

Tips *and* Trips



The Georgia Mineral Society

Atlanta, Georgia

Volume XXXVII/Nine

October 2008

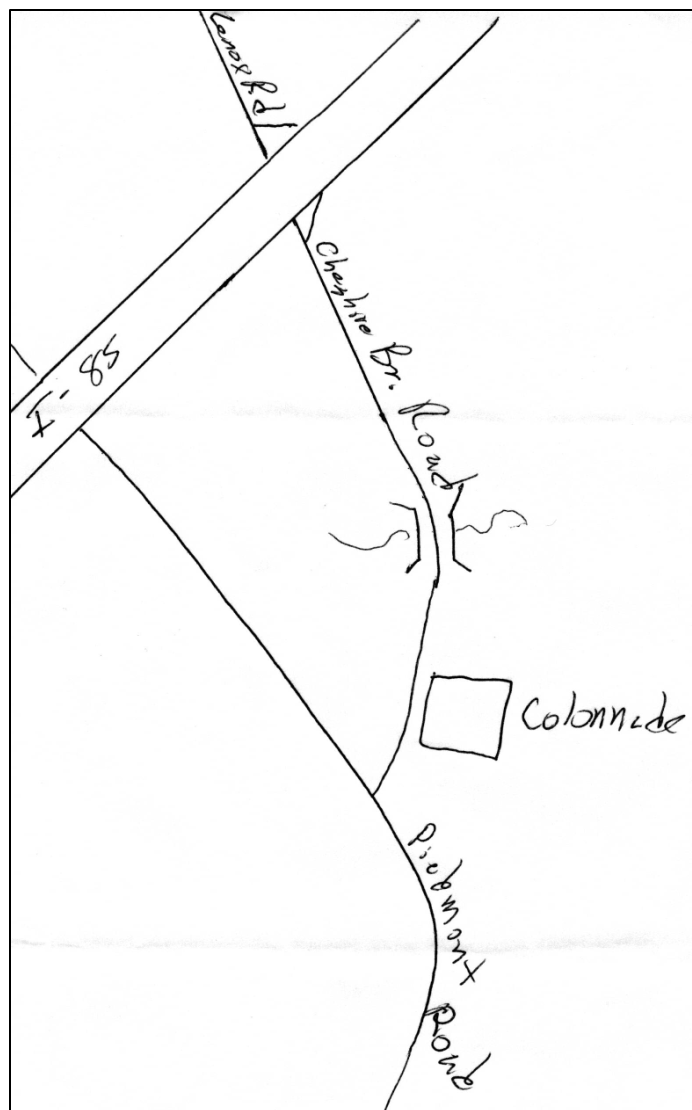
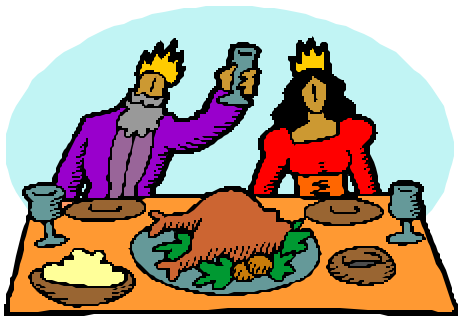
GMS Dinner Meeting

Monday October 6, 2008
at 7:00 pm

Colonnade Restaurant
1879 Cheshire Bridge Rd,
Atlanta 30324

Cost = \$20.00/person
RSVP 770-979-8331
Kim Cochran

We will again have our annual dinner meeting at the Colonnade. At this meeting we will swear in the new officers and hand out awards for this fiscal year. Please contact me to make reservations. I need to know by Friday October 3rd if you are planning to attend. You may pay me ahead or at the door. If you make reservations and do not attend you will owe that money to GMS as we will be charged. Please plan to join us.





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

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Assets/Equipment	Barbara Libby	770.978.2117
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Building	John Trimble	770.425.5075
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Historian	Roxanne Lopez	770.436.0387
Hospitality	Margaret Ronan	404.636.0720
Librarian	Julian C. Gray	770.888.9331
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	Barbara Libby	770.978.2117
Telephone	George Libby	770.978.2117
SFMS Rep.	Anita Westlake	404.761.7849

The article submittal due date for the November 2008 newsletter is October 15, 2008.

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.

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

Fossil Section News

DATE: October 20, 2008
TIME: 7:30 PM
LOCATION: LeRoy & Martha Brown's Home
4837Greenway Road, Norcross GA 30071
PHONE: 770/448-0876 For directions & RSVP

October's meeting will be on the history of the Earth. Please bring your specimen's from the Precambrian. If we manage to make it out of the Precambrian it will be a miracle. It was only four and one half billion years. Did you ever think just what Precambrian means?

Fortunately Georgia has fossils from this period and we can have a lot of fun talking about them.

Last month I did not thank Carl, Kim, and Richard for bringing snacks. I just want to say thank you very much.

If you don't RSVP we will not wait for you. Sorry!

Thank You,
Martha S. Brown



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Gem Section

October meeting:
Monday October 27th, 6:30 dinner, 7:30 meeting

Karen McGinn, A GIA Graduate Gemologist, will give a presentation on 19th century jewelry made of human hair. Karen has a superb collection of this rare jewelry to show, and comes dressed in period attire.

We will be meeting at:
The home of Nancy Marden
2223 Ingram Rd, Duluth, GA 30096

Please phone 770-447-8542 to RSVP.

Answer to last month's Gem Section Trivia:
What is the top flat part of a faceted stone called? The Table!

Gem Section Trivia:
Is Rubellite a pink ruby?

Thanks to Anita Westlake for hosting the September meeting!!

We need some ideas for future programs. Please let me know what you would like to see.

Carl Ziglin,
Gem Section Chair
gems@gaminal.org



Junior Field Trip

Cloudland State Park
Saturday, November 15, 2009
12 noon at Check-In gate

No Meeting in October!

Bring your good walking shoes. We will be going on trails that are moderate in walking. We will be talking about Geology in this area of Georgia. The rocks in these canyons are sedimentary. This means they were deposited at the bottom of ancient seas that covered this area during the Carboniferous Period, some 250 to 310 million years ago. This area is on the edge of the Cumberland Plateau that extends to the Northeast and parallels the Appalachians or Blue Ridge Mountains to the east. The strata (rock layers) here are nearly horizontal. The strata of the Appalachians are folded and faulted (compressed) due to great earth movements that occurred in ancient geological time. Great learning experience!

If the weather is bad and/or rainy, this trip will be cancelled. Please call Roxanne Lopez at 678-491-0489 if you are planning to attend. This is a great place to camp for the night if the weather is not too cold. **To make reservations for camping - call 1-800-864-7275**

Address/Directions
Cloudland Canyon State Park
122 Cloudland Canyon Park
Rising Fawn, GA 30738

Located on Ga. Route 136, 8 miles east of Trenton and I-59, and 18 miles west of LaFayette.

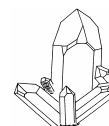
Roxanne Lopez Junior Chair
678-491-0489

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Mineral Section

I would like to thank Kim Cochran for hosting the September Mineral Section Meeting. We had a good crowd show up for the meeting. The topic for the evening was the mineral *Corundum*. If you missed the meeting, you missed a lot of good information and interesting minerals. Once again, thanks go to Kim for being our host and to everyone who brought specimens to show off.

Our next meeting will be in November if the Holidays do not mess up everyone's schedules. Keep an eye on the November newsletter for the details on our next meeting.

Jay Gorday
GMS Mineral Section Chair



President's Message

It is with a heavy heart that I report that Barbara Libby has passed away. She supported GMS in many ways. She held positions that no one else would take. She actively participated in the Gem Section. She dragged her oxygen bottle into the field to collect rocks. She taught folks how to string beads and make chains. She supported George during his troubles and during his good times. Barbara, we will miss you and know that you have gone to a better place.

Recently George had submitted his resignation as field trip chair due to the health issues that Barbara was having. Since things happened so quickly the vacancy was never officially announced. George we want you to know that you are more then welcomed to remain as a field trip chair.

This would appear to be a good time to poll our members to see who would be interested in this position in the future and if George does stay on then that person could possibly co-chair the position with George to become familiar with the duties. Being Field Trip Chair allows you to share knowledge with Society members and interact with field trip persons and groups all over the Southeast. It becomes a terrific learning experience with mentors and assistance coming from many directions. Even if you feel like you don't have a clue as how to find new collecting sites, remember many past sites are loved and welcomed as continuing experiences. Just think you really should go look to see what the site holds before taking lots of folks on a trip. George, Kim, and I are only the tip of the resources willing to guide and assist. If you are interested, please let me know.

Our annual Awards Banquet and Officer Installation is this month at the Collonade Restaurant. Please join us for good food and recognition of our hard working members

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Waggener, President



Membership

There are no new members this month. Our current members are renewing at a steady pace. I appreciate your promptly letting me know of any changes to your information. Let's keep it up! You may e-mail me at mgm5258@netzero.net or call me at 770-439-5756.

Happy rockhounding!

Lizabeth McClain
Executive Vice President



Adopt-a-Highway Report

Thank you very much to all who participated and cleaned up Highway 5 in Ballground on 22 Mar 08.

We will return to Ballground for the next costumed pick-up event in the fall at Halloween. The date is 25 Oct 08 at 10:00 in the morning. Please plan to join us to continue our involvement in a very mineral-rich area of Georgia.

We will eat lunch at Two Brothers BBQ after the clean-up.

Directions to the meeting place: Take 1-75 North to I-575 North. Go 35 miles to exit 27 (Bus.5) – the Howell Bridge Rd/Ball Ground Exit. Go right to the stop sign and left on Bus.5/Canton Highway. We will meet 0.6 mile on the left, at the Thriftown/Conoco Station. Please park on the side away from the store. It takes about 30 minutes from I-75/I-575 to our meeting site.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger Peterson
Adopt-a-Highway Chair



Show Committee Meeting

Thursday October 23, 2008 at 7:30 PM
Kim Cochran's House
2695 Van Court
Snellville, GA 30078

Supper served at 6:30

RSVP 770-979-8331

Dealer Dinner Chair

Ginger Peterson 404-403-4855



GMS Workday

Saturday October 11, 2008 at 11:30 AM

We will start with a covered dish lunch. Afterward we will be working on the sheds or on show cases. This will be followed by a 100 lot auction.

Please bring something for lunch, chairs and folding tables if you have them. Wear clothes that you will not mind if they get messed up.

The auction is an incentive for those who will be working. Do not plan to attend for the auction only. We will be working but we will have some good eats before and fun afterward. Please pray for dry weather.

RSVP 770-979-8331

Kim

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/1 Amanda Burton
- 10/1 Sophie Trentini
- 10/2 Joe Broome
- 10/2 Andrew Fincher
- 10/3 Daniel Demko
- 10/3 Susan Heywood
- 10/3 Christine Sharpton
- 10/3 Erik Swanson
- 10/4 Bruce West
- 10/5 Susan Dodd
- 10/6 Harry J. Hyaduck
- 10/8 Carolyn Madden
- 10/9 Olin Banks
- 10/9 Drew Blair
- 10/9 Benjamin Calderon
- 10/9 Winston Elston
- 10/10 Sharon Brannon
- 10/11 Michael Brady
- 10/12 Stephanie Andrews
- 10/14 Laura Ray
- 10/14 Ian Thomasson
- 10/14 Jennifer Woodson
- 10/16 Carol Horowitz
- 10/17 Carol Williams
- 10/20 Sam Bailey
- 10/20 Marcy Hess
- 10/21 Kim Cochran
- 10/21 Tony Madden
- 10/23 Duane Bailey
- 10/23 Richard Graveline
- 10/23 Hugh Wilkie
- 10/24 Rafael Ibarra
- 10/24 Steven Whaley
- 10/25 John Franetic
- 10/27 Gwyn Johnson
- 10/29 Rishi Kowalski
- 10/30 James Musick
- 10/30 Laurine Sennavoine
- 10/31 Michael Hopkins



Sunshine News

The GMS Has Lost It's Sunshine

Barbara Libby went home to be with the Lord during this past week at the age of 68. Barbara was the Sunshine Chair for the GMS and has been active in the club over the past years along with her husband George.

My wife Linda and I were fortunate to spend some quality time with her and George at the end of August following her coming home from hospice. The visit which was planned to be only a short drop by turned out to be a three hour visit where we shared stories about rocks, beads, quilts, fish, exotic flowers, grandchildren, and talk about Catholics and Protestants. The visit was truly a good time with plans to meet up again soon.

Barbara passed away on Thursday September 18th. She leaves behind her husband George Libby/ Liblick, three adult sons, their spouses, and several grandchildren. She will be truly missed. Everyone please remember to keep George and the other family members in your prayers.

Tom Batcha
GMS Editor



**The Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc
Letter of Recognition to GMS**

Georgia Mineral Society
% Mr. John R. Trimble
3549 Daventry Lane N.W.
Kennesaw, Georgia 30144

Dear John,

The Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. wishes to thank the members of the Georgia Mineral Society for their Five Hundred Dollar contribution. Your donation will help in advancing the purpose of the Mayo Educational Foundation to financially aid qualifying young men and women to acquire advanced academic degrees in Earth Sciences and for financing of educational projects of exceptional meritorious value.

Sincerely,

Frank Decaminada
Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc
Treasurer

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/18 Gloria and Steve Adams



Micromount Section

There are no micromount section meetings scheduled at this time. Stayed tuned for more information.

David Babulski

A NEW TECHNIQUE FOR ENHANCING COLORS IN GRAVES MOUNTAIN IREDESCENT HEMATITE

Dr. David Babulski

While engaged in research into iridescent hematite from Graves Mountain, Georgia I discovered a way of enhancing the colors of iridescent hematite. When first collected the Graves Mountain material is covered with a very thin layer of hematite dust and ground water salts which serve to dull the iridescent colors. I found that this fine layer can effectively be removed by soaking iridescent hematite material in dilute hydrochloric acid (HCL), rinsing the specimen in water and then soaking the specimen in a solution of 3% hydrogen peroxide. To make the dilute HCL mix 1 ml of concentrated HCL to 100 ml distilled water. **WARNING! ALWAYS ADD ACID TO WATER, NEVER WATER TO ACID! THIS WILL CAUSE A VIOLENT CHEMICAL REACTION. ALWAYS WEAR RUBBER GLOVES AND USE EYE PROTECTION WHENEVER WORKING WITH CHEMICALS. WHEN WORKING WITH STRONG ACIDS OR BASES, MAKE SURE YOU ARE OUTSIDE OR IN A WELL VENTILATED ROOM.** The 3% hydrogen peroxide solution can be obtained at any drugstore.

The procedure is to place the iridescent hematite specimen to be treated in a small plastic or glass container. Pour enough of the dilute HCL solution to cover the specimen. Gently agitate the specimen and solution for about one minute and let soak for about 30 minutes. Gently agitate again before removing the specimen from the solution. Immediately flush the specimen with water to remove all of the acid chemical solution and then soak the specimen in a bath of 3% hydrogen peroxide for about four hours. Remove the specimen and rinse to remove all of the chemical solution. Remove as much of the water as possible by blotting with a soft absorbent pad and then let the specimen air dry. For most specimens of Graves Mountain iridescent hematite the difference in color intensity after this chemical treatment is striking. Note that this technique does not destroy the iridescence or change the iridescent colors but instead markedly increases the intensity of the colors. I would strongly suggest trying this technique on a small specimen first. **NOTE: good results have also been obtained by soaking the specimen in a mixture of dilute HCL and hydrogen peroxide. However, because of the danger of an adverse chemical reaction this chemical mixture IS NOT recommended.**

References:

http://ptcl.chem.ox.ac.uk/~hmc/hsci/chemicals/hydrochloric_acid.html
http://ptcl.chem.ox.ac.uk/~hmc/hsci/chemicals/hydrogen_peroxide_dilute.html
<http://www.patentstorm.us/patents/6214129.html>
<http://www.sciencelab.com/msds.php?msdsId=9925956>

Meeting Minutes

Due to the general meeting date change that occurs in September with the Labor Day weekend, the September Meeting Minutes that are normally posted in the edition will not appear this month. For all of you die hard meeting minute readers that may suffer the anxiety of not having any minutes, I have taken the liberty of posting the lost minutes of the June Picnic for your reading pleasure. Many thanks to Margaret Ronan for all the work she has done this year in recording our club activities. Everyone be sure to attend our October Dinner Meeting when we will swear in the officers voted on during the June picnic.



GMS General Meeting
 June 14, 2008
 Jones Bridge Park

President Bill Waggener called the meeting to order. There was a quorum of officers present with 55 people in attendance.

There were no pressing announcements from committee. There was no new business to discuss. Tips and Trips will be sent out.

The slate of Officers for 2008 was submitted:

President: Bill Waggener
 Executive VP – Membership: Lizabeth McClain
 Vice President – Programs: Carl Ziglin
 Treasurer: John Trimble
 Secretary: Kim Cochran
 Trustee: Anita Westlake

Bill Waggener asked if there were any nominations from the floor, there were none. The slate was unanimously approved by the people present. The motion was made and seconded to accept the slate as presented.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting and commence with the eating and auction. It was unanimously accepted and our wonderful picnic and auction commenced.

Graciously submitted,
 Margaret Ronan

Tellus opens in January!

The wait is very nearly over! Tellus: Northwest Georgia Science Museum will open in January. We'll have all the details in our next issue, so keep an eye out for information on all our incredible plans for the grand opening. The Tellus name appears above on the back of the building facing I-75.

Make Your Mark at Tellus

Be a part of history and help secure the future of Tellus by joining the Tellus Founder's Circle. Founder's Circle levels start at \$250 for individuals and \$5,000 for corporations.

All contributors will be immortalized on the Founder's Circle wall. To become a Founder's Circle contributor contact Shelly Redd at 770-606-5700 or e-mail her at shellyr@tellusmuseum.org.

For Educators Only!

Educator Open House - Sneak Peak for Teachers Only!
Make plans to see us, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, November 11, 2008 or Thursday, November 13, 2008

Planetarium show with program overviews on the hour at 5, 6 & 7 p.m. Please RSVP by November 3, 2008 to 770-606-5700 ext. 412 ; Refreshments will be served.

Volunteers needed

We are looking for volunteers and docents, 14 years of age and older to join our fun family! We have opportunities for you to work with children and adults any day of the week. Volunteers are needed for informal tours, store and café assistance, administrative support and assisting with special events. If you are interested in becoming part of our volunteer or docent staff, please contact Betty Schaaf, Volunteer Coordinator, at 770-606-5721, or email her at bettys@tellusmuseum.org.

(Source: Tellus: NW Georgia Science Museum Newsletter)



The Marty Zinn Show Review

For those of you that may have missed the Marty Zinn Show you really did miss a treat. It was unlike all other shows that we have had in the Atlanta area in the past. The first difference you noticed was the location. This show was held in the hotel instead of a large open center. There were dealers in almost every hotel room on the first floor as well as the lobby and meeting rooms. The second difference you noticed is that almost all the dealers dealt in minerals with a few in fossil specimens and jewelry. The minerals were a higher grade than what we usually see at our other local shows.

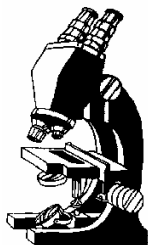
There was a good turn out from our Georgia dealers. Rodney was there with an excellent display of the amethyst from Jackson Crossroads. There were some gigantic beryl specimens fresh from the Hogg Mine. Kudzu Minerals had one that filled a milk crate and I heard it weight in at 77 pounds. I also met Alan Stout who is dino collector from Rome, GA. He had a room full of dinosaur and early mammal bones from Kansas, Montana, and the Dakotas along with lots of interesting stories about his collecting.

Yet it was the large variety of dealers that really made the show interesting. From the Southeast region there were many of the dealers that frequent our local shows along with many who were in our area for the first time. In fact most of the continental US was represented with dealers ranging from the Northeast, Midwest, all the way across the Southwest to California. There were a number of international dealers with specimens from premier locations such as zeolites from India, aquamarine from Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as specimens from Africa and Europe.

As with any show it is always good to talk with people you know and to make new acquaintances. At the show I got to meet Hugh Carroll and purchase one of his gem trees. I have known of his work for a long time, it was about eight years ago that I purchased my first gem tree book which was written by his now deceased wife Bev. I also had the pleasure to meet Terry and Marie Huizing from Cincinnati. Marie is the Managing Editor of the Rocks and Minerals Magazine. There were many old friends I saw and some that were there that I could not find such as two Mid Georgia members whose names will remain anonymous. I saw people who came to the show with them but they remained elusively out of sight, apparently in one of the many dealer rooms.

The good news seems to be getting out about the show's success. There are numerous entries on the internet with raving reviews. Upon doing a search on the Marty Zinn site I found out that a date has already been made for next year. Mark your calendars for August 14 -16, 2009 and you can add to next year's festivities the Tellus Museum which will be reopened in January. Best wishes go out to Marty Zinn and his organization for a job well done.

Tom Batcha

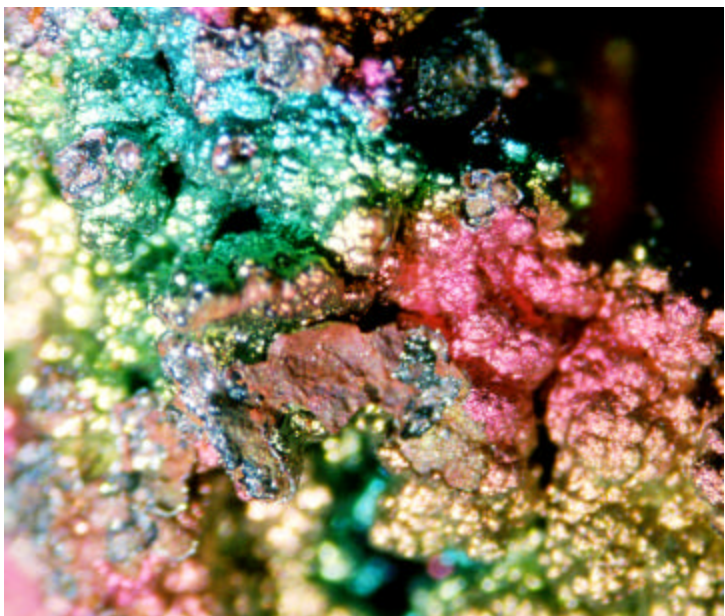
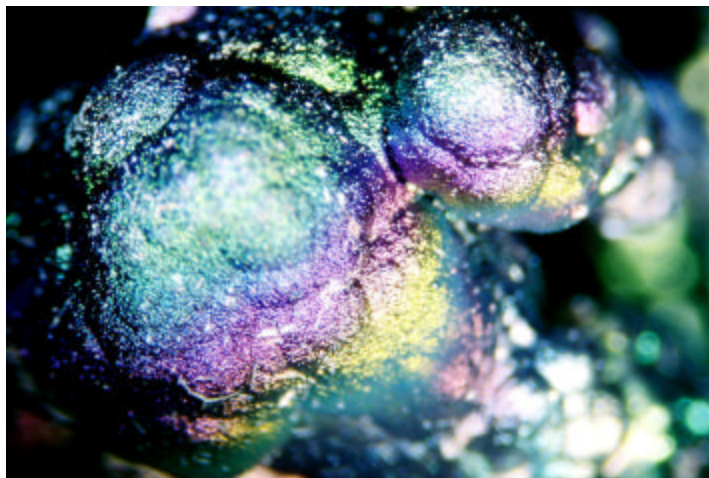
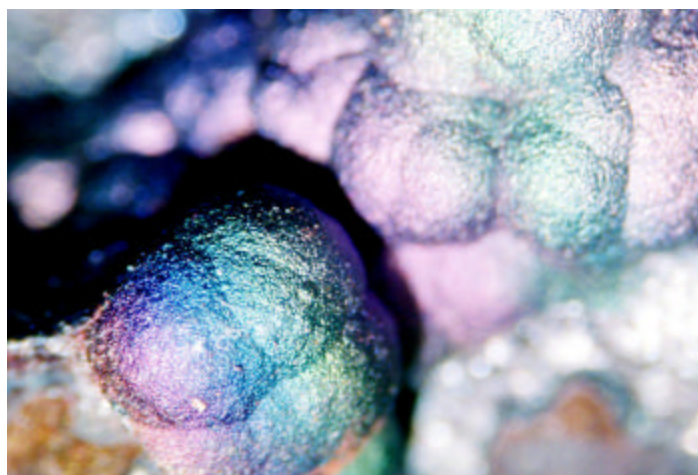
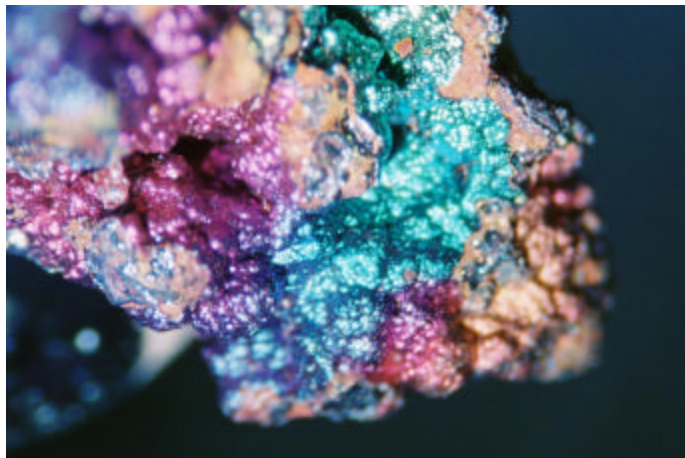


THE MICROMOUNT CORNER

Iridescent Hematite

Dr. David Babulski

Greetings everyone. This month I want to share a bit of magical mineral color with you all. I speak of iridescent hematite from Graves Mountain in Lincoln County, Georgia. There are several world-wide localities for iridescent hematite, but Graves Mountain yields some of the most strikingly beautiful specimens. Some of the other localities are: Minas Gerais, Brazil, Rio Marina on the island of Elba, Italy, Santa Eulalia District, Chihuahua, Mexico and The Sao Domingos Mine, Portugal. As was discussed in an earlier Micromount Corner article, the iridescent effect is created by thin films of aluminum phosphate. Scientists in Japan have discovered that thin films in the 100 to 700 nm range create the iridescent color by the interference effect of rays of light reflecting from the outer and inner sides of the thin films. So without further ado, enjoy the beauty of Graves Mountain iridescent hematite.

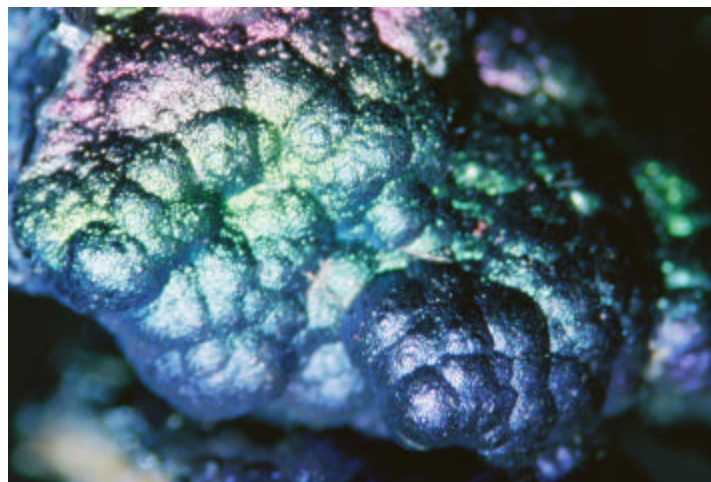
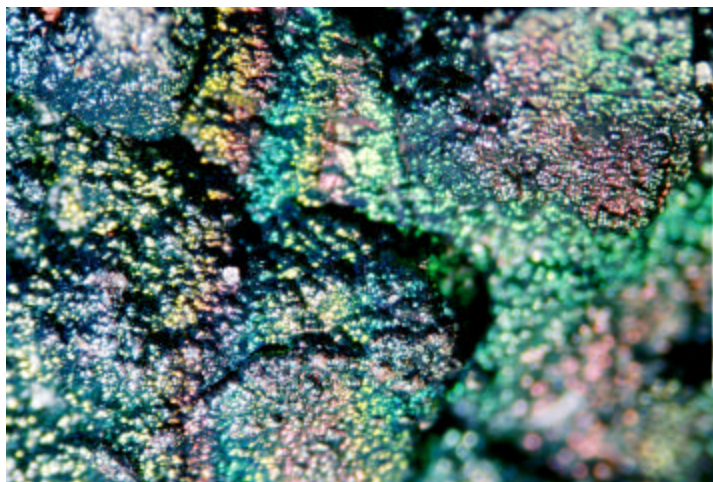
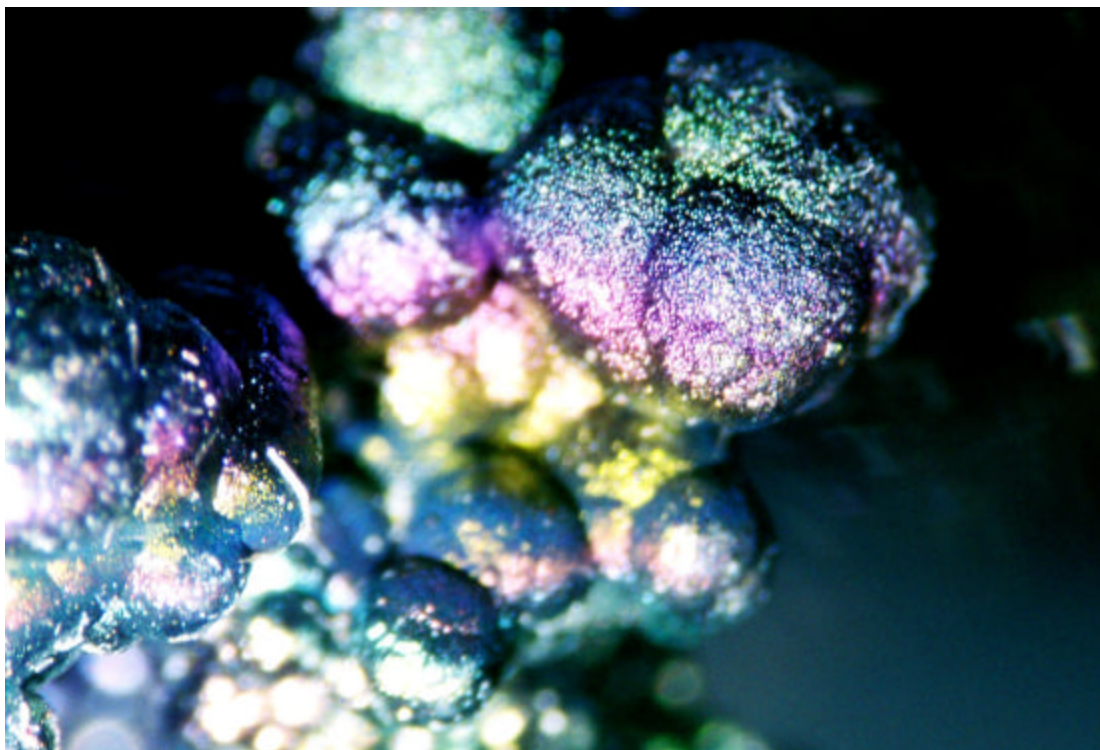
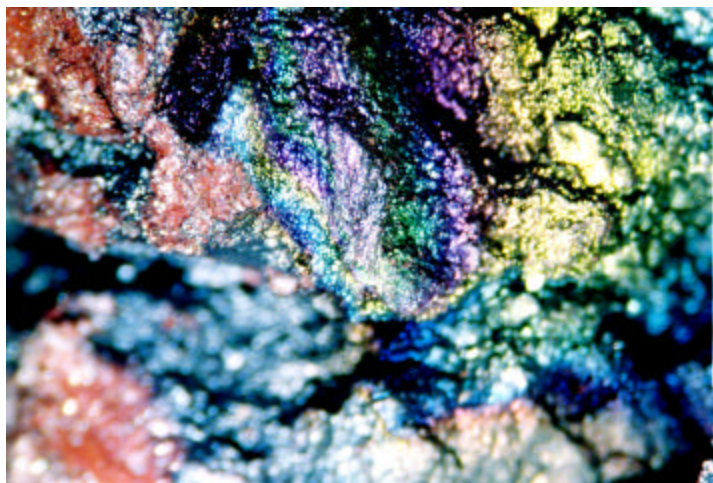


References:
<http://www.mindat.org>

Fumiyoshi Ikkai, Photonics Spectra, May, 2008 – Technology News section.

Until next time, may all your skies be blue and all the vugs you find be filled with crystals.

Iridescent Hematite Gallery





November 1, 2008
Rock Hunting Field Trip
Hogg Mine
LaGrange, Georgia



Rose Quartz, Tourmaline, Beryl, Mica Books, Quartz Crystal

WHERE: The Famous Hogg Mine outside LaGrange, in Troup County, GA

WHEN: Saturday – November 1, 2008

COLLECTING: Rose quartz, tourmaline, beryl, mica books, & quartz crystal. The Rose Quartz will star if cut correctly, and some of the beryl can be gemmy Aquamarine.

TIME: Sign-in is from 8:30 to 9:30 at Smiths Corner Store – 1231 Bartley Road – LaGrange (gps 32 57.296'n 85 1.130'w) Dig is from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. You will be required to sign a waiver of liability you must have a ticket before you can enter the mine site.

FEE: Adults - \$ 17.00 & children under 18 are free. (Regular fee is \$35.00) You have to be a member of a Rock and Mineral Club and sign a liability waiver. (Carroll County Gem & Mineral Society membership is \$20.00 per year—join November 1st and get your 2009 membership ... 14 months for \$20.00 or you can pay \$10.00 for 2008 only)

DIRECTIONS: From Atlanta, take I-85 south to LaGrange. Get off on Hwy. 219 also Whitesville Road (Exit 13) and go south (left) about 2.2 miles from I-85. We will be meeting at Smith's Corner Store (The Citgo on the Left) at the intersection at Whitesville Rd. and Bartley Rd.

From Carrollton, take Hwy 27 S. (past Wal-Mart). Go thru Franklin to LaGrange. Just stay straight and Hwy 27 dumps into Hwy 219. Take Hwy 219 south and cross I-85.

Allow 1 hour & 15 min from Atlanta at I-285 and I-85 connection on the South side.

WHAT TO BRING: Pick, shovel, rock hammer, chisels, scratching tools, screen, buckets, gloves, and of course plenty of water. We have been lucky and had beautiful weather in November, but extra clothes and boots might be useful if it's muddy or the weather turns.

GENERAL INFORMATION: There is a Port-a- Potty on site. Pets are welcome if on a leash. There will be a hospitality booth with hot coffee and water. Delicious BBQ plates will be for sale. There will be an area for "Rock Swap and Shop" with vendors. If you forget something, please check at Smith's Corner Store – they have supplies, snacks, drinks, etc

WHERE TO STAY: Nearby LaGrange, GA offers many hotel choices. Camper type vehicles can stay at the store free of charge but there are no hook-ups.. People that want to sleep in cars are welcome in the parking lot as well. Tent campers can make prior arrangements to camp for \$9 per night at the site for primitive camping. Local state parks offer a full range of camping options.

CONTACTS: The site manager is Rodney Moore. Please follow the Code of Ethics to preserve our relationship with our host. For more directions and info on other collecting sites in the area, check out www.dixieuhedrals.net and www.dixieuhedrals.com/page8.html

Trip Chairman: Bill Mayer – orebilby@gmail.com or 678-423-8936 or 706-319-7022

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of Carroll County Gem & Mineral Society



A HANNAHATCHEE ADVENTURE

by Lizabeth McClain, GMS member

A few weeks ago there was a club outing to Clio, Alabama, to collect silicified wood. I've already told of the fun we had in Clio. However, we had a further adventure that day.

After we had collected our limit of silicified wood, several folks decided to stop by Hannahatchee Creek near Lumpkin in Stewart County, Georgia, to look for shark teeth and pyritized snail shell casts. My husband Mickey and I had gone there the week before with our dogs and looked around, but the water was too high that day to find anything. We were eager to try again, especially since Charles and Lori Carter were leading the way; Charles was the person who had told us of this location.

We set off on our adventure, four couples – Charles and Lori Carter, Dylan and Mary Porter, Frank and Linda Foster, and Mickey and I – in a caravan. After a quick lunch and a brief stop at a location to look for nodules, we headed to the creek. The Carters showed us how to scoop gravel and sand out of holes in the bedrock of the creek in which the shells tended to settle. We all settled down to work in a shady spot except for Dylan and Mickey, who were upstream in a sunnier location.

We worked for an hour or so and made some interesting finds. I believe Frank found one shell. I found two, an oyster and a snail, that were both ironized rather than pyritized; their color when wet and in the sunshine was a pretty, deep red. I was happy to have found something after a fair amount of work in the creek.

We finally decided to head back to the cars. As we were wading along in the shallow water we saw Dylan and Mickey coming toward us. They both looked like the cat that ate the canary. When I asked Mickey if he had found something, he grinned and said, "Oh, yeah!"

We gathered around in anticipation. First was a report from Dylan. He had found a very nice arrowhead, his first ever. It was an almost perfect point, and he was justifiably proud.

Then Mickey started digging in his pocket. He pulled out a tooth unlike any I had ever seen. Now, I call Mickey

"Eagle-Eye" because he is so adept at spotting things, whether it be fossils, mineral specimens, plants, wildlife, or anything else interesting. I'm used to him finding unusual things. So, I wasn't really surprised to learn that he had found the tooth, but I was very impressed by the tooth itself. It was 5 centimeters long and 1.1 cm wide at the base. There was a lateral ridge running the full length of the front and back of the tooth. The tooth was a crown only; no root was attached.

We all speculated on the creature it could have come from, but no one was really sure what Mickey had found. As everyone packed up to leave, Mickey decided he would contact his former geology professor to get some more information on his find.



(Artwork source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xiphactinus>)

Mickey e-mailed Dr. Pamela Gore, GMS member and professor of geology at Atlanta Perimeter College, and Dr. David Schwimmer, professor of paleontology at Columbus State University, and attached photos of the tooth; Dr. Gore also contacted Dr. Schwimmer. Dr. Schwimmer quickly identified the tooth as a premaxillary tooth of ichthyodectid fish *Xiphactinus vetus*. This carnivorous fish lived during the late Cretaceous period and ate anything it could get its mouth around. *Xiphactinus vetus* was 15 to 25 feet long. It is a rare find in Georgia but is often found in the western plains states.



Needless to say, Mickey is quite proud of his new addition to the collection. And, as a footnote to the adventure, he also found the skull of a bobcat at the first location we visited. You just never know what you'll see when you go on an outing with Eagle-Eye!

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

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DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

An Official Field Trip of the Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Jackson, MS.) HOST
An Official Field Trip of the Georgia Mineral Society

8:30 AM CST

Saturday, October 25, 2008

Bayou Pierre River near Utica, Mississippi

Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society will be hosting a trip to the Bayou Pierre River near Utica, MS. You will find beautiful agates, some petrified wood, jasper and chert fossils. At one time, palm wood was plentiful at this site, and some is still found by a few people on almost every trip. Children are welcome, and pets on leashes. There are some areas you would need to be careful of your children in.

Directions: We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at Hubbard's Truck Stop on Highway slightly south of Utica. You can take Highway 18 from I-20 in Jackson, going toward Raymond. You will pass the turnoff for Raymond, and the turnoff for Utica, shortly thereafter, you will see Hubbard Truck stop on your left, at the intersection of Hwy 18 and MS 27.

There is a nice restaurant at the truck stop for those who would like to eat breakfast. It is approximately 30 miles from Jackson to Utica.

Other Essentials: You should bring food, drink and water, there are no stores nearby. We usually all pitch together with a lunch under the trees. You can use a beaver stick (rock stick), and you will need sturdy shoes you can wade in, and bags or buckets you can put your rocks in. Bring sunscreen, hat, and dress according to weather reports; just remember it will probably heat up a little as the morning progresses.

Accommodations: I would suggest motels in Clinton and Pearl MS, which is very near the exit for Hwy 18. West Jackson is a high crime area, so be leery of motels in that area.

Contact: If you have any questions, please contact Janie Hand, 601-825-3989, or RockNGranny49@aol.com. We will have a general meeting Friday night before the field trip and you are invited. If you are interested in attending, contact myself at the address above, or Betty James at 601-914-6747 or mineralid@comcast.net

"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.

Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"

- 8 am to 6 pm, Friday, October 3, 2008
- 8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, October 4, 2008
- 8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, October 5, 2008

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swaps on the Mountain during October 3, 4, & 5 2008. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the Hospitality tent to sign a liability release form and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. (Please consider what it is worth for you to be able to field collect at Georgia's premiere mineral location!) There will be several golf cart type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks:

Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table, please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events. Don't forget to bring some extra money to buy that special "Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

Mark your calendar and tell all your friends about this great event!

**THIS DIG IS OPEN TO ALL.
NO NEED TO SIGN-UP, JUST SHOW UP!**

Contact Information:

Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) - 706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)

Lots of Graves Mountain information, including reports and pictures, may be obtained on the Georgia Mineral Society website: <http://www.gamineral.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm>

Graves Mountain code of conduct!

- Park your vehicle in the designated area (at the end of the paved access road but not much beyond the woods to the right of this road). CHILDREN WILL BE ALLOWED during the "Rock Swap

October 2008

The Georgia Mineral Society

and Dig", IF EACH CHILD IS UNDER CONTINUOUS ADULT SUPERVISION!

- ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.
- The field trip leader(s) have final and absolute say as to where you may safely work.
- Ladders or power tools of any kind will not be allowed. (HAND TOOLS ONLY!)
- Stay away from all highwalls!!
- No repelling off of anything!

NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE ON ANY PART OF GRAVES MOUNTAIN BEYOND THE PARKING AREA! (The caretaker must accompany anyone driving beyond the parking area!)

EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN BY DUSK. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)

Please protect our ability to field collect at Graves Mtn!
 Report Violations to: Clarence Norman Jr., 706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)
 All reported violations will be held in strict confidence.

Dinosaurs are known most popularly by their bones, often dramatically posed as mounted skeletons. Nonetheless, most of the fossil record for dinosaurs is represented by their tracks and other traces, such as nests and toothmarks. Most importantly, this aspect of the fossil record for dinosaurs provides direct evidence of dinosaur behavior throughout their 160-million-year history in the Mesozoic Era. This course explores that evidence and explains the latest thinking about dinosaurs derived from these tracks and other traces.

Instructor: Anthony Martin, Emory University Senior Lecturer of Environmental Studies & Honors Coordinator
 5 session(s): Wed: Oct 15-Nov 12 / 7:00-9:00 pm
 Registration fee: \$350 Register now!

Who should attend:

People who have always been interested in dinosaurs and other life of the pre-human past, but have not had any formal study in these topics; and people who like and know paleontology and natural history, but who also want to learn about a popular topic from a different perspective.

After this course, you will be able to:

- Achieve a new appreciation for an old and popular topic (dinosaurs), as it is pursued from an angle that is not normally covered in any depth (dinosaur tracks).
- Examine a new approach to studying dinosaurs rather than the well-known study of their bones, which is commonly misrepresented as being the major source of information about dinosaurs.
- Gain knowledge of a new perspective by using dinosaur tracks and other trace fossils as a way to study and learn about dinosaur behavior.
- Learn how modern tracking methods can be used to gather evidence, and thereby expanding options in the study of animal behavior from more than 65 million years ago.

What will be covered:

- When did dinosaurs live, how are they named, and who are their living relatives?
- Who first noticed dinosaur tracks, what are other dinosaur trace fossils, and how does modern tracking inform us about dinosaur tracks?
- Where did dinosaur walk (or run), and why?
- What behaviors are shown by dinosaur tracks (that are not shown by their bones), and how do we figure those out?
- What is next in the study of dinosaur tracks?



Tracking Dinosaurs Through Time

Dr. Anthony (Tony) Martin is a paleontologist, geologist, and environmental scientist at Emory University, where he has taught for the past 18 years. Dr. Martin's primary research interest is ichnology, the study of traces caused by plant and animal behavior in modern and ancient environments, such as tracks, trails, and burrows. Dr. Martin is the author of the undergraduate textbook Introduction to the Study of Dinosaurs (now in its second edition).

Do your children and grandchildren know more about dinosaurs than you? It's time to toss out almost everything you thought you knew about these extinct giants!

To register or obtain more information...
www.EmoryQuest.org | 404-727-5491

Southeastern Gem and Mineral Shows

Oct 10-12--HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA: 40th annual show; Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society; von Braun Center, 700 Monroe St.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; admission \$2; 30 national vendors, fine and costume jewelry, lapidary material, specimens, equipment, demonstrations, displays, "rock food table," fluorescent rock display, children's activities; contact Lowell Zoller, 3027 Flint Mill Run, Hampton Cove, AL 35763, (256) 534-8803; e-mail: Lzoll@comcast.net; Web site: www.huntsvillegms.org

Oct 11-12--ORLANDO, FLORIDA: 17th annual show, "Fossil Fair"; Florida Fossil Hunters; Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr.; Sat. 95, Sun. 10-4; adults \$4, children \$1; fossils, rocks, minerals, gems, artifacts, silent auctions, raffles, children's dig pit, books, supplies; contact Valerie First, 223 Ringwood Dr., Winter Springs, FL 32708, (407) 699-9274; e-mail: vjfirst@aol.com; Web site: www.floridafossilhunters.com

Oct 17-19--FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA: 19th annual show, "Leaf Lookers Gemboree"; Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin; Macon County Community Bldg., U.S. 441 South; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$2, children under 12 free; minerals, beads, handcrafted jewelry, rough and cut stones, lapidary equipment, demonstrations, door prizes, gold and silver jewelry, findings, jewelry repairs and mounting; contact Linda Harbuck, 425 Porter St., Franklin, NC 28734, (800) 336-7829; e-mail: linda@franklin-chamber.com; Web site: www.franklin-chamber.com

Oct 17-19--KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE: Show; Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society; Kerbel Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$3, children under 12 free; contact Jim D. McCutcheon, 1519 W. Woodshire Dr., Knoxville, TN 37922, (865) 966-5468; e-mail: jdmccut@aol.com

Oct 25-26--TAMPA, FLORIDA: 49th annual show; Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club; Florida State Fairgrounds, Entertainment Bldg.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students (K-12) \$3, 5 and under free with parent; more than 40 vendors, geodes, opals, gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, emerald mine, Chinese raffle, door prizes, silent auction, children's sand mine, lapidary classes (reservations required); contact Teri Foster, (352) 206-1306, or Tricia Lynn, (815) 751-6719; e-mail: OperaTL@Hotmail.com

Georgia State Park Events**Geology Day**

Saturday, Oct 4, 2008 9 AM - 2:30 PM

Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge, GA

Join an expert in geology and Georgia's native plants as we tour both Panola Mountain and Arabia Mountain. Register in advance. \$5 plus \$3 parking. 770-389-7801

North Georgia Festivals of Interest**Georgia Marble Festival – October 4 & 5, 2008**

Festival includes the Georgia Marble Festival Tours - Don't miss the opportunity to take a guided tour of the world's largest open pit marble quarry at Polycor Georgia Marble Company's Tate operation. This is the only time of the year the quarries are open to the public! See the Nelson Marble Museum and learn about the multitude of uses for marble and marble by-products. The tours are \$10 per person and sold on a first come, first-served basis.

Visit the following website for more information:

<http://www.pickenschamber.com/Marble-Quarry-Tours.75.0.html>

Source: *Pickens County Chamber of Commerce*

Fernbank Museum of Natural History

76 Clifton Rd. NE

Atlanta, GA

404.929.6300

For details on these exhibits, films, and events, please visit our website at

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

On Exhibit:

Ends of the Earth: from Polar Bears to Penguins

Penguins of the Antarctic: A Photographic Expedition

**Upcoming Public Programs:**

Lecture: Climate Change and the Poles, Dr. Marshall Shepherd. Tuesday, October 14, 7 p.m. Free with advanced registration.

Sunday Snow Day. Sunday, October 12, Noon – 3 p.m. Included with Museum membership or admission.

Bugs, Bats and Bones Day. Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Included with Museum membership or admission.

Lecture: The Hunt for Polar Dinosaurs, Dr. Anthony Martin. Tuesday, October 28, 7 p.m. Free with advanced registration.

Now Showing in IMAX:

(Check our website for special screenings)

Antarctica

Wild Ocean

Martinis and IMAX: Friday evenings, 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

October 2008



Sun	Mbn	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig	4 Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig
5 Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig	6 GMS Dinner Meeting	7	8	9	10	11 GMS Workday
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Fossil Section Meeting	21	22	23 Show Committee Meeting	24	25 Adopt-A-Highway DMC Field Trip
26	27 Gem Section Meeting	28	29	30	31	

THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. Box 15011
Atlanta, Georgia 30333-5011
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.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
PLEASE FORWARD

FIRST CLASS

