

THE HOUND'S HOWL

AIKEN GEM, MINERAL and FOSSIL SOCIETY
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA



VOLUME 50, No. 1

JANUARY 2012

The 50th Anniversary Year

From the Prez...



It's the midwinter hush, that interval after frenetic holidays when we review the previous year and resolve to do better during the months ahead. Some are taking stock of their annual rockhounding stash, organizing and enhancing the best specimens and

tossing the "leaverites" into the garden or into a bag of small goodies for the kid's Treasure Dig. Others are thinking about the gorgeous case they want to design and present at our annual March GMF Show. And still others are helping to pull together the details of upcoming events for our Club.

Sign-up sheets will be passed around for different volunteer tasks at our March Show, from set up, to front desk, membership table, demonstrating a lapidary skill, Kid's Treasure Dig, geode cracking, kitchen, and tear down. A few slots are open for a member to bring snacks for a meeting. Be sure to bring your own list of program ideas, especially if you have a person/expert in mind who can present information about the topic. What skills would you like to learn? We'll find an instructor and assemble a class. Where would you like to go for a Saturday dig?

It's certain that we'll all be laughing at this month's program. After the business portion of the meeting and enjoying snacks, it's our annual Rockhound Jeopardy Game! General knowledge about gems, minerals, fossils, and digs will come in handy as Walt Kubilius asks questions ranging in difficulty from 10 to 40 points. (Personally, I rarely know the correct answer. It's just a blast to be together and watch the mental wheels spin as folks confidently respond with the correct answer or try to buffalo through with the wrong one.) Teasing and applause both rule this night. Thanks go out to Margaret Ritter, Walt and Barbara Fenstermacher who all prepared the questions.

See you on Friday, our lucky January 13!

Shellie Newell

January 14 Program

Rockhound "Jeopardy"

Our 8th game event, revised this year.
Entertaining emcees and not to fear.
Luck of the draw – 10 to 40 points gain.
Hint: Read the newsletters,
the greatest score you may obtain!

See you on Friday and don't forget to bring the kids (and there are prizes, too).☐

February 10 Program

Putting in a Display

The annual Show is scheduled on March 9-11 and time is running out to decide on a display theme and how to execute it. Gayla DeBose, Show Exhibit Chair and Herman Kunis, Show Chairman, are going to give some pointers on putting together an exhibit starting with the theme, lining of the case, choice of specimens, layout, labels and auxiliary text.

You will learn the effort is minimal and the satisfaction is great as others appreciate your collection and how much you value it.☐

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Member News

- Conrad Hamilton – 1st
- Michael Potvin – 2nd
- Jessie Donnan – 5th
- Marla Scott – 5th
- Tonya Huffman – 7th
- Karin Willoughby – 7th
- James Jewett – 13th
- Anne Lattimore – 13th
- Glenn Williams – 13th
- Jenna Potvin – 17th
- Susan Dyer Blas – 18th
- Shellie Newell – 18th
- Ed Cunningham – 23rd
- Wayne Parker – 25th



Holiday Dinner a Success

Members were looking forward to the special meal and evening activities for some had brought their side dish and were already seated before 6 p.m.

The business meeting led by Jim Jewett was nice and short, officers were elected, and all got right down to tasting all that was offered. Thanks again to Herman for the succulent ham only he knows how to prepare.

On to the Pirate Exchange: folks really liked the rock tumbler and the canvas rock bag; they seemed to travel all over the room. Many other nice gifts were received and the evening was enjoyed by all. ▣



Happy Anniversary

Conrad & Barbara Hamilton – 1st



Gratitude

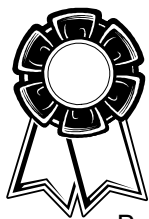
On behalf of my entire family, I thank you for your sweet thoughts and prayers for my Mother, Mickie Newell, who passed away on December 24. It was lovely and touching to see those of you who were able to come to the visitation in her honor. Mom always was interested in what we were doing, whether it was checking out a few specimens found on a dig, listening to what I had learned after a Club meeting, or seeing what was wire wrapped or glass fused after a class. She loved having folks come to the house to assemble Grab Bag materials and lapidary classes. I certainly treasure the friendships we in the Aiken GMF Society have built together and look forward to many more happy times in the future.

Shellie



Photos by John Blas
View more photos on www.aikengmfs.org.





Greetings, Rockhounds!

By Gayla DeBose, Exhibits Chair

Each year your exhibits have been better and I am very much looking forward to seeing what you display this year.

Because one of the pleasures of our hobby is sharing what we know and what we have, displaying our craftsmanship and collections is one of the many ways we share. This year, the friendly competitive exhibiting will continue to be one of the avenues by which we improve the quality of the displays, the quality of our show, and better education of the public.

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) has posted an internet version of the Uniform Rules for Exhibits at the following site:

www.amfed.org/rules/AFMS_Rules_2010.pdf. The following rules have been extracted from that 103-page document.

The categories being judged in 2012 remain the same and are: 1) Minerals and Fossils, 2) Lapidary Arts, and 3) Juniors. Of course you may choose not to compete; therefore a "People's Choice" (voted by public) will also be awarded. Perhaps, in the future, club members may choose to compete on a local, regional, or national level and therefore would be governed by the AFMS rules found at the above mentioned website. For now, we will continue to use the rules to guide our judging points' definitions.

The categories, judging points, and definitions are as follows:

Minerals and Fossils

10 pts--LABELING *

Minerals: Name of the mineral species; name of its chemical classification; the locality of origin.

Fossils: The common name; the period; and the locality of origin.

10 pts—SHOWMANSHIP**

50 pts --QUALITY

Minerals: Refers to the condition, the size, and the arrangement of crystals; clarity; freedom from excess foreign material.

Fossils: Refers to the perfection of the life forms as shown in the fossil state; freedom from excess foreign material; skill in preparation.

15 pts--SPECIMEN PREPARATION

Minerals: Refers to the freedom from excess material and skill in preparation of the specimens.

OR

15 pts—RARITY—Fossils: The Specimen is considered rare if the particular genus or species is seldom found in that locality or formation.

15 pts—EDUCATIONAL VALUE***

Lapidary Arts

10 pts—LABELING*

Name of the material(s) used; locality of origin; common name if fossils are used.

50 pts—WORKMANSHIP

Refers to shaping, symmetry, and polish of the material; and in the case of Jewelry or other Art Metalcraft,

it includes the finish of the metal and precision of setting stones.

15 pts—DESIGN

Refers to originality, using old ideas and styles as well as new ideas and uniqueness; to balance; and to practicality if intended to be worn.

10 pts—SHOWMANSHIP**

15 pts—EDUCATIONAL VALUE***

Juniors

15 pts—LABELING*

25 pts-- SHOWMANSHIP**

50 pts-- EDUCATIONAL VALUE***

In addition to the standard definition, you should define your audience and design your case with a stated theme and with an accurate and organized presentation.

10 pts—ORIGINALITY/APPROACH

The uniqueness and freshness of the educational view presented, and the use of original, rather than copied, material.

*LABELING: The use of numbers with corresponding lists is not acceptable and will receive NO labeling points.

Use a card stock or other heavy paper that will not curl under the lights. Folded stand-up labels are fine. You may choose to mount the label in another manner but the mounting will not be judged.

**SHOWMANSHIP: The ability to use the material exhibited, the background material, lighting, arrangement, and labeling features to create a display which will attract and hold the interest of the viewer.

***EDUCATIONAL VALUE: The clarity and effectiveness of any additional information to make the exhibit more interesting and educational.



► First, second, and third place ribbons will be awarded in each category. The overall highest score will receive the "Best in Show" trophy. You may pick up your score card from the front desk after the judging. All competitive awards will be mounted on or placed inside the display cases by noon on Friday. The public will also be voting for their favorite. All exhibitors are eligible; you are not required to compete to be the recipient of the "People's Choice" trophy which will be announced at noon on Sunday. ▣

Needed: Treasure Dig Material

The kids' Treasure Dig for the March show is in need of donated material.

1. Items 1-inch maximum size; half-inch size is best
2. Lots of 50 or more of the same thing

Example items:

fossil shells/coral; malachite or other green/blue copper minerals; pyrite; desert roses (barite or gypsum roses); tumbled stones – clear quartz, carnelian, amethyst, jasper; shark teeth; quartz points; devil's dice (limonite); and calcite.

Please bring donations to the January or February meetings, or contact Walt Kubilius at 803-643-3281 or wkkw@bellsouth.net. ▣

2012 Show Meeting Thursday, January 19 @ 7 p.m.

**Georgia Radiation Therapy Center
821 St. Sebastian Way
(across from University Hospital ER)**

Show Chair. Herman Kunis, 706.855-7357
<hkunis@yahoo.com>
Publicity OPEN
<aa.gmfs@earthlink.net>
Front Desk. Kathleen Wallis, 803.643-3281
<wkkw@bellsouth.net>
Treasurer. Wayne Parker, 706.863-9171
Security/Grab Bags. . . Chris Glass, 803.278-5878
<cglassfossil@yahoo.com>
Geodes. Chris & Robert Glass
Treasure Dig. Walt Kubilius, 803.643-3281
<wkkw@bellsouth.net>
Exhibits Gayla DeBose 706.860-4684
<klaviergrd@comcast.net>
Demonstrators. Ken Kipnis, 706.869-8424
Dealers Maurine Resch, 706.592-7576
Dealer Dinner. Jane Waldrop, 706.869-8273
Set up/Take Down. . . . Tim Steeper, 803.663-3070
<janetsteeper@hotmail.com>

Shows

January 2012

13-15—Largo, Fla.: Pinellas Geological Society; Largo Cultural Center

28-29—Panama City, Fla.:

Panama City Gem & Mineral Society; Bay County Fairgrounds; e-mail: mojo3002@comcast.net

January 2012-February 2012

26-12—Tucson: www.22ndstreetshow.com and www.mzexpos.com

February 2012

11-12—Merritt Island, Fla.: Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club; Kiwanis Island Park

25—Lakeland, Fla.: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Soc.; 1st Presbyterian Church of Lakeland: www.bonevalley.net

25-26—Jackson, Miss.: Mississippi Gem & Mineral Soc.; Trade Mart; Web site: Missgem.org ▣

Georgia State Parks

Backcountry Geology Hike

Sunday, Jan 22, 2012 1-4 p.m.

Sweetwater Creek State Park - Lithia Springs, GA

Geologist and Friends member John Johnston will lead a moderate three-mile hike identifying rock types and explaining how they formed. Explore the beautiful Jack's Branch area and the seldom visited rock quarry of New Manchester. Meet in the Interpretive Center. \$5 plus \$5 parking. 770-732-5871. <http://gastateparks.org/events/> ▣



**Earth from Space
Now through April 22**

An exhibit created by the Smithsonian Institution, showcases eighteen amazing high-resolution satellite images of Earth, its weather, and its natural and manmade features.

I-75 Exit 293, Cartersville, Georgia (770)606-5700
<http://tellusmuseum.org/index.htm> ▣

Fernbank Museum of Natural History

Now showing in **IMAX** :

Born to be Wild

Opens January 2, 2012 Meet the extraordinary people who rescue orphaned orangutans and elephants—saving endangered species one life at a time in the lush rainforests of Borneo and the rugged savannah of Kenya.

The Greatest Places

Opens January 2, 2012 Take an educational journey to seven of the most geographically dynamic locations on Earth. Featuring spectacular land forms, diverse wildlife and the people and cultures indigenous to these places, the film takes you to seven distinct geographic locations

76 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA (404)929-6300
<http://www.fernbankmuseum.org/>

2012 EFMLS Wildacres Sessions



Information about the Workshops is now in the January *EFMLS News* and on <www.AMFED.org/EFMLS/Wildacres.htm>. You can also download an application form or fill in directly on your computer before printing.

Spring Dates: April 10-15, 2012
Fall Dates: September 3-9, 20112

(Applications and class schedules will be sent by email and also are available at the Club meeting.)



SFMS Wildacres/William Holland Workshops

Wildacres: August 20-26, 2012
September 10-16, 2012

William Holland: June 10-16, 2012
October 7-13, 2012

Applications and class schedules will be published in the January *Lodestar*; they will be sent to members by email and are also available at the Club meeting.

Youth Scholarships for 2012 SFMS Workshops

Please encourage your juniors to apply for the youth scholarships using the criteria below.

- President of the sponsoring adult club submits the junior's name with an explanation of the club's qualifications considered in recommending this youth.

- Youth submits a short essay explaining his or her interest in the hobby and reason for wanting to attend a workshop.

- Deadline for applying for the scholarship is **March 31, 2012**. Send recommendations to:
 SFMS Youth Resources
 Contact: President Jason Hamilton,
jasons.designs@comcast.net

When attending the SFMS workshop, permission must be obtained from the workshop director and the class teacher. Usually, this is not a problem.

A responsible adult must accompany the youth to the workshop.

Following the SFMS workshop, the scholarship recipient is encouraged to write a *Lodestar* article about the experience.

Don't let your junior rockhound miss out!

Burgin Quartz Mine Norwood, N.C.



February 25, 2011
9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

An Official DMC Field Trip of The Western South Carolina Gem & Mineral Soc. (Host) and Aiken GMFS

Cost: \$10.00 per person; you must sign a release.

What to find: Quartz crystals, often clear and sometimes huge up to 4 inches across and a few inches long. The crystals are found in vugs in a very large milky quartz outcropping, though some crystals can be found by digging through the spoil piles previously dug out by a backhoe. To get the big ones, you need to do some hard rock mining using sledge hammers, and chisels to break apart the massive quartz to expose new vugs. I picked this site, because it has only recently been opened up, its potential has not been fully explored, and the DMC has never been there.

Lodging: hotels a few miles north in Albemarle, N.C.

What to bring: Sledge hammers, chisels, rock hammers, safety glasses, gloves, dirt sifting tools, buckets, newspaper to wrap specimens, drink and food. (Subway and Bojangles are only a couple of miles away if you prefer to eat out.)

Directions: The address is 40764 Old Cottonville Rd., Norwood, NC. Use MapQuest or GPS for exact directions from the area you are coming from. Norwood is due east of Charlotte, NC. I travel on Route 52 just south of Albemarle. Turn right (heading south) on Route 52 and follow it to the Subway on the right just inside the Norwood town limits. Turn right and then turn right again on the other side of Subway on S. Stanly School Rd. Follow it to the Old Cottonville Road on the left and turn left there. Drive under the railroad trestle and turn left onto a dirt lane. Follow the lane over a low ridge and watch for the digging area on the right. There is plenty of parking.

For further information call Bill Wetzel at 864-306-6749. Brandt Wetzel's Cell 864-404-0001



Read about the M.A.G.M.A. finds at Burgin Quartz Mine on December 9-11, 2011.

<http://www.wncrocks.com/magma/burgin12-11-1.html>

January 8 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board met at Fire Mountain restaurant in N. Augusta for dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the business meeting. Those present were Shellie Newell, Gayla DeBose, Herman Kunis, Kathleen Wallis, Walt Kubilius, Patti Bennett and Barbara Fenstermacher.

Budget: Kathleen presented an accounting of the income and expenditures for 2011. An estimated budget for this year was discussed: USCA scholarship pledge \$1000; stipend for out-of-town program presenters; compensation to instructors for materials used in lapidary classes; partial payment of a fee dig for members; newsletter and education expenses. A copy of the proposed budget will be posted as income materializes and expenditures can be finalized.

Programs: Walt is working on the schedule.

Field Trips/Social Activities/Member Recognition: Summer excursion to Tellus combined with a show near Cartersville; Club dig to Diamond Hill (Antreville); Summer Picnic; Dinner at a restaurant; Lapidary classes; Lapidary/Specimen-of-the-Month.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Fenstermacher, Acting Secretary

Rock 'n READ



Rocks&Minerals magazine, November/December issue, pulled out all the stops both for content and presentation keying into the lead article "Morocco, Tea and Minerals" continuing with "A journey to the Exotic Locale of Khai Trung Vietnam for Tourmaline" and, last but not

least, "Minerals of the Beekmantown Group, Southeastern Ontario, Southern Quebec and Northwestern New York.

If the reader needs more of the field trip rush, "From Field Trips to Fireworks, First International Mindat.org Conference, 10-17 July 2011" relates the activities and festivities of 105 mineral enthusiasts in the small town of Lwówek Śląski in southwestern Poland. The largest outdoor gem and mineral show in Poland, Crystal Days Festival, is the big draw including field trips, conferences, talks, workshops and more.

Candle-burning Tips (apropos for the season)

❏ A candle will burn more slowly and evenly if it is refrigerated before using. First, wrap the candle in plastic or foil to prevent wicks from absorbing moisture.

❏ Glass votive holders will clean easily if you add 1/8" water to cover the bottom of the holder before inserting the candle. Extinguish within 2 inches of the holder.
-- from www.thecandlestick.com

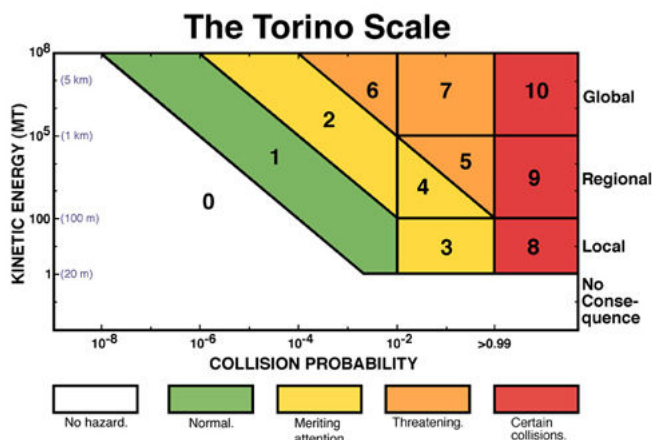
Rock Swap Request

Hi- I'm with the Spring River Gem & Mineral Club in Cherokee Village, Arkansas.

We would like to do a rock swap with your club, of mineral and/or fossil specimens. We do this with the flat rate USPS box of app \$11 (senior moment-- I forget exactly how much). We exchange a minimum of 10 #, with each specimen identified and wrapped individually. No leaverites, please, just reasonable specimens.

I hope you respond to this email, either yea or nay.
Mary Kocz, SRGMC

This email was received by Shellie N. on January 6; many clubs have initiated swapping specimens and have found it a satisfying means of receiving new material from other areas of the country. If you are interested in contacting Mary, her email is cty31470@yahoo.com.



The Torino Scale is used to categorize the potential of an asteroid or comet impacting the Earth during the 21st century. The scale begins at 0, No Hazard (White Zone) and increases to 10, Certain Collisions (Red Zone) resulting in a global climatic catastrophe occurring on an average once per 100,000 years or less often.

Source: <http://impact.arc.nasa.gov/torino.cfm#pro>
Copyright (c) 1999, 2004 Richard P. Binzel, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce Torino Scale figures and text for educational and news reporting purposes.

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

Cutting molds is easier and more precise with a sharp blade. A new Xacto blade is sufficient for cutting RTV molds but is usually not sharp enough for vulcanized rubber. For that it's best to use scalpel blades available from most jewelry supply companies. The #11 blade is triangle shaped, and the #12 is hawksbill shaped. I find the hawksbill is particularly nice for cutting the registration keys of the mold.

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/)

“Q is for Quartz”

This versatile mineral has been used in everything from ceremonial rattles to sonar transducers to quartz watches.

By Bill Langer

Quartz (kwôrts) noun – Intensely frozen ice (Gaius Plinius Secundus, 77 A.D.)

Back when our daughter, Kimberly, was a tyke (she now has tykes of her own), she, my wife, Pam, and I did a lot of camping. One afternoon, while wandering through one of our national parks, Kimberly picked up a couple hunks of quartz and said, “Aren’t these pretty?” When I asked her why she chose those rocks, she replied, “Because they look like ice!”

Kimberly was not alone in thinking that quartz looks like ice. Roman naturalist Plinius Secundus (Pliny the Elder) called quartz ‘rock crystal’ and said it ‘is formed of moisture from the sky falling as pure snow...it is hardened by excessively intense freezing...and that it is a kind of ice is certain’ (Naturalis Historia, 77 A.D., Liber XXXVII, Capitulum 23, 26).

As time passed, people learned a bit more about rocks. In 1556, Georgius Agricola published *De Re Metallic*, a book about mining practices and minerals. Agricola referred to quartz as an ‘unusual stone’ and attributed its origin to ‘stone juice’ that flowed through the country rock and hardened into a mineral.

Unusual stone, indeed. You might recognize the name Pierre Curie as the man who, together with his wife, Marie, received the Nobel Prize for their work on radioactivity. But during 1880, before Pierre had even met Marie, he and his brother, Jacques, made a remarkable discovery showing just how unusual quartz is. They noticed that when the shape of a quartz crystal was altered by pressure, an electrical charge was emitted from the mineral. They also demonstrated that, conversely, if an electrical charge was applied to a quartz crystal, the crystal would change shape or vibrate. This phenomenon became known as ‘piezoelectricity’ (from the Greek *piezen*, to press tight).

The piezoelectric properties of quartz ultimately led to its use in a variety of applications with one of the first being sonar transducers, which were used during World War I to locate submarines. Today, one very common use is in quartz watches. In that application, a tiny piece of quartz crystal, cut in the shape of a tuning fork, receives an electrical charge from the watch battery or storage cell. The electricity makes the quartz vibrate (or oscillate) at the rate of 32,768 times per second. As the quartz oscillates, it generates electrical pulses at the same rate of 32,768 per second. The pulses are sent to an integrated circuit that counts the pulses and sends out a single electrical pulse each time the count hits 32,768. The one-second pulses activate digital displays

or run a stepping motor that drives a chain of gears and the watch hands.



Quartz has one other intriguing property. When you strike a quartz crystal, or rub two crystals together, they generate light. The Uncompahgre Ute from central Colorado recognized this phenomenon. They filled ceremonial rattles made from translucent buffalo rawhide with clear quartz crystals, and when the rattles were shaken during nighttime ceremonies, the stress of the quartz crystals impacting one another produced flashes of light visible through the buffalo hide.

Kimberly, Pam, and I took the ice rocks Kimberly found back to our tent, and, after dark, we rubbed them together. Unbeknownst to us, the light we (and the Utes) witnessed was due to yet another property of quartz — ‘triboluminescence’ (from the Greek *tribein*, to rub, and the Latin *lumen*, light). When quartz is struck (as in a rattle) or rubbed together, a discharge in energy is created by a change in electron excitement level associated with the breaking of the silicon-oxygen bonds. Wow! And we thought it was just a cool light show.

*Bill Langer is a geologist with the Mineral Resources Team of the U.S. Geological Survey. This article is one in the series “Carved in Stone” published in the May 2011 issue of **Aggregates Manager** magazine. Permission was given by the author and the magazine to reprint the article in *The Hound’s Howl*. ■*

Dues are Due in January

**Family membership is \$20
and Single is \$15.**

An application is on p. 9.

**Bring cancelled stamps to the meeting.
Sarah Jolley is the chair person, 645-9608.**

Contribute some nice specimens for door prizes.





Welcome to **SomeTimes** the newsletter published by **Ultratec** for gem cutters. In addition to links to interesting websites and useful gem design and software, keynote articles can be downloaded as well as the program **The Gem Weight Estimator**.

<http://www.ultratec-facet.com/Sometimes/somearch.htm>

--seen in *Rockhounder*, January 2012



<http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugfakes.html>

This portion of **The-Vug** website – Fakes, Forgeries and Misrepresentations – provides a list of scams, fakes, etc. that appear in the market. Twenty nine “fakes” are noted from aluminum to zircon.

To find out more about recent fake minerals currently on eBay and the internet, a new **Fake Minerals Blog** can be checked on the site.

BE SAFE – BE WELL

By Don Monroe - Safety Committee

Gems Are Where You Find Them

We all like to attend gem shows and go on field trips. We always hope that we are going to find a treasure or, at least, something that will fit into our hobby. Many of us definitely carefully examine the material for sale at club meetings and at lapidary schools where there are many items from other locales.

I hear so many stories from fellow Rockhounds about —good stuff that shows up in strange places. I believe these stories because I have seen some of the finds and even made a couple myself.

A couple of years ago I was crossing the parking lot at William Holland Lapidary School and found a really nice piece of opal rough in the gravel. I do not know how it got there but I am reasonably sure that it originally came from Australia and was accidentally dropped between the classroom building and the campground. Vehicle traffic had scratched it up a bit but it was still very usable. I made a lot of inquiries but was never able to find the former owner.

About ten years ago I was digging up my mother's flower bed for her. Now this happened at our family farm in Bartow County Georgia in an area where I have found Civil War artifacts and, on rare occasions, a few

local minerals such as barite, quartz and hematite. But I found a really nice sapphire crystal of the type that we find in North Carolina but about 150 miles south of where we usually find such gems. I inquired of many local experts and have not found a clue of how that stone wound up in our yard.

I know you are thinking that I am lucky or some sort of expert but that is not the case. About 6 years ago we had a family taking classes at our school and they had two young teenage boys. The boys spent a lot of time exploring our mountains and one day they came in with a small bag of beryl crystals of unusual quality. They never revealed where they found the stones. I think it shows that stones and gems are everywhere and we just have to look for them. Many of our safety articles tell about bad things that happen to good people. This article tells about good things that can hap-pen to good people.

--From the June 2011 issue of *The Mountain Gem*



by Erston Barnhart, Central Pennsylvania RMC

Motto-A-Day

- ◆ A little experience often upsets a lot of theory.
- ◆ It takes a baby approximately two years to learn to talk and between sixty and seventy years to learn when to keep his mouth shut.
- ◆ Success is a journey, not a destination.
- ◆ The right kind of criticism will leave a person with the idea that he has been helped.
- ◆ There is a very fine line between “hobby” and “mental illness.”



Rockhound Jeopardy

January 13

Room 200, Science Building, USC-Aiken
Business Meeting at 7 p.m.

Refreshments: Jim and Joan Jewett

2012	Refreshments/ Program
January 13	<u>J. Jewett / Jeopardy</u>
February 10	<u>Sara Padgett/ How to Make a Display</u>
March 16 (alternate date)	_____ / _____
April 13	<u>C. Glass /</u>
May 11	<u>J. Poole & C. Dunbar/ Silent Auction</u>
June 8	<u>Kathleen & Walt /</u>
July/August	Summer Excursion
September 14	<u>C. Glass /</u>
October 12	<u>Gayla DeBose / Kim Cochran</u>
November 9	<u>John Blas /Silent Auction</u>
December 14 @ 6:00	Holiday Dinner Meeting Election/Gift Exchange

2012 AGMFS Officers and Committees

President: Shellie Newell (803) 663-7752
 Vice President: Walt Kubilius (803) 643-3281
 Secretary: Julia Poole (803)341-9728
 Treasurer: Kathleen Wallis (803) 643-3281
 Editor: Barbara Fenstermacher (803) 649-0959
 < Bfenster2@bellsouth.net >
 118 Ashwood Drive, Aiken, SC 29801-5154
 Field Trip/DMC Liaison: OPEN
 Stamp Chairman: Sarah Jolley (803) 645-9608
 Librarian: Open
 Webmaster: Patti Bennett
 Federation & USCA Liaison: B. Fenstermacher

The Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society 2012 Membership Application

Current Date _____ Please check one: New Renewal

Name _____ DOB (mo/da)_____ Spouses Name:_____ DOB_____

Address _____

Email Address:_____ DO Anniversary_____

Children's Names (those active in club only) and DOB _____

Home Phone:_____ Work Phone:_____ Cell phone:_____

I give my consent to the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society (AGMFS) to use my name and likeness for publicity purposes and to promote Society activities. Check one: Yes No

Please check one type of membership and newsletter preference.

Dues Family \$20 Dues Single \$15 Dues Student \$2 grade/school

Email (free to all members) Snail mail (additional \$10/address/year for postage/handling)

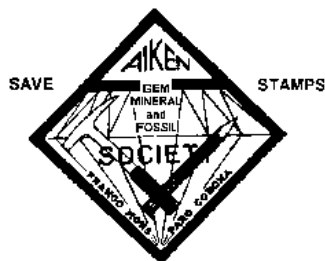
Make check payable to: Aiken Gem and Mineral Society

Mail to: Kathleen Wallis, AFMFS Treasurer
1142 Ridgemont Drive
Aiken, SC 29803

Treasurer's Use
cash _____ check # _____
Amt: _____ Date: _____

The Hound's Howl
Aiken, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
P.O. Box 267
Aiken, SC 29802-0267

50th Anniversary Year



FIRST CLASS MAIL

January 2012

Program:

"Rockhound Jeopardy" Game

Meeting date: January 13, 7:00 p.m.
USC-Aiken Science Building, Room 200



The Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society operates as a non-profit, educational organization affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc., and the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

The purpose of the Society is to stimulate interest in collection of gem and mineral materials and fossils and to impart knowledge of lapidary work, mineralogy, paleontology, collecting and classification of minerals and fossils, and the application in the art so greater pleasure may be derived from these activities.

The Society meets at 7:00 p.m., second Friday of the month, in Room 200 of the USC-Aiken Science Building located in the university complex on University Parkway in Aiken. There are no regular meetings in July and August. The annual dues, payable by December 31, are \$20 for a family membership, \$15 for a single adult membership and \$2 for a student member. An emailed issue of *The Hound's Howl* is sent to the members free of charge.

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The Society's web page, www.aikengmfs.org gives more information about the history of the club, the annual show, field trips, and community projects.

