



Rocky Trails



November 2024

Volume 18 Issue 10



The Newsletter of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to all continuing and new members. At our September meeting Carol Elliott and Susan Richardson gave firsthand accounts of their mineral collecting adventures in Utah. For our November meeting we are going to travel north from Utah to Yellowstone National Park for a presentation by Kylie Moore on volcanic rocks, the geologic foundation of the park. I think you would agree that we all love presentations on Yellowstone!

At our October Executive Meeting the board members agreed to amend the bylaws to remove the \$1 membership initiation fee and to change the pro-rated dues from quarterly to semi-annually, subject to approval of the general membership (see changes on page 3). We will also have our officer elections at the November meeting. **Candidates for office 2025 include:**
President: Patricia Stidom **Vice president:** Jim Cobb
Secretary: Sophie Grimsley **Treasurer:** Angela Valvasori
The floor will be opened for other candidates, and all are welcomed and encouraged to run! If you are not interested in an officer position, there are a lot of committee chairs that will need to be filled. One example is Membership since Sheila is vacating the position.

The club's show is less than a week away and we are still accepting volunteers. We can use additional help at the front desk and if you would like to help, please contact Terri Tokaz **Please bring a completed volunteer form to the Club Meeting or Email to Terri Tokaz at TTokaz@SC.RR.com.** Forms can be copied from the October Rocky Trails. If you would like to help with the dealer dinner, please fill out the signup sheet on page 8 and give to Pat Carter at the club meeting or email it to her at pcarter32@sc.rr.com. Please print flyers (page 11) and distribute them. If you are interested in who the show dealers are, check out the club website where you can see the list as a drop down on the header or find the link in the show page. It is also in the page text.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Christmas Party that will be on December 13th (more info on page 3).

Happy Trails,
Ron Ahle

NEXT MEETING

November 18, 2024

The November 2024 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 to enter. Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:30 pm. We have been asked to please not come into Hope Church before 6:30 pm, as we are not allowed in before that time.

There will be no December Meeting. Instead, please join us for the Christmas Party on Dec 13th!

PROGRAM:

Kylie Moore will give a talk on research conducted at Yellowstone National Park titled "**The Dacites of Yellowstone**". The presentation will begin at 7:00 followed by an important business meeting where we will be electing the 2025 Officers and approving an amendment to our constitution. This will also be the last meeting before the show where everyone will have a chance to volunteer or ask questions about the show.

Dee Iurcovich will provide door prizes. Loree & Banks Ratchford will provide refreshments and snacks.

Executive Meeting

Date November 25, 2024

Dinner: 6 pm, Meeting: 7 pm

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

Only executive members vote.

Programs for the October & November Meetings

"The Dacites of Yellowstone"

By Kylie Moore

The November meeting will be a presentation on dacite occurrences in Yellowstone National Park. Dacite is a volcanic rock formed by rapid solidification of lava that is high in silica and low in alkali metal oxides. It has a fine-grained to porphyritic texture and is intermediate in composition between andesite and rhyolite. It is composed predominantly of plagioclase feldspar and quartz lava flows.



Lava Flow forming columnar lava at Sheep Herder Cliff in Yellowstone

(Photographed by Ron Ahle)



* **Instructions for potluck and gift exchange:** Anyone that wants to participate in the gift exchange can do so by bringing a gift and signing the gift exchange sheet. Gifts will be distributed in the manner in which we do door prizes. Gifts should be in the \$20 - \$30 range. Dinner will be potluck - bring one of your favorite dishes or deserts to share. The club will provide paper products for our feast.

Proposed Changes to By-Laws to be voted on at Nov. Meeting

Article VII: Dues and Fees

- Section I The amount of all dues and fees shall be determined or altered by a majority vote of members present and voting at a regular meeting. The price of workshop materials for sale shall be set by the workshop chairperson with approval of the Executive Committee.
- Section II Annual dues shall be payable by the first day of January. Annual dues shall be pro-rated **semi-annually** for new members only.
- Section III (initiation fee language deleted)
- Section III When an individual holding a family membership reaches the age of 18 and requests a change in membership standing, he shall be assessed dues on a pro-rated basis (**initiation fee language deleted**).
- Section IV Any member who has not paid his annual dues by the February meeting shall be classed as delinquent and not in good standing. The delinquent member shall be notified by the membership committee and, should the delinquency continue until March 1st, the delinquent member shall be dropped from membership.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2024, Monthly Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly meeting on October 21, 2024, at Hope Church. President Jim Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM. Jim thanked Tom and Patricia Stidom for bringing door prizes and welcomed new members.

Membership: Sheila Frame stated that there were 132 members: 110 adults and 22 juniors.

Programs: The November program will be “Dacites of Yellowstone” given by Kylie Moore. The CGMS show will also take place November 22nd-24th. There will be a Christmas party on December 13th at the Cayce Historical Museum with a potluck and gift exchange.

Show Committee: The show is coming up fast in November! Angela Valvasori stated that the show is completely full with 35 dealers and that the layout of the show is complete. Terry Tokaz is setting up volunteer shifts for the show and stated that volunteers for the front desk would be appreciated. Most of the geode time slots are full. Terry stated that descriptions of the positions are available if anyone would like more information on what specific duties entail. For every 4 hours worked at the show, you will be entered for a chance to win a week-long scholarship for a lapidary class at William Holland! Ron Ahle stated that so far, only 3 display cases have been signed up to be filled, and more volunteers to put together display cases will be needed. One of the display cases will be the state stone, and two others will be fossils, so more mineral specimen or lapidary cases would be great. There was a grab bag assembly day at the workshop which made 400 \$2 bags, 200 \$10 bags, and 200 \$5 bags. More material will be needed for donation for next year’s grab bags. The dealer dinner will have special chafing dishes, and aluminum pans are available for those bringing food. Avoid crockpots if possible due to uncertainty in the number of electrical outlets available. CGMS show T-shirts will be available for purchase at the show pending a vote of approval from the board.

Sunshine: Sue Shrader is recovering from hip replacement surgery. **Newsletter:** Ron Ahle stated that Christmas party information can be found in the Rocky Trails. **Workshop Committee:** Cheryl Coker says there is no new information on a new workshop location. In the meantime, the workshop is open. Contact Gary Hert if you would like to use the equipment. **Club Liaison:** Kathleen Wallace passed away and a service was held last week. **Field Trips:** Casey Tyler is our new field trip coordinator and is in the process of planning a trip to Graves Mountain and to Propst Farm. There is also a Dixie Mineral field trip to Diamond Hill coming up on November 9th.

New Business: We have been asked to please not come to Hope Church before 6:30 pm, we are not allowed in before that time. Elections will be held during the November club meeting. Jim Cobb presented the following candidates:

Candidates for office 2025:

President: Patricia Stidom **Vice president:** Jim Cobb

Secretary: Sophie Grimsley **Treasurer:** Angela Valvasori

The floor was opened for other candidates, all are welcomed and encouraged to run! No other candidates were mentioned. Gary Hert mentioned that he would love an assistant in the workshop. Susan Richardson and Carol Elliot gave the program. They told us about their trip to Utah where they collected topaz, red beryl, amethyst, obsidian and more!

Jim concluded the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sophie Grimsley

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 28th, 2024, Board Meeting of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly board meeting on October 28th, 2024, at Grecian Gardens at 2312 Sunset Blvd. President Jim Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM. Members in attendance were Jim Cobb, Angela Valvasori, Ron Ahle, Steve Coker, Cheryl Coker, Sharon Sterrett, Sheila Frame, Tom Stidom, Patricia Stidom, Gary Hert, and Sophie Grimsley.

Officer Reports:

President: Jim will be speaking sometime soon on WIS about the show.

Treasurer: Angela gave a summary of the club's finances, including new interest rates and our club's total assets.

Committee Reports:

Membership: There are 132 members: 110 adults and 22 juniors. Sheila stated that currently our new member dues have an extra dollar tacked on for seemingly no reason. There was speculation that this may have originally been to cover postage fees for new member letters, which are now sent by email. Sheila proposed that we reduce the new member fees of \$26 and \$31 dollars for individual membership and family memberships, respectively, to \$25 and \$30. Sheila also proposed that the prorated membership fees be prorated on for ½ a year, not every quarter. Angela stated that in order to adopt these changes, the club's constitution would need to be amended. This amendment must be voted on at a general meeting. She also stated that the constitution is due to be updated in 2025. Sheila Frame made a motion to make these changes and vote on the constitutional amendment at the November general meeting. Cheryl Coker seconded the motion, and all were in favor. A proposal will be made during the next general meeting on the constitution revisions. The proposed changes will be sent out in the November Rocky Trails for members to review.

Programs: Kylie Moore will be giving the November program on the Dacites of Yellowstone. The show will occur in November. There will be no general meeting in December, but there will be a Christmas Party December 13th. The board discussed reconnecting with Ashby Gale to clarify any future programs that he may give.

Show Committee: Angela Valvasori stated that there may be two budget changes to the prior approved show budget. First, she requested board approval for the creation and sale of t-shirts at the show. There was discussion of the cost for manufacturing the T-shirts and what they would sell for, as well as the design. Angela asked for a vote to approve the budget increase to accommodate the T-shirts, Sheila Frame seconded the motion, and all approved. Second, the cost of 4 billboards increased from last year and was higher than anticipated. This increase in budget was approved by email.

A discussion of vendor and volunteer name tags took place. There was a suggestion to print a few name tags with the vendor business names in addition to the expected names of the individuals working the vendor booths. The purple show flyers have the incorrect date. If you know someone who has taken one of these flyers, please reach out to let them know the correct dates of the show.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES (cont')

Angela stated that food trucks around Columbia have been contacted about putting a deposit down to be at the show and have contacted Angela to confirm. This was a scam, and we have not contacted any food trucks about the show as of now. There is a possibility of obtaining a food truck for Friday when the snack bar will not be open.

Ron mentioned that the display cases have not been filled, and members may need to be briefed on what the display cases are so that more people will volunteer. The security contract for the show for 2024-2026 has been revised to address our concerns, and additional changes will be reviewed before signing.

There was a successful grab bag workshop, and the club has plenty of material for the salted mine, which is ready to be transported to the show. Sue Shrader used to transport these but is still recovering from hip replacement surgery. We will need to figure out who can transport the material. The board also discussed the logistics of the ownership of the website and the possession of the show trailer keys. Security cameras will be installed before the show.

Steve Coker suggested that it may be a good idea for someone to bring a camera to the show and film each vendor to splice together for social media. It was mentioned that we could do this for vendors who had signed a waiver.

Workshop: The workshop is open, contact Gary Hert for access. The geode saw has been cleaned and is ready for the show. Tom Stidom asked if the club owned any faceting machines. Gary said that the club used to have them but no longer do. There was speculation by the board about where they might have ended up, and some thought old meeting minutes may be useful in determining who to contact about the machines.

Field trips: Nothing new.

Sunshine: Sue Shrader is still recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Newsletter: The date for the Christmas Party was incorrect in the last newsletter but will be corrected in the next. **Historian:** No report.

Librarian: Need to go through boxes in storage unit. **Auctioneer:** Ron stated that we will need donations for another auction.

New Business: Sophie suggested that the November meeting be adjusted to have the program given first. There is a lot of club business to get through such as voting on the constitutional amendment, general club elections, door prizes, and descriptions of show needs such as display cases. In order to be accommodating for our speaker and guests, it would be better have the business meeting after the program and not rush the speaker at the end of the night.

A motion to conclude the meeting was made by Shiela Frame and seconded by Ron Ahle. The executive meeting concluded at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sophie Grimsley

CGMS Show Planning Meeting, Oct. 19, 2024
Meeting Notes

The October 19 show planning meeting was held at the Richland County Library on North Main St. from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

In attendance: Pat Carter, Jim Carter, Tom Stidom, Patricia Stidom, Ron Ahle, Terri Tokaz, Jim Cobb, Angela Valvasori.

Dealers and Layout: The show is full. Patricia and Tom managed to fit in one more dealer, for a total of 35 dealers. Tom provided the final show layout. One additional web release was received, dealer to be listed on the website. Patricia and Tom were told we will not have access to the area behind the fence behind the geode setup. Gary needs access to the breaker and for carrying hot water to wash the geodes, without going through the building through the crowd. Patricia and Angela will talk to the building manager about getting Gary access.

Sound System: Patricia investigated sound systems. She received a quote of \$650 per day, which is too expensive. She did not find any units for purchase that would cover the 25,000 sq. ft. of Jamil Temple. We will use the existing sound system and corded microphone at Jamil.

Publicity and Advertising: Sheila agreed to update the Google pin.

Grab Bags: Ron will have a grab bag workday on Sunday Oct. 20 at 1:30 pm. Ron will email to volunteers to meet at the gate. **Geodes:** Jim Carter will help Gary clean the geode saw machine prior to the show. Gary purchased a new blade and saw oil. Pat and Jim Carter presented a wonderful canvas apron with the club logo to Gary for the geode workers.

Volunteer Organization: Terri gave an update on volunteers to date (most want to work at geodes) and emphasized she needs the volunteer sheet filled out.

Dealer Dinner: Pat Carter asked Angela to bring the volunteer forms and aluminum pans to the October general meeting since she will be out of town.

Grand door prize: Sue will donate a grand door prize.

Sidewalk sandwich board sign: Decided to keep our existing wooden signs since they will withstand strong winds.

T-shirts: Tom presented a final design which the team liked. Design will be on the front only to keep the cost down. Team decided on two colors for the T-shirts: purple tie-dye and black. Will order S, M, L, XL and XXL sizes for a total of 70 T-shirts. If kids express a desire for T-shirts we might order youth sizes next year.

Security: Mandie obtained a multi-year contract from Soteria Protection and Security Group. Angela will review and provide comments to Mandie.

This is our last show planning meeting.

Show Dealer Dinner (Thursday):

Pat Carter is coordinating this. Prepare a dish to bring or help with setting up the food and cleaning up. If you would like to help, please fill out the following signup sheet and give to Pat Carter at the club meeting or email it to her at pcarter32@sc.rr.com.

Dealer's Dinner Sign-up Sheet

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Comfort Food Theme

Comfort food is something we all crave from time to time. It is the type of food that warms our hearts and brings a sense of nostalgia. The feelings of nostalgia and the indulgence of rich flavors can release endorphins, providing us with a temporary boost in happiness and well-being. Our hope is to provide our dealers with a sense of familiarity

and happiness as we all prepare for our *56th CG&MS Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show*.

Below is a list of items that have already been promised. Please consider providing something else. For Questions Please Contact Pat Carter at 803-446-1266 or pcarter32@sc.rr.com

SIDE DISHES

NAME	DISH	CONTACT DETAILS
Patricia Stidom	Pasta Salad	803-671-3118
Patricia Stidom	Salad, Lettuce, Tomatoes, etc.	803-671-3118
Sue Shrader	Pasta Salad	803-261-9317

MAIN DISHES

NAME	DISH	CONTACT DETAILS
Pat Carter	Pork Loin Roast (6-8 roasts)	803-446-1266
Pat Carter	Spaghetti Bake (4 - 13x9 pans)	803-446-1266

DESSERTS

NAME	DISH	CONTACT DETAILS
Patricia Stidom	Blondies with & without Pecans	803-671-3118
Sue Shrader	Pound Cake	803-261-9317
Gart & Pat Hert	Mixed Berry Cobbler (2)	803-351-3332

DRINKS

NAME	DISH	CONTACT DETAILS
Patricia Stidom	Sweet Tea (2 gallons)	803-671-3118
Jim Cobb	Ice & Drinks	803-319-9887
Tom Cox	Ice & Drinks	

OTHERS

NAME	DISH	CONTACT DETAILS

Examples of Comfort Foods

Dealer's Dinner Thursday, November 21, 2024

Comfort Food Theme

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Contact Pat Carter for questions at 803-446-1266 or pcarter32@sc.rr.com

SIDE DISHES

Green Beans	Collard Greens	Pasta Salad
Green Bean Casserole	Corn	Seasoned Rice
Steamed Broccoli	Butter Beans	Vegetable Salad with Dressing
Broccoli Casserole	Hashbrown Casserole	Coleslaw
Broccoli Salad	Scalloped Potatoes	Baked Beans
Squash Casserole	Mashed Potatoes with Gravy	7 Layer Dip
Sweet Potato Dish	Potato Salad	Fresh Vegetables with Dip
Black-eyed Peas	Macaroni and Cheese	Waldorf Salad

MAIN DISHES

Chicken and Dumplings	Pork Roast	Barbeque Chicken
Chicken Pot Pie	Baked Ziti	Pepper Steak with Rice
Fried Chicken	Beef Stroganoff	Chicken Alfredo with Noodles
Meat Loaf	Swedish Meat Balls	Pork Chops
Lasagna	Macaroni and Ground Beef Casserole	Sloppy Joes with Buns
Spaghetti Bake	Ham	Pulled Barbeque Pork with Buns
Pot Roast	Quiche	Broccoli Chicken Divan
Tamale Pie	Pizza Casserole	

DESSERTS

Cakes	Brownies	Cup Cakes
Cobblers	Rice Krispies Treats	
Cinnamon Rolls	Fruit Salad	
Cookies	Fruit Pizza	
Pies	Pineapple Casserole	
Pudding	Jello	

DRINKS

Sweet Tea		
Un-Sweetened Tea		
Lemonade		
Soda		
Diet Soda		

OTHERS

Cornbread	Cinnamon Rolls	
Rolls	Muffins	
Biscuits	Banana Bread	
Deviled Eggs	Other Quick Breads	

Social media Helps our Club Stay Social!

CGMS website: 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. \(@cgms_rocks\)](https://www.instagram.com/cgms_rocks/)

Please like/follow our Facebook and Instagram pages and share posts to increase our reach on social media.

LAPIDARY WORKSHOP

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



Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show
 Jamil Temple
 206 Jamil Rd.
 Columbia, SC 29210

Nov. 22, 10:00 - 6:00
 Nov. 23, 10:00 - 6:00
 Nov. 24, 12:00 - 5:00

56th Annual 2024



Adults \$7.... Children 12 & Under Free
All Military & Dependents Free with ID

 Please Copy
 www.cgms.rocks
 803-736-9317

 **\$1.00 Off**

Columbia Gem & Mineral Society 2024
56th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show

Nov. 22, 10-6
 Nov. 23, 10-6
 Nov. 24, 12-5

Jamil Temple
 206 Jamil Rd.
 Columbia, SC 29016

\$7 12 & Under, Military Free
 With ID Card
 www.cgms.rocks



Photo by Sue Strider
 3 day pass \$12 **\$1.00 Off**

Non Profit Educational Organization

 803-736-9317 

Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show
 Jamil Temple
 206 Jamil Rd.
 Columbia, SC 29210

Nov. 22, 10:00 - 6:00
 Nov. 23, 10:00 - 6:00
 Nov. 24, 12:00 - 5:00

56th Annual 2024



Adults \$7.... Children 12 & Under Free
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 Please Copy
 www.cgms.rocks
 803-736-9317

 **\$1.00 Off**

Columbia Gem & Mineral Society 2024
56th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show

Nov. 22, 10-6
 Nov. 23, 10-6
 Nov. 24, 12-5

Jamil Temple
 206 Jamil Rd.
 Columbia, SC 29016

\$7 12 & Under, Military Free
 With ID Card
 www.cgms.rocks



Photo by Sue Strider
 3 day pass \$12 **\$1.00 Off**

Non Profit Educational Organization

 803-736-9317 

Cayce Historical Museum

1800 12th Street
Cayce, S.C. 29033
Phone: 803.739.5385

<https://caycesc.gov/museum.php>

Due to Hurricane Helene some of these events have been rescheduled.
Parts of the trails are blocked with trees, sand, and debris.
Check with the museum to find out the updates on these events.



12,000 Year History Park: Fall 2024 Tours

September 7: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 10:00 AM
September 8: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 2:00 PM
September 14: Native American Lifeways Tour, 10:00 AM
September 21: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM
September 29: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour: 2:00 PM

October 5: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 1:00 PM
October 6: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 2:00PM
October 12: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM
October 13: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM
October 19: Native American Lifeways Tour, 10:00 AM
October 26: **Archaeology Fall Field Day (10:00 AM-3:00 PM)**
Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour 1:00 PM

November 2: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 1:00 PM
November 3 : Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 2:00PM
November 9: **"Through the Eyes of the First Carolinians": Columbia Audubon Society Bird Walk Tour, 9:00 AM**
November 10: Colonial Congaree Fort I Tour, 1:00 PM
November 16: Native American Lifeways Tour, 10:00 AM
November 23: Civil War Battle of Congaree Creek Tour, 2:00 PM

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

For updates, visit the website at cayce12000years.com or follow us Facebook!
(803)-739-5385.

[South Carolina State Museum](http://scmuseum.org/events/upcoming-events/)
<http://scmuseum.org/events/upcoming-events/>

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

Áróra

Explore the beauty of the Northern Lights in the digital dome planetarium experience, "Áróra!" This immersive cinematic journey takes guests across remote Icelandic landscapes and into space to find and understand these mystical, eerie lights.

During this award-winning show created by some of Iceland's best-known scientists, writers, photographers, and musicians, you will not only witness the beauty of the aurora above Earth, but also explore how these stunning displays of colors have also been seen on other planets and moons throughout our galaxy.

If you were lucky enough to see the aurora here in SC recently, the return of this show creates a special chance to revisit that experience and explore the origins of the Northern Lights! "Áróra" also highlights how various communities across the world have tried to make sense of the Northern Lights by incorporating them into their folktales and mythology. This season, guests can join the dance of these mystical lights over the cold winter skies of Iceland from the comfort of the State Museum.

Habitat Earth

Frances McDormand narrates this full dome planetarium show. 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.

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.

[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

McKissick Museum Events

<https://www.facebook.com/mckissickmuseum/>
www.sc.edu/mckissickmuseum

<https://www.facebook.com/mckissickmuseum/>

Layers of Legacy: Exploring Daily Life and Colonialism in Cameroon

Layers of Legacy: Exploring Daily Life and Colonialism in Cameroon investigates the art and culture of the Grass fields of northwestern Cameroon, a country of rich resources exploited by European agents of the transatlantic slave trade and colonizers from the late 1400s until the 1960s. This collection features objects ranging from household items to ritual masks that inspire contemplation of their purpose and the intersection of art with everyday life. Layers of Legacy also encourages reflection on our responsibility as viewers, urging us to consider the circumstances surrounding the objects' acquisition and the ethical implications of our engagement with them.

Exhibit will show from August 17-December 14, 2024

Congaree National Park

100 National Park Road

Hopkins, SC 29061, ph# 803 776-4396; <https://www.nps.gov/cong/planyourvisit/conditions.htm>

Congaree National Park is a 26,692.6-acre American national park in central South Carolina, 18 miles southeast of the state capital, Columbia. The park preserves the largest tract of old growth bottomland hardwood forest left in the United States.

Lunch and Learn: The last Friday of the month, 12:30 to 1:30 pm

Contact Carson Lillard at carson_lillard@nps.com to be placed on the “Lunch and Learn” notification list.



News Worth Digging Up

“Fossil Finds - Placoderms”

By Joseph J. “PaleoJoe” Kchodl
November 7, 2024, in Rock & Gem Magazine

In a presentation I gave to the club this year, I talked about the evolution of fish on planet earth. One group of now extinct fish I discussed was the Placoderms, the armor-plated fishes, which were common during the Devonian. For fossil collectors, these are some of the oldest fish fossils that can be collected because their hard dermal plates lend themselves to fossilization. In the latest issue of Rock & Gem is an article on Placoderms.

The author offers a great synopsis on placoderms and their fossils. These fish had hard plates on their head section and the part of the thorax just behind the head. They also sported large flat bony plates. Since soft tissue generally does not fossilize, these plates are usually the only evidence we are able to find. Placoderms were a group of fish that had jaws but no teeth. Instead, they had “tooth-like” structures that extended down to the mouth, a continuation of the bony plates of the head. There was a great diversity in size and shape between the species.

Placoderms numbered around 400 different species and occupied fresh and saltwater environments. One of the largest placoderms was the Dunkleosteus which could grow to a length of 33 feet. Dunkleosteus was believed to be the largest predator during the Devonian. Fossils of this creature can be found in the shales near Cleveland, Ohio. One of the smallest was Bothriolepis which was only four inches at the widest part of the skullcap.

To learn more about placoderms and fossil occurrences read: [Fossil Finds – Placoderms | Rock & Gem Magazine](#)



Dunkleosteus mural in the Royal Ontario Museum

CGMS Field Trip to Graves Mountain
Lincoln, Georgia January 11th, 8am till 4 pm

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society will have a fieldtrip to Graves Mountain on January 11, 2025. 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 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.

Children under the age of 12 years old are not allowed on the mountain because of potential dangers involved. 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 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 Lincoln, 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, Lincoln, Georgia, 706-359-6161

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

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



Rutile twin & Lazulite crystal collected & photographed by Ron Ahle

AREA SHOWS

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

The Columbia, SC Gem & Mineral Society will hold its 56th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show on November 22-24, 2024.

Friday and Saturday 10:00 - 6:00; Sunday 12:00 - 5:00.

\$7.00 for adults, 3-day pass \$14.00, 12 & under free. All military & their dependents free with ID Card

www.cgms.rocks

CGMS 56th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show 2024

Fri. Nov. 22, 10:00 - 6:00

Sat. Nov. 23, 10:00 - 6:00

Sun. Nov. 24, 12:00 - 5:00

Jamil Temple

206 Jamil Rd.

Columbia, SC 29210

Exit 106 off I-26

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

\$7.00 for adults, 3-day pass- \$14; Twelve & under free with adult.

All military & their dependents free with ID Card



Grand Door Prize (donated by Sue Shrader)

December 8—DULUTH, GEORGIA: Annual show; Bellpoint Gem Show; Gas South Convention Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy; mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointpromotions.com

November 29-December 1, 2024—SALEM, VIRGINIA: Annual show; Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society; Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard; Email: info@rvmgs.org; Website: rvmgs.org

December 6-7, 2024—HUDSON, FLORIDA: Annual show; Withlacoochee Rockhounds; Veterans Memorial Park, 14333 Hicks Road; (813) 677-6263; Email: jfwojcik@verizon.net; Website: ithlacoocheerockhounds.com

December 6-8, 2024—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 6-8, 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. 10-4; 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 Club is selling T-shirts at the show this year!](#)



Meteorites

<https://www.amsmeteors.org/category/>

Orionids September 26th, 2024, to November 22nd, 2024
Next Peak night **Oct 20-21, 2024**

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. In exceptional years, such as 2006-2009, the peak rates were on par with the Perseids (50-75 per hour). Recent displays have produced low to average displays of this shower. In 2024, a waning gibbous moon will rise during the late evening hours and will severely hamper views of this display.

Southern Taurids September 23rd, 2024, to December 8th, 2024
Next Peak night **Nov 4-5, 2024**

The Southern Taurids are a long-lasting shower that several peaks during its activity period. The shower is active for more than two months but rarely produces more than five shower members per hour, even at maximum activity. The Taurids (both branches) are rich in fireballs and are often responsible for increased number of fireball reports from September through November.

Northern Taurids
Next period of activity: October 13th, 2024, to December 2nd, 2024
Next Peak night Nov **11-12, 2024**

This shower is much like the Southern Taurids, just active a bit later in the year. When the two showers are active simultaneously in late October and early November, there is sometimes a notable increase in the fireball activity.

Leonids
Next period of activity: November 3rd, 2024, to December 2nd, 2024
Next Peak night Nov **16-17, 2024**

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..... Sophie Grimsley.....

COMMITTEES

Membership Sheila Frame.....
 Auctioneer..... Ron Ahle.....
 Club Liaison..... Jim Cobb.....
 Faceting Guild..... open.....
 Facebook..... Sue Shrader
 Field Trip..... Casey Tyler.....
 Historian.....Angela Valvasori
 Librarian.....Sheila Frame.....
 Newsletter Editor..... Ron Ahle.....
 Program..... Sue Shrader.....
 Show..... Angela Valvasori
 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**