

# Tips *and* Trips



The Georgia Mineral Society

\*Atlanta, Georgia\*

Volume XXXVIII/Ten

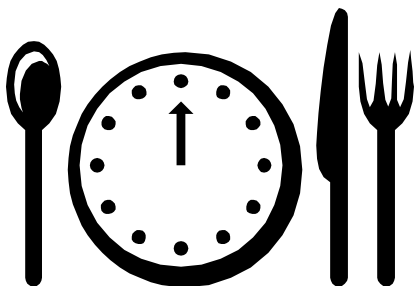
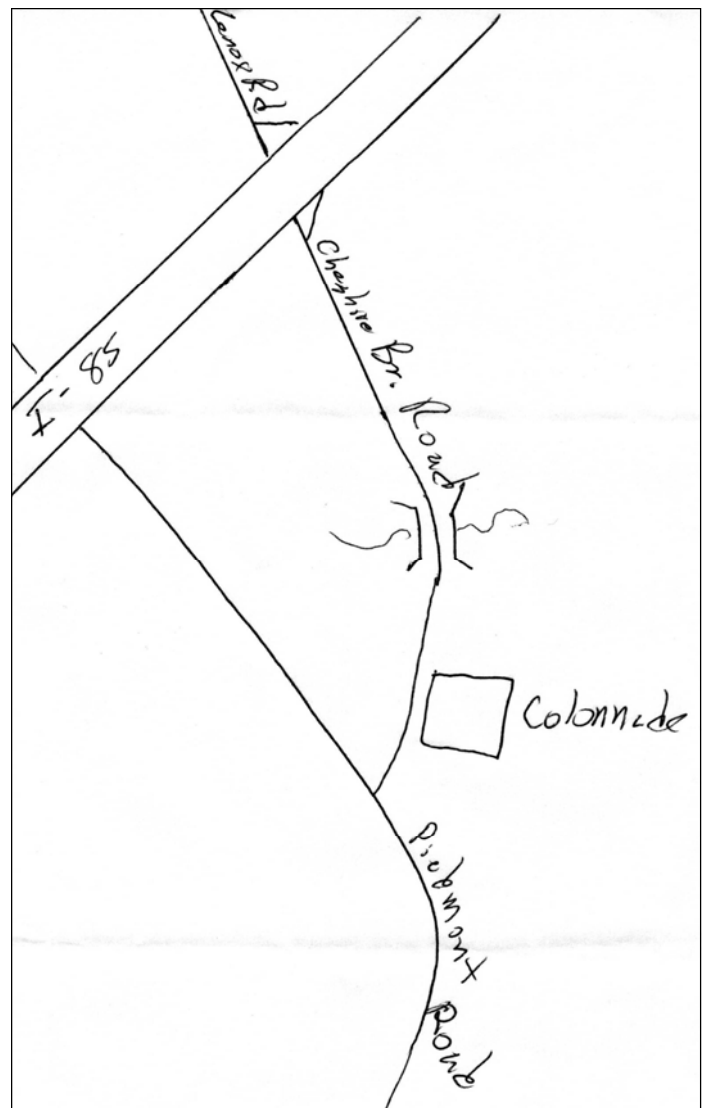
October 2009

**Annual Dinner Meeting  
October 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 6:00 PM  
Colonnade Restaurant  
1879 Chesire Bridge Road  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
Cost \$23.00 / Person**

October is the end and beginning of our year. Dinner will be served at 7:00pm. Afterward there will be a short business meeting. Awards will be given out and the new officers sworn in.

I will be taking reservations up to Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you make reservations and not show up you will owe the money to GMS as we will be billed for no shows. If you show up without reservations there may not be space for you. Please RSVP.

Kim  
770-979-8331





**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**



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Curator/Gem Box	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
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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 November 2009 newsletter is October 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
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Demonstrations	John Trimble	770.425.5075
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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

**President's Message**

Hi folks, After last month's short column, this one will not be much longer. John has begun the search once again for a GMS home. He and Rose have gone back to the list of possibilities. He has visited several properties and has taken Committee members for viewings. I am very relieved that John has experience with real estate. I would be hard pressed to keep my blood pressure under control during the process. In the meantime, we will continue to meet at the Chamblee Library and the various special event sites.

Our October banquet will be at the Colonnade Restaurant (see the announcement in this newsletter). November's meeting will be at the Library. December's party location will be announced at the next meeting.

This coming weekend, I and others will be going to the Southeast Federation of Mineral Societies, Inc (SFMS) annual meeting and banquet in Jacksonville, Florida. GMS fully participates in the Federation activities and programs, including William Holland and Wildacres classes, Dixie Mineral Council field trips, liability insurance, Mayo Educational Foundation, Inc. scholarships, and shared communications about collecting restrictions and problems. Frank Decaminada is the SFMS State Director for Georgia. He and I can answer questions about SFMS.

As fall cools the weather, field trips will be more comfortable. Please join us in the field for good collecting and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Waggener, President



**Education Report**

GMS members continue to spread their knowledge of the earth sciences. Kim Cochran talked to several groups. Shirley and Lawrence Parker continue to educate the students at Clayton Elementary School in Cherokee County. John Trimble, Richard Graveline, Roxanne Lopez and I enjoyed meeting and greeting the public at Stone Mountain's Rock and Mineral Day on Labor Day. The GMS microscope and John's accessories were a big hit as usual. We distributed filers, stickers, membership forms and PLRs to lots of folks young and old.

Mickey McClain, Christina Lewis and Roxanne Lopez can use support in their classrooms. Please ask them what would be most helpful. As you collect, please include a bucket for classroom specimen donations as well as grab bag specimens. Every PLR donated is one that we don't have to buy for classes or grab bags.

The Holly Camp Memorial Earth Science Education

Minigrant 2010/2011 applications will be available in January. Please encourage all Earth Science, Earth Systems and elementary teachers that you know to apply for the \$300 Minigrants for 2010-2011.

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

**Fossil Section News**



DATE: October 19, 2009  
TIME: 7:30 PM  
LOCATION: LeRoy & Martha Brown's Home  
4837Greenway Road, Norcross GA 30071  
PHONE: 770/448-0876 For directions & RSVP

**FOSSILS OF THE CONEMAUGH FORMATION**  
-Just above Coal 4

October's meeting will be on the fossils of the Conemaugh Formation just above coal 4. John Trammel will discuss collecting this formation. This formation is Hugh. It apparently covers several states. If you have any specimens to discuss, please bring them.

Thanks to Richard Graveline, Bill Waggener, Pam Martin, Richard Graveline, Carl Ziglin, Margaret Rowan, Ginny Loman and Gail Leadingham for attending. We had a good meeting on the two valves.

Gail also discovered that oxalic acid was not available locally. We found out you can find it on the internet.

The Fossil Section decided to re-elect Martha S. Brown chairman due to lack of interest.

Thank You,  
Martha S. Brown

**Junior Section**

**No October Meeting or Outing**

**If you want something to do, we recommend the Annual Georgia Marble Festival & Fine Art & Sculpture Exhibit** – 1st weekend of October. Arts & Crafts, Marble Quarry tours, music, carshow, and a roadrace.

Call for questions 678-491-0489

Roxanne Lopez, Junior Chair



**Junior Outing**  
Labor Day at Stone Mountain

We had a great time visit to Stone Mountain on Labor Day. A group of girls were lead a part of the way up the mountain by Bill Waggoner. We even got to see a couple of deer on the path we took back down. Afterwards, the juniors participated in activities with the folks at the Confederate Hall where we had a table of rocks, fossils and minerals to show visitors. Don't miss next year's activities.

By Roxanne Lopez

**Gem Section**

**October meeting:**  
Monday October 26th, 7:30 meeting

**This month's topic will be carved gem stones. Intaglio, cameo, etched or sketched, it's a BYOG (Bring Your Own Gem) meeting.**

We will be meeting at:  
The home of Richard Graveline  
2223 Chaparral Drive  
Snellville, GA 30078

**Please phone 770-972-8714 to RSVP.**

**GEM SECTION TRIVIA!**

What is the oldest gemstone? Forsterite, a form of olivine, can form in space, as can be observed in a type of meteorite known as a Pallasite. See the related article from the NASA picture of the day.

Is this the oldest gem? Tune in next month to hear what Martha Brown has to say (she was there!).

We're looking for a host for the November gem section meeting. Please let me know if you're interested:

November 30th **YOUR NAME HERE**

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

Hope to see you at the meeting.

Carl Ziglin,  
Gem Section Chair  
gems@gaminal.org



**Micromount Section**

Below is the Micromount Section Meeting schedule for October through November. The meeting dates are:

October 15  
November 19

The meeting place will be Brookwood High School in Snellville, Georgia. We will meet in the main lobby of the school at 7PM. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

Dave Babulski  
678-580-2475  
[d.babulski@comcast.net](mailto:d.babulski@comcast.net)



*Bill, Richard, and John at the GMS table*



*Bill working with the youth*

October Birthdays

- 10/01 Amanda Burton
- 10/01 Sophie Trentini
- 10/02 Joseph Broome
- 10/03 Daniel Demko
- 10/03 Susan Heywood
- 10/03 Christine Sharpton
- 10/03 Erik Swanson
- 10/04 Terry Fuller
- 10/04 Bruce West
- 10/05 Susan Dodd
- 10/05 Kathy Phagan
- 10/06 Jeff Crawford
- 10/06 Harry J. Hyaduck
- 10/07 Ardis Cecil
- 10/08 Carolyn Madden
- 10/09 Olin Banks
- 10/09 Drew Blair
- 10/09 Winston Elston
- 10/10 Pete Bonk
- 10/10 Pamela Gore
- 10/12 Bill Hayward
- 10/12 Keith Phagan
- 10/14 Laura Ray
- 10/14 Jennifer Woodson
- 10/15 Elizabeth Lamb
- 10/16 Tom Taylor
- 10/17 Carol Williams



- 10/17 Pamela Zeyher
- 10/20 Sam Bailey
- 10/21 Kim Cochran
- 10/21 Chris Foppiano
- 10/21 Tony Madden
- 10/22 Sharon Varney-Thurman
- 10/23 Duane Bailey
- 10/23 Richard Graveline
- 10/23 Michael Jolly
- 10/23 Morgan Shipley
- 10/24 John Jolly
- 10/26 Melissa Shuford
- 10/31 Kim Bonk
- 10/31 Emily Eastland
- 10/31 Michael Hopkins

Hwy. Go .5 miles and the Conoco station is on the left. Please park away from the convenience store. It takes about 30 minutes from the I-75 / 575 intersection to get to the meeting site.

Most of us enjoy dressing in costume for the pick-up. It seems to make the morning more fun and the local traffic appreciates it, too! I look forward to seeing you there!!

Ginger Peterson  
404 403-4855

Membership

Georgia Mineral Society would like to welcome new member Beth Silvercloud of Covington, GA. She is partial to gems. Please introduce yourselves to her when you meet her at a gem section meeting or general meeting.

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



October Anniversaries

- 10/07 Maria and Jorge Buznego
- 10/19 Sharon Varney-Thurman and Chris Foppiano

Adopt A Highway

Highway 5  
Ballground, GA  
October 31, 2009

Thanks to all who participated in the cleanup of Highway 5 in Ballground in April. And, thanks to Dillon for lunch (he found 2 one hundred dollar bills during the cleanup...so he bought our lunch!).

We will go back for another day of fun on October 31st for our celebrated "Costumed Pick-Up Event".

We will meet @ 10:00am @ the Conoco Station. We will eat lunch after the pickup and then go nearby to collect local specimens...if you have ideas or suggestions, please let me know or we will decide when we get to the area.

Directions: Take 75 north to 575 north. Go 35 miles to exit 27(Business 5)...the Howell Bridge Road/Ballground exit. Go right to the stop sign, then left on Bus.5 / Canton

Grab Bag Sewing Party

November 1st, 2009

Hello GMS Show Enthusiasts!

Please join us for a Sewing Day @ Pam Martin's home to work on sewing Goody bags for next year's show. You do not need any sewing experience...we will teach you ... besides there is lots of work besides the actual sewing step. Please call Pam for directions and to RSVP @ 678 225-5656. We will begin around 2pm so bring sewing tools if you have them, fabric for bags and a food dish for 6 or so...we look forward to eating and sewing with YOU!!

Thanks, Ginger and Pam

Sunshine News

In August the club heard from the daughter of Willard & Betty Grant. She has informed us that her father passed away in 2003 and her mother passed away in May of this year. One of her father's former students is trying to start a geology grad student scholarship in her parents name and she will be passing along more information once it is available.

As always, please continue to let me know if there is anything you would like to mention in the Sunshine section.

Linda Batcha, Sunshine Chair



## THE MICROMOUNT CORNER

### Mineral Chemical Formulas

By; Dr. David Babulski

When you read about minerals in books or on-line and they give a description of the mineral along with its chemical formula; do you ever wonder what all those letters and numbers mean? I will try and explain in simple terms how to interpret what those letters and numbers tell you about the chemistry of the mineral. To understand this best we need to start at the beginning. All matter on Earth is made up of collections of atoms. An atom is the smallest particle of matter and is composed of a nucleus surrounded by clouds of negatively charged electrons. Each atom has a specific number of protons (positively charged) and neutrons (neutral charge) in the nucleus and a specific number of electrons that surround the nucleus. The electrons are not discrete points but rather are expressed as a probability cloud. Because of the nature of the electron its position in the atom can not be exactly pinpointed, so we see it as a cloud of possible locations at any given time. It is the electron clouds of atoms that interact with each other to create new types of matter that may have different characteristics than the individual atoms. For example, when the electron cloud of an atom of the metal Sodium, a highly reactive element, combines with the electron cloud of the poisonous gas Chlorine, they together form the substance we call Table Salt. Because the electron clouds are shared, the new mineral, table salt, has different characteristics than either Sodium or Chlorine. But we are getting ahead of ourselves, so let's go back and talk a bit about the different atoms that make up the world we know.

There are ninety two specific atoms we call elements that occur naturally on our planet Earth. Most of the ninety two elements are very rare, occurring in only very small quantities. However about twenty eight elements, by themselves and in combination with each other, make up over ninety five percent of material on the earth and in fact the earth itself. Specific combinations and arrangements of elements produce what we call minerals. A chemical formula is a kind of short hand way of describing the specific combination and arrangement of elements. In some cases a single element occurs, by itself in sufficient quantities, that we call it a "mineral". The best examples of this are the elements Gold, Silver, Copper, Mercury and Iron. For example, a Gold nugget is made up a collection of large numbers of atoms of the element Gold and nothing else.

Scientists over the centuries have given elements special names and symbols. Some of the names are

ancient Latin derivation. For example, the symbol for Gold is "Au" for the Latin "Aurum". Listed below are the twenty eight of the most common elements that make up minerals on the earth along with their chemical symbols:

Hydrogen	H	Sodium	Na	Barium	Ba
Oxygen	O	Magnesium	Mg	Titanium	Ti
Silicon	Si	Potassium	K	Vanadium	V
Lithium	Li	Calcium	Ca	Chromium	Cr
Manganese	Mn	Iron	Fe	Cobalt	Co
Nickel	Ni	Copper	Cu	Zinc	Zn
Arsenic	As	Lead	Pb	Mercury	Hg
Gold	Au	Silver	Ag	Phosphorus	P
Sulfur	S	Tin	Sn	Antimony	Sb
Carbon	C				

When two or more atoms join together to share their electron clouds they form a molecule. A molecule is the smallest mineral unit that has the characteristics of the specific mineral. The electron clouds are sometimes called "electron orbitals" and can be of rather complex shape. I shall use the term "electron orbitals for the remainder of this article. (A wonderful site for the visualization of electron orbitals is: <http://winter.group.shef.ac.uk/orbitron/AOs/4p/index.html>) There are several ways that atoms can bond or share electron orbitals. The four most common in minerals are: Ionic Bonding, Covalent Bonding, Metallic Bonding and the van der Waals Bond. A detailed discussion of these bonding types is beyond the scope of this short article; however some of the references listed at the end of this article will fill in the details. Some atoms can bond together to form what is called poly atomic ions or "radicals". These radicals act as if they were a single element when they join other elements to form mineral molecules. Some of the most familiar radicals are:

#### Carbonate radical $\text{CO}_3$

The symbol for Carbon by itself means there is one carbon atom in this molecule called a radical. The subscript "3" next to the symbol for Oxygen means that the electron orbitals of three Oxygen atoms share the electron orbitals of the Carbon atom. The electrical charge is negative. This means that this radical looks like an atom with an excess of electrons to share. All of the common radicals in minerals exhibit this negative charge.

#### Sulfate radical $\text{SO}_4$

The symbol for the element sulfur by itself means there is one Sulfur atom in this molecule called a radical. The subscript "4" next to the symbol for Oxygen means that the electron orbitals of four Oxygen atoms share the electron orbitals of the one Carbon atom.

#### Phosphate radical $\text{PO}_4$

The symbol for the element Phosphorous by itself means there is one atom of Phosphorous in this molecule called a radical. The subscript "4" next to the symbol for the element Oxygen means that the electron orbitals of four Oxygen atoms share the electron orbitals of the one Phosphorous atom.

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**Silicate radical**      **SiO<sub>4</sub>**

The symbol for the element Silicon by itself means there is one atom of silicon in this radical. The subscript "4" next to the symbol for the element Oxygen means that the electron orbitals of four Oxygen atoms share the electron orbitals of the one Silicon atom.

**Hydroxide radical**      **OH**

In this radical the elements Hydrogen and Oxygen share their electron orbitals.

A mineral chemical formula simply tells us how many Atoms and radicals are combined together to share their electron orbitals to form a molecule of the mineral. For example, If we combine one Calcium atom (Ca) with one Carbonate radical (CO<sub>3</sub>) we get the chemical formula for Calcite: CaCO<sub>3</sub>. Expressed as words, this chemical formula would be Calcium Carbonate. It is important to note here that each element and molecule has an electrical charge. If there are an excess number of electrons in the electron orbital, the charge is negative. However if there is a deficiency of electrons in the electron orbital then the charge is positive. Atoms and molecules come together to share electrons to make the combination of elements and radicals exhibit a neutral charge. This creates a mineral molecule that is chemically stable. So for example, in the case of Calcium Carbonate, the Calcium atom exhibits a positive charge and the Carbonate radical a negative charge. When they bond together the electrical charges cancel leaving the electrically neutral molecule of Calcite. Let's look at another example; the mineral Fluorapatite is created by combining the elements Calcium, the Phosphate radical and the element Fluorine in the right proportions. The chemical formula for Fluorapatite is: Ca<sub>5</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>F. This chemical formula tells us that the electron orbitals of five Calcium atoms share the electron orbitals of three Phosphate radicals. This arrangement in turn shares the electron orbitals of one Fluorine atom. Expressed as words this chemical formula would be Calcium Phosphate Fluoride.

It is interesting to note that the shape of the mineral molecule is reflected in the overall crystal structure of the mineral. Another term used to describe a mineral molecule is the "unit cell". When many of the unit cells are connected together, they form a crystal lattice. This crystal lattice when repeated many times all connected together forms a crystal of the mineral.

If the mineral contains water it is termed a hydrous mineral. In this case the Water radical H<sub>2</sub>O is appended to the end of the chemical formula with a dot. For example the calcium Sulfate Gypsum has the chemical formula: CaSO<sub>4</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O. This formula tells us that the electron orbitals of one Calcium atom shares the electron orbitals of one Sulfate radical and two Water radicals. Remember that radicals are treated as individual atoms for the purposes of chemical formulas.

Let's look at several chemical formulas for some common minerals and explain each one:

**Pyrite:**    **FeS<sub>2</sub>** Iron Sulfide. One atom of Iron is bonded with or sharing the electron orbitals of two Sulfur atoms.

**Chalcopyrite:** **FeCuS<sub>2</sub>** Copper Iron Sulfide. One atom of Iron and Copper share the electron orbitals of two sulfur atoms.

**Malachite:** **Cu<sub>2</sub>(CO<sub>3</sub>)(OH)<sub>2</sub>** Copper Carbonate Hydroxide. Two Copper atoms share the electron orbitals of one Carbonate radical and two Hydroxide radicals.

**Vanadinite:** **Pb<sub>5</sub>(VO<sub>4</sub>)Cl** Lead Vanadate Chloride. Five Lead atoms are sharing the electron orbitals of one Vanadate radical and one Chlorine atom

**Orthoclase:** **KAlSi<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>** Potassium Aluminum Silicate. One Potassium atom and one Aluminum atom share electron orbitals with three silicon atoms and eight Oxygen atoms.

As you might imagine, the subject of mineral chemistry can be rather complex. I have tried to give you a basic simplified explanation of mineral chemical formulas so you will have a better idea of the symbolism of all the letters and numbers. I have attached a list of references and additional reading if you wish to delve into this fascinating subject further.

Until next time may all your skies be blue and all your vugs filled with crystals.

Book References:

Rosenzweig, A, Mineral Formulas – What they mean and how to Read and Write Them, 1966, Self Published (Rosenzweig Associates, Tampa, Florida)

Mason, B and Berry, L.G. Elements of Mineralogy, W.H Freeman and Co., San Francisco, 1968, pages 65 – 98

Dana, S and Ford W.E., A Textbook of Mineralogy, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1966, Pages 340 – 358.

Internet References:

<http://www.minerals.net/resource/chemical.htm#Chemical>

<http://www.onlinemathlearning.com/chemical-formulas.html>

[http://www.miningbasics.com/html/derivation\\_of\\_a\\_chemical\\_formu.php](http://www.miningbasics.com/html/derivation_of_a_chemical_formu.php)

<http://regentsprep.org/Regents/physics/phys05/catomodel/cloud.htm>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atomic\\_orbital#The\\_shapes\\_of\\_orbitals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atomic_orbital#The_shapes_of_orbitals)

<http://geology.csupomona.edu/driessey/class/Gsc101/Mineral.html>

[https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/georgia/www/ME498\\_Spring07\\_files/ATOMIC%20STRUCTURE\\_10Feb07.pdf](https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/georgia/www/ME498_Spring07_files/ATOMIC%20STRUCTURE_10Feb07.pdf)

This is the second of a four articles by George Libby about his recent adventures on his vacation of the Western U.S.

### Thomas the Train made it over the Mountain or How I Spent My Summer by George Libby

6/7 It is Sunday and I wanted to thank the Lord for all his blessings. The desk clerk, at the motel told me of a nearby church but wasn't sure of the exact location. I thought I would punch in Churches into my GPS. The nearest one, of my denomination, was 100 miles away. It did give me a church a few blocks away and I thought I might go there. When I arrived I found two churches on that block and one was the one I really wanted. The bottom line is that the GPS is good but some times may not give you the correct information. After that it was a quite ride to Madras OR.. I did stop at a fossil site on top of a mountain. I didn't write the name down and these sites are all over. I had a nice dinner at the Black Bear Dinner, a local chain. Actually I stopped at a number of diners and surprised myself that I did not stop at that many fast food places. Now I was set to collect at Richardson's.



*Richardson's Ranch - Thundereggs*

6/8 I Collected Thunder eggs from the Priday and the Blue beds. Then I called the Peacock Mines to see if they might be open on my way back. They would be open. I then mailed my rocks home. I know that there is no collecting in National Parks. I would be visiting them and I just did not want some ranger telling me I was violating something. I do know that most rangers just want you to have a great time when you are in our National Parks. I also know that some rangers can get carried away. The post office allows boxes to be mailed, for a flat rate anything weighing up to 70 pounds. I just felt it might be wise to ship everything ahead. Again I was foiled in my picture taking. I passed the Christmas Mountains but had no place to pull over to take a picture. The boulders and rocks here are covered in brightly covered green and red lichens and mosses. This gives the mountains their name. I did no collecting here as I felt the lichens would only die and I would just have brown rocks. After not stopping, I had

to stop for some road work. It was interesting to see their truck with the crossing gate that pulled down to stop you from passing. There were some antelope on the side of the road but they did not stick around for picture taking. I then continued on to Lakeview OR. That is 100 miles away from the Peacock Mine. Denio is only 30 miles away but here I had TV.

6/9 I woke up at 6:15 and was ready by 6:45. I tried to go to Subway for some breakfast and lunch. They did not open until 8 AM. I ended up going to the supermarket and getting donuts and orange juice for breakfast and crackers and cheese for lunch. I did get to the Peacock Mines and did collect opal. OK, not the biggest or best. I could have gotten better on E-bay, and would have cost less, than I paid to dig. That is not what it was about, I found opal and when you look at it, in the sun, you can see the play of green and red color. I also picked up some opal light at the wall. It had formed in the higher elevation and fell down to the workings level. I left all the pebbles I found. Later, I was told some may have been Moss Opal and some people collect them. It seems there is always more to see and learn. I did what I wanted. In doing my research I found that it was advisable to bring a small pick along. We are looking at something that looks like an ice pick but much heavier. I purchased one but forgot to bring it. I did see someone using one to great advantage. I had to use my screwdriver. Now when I went back to the motel I stopped to pick up some frozen food for breakfast and a salad for lunch. I could nuke my breakfast in the room and even have a cup of coffee.

6/10 I Left for the Spectrum Sunstone Mines. This was closer to the motel but just as remote. On the way a pick up was pulling a trailer, coming at me. Well the road was just not wide enough for us to pass. I had to back up a half mile to get to a place where we could pass. I continued on with the Oregon Trail Guide and several well placed signs on the way. The problem started when I passed the Dust Devil Mine. There were no other signs. I started searching. I did come upon a free public collecting area but no Spectrum Mine. I kept searching and ended up back at the Dust Devil Mine. I was ready to give up and do my collecting at the Dust Devil but sat there reading the trail guide. The map made no sense but it said something about making the second left toward the public area. Well I had passed that and tried going back. I actually found the first left, but Oh, oh, that second left. There were two ruts that branched off. Everything was muddy. I don't know if it rained that hard here or it was just that far from the opal fields in Nevada. If it rained again I was not sure I could get out. I did not realize it but those two ruts that branched off became one and driving down I saw a tepee in the distance. Then a sign "the Right way and the Wrong way" I went the right way and found their office and met Jeff. He explained that this was all BLM land and they do not permit signs on their property. It means that any of the privately owned mines are not allowed to put anything up. The Dust Devil has its signs on their property. They have frontage on the public



*Spectrum Mine - Sunstone*

roads, but the Spectrum is too far off so there are no signs. I told him he should paint directions on the side of a truck and then have it break down at a convenient junction. I don't know how anyone finds their way to the mine. Actually I wanted to collect here because they offer an hour at their conveyor belt. It cost more than digging at the spoil dumps at any of the mines but I felt I might get the better pieces. It did pay off. Actually Jeff was the equipment operator and did not collect the fee to dig, but he explained that Jennifer does that and she should be back soon. He invited me to look all over, for the sunstones while waiting. Well they were all over. Actually they looked like small pieces of an amber pop bottle. The only thing was, I couldn't see why any one would want to collect them. I could smash a bottle and have my own synthetic sun stones. Then Jennifer showed up. She had had too much iced tea the night before and could not find her keys. I tried collecting at their spoil piles while they kept looking for the keys. The stones were a little larger but nothing to write home about. Finally Jeff and Jennifer were able to open a back door and I was able to collect. Actually they retrieved some paperwork but had me collect before I paid. They both helped. I couldn't believe the number of stones I missed that Jennifer, who was working behind me, caught and passed into my pile. Now I had some shillers. These are stones large enough to facet and show copper bands inside much like a cats eye shows different as the light changes. There were also red and green shaded stones and I could easily see the benefit of collecting the belt. Then again the same people own the Himalaya Mine in California and they had some watermelon tourmaline that came from there. Suffice to say I left a lot poorer than when I arrived.

6/11 I Drove to California and I stopped at the welcome center. Since I had the books with me I decided I might try to go to Happy Camp and search for Jade. I did not realize I was supposed to drive toward the location from the welcome center and I ended up with another 10 mile detour. When I was finally able to get back on track I was enjoying the scenery and did not notice the rock in the road. I was on a beautiful two lane paved road but since I knew not all roads would be this nice I purchased all new

tires for my trip. I did not purchase a road hazard because they were no tire dealers that would honor anything in this area. The bottom line was the rock met my tire and the rock won. My spare is up under a back seat and you have to drop it down from inside the car. There is no way I can change a tire. This is why I am a member of AAA. The problem is that cell phones did not work in this area. Actually I was very lucky in that a stranger driving behind me, stopped and changed my tire. I continued on but was running out of gas. Just before empty I found the gas station. No one was there but it was credit card activated like most of our stations are at night. The difference is that the reader is located between the pumps and is totally rusted out and looks like it hadn't been used in years. It did work and I was on my way again. On my way doesn't say much. I still did not have a spare tire and I could not find the road to the collecting site. I was afraid to venture too far off the road without a spare but I did try to collect at a local creek. I did pick up some serpentine but thought I would be smarter just to pick up a tire first. I checked my Atlas and found a Wal-Mart in Redding with a tire center. I punched it in on my GPS and took off before it closed. This was my first visit to a McDonald's, on this trip, and that is because it was inside the Wal-Mart while they were installing a tire with a road hazard guarantee.

6/12 I drove to Placerville, (Hang Town) one of the old Gold Towns in California. I took in the sites. I wanted to take some pictures in a candy store but the owner wouldn't allow it so I left and went to a local museum.

6/13 I now went to Old Sacramento to do a little more sight seeing. It is a restored section of town that contained some of the old buildings. Sidewalks were wooden boardwalks. There was the river, train rides and a museum with all the other tourist things to do. This was a Saturday and I went to a early mass that would clear Sunday Then I drove to the airport to pick up my son, George Jr., who was flying in from Pennsylvania, to do some sight seeing together. We then drove to a hotel in San Francisco. He doesn't like the idea of not knowing where we might stay so he researched some places on the internet and chose the



*Ghost Town of Placerville*

hotel. Actually it was a great old place in the middle of town and the trolley stopped at the corner. The only negative thing is the bathroom was smaller than the smallest closet in my house. You know that I will keep reminding him of the small sink and the problems brushing your teeth.

6/14 We took the trolley to the ferry terminal and caught the tour for Napa Valley. My son is into wines and it is one of the things he wanted to do. The tour took us over the Golden Gate Bridge and brought us to four wineries. We were both upset that there was a charge to taste the wines at the wineries. This was a wine tasting tour and they did not say there would be additional charges to taste any of the wines. If you did not pay then this would have just been a bus ride. On the way back they did include a ferry ride across the bay. We went back to the hotel and changed clothes and took the trolley again to Fisherman's Pier. We did get off at Pier 39. There were all the amusements and boutiques and we did have dinner there but something was bothering me. The sign said Fisherman's Pier but my research showed a sign Fisherman's Wharf. We kept walking and came to Pier 41. This did say Fisherman's Wharf. There were the fish mongers all along the sidewalk selling their wares, an old penny arcade at the very end and a WW II submarine parked along side. I picked up a sweatshirt here. My son did not.



George and George Jr. at the Golden Gate Bridge

6/15 First we checked out of the motel and then we drove to China Town. While there I saw an interesting dragon on a tablet. The woman claimed it was Jade.?? Anyway she was willing to bargain and I had a birthday coming up so I am now the proud owner of ?. Then we had to go back to the Fisherman's Wharf so my son could purchase a sweat shirt like mine. We continued on to the Golden Gate Park and after passing under the Golden Gate Bridge we passed the Coastal bluffs and we stopped at Baker Beach. Here we got our feet wet. You could see the serpentine cliffs and there were several ocean rounded pieces of serpentine there. We both picked up paperweights there. It was time to leave and we drove down CA-1 toward Monterey Bay. There were several times we had to stop to enjoy the scenery and watch the Sail Surfers. The water was cold and everyone was wearing wet suits. We stopped just before Monterey in Marina, California.

**Georgia Marble Festival – Jasper, GA  
October 3 & 4 - Mine Tours Available**

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! This year we are offering 2 tours. The Red Tour consist of Polycor Georgia Marble, Imery's and Huber all of which our operating quarries. The Blue Tour also includes Polycor Georgia Marble, the Marble Museum, and Blue Ridge Marble & Granite Company. On the Blue tour you will see the mine, then a museum that shows old tools, and the history of the marble, then where marble is cut and carved. Tours are \$10 for Adults, \$7 for Kids, and Under 5 are Free (this includes your admission to the festival) and are sold on a first come, first-served basis. It is suggested that you make reservations as the tours will sell out.

**Schedules for the two tours are as follows:**

**RED TOUR SAT & SUN**

9:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 2pm, 3:30pm

**BLUE TOUR SAT & SUN**

9:30am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:00pm, 3:00pm

To make a reservation by phone call 706-692-5600

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



**Fernbank Museum of Natural History**

76 Clifton Rd. NE Atlanta, GA (404)929-6300  
For tickets and details on exhibits, films, and events, please visit our website at [www.fernbankmuseum.org](http://www.fernbankmuseum.org)

**On Exhibit:**

Opened September 26: **Gold**

New Permanent Gallery Now Open: **My Favorite Things**

**Upcoming Public Programs:**

**Gold Exhibit Opening.** Saturday, September 26, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Included with Museum membership or admission.

**Bugs, Bats and Bones Family Day.** Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Included with Museum membership or admission.

**Now Showing in IMAX: (Check our website for special screenings, theme nights, band schedules and more)**

**Opening October 2:** *Wild Safari* and *Van Gogh*

**Martinis and IMAX:** Friday evenings, 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.  
**Special Program:** Fright Night, Friday, October 30

### Geology Field Camp for the Self-Destructive, in Four Parts

By Bob Jarrett

#### Part I: Introduction

If one is over 62 years of age, the Georgia Board of Regents allows taking college courses tuition free. You can guess the rest: some nuts will accept anything "free". Other costs are definitely unfree. May 24th found me in a well-used van loaded to the ceiling and driven by Dr. Hassan Babaie headed for Georgia State University's 2009 geology field camp at Dillon, Montana for six weeks. Dillon is one hour South of Butte. Dillon's altitude is about 5100 ft. above sea level – 4100 higher than Atlanta.

The first stop was for eight hours of brake repairs at Chattanooga, less than two hours into the trip. I should have known that old = issues. On the other hand, "free" is a strong attractor.

Geology field camp is the opportunity to see, feel, and smell how many earth and mineral forming and modification processes work together – in the nude. But you have to go to places like Montana, where the people are as nice as Georgians, and vegetation is sparse to none. Earth's "bones" are visible.

are the ones we did not step on. Fifth, the world is paved with either pointy rocks sticking up so you can't step on them or smooth rocks on loose gravel and sloping down. Sixth, the only flat (or shady) spot is on some other hill. Seventh, water is too heavy to carry and too necessary to not carry. Eighth, the Frying Pan study area is aptly named for heat and dryness; so why aren't all those rattlesnakes pre-fried and ready to eat??



Distant scenery is magnificent everywhere. Sagebrush, juniper and mountain mahogany flourish beautifully across the mid-distance.

Cow plop, sheep marbles, and creeping, sharp cacti in the near range serve to keep people upright despite gravity's constant call.

The second installment will get more nitty and less gritty.



### Georgia State Park Events



#### Geology Hike

Sunday, Oct 11, 2009 1 PM to 3 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. \$5 plus \$5 parking. 770-732-5871.

#### Historical Rock Hike

Saturday, Oct 17, 2009

#### Tallulah Gorge State Park - Tallulah Falls, GA

Travel back in time on this strenuous hike where you will learn about rock formations named in the 1800s. Register in advance. \$10.00 per person \$5 parking. 706-754-7981.



You, too, have probably heard of Georgia geologists who went out and came back as botanists, -- because they went mad trying to find the rocks.

What did I learn? First, "free" is pretty expensive counting all the new gear, food, lodging, lab fees, and souvenirs. Then, there were the days of travel to and from Montana and daily hours to/from work sites. At my age, I do well at voluntary comas, so travel time isn't much of a problem. Third, if all of Mother Nature's hills and valleys we clambered up and down were flattened, Earth would be double its current diameter. Fourth, the only stable rocks

### Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig"

- o 8 am to 6 pm, Friday, October 2, 2009
- o 8 am to 6 pm, Saturday, October 3, 2009
- o 8 am to 6 pm, Sunday, October 4, 2009

**"You are invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!"**

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold a three day dig and rock swap on the Mountain during October of 2009. 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 and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. 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(s), 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 the special "Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

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

**THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL SFMS CLUBS and the GENERAL PUBLIC!**

**DIRECTIONS:** From Atlanta's I-285, take I-20 east to the exit for Washington, GA SR 78 (SR 10, SR 17) and turn left. Travel north to Washington, turn right onto SR 378 and drive 11 miles to the Graves Mountain area. The entrance to Graves Mountain is on your right about 8/10 mile past the Lincoln county line sign. The entrance is a paved road that goes through a gate and up a hill. Please park along the access road and then proceed to the "Welcome Tent" at the end of the pavement to obtain a liability release form and to make a donation for the portable bathrooms, etc.

SFMS Field Trip Committee:  
Please reply by e-mail to: [dmc@gamineral.org](mailto:dmc@gamineral.org)  
Jim Flora - SFMS Field Trip Committee Chair

#### Graves Mountain code of conduct!

- Park your vehicle in the designated area(s) only.
- NO child under the age of 12 years old is to be allowed on the mountain because of all the dangers involved. **CHILDREN WILL BE ALLOWED DURING THE "Rock Swap and Dig" IF EACH CHILD IS UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION!**
- ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash.
- The Graves Mountain caretaker, Clarence Norman Jr., has 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 HIGH WALLS!!
- NO REPELLING OFF OF ANYTHING OR HANGING FROM ROPES!
- 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 Mountain!  
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.*



### Nantahala Talc and Limestone Quarry Hewitt, North Carolina Saturday, October 10, 2009 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**WHERE:** Nantahala Talc and Limestone Quarry, Hewitt, North Carolina (in the beautiful Nantahala gorge).  
**WHAT:** Banded pink, gray and yellow marble, calcite, dolomite, pyrite, travertine and talc.  
**WHEN:** October 10, 2009

**COLLECTING HOURS:** Participants must arrive at 9:00 A.M. to check-in, sign a release form, and receive a brief safety briefing. The dig will last until 5:00 P.M. There is no fee for this dig.

If children come, they MUST be in CLOSE proximity to their parent(s) at all times. All young people under 18 must be with an adult/parent at all times. This is a working quarry with high unstable walls so everyone must stay away from the walls.

**SAFETY EQUIPMENT:** Hard hats and safety glasses are required. It is also recommended that you wear sturdy shoes, gloves, and appropriate outer clothing. Collecting is possible rain or shine.

**SPECIAL CONDITION:** In order to attend this field trip, you must be a member of a SFMS associated club. College and University groups are also allowed to attend with prior notice.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Buckets and containers, rock and crack hammers, picks, sledge hammers, and flat and pointed chisels. We will drive into the large quarry and park on a mid-level bench. Bring a lunch and water and be prepared to do your "duty" in the woods as there are no nearby facilities. It will be possible to drive about ¼ mile to the quarry office for "relief", if necessary.

**WHERE TO STAY:** Towns within 30 miles from the meeting spot with motels, campgrounds and other facilities: Andrews; Bryson City; Cherokee; Robbinsville; and Murphy.

**DIRECTIONS:** We will meet at 9:00 AM at a Roadside Park/Rest Area on US-74 at Hewitt, North Carolina and proceed as a group to the nearby quarry.

From the West: From the intersection of US-19 business and US-74E at Andrews, NC, drive approximately 12 miles east on US-74E to the roadside park/rest area on the left-hand (north) side of highway (just past the bridge over the Nantahala River).

From the East: From the intersection of US-19business and US-74W at Bryson City, NC, drive approximately 17.5 miles west on US-74W to the roadside park on the right-hand (north) side of the highway (just before the bridge over the Nantahala River).

FOR ONLINE INFORMATION AND PICTURES OF THE QUARRY:

- <http://www.mcrocks.com/page11.html>
- <http://www.mcrocks.com/FTR-A/FieldTripReportMikeStreeterOctober%2025,%202003.html>
- <http://www.mcrocks.com/FTR-A/FieldTripReportEverettHarrington-October2003.html>
- <http://www.mcrocks.com/ftr/StreeterNantahalaNovember05.html>
- <http://www.mcrocks.com/ftr06-2/Streeter11-4-06.html>
- <http://www.mcrocks.com/ftr07-2/StreeterNantahala11-10-07.html>

CONTACT INFORMATION: Mike Streeter – Email: [mcstreeter@charter.net](mailto:mcstreeter@charter.net) Phone: (828)667-8290

**FEE:** \$15.00 a person. Children under 16 are \$6.00. Everyone attending will have to sign a release wavier.

**WHEN:** Saturday, Oct. 17th . We meet at 10 AM.

**Bring:** If interested in the milky quartz crystals you will just need something to put them in. If you are interested in the other minerals or skeletal quartz you will need to bring a pick and shovel as well as hard rock tools and safety glasses. Be sure and bring plenty of newspaper to wrap your finds in. A lot of the quartz has iron-staining on it. Frequently the stains vary in color from face to face on the crystals and make for very attractive specimens AS LONG AS YOU DON'T DING THEM UP! Lunch, bug spray, some sun protection, and don't forget some good shoes or boots.

**Directions:** We will meet at the mine at 10:00 A.M. Take Interstate 85 to exit 19A in South Carolina. Exit and go south on Highway 76/28 a short distance and the highways will split. Stay on highway 28 south to Antreville. There is a big church at the intersection of Highway 284 and Highway 28 1/2 mile south of Antreville. Turn right onto 284 and go 2.3 miles and take a right on Suber Road, SC road S-01-508. Be careful not to turn into the folks' driveway just before the road here. Go seven tenths of a mile and you will see on your right a gravel road, Diamond Mine Road, SC road S-1-538. Turn right and go half a mile and the mine entrance will be on your right.

Contact George Libby  
Phone 770-978-2117  
Cell 678-910-7476  
[Onsiteinatlanta@yahoo.com](mailto:Onsiteinatlanta@yahoo.com)



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 KYANA Geological Society, Louisville, KY(HOST)  
An Official Field Trip of the Georgia Mineral Society



**GMS Field Trip  
Diamond Hill Mine  
Antreville, South Carolina  
Saturday, Oct. 17th, 2009  
10:00 A.M.  
(Fee Site)**

**Saturday and Sunday, October 17-18, 2009  
Taylorsville, Spencer County, Kentucky  
Lower Kentucky River  
Falls of the Ohio State Park  
"Ordovician rocks and fossils"**

For collectors the Diamond Hill Mine has been producing skeletal, amethyst and smoky quartz crystals as well as quartz scepters and an assortment of pegmatite minerals for many years.

Our plans, weather permitting, will be to take the participants on Saturday the 17th to a series of road cuts in the area of Taylorsville, Spencer County, Kentucky. We will be collecting Upper Ordovician fossils. The stratigraphic section ranges from the [Eden Fm - older name based on faunal assemblage Caster,Dalve,& Pope

## The Georgia Mineral Society

October 2009

1955 or the Kope based on Lithology Martin 1975] up through the Liberty or Bull Fork Fm. A good reference for these fossils is Cincinnati Fossils, An Elementary Guide to the Ordovician Rocks and Fossils of the Cincinnati, Ohio Region, by R.A. Davis, Publication 10, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, 1720 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, Phone [513] 621-3889.

The primary formation we will be collecting in is the McMillan or Grant Lake, or the Maysvillian Stage. Most of the fossils will be loose, very little digging is required. There are about 100 different fossils in these units. Most participants can expect to find with some diligence 25 different fossils. There are many varieties of brachiopods, bryozoans, pelecypods, gastropods, along with corals, cephalopods, rare finds include trilobites, edrioasteroids, and a very rare cycloostoid was found here a couple of years ago.

Taylorville State Park will be our meeting site for Saturday morning October 17, 2009. Highway 155/55 runs north south through the town of Taylorville, turn east on to highway 44, take highway 44 to highway 248, take highway 248 east to the entrance of Taylorville State Park, turn south on Park Road, pass the Park Office and to the covered picnic shelters, park here. If you go too far you will end up at the Possum Ridge Boat Ramp.

I would like to leave the meeting area at 9:00 AM EST. We will be collecting along highway 44 and perhaps highway 155.

If you arrive early please do not collect these stretches of highway.

At a time yet to be determined, we will break from collecting and join KYANA Geological Society at our Annual Picnic at one of the covered shelters where we met in the morning. It is a pot-luck with KYANA providing the meat [ham & turkey] and the drinks. You are not required to provide anything, it is our treat!

For the afternoon we will either continue to collect the Taylorville area or travel to the Frankfort area and collect in the Middle Ordovician, Lexington Limestone along the valley of the Lower Kentucky River [very pretty]. The KYANA Fossil Study Group has been investigating this area and has been tracking trilobite bearing layers in hope of finding Kentucky's largest Ordovician trilobite *Isotelus* sp. We have found hundreds of tails, a few heads, some thorax segments attached to tails and at least three trilobites that were all there except for the head. One small enrolled one was complete. The *Isotelus* trilobites range in size from one inch to ten inches in size in these deposits.

There will be enough KYANA member guides to do both.

What to bring: Standard rock hound tools [hammer, chisels, goggles, wrapping materials, buckets] we will be in the sun, sunscreen, sun hat, sun glasses.

You can access our website <http://kyanageo.org/> and see some of these fossils and more.

Sunday we be touring the Falls of the Ohio State Park. Meet in the Parking lot behind the building at 10:00 AM EST. If you intend to visit the Interpretive Center [recommended], do not pay the parking fee it is included in the admission fee.

What to bring: A shoulder bag or knapsack for carrying snacks, water, dry socks, extra pair of shoes, camera in watertight container, walking stick, sun glasses, sun hat, bug spray, sunscreen. This will be a fairly strenuous tour and will involve crossing the river bottom on algae covered rocks with up to two feet of water and some current. The surface of the Falls is dry beyond this point, and the variety of fossil corals exposed is astounding along with large silicified snails and other fossils. Bring a scale or a form of measurement, some of the coral heads are really big. There are no bathroom facilities out on the outer beds. This tour is dependent on the river level.

You can view the Falls of the Ohio website at

<http://www.fallsoftheohio.org/>

Map for directions to the Falls of the Ohio:

<http://www.fallsoftheohio.org/map.html>

The camping rates at Taylorville Lake are;  
Primitive \$15 Sunday - Thursday, \$ 17 Friday & Saturday  
RV \$ 21 Sunday - Thursday, \$23 Friday & Saturday

Charles Oldham, KYANA Field Trip Chairman.

[502] 241-8755

[catsmeowstudio1@yahoo.com](mailto:catsmeowstudio1@yahoo.com)

( prefer to communicate by e-mail)

There are no fees involved other than admission to the Falls of the Ohio State Park & perhaps a \$2.00 parking fee.

Any questions, feel free to contact me!

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"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.

# October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Graves Mtn Swap & Dig	3 Graves Mtn Swap & Dig
4 Graves Mtn Swap & Dig	5 GMS Annual Dinner	6	7	8	9	10 DMC Trip:NC
11	12	13	14	15 Micromount Section	16	17 GMS Trip:SC DMC Trip:KY
18	19 Fossil Section	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Gem Section	27	28	29	30	31 Adopt-A-Hwy

Southeastern Gem and Rock Shows

**Oct 3-4--LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY:** 19th annual show and sale; Rockhounds of Central Kentucky; National Guard Armory, 4301 Airport Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; adults \$1, children 6-12 50 cents or \$3 per family, Scouts in uniform free; dealers, minerals, jewelry, equipment, club sales, demonstrations, exhibits, silent auctions, hourly door prizes, blacklight display, kids' quarry; contact Kay Fisher, 1905 Port Royal Ct., Lexington, KY 40504, (859) 537-1776; e-mail: [kkay19@aol.com](mailto:kkay19@aol.com); Web site: [lexingtonrockclub.com](http://lexingtonrockclub.com)

**Oct 10-11--ORLANDO, FLORIDA:** 18th annual fossil and mineral show; Florida Fossil Hunters; Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$4, children \$1; fossils, rocks, gems, minerals, silent auctions, supplies, books, educational material, children's dig pit, Scout activities; contact Valerie First, 223 Ringwood Dr., Winter Springs, FL 32708, (407) 699-9274; e-mail: [vjfirst@aol.com](mailto:vjfirst@aol.com); Web site: [Floridafossilhunters.com](http://Floridafossilhunters.com)

**Oct 16-18--FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA:** 20th annual show, "Leaf Lookers Gemboree"; Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin; Macon County Community Bldg., US Hwy. 441S; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; adults \$2, children 12 and under 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: [lindah@franklin-chamber.com](mailto:lindah@franklin-chamber.com); Web site: [franklin-chamber.com](http://franklin-chamber.com)

**Oct 16-18--KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE:** Show; Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society; Kerbel Temple, 315 Mimosa

Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$4 (weekend pass \$7), children under 12 free; mineral identification Sat.; contact Jim McCutcheon, 1519 W. Woodshire Dr., Knoxville, TN 37922, (865) 966-5468; e-mail:

[jdmccut@tds.net](mailto:jdmccut@tds.net)

**Oct 16-18--TAYLORSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA:** Carolina Gem & Mineral Rock Swap; Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society; Taylorsville Lions Club Fairgrounds; 170 Fairgrounds Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 12-5; free admission; inside and outside show, camping available, unlimited parking; contact Tom Winslow, 2843 Devonshire Rd., Newton, NC 28658-9799; (828) 302-1714; e-mail: [TomWinslow@Charter.net](mailto:TomWinslow@Charter.net)

**Oct 24-25--TAMPA, FLORIDA:** 50th annual show and sale; Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club; Florida State Fairgrounds, 4800 U.S. Hwy. 301 N; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students (K-12) \$4, children under 5 free with adult; contact Tony Carrino, 3124 Partridge Point Trail, Valrico, FL 33596, (813) 482-7774; e-mail: [tcarrino@verizon.net](mailto:tcarrino@verizon.net); Web site:

[www.tampabayrockclub.com](http://www.tampabayrockclub.com)

**Oct 31- Nov 1--STUART, FLORIDA:** 31st annual show; St. Lucie County Rock & Gem Club; Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy. (A1A); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children free, discount coupon on Web site; jewelry, gemstones, beads, minerals, rough, demonstrations, drawing; contact Norm Holbert, 455 SW Balfour Ave., Port St. Lucie, FL 34953, (772) 873-0787; e-mail: [normholbert@bellsouth.net](mailto:normholbert@bellsouth.net); Web site:

[www.slrockandgem.org](http://www.slrockandgem.org)

THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.  
P.O. Box 15011  
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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

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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)  
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