



Dops and Digs

MAY MEETING

The next meeting of the Athens Rock and Gem Club will be on April 16th, 2023.

We meet at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 800 Westlake Drive, Athens Ga 30606.

From Broad Street, turn south onto Alps Road. One block south of Colonial Promenade (a.k.a. Beechwood) just past Alps Road Elementary on the left. The room we meet in is on the left side of the church.

The business part of the meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. The educational program begins at about 8:00 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend the business meeting, but some may prefer to attend only the educational program.

Our program Lithic Materials Used By Native Americans In The Southeast To Manufacture Stone Tools will be presented by Jim Maudsley. Jim will bring examples of materials as well as authentic Indian Artifacts made from these materials.

This will be a most interesting program. Come Join us!

Athens Rock and Gem Club Field Trip!

The Athens Rock and Gem Club will have a field trip on Saturday, May 20th , 2023

Our field trip leaders Jim Maudsley and John Murray will take us to a local site to collect garnet specimens.

If you would like to attend we will meet in the Kangaroo parking lot 18 GA-72 E, Comer, GA 30629 at 10 am.

Items you might want to bring: screwdriver, trowel, gloves, newspaper to wrap your specimens, bucket.

Bring water and lunch. Dress for the weather we will be going rain or shine

Contact- Jim Maudsley 706-353-1792



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

James Strickler –May 25

Sean Price –May 25

LAST MONTH

First, business. Decision will be in May for the June picnic and auction. September will be the customary show and tell of what members have done over the summer break. October and November speakers are in the works. December is the annual party. A good discussion followed the field trip report on last Saturday's collecting of Savannah River agate.

Walter's book recommendation was Rocks inside out, by Karen Brzys. He passed around his newly acquired signed edition.

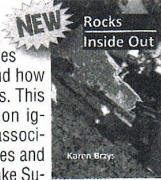
NEW BOOK!



If you want to learn more about rocks, like what is the difference between chert, jasper and agate. Then I would highly recommend this book, "Rocks Inside Out" for both identifying rocks as well as understanding the geologic origins of Earth's rocks.
Walt Sikora, Athens Rock & Gem Club Librarian

ROCKS INSIDE OUT

This book has been compiled to be like no other rock identification guide ever published. Almost 750 images are used to tell the story about how rocks formed and how to identify them using mostly observational methods. This book features or describes 43 of the most common igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks and associated minerals. Although some of the featured varieties and geologic background information pertaining to the Lake Superior region, the identification tips are relevant to rocks found worldwide. Photographs of specimens or geologic information are included from 35 American states and 18 other countries.



Stock No.	Description	Shipping weight	Each
2-0084	Rocks Inside Out	1 lb.	\$32.95

PLUS S. AND H.

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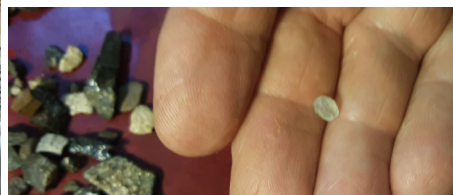
The April program presented by Jim Maudsley was on Sapphires.

Jim gave a brief history of sapphires in Montana, and passed around examples from Montana and Shri Lanka, raw and faceted. A form of corundum, sapphires occur in every color but red - red are called rubies. Sapphires have a bi-pyramid structure, an example of stunning blue to see in person.

He brought a postal box of gravel concentrate from Phillips, Montana, an area well known for placer deposits of sapphire. Purchased in 2020, the cost, including the "if it fits, it ships" postage, was \$69. We each got to scoop a cup of dusty, dirty river gravel, wash it in a screen, and dump it on a table to hunt under bright lights and flashlights. We all found at least one, real, natural sapphire in blue, yellow, or clear.

Thank you Jim for a fantastic program!

Current prices for a two gallon bag of gravel from the El Dorado mine is \$110 plus shipping. Montana Gems of Phillipsburg has kits for \$68 up to \$110.



GENERAL INFORMATION

The Athens Rock and Gem Club is a non-profit organization. Its objective and purpose is "to promote the recreational, educational, and scientific aspects of lapidary arts, rock and mineral collecting, and earth sciences, for adults and children".

Meetings are usually the third Tuesday of the month, excluding July and August. Locations of the December (Christmas party) and June (picnic) meetings are announced.

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Annual dues are \$15.00 (single adult) and \$17.50 (family of two); \$20.00 (family of three or more). Dues are due by the October meeting of each year. Checks should be made out to the Athens Rock and Gem Club and sent to the Treasurer. If a family membership, provide the names of all individuals in the family who will take part in any club activities.

THE ATHENS ROCK AND GEM CLUB
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____
Name: _____
Spouse's name: _____
Address: _____
Children's names: _____
Ages, Schools: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Email Addresses: _____
Occupations, hobbies, interests: _____
Birthdays/ Anniversary (optional) _____

Please circle one:

Annual Dues: Single - \$15.00 Family of Two - \$17.50 Family greater than Two - \$20.00

Renewal Dues Single - \$15.00 Family of Two - \$17.50 Family greater than Two - \$20.00

Make check payable to: Athens Rock and Gem Club

Send to: Kodi Book, Treasurer, ARGC, 13 Penny Lane, Lexington, GA 30648

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Please deliver to:

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