



Dops and Digs

September Meeting

The next meeting of the Athens Rock and Gem Club will be on September 19th, 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.

Also if you have any items for grab bags please bring to the meeting. A good variety of material always helps to make nice grab bags.

The educational program for the September meeting will be a social event. We will do a "Show and Tell." Everyone bring their new found treasures and stories acquired this summer. I'm sure there will be lots of good stuff to hear about and see!

Dues Are Due

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.

Be sure to print your email address carefully, so you can receive your Dops and Digs.

Make check payable to: Athens Rock and Gem Club

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



Don Brockway - September 5
Jessie Megan Jones-September 10



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

DAVID & LINDA SMITH SEPTEMBER 29

The annual picnic of the Athens Rock and Gem Club was held at the home of Dee and Tom Pelewski on Sunday, June 11th, 2023

There was an auction with nice specimens to bid on after the picnic. There were a few bidding battles with lots of laughs! All proceeds from the auction went to the club.

Thank you Dee for hosting the club picnic in your beautiful home! You are a wonderful hostess!



THE MINERAL ANALCIME



Chemistry: $\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, Hydrated Sodium Aluminum Silicate

Class: Silicates

Subclass: Tectosilicates

Group: Zeolites

Uses: mineral specimen and chemical filter.

Analcime is a popular and interesting mineral. It is sometimes known as analcite, although analcime is preferred. It is one of the few minerals that characteristically forms its own unique crystal. Well, not quite its own unique crystal, but pretty close. It forms the isometric trapezohedron. The minerals of the garnet group and high temperature leucite are the only common minerals that will also form the trapezohedron. The trapezohedron has 24 deltoid-shaped faces, where each face occupies one third of the position of a single octahedron's face.

Distinguishing analcime from the garnets and leucite is relatively easy in some cases. The garnets are much harder and usually deeply colored. Leucite has a much lower density and usually has a dull luster. Also leucite is typically embedded in host rock where as analcime, when displaying good crystals and not massive or granular, is loose or attached to other minerals in volcanic cavities.

Analcime, $\text{AlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ is actually distantly related to leucite, KAlSi_2O_6 . Leucite is a member of the feldspathoid group of minerals. Minerals whose chemistries are close to that of the alkali feldspars but are poor in silica (SiO_2) content, are called feldspathoids. Feldspathoids are commonly found in silica-poor igneous rocks, where analcime is sometimes present as well. Analcime is sometimes placed in the feldspathoid group since its chemistry and occasional occurrences are similar.

Analcime's structure however has a typical zeolite openness about it that allows large ions and molecules to reside and actually move around inside the overall framework. The structure contains large open channels that allow water and large ions to travel into and out of the crystal structure. The size of these channels controls the size of the molecules or ions, and therefore a zeolite like analcime can act as a chemical sieve.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Color is clear, white or gray, with greenish, yellowish and reddish tints possible.

Luster is vitreous.

Transparency: crystals are transparent to translucent.

Crystal System is isometric; $4/m \bar{3} 2/m$

Crystal Habits include the characteristic trapezohedron as well as the rare cube modified by trapezohedral faces. Also granular and massive.

Cleavage is absent.

Fracture is uneven.

Hardness is 5 - 5.5.

Specific Gravity is approximately 3.2 (average)

Streak is white.

Associated Minerals are quartz, calcite, serandite, apophyllite, natrolite, stilbite, heulandite and other zeolites.

Notable Occurrences include Mont St. Hilaire, Quebec; Iceland; several localities in Oregon, Colorado and New Jersey, USA; Nova Scotia and Switzerland.

Best Field Indicators are crystal habit, density, low hardness, luster and associations.



ROCK, GEM, AND MINERAL SHOWS



Shows that are listed for the previous year "generally" take place on the same weekends during the current year. Please call or email to verify.

Oct 7 – 8, 2023 Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society

The show is at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds, 510 Fairgrounds Place, Jacksonville, FL 32202. The 35.5th Annual Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Show will be held October 7-8, 2023 in Jacksonville, FL. Show times are 10am-6pm on Saturday and 10am-5pm on Sunday. Tickets are \$5 per day or \$8 for both days. Kids 12 and under are free with parent/guardian. Scouts in uniform are free. \$1 discount for 65+, Military, Police, Fire with ID. Approximately 40 vendors from around the country will have jewelry, rare and beautiful minerals and fossils, jewelry and lapidary supplies, faceted gemstones, cabochons, beads, tools and more. The Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society will have information about the club, classes we offer, a Youth section, displays and an AWESOME Florescent Rock Display in full Black Light! Link(s): <https://www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleGemandMineral>

Oct 13 – 15, 2023 Huntsville Gem and Mineral Society

Where 1280 Airport Road,, Huntsville, AL 35802 October 13 - 15, 2022, Huntsville, AL The Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show will feature National and International exhibitors offering a full spectrum of precious and semiprecious stones, beads, fossils, minerals, jewelry and lapidary materials and equipment, and custom jewelry and art objects of every type and price. Something for everyone! Kids will have educational opportunities and hands-on activities and can look for treasures in the mining flume and opening geodes. There will be fascinating displays, demonstrations, hourly drawings, food service, and free parking. Adults \$3, \$5 for a weekend pass, primary and secondary students \$1, under 5 free. Located at the Huntsville Jaycee Community Center, 2180 Airport Road. (35802). Friday and Saturday 10 – 6, Sunday 10 – 5. Information at www.Huntsvillegms.org, or 256-534-8803

Oct 20 – 22, 2023 Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society

8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923 The three -day 31st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show opens October 20th at 10 am at the Rothchild Conference Center at 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923. Show times are from 10:00 am to 6 pm October 20th – 21st, Friday and Saturday; from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 22nd. The Gem Show is open to the public and has an admission fee of \$8 a day for adults or \$15 for the whole show; children under 12 are admitted free. The Gem and Mineral Show will have many vendors that offer great products including a wide variety of jewelry, rare fossil and mineral specimens, meteorites, gems of all colors shapes & sizes, lapidary & jewelry equipment, and much more. Link(s):<http://www.knoxrocks.org/gem-show/>

Oct 21 – 22, 2023 Kanawha Rock and Gem Club

South Charleston Community Center 601 Jefferson Road South Charleston WV 25309 Oct. 21st 10am to 6pm and Oct 22nd 10am to 4pm \$2.00 Adults 12 years old and under are free Military ID = Free Link(s): <https://facebook.com/Kanawha-Rock-and-Gem-Club-222696581100304/>

Oct 21 – 22, 2023 St. Lucie Co. Rock and Gem Club

MidFlorida Event Center 9221 SE Event Center Place, Pt. Saint Lucie FL 34952 Our 46th annual club show. Featuring rocks, minerals, jewelry and gems. Displays and demonstrations by club members and kid's activities. This year we will be hosting the SFMS annual meeting. Link(s): www.slrockandgem.org

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.

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

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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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