

ATHENS ROCK AND GEM CLUB

ATHENS, GA DOPS AND DIGS JAN 2025

January Meeting

The Christmas party was a good time and we are grateful to our hosts, the Pelewskis! The white elephant gift swap was competitive and lots of fun and the food was exceptional.

Hope everyone enjoyed their holidays! Speaking of which, January's meeting will be a show and tell. Please bring anything you collected or were fortunate enough to be gifted for the holidays to show off and discuss!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday January 21st 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 down the hall to the right.

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.

Happy Birthday!

Greg Davis-2nd
Kodi Book-6th
Alex Downs-11th
Terri Maudsley-20th
Clay Downs-24th

**An Official Field Trip of the Greensboro Gem and Mineral Club
(Greensboro, NC) (HOST)**

Saturday, February 15, 2025

Meet at 8:30 AM Eastern

Collect from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern

Emerald Hollow Mine

Hiddenite, NC 28636

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No Attendance Limit
Registration Required (Link is below)
Fee: \$20 per adult; under 14 free



TRIP: Emerald Hollow Mine is the only emerald mine in the world open to the public. You can read more about the mine on their website: <https://www.emeraldhollowmine.com/>

COLLECTING: There are over sixty minerals that can be collected at this location including emerald, aquamarine, sapphire, garnet, topaz, amethyst, citrine, rutile, and tourmaline. There is an abundance of world class smoky and clear quartz crystals. The rare mineral hiddenite can be found only in the Hiddenite area.

BRING: Tools required depend on which type of digging you are interested in doing. You can choose to dig in the pit area, the mine will provide a shovel, or you can use the sluice trough and choose buckets of dirt to sift. The mine provides full-size shovels and 5-gallon buckets for the dig site. If you are going to use the sluiceway to wash your material, a wagon is recommended to assist in transporting the material back and forth. For the creek they provide screens and plastic scoops. You are welcome to bring any other hand tools that you prefer to use, but no metal tools are allowed in the creek. Water is available for purchase, but you need to bring your own lunch/snacks. See the mine website for more information about what to bring: <https://www.emeraldhollowmine.com/what-to-bring>

TERRAIN: The mine is easy access with no limitations.

FEE: \$20 per adult; under 14 free

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REGISTRATION: Click [here](#) to fill out a registration form. If you register and are unable to attend the trip, please let us know so we can update the registration list for an accurate head count.

CHILDREN (Yes): All ages are welcome. Adult oversight is required.

PETS (No): No pets.

FACILITIES: There are full toilet facilities on-site and food sites are located within a 15-minute drive.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: There is an open sales shop and museum showcasing minerals collected over the years from this mine. There will be a roaming onsite geologist to answer questions and assist. There is also a 15% discount on enriched 5-gallon buckets. They vary in price from \$20 to \$150.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET: Registered participants will be sent a confirmation email with directions and meeting place details.

CARPOOLING: The registration form has a place for you to indicate if you **need** a ride; if you can **offer** a ride; or if you would like to **drive or share** a carpool ride. If you choose any of these options, your name, email address, and club name will be shared with other members who also choose one of the options. Then, you can communicate with one another to arrange carpools.

CONTACT: Gary Parker, redrutil@bellsouth.net, 336-402-5252

IMPORTANT: DMC field trips are open only to members of clubs in the SFMS field trip sharing program. SFMS DMC club members are covered by liability insurance and they are bound by the AFMS code of ethics (click [here](#) to read them), but the general public is not and could jeopardize access to a collecting location. **Please do not post DMC field trip information where the general public can access it.**

Field trip chairs and newsletter editors: If you need this notice in Word format, please contact Lori Carter, DMC Coordinator, at dmc@southeastfed.org

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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. 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.

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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