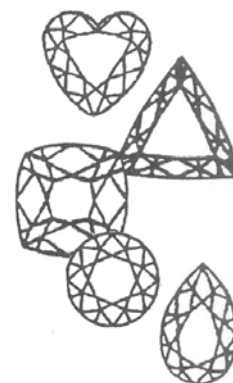
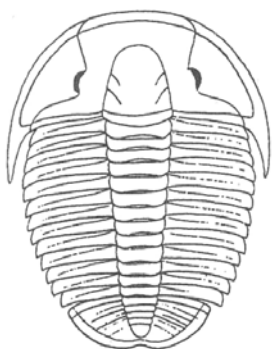




# Gems, Fossils, Minerals and Jewelry!



**10th Annual  
The Georgia Mineral Society's  
Annual Gem and Mineral Holiday Show**  
A Non-Profit Educational Organization

**Over 40 Dealers!  
Free Parking Free Admission  
Door Prizes**

*Special Door Prize for Students!  
(Win a Great Prize for Yourself and for Your School!!)*

**December 12 Friday \* 10 AM – 6 PM  
December 13 Saturday \* 10 AM – 6 PM  
December 14 Sunday \* NOON - 5 PM**

**2 EXCITING AUCTIONS SAT. & SUN. AT 2:00 PM**



**NORTH ATLANTA TRADE CENTER  
1700 Jeurgens Court, Norcross, GA**



December 2003

The Georgia Mineral Society



**CALLING ALL  
DEMONSTRATORS -  
We need Demonstrations for  
the December Show**

I am coordinating the Demonstration area this year. Share your knowledge and talent with our visitors to the show by putting on a short demonstration.

After hours (or is it days) of shopping at the show, it is nice to be able to sit down and visit with our guests and share your knowledge.

You can sign up to do a demonstration or reserve a chair for an hour or so by catching me at the meeting, calling me at (770) 986-0822, or by e-mail at [jgorday@earthlink.net](mailto:jgorday@earthlink.net).

*Jay Gorday, December Show Demonstration Chair*

**SHOWS, SPECIAL EVENTS, AND EXHIBITS**

**November 21-23, 2003. Marietta, GA - Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society. 18th Annual Show at Cobb County Civic Center, 548 Marietta Parkway. Hours: 21st and 22nd, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 23rd, 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Contact: Becky Patellis at 770.973.7483 or email at [mbpatellis@mindspring.com](mailto:mbpatellis@mindspring.com).**

**November 28-30, 2003. Columbia, SC - Columbia Gem & Mineral Society. 36th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show at South Carolina State Fairgrounds, Moore Building. Hours: 28th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; 29th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.; 30th, Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Sue Shrader at 803.736.9317 or email at [ashrader@mindspring.com](mailto:ashrader@mindspring.com) or Charlene Ruff at 803.799.0393 or email at [charleneruff@aol.com](mailto:charleneruff@aol.com).**

**November 28-30, 2003. Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Show and SFMS Annual Meeting.**

**November 29-30, 2003. Mobile, AL - Mobile Rock and Gem Society. Jewelry, Mineral and Fossil Show at (NEW LOCATION) Greater Gulf State Fairgrounds at Cody & Ziegler. Hours: 29th, 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.; 30th, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Ed Harris at 251.865.9157 or email at [ed\\_harris\\_jr@hotmail.com](mailto:ed_harris_jr@hotmail.com).**

**December 5-7, 2003. Spring Hill, FL - Withlacoochee Rockhound Club. 29th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry show at Slovene American Club, 13383 County Line Road. Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. each day. Contact: Jerry Johnson at 352.688.7810 or email at [hisnibs@earthlink.net](mailto:hisnibs@earthlink.net).**

**December 12-14, 2003. Norcross, GA - The Georgia Mineral Society. 10th Annual Holiday Show at North Atlanta Trade Center, 1700 Juergens Court, Norcross, GA. Hours: 12th & 13th, 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; 14th, Noon - 5:00 P.M. Contact: Anita Westlake (see pages 9, 10 and 12 for additional information).**

*from the Lodestar, SFMS newsletter ( October 2003)*

**FERNBANK MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
767 Clifton Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA  
404.929.6300**

For more information, please visit our website at:  
[www.fernbank.edu/museum](http://www.fernbank.edu/museum)

**Now on Exhibit:**

***The Etruscans: An Ancient Culture Revealed***

***Tuscany***

**Now Showing in IMAX:**

***Closing on December 6, 2003: Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*** (daily until it closes)

***Opening December 7, 2003: Roar: Lions of the Kalahari*** (daily; closes May 2004)

***Pulse: A STOMP Odyssey*** (daily; closes February 6, 2004)

*Martinis and IMAX* on Friday nights only. Check the website or call 404.370.1822 for film and live music schedules. For advanced tickets, call 404.929.6400. **Note: The 2003 season closes on November 28, 2003.**

**Upcoming Public Programs and Events:**

**Annual Members Holiday Party.** Sunday, December 7, 2003, Noon to 5:00 P.M. Activities included with museum admission; free for members.

**Treasures of the Tropics,** Nature Workshop for children. Saturday, December 6, 2003, 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (1st and 2nd graders) and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. (3rd and 4th graders). \$10 for members/ \$15 for non-members. Pre-registration required, [heather.heimer@fernbank.edu](mailto:heather.heimer@fernbank.edu) or 404.929.6341.

**Ask-a-Geologist.** By appointment on Thursdays and Every third Saturday at 10:00 A.M.–Noon. Call 404.929.6313 for information or to make an appointment.

**Star Talks.** Every Wednesday, 3:00 P.M., Star Gallery.

*Christine Bean, GMS Member and Geologist  
Fernbank Natural History Museum*



**JUNIOR SECTION**

No Junior Meeting for December  
Next Meeting in January

We will begin working on a new program about collecting, growing crystals, understanding hardness, and many other programs that the juniors can earn a patch for completing. The patches are quite nice. Even the adult members are wanting to earn them, too. So, please give me a call if your junior would like to start working toward a patch. This can be done at home. For the ones that have trouble making the meetings, this will be a pretty cool family project.

*Roxanne Lopez, Junior Section Chair*



**MINERAL SECTION NEWS**

**Tuesday, December 16, 2003  
7:30 P.M.**

**Margaret Ronan's Home  
1224 Beechwood Road  
Atlanta, Georgia**

At the next Mineral Section meeting we will be discussing the causes of color in minerals; a truly fascinating area of mineralogy. Doug Daniels has studied this in detail and will be presenting at this month's meeting. So bring your most colorful minerals and let's learn what causes such great variety in the mineral kingdom.

The meeting will take place at Margaret Ronan's home. To RSVP or if you're lost call Margaret at (404) 363-0720.

If you have an idea for a mineral related topic or would like to host a future meeting at your home, please contact me. Also, since it's the beginning of the GMS year we need to elect a section chair again. Please give that consideration as well.

*Julian Gray, Mineral Section Chair*

**SUNSHINE NEWS**



Please contact the new chair at 770.613.0748 or at [mtarantino827827@msn.com](mailto:mtarantino827827@msn.com) with any birthday, anniversary, speaking engagements or other announcements of interest to our membership. If you are aware of any illness or hospitalizations of any members let me know so that an announcement can be made in sunshine news. A friendly call from a concerned club friend or a get well card may be just what the doctor has ordered!

**SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:**

Kim Cochran had speaking engagements with the following groups in November 2003:

- Southern Appalachian Mineral Society (Asheville) on "Fossils",
- North Georgia Mineral Society,
- Chattanooga Geology Club on "Collecting",
- Birmingham Club on "Mineral Identification", and
- Four talks to South Central Middle Schools on "Minerals in your Life".

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Dick and Nedra Palmer will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on December 26, 2003.

A blessed Holiday Season and exciting 2004 with many new facts and treasures to be discovered, and more important, new friends to be made as we all pursue our fascinating hobby!

*Marilyn L. Tarantino  
Sunshine Chair*

***They Do Listen!***

*from Evan Day*

On September 9th I wrote to my Utah Congressman Rob Bishop concerning HR2416 and S546. I emailed the cover letter to him (plus Sen. Hatch, Sen. Bennett, Mr. Matheson, and Mr. Cannon), then hand delivered a complete hardcopy to his Brigham City office.

The evening of Wednesday, 17 Sept., he personally telephoned me to say he got the information, had checked with some of the other people in his district that I mentioned as being impacted, and SAID HE AGREED WITH ME! Turns out he is on the House committee and the sub-committee responsible for the bills. He is hopeful that they can be killed for this term, but Rob recognizes he is a freshman with limited clout, but will try his best. He seemed appreciative of getting a letter with specifics, from one who had read and analyzed the bills, and was personally involved in the issue - not copycat rhetoric.

I take this as a very positive sign.

[AFMS Ed. Note: Have YOU written to your Congressman yet asking that they help defeat HR2416? See the September and October issues of the AFMS Newsletter for details on how this proposed legislation will limit our collecting rights. Our letters helped defeat the "Baucus Bill" several years ago. We can do it again! Don't delay - write your representative in Congress today.]

*from AFMS Newsletter (11/03)*

**Did you know?**

*by Charles Windoll*



The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important

than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, a home. The remarkable



thing is that we have a choice every day regarding the past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with your's, we are in charge of our ATTITUDES.



*from Rockyflier (7/95), via The Glacial Drifter (8/03), via Lodestar (SFMS Newsletter, 10/03)*

December 2003

The Georgia Mineral Society

## HINTS & TIPS

### Around the Shop:



To get a high polish on onyx and other stones that are difficult to polish, go through the complete process of making the cab from grinding to polish in your normal manner. Then to the high polish: mix in a baby food jar or any wide-mouthed glass, 3 tablespoons water with 9-1/2 teaspoons oxalic acid, and dip your cab in this mixture. Go back to your polishing wheel for another run. You will be pleased with the results.

"Candle" your Montana agate just as you would eggs. Punch a small hole in the bottom of a two-pound coffee can, turn it upside down and place a light inside. It is surprising how the light will show the dendrites. This saves cutting time.

from Stoney statements (9/03) via Hound's Howl (11/03)



## Humor in Mineralogy

by France Vore

**Almosthadite** – refers to a specimen of which the major portion remains on public display in a remote quarry.

**Cantrememberite** – one of the more common specimens typically from locations generally unknown in the present time.

**Droppedite** – a collection of cleavage fragments representing a high quality cabinet specimen formerly on display.

**Nolabelite** – one of a class of minerals or fossils of relatively little value appearing in most private collections.

**Cantquitespellite** – resembles a specimen in the University collection with an even longer and more complex name.

**Oncehadite** – used in reference to extremely unusual specimens traded at rock shows before true identity was realized.

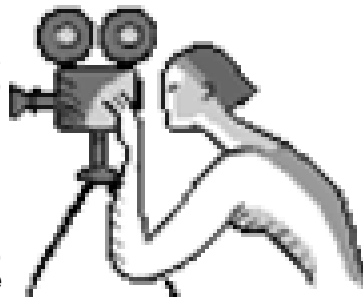
**Usedtohaveite** – a secondary form of specimens including marcasite, best recognized by the permanent brown ring where the specimens formerly sat on the shelf.

from The Post Rock (3/03), via Chip and Lick (10/03), via Glacial Groove (7-8/03), via many bulletins – Jewelry Making Gems and Minerals, and via The Conglomerate

## There's No Business Like Show Business!

Our annual Holiday Show in December at the North Atlanta Trade Center is peeking around the corner. With the help of stalwart volunteers, everything is set to go.

If you have any **favorite dealers** that you'd like to see at the show, please let me know. We've had a few last minute cancellations, so I have a few slots yet to fill.



I will need someone to **volunteer to host the hostess table** since Sara Gilbert is working on a job out of state. Please volunteer for this important (yet easy) position! *Don't make me come after you.*

We have lots and lots of **flat flyers** to hand out. I'll bring them to the November meeting. Please take a bunch and hand them out, paste them up and in general make a nuisance of yourself.

If you can come to the North Atlanta Trade Center on the **Thursday morning before the show**, we could surely use your helping hands. We need tables draped, exhibit cases put together and lots of laughter. Bad puns and stupid jokes will be provided (in honor of Holly Camp).

Stop what you're doing right now (after you finish reading Tips and Trips) and go find some **specimens to donate to our auctions**. It could be something you collected that you have too much of, a book that you've read and already memorized on geology, or a piece of jewelry that your Uncle Hank gave you before he knew you hated tacky earrings. By the way, where are those pickle earrings? Let Kim Cochran know if you have something to donate, or just bring it to a meeting or the show.

Jim Flora is handling the **display cases** this year. Come show off your collection and your talent for creating a wonderful exhibit. The best adult case wins a \$50.00 prize and the best junior case wins a \$25.00 prize. Let Jim know if you want to put in a case and he'll save one for you. He can be reached at 770.896.8040 or by email at [webmaster@gamineral.org](mailto:webmaster@gamineral.org).

Postcards will be mailed out soon. All the advertising has been handled by the incredible Curl team.

Ovens are warming up to create fabulous fantasies in food for the **Dealer Dinner**. Your culinary creations are most welcomed and appreciated.

Jay Gorday is lining up **demonstrations**. What can you demonstrate to the public to whet their interest in our fascinating hobby?

Though there are many areas that need attention, the Georgia Mineral Society has over 600 members. Usually only 20 actively participate. Will you be one of the 20? *Will you tip the scales and make it 21?*

Anita Westlake, GMS December Show Chair.

**A NEW MINERAL FIND NEAR DULUTH IN GWINNETT COUNTY GEORGIA**

*by David Babulsk  
GMS MicroMount Section Chair*

A new mineral occurrence has been identified in a road cut for the extension of the northern terminus of Sugarloaf parkway between Old Peachtree Road and Peach Tree Industrial Blvd. The host rock in the road cut is a dark gray mica – graphite – quartz schist. In terms of geology, the road cut is positioned in the central portion of the Brevard Fault Zone. The following minerals were found in a small localized alteration zone in the central portion of the exposed road cut:

**PYRITE:** As irregular masses and single cubic crystals scattered throughout the host rock. Most crystals are very small, typically less than 0.1 inch in size. Some of the irregular masses of pyrite measure 1.0 to 2.0 inches. Other members of the Georgia Mineral Society have also reported this occurrence.

**KYANITE:** Small blue-gray crystals associated with quartz lenses in the host rock. The largest crystals observed were 1.1 inches in length. One sample of kyanite was found to be fluorescent in short wave UV.

**CHRYSOCOLLA:** One small occurrence as light blue botryoidal fracture filling in an altered zone in the host rock. Some of what looks like chrysocolla is actually blue chalcedony.

**QUARTZ:** Occurs as fractured lenses in the host rock and as micro size crystals lining vugs in the alteration zone of the host rock.

**CHALCEDONY:** Botryoidal and mammillary fracture fillings and coatings in altered zones of the host rock. In some cases the chalcedony is white, gray or transparent. In one case (listed above) the chalcedony is tinted blue by copper content. This occurrence has been reported previously (Ref. "The Mystery of the Blue Stone") In most cases however, chalcedony is richly colored in hues of red, orange and lemon yellow by iron oxides derived from pyrite decomposition. In a few occurrences chalcedony is overcoated with a thin layer of transparent hylaite opal.

**GYPSUM:** Occurs as tiny micro size transparent crystals on chalcedony in alteration zones in the host rock.

**HEMATITE:** Occurs as chocolate brown and black coatings and botryoidal masses on quartz crystal in alteration zones in the host rock. Also occurs as tiny metallic spheres lining fracture seams in alteration zones in the host rock.

**HYALITE OPAL:** Occurs as transparent, milky white or grayish coatings on seams in the host rock. In some cases, the transparent variety fluoresces bright green under short wave UV. The milky white and grayish varieties are not fluorescent.

**KAOLINITE:** Occurs as thin white coatings between seams in and near the alteration zone in the host rock. In most cases the kaolinite is associated with tiny bright sparkling cubic pyrite crystals.

*NOTE: This site is now extinct. The highway department has bulldozed the road cut and has placed seeding mats over the surface. I do have cataloged hand specimens and micromounts from this site if anyone is interested in using them for study.*

**MORE HINTS & TIPS**

**Tumbler Hints:**

Vaseline can be used around the rim of a tumbler before anchoring the lid to get a tight seal and an easily removable lid.



**Filler materials:** Use enough to keep the rocks from knocking together. Suggested filler materials are whole grain oats purchased from any feed store, ground up corn cobs, rubberbands (can be used and re-used), broken up safety glass, and plastic pellets.



Be sure to have a lot of small stones and a variety of sizes for good abrasive action among the stones. The smaller stones help abrade the centers of larger material.



When finished with polish let the stones soak in a 50/50 solution of vinegar and water.

*via Chip and Lick (11/03), via Glacial Groove (5/03),  
via the Pica Pick (10/02), via the Rock Rattler (1/02),  
via Chips & Chatter (5/02),  
via the Pineywoods Rooter (6/00).*



**For the BIG Spenders**

*from R.J. Harris, CPRMC*

A walnut-sized, flawless, colorless diamond is to be auctioned by Sotheby's in Geneva on November 20, 2003. Don't rush over to Geneva though - it is expected to bring around \$10 million. The 103.08-carat, "D" color diamond is the largest internally flawless gem to be sold at auction.

The famed Koh-I-Nor diamond weighs just 5 carats more than the above (still nameless) diamond.

*from Rock Buster News (11/03)  
via Hound's Howl (11/03)*

**The Trivia Vug**

by R.J. Harris, Central Pennsylvania RMC

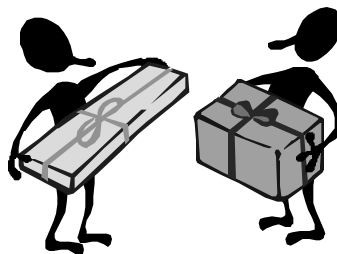
- Prior to 1774 it was widely believed that all rocks were sedimentary.
- The earliest existing rings were found in the tombs of ancient Egypt.
- Did you know that September 16th is "Collect Rocks Day"?
- The "axis" is the ridge or place of sharpest folding of an anticline or syncline (*ed.*: folds in strata of rocks).
- The average meteoroid enters the atmosphere at between 10 and 70 kilometers per second. But, all but the very largest are quickly decelerated to a few hundred kilometers per hour by atmospheric friction and hit the Earth's surface with very little fanfare. However, meteoroids larger than a few hundred tons are slowed very little; only these large ones make craters.
- Fluorescence was first observed in England when the mineral Fluorite was exposed to ultra-violet light. That is why the process is called Fluorescence.
- The jewelry worn in colonial America was extensively imported from Europe. Although some records indicate simple jewels were made in the colonies at the time, almost none have survived.

From *Rock Buster News* (11/03), via *Hound's Howl* (11/03)

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT THE WEINMAN**

The holidays are fast approaching and people are beginning to think of ways to celebrate. The Weinman Mineral Museum is offering just such an event on December 6 with its annual Holiday Open House. Again this year visitors can experience all the fun and excitement that this all day event traditionally offers, and of course, admission is free.

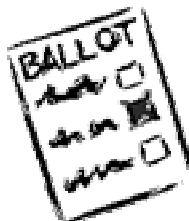
The museum's newest exhibit, The Art of Minerals, will give visitors an opportunity to marvel at the beautiful and eye-catching pieces of lapidary art that are on display. Activities in the lab and exhibit



halls such as, making your own mosaic art, a museum wide scavenger hunt, and designing your own agate Christmas ornament will allow visitors of all ages to experience the hands-on aspects of the museum. There will be refreshments, door prizes, and most importantly don't forget the ever-so-famous SALE IN THE GIFT SHOP! This is the time of year to get bargains on mineral and fossil specimens, children's toys, educational kits, and jewelry too!

The museum will be open from 10:00-5:00 on December 6 to celebrate the holidays and provide a fun escape from your everyday activities. Come celebrate with us!

*Jose Santamaria, GMS Member and Director and Curator of Weinman Mineral Museum, Cartersville, Georgia*



**PARLIMENTARIAN PROCEDURES (PART I)**

The following is the procedure, as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order, for recording votes, page 401 of the 10th edition, published by Perus Publishing, October 2000.

In recording votes cast, the tellers ignore blank ballots and do not credit illegal votes to any candidate or choice. All blanks must be ignored as scrap paper, since members who do not wish to vote may adopt this method of concealing the fact.

From page 394 of the same book:

RIGHT OF ABSTENTION. Although it is the duty of every member who has an opinion on a question to express it by his vote, he can abstain, since he cannot be compelled to vote.

Abstaining means not casting a vote.

*Joan White  
President*

**BRAIN TEASERS**

1. LE VEL
2.  $\frac{0}{M.D. B.A. ph.D.}$
3. MIND MATTER

Answers:

1. Split Level      2. 3° Below Zero      3. Mind over matter