral and Jewelry 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.

For more information, contact Teresa Polly
teresapolly@bellsouth.net

www.knoxrocks.org/gemshow.html

Tidbits

Cleaning Native Copper

Ingredients: one part sodium hydroxide, 30 parts salt, 20 parts distilled water. Make all measurements by weight. Use a glass container to hold this solution. Suspend the copper specimen by copper wire in the cold solution and occasionally raise and lower it for inspection. Shortly, the solution becomes bluish and the discoloration on the specimen begins to disappear revealing the natural red-brown of the copper. The cleaning may take several hours to complete. When clean, rinse thoroughly in running water then immerse in clean water for an hour or so. It is said this method gives excellent, safe results. The solution attacks and dissolves cupric oxide, but leaves undamaged both cuprite and metallic copper.

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

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 susanbphih@pstel.net

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

Treasurer: Susan Hargrove, 86 Clear Branch Rd,
 Butler Ga. 31006, cell. 478-837-5327,
susanbphilh@pstel.net

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

Education Chairperson: Tuell Walters,
 ph. 478-922-7200
firecomet46@gmail.com

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
4220 Cyndy Jo Circle
Macon, Ga. 31216