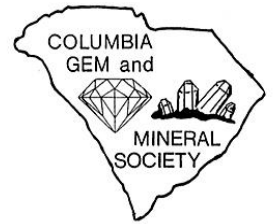




Rocky Trails



March 2024

Volume 18 Issue 3

The Newsletter of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to all continuing and new members. It seems it will be difficult for us to return to McKissick Museum this year so are trying to locate a new meeting place. We will continue to meet at Hope Church when it is available, but that is not this month. So, **THIS IS IMPORTANT**, we will be meeting at Greenlawn Baptist Church for our March meeting. After that, we will be going back to Hope Church while continuing to look for alternative locations. Also important, those of you who were drawn for door prizes at the February meeting will receive your door prize at the March meeting. I want to thank everyone who attended the February meeting and participated in making the silent auction a great success. We sold all of the items up for bid!

For March, our program will be presented by Dr. Gwen Geidel who will talk to us about the Gills Creek Watershed. Yes, the same Gills Creek that flooded Five Points and other parts of Columbia back in 2015. It will be interesting to hear some strategies for preventing future flooding and improving water quality.

At the February meeting, we had a drawing from show volunteers to award two scholarships to either William Holland or Wildacres lapidary schools. These schools offer excellent training in lapidary arts and by sending show volunteers we support our show and the schools! Information about this year's slate of classes at the lapidary schools is on page 6.

As a reminder, there are some nice field trips to choose from ranging from mineral collecting to fossil collecting. Look on pages 9-13 for details. I will be at the fossil dig.

Also, the Club needs a secretary. Please volunteer. It is easy to do.

Finally, if you know anyone who wants to join the club, there is a membership form at the end of this edition. Also, do not miss the solar eclipse. It is time to plan for totality!

Stay in touch,
Ron Ahle

NEXT MEETING

March 18, 2024

The March 2023 CGMS meeting will be held at **Greenlawn Baptist Church** located on 6612 Garners Ferry Rd. across from the VA Hospital easily accessible from I-77. The meeting room is in the front of the building on the right as you face the church. There is some parking in front of the church, some on True St. beside the church and additional parking at the shopping center beside the church. Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:30 pm.

PROGRAM:

The program will be given by **Gwendelyn Geidel, PhD, PG**. The title of her presentation is "**Gills Creek Watershed - Stream Restoration, Geology and Water Quality.**" Gwendelyn will give us an overview of the physical characteristics of the watershed including geology, hydrology, and watershed impairments. She will discuss the source of some of the pollutants and how the Gills Creek Watershed Association are addressing these.

Ron Ahle will provide Door Prizes.

Laura Bailey and Carol Elliott will provide refreshments.

Executive Meeting

March 25, 2024

Dinner: 6 pm, Meeting: 7 pm

Grecian Gardens, 2312 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia. Members are welcome to attend.

Only executive members can vote.

Program for the March Meeting**"Gills Creek Watershed - Stream Restoration, Geology and Water Quality"**

By Gwendelyn Geidel, PhD, PG

The Gills Creek Watershed flows from above Sesquicentennial State Park to the Congaree River and covers much of central Richland County including much of the City of Columbia, Arcadia Lakes, and Forest Acres. The watershed is classified as an impaired urban watershed. The Gills Creek Watershed Association has restored a section of the stream impacted by flooding (especially the 2015 flood) to improve water quality entering the Creek, accommodate high flow conditions and minimize erosion. To maintain the restored stream channel, native plants have been established to restore the stream ecosystem thereby improving habitat for pollinators, birds, and wildlife.

However, the Creek faces continual water quality challenges ranging from bacteria to sediment to metals, especially lead. In the presentation, Gwen will give us an overview of the physical characteristics of the watershed including geology, hydrology, and watershed impairments. She will discuss the source of some of the pollutants and how the Gills Creek Watershed Association are addressing these.

Dr. Gwen Geidel is currently the President of the Board of Directors for Gills Creek Watershed Association and is recently retired from USC. During her nearly 40 years at USC, she served as Associate Dean for the School of the Environment, Director of the Environment and Sustainability Program, and Undergraduate Director of the School of the Earth, Ocean, and Environment, while teaching classes and conducting research in Geology and the Environment. In her various capacities, she helped incorporate sustainability into the university, her research, and community outreach. She received her Ph.D. in Geology in 1982, focusing on geochemical impacts of mining and minerals on the near surface environment, and a law degree in 1989, after which she practiced environmental law for several years before returning to USC. Her research on evaluating the relationship between rock-water interactions and the environment emerged as more than a geological issue, but one which incorporates biological, chemical and sustainability as well. These integrative issues continue to be important as she helps work to improve our community waterways and land management.



Beaver Pond in Gills Creek Watershed at Sesquicentennial State Park. (photo by Ron Ahle)

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2024, Monthly Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly meeting on February 19, 2024, at Hope Church. President Jim Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Jim thanked Alta Noemi Cadle and Susan Bloodworth for refreshments. Then Jim welcomed all new members and guests and asked them to introduce themselves. The members voted to approve minutes from January. Jim Cobb announced that the Aiken Gem and Mineral Club will be having their annual show from March 8-10 at the Julian Smith Casino in Augusta, Georgia.

Treasurer: Angela Valvasori informed members that she had invested some of the club's funds in a CD at 5% interest at the bank.

Secretary: Jason Dolinski was helping his father out of state.

Membership: Sheila Frame announced that the club now had 121 members: 101 adults and 20 juniors.

Show Committee: The committee will start meeting soon and looking for volunteers.

Sunshine: Abbie Gates announced that Terri Tokaz had had knee surgery.

Newsletter and Field Trips: Ron Ahle announced that the club needed a field trip coordinator. He also said that the following field trips were listed in the last Rocky Trails.

Graves Mountain, Lincolnton, Georgia April 26-28

Sharks Tooth and Dry Dig, Dorchester, SC, March 30

Bartow County Quarry, Georgia March 23 in Bartow County GA (Tellis Museum is nearby to add to the dig adventure.)

Workshop Committee: Looking at possibilities of a modular building to put on lot.

Librarian and Historian: No Report

Liaison: Aiken Club Show March 8-10.

Old Business: Jim stated that the officers were investigating options for the Club's March Meeting. Jim Cobb also expressed appreciation for the Wenzels for coordinating with Hope Church for us to meet in the church's meeting room.

Then Angela Valvasori drew names from the volunteer list of members who helped at the Gem and Mineral Show for Scholarships for Wildacres and William Holland. The winners were Sharon Sterrett and Sue Shrader. Alternates were Gary Hert and Conry Davis.

Although Ron forgot to bring the door prizes, names were drawn and door prizes from the February meeting will be distributed at the March meeting.

Since there was no further old or new business, the meeting was adjourned, and the program was commenced. The program was a silent auction for which Ron Ahle had prepared specimens from donations to the club and which some club members brought their own specimens to sell.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Bloodworth

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2024, Board Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society held their monthly board meeting on February 26, 2024, at Grecian Gardens at 2312 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia, SC 29169. Officers, committee chairpersons and members present were Jim Cobb, Angela Valvasori, Ron Ahle, Dee Iurcovich, Sheila Frame, Cheryl Coker, Steve Coker, Gary Hert and Sharon Sterrett. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Committee and Officer Reports:

President Jim Cobb started the meeting with **Old Business** to determine where the March General Meeting would be held since the McKissick Museum would not be available to us for the near future. Angela Valvasori reported on what she had learned from Richland County Recreation. Various room sizes, prices to rent a room and required deposits were discussed. It was agreed that Angela would call and secure a location for the March meeting.

Treasurer, Angela Valvasori, gave the **Treasurer's Report**. Discussion on a future workshop was discussed. Angela and Cheryl reported on their discussion of available club funds for a workshop and how much money needed to be held in reserve to fund the club and show. Angela Valvasori made a motion to send donations to Hope Church and William Holland. Gary gave a second and the motion was carried.

Sheila Frame gave the **Membership Report**. Sheila reported that we have 127 members. The **Show** was discussed. A time for future show planning meeting was discussed. Gary Hert reported on what funds he would need for the show. The money would cover new show trailer tires, a new geode blade and geodes. Angela Valvasori made a motion to approve the budget. Ron gave a second and the motion was carried. Gary commented on the importance of only allowing qualified members to run the geode saw.

New Business: Based upon research by Carol Elliott, it was agreed upon to pay a fee to investigate obtaining information on grants for a workshop.

Jim Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:52.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Sterrett

Social Media Helps our Club Stay Social!

To access our web site, type “CGMS.ROCKS” in your internet browser or you can search for Columbia Gem and Mineral Society in Google. **The Club’s website is:** www.cgms.rocks

To join the discussion with other CGMS members on [Facebook](#), look under the Community tab, where you will find the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society Member Group. When you ask to join the Group, please be sure to agree to follow the rules: Be Kind, No Hate Speech or Bullying; and No Promotions or Spam. Please feel free to add photos of your interesting finds, share your Jewelry making, or your field trip experiences.

LAPIDARY WORKSHOP

The CGMS lapidary workshop in West Columbia, SC is open. To use the rock saws and cabbing machines call or email Gary Hert gchert@hotmail.com 803-794-9362. There is an hourly rate for using the machines.



2024 SFMS Workshops

Class	Instructor	Class	Instructor
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William Holland June 2-8, 2024			
Gem Trees I+	Jerri Heer	Silver I+	Jason Hamilton (WLO)
Cabs I	Jack King (WLO)	Stained Glass	Stephanie Danz
Cab I & II	John Wild	Intarsia I & II	Bill Boggs
Casting	Bill Harr (WLO)	Moovin Metal	Cindy Moore
Stone in Stone	Michael Bateman	Wire I	Judi Wild
Faceting I & II	Tom Mitchell	Metal Clay	Susan Brooks
Silver W/Leather Inlay	Wayne Parker (WLO)	Acid Etch/Enameling	S Savic-Polk & K Ross

Wildacres I August 12-18, 2024		Wildacres II September 9-15, 2024	
Chain Maille	Jim Hird	Acid Etch/Enameling	S Savic-Polk & K Ross
Special Projects	Jeff Sheer	Chain—Loop n' Loop	Chuck Bruce
Stained Glass	Stephanie Danz	AFMS Judges Training	Leslie Wayment
Silver I+	Jason Hamilton	Chain Maile	Marilou
Weave-Tap-Drop	Cindy Moore	Soapstone Carving	Kim Valko
Cabs	Jack King	Moovin Metal	Cindy Moore
Casting	Bill Harr	Silver All-In-One	Jason Hamilton

Wait List Only (WLO)

It's time to start thinking about the SFMS Workshop offerings for 2024. We still have openings in most of the classes, so contact us quick to get your name on the list. The website is <https://www.sfmssworkshops.org>. You can sign up and pay your deposit directly online. If you prefer, you can fill in the attached application send it with a check, made to SFMS Workshops, to the Registrar below.

WH Registrar: Juergen Poppelreuter, 678-576-7034, wh-registrar@sfmssworkshops.org
 WA Registrar: Leslie Wayment, 772-539-2409, wa-registrar@sfmssworkshops.org

To see detailed information on each class offered, go to:

[Federation Week 2024 - Wildacres Flyer.pdf](#)

[Federation Week 2024 - William Holland Flyer.pdf](#)

South Carolina State Museum
<http://scmuseum.org/events/upcoming-events/>

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

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

Hours of Operation:

Mon: CLOSED
Tue – Sat: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 12 to 5 p.m.

Planetarium Theater Shows

Habitat Earth: is a full dome planetarium show narrated by Frances McDormand. The show features stunning visualizations of the natural world, as it takes you below the ocean's surface to explore the dynamic relationships found in kelp forest ecosystems, travel beneath the forest floor to see how Earth's tallest trees rely on tiny fungi to survive, and journey to new heights to witness the intricate intersection between human and ecological networks.

MARS: One Thousand One is a visually beautiful show that brings the reality of Mars exploration to audiences. It is set just far enough in the future to seem real and tells a story we all hope to see and hear in our lifetimes: a trip to the Red Planet. Showtimes are listed for the current month. **Show Run Time:**45 min.

Shark: A 4D Experience

Come face to face with some of the world's most strange and mysterious shark species. These extraordinarily intelligent underwater giants each exhibit unique behaviors to navigate their ever-changing environment. Essential to the fragile balance of our ocean's health, BBC Earth's *Shark: A 4D Experience*® explores the complex nature of these magnificent creatures' survival instincts. Stunning 3D and special effects place you right in the middle of the action as sharks reveal their hidden traits while roaming an eerily beautiful underwater landscape.

Museum Special Exhibit:

Apollo 16 & Beyond: South Carolina in Space

This new exhibition explores 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.

News Worth Digging Up

New study reveals insight into which animals are most vulnerable to extinction due to climate change

Date: March 7, 2024

Source: University of Oxford

In a new study, researchers have used the fossil record to better understand what factors make animals more vulnerable to extinction from climate change. Past climate change caused by natural changes in greenhouse gases due to volcanic activity has been responsible for countless species' extinctions during the history of life on Earth. But it is not clear why some species were able to persist, and how the magnitude of climate change affects extinction risk. Led by researchers at the University of Oxford, this new study sought to answer this question by analyzing the fossil record for marine invertebrates (such as sea urchins, snails, and shellfish) over the past 485 million years. Marine invertebrates have a rich and well-studied fossil record, making it possible to identify when, and potentially why, species become extinct.

Using over 290,000 fossil records covering more than 9,200 genera, the researchers collated a dataset of key traits that may affect resilience to extinction, including traits not studied in depth previously, such as preferred temperature. This trait information was integrated with climate simulation data to develop a model to understand which factors were most important in determining the risk of extinction during climate change. The authors found that species exposed to greater climate change were more likely to become extinct. This would be especially true for animals that live in narrow temperature ranges and ones that live in extreme temperature regions such as the polar regions. It was determined that geographic range size was the strongest predictor of extinction risk. Species with larger geographic ranges were significantly less likely to go extinct. Body size was also important, with smaller-bodied species more likely to become extinct. When these traits are combined, they can create a cumulative impact on extinction risks. *With current human-driven climate change already pushing many species up to and beyond the brink of extinction, these results could help identify the animals that are most at risk and inform strategies to protect them.*

Lead author Professor Erin Saupe (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford) said: “The evidence from the geological past suggests that global biodiversity faces a harrowing future, given projected climate change estimates. In particular, our model suggests that species with restricted thermal ranges of less than 15°C, living in the poles or tropics, are likely to be at the greatest risk of extinction. However, if the localized climate change is large enough, it could lead to significant extinction globally, potentially pushing us closer to a sixth mass extinction.” For more info on this critical study go to: [New study reveals insight into which animals are most vulnerable to extinction due to climate change | ScienceDaily](#)

Journal Reference:

1. Cooper M. Malanoski, Alex Farnsworth, Daniel J. Lunt, Paul J. Valdes, Erin E. Saupe. **Climate change is an important predictor of extinction risk on macroevolutionary timescales.** *Science*, 2024; 383 (6687): 1130
DOI: [10.1126/science.adj5763](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adj5763)



Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc



The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve
DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
Copyright © All rights reserved.

**An Official Field Trip of the Georgia Mineral Society (Norcross, GA)
(HOST)**

An Official Field Trip of Columbia Gem & Mineral Society

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Meet no later than 8:30 AM Eastern

Caravan into quarry at 9:00 AM Eastern

Bartow County, GA

Limit 40 People

Registration Required (Link is below)

Fee: None

TRIP: This location is part of the Corbin Gneiss Complex. The quarry is mining metagranite, i.e., metamorphosed granite. The rocks here are some of the oldest in Georgia - approximately 1.2 billion years. Some of the quartz in the metagranite is a beautiful blue color that is caused by tiny traces of titanium minerals that scatter light.

COLLECTING: We will be collecting metagranite with blue quartz and white feldspar that contrast nicely. Small pieces can be collected by hand and larger pieces can be collected with hammer and chisel. This material can be cut and polished, and it also makes nice specimens.

BRING: Tools needed include rock hammer, small sledge, chisel, scratching tools, buckets, and a spray bottle with water to wet the rocks so you can see the color better. You will also need sunscreen and gloves.

REQUIREMENTS: Gloves, safety glasses, hard hat, and steel-toed or sturdy boots with ankle support (e.g., hiking boots) are required. No open-toed shoes allowed. All participants must be present for on-site training and to fill out quarry paperwork. This is an active quarry. STAY AWAY from all heavy equipment, high walls, ponds, and quarry machinery.

TERRAIN AND ACCESSIBILITY: There are flat areas and areas with loose rock. People with mobility issues may have some difficulty navigating over and around boulders. There may also be soft, muddy areas if it rains before or during these trips. Collecting areas are within 100 yards from where we park.

FEE: There is no fee.

CHILDREN (Yes): The quarry allows children, but they must always have adult supervision. And, they must have all of the required safety equipment.

PETS (No): No pets allowed.

FACILITIES & ACCOMODATIONS: There are NO facilities at this location. Food and restrooms are several miles away. There are several hotels in Cartersville, GA which are a few minutes away.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Georgia Mineral Society members will be available to answer questions and to provide water and snacks.

REGISTRATION: Click [here](#) to fill out a registration form. If you register and are unable to attend the trip, **please be considerate** to your fellow rockhounds and let us know as soon as possible so someone on the waiting list can take your slot(s).

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: Registered participants will be sent a confirmation email with directions and meeting place details. Quarry employees will escort a caravan into the quarry. You are **not** allowed to drive around the quarry unescorted. Everyone must enter and leave the quarry together. **If you arrive late, you will not be able to enter the quarry!**

CARPOOLING: The registration form has a place for you to indicate if you **need** a ride; if you can **offer** a ride; or if you would like to **drive or share** a carpool ride. If you choose any of these options, your **name**, **email address**, and **club name** will be shared with other members who also choose one of the options. Then, you can communicate with one another to arrange carpools.

CONTACT: Charles Carter, 770-998-1127, fieldtrips@gaminerall.org

IMPORTANT: DMC field trips are open only to members of clubs in the SFMS DMC field trip sharing program. SFMS DMC club members are covered by liability insurance and they are bound by the AFMS code of ethics (click [here](#) to read them), but the general public is not and could jeopardize access to a collecting location. For this DMC trip, non-SFMS club members and the general public are not allowed. **Please do not post DMC field trip information where the general public can access it.**



SHARK TOOTH & FOSSIL DRY DIG OPPORTUNITY:

Step back millions of years on a guided paleontology Dry Dig for shark teeth and fossils in ancient gravel deposits. The dig is guided and operated by Palmetto-Fossil-Excursions. This is a private event arranged with Palmetto Fossil Excursions by a group of friends in Columbia who think it will be lots of fun! Register and join us!

WHEN: Saturday, March 30, 2024, 10 am - 2 pm, rain or shine

INVESTMENT: special 1/2 price rates for this dig only Adults 18+ \$150 Children 12 - 18 \$75 3 - 12 \$50

TO REGISTER: * Go to web site to book 4-hour dry dig * select Saturday, March 30, 2024, 10 am (select any available time if 10 am is not available. you'll be rescheduled for 10 am) * enter your individual, family, or group information * enter 'Columbia' in the Comments Section (identifies your booking as part of this group and 1/2 price 4-hour dig rate) * make deposit payment of 1/2 your total (you'll receive a payment link for the balance just prior to the dig) Registration closes 24 hours prior to the dig. Cancellations should be made no less than 48 hours prior to the dig.

DIG SITE: 128 Sandhill Road Dorchester, SC 29437 picnic area with tables, propane grill, umbrellas; dog-friendly; onsite parking more about what you'll learn and the site <https://palmetto-fossil-excursions.com/dry-digs/>

DIG INCLUDES: guides, instruction, shovels, sifting tables, wagons, buckets, pressurized water source, screw drivers/chisels.

BRING: bug spray, drinks, snacks, containers for finds, change of clothes/shoes, gloves, towel

www.palmetto-fossil-excursions.co



AREA SHOWS

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

March 15-17, 2024, Marietta, GA: Annual show; Bellpoint Gem Show; Cobb Co. Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta Pkwy; Fri. 10-5:30, Sat. 10-5:30, Sun. 10-4:30; mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointpromotions.com

April 12-14, 2024, Raleigh, NC

Annual show; Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club; State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd, Kerr Scott Building; Cyndy Hummel, 919-779-6220; mchummel@mindspring.com; www.tarheelclub.org

March 22 to 24, 2024, Jacksonville, FL

The Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society 35th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
Jacksonville Fair Grounds, 510 Fairgrounds Place, Jacksonville, FL 32202

The Mountain Area Gem & Mineral Association Presents:



Friday, Saturday & Sunday



MARCH 15th & 16th
9am - 6pm

MARCH 17th, 2024
10am - 4pm

FREE ADMISSION

Food & Drink Available

M.A.G.M.A. LAND OF THE SKY
GEM SHOW

Indoor and Outdoor Vendors



- Crystals
- Fossils
- Meteorites
- Gemstones
- Jewelry
- Trinitite
- Moldavite
- Minerals
- Artifacts



Thousands of Crystals, Rocks, Minerals
and Other Hobby Related Items!

From affordable treasures to museum-quality specimens

Land of The Sky Event Venue



39 Spring Cove Road
Swannanoa, NC 28778
15 Minutes from Asheville



For Show Info and Vendor Spaces, Call: 828-779-4501

Sponsored by M.A.G.M.A., Jacquot & Son Mining, & crystal potential

www.AmericanRockhound.com

www.crystalpotential.com



**Graves Mountain
Rock Swap and Dig
April 26th - 28th, 2024
Lincolnton, Georgia**

As of this posting, the dig is scheduled for April 2024. No reservations needed.

The mountain will be open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All attendees must stop at the welcome table to sign a liability release and make a contribution/donation to help with the cost of providing porta johns and golf carts. The dig will end, and everyone must be off the mountain by 6:00 p.m. each day.

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 set up 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. There will be an area in the parking lot for vendors to sell and trade minerals. If you would like to set up a booth, contact Jr. at the phone number listed below. Hot food and drinks will be available for purchase on the mountain all three days.

Contact Information:

Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) - 706-359-1544 (his business) or 706-401-3173 (his cell)

THIS DIG IS OPEN TO ALL CLUBS and ROCKHOUNDS!

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 will not be 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.

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

CGMS Name Tag

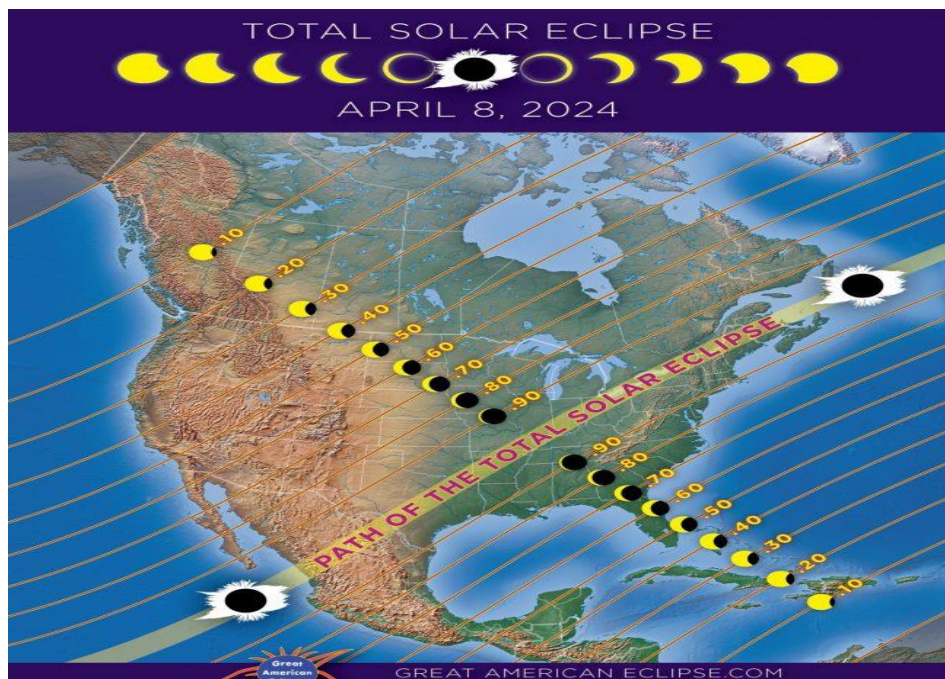
Would you like to have a CGMS name tag? They can now be obtained at Irmo Trophy. An example is shown below. If you would like one, please contact Irmo Trophy by email so they have the correct spelling of your name. Tell them you are requesting a Columbia Gem and Mineral Society name tag and give them the name you want on it. The cost is \$7. If you would like Angela Valvasori to pick it up for you and bring it to a meeting, please contact her using the contact info on the last page.



Irmo Trophy Co. irmotrophy@gmail.com; 803-798-3735
5430 Old Bush River Rd., Columbia, SC 29212

Don't Forget the Solar Eclipse

A total [solar eclipse](#) will take place at the Moon's ascending node on Monday, April 8, 2024, visible across North America and dubbed the **Great North American Eclipse** (also **Great American Total Solar Eclipse** and **Great American Eclipse**) by some of the media. A total solar eclipse occurs when the Moon's apparent diameter is larger than the Sun's, blocking all direct sunlight, turning day into darkness. [Totality](#) occurs in a narrow path across Earth's surface, with the partial solar eclipse visible over a surrounding region thousands of kilometers wide. Make a Plan!



Columbia Gem and Mineral Society



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Year _____

(Membership Year runs January 1 – December 31)

<https://www.cgms.ocks>

Check one: **DUES CURRENT MEMBERS**

Individual \$25/2 _____

Family \$30/2 _____

DUES for NEW MEMBERS ONLY (Prorated Quarterly)

Individual \$26 _____ \$21 _____ \$14 _____ \$7 _____

Family \$31 _____ \$24 _____ \$16 _____ \$8 _____

Jan 1 Apr 1 July 1 Oct 1

Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone(s): _____

Email Address: _____

For those with privacy concerns: If you do not want your home phone or physical address published in the Club Roster please circle or highlight: No phone No address.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: Spouse and children under 18 yrs. living at the same address.

Spouse: _____ Birth Date: _____

Child: _____ Birth Date: _____

Child: _____ Birth Date: _____

Child: _____ Birth Date: _____

Child: _____ Birth Date: _____

CLUB PARTICIPATION: Please indicate which committee you can help with:

Field Trips__ Membership__ Newsletter__ Programs__ Social__ Faceting Guild__

Workshop__ Show Chair__ Publicity__ Sunshine__ Rookie Rockhound' s__

May we call on you to work with a Board Member on a committee or project? _____

Make checks payable to: Columbia Gem & Mineral Society (and) mail to: PO Box 6333

Columbia, SC 29260

Previous Membership in another Mineral Society? Club _____

Have you held an office in another club? Club/Office _____

Do you have a rock collection? If so, what? _____

What lapidary skills and interests do you have? _____

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.

2024 OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President..... Jim Cobb.
 Vice President..... Cheryl Coker.....
 Treasurer..... Angela Valvasori.....
 Secretary..... Open

COMMITTEES

Membership Sheila Frame.....
 Auctioneer..... Ron Ahle.....
 Club Liaison..... Jim Cobb.....
 Faceting Guild..... Tom Daniels.....
 Facebook..... Sue Shrader
 Field Trip..... Open
 Historian.....Angela Valvasori
 Librarian.....Sheila Frame.....
 Newsletter Editor.....Ron Ahle.....
 Program..... Sue Shrader.....
 Show..... Open
 Sunshine Abbie Gates.....
 Website..... Steve Coker.....
 Workshop..... Gary Hert.....



CGMS Website

Please visit our Website:

<http://www.cgms.rocks>

Webmaster: Steve Coker

Monthly Meeting

Except for January, 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