



Rocky Trails



November 2023

Volume 17 Issue 10



The Newsletter of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The Club's show is only days away and we are still accepting volunteers. Please consider helping with the show and please distribute the show flyers. Look on page 4 for general information about the show and pages 5 & 6 for information on volunteering. When you are helping at the show, remember to have fun and afterwards take time to meet our vendors and make purchases. It is always enjoyable to immerse yourself in all the minerals, fossils, and jewelry. Finally, thanks to all who have been working on the 2023 show and thanks to all who contribute materials for the show. It means a lot to the Club!

After the show is over, do not forget we have a meeting on November 20th where an important function for members will be to nominate and vote on officers for 2024. The positions to be elected include President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you would like to be nominated for one of these positions or would like to nominate a fellow member, please speak up in the meeting. There are other board positions that may be available for 2024 on a volunteer basis (refer to page 19 under Committees) if you are interested in serving. We welcome all newcomers!

For those who enjoy fieldtrips, please note the Dixie Mineral trip to NW Georgia to find lace agate. This is a good fieldtrip where everybody finds nice quality agate and since the dig site is near Cartersville, GA, this could lead to an opportunity to go to the very cool Tellus Science Museum. Just to see the museum would be worth the trip!

On a sad note, we lost Rudy Mancke who died on Nov 7th. Rudy was a good friend and a great human being! He always took time to share his knowledge and passion for our natural world. As a club, we were lucky to have him make presentations to our membership. As a friend, he was as nice as they come. He will be missed.

This will be the last issue of the Rocky Trails for 2023. A loud round of applause goes out to Angela Valvasori, Sheila Frame, Sue Shrader and Steve Coker for bringing our club into the digital age. See you at the show and the next meeting.

Ron Ahle

NEXT MEETING

November 20, 2023

Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at **The McKissick Museum** at USC.

PROGRAM:

Program: Show and Tell. This is your opportunity to share with the club things you acquired at the show. Bring your rocks, fossils, and jewelry that you purchased. Also on the slate will be executive officer elections (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary).

Door Prizes: Provided by Ron Ahle.

Refreshments: will be provided by Loree & Banks Ratchford.

Parking is available beside the McKissick Museum where Bull St. runs into Pendleton St. See map on page 10. If you need to use the elevator, ask someone to open the door on the street level by the parking lot. Go down the hallway to the elevator to the first floor.

Executive Meeting

November 27, 2023

Dinner: 6 pm, Meeting: 7 pm
Grecian Gardens, 2312 Sunset Blvd.,
West Columbia.

*Members are welcome to attend. Only executive members can vote.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2023, Monthly Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly meeting on October 16, 2023, at McKissick Museum. President Jim Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Jim stated we still need volunteers to work the show and passed around a sign-up sheet. Jim thanked Ron Ahle for door prizes and Sue Shrader, Adam Parris and Sheila Frame for refreshments. Ron announced the door prizes were from donations and his own collection. Jim asked for introduction of new members and visitors. The door prize and snacks sign-up sheet was passed around.

Membership: Sheila Frame announced that the club now has 116 members, 95 adults and 21 juniors.

Show:

- Sue Shrader passed around show flyers so members could continue promoting the CGMS Show in November. Sue talked about the benefits of social media advertising and adds in the Free Times, Lexington Chronicle and the Columbia Star. She also arranged digital billboard postings.
- Terri Tokaz asked for volunteers. Jim reminded members about the William Holland/Wild Acres scholarship drawing for volunteers.
- Susan Bloodworth talked about the dealer dinner and passed around a sign-up sheet for contributions of primarily vegetables and casseroles.
- Mandie Wenzel mentioned that the final show meeting would occur on November 6th at Hope Church. She conveyed to the membership that most of the planning has been completed.

Programs: Program for the November meeting is Show & Tell with a focus on things purchased at the show. Sue Shrader announced that Kim Cochran will be giving a presentation next year at our April meeting. She also said that Bailey Parker would be speaking on the Gills Creek Watershed.

Field Trips: Catherine Sawyer gave a report on the fossil-digging field trip at Cross Quarry in September. Ron informed the membership about a DMC fieldtrip to Diamond Hill. **Workshop:** Cheryl Coker announced that Carol Elliot was helping her with the grants search.

Sunshine: Member Jason Dolinski's mother passed away and our thoughts and prayers are with him at this time. **Rocky Trails:** Ron asked members for input for the Rocky Trails in the form of announcements and/or informational articles. **Web Site:** Steve Coker said that he was setting up automated pay site on our website. **Treasurer:** Angela informed membership that patches and name tags were available. **Historian:** Angela informed members about Google Workspace being used as a depository for club documents.

Since there was no new business or old business, Jim proceeded to the door prizes followed by a presentation whereby Daniel Morgan share some of his wire-wrapping artistry. At the conclusion of the presentation, Jim adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Ahle

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2023, Board Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society held its executive board meeting on October 23, 2023, at Grecian Gardens Restaurant. President Jim Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. In attendance were Jim Cobb (President), Ron Ahle (Secretary), Jonathan Wenzel (Vice-President), Gary Hert (Shop), Cheryl Coker (Shop), Steve Coker (Web), Sheila Frame (Membership), Sue Shrader (Programs), Angela Valvasori (Treasurer), Mandie Wenzel (Show Committee) and Sharon Sterrett (Show Committee). Jim thanked everyone in attendance and reminded the board that this would be the last meeting before the show.

Show: Sharon stated that we have 25 paid vendors so far and handed out the current draft layout. Sharon informed the Board that that a non-profit organization had requested a table and the board agreed it would be okay if they are grouped with the demonstrators in the back of the show. Sharon stated that we have four more vendors lined up (two from Graves Mountain) pending contracts and payments. Mandie said she was already preparing dealer contracts for the 2024 show that could be handed out at the 2023 show. Sue said she had secured advertisement in the Free Times, Lexington Chronicle, and the Columbia Star. Sue encouraged everyone to pass out show flyers and to share show info on social media. Mandie will have flyers printed as needed. Angela reminded the Board that a show preparation meeting with Jamil needed to be scheduled. Mandie informed the board that security cost has increased, and she asked the board for a motion to allow her to cover the increased cost. Knowing the importance of security, a motion was made and passed. It was suggested that maybe we should enter a multi-year contract for security to reserve a fixed price. Mandie reminded the group about the Education Day for students on Friday during the show and asked if she could have some special “grab bags” made for the students that contain fossils and minerals. Finally, it was mentioned that Josh McDuffie has arranged a spot on “The Point” (FM 100.7) in which Angela will promote our show. We still need help for set-up.

Program Coordinator: Sue Shrader announced that Kim Cochran will be giving a presentation next year at our April meeting. She also said that Bailey Parker would be speaking on the Gills Creek Watershed. Sue reminded the board that meeting nights in January would be reversed. **Membership:** Sheila Frame announced that the club now has 120 members, 97 adults and 23 juniors. **Historian:** Angela informed the board that many files including the Rocky Trails have been uploaded to google workspace. **Newsletter:** Ron asked for input for the newsletter.

Treasurer: Angela stated the Square system for payment to the club was up and running and that she had written up instructions on how to use the system for taking credit card payments at the show. Angela coordinated with Steve to set up an online membership payment system through our website. Discussion ensued about having a credit card fee on membership dues and the group decided to revisit the subject next year. Angela evaluated the online system and said it works and gives a receipt immediately. Some dealers have already started using the credit card system for paying for tables. Angela finished by giving her standard treasurer report. **Website:** Steve put “Square” buttons on the website for membership renewals. On donations, it was suggested to have mineral-themed levels of donations with rewards of certificates, membership dues and maybe free show tickets. Steve stated the previous website domain (which is linked to CGMS.rocks) is with GoDaddy and Mike Montebello paid for a three-year renewal. Sue said she was adding information about the show to

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES cont'd

October 23, 2023, Board Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

Facebook and had conducted a three-day boost from which a 10-day “likes” report would be generated. Sue also reported that Jason Dolinski is now a co-administrator and that members are encouraged post on our Facebook site. Acknowledging that our Instagram account was gone, Angela stated it would be good to re-establish it and possibly have a YouTube video made about the club.

Shop: Gary announced that the cabbing and polishing machines were up and running in the workshop. He said members should contact him if they are interested in using them. Cheryl reported that she and Carol Elliot had attended an excellent online seminar on grants. She reported that Carol was looking into a potential property for our shop.

New Business: Sheila announced that our Google Workspace account had been activated. Angela said the workspace would be a password protected site for storing show files, Rocky Trails, logos, patch designs, bylaws, etc. Angela agreed to have a demonstration on the features and use of the workspace at the January Board meeting. On a separate subject, Angela asked about setting up the geode saw at festivals as a way of making income and promoting our club. Gary said it would be a lot of work and require a lot of volunteers.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and Jim adjourned the meeting at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Ahle

55th Annual CGMS Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show

Show Reminders to All Members:

1. We will need volunteers to work at the Salted Mine and Grab Bag Stations at the Show.
2. The club will host the popular Dealers' Dinner on the Thursday night after the dealers set up their booths. The club will furnish meats, plates, and utensils. Volunteers are needed to contribute salads, side dishes, drinks, and ice. These contributions should be brought to Jamil Temple no later than 5:00 pm Thursday, November 16, 2023. The dealers very much enjoy and appreciate this after a hard day of setting up their booths and it provides an opportunity for club members to meet and eat with the dealers.
3. Club and Show Publicity: Angela Valvasori will be on “The Point” FM 100.7 at 8:35 am Wednesday Nov. 15 to promote the Show. She will also appear on Soda City Live on WIS TV at 3 pm on Wednesday Nov. 15 to promote CGMS with a mention of the Show.

2023 CGMS Gem & Mineral Show Volunteer Instructions

The following information is being provided for folks who are either considering volunteering to work at the show or have already volunteered. Volunteer hours will be tallied, and for every four hours worked, your name is entered in a drawing for a lapidary class scholarship at William Holland or Wild Acres. Hours are tracked by signing in and out.

The following description of the duties will help you decide what you would like to volunteer for and what will be expected from you. A more detailed description will be provided prior to the Show, and someone will be available to help during the Show.

Front Desk Instructions – Collecting Admissions

1. We accept cash, check, or credit cards. The Treasurer provides a cash box. The Treasurer, Angela Valvasori, will help with credit card payments, using Square.
2. The daily admission fees are as follows:
 - a. \$6/person for people over 16 who are not military and do not have a \$1 off coupon. Children 16 and under are free and do not need to show ID. Military (active and retired) and military spouse and children are free with military ID. Ask to see ID.
 - b. \$5/person with a paper or electronic coupon. One coupon per person. Put paper coupons in the basket. Have them show you the electronic coupon on their phone.
 - c. On Friday only, we also offer a 3-day pass. Give them the printed pass.
3. In the provided notebook, note the number of military and dependents entering, number of electronic coupons and number of 3-day passes sold. These are used to calculate attendance.

Front Desk Instructions – Tickets and Door Prize Forms

We use the tickets to allow people to exit and return on the same day, and we use the ticket start and end numbers to count attendance each day.

1. Mark the starting ticket number and ending ticket number in the notebook.
2. Give each adult one ticket. The tickets come in identical pairs. Give the attendee one ticket and put the other ticket in the bin.
3. Hand each adult a door prize form. Ask them to fill it out at the table and put it the door prize form box. Tell them there is a drawing every hour and they must be present to win. Tell them there is a grand prize drawing at the end of the show and they do not have to be present, we will call them.

Front Desk Instructions –Door Prizes

1. Ensure the microphone is working and extra batteries are available.
2. Ensure there are sufficient door prizes ready to start the day. Put door prizes in the large jewelry case, with the door prize form that identifies the item and who donated it.
3. Vendors and club members donate door prizes on a voluntary basis. Some vendors bring their door prizes to you. If more are needed, you can ask other vendors if they would like to donate a door prize.

4. Conduct Door Prize drawing hourly, starting one hour after the show opens. After the drawing, collect the cards from the box and bundle them together. They will be kept for the grand prize drawing.
5. Announce the door prize winner using the microphone and tell the winner to come to the door prize desk to collect the prize.
6. The grand door prize is Schorl (Black Tourmaline) donated by Cannaco Collections and is in a display case. Conduct the drawing for the grand door prize at the end of the show using all the door prize cards. A person does not have to be present to win. Call the winner and arrange for them to pick it up.
7. Ask a vendor if they are willing to donate a grand prize for next year.

Front Desk Instructions –Grab Bags

1. Collect money for the grab bags. The cash box is provided by the Treasurer at the start of the day. The cash box is shared with the salted mine. We also accept checks and credit cards. The Treasurer, Angela Valvasori, will help with credit card payments, using Square.
2. We have \$1, \$5, and \$10 grab bags. They are arranged on the desk and a sample of each is displayed. Replenish grab bags as needed. Grab bags are made up prior to the show.
3. Help people identify the minerals and fossils in their grab bags, if asked.

Front Desk Instructions –Salted Mine

1. Collect the money: \$1 for 2 scoops and assist the kids scooping and screening. Provide the kids with a bag for their finds.
2. The cash box is provided by the Treasurer at the start of the day. The cash box is shared with the grab bags. We also accept checks and credit cards. The Treasurer, Angela Valvasori, will help with credit card payments, using Square.
3. The salted mine is set up on Thursday to be ready to go on Friday morning. Replenish the salted mine with fresh material as needed. The material is under the desk.

Instructions – Geodes

1. The volunteer options are: (1) selling the geodes, (2) cutting the geodes, (3) cleaning the geodes, bagging them, and giving them to the customers. Select one station. The geode station is outdoors so dress for the weather.
2. Selling the geodes: The uncut geodes and samples of cut geodes are placed on the tables.
 - a. Price is \$1.25/ounce. Customer selects uncut geode. Weigh geode, calculate price and collect money. The Treasurer provides the cash box. We also accept checks and credit cards. The Treasurer, Angela Valvasori, will help with credit card payments, using Square.
 - b. Tell the customer how long it will take to cut the geode (cutting crew will tell you as time varies depending on backlog) and where to pick it up. Write the customer's name on the paper bag and give it with the geode to the cutting crew.
3. Gary Hert will train the cutting crew. This involves operating the cutting saw.
4. Gary Hert will also train the cleaning and bagging crew.



CGMS meetings are at the McKissick Museum at USC. Parking is available beside the museum where Bull St. runs into Pendleton St. See map on page 10. If you are unable to use the front steps of the McKissick Museum, there is an elevator on the ground floor down the hall from the parking lot. If you need to use the elevator, call 803-261-9317 to have the door on the street level by the parking lot opened.

[McKissick Museum](#)

https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/mckissick_museum/

Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Closed Sundays

Physical Exhibits:

Invitation to Explore

This exhibit gives visitors an introduction to the many types of objects that McKissick Museum collects, including university history, fine art, southeastern folklife, natural history, and more. Visitors can also see the University's mace and medallion, which are on display when they are not in use at commencement ceremonies. This exhibition is changed out annually to rest objects that have been on display and to highlight new acquisitions.

Natural Curiosity: The University of South Carolina and the Evolution of Scientific Inquiry in the Natural World

Explore your own "natural curiosity" in this exhibit that highlights the treasures of nature, and the evolution of the field of natural history. Visitors can learn from authentic objects or use newly installed touchscreens to dive deeper into McKissick collections and explore the lives of Historic Southern Naturalists.

In Remembrance

Rudy Mancke, a cherished friend of our club, died on Tuesday, November 7th. Over the years Rudy has taken time to talk to our members about fossils and nature. His personal knowledge was incredible, but it was his gentle, positive nature that would captivate people and open their eyes to our awesome natural world. Every opportunity I was given to talk with him was a blessing. He was truly nature's ambassador. We will miss him dearly.

McKissick Museum's professional and student staff, and advisory council, past and present, mourn the loss of our colleague **Rudy Mancke**.

The following are some kind words about Rudy from "ColaDailey.com"

Rudy Mancke, who will be remembered for passing on his love of nature to countless people in South Carolina and beyond, died November 7 at the age of 78.

Mancke's wife, Ellen, told South Carolina Public Radio that her husband died surrounded by family after a battle with liver disease.

Mancke, a naturalist in residence and adjunct faculty member at the University of South Carolina, was best known as host of NatureScene on SCETV and NatureNotes on SC Public Radio. NatureScene ran for 25 years, beginning in 1978. Mancke also founded the South Carolina Association of Naturalists and served as a curator at the South Carolina State Museum and as a high school biology teacher.

"Rudy's boundless enthusiasm, deep knowledge and dedication to environmental education have left an enduring legacy that will continue to inspire future generations," SCETV President and CEO Adrienne Fairwell said. "His impact on our organization and the people of South Carolina is immeasurable."

"Rudy Mancke was a South Carolina treasure. He had a profound impact on the education of South Carolinians of every age," said USC College of Arts and Sciences Dean Joel Samuels. "From nature talks on the USC Horseshoe to his beloved series on public radio and television, he was the epitome of a high-impact scholar dedicated to sharing his love for science and the natural world. He will be greatly missed."

USC is planning an on-campus celebration of Mancke's life, with details to be announced.

Sunshine

Joan Beckham is now in assisted living due to health problems. Send cards to her sister and she will take them to Joan.

Joan Beckham
168 Widgeon Drive
Lexington, SC 29072

[News Worth Digging Up](#)

This month's focus is on something I like digging for: dinosaurs with two worthy entries.

Paleontologists Find Fossil of Early Megaraptorid Dinosaur in Australia

Source: Science News

Author: Enrico de Lazaro

Date: Nov 10, 2023

Paleontologists have unearthed a well-preserved, almost complete left frontal (part of the skull roof) of a previously unknown species of megaraptorid dinosaur in the upper Strzelecki Group (earliest Cretaceous) of Victoria, Australia. The new specimen provides limited support for the hypothesis that megaraptorid dinosaurs might have originated in Australia. Megaraptoridae is a family of theropods that lived in different regions of Gondwana during the Cretaceous period. These carnivorous dinosaurs had large hand claws and robust forelimbs, which were usually reduced in size in other large theropods such as *T. rex*. The new megaraptorid specimen was unearthed at the locality of Shack Bay of the Lower Cretaceous Wonthaggi Formation in Victoria, Australia. The fossil dates back 120 million years old which means "It represents the geologically oldest megaraptorid skull element worldwide and emphasizes the prevalence of this theropod group in the mid-Cretaceous of Australia." said paleontologist Michael Cleeland (the finder of the fossil). For more information on the discovery, read: [Jake Kotevski *et al.* A megaraptorid \(Dinosauria: Theropoda\) frontal from the upper Strzelecki Group \(Lower Cretaceous\) of Victoria, Australia. *Cretaceous Research* published online November 2, 2023.](#)

One of the Last Surviving Non-Avian Dinosaurs Lived in Burrows, Had Super Senses: Study

Source: Science News

Author: Enrico de Lazaro

Date: Nov 8, 2023

New research demonstrates that the brain of *Thescelosaurus neglectus*, a small plant-eating [neornithischian dinosaur](#) that lived just before the end-Cretaceous mass extinction event around 66 million years ago, was relatively small (up to 12 feet in length) suggesting cognitive capabilities within the range of living reptiles. Other traits include a narrow hearing range, with limited ability to distinguish high frequencies, paired with an unusually well-developed sense of smell (olfaction) and vestibular sensitivity. In the new research, paleontologists David Button and Lindsay Zanno used a CT scanner to reconstruct soft tissues such as the brain and inner ear in the skull of *Thescelosaurus neglectus*. The researchers found that *Thescelosaurus neglectus*' poor cognitive and hearing abilities, coupled with powerful arms and legs and overdeveloped senses of smell and balance, are all features characteristic of animals that spend time underground and/or engage in digging behaviors today.

For more information on the discovery, read: [D.J. Button & L.E. Zanno. 2023. Neuroanatomy of the Late Cretaceous *Thescelosaurus neglectus* \(Neornithischia: Thescelosauridae\) reveals novel ecological specialisations within Dinosauria. *Scientific Reports* 13](#)

CGMS Now Accepting Credit Cards

CGMS now has a Square account and can accept payment of membership dues or silent auction items by credit card, Apple Pay and Google Pay. Membership dues can also be paid by credit card on our website CGMS.rocks.

This will be of benefit at the Show, with many patrons now preferring to pay their entrance fee or geode purchase with a card rather than cash.

Meteorites 2023

<https://www.amsmeteors.org/category/fireball-sightings/>

Orionids

Active from September 26th to November 22nd. The Orionids are a medium strength shower that sometimes reaches high strength activity. In a normal year, the Orionids produce 10-20 shower members at maximum. Peak Night: Oct 20-21, 2023. The moon will be 37% full.

Southern Taurids

Next period of activity: September 8 to December 2, 2023.

Northern Taurids

Next period of activity: October 13 to December 2, 2023.

Geminids

Next period of activity: November 19th, 2023, to December 24th, 2023

Next Peak night Dec **13-14, 2023**

The Geminids are usually the strongest meteor shower of the year and meteor enthusiasts are certain to circle December 13 and 14 on their calendars. This is the one major shower that provides good activity prior to midnight as the constellation of Gemini is well placed from 22:00 onward. The Geminids are often bright and intensely colored. Due to their medium-slow velocity, persistent trains are not usually seen. These meteors are also seen in the southern hemisphere, but only during the middle of the night and at a reduced rate.

Ursids

Next period of activity: December 13th, 2023, to December 24th, 2023

Next Peak night Dec **21-22, 2023**

The Ursids are often neglected due to the fact it peaks just before Christmas and the rates are much less than the Geminids, which peaks just a week before the Ursids. Observers will normally see 5-10 Ursids per hour during the late morning hours on the date of maximum activity. There have been occasional outbursts when rates have exceeded 25 per hour. These outbursts appear unrelated to the perihelion dates of comet 8P/Tuttle. This shower is strictly a northern hemisphere event as the radiant fails to clear the horizon or does so simultaneously with the start of morning twilight as seen from the southern tropics.

Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
2023 Please Copy 55th Annual

Gem Mineral & Jewelry Show




Nov. 17, 10:00 - 6:00 Jamil Temple
Nov. 18, 10:00 - 6:00 206 Jamil Rd.
Nov. 19, 12:00 - 5:00 Columbia, SC 29210



Adults \$6... Children 16 & Under Free
All Military & Dependents Free

With ID card

 www.cgms.rocks  **\$1.00 Off**


803-736-9317



  **\$1.00 Off with this Ad**

55th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show 2023
Fri Nov. 17, 10:00 - 6:00.
Sat. Nov. 18, 10:00 - 6:00.
Sun. Nov. 19, 12:00 - 5:00.

Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Rd. Columbia, SC 29210
\$6 adults, Sixteen & under free.
All military & their dependents free with ID
803-736-9317 www.cgms.rocks





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With ID card

 www.cgms.rocks  **\$1.00 Off**

803-736-9317

South Carolina State Museum**<http://scmuseum.org/events/upcoming-events/>**301 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC 29201
803-898-4921**Hours of Operation:**

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

(First Sunday Sponsored by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina)

General admission is only \$1 on the first Sunday of every month. For an additional price, guests can enjoy a planetarium show and/or a 4D theater movie.)

Planetarium (check website for show times)

MARS: One Thousand One takes viewers away from planet Earth, into space, and across our solar system to our neighboring planet. This thrilling planetarium experience follows the fictional story of the Mars IRIS 1 mission, a daring 1001-day voyage to fly an international crew to the planet and return them safely to Earth. Once on Mars, viewers will see the team work on the planet's surface, exploring the landscape, looking for water, and retrieving rocks in a search for the history of water.

Habitat Earth: This full dome planetarium 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.

Public Observatory Times (weather permitting)

Solar Observing: Mon: Closed, Tues. – Sat: 12 to 5 p.m., Sun: 1 to 5 p.m.

Night observation: Currently not available.

Due to ongoing roof maintenance the observatory may not be accessible on certain days and times. Call the museum for up-to-date information on observatory availability.

Cayce Historical Museum

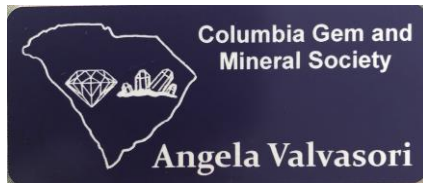
A highlight of the Cayce Historical Museum is the extensive collection of Native American artifacts. The collection was donated by the son of Samuel Watson, a local pharmacist who was an active collector in the area as well as other parts of the United States. This museum exhibit contains nearly 8,000 pieces including arrowheads, pottery, axes, tools, grinding stones, and more. These cultural materials were collected from South Carolina, the Southeast, and the Midwest. There are artifacts from the earliest prehistoric period like Clovis points as well as objects from every other period of the Native American history of the area.

Phone; 803.739.5385 <https://caycesc.gov/museum.php>

CGMS Name Tag

Would you like a CGMS name tag? They are available at Irmo Trophy for \$7. If you would like one, please email Irmo Trophy, tell them you are requesting a Columbia Gem and Mineral Society name tag and provide the name you want on it.

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



Would you like to customize your wardrobe? CGMS also has patches available for \$10. Angela Valvasori will have them at the meetings.

AREA SHOWS

November 18-19, 2023, COLUMBIA, SC: 55th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show; Columbia Gem and Mineral Society; Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Rd., Columbia, SC 29210; www.cgms.rocks; Sue 803-736-9317

CGMS 55th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show 2023

Fri. Nov. 17, 10:00 - 6:00

Sat. Nov. 18, 10:00 - 6:00

Sun. Nov. 19, 12:00 - 5:00

Jamil Temple

206 Jamil Rd.

Columbia, SC 29210

Exit 106 off I26

Jewelry, beads, loose stones, fossils, minerals, gold, silver, & tools for sale

Geodes sold & cut

Club member's rock collections on exhibit & lapidary demonstrations

Education for the whole family

South Carolina amethyst on display

Sponsored by The Columbia Gem & Mineral Society

\$6.00 for adults, Sixteen & under free with adult. 3-day pass - \$10

All military & their dependents free with ID Card

December 1-3—DULUTH, GEORGIA: Annual show; Bellpoint Gem Show; Gas South Convention Center (New Location), 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy; mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointpromotions.com

November 24-26, 2023—SALEM, VIRGINIA: Annual show; Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society; Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard; Email: info@rvmgs.org; Website: rvmgs.org

December 1-3, 2023—HUDSON, FLORIDA: Annual show; Withlacoochee Rockhounds; Veterans Memorial Park, 14333 Hicks Road; (813) 677-6263; Email: jfwojcik@verizon.net; Website: ithlacoocheerockhounds.com

December 1-3, 2023—MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA: Annual show; Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society; Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive; contact Chris Rutherford; Email: chris-rutherford@sanderslead.com; Website: www.mgms.club

December 8-10, 2023—SWANNANOA, NORTH CAROLINA: Show; MAGMA and Jacquot & Son Mining; Land of the Sky Shrine Club, 39 Spring Cove Road; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; MAGMA, Land of the Sky, Christmas Gem Show! contact Richard Jacquot, (828) 779-4501; Email: rickjacquot@gmail.com; Website: www.AmericanRockhound.com

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.

2023 OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President..... Jim Cobb.
 Vice President..... Jonathan Wenzel.....
 Treasurer..... Angela Valvasori.....
 Secretary..... Ron Ahle.....

COMMITTEE

Membership Sheila Frame.....
 Auctioneer..... Jason Dolinski
 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..... Mandie Wenzel (Show Organizer)
 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 at the McKissick Museum's Auditorium, on the USC campus. Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm; Meeting at 7:30 pm. Please enter from the Horseshoe entrance.

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**