



**September Meeting
At the Museum of Arts and
Sciences on Tuesday,
September 01, 2015 at
7:30pm.**

**Note: Meeting is on Tuesday
this month, not Monday as it
is normally!!!**

Speaker for the September meeting will be Kim Cochran. He will be speaking on African Minerals and where they can be collected.

President's Message

Here it is again, another summer has done slipped away and school has started back for so many of our young people. Another summer to add to our memories. I trust everybody had a great summer even though it has been warmer than usual. Some of our members took incredible trips this summer and will be talking to us about them later.

As we start into the fall of the year, it is once again time to think about the up and coming Georgia State Fair in Perry, October 8- 18, 2015. We need to finish stuffing grab bags at Jay's home as well. I think he said we have another 100 bags to finish. I will leave that date

up to Jay to set as it is in his house with his new carpet. We also will need people to assist me in manning the booths this year as well. Susan will have the list of dates for people to sign up again. We will discuss the set up times later at the meeting.

Let's remember, while we are in the warmer months to keep your body hydrated. As important as water is to drink, you also have to keep in mind the salts or electrolytes you sweat out need to be replenished. Electrolytes are substances that contain free ions making them electrically conductive, and physiologically the primary ions of electrolytes include sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, chloride, hydrogen phosphate, and hydrogen carbonate. Drinking beverages like Gatorade, Propel, Coconut water or any number of beverages will help. Natural coconut water has five essential electrolytes needed by the body, including more potassium than a banana. Maintaining the electrolytes will keep your muscles from cramping, reduce chances of headaches and body aches. It is also important to protect yourself from the sun. Wear a hat and sun screen to protect from the rays of the sun. Also, sunglasses are recommended as they will protect the eyes from the sun's rays as well. Remember to wear all the safety equipment when going on digs;

- 1) Hard hat
- 2) Safety glasses
- 3) Gloves
- 4) Sunscreen
- 5) Steel toe or safety shoes

If any of you have any suggestions for improving the club, please feel free to contact me or bring it up during the meeting. I am looking for ways to increase our membership and our exposure to the community. Please feel free to email me at jgsouter@windstream.net or call me at 478-454-7273.

Jim Souter



June Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by Jim Souter with 16 guest/members present.

Old Business

The treasurers' report was read and approved. Our scholarship winner is beginning his silversmith course in the near future and we wish him good luck. We had a club dig recently completed at the KA Min Freeport mines near Jeffersonville south out of Macon. The members were shown a informative presentation of the Kaolin mining process and given a complete tour of the facilities. We then preceded to dig for various fossils such as pelecypods, sand dollars, mollusks, etc.

New Business

Tina our resident grab bag construction person brought in some suggestions/samples for a club tee shirt design. We are looking for suggestions, ideas for tee shirt designs to present to the membership.

The mineral of the month was a little bit different this month as each member brought in his/her favorite mineral or unknown specimen to be identified. There were quite a few specimens brought in for the discussion/identification. A question and answer session was ongoing throughout the duration of the talk.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

By: Richard Arnold

Perry Fair News

We will be setting up the Club's display at the Georgia National Fair in Perry again this year.

We will have a date for setting up the display cases at the September Meeting. Please bring any rock, gem, mineral, fossil or lapidary related work you have done that you would like to exhibit in the display cases to the September meeting if you cannot make the setup date. We'll prepare the display cases

and install all the specimens & items in preparation of the Fair that will run October 8 – 18th. 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 1st. 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!



Grab Bag news!

We have 400 grab Bags prepared for the Perry Fair at this time and we have another 100 bags to fill before the fair. Jay will have a bag stuffing party on September 15th 2015 at 12:00 noon at his house. It should only take a couple of hours to get these filled. Please call Jay if you can help.

We also need more material for the grab bags! If you cannot make it to the stuffing party please bring the rock donated to the September meeting. Also, we need to start collecting rock for next year's fair. So, pickup extra rock on your field trips for the club. Thank you for all the help you can assist Jay with!

By: Jay B.



Azurite and Malachite from Bisbee, Warren District, Mule Mts, Cochise County, Arizona

Mineral of the Month **Azurite**

Azurite is a soft, deep blue copper mineral produced by weathering of copper ore deposits. It is also known as **Chessylite** after the type locality at Chessylles-Mines near Lyon, France. The mineral, a carbonate, has been known since ancient times, and was mentioned in Pliny the Elder's Natural History under the Greek name *kuanos* (κυανός: "deep blue," root of English *cyan*) and the Latin name *caeruleum*.

Azurite is one of the two basic copper(II) carbonate minerals, the other being bright green malachite. Simple copper carbonate (CuCO_3) is not known to exist in nature. Azurite has the formula $\text{Cu}_3(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$, with the copper(II) cations linked to two different anions, carbonate and hydroxide. Small crystals of azurite can be produced by rapidly stirring a few drops of copper sulfate solution into a saturated solution of sodium carbonate and allowing the solution to stand overnight. Azurite crystals are monoclinic, and when large enough to be seen they appear as dark blue prismatic crystals. Azurite specimens are typically massive to nodular, and are often stalactitic in form. Specimens tend to lighten in color over time due to weathering of the specimen surface into malachite. Azurite is soft, with a Mohs hardness of only 3.5 to 4. The specific gravity of azurite is 3.77 to 3.89. Azurite is destroyed by heat, losing carbon dioxide and water to form black, powdery copper(II) oxide. Characteristic of a carbonate, specimens effervesce upon treatment with hydrochloric acid.

Azurite is unstable in open air with respect to malachite, and often is pseudomorphically replaced by malachite. This weathering process involves the replacement of some the carbon dioxide (CO_2) units with water (H_2O), changing the carbonate:hydroxide ratio of azurite from 1:1 to the 1:2 ratio of malachite.

Azurite was used as a blue pigment since antiquity. Depending on the degree of fineness



to which it was ground, and its basic content of copper carbonate, it gave a wide range of blues. It has been known as *mountain blue* or *Armenian stone*, in addition it was formerly known as *Azurro Della Magna* (from Italian). When mixed with oil it turns slightly green. When mixed with egg yolk it turns green-grey. It is also known by the names *blue bice* and *blue verditer*, though *verditer* usually refers to a pigment made by chemical process. Older examples of azurite pigment may show a more greenish tint due to weathering into malachite.

From: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azurite>



Azurite - Poteryaevskoe Mine, Rubtsovskoe, Altaiskii Krai, Western-Siberian Region, Russia



Field trips coming up, lets go digging!!!
**DMC Program of the SFMS
 Field Trip Committee**

**An Official Field Trip of The
 Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society**

**(Charleston, SC) (HOST)
 An Official Field Trip of the Mid-Ga
 Gem and Mineral Society**

**Saturday, September 19,
 2015**

**9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
 "Savannah River Agate"
 Stoney Bluff near Girard,
 GA**



COLLECTING: "Savannah River Agate" fossils and micro minerals. This material is actually a conglomeration of agate, jasper, chert, and opalite all mixed together to form a layered specimen that will tumble or cab into beautiful display pieces.

TOOLS: Light digging tools and small pry bars to free larger boulders from the sandy soil. Leather gloves are recommended. If you plan to look for micro-minerals by busting the larger agate/chert specimens, you will also



need some chisels and a sledge. More importantly, you **NEED** eye protection (face shield would be best) and long heavy pants as this agate can act like shrapnel when cracked with a rock hammer or sledge!

DIRECTIONS: 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 miles to McBean, GA. Just beyond McBean turn left onto Hwy. 23 and follow it SE about 14 miles to Girard. GA.

ASSEMBLY TIME: 9:00 A.M. at the vacant lot just south of the Post Office in Girard, GA.



Girard post Office and meeting place.

CONTACTS: Lawrence Moss 843-819-0726 or Jorel611@yahoo.com



Savannah River Agate

Southeastern Gem & Mineral Shows

September 5-7, 2014

Winston-Salem, NC

Always the weekend after Labor Day.

43rd Annual FGMC Jewelry, Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show and Sale

Sponsored by the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club

Friday/Saturday September 5-6: 10 AM to 7 PM,

Sunday September 7: Noon to 5 PM

In the Education Building at the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds in Winston-Salem, NC

Admission: Adults - \$2.00, children through grade 12 - free with accompanying adult Free parking - enter through Gate 9 on 27th Street

This year's theme: The Beauty of Lead Minerals, Special presentation on North Carolina Meteorites at 2 PM and Saturday, September 6, by John Sinclair, Curator of Meteorites at the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute.

Exhibits and displays featuring: Jewelry, Fossils, Minerals, Gemstones, Decorator Items.

Geode sales - free cutting with geode purchases. Grab bags. Gold Panning.

Demonstrations featuring: Wirewrapping, Gold Panning, Cabochon Cutting, Geode Cutting

Dealers Featuring: Minerals, faceting rough, supplies, fossils, jewelry, beads, beading supplies, decorator item.

Adult tickets include hourly drawings for \$20.00 gift certificate.

web site : www.forsythgemclub.com



**Sept. 25 - 27, 2015
Jacksonville, Florida
27th Annual Show
Jacksonville Gem and
Mineral Society**

in conjunction with
1st Annual Florida Faceters Frolic,
Hosted by the TOMOKA FACETERS
GUILD

Morocco Shrine Auditorium
3800 St. Johns Bluff Road,
Jacksonville, FL 32224

Friday 1:00pm-7:00pm
Saturday 10:00am-7:00pm
Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm
Admission: \$3 or \$5 for three day
pass
Children under 12 FREE with
guardian:
Seniors and Military with ID get \$1
OFF

80+ dealers from around the world,
hourly door prizes, 5 Grand prize
drawings, Moon rock display on loan
from NASA made possible by Dr. Mike
Reynolds. Club Hospitality table, 20+
Club competition display cases, Sky
Lab exhibit. 4 special faceting
Lectures from noted Faceters. All
major faceting equipment dealers and
National tool and equipment dealers
will be represented.

Special Large lapidary demos each
hour. Continuous Educational exhibits
on Silversmithing, Cold Connections,
Faceting, Cabbing, Beading, Gem
trees and more. Large junior's booth,
Gem ID and Gem mining sluice.
Scouting educational sessions to earn
merit Badges in rocks and metal
work.

web site: www.jaxgemandmineral.org/
3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd
Jacksonville, Florida 32224

Show contact: Jason Hamilton, Show
Chair, 904-294-4744, JGMS-
SHOW@hotmail.com
<http://www.jaxgemandmineral.org/show.html>

**September 25 - 27,
2015**

Jacksonville, FL

**"THE FLORIDA FACETERS
FROLIC"**

presented by:

**The Tomoka Faceters Guild and
The United States Faceters Guild**

in conjunction with:

**The Jacksonville Gem & Mineral
Society's 2015 27th Annual Show**

Location: Morocco Temple
A.A.O.N.M.S. Club
3800 St. Johns Bluff Road South
Jacksonville, Florida 32224

Show Dates: September 25, 26, 27,
2015



Show Times: Friday 1 PM to 6 PM
 Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM
 Sunday 10 AM to 5 PM

We will have speakers, gem cad lessons, faceting lessons, faceting machine dealers, and faceting rough dealers and there may be some very special surprise guests joining us from the TV show Prospectors.

SPEAKERS SCHEDULE:

Friday: 1 pm - **Dianne Eames**, G.G. gem faceter, bench jeweler, will be talking about faceting Topaz.

Friday: 3 pm - **Tom Mitchell**, author, faceter and faceting instructor, will be talking about faceting tricks and tips.

Saturday: 10 am - **Scott Forward**, retired geologist and gem and mineral ID instructor at William Holland, will be discussing mineral ID

Saturday: 1 pm - **Ann Cahoon**, bench jeweler, jewelry arts instructor and DVD author, will be discussing various ways to set gems.

Saturday: 3 pm - **Dianne Eames**, G.G., gem faceter, bench jeweler, will be back to talk about polishing.

Sunday: 10 am - **John Rolphe**, the owner of Gearloose, a faceting product manufacturer and retailer, will be discussing polishing theory.

Sunday: 1 pm - **Gary Beckman**, G.G. retired, will be discussing gem treatments.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Friday and Saturday: 10 am till 5 pm - Introduction to Faceting. Anyone interested in learning to facet is welcome. Class Fee: \$50.00

Sunday: 10 am - Beginning Gem Cad with **Robert Strickland** the creator of the computer aided design program

Sunday: 1 pm - Intermediate Gem Cad with **Robert Strickland**

Sunday: 3 pm - Advanced Gem Cad with **Robert Strickland**.

Class Fee: \$25.00 per class

For information on class registration, please contact Tom Mitchell below.

Show Contact: Tom Mitchell 352-446-4866

Email: tommitchellgems@gmail.com



TIDBITS

The **Naica Mine** of the **Mexican** state of Chihuahua, is a working mine that is best known for its extraordinary selenite crystals.

In 1975, a chamber in the Mexican Naica mine was drained of water in order to prepare it for mining. It remained unexplored until 2000, where upon giant gypsum crystals were found, many of them a meter thick, criss-crossing the intensely hot, humid cave that birthed these extraordinary structures. It is truly mind-boggling to think of the conditions and time it took to grow these beautiful crystals, and even more amazing to think that if they had been left in the mineral rich waters of the cave, they would have continued to grow.



Note the 2 men in orange suits in Cave of Crystals



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 susanbphilh@pstel.net

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

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

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rocky1s@cox.net

Education Chairperson: Tuell Walters,
 ph. 478-922-7200
supernova1346@gmail.com

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

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
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Save Commemorative Stamps