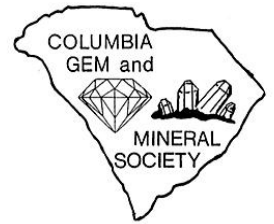




# Rocky Trails



May 2025

Volume 19 Issue 5

The Newsletter of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to all members. Spring is almost over and the “dog days” of summer are approaching. It might be time to head to the mountains for mineral collecting and going to gem and mineral shows. The amount of summer shows in the mountains is very impressive (see page 15 for a listing). Angela and I frequent the Franklin, NC shows each summer and always find some great deals on fossil and mineral specimens.

At the May meeting, Cindy Lee will be giving a presentation on seashells and artistic uses of them. She is very knowledgeable and an accomplished artist. She comes highly recommended for her art and presentations. At our June meeting we will have a silent auction whereby many donated fossil and mineral specimens will be available for purchase. This auction will include faceting material donated by George Poulin. This will be a special meeting as it marks 60-year anniversary for our club.

Casey Tyler, our fieldtrip coordinator, is working on some special fieldtrips for our club members. Please read the info on fieldtrips on page 10. In particular, there are two fieldtrips planned for this month, one to pan for gold and the other at Graves Mountain. Please let Casey know if you plan to attend either of these trips. Casey is also planning a trip in September to Mt. Ida, Arkansas for quartz crystals and a day at Crater of Diamonds SP and would like to get at least ten members to attend so he can arrange group rates for the crystal collectors. Please let Casey know that you would like to attend.

I repeat, Sheila Frame is ready to hand-off the board position of membership committee chair. When you see Sheila at the May meeting, please talk to her about this membership position. Another way to help the club is to be a program presenter. By making a presentation, you will be able to share your special interest while educating the members of our club. Remember, the best way to be a member is to participate in the club activities!

## **NEXT MEETING**

**May 19, 2025**

Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm.  
Meeting at 7:30 pm.

The May 2025 CGMS meeting will be held at **Hope Church** located at 2609 Seminole Road. It is off Broad River Rd. and is easily accessible from I-26 or I-20.

Use the side door (close to the main part of the parking lot). We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not come into Hope Church before 6:30 pm, as we are not allowed in before that time.

## PROGRAM:

Cindy Lee will give our program. Cindy will be giving presentation on seashells and artistic uses of them.

Ron Ahle will provide door prizes.

## **Executive Meeting**

May 26, 2025

Dinner: 6 pm, Meeting: 7 pm

Grecian Gardens, 2312 Sunset Blvd.,  
West Columbia. Members are welcome to attend. Only executive members can vote.

### **About the Programs**

In **May**, Cindy Lee from the Palmetto Seashell Club will give a presentation on seashells and artistic uses of shells. In **June** we will have a silent auction.

**Silent Auction:** Fossils, Minerals, Jewelry and other geology or lapidary items will be sold in a silent auction. CGMS has received many donations and these items, along with those brought by members, will be auctioned. There will be lots of fossil and mineral material. Because of the volume of the material, we are going to bypass the door prizes to go directly to the auction.

Bring items you wish to sell. You will be provided with the form to fill out to enter your item into the auction. You may choose to keep the proceeds, donate them to CGMS or split the proceeds with CGMS. If you bring items to sell in the auction, please arrive by 7:00 so we can get everything arranged.

At the end of the bidding period, the Treasurer will collect the payment on donated items. Cash, check or credit card will be accepted.



Silent Auction from April 2019.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

### April 21, 2025, Monthly Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly meeting on April 21st, 2025, at Hope Church. President Patricia Stidom called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Patricia welcomed new members and guests. Kim Cochran was not able to make it to the meeting to give his presentation, so instead, Chris Glass gave a presentation followed by a rockhound quiz! She also brought a variety of gorgeous specimens to show the club. Thank you Chris!

**Programs:** Sue is coordinating programs and board members are supporting her in any way we can. The May meeting will be by Cindy Lee from the Palmetto Seashell Club. The June meeting will be a silent auction. If you would like to auction anything, feel free to bring it to the June meeting and either share the proceeds with the club, or keep the proceeds for yourself.

**Newsletter:** Let Ron know if you would like to add anything to the Rocky Trails.

**Membership:** There are 120 members. If you would like to take over this position let Sheila Frame know. Sheila wants to hand off membership so she can take over sunshine. **Sunshine:** Abbie and Jessie Gates are back. Jessie now has a pacemaker, but is here, doing well, and is stronger. Sue is having a hard time, keep her in your prayers.

**Workshop:** The workshop is open! Give Gary a call to use the workshop, we have a 60" slab saw, 8" cab machine, and a trim saw. **Workshop Property Committee:** Cheryl Coker has an appointment this week with a group that helps nonprofits. She is looking into inexpensive building options. Let Cheryl know if you have any ideas, her e-mail is in the newsletter.

**Website:** Steve is still in charge of the website for now and is trying to get control of the website to pass it off to Terry.

**Field Trips:** Casey Tyler gave an update on field trips. The Arkansas field trip will be September 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested should come an hour before the executive meeting (6 pm) at Grecian Gardens to discuss travel plans. Mines may include Wagner Mine, Crater of Diamonds Mine, and Ron Coleman Mine. There will be a trip to pan for gold in Union, SC on May 10th. Casey went to this location and found all these signs that gold would be there. A Graves Mountain field trip is tentatively scheduled for the 31st of May. We are scheduled to host the Dixie Mineral field trip in October and need ideas. Let Casey know if you have any. Ron recommended Spruce Pine Emerald Mine for opalite.

**Open Positions:** Historian, Membership, and various Social Media positions such as YouTube.

**Club Member Questions:** Olga Y. is a sculptor and asked for information on purchasing large pieces of soapstone (4 lbs. or larger), with the ability to inspect the pieces before purchasing. Let Olga know if you have any leads. A few club members motioned SculptGuy, a former club speaker.

**New Business:** Members discussed bringing back a spring club picnic. Some locations suggested were Gibson Lake, Sesquicentennial Park, Saluda Shoals, and other locations. An alternative would be a fall picnic and people seemed interested since the weather would be cooler.

Patricia Stidom concluded the meeting at 8:41 pm

*Respectfully submitted by Sophie Grimsley*

## EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

### April 28, 2025, Board Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly board meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Grecian Gardens at 2312 Sunset Blvd. Members in attendance were Patricia Stidom, Tom Stidom, Jim Cobb, Ron Ahle, Steve Coker, Cheryl Coker, Gary Hert, Sharon Sterret, Casey Tyler, and Sophie Grimsley. President Patricia Stidom called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**Old Business:** The society has been looking into doing a fall or spring picnic. Sesquicentennial park has nothing available on weekend mornings this spring. Patricia talked to Gibson Pond about doing the event on May 24th. We have some fall field trips coming up and Patricia would like to confirm the dates for these trips so that we can pick a fall picnic date. Casey mentioned that Arkansas will be September 8th to 14th. Patricia will look for possible dates in Sesquicentennial SP on weekends in October.

**New Business:** Tom passed out a copy of the CGMS constitution which highlighted Section II which states that no society assets shall result in the profit of any individual. There are concerns about having this statement without exception statements, such as reasonable compensation. The board members also discussed liability insurance for field trips. The insurance covers just field trip location owners and liability for the club, not for the members attending. It was noted that field trip attendees must be club members. Our welcome letter states that attendees are covered by insurance when on field trips. Board members discussed removing this sentence from the letter. Steve also wants to know what the policy specifically covers. This policy should be on the Google workspace.

**Membership:** Sheila wants someone to take over this position. **Programs:** Sue Shrader is still in charge of programs, but we would like to take as much off of her plate as possible. If we can find someone to take over this position that would be the best option. **Social Media:** Need to alter the constitution to create a Social Media Committee. Asif has volunteered to run the Social Media team.

**Show Committee:** Angela was not present at the meeting and there were no updates. Sue has finished putting together the flyers and postcard information. There will be no meeting this month and next month is to be determined. Notes from the previous meeting were sent out. Olga will be the co-chair of the show planning committee. **Workshop:** Gary Hart stated that the slab saw needs oil. Jim made a motion to purchase the oil, Sophie seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a vote. **Faceting:** Tom Daniels was not present, so no updates were given. Patricia mentioned that the club does not have a faceting machine. The board members decided that this issue could be solved later since we currently do not have space to setup a faceting machine.

**EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES (continuation 1)**

**Field Trips:** Casey gave a rundown of upcoming fieldtrips. There will be a gold panning trip on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM in Union, SC at 136 Pine Lane. There will be a \$10 suggested donation. The property is an animal sanctuary with two creeks running through it. A Graves Mountain field trip is scheduled for May 31st. Casey will confirm with Graves owner as we get closer to the trip date. Ron would like some info to put in the Rocky Trails about upcoming field trips.

**Sunshine:** Abbie Gates is stepping down from this position. Sheila Frame will take over when the membership position she currently holds is filled.

**Website:** Steve sent another e-mail out today to try and get website ownership transferred to us. If it does not happen in a month or so Steve suggests setting up a new website with a new domain. By the end of July or early August our two-year website renewal fee is due, and we need to figure this out before that deadline happens. We need to get in touch with the club member on the phone and or talk in person to figure this out. Board members also discussed the show trailer and making sure we maintain access to it in the future.

**Workshop Location:** Cheryl gave a rundown of some of her recent work on a new workshop by locating grants. Cheryl contacted Central Carolina Community Foundation who connects organizations with grants. Cheryl discussed our club's purpose and what we need, and she was given the name of two grants. Cheryl also contacted SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) who works with nonprofits. A SCORE rep promised to connect her to another organization that can help us. Tom has put the grant information on the workspace. Cheryl is checking listings for workshop locations every day. She is also looking into specific modular buildings. Richland County planning division says building needs to be meet HUD specifications. City of Columbia would have the same requirements. Patricia stated that she'd heard of the company, Boxable, which builds homes within a month but is not sure if it would meet our cost criteria since she hasn't seen the prices. Ron stated that the prices are reasonable, around \$19,000 to \$20,000. They bring everything to the site and set everything up. Casey stated the Amish have a similar thing where they ship log cabins. Shipping containers were also brought up as another option. but Cayce does not allow shipping container homes, and we would need to replace the floor as they're typically doused in chemicals to prevent pests. Steve suggested that if you could find 5 to 10 people to form a limited partnership you could buy a property and eventually pay off partners, but we would need to find people willing to do this. This might be a risky option.

**Liaison:** Jim stated that he updated our meeting place on the Southeast Federation website to list Hope Church instead of McKissick Museum.

**Grants:** Tom would like more feedback about the grants packet he previously handed out to the executive board members. Additionally, Tom has the certificate of incorporation from the original founders. It did not have the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society name. Patricia paid \$14.00 to get a certificate of continuation to prove that the organization exists.



**EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES (continuation 2)**

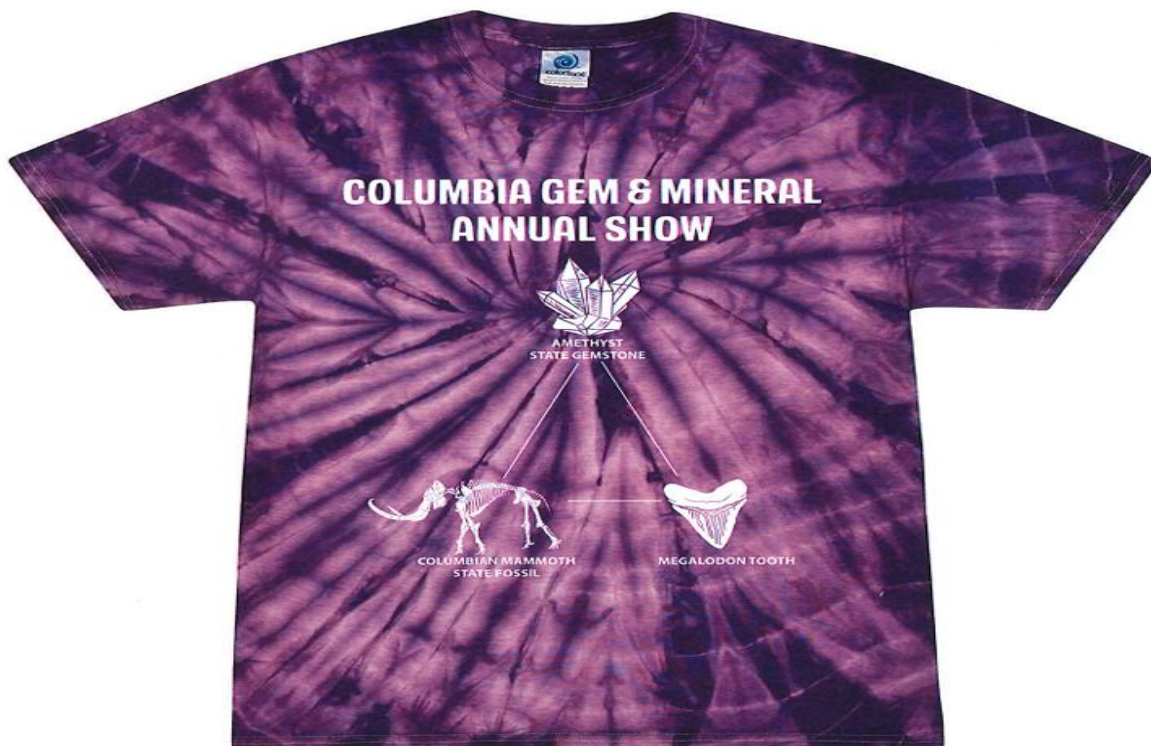
**Additional Discussion:** At our next meeting the club will have been in existence for 60 years. Patricia and Tom suggest that it might be neat to do something to celebrate at the meeting. Sophie suggested that it might be nice to do this at the silent auction meeting in June since we won't have to rush any speakers. Ron suggested we can get some old club photographs on the projector in the background of the auction. Casey suggested bringing a cake. At our next meeting the board members suggested asking the general membership if anyone would like to give a presentation or program this year. Patricia mentioned we need door prizes for May, August, September, and November. Ron stated he can put some door prizes together for May but will not be at the meeting and will need someone to bring them for him.

Patricia adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sophie Grimsley

**The Club is selling T-shirts at meetings this year!**

We have two colors available, one tie-dyed (seen below) and one black. We have sizes ranging from medium to XXL currently available. If you can't make it to the meetings and would like to get a T-shirt, contact one of the officers in the club. We have limited supplies so don't wait!



**South Carolina State Museum**

301 Gervais Street, Columbia, SC 29201  
803-898-4921

<http://scmuseum.org/events/upcoming-events/>

**Hours of Operation:** Mon: CLOSED; Tue – Sat: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 12 to 5 p.m.

***Planetarium and 4D Theater Shows***

Advance online ticket purchases are encouraged, especially if you wish to see planetarium and/or 4D shows

**Coastal Predators: A 4D Experience®**

Dolphins, sharks, whales, and seals converge to feast along the breathtaking South African coast in this great spectacle brought to life by high octane action, 4-D effects, and stunning visuals.

**James Webb Space Telescope: The Story Unfolds**

See strange distant worlds in stunning detail and witness the evolution of galaxies over billions of years as revealed by the most powerful telescope ever built. Featuring groundbreaking images from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope visualized in brilliant 4K resolution, this special live planetarium experience explores the incredible, complex science behind the James Webb mission. The State Museum is proud to be one of only two locations outside of the USSRC to debut this special planetarium experience that will bring new discoveries to audiences.

***Museum Special Exhibit:*****Apollo 16 & Beyond: South Carolina in Space**

Explore the Apollo 16 lunar mission and the historic moonwalk of SC astronaut Charles Duke. In addition to featuring many Apollo 16 objects, the exhibition will also highlight South Carolina scientists and engineers who have contributed to the field of aerospace research and exploration.

**Meteorites**

**Southern delta Aquariids...** July 18th, 2025, to August 12th, 2025

Next Peak night...**Jul 29-30, 2025**

These meteors produce good rates for a week centered on the night of maximum. These are usually faint meteors that lack both persistent trains and fireballs. In 2025, a waxing crescent moon will set before the radiant is high in the sky. Therefore, circumstances are favorable for viewing this shower during the morning hours.

**Perseids...** July 17th, 2025, to August 23rd, 2025

Next Peak night...**May 3-4, 2025**

The Perseids are active from July 14 to September 1. They reach a strong maximum on August 12 or 13, depending on the year. Normal rates seen from rural locations range from 50-75 shower members per hour at maximum.

## News Worth Digging Up

# NASA Mars rover captures rock that could hold fossilized microbes

*Date:* July 27, 2024

*Source:* PHYS.ORG

NASA's Perseverance Mars rover [has made](#) what could be its most astonishing discovery to date: possible signs of ancient life on the Red Planet. "The six-wheeled robotic explorer came across an intriguing, arrow-shaped rock dubbed "Cheyava Falls" that may harbor fossilized microbes from billions of years ago, when Mars was a watery world." Perseverance drilled into the enigmatic rock to collect a core sample and carefully stowed beneath the rover's belly where it is destined to eventually return to Earth.

On earth, rocks that exhibit similar features "are often associated with the fossilized record of microbes living in the subsurface," said David Flannery, an astrobiologist and member of the Perseverance science team from the Queensland University of Technology in Australia. There is a tantalizing chance that Perseverance's [core sample](#) might contain actual fossilized microbes—potentially making history as the first proof of life beyond Earth.

To read more about this potential discovery of life on Mars, go to [NASA Mars rover captures rock that could hold fossilized microbes](#)



NASA's Perseverance Mars rover drilled into this rock to collect a core sample as it traversed Neretva Valley



### News From SFMS from Cindy Reed, SFMS Loadstar Editor

Here's the link for the March edition of the SFMS Lodestar, the newsletter for the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies: [Lodestar 2025-03.pdf - Google Drive](#)

The schedules for the SFMS Workshops at William Holland and Wildacres are available. Most classes still have openings. The exceptions are Intarsia, Opals, Wire I at William Holland. To register for a class or to get more info, visit <https://www.sfmsworkshops.org/>

### Social Media Helps our Club Stay Social!

**CGMS website:** [www.cgms.rocks](http://www.cgms.rocks)

Facebook, Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066320452494>

Facebook, Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/322192978738281/>

Instagram: Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. (@cgms\_rocks)

*Please like/follow our Facebook and Instagram pages and share posts*

### CGMS Name Tag

Would you like to have a CGMS name tag? To obtain one, contact Irmo Trophy by email so they have the correct spelling of your name. Tell them you are requesting a Columbia Gem and Mineral Society name tag. The cost is \$7.



**Irmo Trophy Co.**

[irmotrophy@gmail.com](mailto:irmotrophy@gmail.com)

5430 Old Bush River Rd., Columbia, SC 29212

803-798-3735

### CGMS Fieldtrips

#### Union County Gold panning

Panning for gold May 10th at 136 Pine Lane, Union SC . There's a decent flat walk down to the creek to pan. It is an animal sanctuary so bring plant-based snacks and water.

Contact Casey At (803) 319-4492 for questions

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#### CGMS Field Trip to Graves Mountain

Lincoln, Georgia May 31st 5/31/2025. 11am- sundown or until you're tired.

Graves Mountain has been a mecca for rockhounds for years. It is probably the most famous collecting site in Georgia. It is a premier location for large, multiple twinned rutile crystals; rutile, lazulite, pyrophyllite, kyanite, hematite, pyrite, ilmenite, muscovite, fuchsite, quartz crystals, and microcrystals. You can either surface collect or dig for minerals. There are also many boulders to bang on so you may want to bring a sledgehammer and a chisel. Just a reminder, you will not be able to drive into the site so you will have to carry your tools. One option is to bring a wagon to carry rocks and tools. Water and food as well.

Children under the age of 12 years old are not allowed on the mountain because of potential dangers. All pets must be kept under control and on a leash.

#### GRAVES MOUNTAIN CODE OF CONDUCT!

Park your vehicle in the designated area at the end of the paved access road.

ALL pets must be kept under control and on a leash. The caretaker, Jr. Norman has final and absolute say as to where you may safely work. Ladders or power tools of any kind are not allowed. (HAND TOOLS ONLY!). STAY AWAY FROM ALL HIGH WALLS! NO RAPPELLING 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 6:00 p.m. (Absolutely no one is allowed on Graves Mountain after dark.)

DIRECTIONS: From Washington Georgia, drive east 11 miles on SR-378, look for mine entrance on right. From the Hardee's in Lincolnton, Georgia, drive approximately 5-1/2 miles west on SR-378. Look for the sign at the entrance to Graves Mountain on the left side of the road. It is a little over a two-hour drive from Columbia.

#### Motels and Camping:

Cullars Inn, Lincolnton, Georgia, 706-359-6161

Soap Creek Lodge, Clarks Hill Lake, Lincolnton, 706-359-4100

Elijah Clark State Park, 706-359-3458 / 800-864-7275

Contact Casey At 8033194492 for questions

## AREA SHOWS

*To verify the accuracy of a show date, go to the show's website or contact them directly.*

**May 9-11, 2025... FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual show; Franklin Gem & Mineral Society; Carpenter Community Center, 1288 Georgia Road, 441 South; Varshana Dholakia, (828) 342-3135; Email: [FranklinGemSociety@gmail.com](mailto:FranklinGemSociety@gmail.com) ; Website: FGMM.org

**May 9-11, 2025... MARIETTA, GEORGIA:** Annual show; Georgia Mineral Society; Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy; contact Jane and Robert Stone, (717) 304-7178; Email: [mayshow@gamineral.org](mailto:mayshow@gamineral.org) ; Website: gamineral.org

**May 23-25, 2025... SALEM, VIRGINIA:** Annual show; Salem Gem and Mineral Show; Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Blvd; Salem, VA; Alan Koch; Website: [americangemshow.com](http://americangemshow.com)

**May 9-11, 2024, Franklin, NC The Franklin Gem and Mineral Show**  
Macon County Community Building, 1288 Georgia Road, Franklin, North Carolina 28734 The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC [www.fgmm.org](http://www.fgmm.org)

**May 16-18, 2025, Franklin, NC**

Watauga Festival Center, 6296 Sylva Rd., Franklin, North Carolina 28734

Gem & Lapidary Wholesalers, Inc. (601) 879-8832

Admission: FREE!! Wholesale Only Shows - Open Only to Trade Valid Tax Certificate OR Sales and Use Tax Permit in Gem or Jewelry Related Business is Required. [info@glwshows.com](mailto:info@glwshows.com)

**May 23-25, 2024, SALEM, VIRGINIA:** Annual show; Salem Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show; Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Blvd; Website: [www.americangemshow.com](http://www.americangemshow.com)

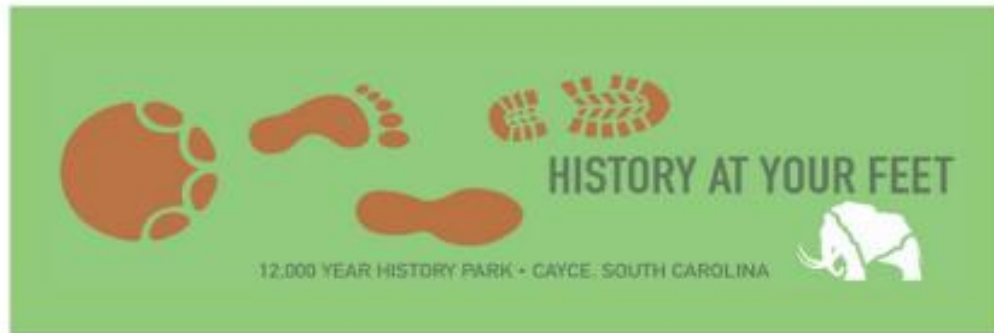
**June 6,7,8, 2025, DULUTH , GEORGIA:** Annual show; Bellpoint Gem Show; Gas South Convention Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy; BJ; Email: [mbellpoint@gmail.com](mailto:mbellpoint@gmail.com); Website: [www.bellpointpromotions.com](http://www.bellpointpromotions.com)

**June 7, 2025, COLFAX, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual show; Greensboro Gem & Mineral Club; Piedmont Triad Farmers Market, 2914 Sandy Ridge Road; Email: [ggmc.rocks@gmail.com](mailto:ggmc.rocks@gmail.com); Website: [ggmc-rockhounds.com](http://ggmc-rockhounds.com)

**June 7-8, 2025, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA:** Retail show; Raleigh Rocks, Minerals, Crystals, Beads and Jewelry Show; NC State Fairground (Scott Building), 4285 Trinity Road; contact Ash, (919) 257-8915; Email: [Jewelpassageshows@gmail.com](mailto:Jewelpassageshows@gmail.com); Website: [www.jewelpassageshows.com](http://www.jewelpassageshows.com)

**June 20-22, 2025, SWANNANOA, NORTH CAROLINA:** Show; Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association; Land of the Sky Shrine Club, 39 Spring Cove Road; contact Richard Jacquot, (828) 779-4501; Email: [rickjacquot@gmail.com](mailto:rickjacquot@gmail.com); Website: [www.AmericanRockhound.com](http://www.AmericanRockhound.com)

**June 28-30, CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual show; Southeastern Mineral Specimens; Cabarras Arena and Events Center, 4751 State Hwy 49, Gold Hall contact Mark E. P. Woods, (706) 296-9467; Email: [imineral@bellsouth.net](mailto:imineral@bellsouth.net); Website: <https://facebook.com/events/s/the-2024-greater-charlotte-gem/1418218972405703/>



### 12,000 Year History Park: Spring 2025 Tours

February 15: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM

February 22: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM

February 23: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM

March 1: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 1:00 PM

March 8: Native American Lifeways Tour, 1:30 PM

March 15: No Tours

March 16: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM

March 22: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM

March 29: Native American Lifeways Tour, 10:00 AM

April 6: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM

April 12: Native American Lifeways Tour, 1:30 PM

April 19: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM

April 20: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM

April 26 : Native American Lifeways Tour, 10:00 AM

May 3: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 10:00 AM

May 10: Native American Lifeways Tour, 1:30 PM

May 17: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM

May 18: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM

May 24 No Tours

May 31: Native American Lifeways Tour, 10:00 AM

**Red text indicates Sunday Tours**

Tours start at entrance to park just beyond the Cayce Tennis Center, 1120 Fort Congaree Trail in Cayce. Free parking at dirt lot to left just past the Tennis Center.

For any updates, please visit our website at [cayce12000years.com](http://cayce12000years.com) or follow us on Facebook!; (803)-739-5385.



The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society is an organization of persons associated together to promote popular interest in and to provide means for the exchange of knowledge of the Earth Sciences – Geology, Mineralogy, and Paleontology – and of the related Arts – Lapidary and other. The Society is a member of the Southeast Federation Mineralogical Societies Inc. and an affiliate of the American Federation of Mineralogical Society Inc.

### **2025 OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President..... Patricia Stidom. ....  
 Vice President..... Jim Cobb. ....  
 Treasurer..... Angela Valvasori.....  
 Secretary..... Sophie Grimsley.....

#### **COMMITTEES**

Membership ..... OPEN  
 Auctioneer..... Ron Ahle.....  
 Club Liaison..... Jim Cobb.....  
 Faceting Guild..... Tom Daniels.....  
 Facebook..... Sue Shrader .....  
 Field Trip..... Casey Tyler.....  
 Historian..... OPEN  
 Librarian..... Sheila Frame.....  
 Newsletter Editor..... Ron Ahle.....  
 Program..... Sue Shrader.....  
 Show..... Angela Valvasori/Olga Yukhno.....  
 Sunshine ..... open  
 Website..... Steve Coker.....  
 Workshop..... Gary Hert.....  
 Workshop Location Special Committee.... Cheryl Coker.....



**CGMS Website**

***Please visit our website:***

<http://www.cgms.rocks>

Webmaster: Steve Coker

**Monthly Meeting**

The meetings are held the third Monday of each month. Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm; Meeting at 7:30 pm.

**Executive Board Meetings:**

Except for January, the meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month. Meal is at 6:00 pm. Meeting is at 7:00 pm.

Rocky Trails  
PO Box 6333  
Columbia, SC 29260