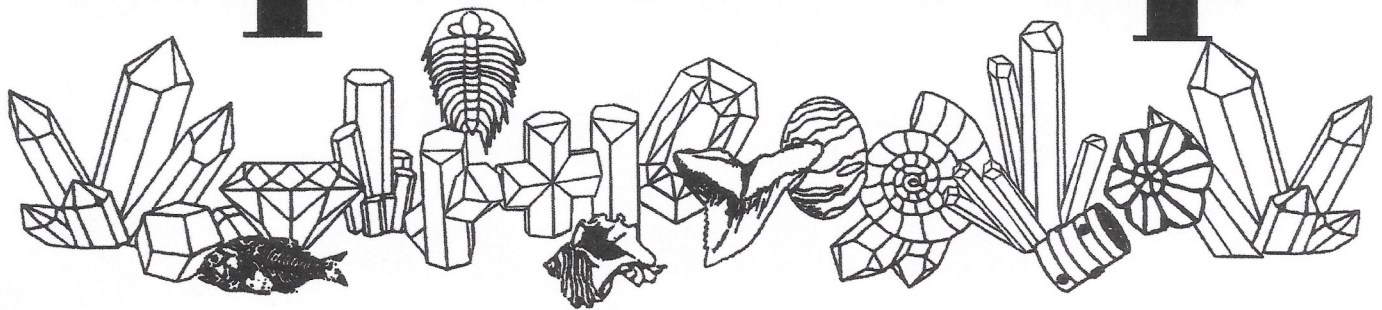


Tips and Trips



The Georgia Mineral Society

Atlanta, Georgia

Volume MMXVI/One

January 2015

Ms. Beckins
Janet Puh
Bonnie Weather
Linda Cochran
Diane Huber
Shelma & Louise
Cheryl Flora
Shelley Stubbs
Frank & Leslie
Mary Pat
Wes Mayo
Michelle McLean
Irving & Estrophy
Frank & Leslie
Juan Talar
Wes Mayo
Mary Pat
Wes Mayo
Michelle McLean
Irving & Estrophy
Dorothy Buchanan
Dennis Buchanan
Christy Dybdahl
Freddie C. Brooks
Tom & Linda Batcher

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The Georgia Mineral Society, Inc.
 A Non-Profit Educational Organization
 Eighty Years of Tradition
 Objective and Purpose
 To Educate the Youth of the State
 and the Members of this Society
 In the Field of Earth Science



AFMS Education - All American Club 2003

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Curator/Gem Box	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Historian	Roxanne Lopez	678.491.0489
Hospitality	Shirley Parker	404.906.3763
Librarian	Open	
Parliamentarian	Open for Volunteer	
Refreshments	Shelley Stubbs	realgem7@aol.com
Special Events	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Sunshine	Susan Filak	404-634-6931
Telephone	Open for volunteers	
SFMS Rep.	Open for Volunteer	

The article submittal due date for the February newsletter is January 15, 2015.

GENERAL MEETINGS
 General meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. In the event that the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting will be held on the third Monday of the month. General meetings are held at the Georgia Mineral Society Building in Norcross, Ga.
 4138 STEVE REYNOLDS BLVD.
 NORCROSS, GA. 30093-3059
 Any deviations from the above schedule will be announced in Tips and Trips.

The Georgia Mineral Society on the Internet:
<http://www.gamineral.org>
 E-mail Early Notification Program: A field trip and club news update service. To join, members are requested to send in their current e-mail address to:
membership@gamineral.org.

May Show Committee Chairs

Show Chair	Shelly Stubbs mayshow@gamineral.org	
Dealer Chair	Lawrence Parker	404.213.9727
Exhibits	Martha Brown	770.448.0876
Demonstrations	open	
Hospitality	open	
Treasurer	Mary Gurney	
Advertising	open	
Dealer Dinner	Roxanne Lopez	678.491.0489
Database	Mary Porter	770.998.1018
Auction	Kim Cochran	770.979.8331
Set Up/Take Down	Open for Volunteers	

General Meeting

7:30 PM Monday, January 5, 2015
The GMS Building
4138 Steve Reynolds Boulevard
Norcross, GA

The Fourth Annual GMS January Auction!

Once again, Kim will auction wonders from the GMS supply of rocks, minerals, fossils and gems.



Please join us for our January meeting!

Carl Ziglin
VP of Programs

Sunshine News

Happy New Year, Rockhounds !



Our GMS Holiday Party was on December 1, 2014. It was great to see everyone, and to sit, relax, and talk about everything under the sun with fellow rockhounds. Thank you to Eva Ostrofsky (helpful, as usual) for arranging the food tables, picking-up the meat and cheese trays, and the ice, drinks, and condiments. Kim Cochran picked-up the poinsettia for the tables. Thanks Kim. And thank you to everyone who brought all the delicious side dishes and desserts. It was all very good! Please remember to keep our favorite Micromount Chair Dave Babulski and his wonderful wife Karen in your thoughts and best wishes. If you'd like to drop them a card, telephone them, or visit: --- David Babulski, Room D-18, Cambridge Recovery Center, 2020 McGee Road, Snellville, GA 30078; --- and Karen Babulski , Room C-5, New London Health, Cambridge Recovery Center, 2020 McGee Road, Snellville, GA 30078. Dave's cell phone number is [404-405-0635](tel:404-405-0635). I know he'd love to hear from you to talk some rockhound news. If anyone would like to share their news or information with other GMS members, please feel free to send it to sufi1114@gmail.com, or feel free to phone me (or, leave message) at [404-634-6931](tel:404-634-6931). Thank you everyone. Blessings to all in 2015 ! And Best Wishes for Happy, Fun and Prosperous Rockhounding in the New Year!!

Susan Filak
Sunshine Chair

President's Message



It is the beginning of a new year and traditionally a time to reflect back on the old year and set goals for the new. As you ponder the coming year consider setting aside time for your rock activities. There will be many fun opportunities for our club members in 2015.

If you have not attended one of our many section meetings then I would encourage you try them out and you will be surprised with what you are missing. Phil has taken the gem section to a new level of lapidary hands-on instruction. Kim has an extensive list of programs for the fossil section that he will be covering this year from his vast library of programs and experience. If you have wondered what is all that fuss about sand, come join Lori for a few of the sand section meetings and you will find that you have a rapidly growing sand collection in no time. This year the mineral section will cover the minerals of the southeast where each month we will cover one of our neighboring states and the minerals found there. Christie had several new programs last year for our junior's section and more are planned for 2015.

One of our important activities to pull in new members is our field trips. Charles and Lori have been doing an awesome job. The count for 2014 was 24 field trips during the year. The May Show is another important activity where we have a need for our new and old members to get involved. There are so many ways to participate (displays, demos, hospitality, and more). Give it a think and contact Shelly to get started.

So don't put it off, schedule in your rock time for the coming year and come join your fellow members of the Georgia Mineral Society. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Tom Batcha
GMS President

**Fossil Section
Monday, January 12, 2015**

We will be discussing fossils of Asia. Please bring your specimens.

Kim Cochran



Gem Section

The January Gem section program will be on "Mastering the Jeweler's Saw". We will cover the potential of using the jeweler's saw for various designs. This will include:

- Jeweler's saw frame; adjustable or non-adjustable
- Jeweler's saw blades: I usually recommend size 3/0 or less with experience
- Brass or copper plates for sawing practice; 1mm thickness
- Bench pin

Templates will be available for practice. We will also cover pattern transfers.

We will also be opening the workshop on the second Sunday of the month from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm beginning in January. You will be able to cut cabochons or receive assistance with your metalsmithing projects. Only certified persons should plan on using the workshop as training for certification will not be available during the Sunday workshop open hours.

Phil Herren

Saturday, January 24th
Junior Gem Tree Day
2 to 4 pm
RVSP

Thanks to the generosity of Far Eastern Trading and BellGali Gems, Junior Section now has a trove of beads to use for gem trees!

Using a non-glue design shared by the Mississippi Gem and Mineral Club plus telephone wire and rock bases donated by GMS members, Juniors will make beautiful, bouncy gem trees!

RSVP: For more information and to ensure there are enough goodies and supplies for everyone. Please RSVP with Chrissy Nell-Dybdahl, Junior chair at juniors@gaminerals.org



Dear Juniors,

Happy New Year!

I am sooooo thankful to the active volunteer GMS board members and members who have supported me in this role. I am looking forward to our 2015 year together. This year, we will be celebrating our 80th year of the Georgia Mineral Society! Remember, GMS members LOVE to

see the junior members attend our events and kids get extra special treatment and attention :).

Here are my ideas for activities for MEMBERS ONLY over the next year. This is of course subject to change. Please let me know if you have other ideas. I look forward to meeting y'all!!!! Please refer to our Website for past fun activities and more up-to-date information and dates as they evolve.

Remember, there are kid friendly field trips every month!



January: Make gem trees, easy for little and big fingered rock hounders. We will award prizes.

February: Juniors Only Auction of rocks, minerals, jewelry, rock hounding supplies, etc. You can also bring specimens to trade. Bring your change and some dollars to BID and WIN some great loot! We will have over 30 items. The money raised will be donated to our Junior Section Fund. Check out our building!

March: Beads of Courage. Hang out with other teens who like Rocks and Gems like you. Earn volunteer hours. Check out our building.



April: Easter Egg Hunt. Eggs are filled with Gems and Minerals.

May: Yearly GMS show, weekend of Mother's Day at our new location, North Atlanta Trade Center in Norcross. Come out and help us celebrate 80 years and enjoy lots of special activities for juniors. For instance, the auction will include items for Juniors only bidding as well.

June: The Yearly GMS Picnic is the first Saturday of June, which includes playing in the park and an Auction of over 100 lot items of Rock Hounding glory! Juniors-only auction bidding items will be available.

July: Attend a Field Trip

August: Attend a Field Trip

September: On your own: Parents and GMS volunteers to help juniors write and submit a Rock Hounding Story for a prize and publication.

October: Beads of Courage. Hang out with other teens who like Rocks and Gems like you. Earn volunteer hours. Check out our building.

November: Make a Christmas ornament using nice mineral specimens.

I hope you have a great year!

Warmly,
Chrissy Nell-Dybdahl
Junior Section Chair



Sand Section

In the December Sand Section meeting, Brian Williams did a presentation about his hiking and sand collecting adventures in the Tetons in Wyoming. He brought the sand so everyone could get a sample. It was a treat to see pictures of the beautiful places where the sand was collected with close-up images of the sand itself as well as the geology of the Tetons.

We also traded some recent donations: Pigeon Mountain, GA from Casey Sosebee, Jekyll Island, GA from George and Sharon Sanders, 2 different sands from England and 2 from Costa Rica from Bonney Weathers, plus Tanzanian



sand from Linda Coheleach. Sand section members shared some sand too. Ginny Loman brought several samples from California and Oregon, and Thom Hopen shared a variety

of samples. Thank you to everyone who donated or brought sand and a special thank you to Brian Williams for sharing his adventures and his sand!

In January we will be discussing and trading biogenic sand. What is it and what kind of biogenic bits can you find? Bring your biogenic sands for trade (plus any other samples you want to share) and we'll look at them with microscopes. Even if you don't have any sand to trade, please join us to see how fascinating sand can be!

Date: Wednesday, January 7, 2014

Time: 7:30

Location: GMS Building

Topic: Biogenic Sand

Trading: Biogenic Sand

Lori Carter
Sand Section Chair
sand@gamineral.org

Grab Bags

It will be time soon to fill the grab bags. As in the past, we will be aiming for a thousand bags. We had some bags left over from last year and 200 new bags were donated last week. We will also need items to go into the bags. So remember us when you are empty collecting on field trips.



Kim Cochran

Rock Swap

Mineral Section Meeting
Wednesday, January 14, 2015 7:30pm
The GMS Building

Our activity for the January Mineral Section will be a Rock Swap. Between now and the meeting go thru your collection and pull your extras from locations that other members of our club would find of interest. Bring them to the meeting and trade your extras with others for locations that you can add into your collection. Bring a big variety and leave with a lot of new stuff. After the Rock Swap we will talk about the Mineral Section theme for 2015 – Minerals of the Southeastern states.

Note: Due to a work conflict, we will have the mineral section on the second Wednesday of the month in January and March. All other monthly meetings will remain the third Wednesday. Come Join Us!!!

Tom Batcha
Mineral Section Chair
T.Batcha@comcast.net

May Show

The contract with the NATC has been signed, and Lawrence is getting out contracts to the dealers. We distributed lots of flyers at the Mammoth show, and there seemed to be a good response from people who were attending that show. Please be sure to take flyers wherever you can leave them to get the word out on the new location for this year. We still need Hospitality, Demonstrations, and Advertising chairs for the show committee, and will need volunteers for the show, and for the open house at our club house to celebrate the 80th birthday of GMS, with cake and ice cream! Whatever you volunteer to do, know that it will be fun and rewarding - and this is the club's main fundraiser. There will be sign-up sheets at all of the meetings between now and the show. If you want to volunteer and will not be at a meeting, you may contact the show chair at mayshow@gamineral.org. Thank you for whatever you volunteer to do.

Shelley Stubbs, GMS Show Chair

Facilities Message

Happy New Year! We look forward to a healthy, prosperous new year for all. We will get together in the spring to clean house and put finishing touches on the paint. Our 80th birthday is coming and we will welcome everyone to come visit our home. For now, stay warm and dry while planning for the next field trip.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Waggener, Facilities chair

Education Message

School starts again soon. Students ready to learn about rocks, minerals, and fossils are waiting impatiently for vacation to be over...maybe? Either way schools are on the schedule for presentations and visits. Scouts and libraries have also requested visits. We can't wait to spread the earth science news. We will also have the 2015-2016 minigrant applications available after 01 Jan 2015. Please remind your teacher friends to apply for the minigrant for next year.

Yours in education,
Bill Waggener, Education Chair

Membership News

You can now renew your membership online!!! All you need is an Amazon account and a computer. Go to the GMS website and it will direct you to the proper forms. After you pay you will be directed to the membership form. If you don't fill out the membership form we will have your money but we won't be able to update your record to show that you are current, so please continue on to the end. It's still easier than writing and mailing, right? If you don't want to renew online, you can still fill out a paper form and mail a check, or give us the form and cash at a meeting. But please fill out the entire form with at least the name of everyone you are renewing for. If the name (of a partner or child or housemate) is not on the membership renewal form we will assume that they have moved away or lost interest and remove them from the list. Our costs for Federation membership and insurance depend directly on the number of members we have. We want you all to remain active happy members, but we don't want to throw away money. So, please help us keep our membership list accurate.

Elizabeth Lamb, Membership
Chairperson



Please welcome the following new members to GMS:

- Justin Breen from Norcross, GA
- Kathy Brown and Larry Johnson from Snellville, GA
- Bob, September Day, Cadence, Patience and Jack Carter from Lawrenceville, GA
- Kea and Michael Eason from Smyrna, GA
- Natalie Eaton and Breanna Bonner from Snellville, GA
- Jim and Marget Eckman from Decatur, GA
- Catherine, David and Graham Gordon from Atlanta, GA
- Alex McConnell from Stone Mountain, GA
- Gabriel Ori from Snellville, GA
- Joseph Osako from Norcross, GA
- Betty D. Schwartz and Jerry Huellemeier from Milledgeville, GA

Veronica, David, Erica and Logan Shelton from Roswell, GA
Bobby, Deide, Jacquie, Misty, Sarah and Brooke Smith from Dacula, GA
Sarah Timm and Eric Christensen from Acworth, GA
Christopher, Radi and Addison Townsend from Cumming, GA
We look forward to many happy rockhounding days with you and hope you enjoy GMS as much as we do!

.....
Elizabeth Lamb, Membership
Chairperson

Happy Birthday!

Your birthstone, the garnet, represents eternal friendship and trust. References date back to 3100 BCE in Egypt. (Great specimens can be found closer to home – so happy hunting.)



- Jan 01 James Kilp, Sherri Clark, Pierce McDonald and Dylan McDonald
- Jan 02 Justin Gorun
- Jan 03 Jacob Mahr
- Jan 04 H. A. Vas Dias and Abigail Tweed
- Jan 05 Lydia Gould
- Jan 06 Joseph Eugene Buckles and Gil Stephens
- Jan 07 Dan Morse, Mia Chambers and Mark Chambers
- Jan 08 Pennie Nagel and Frankie Haney
- Jan 10 Jacob Saturday, Harper Kucik and Laurie Rodriguez
- Jan 11 Alexander Lipscomb and Cadence Carter
- Jan 12 David Ferguson
- Jan 13 Rose Mary Herbert and David Gordon
- Jan 14 Frank J. Perry
- Jan 15 Dylan Porter, Sheryl Bates, Matthew Faust and Grace Davis
- Jan 16 Dylan Sweat, Causie Crane and Ginny Loman
- Jan 17 Melanie Price, Theresa Gould, Brennon Harmon and Bryan Stephens
- Jan 18 Frank Burns and Alex Haney
- Jan 19 Christina Bennett, Sander Biehn, Libby Fleck, Brent Klein and Carol West
- Jan 20 Paul Cloutier and Philip R. Lind
- Jan 21 Henry L. Barwood
- Jan 22 Joseph H. Summerour, Jr., Aaron Saturday and Jeff Mahr
- Jan 24 Larry Johnson and Wade H. McIntyre
- Jan 25 Kurt Greenwall, M.D.
- Jan 26 Brogan Nagel
- Jan 27 Rob Hollis
- Jan 28 Tonya Parker and Tamera Scholz
- Jan 30 Eric Christensen



No CCGMS Field Trips for January or February

NO DMC Field Trip in January

THERE WILL NOT BE A DMC HOSTED FIELD TRIP DURING JANUARY of 2015! THE WESTERN SOUTH CAROLINA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP DETAILS WILL BE PUBLISHED ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 1, 2015. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE DMC!!

GMS FIELD TRIP

Saturday, January 10, 2015
10:00 a.m. Eastern Time
Weiss Lake, AL

TRIP: GMS will hold a field trip to Weiss Lake, AL for various fossils.

COLLECTING: Limestone with unidentified markings, trilobites, and possibly brooksellas.

BRING: Rock hammer, small sledge, chisel, buckets, and paper for wrapping specimens. You will also need gloves, protective eyewear, hat, sunscreen, and sturdy boots with ankle support (hiking boots). As always bring plenty of water and some snacks.

This field trip is suitable for children of all ages but we will be by a lake so **children are required to have adult supervision at all times**. The terrain is stable along the shoreline, but climbing around rocks will be necessary to find and retrieve specimens which may be large and heavy.



The weather in January can be unpredictable, so be prepared for wintry conditions.

Parking is limited, so carpooling is highly recommended.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

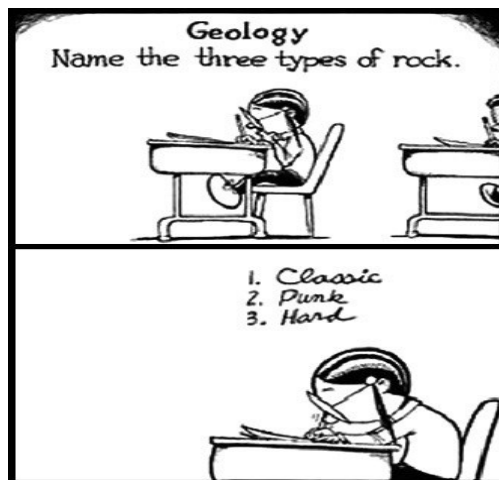
McDonald's
650 Cedar Bluff Road
Centre, AL 35960

- 1) I-75 North to Hwy 20 (exit 290) West towards Rome and into Alabama where the name of the road changes to Alabama SR 9.
- 2) Continue on SR 9 to Centre, AL, approximately 15 miles.
- 3) SR 9 will turn to the South, but continue going straight into Centre on Cedar Bluff Road for about 1/10 mile. The McDonald's will be on the left.

Travel time: From the GMS club house at 4138 Steve Reynolds Boulevard, Norcross, GA to the meeting place in Centre, AL is approximately 2.5 hours and 110 miles.

If you are interested in carpooling on this trip, please contact Bill Waggener at education@gaminer.org

Charles Carter, GMS Field Trip Chair
Telephone: 770-998-7949
Cell Phone: 770-891-5947
e-mail: fieldtrips@gaminer.org



December DMC Field Trip Report

By Lori Carter

The Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society hosted a 2 day DMC event. The first day we had two tours and the second day we had two collecting trips.

Day 1: The first tour was to the Gray Fossil Site and Museum in Gray, Tennessee. Dr. Michael "Mick" Whitelaw did a presentation about the history, geology, and paleontology of the site. A behind the scenes tour of the prep lab was the envy of other visitors who peered curiously at us as we examined the lab. A graduate student (sorry – forgot his name!) described the meticulous process they use to extract, catalog, clean, and reconstruct fossils from the site. We even had a chance to see the actual dig area.



The Gray Fossil site was discovered during road construction in 2000 and it wasn't long before the significance of the find saved it from being paved. Based on extensive research of the area, it appears the site had several large sinkholes 4.5 to 7 million years ago. The sinkholes provided a rich environment for a diverse flora and fauna. The site has yielded a bizarre variety of animal and plant fossils including alligators, fish, salamanders, rhinoceroses, camels, tapirs, beavers, and even red pandas! Microfossils are carefully extracted from bags of dirt. Using microscopes to search the dirt, researchers find tiny bones, teeth, and even pollen.



The second tour was to Bristol Caverns in Bristol, TN. Mick described the geology of the area and correlated it back to the Knox Limestone and Sevier Shale we observed at the Gray Fossil Site. All through the caverns he pointed out many geological features. It was an unusual opportunity to see the geology from below.

Day 2: The first collecting location was Douglas Lake. Attendees braved some brisk breezes to search for double terminated quartz crystals that are often called "Douglas diamonds". We gained a few inches in height and a little weight as mud accumulated on our boots, but it was worth it as everyone found some nice crystals. One area also had some cephalopod fossils!

The second collecting location was in Mosheim, TN for Middle Ordovician graptolite fossils. The graptolites are easily located by

splitting soft shale and are well preserved.

Many thanks to the Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society for another successful DMC trip!

(See the field trip report on the GMS website for more pictures www.gamineral.org)

Brad's Bench Trips SOLVENT DISPENSER

Frequently I need to fill a small bottle with alcohol, like an alcohol lamp or one of the nail polish bottles that I use for the yellow ochre anti-flux. Often I can't find a small funnel and end up spilling almost as much as I get into the bottle. It's wasteful, and the fumes can't be too good for you either. A neat and inexpensive solution is to use a lab dispensing bottle to store small quantities of the solvents you frequently use. It has a wide mouth for filling and a fine tip for dispensing. You can get a small stream or just a drop or two. With the bottle's fine tip I don't spill a drop.

There are many suppliers on Google. One I've used is Carolina Biological Supply Company at www.carolina.com. The bottle is Catalog # 716580 Unitary Wash Bottle, Low-Density Polyethylene, 125 mL



SILVER DISCOLORATION

Working with jewelry involves an ever increasing number of skills. Chemistry is one of them that comes into play when dealing with a discoloration on the metal caused by a chemical reaction between it and the environment.

In the case of Sterling silver there are three discolorations we typically encounter: a tarnish, a firescale, and a firestain. Each is different in its cause, in its cure and in its prevention. All three have to do with the metals in the Sterling alloy (92.5% silver and 7.5% copper) and how they react with oxygen and the heat of soldering or with pollutants in the air over the long term.

Tarnish is a grayish coating that builds up slowly on the surface as a result of a reaction of the silver with sulfur-based compounds in the air. Typically these are pollutants from the burning of petroleum fuels, but they can come from other sources as well. I once tarnished all the silver in my display case by putting a pretty specimen of iron pyrite in with the jewelry. Turns out pyrite has sulfur in it! Sulfur combines with the silver to form a grayish silver sulfide film on the surface.

Preventing tarnish involves keeping sulfur away from the metal. Plastic bags will help, and anti-tarnish strips are available from jewelry supply companies to pack near your items. Tarnish is easily removed by hand polishing with a jeweler's cloth or with one of the products sold for cleaning the good silverware for holiday dinner.

Another way is to remove it chemically. Put a piece of aluminum in the bottom of a dish large enough to contain your piece. Heat enough water to cover the silver. Mix in 2 tablespoons of sodium carbonate per cup of water and pour into the dish. Be sure the silver touches the aluminum. Sodium carbonate is the main ingredient in washing soda. Read the labels in grocery and hardware stores.

The second type of tarnish is called firescale. It is the dark gray to charcoal colored film that forms on Sterling or other copper alloy like copper or bronze when we heat it with a torch. The copper in the alloy reacts with oxygen in the air to form a dark cupric oxide coating on the surface. Luckily, the oxide is easily removed by dissolving it in a mild acid - generally called a pickle. It's important that we not let firescale form on a solder joint because it will block the flow solder over the joint.

Prevention can be done two ways. Most common is to use a flux, a borax-based solution applied to the metal before soldering. When melted, borax forms a thin glassy layer that keeps oxygen away from the metal. A second way is to do your soldering on a charcoal block. Together with the flame, charcoal greatly reduces the amount of oxygen in the area being soldered. In either case oxygen is prevented from reaching the metal, so no cupric oxide firescale is formed.

A second oxide can also be formed when soldering copper or a high copper content alloy like bronze or brass. It's called cuprous oxide and is reddish in color. That's why a black looking piece you put in the pickle sometimes comes out red. Problem is that while the black cupric oxide is dissolved by a pickle, the red cuprous oxide is not. The discoloration can be sanded or polished off, but an easier way is to use a "super pickle". This is a mixture of fresh pickle with a healthy shot of hydrogen peroxide from the local store.

I've saved the worst form of discoloration, firestain, for last. Think of firescale (above) as like getting dirt on your shirt that you have to wash off. Firestain is like getting ink on it. The discoloration is not just on the surface, it seeps down and stains the material. Firestain happens when we heat a piece of silver too hot, too long, and/or too many times.

Firestain occurs when the oxides start to build up below the surface of the metal. You generally don't notice it until after polishing. It appears as a darker area of the surface and is easy to spot when viewed under light bounced off a piece of white paper. Because firestain is below the surface, there's no easy bench tip solution. Depletion gilding may work for some pieces. Otherwise, removing it calls for sandpaper and aggressive polishing.

A much better approach for a piece that will require a large number of solderings is to protect the metal from developing firestain by applying liberal coats of a firecoat. Regular soldering flux will provide some protection but will not be as effective as preparations made specifically for the task.

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon' www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/



Mineral Rights

Basic information about mineral, surface, oil and gas rights. Via <http://geology.com/articles/mineral-rights.shtml>

Fee Simple - Complete Ownership

In most countries of the world all mineral resources belong to the government. This includes all valuable rocks, minerals, oil or gas found on or within the Earth. Organizations or individuals in those countries cannot legally extract and sell any mineral commodity without first obtaining an authorization from the government.

In the United States and a few other countries, ownership of mineral resources was originally granted to the individuals or organizations that owned the surface. These property owners had both "surface rights" and "mineral rights". This complete private ownership is known as a "fee simple estate".

Fee simple is the most basic type of ownership. The owner controls the surface, the subsurface and the air above a property. The owner also has the freedom to sell, lease, gift or bequest these rights individually or entirely to others.

If we go back in time to the days before drilling and mining, real estate transactions were fee simple transfers. However, once commercial mineral production became possible, the ways in which people own property became much more complex. Today, the leases, sales, gifts and bequests of the past have produced a landscape where multiple people or companies have a partial ownership of or rights to many real estate parcels.

Most states have laws that govern the transfer of mineral rights from one owner to another. They also have laws that govern mining and drilling activity. These laws vary from one state to another. If you are considering a mineral rights transaction or have concerns about mineral extraction near your property it is essential to understand the laws of your state. If you do not understand these laws you should get advice from an attorney who can explain how they apply to your situation. To read more on the subject, go to <http://geology.com/articles/mineral-rights.shtml>

Field Trip to JXR

I've been asked to let everyone know that the Jacksons Crossroads Amethyst Mine (also known as JXR) in Tignall, Georgia will be closed to collecting effective immediately. I am not sure when or if the site will reopen to rockhounds.

For updates, requests to visit or any other correspondence regarding the status of the mine, please e-mail Mr. Paul Geffner at lisben@svn.net

Up and Coming Shows

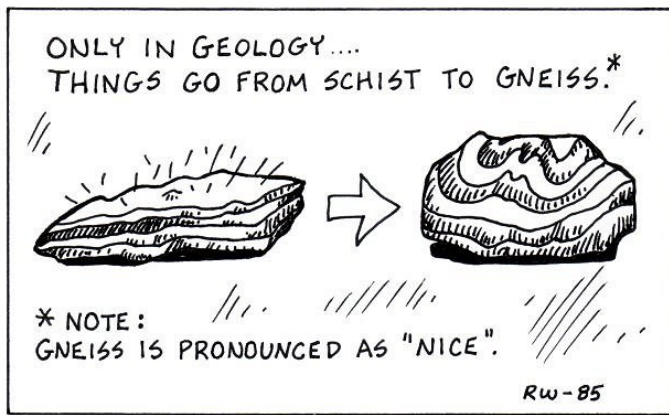
Jan 9-11—LARGO, FLORIDA: Annual show; Pinellas Geological Society, Largo Cultural Center; 105 Central Park Dr.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; adults \$1.50; drawing, silent auction; contact Leona Sheffield, 2440 S. Shore Dr. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705, (727) 709-3236; e-mail: nwilkin@sjvcc.org

Jan 24-25—PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA: Annual show; Panama City Gem & Mineral Society, Central Panhandle Fairgrounds; 2230 E. 15th St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; hourly silent auctions, door prizes, grand prize; contact Steven Shipton, 5113 E. 13th Ct., Panama City, FL 32404, (850) 867-0586; e-mail: shipton3@comcast.net

Jan 29-15—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Annual show; Eons Expos, LLLP, 22nd Street Show Tent; 600 W 22nd Street; Daily 9-6; Admission Free, Children Free; An 18-day show inside a huge 60,000 square foot climate controlled tent. Free parking. 200 booths. A Top Five show in Tucson based on table count. Wholesale and retail. We curate an even mix of fossil, mineral, gemstone, and jewelry dealers.; contact Lowell Carhart, 80 Roslyn Forest Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22901, (804) 291-6357; e-mail: LowellCarhart@yahoo.com; Web site: www.22ndStreetShow.com

Feb 7-8—MERRITT ISLAND, FLORIDA: Annual show; Central Brevard Rock & Gem Club, Kiwanis Recreation Center; 951 Kiwanis Island Park Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 (\$1 off coupon on Web site), children free with adult; more than 20 dealers, lapidary tools, rocks, slabs, minerals, specimens, hand-made jewelry, beads, cabochons, demonstrations by club members, sluice, kids' activities; contact Roz Mestre, (321) 431-0159; e-mail: roz.mestre@att.net; Web site: www.centralbrevardgems.com

Feb 28-28—LAKELAND, FLORIDA: Annual show; Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society, FPC of Lakeland; 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.; Sat. 9-4:30; adults \$3, teachers, students and children free; special teacher raffle prizes, hourly door prizes, Spin & Win Mineral Wheel, kids' Treasure Dig, demonstrations, educational displays, silent and Chinese auctions, more than 30 dealers, rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gifts, hobby supplies, wire wrapping and cabochon making craftsmen; contact Kim Price, PO Box 2054, Auburndale, FL 33823, (863) 412-9156; e-mail: IBVGMFS@gmail.com; Web site: www.bonevalley.net

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JANUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 General Meeting	6 GMS Workshop 7pm-9pm	7 Sand Section	8	9	10 GMS Field Trip
11 Workshop-Certified members only 2 to 4 pm MAG Meeting 12 to 2 pm	12 Fossil Section	13	14 Mineral Section	15	16	17
18	19	20 GMS Workshop 7pm-9pm	21	22	23	24 Junior Gem Tree Day
25	26 Gem Section	27	28	29	30	31



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