



September Meeting
At the Museum of Arts and
Sciences on Tuesday,
September 03, 2013 at 7:30pm.

Speaker for the September meeting will be Kim Cochran. He will be speaking on "Gems of South America".

June Meeting Minutes

June Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Jim Souter with 14 members present.

Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. The guidelines for the scholarship winner were determined as follows:

- 1) Present member in good standing, paid up as of February 1
- 2) Present at the picnic or notify president or vice president prior to
- 3) Winner must give a follow up presentation at a future meeting
- 4) Courses must be lapidary related at William Hollland or Wild Acres

The fundraiser at Smileys flea market is scheduled for June 15 with Jay planning on beginning at dawn. So come down and bring some donations to help out.

The mineral of the month was staurolite and several nice specimens were brought in and discussed.

New Business

Picnic is scheduled for June 29 at Ocmulgee Indian mounds National Monument in Macon. Everyone is reminded that the state fair is upcoming and volunteers should contact our secretary Susan Hargrove as soon as possible. Tom Batcha was our monthly speaker this month and he gave a talk on cataloging you specimen collection. The website where the free program to help you out if you choose carlesmillan.cat/min/main/php. A question and answer session was provided at the end of his talk.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 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 September 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.

Smiley's Fund Raiser Update

After the many attempts of trying to do hold this yard sale / fundraiser we succeed in having it. We have 6 members help that day (Jack, Tuell, Jim, Susan, Phil, and Jay). I would also thank everyone that donated items for the yard sale. We had our best take ever at Smiley's a total of \$307.95 after paying for our tables.

Lapidary Scholarship Information

Richard Arnold won the scholarship.



The Club Picnic has come and gone!

This year we made a big change in that Jim cooked barbequed Boston butts we normally by Fincher's Barbeque. This year seventeen members attended our picnic. We had 84 items in the silence auction and we raised \$338.50. We had one item donated by Richard Arnold that went for \$70.00. We also had the drawing for one member to attend a class at William Holland or Wildacres for a one week class paid for by the club. The winner this year was Richard Arnold. We just had the best of times!

More Fair News

Plan to be there --- Saturday, September 14th at 10:00 AM, we will be setting up the Club's display at the Georgia National Fair in Perry. Please bring any rock, gem, mineral, fossil or lapidary related work you have done that you would like to exhibit. We'll prepare the display

cases and install all the specimens & items in preparation of the Fair that will run October 3 – 13th. The cases will be locked by the Fair personnel once we are finished. All specimens will be marked by means of a colored coded dot assigned to each person displaying items.

Please sign up to docent --- Contact Susan Hargrove by phone, email or in person at the September meeting, if you have not done so already, to be placed on the schedule to docent during the Fair. You do not have to demonstrate but you are welcome to do so. If you would like to demonstrate please arrange for any tools or equipment you will need. No one is allowed to sell any items unless they are demonstrating and anything sold must be made by you using lapidary related abilities/skills. The space provided for items offered for sale is limited (approximately 2 x 3 feet).

We need members to be at our display to talk with the public about the display and the club. Jay does a great job supplying labels so usually almost every item is labeled. If you docent you will receive a parking pass (to park at the building where the display is housed) and entry tickets. Susan needs to know what day (or days) and time (morning, afternoon, evening) you are available by our next meeting September 3rd. Tickets and parking passes will be mailed to you by the Fair. You are welcome to bring specimens you have collected or lapidary related items you have made, as "show & tell" while you docent. People are generally eager to see what's available to be collected and share stories of their collecting.

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

Thanks and see you at the Fair!



Mineral of the Month Graphite

Sources: It is estimated that the world reserves of graphite exceed 800 million tons. China is the most significant graphite-producing nation, providing nearly one-half of the United States' annual graphite demand. Flake graphite is also imported to the United States from Brazil, Canada, and Madagascar. Lump graphite is imported from Sri Lanka. Graphite resources in the United States are very small. At one time a significant deposit at Ticonderoga, New York, was exploited, but this source no longer produces graphite. For a number of years, the United States has not produced natural mineral graphite and is completely dependent on the combination of imported, synthetic graphite, and recycled graphite sources.

Uses: Because graphite flakes slip over one another, giving it its greasy feel, graphite has long been used as a lubricant in applications where "wet" lubricants, such as oil, can not be used. Technological changes are reducing the need for this application.

Natural graphite is used mostly in what are called refractory applications. Refractory applications are those that involve extremely high heat and therefore demand materials that will not melt or disintegrate under such extreme conditions. One example of this use is in the crucibles used in the steel industry. Such refractory applications account for the

majority of the usage of graphite.

It is also used to make brake linings, lubricants, and molds in foundries. A variety of other industrial uses account for the remaining graphite consumed each year.

Substitutes and Alternative Sources:

Molybdenum disulfide is a good dry lubricant substitute for graphite. However, unlike graphite, molybdenum disulfide is not as stable in oxidizing conditions. Manufactured graphite powder can be used in the steel industry. However, as long as graphite deposits remain abundant, and the cost of raw graphite remains low, producing large quantities of manufactured graphite will be unnecessary for many years to come.

Background: Pure graphite is a mineral form of the element carbon (atomic number 6) and its symbol is C. It forms in veins in metamorphic rocks as the result of the metamorphism of organic material included in limestone deposits. It is an extremely soft mineral at 1 to 2 on Mohs' hardness scale. It is black and has a black streak. (Streak is the color of a mineral when it is crushed to a powder). Its softness and streak make graphite useful in making "lead" for pencils. Crystals are uncommon, but when they occur, they are found as rough, six-sided (hexagonal) flakes, as in the drawing. It breaks into minute, flexible flakes that easily slide over one another. Mineralogists call this basal cleavage. This feature is the cause of graphite's distinctive greasy feel. It is this greasy characteristic that makes graphite a good lubricant. Because it is a solid material, it is known as a dry lubricant. Graphite is the only non-metal element that is a good conductor of electricity. In nature, graphite is found in two distinct forms, flake graphite and lump graphite. Lump graphite is more compact than flake and lacks the distinctive flaking mentioned earlier.

BY: Minerals Education Coalition

<http://www.mineralseducationcoalition.org/minerals/graphite>



Field trips coming up, lets go digging!!!



Mid-Georgia Field Trip
September 21, 2013
9:30 am
Jones Pit

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

Meet at: First convenience store on the right after turning right onto highway 230 or exit #122 coming from I-75 south. Meet at 9:30am on Saturday September 21, 2013.

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. Also sea urchins, not often.

Bring: Hammers, chisels, hard rock equipment, scratching tools, pry bars,

buckets, paper to wrap specimens, hat, sunscreen, food and drinks, safety glasses, gloves.

Directions: Head south on I-75 from Macon, Ga. to exit #122, highway 230 (the Unadilla exit). Turn left on highway 230 (towards Unadilla) go about ¼ mile and the Chevron convenience store we are meeting at is on the right.

Questions: Call Jay home# 478-784-1965 cell# 478-957-5002



Georgia Queen Picture Jasper



**\DMC Program of the SFMS Field
Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of the Gem &
Mineral Society of Franklin, NC
(HOST)**

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

10:00 AM

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Cowee Mtn. Ruby Mine, Franklin,
NC

Macon County, North Carolina

NO FEE

Date: September 25, 2013

Day: Wednesday

Time: 10 a.m.-

No Fee - Buckets with local dirt from a great Franklin source will be available. There will be no digging however; you may bring your own screen. The **sheltered Mining sluice** at the mine will be used for cleaning of dirt. **The mine has restrooms facilities!**

Location:

Cowee Mtn. Ruby Mine

6771 Sylva Rd.

Franklin, NC 28734

**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

From Charlotte, NC

-Take I-85 toward Gastonia for 70.5 miles

-Merge onto I-26W via EXIT 70 toward



Asheville, NC for 57.8 miles
-Merge onto I-40W/US-74 via EXIT 32B on
Left toward Canton/Knoxville for 18.3 miles
-Merge onto US-74W via EXIT 27 toward
Clyde/Waynesville/Murphy/Atlanta/Maggie
Valley for 1.3 miles
-Merge onto US-23S/US-74W for 24.9 miles
-Merge onto US-23/US-441S via EXIT 81
toward Dillsboro/Franklin/Atlanta for 14.5
miles
-Turn left in to Cowee Mtn. Ruby Mine

From Knoxville, TN
-Take I-40E toward Asheville for 91.7 miles
-Take the US-19/US-23 EXIT 27 toward
Clyde for .3 miles
-Merge onto US-74W for .5miles
-US-74 becomes ramp for .2 miles
-Merge onto US-23S/US-74W for 24.7 miles
-Merge onto US-23S/US-441S via EXIT 81
toward Dillsboro/Franklin/Atlanta for 14.5
miles
-Turn Left into Cowee Mtn. Ruby Mine

For information contact: Arlon Eldridge

828-369-5271 cowee@yahoo.com



Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

**Sept. 21-23, 2012,
Jacksonville, Florida
24th Annual Show**

**Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society
Friday 1:00pm-6:00pm**

Saturday 10:00am-6:00pm

Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm

Admission: \$4

Morocco Shrine Auditorium

3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd

Jacksonville, Florida 32224

Contact: Karen Olson

Email: jgmsnews@gmail.com

Phone #: 904-981-0293 weekdays

904-448-5182 evenings and weekends

Address: 9353 River Pine Road,

Jacksonville, FL 32257



Tidbits

FANCY RIVET HEADS

For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 14 - 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to <http://www.LeeValley.com> and do an item search on "brass escutcheon pin"

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet.

Trim the rivet to a leave a little less than one diameter sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.



FIND THE BALANCE POINT

With odd-shaped pendants or earrings it's often difficult to find the right place to attach a bail or loop so that the piece is balanced and hangs straight. A quick way to make a tool for this is to modify a set of tweezers. Any set of tweezers will work. Spread the tips, sharpen them with a file, and bend the tips at a right angle to point towards each other. To use the tool suspend the pendant or earring between two sharp points to see how it will hang.

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



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

Vice President: Rene' Smith, 478-788-1766
 Cell 478-719-2413 grawolfvrs@msn.com

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

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

Editor / Programs / Web: Jay Batcha,
 4220 Cyndy Jo Circle, Macon, Ga. 31216,
 ph. 478-784-1965, Cell 478-957-5002
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Education Chairperson: Thomas Thurman,
 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.



**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

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Save Commemorative Stamps