MAY GENERAL MEETING
7:30 P.M., Monday, May 3, 2004
Chamblee Library
4114 Clairmont Road
770.936.1380

MAY SHOW
Traditionally, we discuss the Mother’s Day Gem and Mineral Show for our May Meeting. This gives us a chance to finish getting all our volunteers lined up as well as any other items that need addressing.

We will give all the committee chairs a chance to tell what they have planned and lined up for the show. They will also have their sign up sheets so we can fill in the needed slots.

Come and join us for this final meeting to get ready for our Mother’s Day Gem and Mineral Show.

We also have the chance to discuss our December Show. This way, we do not have to commit a second monthly meeting to the December Show. This year the December show is hosting the Southeast Federation for their regional show. We will have competitive cases to be judged, meeting to attend and a banquet to attend in addition to our normal activities at the show. Some plans are already in the works and we will get more details at the meeting.

Joan’s Gibberish and Gems
(a.k.a. THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE)

Gibberish: AFMS All-American Club Program
The AFMS All-American Club Program was established in 1967 to encourage clubs to be active in their federations and community and to provide a method of national recognition for these individual clubs. GMS has entered the competition this year for the first time. Compiling the scrapbook proved to be a major task. We held one scrapbook party that provided some group involvement, but the collection of information and compilation was mainly provided by a small group. We are very proud of GMS and want the rest of the nation to know about the work the members of GMS put into the community and into the SFMS. It was truly a labor of love, but I feel we did not have enough documentation to do the club justice.

For this year’s scrapbook, would you please send photographs of events, shortly after the event, with a brief description of the activity, so they can be included with the scrapbook. If you have spoken to another club, a citizens group, boy scouts, school, library, etc., please write a brief narrative of the activity so that it can be included. If you attend meetings of other clubs as a guest, please let me know. All of these activities contribute to the degree of recognition. If you have written letters regarding legislation or have met with government agencies as an advocate for our hobby, please forward copies of your letters or a brief narrative of you meetings. When you attend federation meetings, please forward some type of documentation of attendance. With everyone pitching in, we will certainly be able to share with the AFMS all the information about our busy and productive group of members.

Patricia Joan White (a.k.a Waggener), President

Gem: “A thing is bigger for being shared.” Gaelic
Announcements for educational publications, continuing education classes, and shows or exhibits are provided in Tips and Trips as a service to GMS members. Appearance of the above in Tips and Trips does not constitute an endorsement by GMS.

The article submittal due date for the June 2004 newsletter is May 10, 2004.

**GENERAL MEETINGS**

General meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. In the event that the first Monday is a holiday and/or the facilities are not available, the meeting will be held on the third Monday of the month. General meetings are currently held at the Chamblee Branch of the DeKalb County Library System. Any deviations from the above schedule will be announced in Tips and Trips.

**The Georgia Mineral Society on the Internet:**
http://www.gamineral.org

**E-mail Early Notification Program:** A field trip and club news update service. To join, members are requested to send in their current e-mail address to e-mail address: gms@gamineral.org.

**Committee Chairs**

- **Adopt-A-Highway**
  - Robert Peard 770.936.0180

- **Assets/Equipment Open to Volunteers**
  - Sue W. Gorday 770.986.0822

- **Awards Open to Volunteers**
  - Margaret Ronan 404.636.0720

- **Curator/Gem Box**
  - Kim Cochran 770.979.8331

- **Facilities Open to Volunteers**
  - Roxanne Lopez 770.436.0387

- **Historian**
  - Margaret Ronan 404.636.0720

- **Hospitality**
  - Richard Anderson 770.682.9718

- **Librarian**
  - Kim Cochran 770.979.8331

- **Parliamentarian**
  - Kim Cochran 770.979.8331

- **Refreshments**
  - Kim Prakash & Nancy Marden 770.447.8542

- **Special Events**
  - Bill Waggener 770.478.5734

- **Sunshine**
  - Marilyn Taran-tino 770.613.0748

- **Tips & Trips Labels**
  - Joan White 770.478.5734

- **SFMS Rep.**
  - Frank Decaminada 770.992.8309

**2002-2003 Executive Board**

- **President**
  - Joan White
  - 9146 Sunset Dr.
  - Jonesboro, GA 30238
  - 770.478.5734
  - president@gamineral.org

- **Executive VP/Membership**
  - Elizabeth McClain
  - 378 5th Street, Apt. 3
  - Atlanta, GA 30308
  - 404.872.6310
  - membership@gamineral.org

- **Vice President/Programs**
  - Jay Gorday
  - 1690 Granger Court
  - Chamblee, GA 30341
  - 770.986.0822
  - programs@gamineral.org

- **Secretary**
  - Douglas P. Daniels
  - 3660 Prince Way
  - Tucker, GA 30084
  - 770.723.1359
  - secretary@gamineral.org

- **Treasurer**
  - Teresa Curl
  - 405 West Leslie Court
  - Woodstock, GA 30188
  - 770.751.7313
  - treasurer@gamineral.org

- **Tips & Trips Editor**
  - Carolyn L. Daniels
  - 3660 Prince Way
  - Tucker, GA 30084
  - 770.723.1359
  - newsletter@gamineral.org

- **Field Trip Chair**
  - George Libby
  - 1730 Rhett Butler Drive
  - Lilburn, GA 30047
  - 770.978.2117
  - fieldtrips@gamineral.org

- **Jan Show Chair**
  - Jay Gorday
  - 9146 Sunset Dr.
  - Jonesboro, GA 30238
  - 770.986.0822
  - janshow@gamineral.org

- **Junior Section Chair**
  - Roxanne Lopez
  - 1711 Donna Lynn Dr
  - Smyrna, GA 30080
  - 770.436.0387
  - juniors@gamineral.org

- **Gem Section Chair**
  - Kim Cochran
  - 2695 Van Court
  - Snellville, GA 30078
  - 770.979.8331

- **Micromount Section Chair**
  - Dave Babuski
  - 2677 Colony Circle
  - Snellville, GA 30078
  - 770.985.1772
  - micromount@gamineral.org

- **December Show Chair**
  - Anita Westlake
  - 1253 Spencer Avenue
  - East Point, GA 30344
  - 404.761.7849
  - decembershow@gamineral.org

- **Immediate Past President**
  - Joan White
  - 9146 Sunset Dr.
  - Jonesboro, GA 30238
  - 770.478.5734
  - president@gamineral.org

- **Webmaster**
  - Jim Flora
  - P.O. Box 605
  - Hiawassee, GA 30546
  - 706.896.8040
  - webmaster@gamineral.org

- **Education Chair**
  - Open to a Volunteer

- **Trustees**
  - To 2004 John Iacullo 770.978.1668
  - To 2005 Olin Banks 770.948.8444
  - To 2006 Frank Decaminada 770.992.8309

- **Show Chair**
  - Jay Gorday 770.986.0822

- **Dealer Chair**
  - Martha Brown 770.448.0876

- **Exhibits**
  - Jim Flora 706.896.8040

- **Demonstrations**
  - Anita Westlake 404.761.7849

- **Hospitality**
  - Roxanne Lopez 770.436.0387

- **Treasurer**
  - Teresa Curl 770.751.7313

- **Advertising**
  - Perry & Teresa Curl 770.751.7313

- **Dealer Dinner**
  - Open to Volunteers

- **Database**
  - Joan White 770.478.5743

- **Grab Bags**
  - Kim Cochran 770.979.8331

- **Auctions**
  - Kim Cochran 770.979.8331

- **Set Up/Take Down**
  - Open to Volunteers

**The article submittal due date for the June 2004 newsletter is May 10, 2004.**
MAY SHOW NEWS

By the time you read this we will have about 2 weeks to go to show time. The Cobb County Civic Center has been paid, the newspaper ads are placed, the fliers are addressed and mailed, and grab bags have been stuffed. What is left to do? VOLUNTEER!!! We need your time, talents and collections to share with fellow rockhounds and the general public:

We need helpers to greet people, answer questions, sell grab bags and give out door prize slips and prizes at the Hospitality Table. There are still many slots to fill. We will have the list at the next meeting.

Jim Flora still has spaces for displays. It's easy to put in a display, call Jim or me if you have any questions. It's fun to show off your collection, and you get a chance to win money to add to your collection as well.

If you are willing to demonstrate some facet of our hobby let Anita Westlake know.

Kim Cochran can use help and donations for the auction. The money from the auction goes directly to our building fund.

We always welcome a hand in setting up and tearing down the club's portion of the show. If you can help with set up, meet us at the Civic Center at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday.

As I am writing this newsletter item, we still do not have a person to chair the dealer dinner. This is an important part of our show. By feeding the dealers and club members helping set up the show, this makes things a lot easier for all of us. If we did not have the dinner, dealers and members would have to stop their set up, secure their booths, go and find dinner and then come back and continue the process. This would take a lot of time and not be very productive. We still need people to sign up to bring salads, vegetables and desserts for the dealer dinner. We will pass the sign-up sheet around again at the May meeting.

If you missed the grab bag stuffing party at Kim’s house you missed another great get-together. A big thanks to Kim for hosting the stuffing party, feeding us and collecting and storing all the material for the grab bags. Thanks also goes to everyone who sewed the gab bags, to everyone who donated material to place in the grab bags and all the volunteers who stuffed the grab bags.

In closing, I would like to invite all our members to attend the show. Bring your check books and support our dealers. Also, keep an eye out for anything that is not right and let me know. We are all part of the security and hospitality as we go around the show. If you do not see me, let the hospitality table know and they can page me. Enjoy the show!!

Important Dates:

Thur., May 6 - Set-up at Cobb County Civic Center
Fri. thru Sunday, May 7 - 9 - Mothers Day Gem and Mineral Show

Jay Gorday - Show Chair

GEM SECTION

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, there will be no Gem Section meeting this month.

Kim Cochran, Gem Section Chair

GMS FIELD TRIP

9:00 AM SATURDAY, May 22, 2004
Fannin County -- Epworth, Georgia (Fee Site)

TRIP: GMS will be going on a field trip to Epworth, GA to collect very large almandine garnets and staurolite. The iron garnet specimens at this site range in size from a small egg to as large as a grapefruit or bigger. You may even find a double! Some collectors have polished the crystal faces of these garnets to reveal a attractive mottled brown and tan coloration. You may be able to find small areas within these garnets that are of facet grade quality!

FEE: There will be a $5.00 fee per adult and a $2.00 fee per child twelve years or younger requested for the property owners.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: This collecting site in on a privately owned farm with cattle and horses present. This means that our field trip policy of filling in ALL the holes you dig is very important at this location. As always, take all trash when you leave!

BRING: You should bring gloves, a small and large pick, and a good shovel to remove the two to four feet of overburden. A cart or large wheeled dolly will be useful because of the distance to our parking area and the weight of the garnet material. Don’t forget to bring lunch and plenty of liquids as this location is not near a store.

This location is suitable for children to attend. If you do bring the family pet, please keep them leashed at all times.

DIRECTIONS: To get there from Atlanta, take I-75 north to I-575. Follow the four lanes as it turns into SR 5 at Nelson and US 76 (SR 5, SR 515) at East Ellijay. Turn left onto SR 5 at the Blue Ridge McDonalds and then right into the theater parking lot.

Where: Theater parking lot behind McDonalds at the junction of SR 515/76 and SR 5 in Blue Ridge, Ga.

Drive Time: Total distance is 74 miles from I-75/I-575 and total driving time will be about 1 hour and 25 minutes.

George Libby, GMS Field Trip Chair
Cell Telephone: 678.910.7476

Kim Cochran, Gem Section Chair
MAY DMC FIELD TRIP
An Official Field Trip of The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc. (Host) AND the Georgia Mineral Society
Willis Mountain Kyanite Mine
8:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M., Saturday, May 22, 2004
and
Baker Mountain Kyanite Mine
10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M., Sunday, May 23, 2004
The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, Virginia Inc. is proud to host our third DMC Field Trip. The Kyanite Mining Corporation has graciously allowed us to hold this two day event at their facilities near Farmville, VA.

OVERVIEW: A brief schedule of the fun and fellowship events.

Saturday, May 22, 2004: Willis Mountain, (a monadnock) is the only significant active kyanite mine in the world. At 9:30 A.M. we will have a guided tour of selected facilities and processes and then collecting on the mountain, free BBQ, hot dogs and snacks (RSVP appreciated), soft drinks and water, rock swap (bring your swap material, table and chairs or tailgate). There will be night collecting in a limited area after dark until 10 pm. We will have at least four club members with super bright short wave ultraviolet lights but bring your own for your personal collecting.

Minerals: Mostly white with some blue kyanite (some crystals fluoresce light blue), pyrite, red mica (iron stained), muscovite, hematite coated kyanite (some iridescent), quartz and rare apatite, trolleite, augelite, enargite, topaz, lazulite, variscite and goyazite. Several of these also fluoresce.

Sunday, May 23, 2004: Baker Mountain which is inactive and partially reclaimed. We will be collecting in two different areas.

Minerals: Beautiful blue kyanite crystals loose in the soil or in quartz, pyrite, green mica (fuchsite), red mica (iron stained).

MEETING TIME & LOCATION: Saturday morning between 8:00 and 8:30 A.M., we will all gather in the Food Lion parking lot, Sprouses Corner for sign in and mine release signing. At 8:30 A.M. there will be handouts, maps and a review of the weekend events. There you can also view some of the typical minerals that we have found in the past.

Sprouses Corner is 20 miles north of Farmville, VA on Route 15 where it intersects with Route 60. From this intersection drive north on Route 15 for 1.4 miles to a traffic light at Route 20. Turn left and you will immediately see the Food Lion on your right. We will gather at the rear of the lot between 8:00 and 8:30 A.M.

Sunday morning between 9:30 and 10:00 A.M. we will all meet at the Baker Mountain mine site. Maps and directions will be provided at the Saturday briefing.

EQUIPMENT: Standard quarry gear is required for everyone which includes hard hat, safety glasses and good strong boots, no sneakers or sandals. You should also wear long pants and have gloves. It may be warm so dress accordingly and it is usually very windy on the mountain. Bring your collecting equipment such as hammers, chisels, buckets and newspaper for wrapping delicate specimens and UV lamp for night viewing of fluorescent minerals. We will be allowed to drive to the collecting area on the mountain.

FACILITIES: We will have a unisex port-a-potty in the area as well as a first aid area and tent for shade. Bring chairs for your own comfort. Hot BBQ and hot dogs will be available from noon until 2:00 P.M. Snacks and drinks will be available all day. Bring any additional food and water you will need for your evening meal.

AGE LIMIT: Everyone is welcome but children must be 6 years old and above. They will not be allowed to roam around unattended and must obey all safety requirements. All pets must be under control at all times.

LODGING SUGGESTIONS:

Sprouses Corner (about 1 mile)
Star Motel: 1.888.564.5422, $55.00

Farmville (about 20 miles)
Days Inn: 434.392.6611 $53.00 ask for DMC rate if reserve before 4/30/04;
Super 8 Motel: 434.392.8196 $55.00 ask for DMC group rate;
Comfort Inn: 434.392.8163

Appomattox (about 28 miles)
Super 8 Motel: 434.352.2339;
Budget Inn: 434.352.7451 $40.00 ask for DMC field trip discount.

Paradise Lake Family Campground (about 33 miles):
434.993.3332

Burkeville (about 36 miles)
Comfort Inn: 434.767.3750;
Weston’s Motel: 434.645.7761, $43.00 with 2 beds,$33.00 with 1 bed. Add $3.20 per additional person.

All of these motels are close to restaurants, fast food and gas stations.


Jim Flora, SFMS Field Trip Chairman
JUNIOR SECTION MEETING

Two different times and days, choose one or the other, or come on both days

Saturday, May 8, 2004 at 4 P.M. or Sunday, May 9, 2004 at 2 P.M.
GMS Gem and Mineral Show, Cobb Civic Center

The show will be our outing for the juniors this month. It is very important that they attend to see the exhibits and the show. I will be at the entrance check-in table of the Cobb Civic Center at 4:00 P.M. on Saturday and at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday to take any juniors around to talk about show cases and exhibits. You can learn a lot at these shows so try not to miss this one.

Again, if any juniors are working on patches, just let me know. I will bring all information with me to the show.

Roxanne Lopez, Junior Chair
Hm.  770-436-0387

MAY MINERAL SECTION MEETING
Green Minerals

The next meeting of the Mineral Section will be held at my house on May 18, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. Dinner is at 6:30 P.M., but RSVP.

Our topic will be Green Minerals: malachite, chrysocolla, dioptase. This was to be our St. Patrick's Day theme, but we'll celebrate in May this year. Maybe we should do our Cinco de Mayo celebration in August?

If you have an idea for a topic of discussion or would like to volunteer to have a meeting at your home, please contact me.

Thank you!
Julian Gray, Mineral Section Chair

FOSSIL SECTION NEWS

There will be no Fossil Section meeting this month. Keep your eyes on future Tips and Trips for an announcement regarding the next meeting date, time and location.

Friends, like fossils, are forever,
Harry Yingst, Fossil Section Chair
3412 Greenfield Drive, Marietta, GA 770.565.1630

AFMS and SFMS WEBSITES

Check out the SFMS (Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies) and AFMS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies) websites:
http://www.amfed.org/sfms and www.amfed.org

from Lodestar (SFMS newsletter; 03/04)

MICROMOUNT SECTION

There will be no Micromount Section meeting this month. Keep your eyes on future Tips and Trips for an announcement regarding the next meeting date, time and location.

Dave Babulski, Micromount Section Chair

SHOP HINT

A good shield for a large slab saw is a bicycle fender. It is just the right size and shape to keep lubricant flying off the blade from spraying all over the shop.

from Huntin'& Diggin' (3/96), via SCFMS Newsletter (3-4/04)
SUNSHINE NEWS

I know that there are lots of positive things happening out there but I'm just not hearing about it. This past month there have been several birthdays to celebrate:

Birthdays:
Carolyn Daniels (April 26th), Marlene Leitzman (April 30th) and Bill Waggener (April 24th). Congratulations!

Presentations:
GMS members Carolyn Daniels (chair), Bill Waggener, Joan White and Kim Cochran oversaw the Fossil Competition of the State Science Olympiad - Division C (High School Level) at Emory University on March 27, 2004. Carolyn and Kim wrote most of the questions (with a little help from Doug Daniels) and provided the fossils for each station. There were 28 teams of two competing. Sara Gorday and her partner (Chamblee Charter School) won first place. Sara said this year’s competition was harder than last year’s (also overseen by GMS). This must be so, because the highest score was 80 points out of 96 points. You might see some of the questions from this competition in this or future issues of Tips and Trips. See how you do! You’ll have a greater appreciation of our youth!

GMS members were spread a little thin on March 27th since that was also the date of the Super Science Saturday at Hunt Elementary School in Fort Valley, GA. Mickey and Lizabeth McClain represented GMS. There were over 100 parents and children attending. Lizabeth said that they gave out a lot of rock and mineral material to all who stopped by.

Tom Peard talked to a home school in College Park in March.

Random Acts of Kindness: I was the recipient of a random act of kindness this past month that I’d like to share.

I was on my way into work and running a little late, when merging onto Peachtree Industrial Road I rear-ended a brand new Volvo sports car. Fortunately, there was no obvious damage to the vehicles with the exception of maybe a minor scratch. I jumped out of my car with thoughts running through my mind that my driving record was almost clear. I had 2 prior accidents and 3 years was almost up where my premiums would be coming down. My insurer had threatened to drop me with another accident. Well, as I rushed over to meet the prosperous-looking driver of the Volvo, I proceeded to drop the contents of my purse all over Peachtree Industrial Road. I was profusely apologetic, and although I don’ t remember, I think I told him the story of my life as he was helping me pick up my wallet, lipstick, etc. As we were exchanging names and numbers, I asked him to allow me to reimburse him out of pocket if there were any damages to his car. He graciously agreed to this.

Two days later, I received a letter on letterhead from an attorney’s office. Now, I don't like getting letters from attorneys. So with a racing heart, I opened it. The gentleman I hit was a personal injury lawyer. Before reading further, I’m thinking, “Oh no, whiplash!!”. But no, he stated in his letter that he thought about my situation on the way to work, and how I had a lot to deal with in my life right now. He didn't want a minor accident adding to my worries, so he wrote, "Let's forget about it, let's consider the issue closed. I tell my boys all the time that we should each try to do something every day to make someone else's life, or at least their day, a little better. You have given me that opportunity today. I hope this letter will provide you some relief and brighten your day a bit...."

The purpose of telling this story is that if we have the opportunity to bring a little happiness or "sunshine" into someone's life then do it! Deliver a "random act of kindness" when you see the opportunity!

See you all at the show.
Marilyn L. Tarantino, Sunshine Chair