Rocky Trails

October 2026 Volume 21 Issue 9

The Newsletter of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone,

As the 58th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show is quickly approaching, I would like to remind our members that Bri Tribbett will collect the Volunteer Forms. We are still looking for people to take over the Historian position that is open as well as the Dealer Chairperson for next year's show. The Dealer Chairperson position doesn't have to be just 1 person. Two people could make the work easier.

We've got our Fall Picnic coming up October 17th at Sesquicentennial State Park. Beautiful location, good food, and great company! This is a great way to enjoy each other's company and relax before November 19th arrives (*see details on page 9*). I believe that Catherine Sawyer has been working on setting up the Christmas Party. Last date I heard was for December 3. I'm sure Cat will make sure everyone gets their invitation!

This will be my last term as President of Columbia Gem & Mineral Society, and I feel confident that whoever is elected to serve in this position will do a great job for our club. It has been a great learning experience, and I've learned a lot serving in this position. If you would like to learn more about what happens behind the 'scenes,' then put your name on the ballot! Serve on a Chair position and work yourself up to another position. It is really a great experience, and you learn so much more about Columbia Gem and Mineral Society and all the other regional clubs our club is members of, Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies and Dixie Mineral Council. Take this opportunity to serve the Columbia Gem & Mineral Society.

Respectfully,
Patricia B Stidom
CGMS President

Special Announcement
Voting for the 2027 slate of officers will take place at the **November** club meeting. Plan to attend and participate. Don't be afraid to put your name in the hat!

NEXT MEETING
October 19, 2026

Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm. Meeting at 7:30 pm.

The September 2026 CGMS meeting will be held at **Hope Church** located at 2609 Seminole Road. It is off Broad River Rd. and is easily accessible from I-26 or I-20. Use the side door (close to the main part of the parking lot). We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not come into Hope Church before 6:30 pm,.

PROGRAM: The October program will be a presentation on mine reclamation at Graves Mountain given by Gwen Geidel. For all of us rockhounds who have been to Graves Mountain, this presentation will be very informative.

Ron Ahle & CGMS will provide door prizes.

Chris Glass will provide refreshments.

Executive Meeting
October 26, 2026
Dinner: 6 pm, Meeting: 7 pm
Grecian Gardens, 2312 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia. Members are welcome to attend. Only executive board members can vote.

About the Programs

The October program will be a presentation on mine reclamation at Graves Mountain given by Dr. Gwen Geidel. Dr. Gwen Geidel is retired from USC and during her nearly 40 years at USC, she served as Associate Dean for the School of the Environment, Director of the Environment and Sustainability Program, and Undergraduate Director of the School of the Earth, Ocean and Environment, while teaching classes and conducting research in Geology and the Environment. She received her Ph.D. in Geology in 1982, focusing on geochemical impacts of mining and minerals on the near surface environment, and a law degree in 1989.

Remediation at Graves Mountain in Lincoln County, Georgia, primarily focuses on managing acid mine drainage resulting from historical mining operations. The cause of contamination is pyrite oxidation. During the extraction and processing of kyanite ore from a pyritiferrous quartzite-kyanite ore body at the Graves Mountain mine, fine grained tailings were produced. When rainwater interacts with exposed tailings and rock faces, where it oxidizes to form iron hydroxides and sulfuric acid (dropping runoff water down to a pH of approximately 2.5). Runoff water is treated using limestone and lime to neutralize the sulfuric acid and then drained through constructed wetlands. After commercial mining ceased (following operations by Combustion Chemicals and Pasco Mining Company), the company has maintained an active environmental and site reclamation program since 1990. For all of us rockhounds who have been to Graves Mountain, this presentation will be very informative and interesting. Mark your calendar.



Graves Mountain Mining Operation in 1970 photographed during a CGMS fieldtrip.

EXECUTIVE BROAD MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 2026, Executive Board Meeting of Columbia Gem and Mineral Society

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society held its monthly board meeting on September 28, 2026, at Grecian Gardens at 2312 Sunset Blvd. Members in attendance were Jim Cobb, Angela Valvasori, Ron Ahle, Cheryl Coker, Jim Carter, Sheila Frame, Gary Hert, Catherine Sawyer, Patricia Stidom, Terry Gregory, Liz Gregory, and Sophie Grimsley. President Patricia Stidom called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

President: Patricia passed out a revised list of dealers for the show. 30 dealers are confirmed, she is waiting on a response from 5 more, and there is a waiting list of additional vendors in case any of the 5 do not confirm. Jamil Temple will get a copy of the show layout 2 weeks before the show.

VP: No report.

Treasurer: Angela gave a report of the club's finances. She stated that she received a thank you letter from the Cayce museum for the donation made by CGMS. She also stated that she wrote a check to Hope Church for the amount agreed upon for our monthly meetings. Angela reported that the club made money in grab bag sales and in new memberships, resulting in an overall net gain at the Okra Strut. She stated lots of people stopped by and that the Renaissance fair team for the fair in May invited us to have a table at their festival as well. They stated that they may waive the table fee for our booth. Angela also stated that if we want to attend the club should consider purchasing tables as the ones we currently have are very heavy.

Cheryl Coker also shared her thoughts on the Okra Strut. She stated that she printed 500 flyers for the Okra Strut and that the leftovers can be handed out at the show. She stated that kids at the Okra Strut loved the fossils and the shark tooth displayed at the table. The most popular things on the table were the tooth, amethyst, and Tiger's eye. She suggested that by having some specimens on display in front of the grab bags at the show, it could lead to more sales and Ron stated that we do that already. She said the banner for the table was very helpful and the company will be sending a second banner for free since they incorrectly made the first one.

Secretary: No report.

Show Planning: The next show planning meeting will be on Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Zorba's on St. Andrew's Road. Angela stated that she will be initiating the billboards soon and that everything with planning has been going well. The physical and digital postcards will be mailed soon. She reached out to Jamil about the next five-year contract and haven't heard back on her redlined draft. Four ads were sold for the show pamphlet so it will be printed. Aspects of the ads and printing deadlines were discussed. Angela stated that she sent the registration form for the show raffle to the South Carolina State Treasury, but she hasn't heard back yet. Bri Tribbet will be doing volunteer organization for the show. Ron stated that he will make more grab bags since some were sold at the Okra Strut. He also said that we may need more donations to fill the $5 and $10 bags. More bags with some higher quality specimens will need to be made before

EXECUTIVE BROAD MEETING MINUTES (continued)

the show, and info is needed for each specimen. Ron will put the word out at the next meeting for any donations for grab bags. He also stated that he and Susan Richarson will be donating 70 lbs. of dinosaur bone material for the grab bags.

Membership: Liz Gregory stated that there are 144 members: 108 adults and 36 juniors.

Workshop: Gary Hert said that he is still working on fixing the cabochon machine pulley.

Field trips: Casey Tyler was not present.

Sunshine: Sheila Frame sent a thank you note to Dan Frost for his great presentation at the September meeting.

Newsletter: Ron stated that he figured out what went wrong with last month's newsletter and knows how to solve it for next month. The Rocky Trails was delivered as a Word Document instead of a PDF, which meant that some club members could not open it.

Webmaster: Terry added the web dealer's release form to the website. He also stated that he wants to add a members only portal to the website so that we can share information with each other but not the public. Terry's son will be helping him with the project.

Historian: No updates.

Auctioneer: Ron stated that the auction during the August general meeting went very well, and that there are no other auctions scheduled for this year. Donations are always accepted for auctions and grab bags. Ron acknowledged that Sue Shrader has been very generous in making donations from her collection to the club.

Old Business:

- Patricia stated that Carol Elliot did not get to present her information at the last meeting. Patricia addressed the portion of the petition regarding meeting times. There were good points made about ending the meetings earlier. If we were to change the meeting times and Hope Church allows the change, it would be effective in 2027. The board decided that Patricia would ask Mandy if making an earlier meeting time would be fine with her since she often helps set up, then they would ask the church if they were OK with CGMS meeting earlier. Finally, if all parties were OK with moving the meeting time, Patricia will ask the general membership at the October meeting what their preference of meeting time is between 6:30 and 7:00 PM.
- The board discussed the nominating committee. Jim Cobb volunteered to be on the committee, but all others asked so far have turned the job down. The board discussed people that could potentially be on the committee such as Terri Tokaz, Pat Carter, and Michael Purcell. Patricia said she would reach out to them. Angela said she will continue to be treasurer if no one else is interested in the position.

EXECUTIVE BROAD MEETING MINUTES (continued)

- Angela stated that during the move to the bigger storage unit, some of the stuff in the old unit was moved to Patricia Stidom and Tom Stidom's workshop. She asked that we create a list of the equipment that was taken there. The following equipment is being stored off site at their workshop:
    - Two flat laps which were previously not functional, that Tom has since repaired.
    - Two heavy wooden 8-ft tables. Jim carter stated that they are not in good condition and suggested getting rid of them and purchasing new folding tables.
    - One cabochon machine which has also since been refurbished by Tom.

  The board discussed what to do with this equipment moving forward. Since the equipment is being stored offsite, in the unlikely chance that CGMS would like to use the equipment in the future it can be returned when requested. Gary stated that if CGMS requests any equipment be returned, Tom Stidom should be reimbursed for the time, effort, and parts used in refurbishing the equipment.

- The **CGMS Fall Picnic will be held on October 17th** from 11 am until 3 pm at Sesquicentennial State Park. There will be a grill available. Bring your own meat to cook and a side dish to share. Ron stated that he may auction some items off at the picnic.

New Business: Jim Carter asked if we plan to start any youth programming given the large number of youth members in the club. Patricia mentioned that we used to have a Rookie Rockhound program that someone would need to take over. Cheryl pointed out that many of the people stopping at the CGMS booth at the Okra Strut had kids. The board discussed possible future programming for kids in the club such as classes for crafts with children, summer field trips when kids are out of school, and alternate programming for kids during our general meetings. Angela mentioned that the Southeastern Federation has a Future Rockhounds of America Society which has some resources for young rockhounds that we could potentially use or share.

Patricia Stidom adjourned the meeting at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sophie Grimsly

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Columbia Gem and Mineral Society Meeting 09/21/2026

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. held its monthly meeting on September 21, 2026, at Hope Church. Vice President Jim Carter called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Jim Carter recognized CGMS member Susan Richardson for receiving the Governor's Excellence in Scientific Research Award. Congratulations Susan!

Show Planning: Angela stated that the next show planning meeting is September 22 at 6:30 pm at LaBrasca's. She handed out show flyers, and a volunteer sign up sheet. If you would like to fill out the form later, send it to Angela Valvasori or Bri Tribbet. She also stated that Jamil confirmed the parking donation will be voluntary this year during the show. Our show venue contract expires after this year, and we are in negotiations for another contract with Jamil. Pat Carter stated that the dealer dinner theme will be Autumn Soup, Sandwiches, and Salads. If you want to wait to sign up for bringing something to the dealer's dinner, print your name and phone number down so that Pat Carter can contact you.

Newsletter: Ron stated that some could not open this month's Rocky Trails since it was sent accidentally as a Word Document. He will send the PDF version out after the meeting. Also, CGMS will be at the Okra Strut this Saturday, stop by booth 131 and say hi!

Field Trips: Casey reported that the fossil collecting field trip was great and that everyone found a lot of material! There will be a DMC field trip in October near Franklin, NC. There are only 35 slots available, so sign up quickly. There is another DMC field trip in September headed to a quartzite quarry. Check the Rocky Trails for more information.

Workshop: The Workshop is open. Gary Hert is working on fixing the cabochon machine. He also reported that he cannot run the slab saw and cab machine at the same time due to the capacity of the breaker. Jim Carter and Gary Hert are working on a solution. Give Gary a call if you would like to use the equipment.

Nominating Committee: If you would like to be on the nominating committee or would like a position on the board next year let an officer know. Elections are held at the general meeting in November. The nominating committee is made up of three people and Jim Cobb has volunteered to be one of those people. Reach out to Jim if you would like to be part of the team.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

Programs: Catherine Sawyer gave a rundown of the programs for the rest of the year.

October: Gwen Geidel will present on the remediation of Graves Mountain
November: Voting and the CGMS Show
December: Christmas Party- Current planned date is December 3rd.There will be RSVPs to attend the party.

Catherine introduced this month's speaker. Dan Frost is a professor at USC, and he gave a fantastic presentation titled "Elgin Earthquake Swarm: Patterns, Causes, and Context." Thank you Dr. Frost for a great, informative, and interactive presentation!

After the presentation ended and door prizes were distributed, Jim Carter adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sophie Grimsly

News From SFMS from Cindy Reed, SFMS Loadstar Editor

Here's the link for the October edition of the SFMS Lodestar.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lE9mwxk8zCN6OjqN6DCmsc4fguEcjbpf/view?usp=sharing
If you cannot open this link and wish to received a pdf file, let me know and I'll add you to that list. Just remember, it will be a large file and take longer to download.

The AFMS Newsletter can be found here: https://www.amfed.org/newsletter

The annual meeting agenda and minutes start on page 20. Congratulations to our 2027 Executive Board. Be sure to check out David Liles article on Norris Kimberlite. Send your submissions to this email by the 25th of the month.

As always, if you have any suggestions or additions, please let me know.

Cindy Reed, SFMS Lodestar Editor

News Worth Digging Up

Best Public Lands for Rockhounding in the US

Source: Rock Hounding World
Date: July 31, 2026
By Ryan Conlon

This website is a great guide to rockhounding on public lands. The author starts by stating "America's public lands are full of chances for rockhounding fans. Millions of acres are managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and others. From the Western deserts to the East's mountains, public lands are diverse. They offer a wide range of geological formations to explore." The author gives an overview of the many types of treasures that can be found and where to go to find them. A summary of legal considerations and regulations is summarized including Bureau of Land Management Rules, National Forest service Guidelines, State Park Regulations and various applicable permits and collection limits. The author then gives a short tutorial on how to ID things you find and the best cleaning and storage procedures for specific materials. The author encourages folks to document their discoveries. In conclusion "Rockhounding sites across the US are full of adventure and learning. You can find rare gemstones and fascinating fossils. By going to the best places for rockhounding, you can feel the excitement." To read more about great rockhounding sites on public lands and what you can find there go to: Best Public Lands for Rockhounding in the US



Petrified Redwood tree stump spilt down the middle on open ground in the Little Missouri National Grassland were a person can collect up to 25 lbs. of petrified wood. As Angela will attest, these two pieces weigh considerably more than that! (photo by Ron Ahle)

CLUB PICNIC

MARK YOUR CALENDERS!! Come join us at the club picnic which will be held at Sesquicentennial State Park at Picnic Shelter No. 1 on **Saturday October 17th 11:00 to 3:00**. This is a bring your own food event although sharing of deserts is always appreciated. The club will provide charcoal for the grill, ice, and some drinks. If you want to use the grill, please bring your own meat. Grilling is definitely a good way to go. There will be hand selected door prizes from donations to the club for all attendees. There will be time for a rock swap if you have a few things you would like to trade. There are opportunities for outdoor recreation if you would like to extend your day to take advantage of the park. **Please note that you will be responsible for entrance fees into the park.**

(The photo below is Picnic Shelter No. 1 (taken by Ron Ahle.)



Social Media Helps our Club Stay Social!

CGMS website: www.cgms.rocks

Facebook, Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc:
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066320452494

Facebook, Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Group:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/322192978738281/

Instagram: Columbia Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. (@cgms_rocks)

YouTube:
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMgAMgnIt49_IvIzQtsZZRF0EwfbY38kc&si=VrPx2vPlGOR81ZSR

Please like/follow our Facebook and Instagram pages and share posts to increase our reach on social media.

Membership Notes

We currently have an enrollment of 146 members, with 110 adults and 36 juniors, in our club!

We hope to get many more new members at the show! Would you be willing to volunteer and help us out? We could use your help! Let us know!
Email me at membership@cgms.rocks if you have any questions or concerns or changes with your membership!

Remember, you can always join online by going to our website, wwww.cgms.rocks and clicking on the "Join" button and following instructions there to join online!
Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Liz Gregory
Membership Chair
membership@cgms.rocks

CGMS participated in the Irmo Okra Strut Festival on Saturday, September 26 with a table to introduce our club to families and advertise our November show. The Irmo Okra Strut is a well-attended festival held in Moore Park in Irmo, with food, rides for kids, live music and tables with crafts and information. Our table featured mineral and fossil specimens for people to pick up and look at, Mystery Bags for sale, flyers about CGMS and coupons for our November Show at Jamil Temple. The specimens drew people in to our table. The kids loved the megaladon tooth on display! A large specimen of polished tiger's eye and the amethyst were also popular. We talked to many individuals and families and sold all the $5 and $10 grab bags we brought. It was a fun day, talking to families, seeing the delight in kid's eyes and enjoying the okra and nice weather.

Thank you to Cheryl Coker for organizing CGMS participation, Jim Carter and Ron Ahle for helping with setup and Cheryl Coker, Liz Gregory, Gary Hert and Angela Valvasori who spent the day at our table.



South Carolina State Museum
http://scmuseum.org/events/upcoming-events/
803-898-4921

Hours of Operation:
Mon: CLOSED.
Tue – Sat: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 12 to 5 p.m.

Planetarium/ Theater Shows

Bugs 4D
Explore the extraordinary hidden world of bugs! Narrated by the beloved Dame Judi Dench, Bugs 4D brings viewers on an up-close-and-personal adventure in the Borneo rainforests, using innovative technology that magnifies these insects up to 250,000 times their normal size. Join the amazing giant Asian mantis and stunning swallowtail butterfly and many more as they hatch and grow in this unforgettable, spectacular 4D Experience® that reveals the tremendous life of bugs**!**

Animal Kingdom 4D: The Wild Awaits
Get ready for an exciting adventure through the wild with *Animal Kingdom 4D*! This action-packed show takes you from the African savannah to icy polar regions and deep ocean waters, bringing you face-to-face with amazing creatures. With stunning 4D effects, you'll laugh, gasp, and cheer as you discover the incredible talents of animals from all over the world. *Animal Kingdom 4D* celebrates how we're all connected to the animal world, inspiring us to protect these creatures and their habitats for the future. It's a fun, immersive journey that'll leave you in awe of the natural world and ready to make a difference!

South Carolina Wings of Wonder :
(Changing exhibit) Guests can explore the diversity of South Carolina birds in *South Carolina Wings of Wonder*, which will feature specimens and objects from the museum's extensive natural history collection. The display will highlight the variety of the nearly 450 bird species in our state. Specimens include both common and less-often seen raptors, shorebirds and songbirds. Also included in the exhibition will be the Decamps bird egg collection, displaying the beauty and variety of size, shape, and color of bird eggs. Also, a section on the extinct Carolina parakeet that includes the museum's taxidermy specimen and early depictions of the bird by John James Audubon and Alexander Wilson.

James Webb Space Telescope: The Story Unfolds

Recently updated with new images and fascinating discoveries!
See strange distant worlds in stunning detail and witness the evolution of galaxies over billions of years as revealed by the most powerful telescope ever built. Featuring groundbreaking images from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope visualized in brilliant 4K resolution, this special live planetarium experience explores the incredible, complex science behind the James Webb mission. Developed by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL, this 42-minute live, interactive show also highlights the incredible science behind the James Webb mission. The State Museum is proud to be one of only two locations outside of the USSRC to debut this special planetarium experience that will bring new discoveries to audiences.

58th Annual Columbia Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
November 20-22, 2026
Jamil Temple

The show is one month away! **The final show planning meeting is Tuesday Oct. 20, 6:30 pm, at Zorba's Greek Restaurant,** 6169 Saint Andrews Rd Ste 50, Columbia**.** All CGMS members are invited.

Planning status:

- 30+ confirmed dealers.
- We are now passing out flyers and show coupons at the club meeting for you to distribute to family, friends and your favorite businesses. There are copies in the Rocky Trails to print and pass out.
- We are signing up show volunteers. The sign-up sheet is passed around at the club meetings and is included in the Rocky Trails for you to fill out and send to Bri. Come out and enjoy the show with us!
- Show sponsorship: We have obtained five sponsorships! They will be recognized in a special booklet given out at the show, on our website and on a banner at the show. The sponsorships provide additional income.
- Advertising and Publicity: The show is listed on multiple on-line event calendars and will be advertised a Cola Daily email banner ad on Nov. 16 and digital billboards ads from Nov. 9 to 22 at multiple locations around Columbia.
- Mandie is arranging classes for home-schooled children on Friday at the show. If you would like to teach, please contact Mandie or Angela.
- We have received the approval from the SC Secretary of State to hold the raffle and have two appealing specimens to raffle.
- Jamil Temple will ask for voluntary parking donations this year.

Show Committee	Lead and Details
Show Chair	Angela Valvasori Olga Yukhno for setup and teardown
Dealers and Layout	Patricia and Tom Stidom
Geodes & Show Trailer	Gary Hert, Jim Carter
Sponsorship & Show Booklet	Cheryl Coker
Dealer Dinner	Pat Carter
Advertising and Publicity	Posters – Sue Shrader Billboards & Cola Daily ad – Angela Valvasori Posting on event calendars – Sue Shrader
Volunteer Organization	Bri Tribbett
Raffle	Casey Tyler
Mystery Bags	Ron Ahle

Angela Valvasori
Show Chair

Show Help Volunteer Sign Up Sheet - CGMS 2026 Show

Put a checkmark in the location and time slots you'd like to help with, OR
I can work wherever needed. I'm available these days and times:

Front Desk, Admission	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	
Membership, Door prize ticket box	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	
Geodes	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	
Grab Bags, T-shirts	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	
Salted Mine	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	
Door Prize Collect, Draw and Announce	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	
Greeter, Raffle Ticket Sales	**Friday Nov. 20**		**Sat. Nov. 21**		**Sun. Nov. 22**	
	10:00 to 2:00		10:00 to 2:00		12:00 to 2:30	
	2:00 to 6:00		2:00 to 6:00		2:30 to 5:00	

Demonstrating: I would like to demonstrate_____ (List: faceting, bead stringing, etc.) at these times _____on Friday/Saturday/Sunday (circle all that apply)

Display Case: I would like to fill a display case with _____

Set Up and Take Down (at Jamil Temple):

I can help with **Set up** on Thursday morning, Nov. 19, beginning at 9 am _____yes

I can help with **Take Down** on Sunday evening, Nov. 22 beginning at 5:00 pm _____yes

Dealer Dinner Setup and Takedown (Thursday):

I can help with dealer dinner setup from 9:30 to 10:30 am on Thursday Nov. 19_____yes

I can help with dealer dinner takedown and cleanup from 6 pm to 7 pm on Thursday Nov. 19____yes

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Name _____

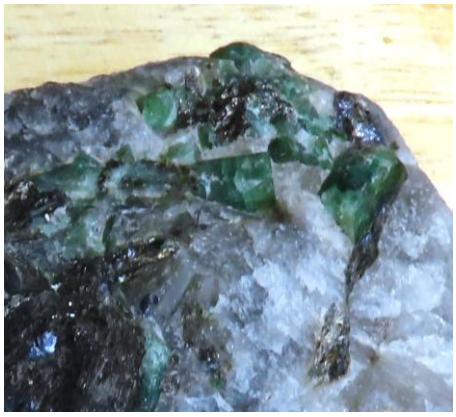
Telephone Number _____ **E Mail**_____

Please bring to the Club Meeting or Email to Bri Tribbett at bltribbett@gmail.com
Bri will compile a list of everyone that is working. Prior to the show, she will email the group to verify everyone's duties, dates, and times.

2026 Show Raffle Items

CGMS will hold a raffle at the 2026 Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show. The 1st grand prize is a very large 23-pound plate covered with UV Reactive Purple Fluorite, Dolomite, Calcite, And Quartz from China. In good light, it is very sparkly! The 2nd grand prize is a 3-pound specimen of emeralds in matrix from Brazil donated by Sue Shrader. It has at least 10 emerald crystals including one that is about thumb size. Raffle tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5, and available for purchase at the show. (photos by Ron Ahle and Jim Carter)








Non Profit Educational Organization
Columbia Gem & Mineral Society 2026
58th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show
Nov. 20, 10-6
Nov. 21, 10-6
Nov. 22, 12-5
Jamil Temple
206 Jamil Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210
$7
12 & Under, Military Free
With ID Card
www. cgms. rocks
Photo by Sue Shrader
3 day pass $14
$1.00 Off
Non Profit Educational Organization


Columbia Gem & Mineral Society
Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil Show
Jamil Temple
206 Jamil Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210
Nov. 20, 10:00 – 6:00
Nov. 21, 10:00 – 6:00
Nov. 22, 12:00 – 5:00
58th
Annual
2026
Adults $7.... Children 12 & Under Free
All Military & Dependents Free with ID
Please Copy
www.cgms.rocks
$1.00 Off

AREA SHOWS

To verify the accuracy of a show date, go to the show's website or contact them directly.

October 16-18-2026-Knoxville, TN. Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society The three-day 35th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show opens October 16th at 10 am at the Rothchild Conference Center at 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923.
https://www.knoxrocks.org/gem-show/

October 23-25, 2026—GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA: Upstate Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show. Annual show; Southeastern Mineral Specimens; Shrine Club Hejaz Temple-Greenville Event Center, 119 Beverly Road; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; $10 Adults, kids 12 and under free! Wristband good for both days; Open to the public, this show brings together over 2 dozen professional dealers, who will have all manner of items of geological origin available for purchase! Items are from all over the world, with an emphasis on regional finds. Several dealers just returning from buying at the major Tucson Show; contact Mark E. P. Woods, (706) 296-9467; Email: imineral@bellsouth.net; Website: https://www.facebook.com/events/876943940893270

November 13-15, 2026—GRAY, TENNESSEE: Tri-Cities Holiday Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Show; Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1, 100 Lakeview Street; Gene Backlund; Website: www.facebook.com/kgmsociety/

The Columbia Gem & Mineral Society will hold its 58th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show on November 20-22, 2026.
Jamil Shrine Temple, 206 Jamil Road, Columbia, SC 29210
Friday and Saturday 10:00 - 6:00; Sunday 12:00 - 5:00.
$7.00 for adults, 3-day pass $14.00, 12 & under free. All military & their dependents free with ID Card.

Jewelry, beads, loose stones, fossils, minerals, & tools for sale
Geodes sold & cut
Club member's rock collections on exhibit & lapidary demonstrations
Education for the whole family
South Carolina amethyst on display

www.cgms.rocks
Patricia Stidom is the dealer's contact.

CGMS Website
Please visit our website:
http://www.cgms.rocks
Webmaster: Terry Gregory

Monthly Meeting
Typically, the meetings are held the third Monday of each month. Socializing and refreshments at 7:00 pm; Meeting at 7:30 pm.

Executive Board Meetings:
Typically, the meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month. Meal is at 6:00 pm. Meeting is at 7:00 pm.

Rocky Trails
PO Box 6333
Columbia, SC 29260

The Columbia Gem and Mineral Society is an organization of persons associated together to promote popular interest in and to provide means for the exchange of knowledge of the Earth Sciences – Geology, Mineralogy, and Paleontology – and of the related Arts – Lapidary and other. The Society is a member of the Southeast Federation Mineralogical Societies Inc. and an affiliate of the American Federation of Mineralogical Society Inc.

2026 OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President……..... Patricia Stidom. ….……
Vice President……..... Jim Carter. ….……...……
Treasurer…… Angela Valvasori…….
Secretary…… Sophie Grimsley……

COMMITTEES

Membership …… Liz Gregory…….
Auctioneer…… Ron Ahle…….……
Club Liaison……..... Jim Cobb.…..……...…..…...
Faceting Guild…….…..…Tom Daniels……
Facebook…….. Sue Shrader ……...
Field Trip…….……. Casey Tyler…….
Historian……open
Librarian……Sheila Frame……...
Newsletter Editor……..…Ron Ahle…….……
Program.……..…..… Catherine Sawyer…….
Show.…… Angela Valvasori……
Sunshine ……. Sheila Frame…….
Website……. Terry Gregory ……..……..
Workshop.…… Gary Hert……...……
Workshop Location Special Committee…. Cheryl Coker…….