

# Tips *and* Trips



The Georgia Mineral Society

\*Atlanta, Georgia\*

Volume XXXVIII/Six

June 2009

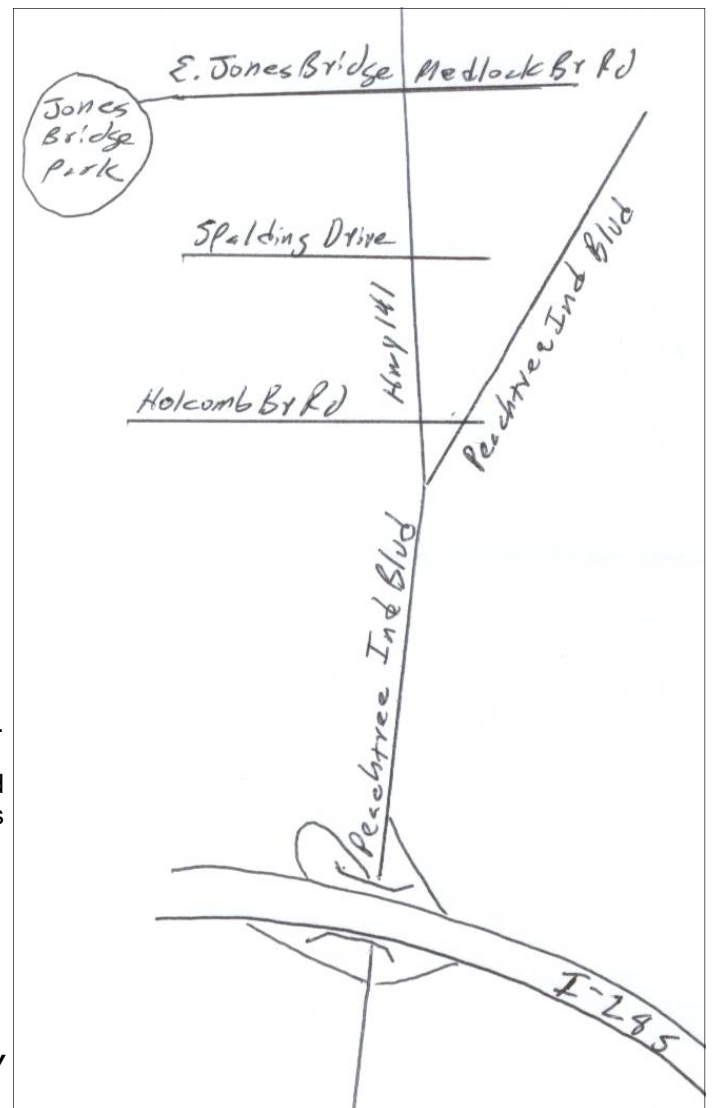


**Picnic and Auction**  
**Saturday June 20 11:30 AM**  
**Jones Bridge Park**  
**Norcross, Georgia**

The picnic will begin first. Everyone bring a covered dish.  
GMS will supply ice, drinks, and paper products.  
Afterwards we will have a short business meeting followed by elections. Lastly we will have a 200 lot auction. This is always a fun day. Please plan to attend.

Kim  
Special Events Chair

**Please note:**  
**We will not have a general meeting on the first Monday of the month. The picnic will be our monthly meeting.**





**The Georgia Mineral Society, Inc.**  
 A Non-Profit Educational Organization  
 Seventy Years of Tradition  
 Objective and Purpose  
 To Educate the Youth of the State  
 and the Members of this Society  
 In the Field of Earth Science



**AFMS Education - All American Club 2003**

**President**  
 Bill Waggener  
 1909 Moores Mill Road  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30318  
 404.355.7377  
[president@gamineral.org](mailto:president@gamineral.org)

**Executive Vice President**  
 Lizabeth McClain  
 4000 Lindley Circle  
 Powder Springs, GA 30127  
 770.439.5756  
[membership@gamineral.org](mailto:membership@gamineral.org)

**Vice President**  
 Carl Ziglin  
 995 Laurel Mill Dr.  
 Roswell, GA 30076  
 770.241.7800  
[programs@gamineral.org](mailto:programs@gamineral.org)

**Secretary**  
 Kim Cochran  
 2695 Van Court  
 Snellville, GA 30278  
 770.979.8331

**Treasurer**  
 John Trimble  
 3549 Daventry Lane NW  
 Kennesaw, GA 30144  
 770.425.5075  
[treasurer@gamineral.org](mailto:treasurer@gamineral.org)

**Gem Section Chair**  
 Carl Ziglin  
 995 Laurel Mill Dr.  
 Roswell, GA 30076  
 770.241.7800  
[gems@gamineral.org](mailto:gems@gamineral.org)

**Mineral Section Chair**  
 Jay Gorday  
 1690 Granger Ct  
 Chamblee, GA 30341  
 770.986.0822  
[minerals@gamineral.org](mailto:minerals@gamineral.org)

**Fossil Section Chair**  
 Martha Brown  
 4837 Greenway Road  
 Norcross, GA 30071  
 770.448.0876  
[fossils@gamineral.org](mailto:fossils@gamineral.org)

**Junior Section Chair**  
 Roxanne Lopez  
 1711 Donna Lynn Drive  
 Smyrna, GA 30080  
 770.436.0387  
[juniors@gamineral.org](mailto:juniors@gamineral.org)

**Micromount Section Chair**  
 Dave Babulski  
 2677 Colony Circle  
 Snellville, GA 30078  
 678.580.2475  
[micromount@gamineral.org](mailto:micromount@gamineral.org)

**Immediate Past President**  
 Bill Waggener  
 1909 Moores Mill Road  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30318  
 404.355.7377

**Trustee to 2009**  
 Eva Ostrofsky  
 1402 Arbor Lake Court  
 Hoschton, GA 30548  
 678-425-2573

**Trustee to 2010**  
 Marcella Wood  
 3764 Briarcliff Road, NE  
 Atlanta, GA 30345  
 404-636-6102

**Trustee to 2011**  
 Anita Westlake  
 1253 Spencer Drive  
 East Point, GA 30344  
 404.761.7849

**Tips & Trips Editor**  
 Tom Batcha  
 2300 Oakland Chase ct  
 Lawrenceville, GA 30044  
 678-407-4224  
[newsletter@gamineral.org](mailto:newsletter@gamineral.org)

**Field Trip Chair**  
 George Libby  
 1730 Rhett Butler Dr.  
 Lilburn, GA 30047  
 770.978.2117  
[fieldtrips@gamineral.org](mailto:fieldtrips@gamineral.org)

**May Show Chair**  
 Kim Cochran  
 2695 Van Court  
 Snellville, GA 30278  
 770.979.8331

**Webmaster**  
 Jim Flora  
 P.O. Box 605  
 Hiawassee, GA 30546  
 706.896.8040  
[webmaster@gamineral.org](mailto:webmaster@gamineral.org)

**Education Chair**  
 Bill Waggener  
 1909 Moores Mill Road  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30318  
 404.355.7377  
[education@gamineral.org](mailto:education@gamineral.org)

**Committee Chairs**

Adopt-A-Highway	Ginger Peterson	404.403.4855
Assets/Equipment	Jay Gorday	770.986.0822
Awards	Carl Ziglin	770.241.7800
Building	John Trimble	770.425.5075
Curator/Gem Box	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Facilities	<b>Open to Volunteers</b>	
Historian	Roxanne Lopez	770.436.0387
Hospitality	Margaret Ronan	404.636.0720
Librarian	Julian C. Gray	770.973.3632
Parliamentarian	Frank Decaminada	770-992-8309
Refreshments	Kim Prakash & Nancy Marden	770.879.0476 770.447.8542
Special Events	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Sunshine	Linda Batcha	678.407.4224
Telephone	George Libby	770.978.2117
SFMS Rep.	Frank Decaminada	770-992-8309

**The article submittal due date for the July 2009 newsletter is June 10, 2009.**

**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:  
[gms@gamineral.org](mailto:gms@gamineral.org).

**May Show Committee Chairs**

Show Chair	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Dealer Chair	Anita Westlake	404.761.7849
Exhibits	Tom Batcha	678.407.4224
Demonstrations	John Trimble	770.425.5075
Hospitality	Richard Graveline	770.972.8714
Treasurer	John Trimble	770.425.5075
Advertising	Jay Gorday	770.986.0822
Dealer Dinner	Ginger Peterson	404.403.4855
Database	Mary Porter	770.998.1018
Auction	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Set Up/Take Down	Jay Gorday	770.986.0822

June 2009

The Georgia Mineral Society

## Georgia Mineral Society May 2009 Minutes

The May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Georgia Mineral Society was called to order at 7:30PM by Bill Waggener, President. There were 35 in attendance. Bill welcomed everyone and especially Sarah Gorday who will graduate from Georgia Tech in a few months.

Carl Ziglin introduced Kim Cochran who with the Show Committee discussed preparations for the upcoming gem show. Anita Westlake reported that we have dealers. Jim Russell, a long time dealer recently died. His wife Sherri plans to attend the show. Linda Batcha brought a card for people to sign. Anita mentioned the new dealers who will set up here for the first time. We will have 33 or 34 dealer's total.

- Tom Batcha reported that all the exhibit space is filled. John Trimble reported that our usual bunch has signed up to do demonstrations. There are still openings if anyone wishes to do a demo on anything hobby related. Richard Graveline reported that there are still some openings for hospitality table. He has a sign up sheet for those volunteering.

- Jay Gorday reported that all of the advertising is done. We are in Creative Loafing, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, and online at AJC. He brought a copy of the ad in Creative Loafing. He reported that also that we will load the trailer at Kim's house on Wednesday about 2-2:30. He will arrive at the Civic Center at about 10:00 on Thursday morning. We can use the help at takedown on Sunday. Ginger Peterson is no longer on drugs. Please sign up to donate food or you can give money for food. We will have a Publix fried chicken. We need side items. Dinner will be served at 6:00 on Thursday evening. Jay will bring a microwave and will make coffee. We plan on feeding about 60 people. There will probably be leftovers to snack on during the show.

- Kim reported that Mary Porter completed the database. A mailing list was given to Ameripress and the post cards have been mailed out. There was no hard copy of the list given to Kim. With the help of other members 1032 grab bags were filled. He auction will be held on Saturday at 1:00. We will have around 150 lots. Bill thanked Anita and Kim. He said that this is our major fundraiser and a public service.

### *GMS General Business*

The chair layout for the general meeting reflected that of the new meeting room. The room is narrow than our present room but it is deeper. There will also be a kitchen and workrooms. At the front entrance (which will be the rear of the meeting room) will have space for door prizes, displays and refreshments as reported by John Trimble.

-Lizabeth McClain reported that we have 658 members. Charles cleared his throat and adjusted his glasses. Lizabeth can email a membership list for those who wish one and will have updated lists at each meeting. These are

for member use only and not to be given for commercial purposes.

- Carl reported that the next meeting will be the picnic and auction on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

- Jay Gorday made a motion to dispense with the minutes for April. It was seconded by John Trimble. The motion was carried.

- Carl will welcome all inputs for awards which will be given out in October. He reported that there will be no Gem section meeting because of Memorial Day. He asked for volunteers to host future meetings and asked for suggestions on topics.

- Jay reported that the Mineral Section will meet on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Linda and Tom Batcha's house. Dinner will be served at 6:30. The topic will be Beryl. There will be an election for a new section chair.

- Martha Brown reported that the next Fossil Section meeting will be at her house on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The topic will be Terrestrial Floral Evolution.

- Bill reported that on June 6<sup>th</sup> the Junior Section will attend "A Day in a Miner's life" in Dahlonega. Everyone is welcome to attend Junior Section functions and to assist Roxanne Lopez.

- The Micromount Section will meet on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM at Linda and Tom Batcha's house. Tom will have Wavelite from Arkansas. There will be no food. RSVP.

- Tom thanked everyone for getting bulletin information to him on time. There will be applications for Wild Acres and William Holland in the June or July issue.

- George Libby reported that there will be a field trip to Graves Mountain on May 16<sup>th</sup> and a trip to the Hogg Mine on Memorial Day weekend. Lawrence Parker reported that he attended the trip to Glendon, NC. Everyone had a good time and there was plenty to collect. Bill said that Mike Streeter, the NC state geologist, has high graded his material collected and has donated three buckets of pyrite for the grab bags.

- Bill said that Jim Flora is doing a great job with our website. If you see anything which needs to be updated please contact Jim.

- Bill reported that we have received our second mini-grant application for this year. Various members chewed their gum. Tom Batcha spoke to Loganville Middle School. Shirley and Lawrence Parker spoke to Clayton Elementary. Anita will speak to the Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society on Amber. She spoke all day at Tellus for National Astronomy Day. Bill said that the EtaAquariid Meteorite Shower may be seen after midnight. Anita will not be able to operate our meteorite reporting station. She is too busy with the earthquake reporting station.

- Bill thanked Ginger for the recent Adopt A Hwy pick up. She reported that there will be a masquerade pickup and that she may have bunny ears and tails for next years Easter pickup. One of our members found two \$100 bills and bought lunch for everyone attending. After the pickup everyone ate BBQ and collected marble at Nelson.

*(Minutes continued on Page 6)*



**President's Message**

Hi folks, I hope that you are doing well. We have accomplished another successful Mothers' Day show. Only through the efforts of many members does the show come together and run smoothly. From the Dealers' Dinner to breakdown, members stepped forward to carry the load and complete each job. Some problems were out of our control: lacking air conditioning, the show floor was pretty warm on Friday and Saturday. Regardless, the dealers and shoppers seemed to have a successful experience. No one reported record sales, but the dealers that I spoke with ended with a profitable bottom line. Thank you to all participating members.

I was unable to carry and move heavy objects during the show due to a pinched nerve in my back. I spent much time wandering the floor talking to dealers and customers. Thanks for the sympathy and efforts to remedy the discomfort. I don't know if carrying pyrite at Glendon, NC or playing volleyball with high school students had much to do with the nerve problem. What did you say? Do you mean that I can't do all the things that used to be reflex just because age is creeping up on me? That doesn't seem fair. I am not THAT old!

The Elementary School State Science Olympiad went very smoothly. Almost 60 teams competed in the Rock Hound event. Lots of young energy and enthusiasm bounced off the walls in the area. Afterwards I visited Jeanette and Olin Banks at Tranquility Care Center in Austell, GA. My minor aches and pains went away as I talked to these two pillars of GMS, SFMS and MEFI. Jeanette looks good and holds her end of the conversation very well. Olin is very supportive of Jeanette if a bit distracted. Both seem pleased with the change of venue from Emory Midtown to Austell. Beautiful grounds and well-decorated rooms present a most comfortable setting for patient, family and visitors. If you have the chance, a call or visit is appreciated. Jeanette's comment was "I didn't know that I knew this many people!" Please keep Jeanette and Olin in your prayers.

Summer is coming and many field trips are planned. Cloning technology is the only way to do everything that is presented. Choices become very difficult at these times. Maybe next year the deselected trips will have priority. In the meantime, keep well and be inquisitive. I hope to see you in the field soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill

**Membership**

Georgia Mineral Society would like to welcome the following new members: Allen Downs of Hiawassee, GA; Chuck, Joni, William, and Matthew Jordan of Hampton, GA; Bryan Major of Anderson, SC; Keith and Kathy Phagan of Gainesville, GA; Kasey Reavis, Geoff Kiner, and Brook Kiner of Canton, GA; and Tom and Nadine Taylor of Crouse, NC. Please introduce yourselves to them when you meet them.

Our current members are renewing at a steady pace. I appreciate your promptly letting me know of any changes to information. Let's keep it up! You may e-mail me at [mgm5258@netzero.net](mailto:mgm5258@netzero.net) or call me at 770-439-5756.

Happy rockhounding!

Lizabeth McClain  
Executive Vice President



**Covered Dish Dinner for Sue, Jay, & Sarah Gorday**  
by Martha & LeRoy Brown  
4837 Greenway Road / Norcross, GA 30071  
Phone # 770/448-0876

Sunday, June 14, 2009 at 3:00 PM

We are having a 'Moving to Augusta Party' for Sue, Jay, and Sarah Gorday. All members of the Georgia Mineral Society are invited. Jay, Sue, and Sarah have done so much for the club and we would like to say good bye and good luck. We are going to miss them very much.

If you would like to attend, please bring something to share to eat and one chair per person. We will have dishes, cutlery, drinks, bread, and meat.



**Nominations for Club Officers**

Here are the GMS Slate of Officers for 2010:

- President - Bill Waggener;
- Executive Vice President - Lizabeth McClain;
- Vice President - Carl Ziglin,
- Secretary - Kim Cochran,
- Treasurer - Richard Graveline;
- Trustee - Eva Ostrofsky

The nomination committee for 2010 officers consists of John Trimble as chair, Linda Batcha, Ginger Peterson, Julian Gray, and Kim Cochran. The slate will be voted on at the June picnic. There will also be nominations from the floor.

**Fossil Section News**



DATE: June 15, 2009  
TIME: 7:30 PM  
LOCATION: LeRoy & Martha Brown's Home  
4837Greenway Road, Norcross GA 30071  
PHONE: 770/448-0876 For directions & RSVP

**TERRESTRIAL FLORA EVOLUTION**

June's meeting will be on plant evolution. We will be focusing primarily on the fossils we have collected. If you have any specimens to discuss, please bring them.

Thanks to Richard Graveline for the great cupcakes. I would also like to thank Bill Waggener, Susan Filak, Richard Graveline, Carl Ziglin, and Gail Leadingham for attending.

Thank You,  
Martha S. Brown

**Mineral Section**

As I sit down to write my last Mineral Section article, I'm recuperating from our show. We had several fine mineral displays at the show (all the displays were very good this year!). I hope everyone took time to look over the displays and to stop by and look at the Micro-minerals that John and Dave brought. I encourage everyone to put in a display next year. It's fun to show off your collection and is educational also.

I would like to thank Tom and Linda Batcha for hosting the May Mineral Section meeting. The topic this month was Beryl. As usual, if you missed the meeting you missed an informative program and a chance to see all the specimens everyone brought.

Details on the new Mineral Section Chair and the next meeting will be found next month in the newsletter.

I would like to thank everyone who participated and brought minerals to look at to the meetings while I have been section chair.

Once again, I would like to thank Tom and Linda for being our hosts for the May meeting.

Jay Gorday  
GMS Mineral Section Chair



**Micromount Section**

There are no micromount section meetings scheduled this summer. Stay tuned for more information in the fall.

David Babulski Micromount Chair

**Gem Section**

**June meeting:**  
Monday June 29th, 6:30 dinner, 7:30 meeting

This month's topic will be official state gem stones.

We will be meeting at:  
The home of Kim Cochran  
2695 Van Court  
Snellville, GA 30278

**Please phone 770-979-8331 to RSVP.**

Answer to April's Gem Section Trivia:

Q: What gem stone is named for a Russian leader? (Hint: It's not putinite) A: Alexandrite, discovered on the birthday of Czar Alexander II of Russia and so named in his honor. It turns from a yellow or blue-green in natural light to strawberry red in artificial light. Even mediocre examples of this gemstone are rare.

Gem Section Trivia:

How many states do NOT have an official gem stone?

Here are our next meeting hosts. THANKS!!!

July 27th Ginger Peterson  
August 31st Pam Martin

We're looking for hosts for the remainder of this year's gem section meetings. Please see the list below and let me know if you're interested:

September 28th  
October 26th  
November 30th

We are also looking for speakers for all future meetings. Please step up to speak up!

Carl Ziglin,  
Gem Section Chair  
gems@gamineral.org



**Junior Section**

Save the Date  
Junior Field Trip  
July 11, 2009

Helen, GA - Exploring and Tubing  
For more information, call Roxanne.

Roxanne Lopez  
Junior Chair 678-491-0489

**JUNE 2009 BIRTHDAYS**

- 6/01 Shirley Domzalski
- 6/02 Brian Lunsford
- 6/03 Barbara Warren
- 6/03 Marcella Wood
- 6/04 Lloyd Leadingham
- 6/05 Katie Gulley
- 6/05 Dan Kane
- 6/07 Raymond Herbert
- 6/07 Elise Shuford
- 6/10 Evan Ibarra
- 6/11 Liz Scruggs
- 6/12 Allen Downs
- 6/12 Morris Holmes
- 6/12 Abby Thomasson
- 6/13 Dave Scruggs
- 6/16 Jessie Hill
- 6/17 Matthew Cecil
- 6/17 Chandler Kane
- 6/17 Bob Richardson
- 6/18 Mary Margaret Garrett
- 6/18 Patricia Vas Dias
- 6/19 Joe Baxter
- 6/21 Samantha Parks
- 6/22 Kay Ibarra
- 6/23 Ron Hayter
- 6/23 Kathleen Wallis
- 6/25 Joni Jordan
- 6/25 Sam Lamb
- 6/26 Murphy Mallory
- 6/26 Susan Rothschild



- 6/27 Jene Davis
- 6/27 William Jolly
- 6/27 Elizabeth Raby
- 6/27 Toby Stewart
- 6/28 Rita Kempf
- 6/30 Hannah Hayward
- 6/30 Jackie Hayward
- 6/30 Harry Hyaduck

**JUNE 2009 ANNIVERSARIES**

- 6/01 Marlene and Noel Leitzman
- 6/12 Robin and Sam Lamb
- 6/20 Jane and Joe Broome



**Sunshine Report**

Hello club members, please remember Jeannette Banks she has cancer. Let us keep her and Olin in our thoughts and prayers. Update as of Saturday May 23rd, Jeannette is now back at home and feeling better. Please continue the phone calls, sending cards, and go by and visit them when you can.

Please contact me with if you have any events you would like to share with the club.



Linda Batcha  
Sunshine Chair

**Meeting Minutes (continued)**

- Jay reported on Assets and Equipment. Our cabbng machines are in his barn inn Canoochee. There is a 24 inch saw, an 18 inch saw, a 15 inch drop saw, a silver working table and 15 to 20 tables with cabbng units. There is enough cabbng equipment for 3 to 4 people to work at the same time.
- John reported that our operating funds are about \$25K - \$28K. Most of the show expenses have been paid.
- Building Update: John reported that we still do not have all of the information on the building. He had pictures showing the building and the amount of parking. He said that we are outside of the 100 and 500 year flood plains. Bill scratched his elbow and Martha scratched her head. John said that the owner's association said that we can install a backdoor in the workroom for safety reasons. A door will be installed between the two sides of the building. There will be room for the library and the club microscope. He has received a copy of the condo association rules and covenants. He can email them if anyone is interested. We may need approval from the Fire Marshall for the number of people who will be inside the building. LeRoy Brown suggested that we try not to upset anyone. We can do simple things on our own. The insurance company may require that we have a fire inspection. The air conditioning system is about 25 years old but the outside compressor was installed about 7 years ago. John explained that the Board of Trustees consist of the President, Immediate Past-President, Executive Vice-President, Treasurer, plus the three elected trustees.
- Linda Batcha reported that Jeannette Banks is still in the hospital. Jim Russel died. She had a card for each of them to be signed. Frank Decaminada visited Jeannette. She welcomes visitors.
- John reported that the nominating committee consisted of himself as chair, Linda Batcha, Ginger Peterson, Julian Gray, and Kim Cochran. The slate of officers are President - Bill Waggener; Exec Vice President - Lizabeth McClain; Vice President - Carl Ziglin, Secretary - Kim Cochran, Treasurer - Richard Graveline; Trustee - Eva Ostrofsky.
- The slate will be be printed in the June Issue of the Tips & Trips and voted on at the June picnic. There will also be nominations from the floor.
- Nancy Murden thanked Sue and Jay Gorday for providing refreshments. Richard brought brownies.
- Bill asked for anyone who brought stamps to give to Kim.
- Martha Brown will host a covered dish dinner for the Gorday's on Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. The Gordays are moving to Augusta. The party will be open to all members. Please bring a dish and a chair. Information will be in the Tips and Trips.
- Margaret Ronan gave out door prizes.
- Sue Gorday made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Jay. The motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kim Cochran, Recording Secretary



**Education Report**

GMS members continue to spread their knowledge of the earth sciences. Kim Cochran talked to several Societies on varied subjects. He spoke to the NE Georgia Gem & Mineral Society on Fossilization, to the Georgia Veterans G&MS on Mineral ID, to the Athens Rock and Gem Club on Plate Tectonics, to the Chattanooga Geology Club on Mineral ID, and to The Columbia G&MS on Pyrite. He also put in an Ammonite exhibit in Augusta, GA. Anita Westlake continues to share her knowledge of meteorites with interested groups. Shirley and Lawrence Parker continue to educate the students at Clayton Elementary School in Cherokee County. Dave Babulski has helped to organize a Science Club at the Loganville Middle School. Roxanne and Chris Lopez shared their knowledge with participants at the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center's Earth Day celebration. Lizabeth and Mickey McClain, Richard Graveline, and Bill Waggener tested elementary students over rocks and minerals at the Elementary School Science Olympiad at Kennesaw State University. Carolyn Daniels and helpers tested middle and high school students over fossils at the Middle School and High School Science Olympiads.

Mickey McClain and Roxanne Lopez both can use support in their classrooms. Please ask them what would be most helpful.

The Holly Camp Memorial Earth Science Education Minigrant 2009/2010 applications are available on the GMS website. We have already received two applications for the up-coming school year. Please encourage all Earth Science, Earth Systems and elementary teachers that you know to apply for the \$300 Minigrants.

Please let me know who is sharing their rock and fossil knowledge. Everyone has some unique tidbits that students love to share. It is encouraging to others to see that we are welcomed and well-received by clubs and teachers over the state.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Bill Waggener, Education Chair



*Pictures of the Elementary School Science Olympiad at Kennesaw State University (Photos by Richard Graveline)*



### Show Report

We arrived to setup the show and found that the air conditioning at the Civic Center was out. Set up began. The dealers came in. Exhibit cases were filled. The Demo and Hospitality tables were organized. The Dealer Dinner began at 6:00 PM. Everything was well organized. We had plenty of meat and a good balance of side items and desserts.

Without air conditioning, Friday was a hot day even though fans had been set up. As usual, Friday was a little slow. Saturday arrived and we had A/C for a while. The crowds were good. People enjoyed the exhibits and demonstrations. There was a lot of shopping. The auction brought in more than \$1,800.

Sunday came. The A/C was working. Again there were very good crowds. Take down went smoothly and quickly. Jay Batcha won first prize for his exhibit on Georgia Picture Queen Jasper. Martha Brown won 2<sup>nd</sup> place for her exhibit on Tourmaline. Jay Gorday won 3<sup>rd</sup> place for his exhibit on faceted stones. Susan Filack won the Working Members prize. She received a nice piece of Texas Palm Wood.

Over all the dealers did well. Some sales were down with the economy. I think that it was a very good show. We had a great show committee planning all phases of the show. I want to thank everyone who helped out. I can coordinate efforts but it takes the hard work of many to bring it about. There were many who make our show a success.

There will be a little while to rest before plans for the 2010 Show begin. I know that I can count on the membership to chip in again.

Kim



*Clockwise from top: John and Dave at the microscope area. Bob doing demos. Visitors sign in at Hospitality. The Show Floor.*





Eva and Susan at Hospitality Table

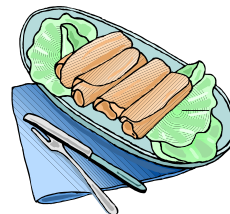


Olga giving a demonstration to a crowd of young people (Photos by Tom Batcha, Jay Gorday, and Dylan Porter)



Exhibit Contest Winners (top to bottom)

- First Place - Jay Batcha / Georgia Picture Queen Jasper
- Second Place - Martha Brown / Tourmaline
- Third Place - Jay Gorday / Faceting



**May Show Dealer Dinner**

Well the Dealer Dinner was held on Thursday, May 7th for the "Show" and it went very well again. There was plenty of food and the dealers seemed to enjoy it. I am so impressed with our club...lots of help for this project ... Thanks so much to all the cooks and also the kitchen "staff"... Pam, Jay, Mary, Lizabeth, Sara, and Margaret... extra Thanks to Margaret for doing dishes!! Y'all make it easy work and I look forward to next year!

Ginger

# Words of Caution

by John Wright, RPG, Conservation & Legislation Chair

If you plan on visiting the National Forest be aware that you cannot trust the information on their "web sites" or in their brochures as Forest Service law enforcement officers use a different set of rules, regulations, and interpretations than the ones published.

These inconsistencies are probably the result of poor coordination within the departments of the National Forest and if you have ever attended any of the public forums they conduct, you know just how poorly organized they are. Unfortunately, Forest Service officials and Federal Judges invariably side with the law enforcement officers no matter how inconsistent or corrupt the circumstances may be.

Dick Pankey, President of ALAA , informed me of a pending case which is very typical of what can happen that occurred in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests located in northern Georgia. The victims in this case are Dr. Madden, MD, and his fiancé, who were rock-hounding in compliance with the Forest Service directives, but criminally charged any way. I believe this is an important enough example that all of our members should be made aware of the problems they could encounter when visiting in "our" National Forests. Permission was granted by the victim, Dr. Madden, to use his very well written account of the circumstances, which unfortunately is very typical of a number of other similar cases being adjudicated in the SFMS area at the present time.

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E-Mail received from Dick Pankey:

*A couple of weeks ago I received this article. It was written by a rockhound from Georgia. He first contacted me in early February. We have exchanged e-mails, had telephone conversations and he has provided me with other information regarding collecting in Georgia National Forests and the charges against him and his fiancé. I have begun collecting rockhounding/collecting regulations and information from BLM and FS offices around the country. So far much of the information is sketchy and vague. Written regulation and pamphlets most often don't exist. What I have found out is that although the laws allows for collecting on BLM and FS land each district can establish their own management plan based on their interpretation of the law and the ranger/enforcement officer enforces the management plan based upon their interpretation. And these vary widely!*

*So we have undocumented, inconsistent regulations, enforced by people based upon their ideas and agendas, so THIS CAN HAPPEN TO YOU.*

*Dick Pankey, President, ALAA*

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### THIS CAN HAPPEN TO YOU

On November 1, 2008, my fiancé, Dori, and I were criminally charged with collecting Staurolites on U.S. Forest

Service land. Local collectors have been going to this each location to collect Staurolites for over 30 years. Our friends, Tonya and Barry, informed us of the location in Blue Ridge. We visited this area four (4) times in the summer and fall of 2008. The Staurolites we found on the surface were mostly poor quality. However, just a few inches under the surface using a scraper we found much better quality ones. We used hand tools including a scraper and a small pick. I feel we were very careful not to damage the site. We did not dig more than 6 or 7 inches and completely filled in our holes and raked the dirt to ensure the site looked undisturbed.

On November 1, 2008 Officer Mike Tipton of the USFS approached us. We did not attempt to hide ourselves because we had no idea we were doing anything wrong. He stated he had set up a video camera at the site and had been watching us. This was very alarming to us. I assured him if he had approached us that first time and explained that the Forest Service did not wish us to collect here, we would have politely left and never returned. He will attest to the fact that we were cooperative. He even complimented us stating we were "not like most of the individuals he deals with." Officer Tipton approached us and asked us what we were looking for. We told him we were looking for Staurolites. He did not know what Staurolites were, but informed us we needed a mining permit to dig for any type of mineral. He told us any Staurolites we find are government property. Next he confiscated our scraping tools, knap sack and bucket. He separated us and read me my Miranda rights. At this point he asked me if I would allow federal agents to search my home in Rome for any other federal property. When I said "no" my interview was over. Evidently he tried to obtain a search warrant, but was unsuccessful. Officer Tipton repeatedly inquired as to whether we sold rocks. I told him I have never sold minerals and Staurolites have only intrinsic value. In the past there have been locations in Blue Ridge (Hackney Farm) that have allowed individuals to collect a bucket of them for \$5.00.

On January 11, 2009, Officer Tipton gave us a courtesy call. He stated we are being charged criminally with 261.9 (a) destroying a natural feature or property of the United States (\$250.00 fine) and 261.9(b) removing a natural feature or property of the United States (\$250.00 fine). These are criminal misdemeanor offenses and can result in a criminal record. I strongly feel the section we are being charged under is both vague and does not address the important point that we were collecting minerals. Mineral collecting is generally allowed on most U.S. Forest Service lands including public domain lands and acquired lands. Unfortunately, each individual Forest Service can now make the rules (on acquired lands) dictating the rules for rock hounding and Georgia has one of the most restrictive policies. Under this charge it appears we are vandals or even worse thieves. I told Officer Tipton I was considering going to court. Five days later when I received my ticket it had doubled to \$400.00 for each offense for a total of \$2000.00.



The Georgia Mineral Society

June 2009

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc  
The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.

from Winston –Salem, NC.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee  
An Official Field Trip of The Forsyth County Gem &  
Mineral Club(HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the GEORGIA MINERAL  
SOCIETY

Contact: Jim Stroud, if you have any questions  
concerning the fieldtrip.  
phone: 336-744-2940  
e-mail address: stroudj@vmcmail.com  
mail address: PO Box 4239 Winston-Salem, NC 27115

8:00 am -12:00, Saturday, June 13, 2009  
Vulcan Materials Company's Morganton Quarry  
Morganton, Burk County, N.C.

"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of  
the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and  
to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided  
their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because  
of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL  
PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field  
trips!"

Children:

Over 12 years old can attend if supervised closely by  
parent or guardian. Must wear appropriate safety gear.

No Pets

TRIP: Vulcan Materials Company's Morganton Quarry  
COLLECTING: This quarry has several rock types, which  
include augen gneiss, chlorite biotite gneiss, amphibolite,  
and pegmatite. The following collectable minerals have  
been found at this location: garnet, golden beryl, black  
tourmaline, apatite, sphene, feldspar, biotite and muscovite  
books, and siderite. The majority of these minerals are  
found in the pegmatite zones. Garnets are almandine  
variety and have been found up to silver dollar size.  
However, the majority of them are 1/8" to 1/4" in diameter  
imbedded in the pegmatite.

DMC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose:  
To collect field trip information from it's member societies;  
schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field  
trip information to all member clubs so that each member  
society may publish this information as one of their "official"  
scheduled field trips.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: This is an operating mine. All  
persons attending the fieldtrip will be required to sign a hold  
harmless agreement, take 15 minute hazardous training,  
and wear the required safety gear at all times. This  
includes a hard hat, safety glasses, and steel-toed boots.  
We will meet at the quarry office at 8 a.m., sign releases,  
receive instructions on boundaries and safety, and be lead  
into the collecting area. We must leave the quarry by 12  
noon! In addition, all persons are asked to stay away from  
the quarry walls. There is plenty of material loose on the  
quarry floor. VEHICLES WILL BE PERMITTED INSIDE  
THE QUARRY ON THIS TRIP and parked until leaving.

BRING: Hard hat, safety glasses, rock hammer, and  
something to carry and wrap samples.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

We will meet at the quarry at 8:00 am and be allowed to  
collect until 12:00. Quarry's phone number (828)437-2616.  
Directions: From Interstate 40, take Highway 18 North at  
exit 105. At the fourth traffic light, turn right on Fleming  
Drive. Continue to end of road at Route 64/70 (dead end at  
Bi-Lo Food Store). Turn left on Route 64/70, travel under  
the railroad bridge. Immediately after crossing under  
bridge, at the Viscotec plant, turn right on Kirksey Drive.  
Make another right on Quarry Road. Quarry entrance is  
1/4 mile off Quarry Road.

Vulcan Materials Company  
Causby Quarry Road  
Morganton, NC 28655  
(828) 437-2616

Drive Time: This location is approximately 1 1/2 hour drive

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc  
The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee  
An Official Field Trip of The Mobile Rock and Gem  
Society, Mobile, Alabama (HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the GEORGIA MINERAL  
SOCIETY

JULY DMC FIELD TRIP - HOGG MINE,  
LAGRANGE, GEORGIA - FEE SITE  
Friday, July 3,  
Saturday July 4 & Sunday, July 5, 2009

WHERE: The Famous Hogg Mine and the Quartz Crystal  
Mine outside LaGrange, in Troup County, GA  
WHEN: Friday July 3, 2009 at the Crystal Mine. Campers  
and vendors set up at the Hogg Mine but there will be no  
digging there. Saturday July 4, 2009 at Hogg Mine. Sunday  
July 5, 2009 at Crystal Mine.

COLLECTING: On July 3rd and July 5th, there will be digs  
at the Quartz Crystal Mine for crystals. (some that rival  
Arkansas in quality) There will be a backhoe digging there  
prior to Friday and Sunday digs, exposing new material. On  
July 4th, there will a Rock Swap and dig at the Hogg Mine  
for star rose quartz, aquamarine and tourmaline. A  
backhoe on site will be doing some digging just prior to the  
event.

TIME: Sign-in is from 9:00 to 10:00 at Smiths Corner  
Store, 1231 Bartley Road, LaGrange, GA 30233 each  
morning to sign release, pay fee and get the ticket which is  
necessary to get through the gate. (DO NOT GO  
DIRECTLY TO MINE - MUST HAVE TICKET).

**FEE:** Adults - Discounted price of \$17.00 each day. Children under 18 are free.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Exit 13 on I-85 in LaGrange, GA, go south approximately 2.2 miles on Hwy 219, also called Whitesville Road. We will be meeting at Smith's Corner Store, (The CITGO on the Left) 1231 Bartley Road, at the intersection at Whitesville Rd. and Bartley Road, to sign in.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Pick, shovel, rock hammer, chisels, scratching tools, screen, buckets, gloves, and of course plenty of water, but extra clothes and boots might be useful if it's muddy.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** There is a Port-a-Potty on site. Delicious BBQ plates, drinks and ice cream will be for sale. On July 4th, vendors will be set up selling minerals and anyone interested in setting up a table, tent or booth or tailgating is welcome to do so at no additional charge. Campers and vendors can set up on Friday, July 3rd at the Hogg Mine but there will be no digging at the Hogg Mine on Friday. The Quartz Crystal Mine will be open that day and anyone who gets in early can do some digging there by contacting Rodney Moore by email [sio2ga@bellsouth.net](mailto:sio2ga@bellsouth.net). To arrange for free camping at the Hogg Mine, contact Rodney Moore by email at [sio2ga@bellsouth.net](mailto:sio2ga@bellsouth.net). Visit [www.digforcrystals.com](http://www.digforcrystals.com) for directions, map, pictures, and to have any questions answered about camper access, pets, etc.

**WHERE TO STAY:** Nearby LaGrange, GA offers many hotel choices. We can get a special daily rate of \$49.50 a room for two people at the Days Inn on Hwy 219, about two miles from the meeting place. Their telephone number is 706-882-8881. Just mention that you're going on the field trip to the Hogg Mine. Local state parks offer a full range of camping options and there are also private campgrounds in the area.

**CONTACTS:** The site manager is Rodney Moore. Please follow the Code of Ethics to preserve our relationship with our host.

**Trip Chairman:**

Larry Landry [maryloulandy@aol.com](mailto:maryloulandy@aol.com) or 251-653-8459 or 251-591-5682

*"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!"*

*DMC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose: To collect field trip information from it's member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.*

**Ideas That Rock**

Last month I built two raised-bed planters in my backyard. The stone tiles are quartzite, affixed to a cinderblock framework with masonry adhesive. One bed will be a flower garden, the other a vegetable garden. I guess this project proves there are other things to do with rock - and easier ways to acquire it!

*By Bob Dolezal*



**Fernbank Museum of Natural History**

76 Clifton Rd. NE Atlanta, GA  
(404)929-6300

<http://www.fernbank.edu/museum/>

**On Exhibit:**

Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries  
February 14 through August 16, 2009

**Now Showing in IMAX:**

*Dinosaurs Alive!*  
*Under the Sea*

*Fridays during Martinis & IMAX.5:30pm –10pm: Galapagos*



*Clockwise from Top Right*

Graves Mountain - DMC Field Trip  
 Tom B. speaking to Loganville Middle School  
 Graves Mountain - Jay B. at the Upper Pit  
 Mineral Section - Linda, Richard, and Jay G.  
 Micromount Section - Dave and Billy  
 Adopt-A-Hwy - Group Picture  
 Mineral Section - Aquamarine from Pakistan  
 (Photos by Tom Batcha and Chris Lewis)



# June 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 DMC Field Trip
14 Covered Dish for Gordays	15 Fossil Section	16	17	18	19	20 GMS Picnic and Auction
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Gem Section	30				

### EVENTS

#### Southeastern Gem and Rock Shows

**6-7--BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA:** 36th annual show; Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society; Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; contact J.B. Blackerby, 155 Hwy. 69, Chelsa, AL 35043, (205) 678-6564; [black2200@aol.com](mailto:black2200@aol.com)

**6-7--MARION, KENTUCKY:** Show, "Ben E. Clement Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show"; Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum, Fohs Hall, N. Walker St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 11-5; free admission; dealers, silent auction, door prizes, children's activities, museum tour, fluorescent mineral display, guest speakers, KY Geological Society booth, digs at old mine sites; contact Tina Walker, P.O. Box 391, Marion, KY 42064, (270) 965-4263; e-mail: [beclement@kynet.biz](mailto:beclement@kynet.biz); Web site: [clementmineralmuseum.org](http://clementmineralmuseum.org)

**19-21, ASHVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA** Ashville Gem Fest 2009 (free show, silent auction, fieldtrip, children's activities, etc.) Two free lectures on Saturday: **Radioactive Minerals** and **Fluorite**. Colburn Earth Science Museum (which will be open free all weekend), 2 South Park Square at Augusta Gem & Mineral Society, Inc Pack Place, Ashville, NC. Hours: 19th & 20th 10:00am to 6:00pm; 21st 11:00am to 5:00pm. Contact 828-254-7162

<http://www.colburnmuseum.org>

### Georgia State Park Events

#### A Day In A Miner's Life

**Saturday, Jun 6, 2009** 9 AM - 4:45 PM  
Dahlonega Gold Museum Historic Site - Dahlonega, GA  
Peek back at life in the 1830s with demonstrations on gold panning, blacksmithing, shingle making, pioneer tools, candle making, folk toys, spinning, pine needle basket making and more. \$3.50-\$5. 706-864-2257.

#### Evening Iron Pour

**Saturday, Jun 13, 2009** 9 PM - 10 PM  
Red Top Mountain State Park and Lodge- Cartersville, GA  
Watch the Red Top furnace crew in action. See cast iron skillets in the making and make your own piece of unique iron artwork by purchasing a "scratch block mold" before the pour. Blocks will be available starting at 2 p.m. Pour starts at about 9 p.m. after the bluegrass concert. \$7 for scratch blocks. 770-975-4226.

#### Geology Hike

**Saturday, Jun 13, 2009** 10 AM - 12 PM  
Sweetwater Creek State Park- Lithia Springs, GA  
Geologist and Friends of Sweetwater Creek State Park member John Johnston will lead a moderate 2-mile hike identifying rock types and explaining how they formed. There will also be a visit inside the ruins of the Civil War era New Manchester Mill alongside the beautiful rapids of Sweetwater Creek. \$1-\$2 plus \$3 parking. 770-732-5876.

THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.  
P.O. Box 15011  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333-5011  
[www.gamineral.org](http://www.gamineral.org)  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: month/day \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: month/day \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's email: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Names & Birthdays: mo/day/yr (residing at home): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Office Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupations: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies, Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS AT GMS: (Check all that apply)

Mineral Section

Micromount Section

Fossil Section

Junior Section

Gem Section

Electronic Newsletter

Dues for New Members (Single, Couple, Family) are \$25.00 per Society year. (\$20.00 + \$5.00 Initial Processing Fee)  
Renewal Dues are \$20.00 per Society year. (due 12 months from the date of joining and every 12 months thereafter)  
Reinstatement Dues (For Expired Membership) are \$25.00 (\$20.00 + \$5.00 Reinstatement Fee).

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ARE FOR THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY INCLUDING CHILDREN RESIDING WITH PARENTS.  
CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE ARE CONSIDERED JUNIOR MEMBERS.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.  
P.O. BOX 15011  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30333 - 5011

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
**PLEASE FORWARD**

**FIRST CLASS**

