



# STAR-O-LITE

Augusta Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

Volume 47 No 12 December, 2011

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#### Field Trip Coordinator

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#### Refreshment

Coordinator  
Liz Wylde  
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The Augusta Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. meets at 7:30 PM the third Friday of every month at the Georgia Military College Annex located at 3836 Washington Rd, Suite 10, Martinez, GA. Visitors are welcome! Annual dues are \$20 for a family membership, \$15 for singles, and \$1 for junior members ages 8 to 18.

Newsletter article submissions should be emailed to [rmcnutt9@comcast.net](mailto:rmcnutt9@comcast.net) or sent through traditional mail to AGMS Editor, 4 Woodbridge Way, Evans, GA. 30809.

### Message from the Editor



Please join me in extending gratitude to the many people who helped make 2011 such a successful year for our club.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

### Augusta Gem and Mineral Society – November 2011 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 18, 2011

Meeting Time: 7:35 pm

Presiding Officer: Chris Wisnieski (Pres.)

Attendance: 30 Members, 0 Guests

**October Meeting Minutes** were approved as printed in the bulletin.

**Treasurers Report:** No Treasurer Report.

**Old Business:** 1.) Hats are for sale-\$10 each 2.) Qualification and Criteria Letter for the GMC scholarship sent to college. No responses yet. 3.) Anthony Luitkus has started transferring the DVD library. Sculpted Bracelets and Wire Sculpted Beads are currently available for checkout by members only. See Tim Yarborough. 4.) Elliot Huffman has begun construction on the new website and has requested member input. 5.) Dues are due.

**New Business:** 1.) 2012 slate of officers elected as proposed: Wayne Parker as Treasurer, Maurine Resch as Secretary and Patricia McNutt as Editor. Chris and Tim are continuing in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their current terms. 2.) Christmas meal and gift exchange are next month at 6:30(1 hour early) at regular meeting place and date. Club will provide a ham and members are requested to bring side dishes. Members are requested to bring a wrapped hobby related gift (\$15 or less) for the pirate gift exchange.

**Show Business:** 1.) Steve Huffman and Jim Cook volunteered to handle the gem mining.2.) Need a publicity chair, Shellie is stepping down. 3.) Next meeting is Jan. 19 at 7pm at Ga. Radiation. All are welcome. We need backup volunteers for chairperson's positions.

**Field Trip Report:** 1.) Collector of the Month for October – Steve Huffman won for Turtle shell fragment from Harleyville, SC 2.) November field trip will be on Nov 19 to Cunningham Farm, \$20 fee dig for each adult, \$15 teens, 12 and under free. Meet at 8am in McCormick, SC at Huddle House.3.) Steve encouraged 2012 membership in MAGMA, it's free, you just have to sign up online. They go places we are unable to get entry.

**Door prizes** were awarded to ALL in attendance. Members are requested to bring give-a-ways for next month's door prizes.

**Program Report:** Our program was Shirley Chipman and Copper jewelry and December is our Christmas Party. The program in January will be by Michael Parton about his William Holland scholarship workshop and there will be a discussion on setting up showcases for the Show. The February program will be by Jim Knight, former curator of the SC State Museum in Columbia.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm

Submitted by secretary, Maurine Resch

**Meeting- Friday,  
Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30  
p.m. Please  
note the 1 hr  
earlier time**

**Program  
Christmas Meal &  
Gift Exchange  
bring a side dish  
and a \$15 or less –  
hobby related gift**

**Field Trip  
No trip this month**

## Dates / Things to Remember

**Next meeting:** Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 2011 @ 6:30 (pm) at the New Location please remember to **arrive one hour earlier** than our normal meeting time. The meat dish will be provided by the club. Please **bring a covered dish** and **for each person attending a wrapped hobby related gift** valued around \$10-\$15. Examples of prior gifts are hard hats, specimens, books, cabochons, hand crafted items, and digging tools but any hobby related item is great. Come and enjoy the evening with us....



## Regional Club Shows:

### DECEMBER 2011:

- **Dec. 2-4, Montgomery AL** – Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. – 41<sup>st</sup> Annual - Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive, Montgomery, AL. Hours: Fri 9-6; Sun 11-5 – Free Admission and Parking. Contact Jane Barkley at 344-277-2722 for show details.
- **Dec. 2-4, Spring Hill FL** – Withlacoochee Rockhounds, Inc. – Slovene American Club, 13383 County Line Road, Spring Hill FL, Contact Ralph Barber at 352-200-6853 for show details.
- **Dec. 10-11, Franklin, TN** - Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, Fossil Show & Sale Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society Sat: 9AM to 6PM; Sun: 10AM to 5PM Williamson County AgExpoPark, 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN 37064. **NEW LOCATION!** - formally at the TN State Fairgrounds in Nashville Exit I-65 at exit #61 (20 miles south of Nashville) and turn east onto Peytonsville Road. Drive 1/3 mile and turn left onto Long Lane and then right into AgExpoPark's parking. Demonstrations, exhibits, silent auction, hourly door prizes, grand prize, and over 30 dealers. Beads, crystals, geodes, rough, cabochons, gem stones, finished jewelry, tools, supplies, mineral & fossil specimens, stone carvings & home accents. Admission \$4 (2-Day Pass \$6.00), students 18 and under \$1, children

under 12 free with adult. For additional information and maps visit [www.MTGMS.org](http://www.MTGMS.org). Show contacts: John Stanley, Show Chair, (615) 885-5704 or Steve Henegar, Dealer Chair, (615) 714-3194 Email contact: [show@mtgms.org](mailto:show@mtgms.org) <http://www.MTGMS.org/Show.htm>

- **Dec. 9, 10, 11<sup>th</sup> – Norcorss, GA** – Mammoth Rock Shows, LLC – The North Atlanta Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show – I-85 Exit #101 – Friday & Sat. 10:00 – 6:00pm, Sunday 10:00 – 5:00 pm. 45+ Dealers with Fossils, Mineral, Gemstones, Gold, Silver, **Meteorites, Stone Carving, Beads, Pearls, Jewelry, Antiques, Collectable...** [www.mammothrock.com](http://www.mammothrock.com)

### Early 2012:

- **February 11-12, 2012: Merritt Island, FL** - The Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club. Symphony of Gemstones Festival, Kiwanis Island Park, 951 Kiwanis Island (on Hwy 520 west of Wal-Mart). Hours: Sat & Sun 10-5. Adult's \$4/day. Demos, door prizes, & lapidary exhibits. Contact show chair Ray Huntington 321-799-8536.
- **March 2-4 2012 St. Petersburg, FL** - The Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society. 42nd Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show and Sale, Minnreg Building 6340 126th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Free parking. Contact Bill Schmidt, Show Chair, 727 822-8279 or e-mail contact [SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com](mailto:SGAMSGemshow@gmail.com). See <http://www.sgams.com/Shows/show.html>
- **March 9-11 2012 – 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show - Augusta GA** – Julian Smith Casino – 2200 Broad St. – Fri. & Sat. 10am – 7pm and Sun. 10am – 4pm. **\*\* Fri. March 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am — 1pm is School Tours** Admission: \$3 Adults; Children under 16 Free with an Adult. There will be 50cent Grab Bags, Hourly Dorr Prices, 25cent Kid's Treasure Dig, Geode Cutting, and Great Prices on Gold & Silver Jewelry, Loose & Set Gemstones, Gorgeous Fossils, Mineral Specimens and More...
- **April 28-29, 2012 Memphis, TN** - Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show — "The Earth Wide Open". Memphis International Agricenter, Expo Center, West Pavilion & A and B-wings 7777 Walnut Grove Rd. Memphis, TN. Hours: Sat 9-6 and Sun 10-5. Adults \$5.00, Children 12 and under \$2.00. Scouts free. Portion of admission benefits the Ronald McDonald House of Memphis. Contact W.C. McDaniel 901-274-7706 or email [w.c.mcd@att.net](mailto:w.c.mcd@att.net)

## Last Month's Program

By Maurine Resch

### Copper Jewelry Making by Shirley Chipman

Our program was given by Shirley Chipman, a multi-talented member of the club, who has worked as an artist in many areas, including Copper. Shirley has worked in many areas of jewelry making and has now moved into Copper, due to its resilience and affordability.

Copper has been around since 87BC and used for jewelry, tools, and weapons. Combined with tin it becomes bronze or with zinc, it forms brass.

Copper is an affordable, easily worked alternative to the more expensive gold and silver. It can be annealed and reshaped with readily available tools. Some of the tools needed are metal snips, anvils, hammers, paper cutter, sheet copper(24 gauge), vises, sharpie markers, wood mandrel for bracelets, copper wire, table knife without teeth, and common wire wrapping tools.

Many designs can be free formed and be larger since copper is so inexpensive compared to precious metals. Materials and tools can be found at Rio Grande, or local hardware stores. A good book for beginners is "Mixed Metal Mania" by Kim St. Jean.

Shirley showed and discussed her pieces and showed how "mistakes" can become new designs. We appreciate her sharing her talents and knowledge with us.

## Collector of the Month

**UROCKI**

**Steve Huffman** won for Turtle shell fragment from Harleyville, SC

### Collector of the Month Competition:

**Section 1:** All members participating in the Society's official field trip shall be encouraged to present their best specimen, at the first meeting following the field trip, to compete with others members for Collector of the Month.

**Section 2:** Should there be only one person presenting a specimen for competition, that individual shall be awarded the collector of the month, unless they decline at the meeting at which the selection was made.

**Section 3:** No specimen may be altered to enhance the specimen, with the exception that excess material may be

removed to make the specimen easier to handle or present.

**Section 4:** Specimens shall be limited to one of each species per collector, except for those specimens normally occurring in sizes of less than one inch in each dimension, in which case the collector has the option of displaying up to five pieces of that specimen.

**Section 5:** Collectors being selected as Collector of the Month shall be encouraged to maintain their specimens, in their natural state, to be used in competition for Collector of the Year.

## Notice to all 2011 Collector of the Month Winners

We request the below members to please bring your Collector of the Month Winning Specimen's to the January 2012 Meeting so that we can vote on the Collector of the Year for 2012...

January - Maurine Resch - Sea Urchin, Girad, GA

February - Oliver Huffman - Whale bone, Edisto SC

March - James Dale- Amethyst/Quartz, Diamond Hill SC

April - Sebastian Prowse- Goethite, Graves Mtn, GA

May - Steve Huffman - Smoky Quartz, Diamond Hill, SC

June - Phillip Yarborough - Stingray Stinger, Tennille GA

July - Ardith Verrechio - Green Agate, Hiddenite, NC

August - None

September - Steve Huffman- Pyrite, Glendon Mine,

October - Steve Huffman - Turtle shell fragment Harleyville, SC

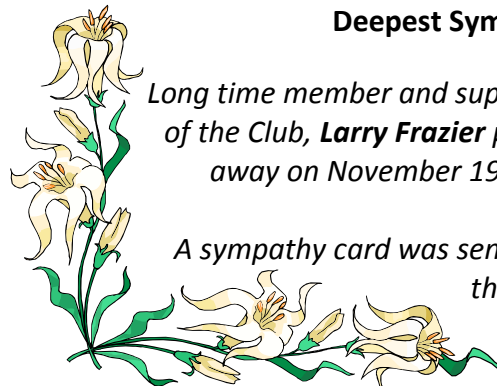
November - to be announced at Dec. Meeting

December - None

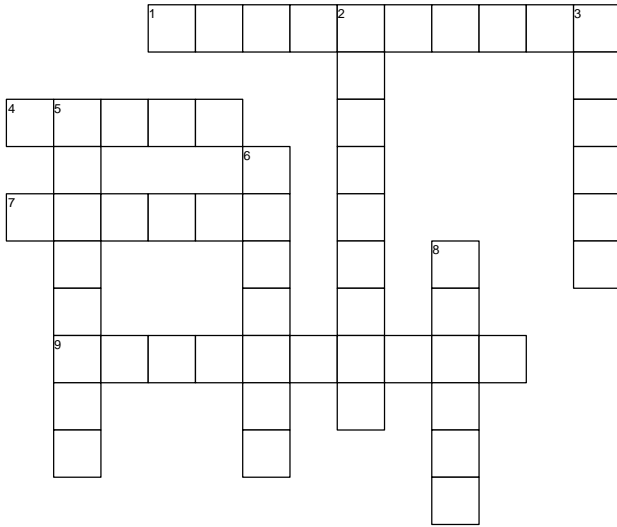
### Deepest Sympathy

Long time member and supporter of the Club, **Larry Frazier** passed away on November 19, 2011

A sympathy card was sent from the club.



## Crossword Fun December



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

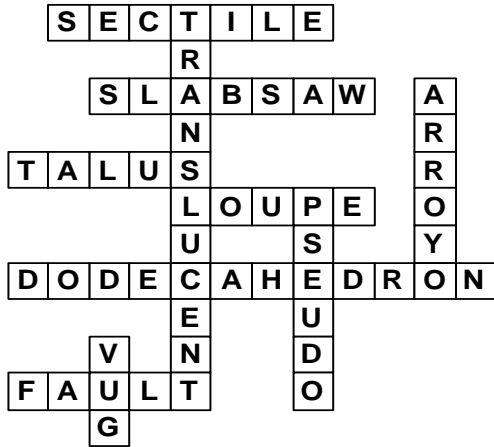
### ACROSS

- 1 A luster that is extremely bright, like a diamond
- 4 Carving into a gemstone, shell or other substance which leaves a raised or positive relief image
- 7 The outer edge of a fashioned stone
- 9 Lens-shaped

### DOWN

- 2 Does not have a crystal structure
- 3 A surface luster with no reflectiveness and a powdery appearance
- 5 Needle like
- 6 The quantity of matter in a given space (measured by specific gravity in minerals)
- 8 A flat, thin, blade-shape crystallization

### November CROSSWORD SOLUTION



## Word Search December

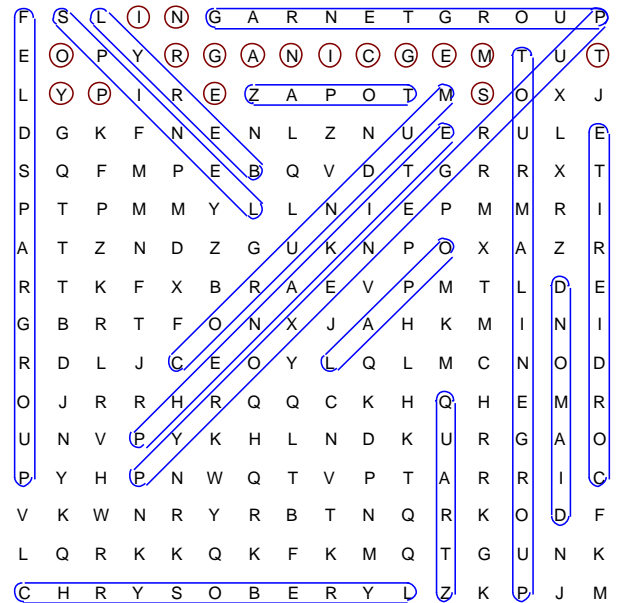


### Word List:

*Gold, Silver, Platinum, Copper, Bismuth, Arsenic, Antimony, Sulfur, Mercury, Nickel-Iron, Diamond, Graphite*

*Find the words in the grid, when you are done, find the hidden message in the unused letters in the grid. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all directions.*

### November Word Search Solution



## **Bench Tips**

### **DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING**

Sometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth. One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough. You can do this either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling one hole correctly, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.

### **CUTTING A BOLT**

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's always difficult to get the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult this is. The problem is easily solved by screwing a nut onto the bolt before cutting it.

So here's how I do it. Screw a nut onto the bolt, grip the bolt by the piece to be sawed off, saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.

Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt straightens out any damage to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece you're throwing away.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/> or <http://facebook.com/BenchTips>  
[Brad Smith's Bench Tips published with his permission]

## **2012 EFMLS Wildacres News**



We've got some exciting news to share about the 2012 EFMLS Wildacres sessions. It's hard to believe that 2012 will mark the 40th year that we've been holding workshops at the Wildacres facility.

To recognize our 40th, we're offering two **scholarships to adults who have never been to Wildacres**. One will be awarded for the spring session and one for the fall. Details and an application form will be in the December EFMLS News which will be mailed to all clubs by the end of next week. Please help us by spreading the word about this exciting opportunity for your club members. Our dates, speakers and tuition have been set!

### **Spring -- April 10 -15.**

The speaker-in-residence and making a return visit, is none other than world renowned photograph **Jeff Scovil**. You've seen his fabulous work in all the mineral and gem magazines, books and calendars. Jeff's bound to enhance his talks with really wonderful photographs!

Tuition for the week will be \$350 per person.

Yes, we know that this session is one day shorter than our usual one, but we needed to avoid having most participants travel on Easter Sunday. We'll adjust the schedule slightly to accommodate our program.

### **Fall - September 3 - 9**

Our speaker-in-residence will be **Julian Gray**, of the Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA. This will be Julian's first visit to Wildacres and we're excited to have him. Like Jeff in spring, Julian will be giving 6 talks during the week.

Tuition for this session will be \$370 per person

More details, descriptions of the classes to be offered at each session and an application form will be available when the EFMLS revamped site is ready to be "launched" with our 2012 info. Please spread the word to your club members about Wildacres and perhaps bring a few with you when you come this year. Wildacres - what a wonderful experience! We look forward to seeing you again this year.

**Steve and Carolyn Weinberger**

## **Rockhound Code of Conduct**

As we close out this year and bring a New Year in, it is a perfect time to remind every of the Rock hound Code of Conduct.

The following ethical guidelines were established by the American Federation of Mineralogical Society. When collecting in the field, please follow this code to ensure that rockhounding will be viewed as a positive activity and not a reason for restrictions.

- *I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.*
- *I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.*
- *I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.*
- *I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.*
- *I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.*
- *I will leave all gates as found.*
- *I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.*
- *I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.*
- *I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.*
- *I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.*
- *I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.*
- *I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.*
- *I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.*
- *I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.*
- *I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.*
- *I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.*
- *I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.*



## Membership Dues

It's that time of year again. **Time to renew your membership**, in the Augusta Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. Please fill out the following form and bring it to our next meeting or mail it to our Treasurer Wayne Parker before January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012.

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### Augusta Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. Membership Application—2012, Due by Jan 1, 2012

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ New: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Single (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_ Junior (\$1) Age 8-18

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Children (if active in society): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: AUGUSTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**

*Cut out this application and bring to the meeting or:*

Mail to: Wayne Parker, Treasurer 1041 Halali Springs Rd., Evans, GA 30809

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**Augusta Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
Patricia McNutt, Editor  
4 Woodbridge Way  
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**FIRST CLASS  
TIME DATED MATERIAL**



**PURPOSE OF THE AUGUSTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY INC.**

1. To encourage interest in rocks, minerals, fossils, and related subjects of the lapidary craft.
2. To sponsor educational programs within the membership, to increase the knowledge of its members in the properties of identification and evaluation of rocks, minerals, fossils and related subjects.
3. To cooperate with other mineralogical and geographical clubs and activities.
4. To arrange and conduct field trips to facilitate the collection of specimens and minerals.
5. To provide an opportunity for the exchange and exhibition of specimens and minerals.

The Augusta Gem and Mineral Society Inc. is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies via its membership in the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies. Please visit our web-site at: [Http://www.augustagemandmineralsociety.org/](http://www.augustagemandmineralsociety.org/)