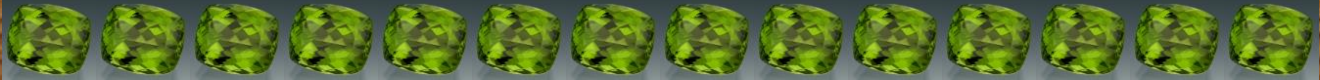


ROCKHOUNDS HERALD

920 Yorktown Road, Dothan, AL 36301-4372

www.wiregrassrockhounds.com

August 2015



Words from...

The President

Our July summer social was a busy one. We chatted for a while and a few of us brought in things for Show and Tell. We ate way too much and had both silent and open auctions. Arnie Lambert had some beautiful specimens for sale that he acquired from Grady Dunn. Joe Cody brought some cabs, sharks teeth, and a mammoth tooth that was the big hit of the day. Both Dianas (Rodenhizer and Tetzlaff) had very nice jewelry pieces for sale and I got some from each.

Our next social will be on Saturday, August 22nd. Lunch will be Pot Luck. We will meet at 12:00 PM and eat at 1:00 PM. We will also be hosting an auction where all the proceeds go to the club to help fund next year's show expenses. If you have anything you would like to donate, bring it along.

This will be our last social before our regular meetings begin in the fall. Please think about programs or speakers you would like see, and activities you would like to lead or participate in over the next year. For those of you who have acquired new specimens, bring them along and we will do Show and Tell before the auction.

Hope to see everyone at the August social.

Pat

Upcoming Shows

August	21 – 23	Lake George Gem & Mineral Club	Lake George, CO
August	21 – 24	Michiana Gem & Mineral Society	South Bend, IN
August	22 – 23	St. Lawrence County Rock & Mineral Club	Madrid, NY
August	22 – 23	Geology Section of the Peoria Academy of Science	Peoria, IL
August	22 – 23	Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club	Mountain Home, AR
August	29 – 30	Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society	Concord, CA
September	4 – 7	Treasures of the Earth, Inc.	Raleigh, NC
September	5 – 6	Kennebec Rocks & Minerals Club	Augusta, ME
September	5 – 7	Grant County Rolling Stones	Silver City, NM
September	7 – 9	East Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show	West Springfield, MA
September	11 – 13	Central Florida Mineral and Gem Society	Orlando, FL
September	11 – 13	Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club	Winston-Salem, NC
September	12 – 13	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Port Angeles, WA
September	12 – 13	Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society	Walla Walla, WA

Summer Project #2 – Horse Tail Bracelet



Horse Tail Bracelet Instructions

Designed by Cynthia Kimura

Wire can allow you to create custom findings for your jewelry, like the beaded links featured in this bracelet. The shining green wire complements the Fern Green and Petrol Swarovski beads perfectly. The wrapped loops also add texture to the overall piece. Make this bracelet to find out what you can do with craft wire!

Step one:

Cut a three-inch length of Artbeads Designer Wire, 18 gauge Peridot. Create a wrapped loop on one end. For help making wrapped loops, please see our [Wrapped Loop Handy Tip](#). String a Swarovski 6mm mini round bead in Fern Green onto the wire, followed by a Swarovski 12mm coin pearl in Petrol and another Fern Green mini round bead. Create a wrapped loop on the other end of the wire. Repeat this step four times for a total of five beaded links.

Step two:

Attach the end of one link to the end of another using two sterling silver 4.6mm open jump rings. See how to properly open and close jump rings with this [Jump Ring Handy Tip Video](#). Connect all of your beaded links in this manner.

Step three:

Add the JBB antique silver-plated pewter leaves toggle clasp to the ends of your bracelet using one jump ring for each end.

Approximate Size: 6 3/4 Inches

Estimated Time: One Hour

Difficulty Level: Beginner

Tools & Supplies:

German Chain Nose Pliers (TOOL-500)

German Round Nose Pliers (TOOL-502)

German Side Cutter (TOOL-503)

List of Components:

Swarovski 5860 12mm Coin Pearl Petrol (5860-PET12, qty 5)

Swarovski 5052 6mm Mini Round Bead Fern Green (5052-FGN6, qty 10)

JBB Antique Silver-Plated Pewter Leaves Toggle Clasp (PSA-TOG007, qty 1)

Sterling Silver Open Jump Ring - 0.035 x .180 inches (0.90 x 4.60mm) (SS-OJR35-C, qty 10)

Artbeads Designer Wire - Peridot Non-Tarnish 18 Gauge (14 ft. spool) (ADW0015, qty 1)

Alternate Products:

These are fun alternatives to those listed above:

Swarovski 5860 12mm Coin Pearl Dark Lapis (5860-DLA12)

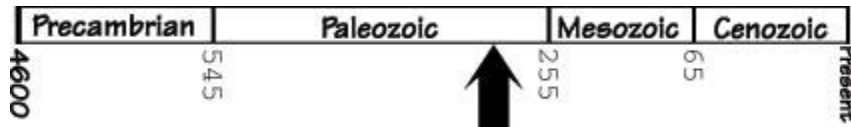
Swarovski 5052 6mm Mini Round Bead Dark Moss Green (5052-DMG6)

White Silver-Plated Brass Round Splash Toggle Clasp (CLASP-0054)

Source: <http://www.artbeads.com/horse-tail-designer-wire-bracelet.html>

Rocks of the Blue Ridge & Piedmont: Region 1, con't

Pennsylvanian - Permian Rocks

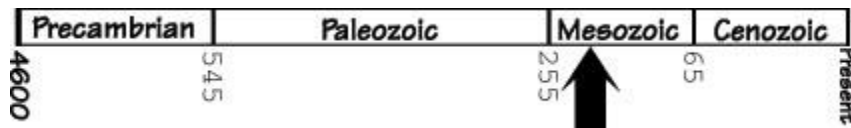


During the late Pennsylvanian and Permian, Africa finally collided with North America during the Alleghanian mountain building event, forming the Appalachian Mountains and resulting in the formation of the supercontinent Pangea. The collision resulted in intense metamorphism of the Blue Ridge and inner Piedmont, more moderate metamorphism in the outer Piedmont, westward thrusting of the crust, and intrusions throughout the Blue Ridge and Piedmont region (similar to previous mountain building related intrusions) (Figure 2.22).

Figure 2.22: Igneous intrusions associated with the Alleghanian mountain-building event.



Triassic - Jurassic Rocks



During the late Triassic and early Jurassic, Pangea broke apart. Rifts formed in the crust along the margin of North America (as well as Africa and western Europe.) Blocks of crust slid down fault planes to form “rift” basins of varying sizes. The eroding cliffs of the fault blocks filled the basins with poorly sorted, red-colored sandstone and shale. These rift basin deposits are part of a sequence of rocks known as the Newark Supergroup, reaching up to 6 km thick in some places. These Triassic-Jurassic age deposits are found at the surface in the Southeast in Virginia and North Carolina (Figure 2.23). The rift basins expose characteristic reddish-brown sedimentary rock and igneous basalt or diabase, also known locally as "traprock". Periodically the basins were filled with water, forming shallow lakes in which were deposited thin, dark layers of sediment.

The rift valley igneous rocks were formed when magma pushed up through the fractures in the rifted crust. The magma either poured out on the surface of the basin as lava flows (basalt), or cooled and crystallized as igneous intrusions (diabase) before reaching the surface. The diabase formed at shallow depths within the crust because the relatively cooler temperatures of the upper crust forced the magma to cool quickly. North and South Carolina claim the largest diabase dike

in the eastern United States, “the Great Diabase Dike”, which extends across the border between the two states for 35 miles. The dike is more than 1000 feet wide in sections. Diabase dikes formed from the Triassic and Jurassic rifting period are found not only in the rift basins, but throughout the Piedmont.

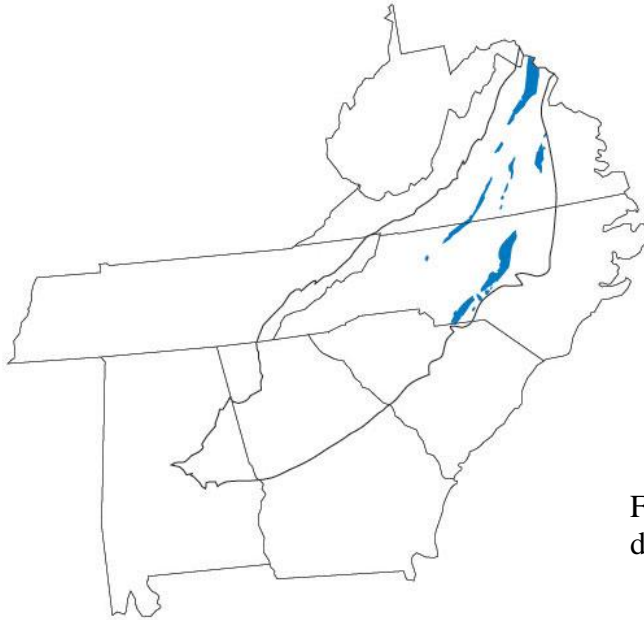


Figure 2.23: Triassic-Jurassic age deposits in the Southeast Piedmont.

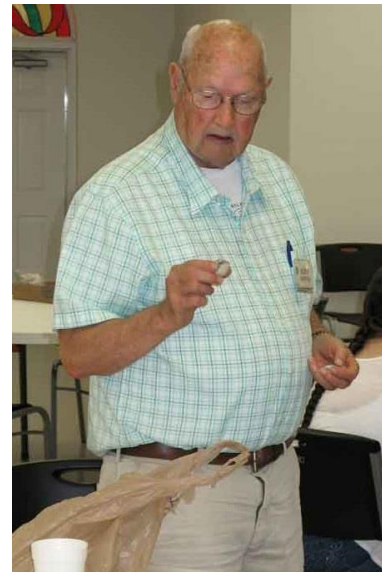
Colors of Sedimentary Rocks: what do they tell us about the environment?

Color in rock may be an important indicator of environment in which the rock formed. The red-brown color so common in the rift basins of the Southeast results from iron within the rock that has been oxidized (rusted!) This is most common in sediments deposited in a seasonally hot and dry climate on land, where the iron could be exposed to the air and oxidized. Red sedimentary rock is also found in the Silurian rocks of the Inland Basins region, reflecting a time when ocean floor sediments were exposed above water and allowed to oxidize. In well-oxygenated, deep marine conditions, red clays may also form. In some marine environments, however, where iron is reduced rather than oxidized, rocks may take on a greenish hue. Likewise, some greenish sedimentary rocks may indicate the presence of the mineral glauconite, which is found only in marine environments.

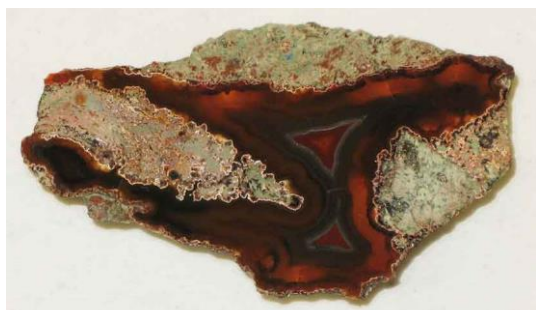
In contrast, many shales are gray or black in color, reflecting the abundance of dark-colored carbon-rich organic material that can accumulate in quiet-water settings. The darker the shale, the more organic material that is preserved within! Shales are most commonly formed in quiet waters where tiny particles have time to settle out to the sea or lake floor. The presence of certain minerals may also affect the color and aid in the interpretation of the environment of deposition.

Club Social – July 2015

Photos by Pat & Bruce



Lots of “conferring” about the stuff up for auction.



Club Social – July 2015

Photos by Pat & Bruce



Had a good sale and the conversations continued long after we'd finished the delicious buffet.



Mineral Luster

Luster is a description of the way a mineral surface looks when light reflects off of the surface. Luster has two categories, metallic and nonmetallic.

Metallic Luster

Metallic Luster refers to minerals that look like a shiny metal.

Examples include galena, pyrite, magnetite, and some varieties of hematite.



Nonmetallic Luster

Nonmetallic Luster. There are a number of different nonmetallic lusters.

A. Vitreous. Also called glassy. Examples include quartz and tourmaline.

B. Resinous. Minerals that look like resin (a little bit like the look of plastic). Examples include sulfur and sphalerite.

C. Pearly. Minerals with a pearl-like, iridescent luster. Talc is a good example.

D. Greasy. Some minerals look like they have a thin layer of oil on them. Graphite is the best example.

E. Silky. Minerals that look like fibers of silk. Fibrous gypsum and malachite have this luster.

F. Adamantine. This describes minerals with a brilliant luster, sometimes with colors flashing in the mineral.

Diamond is the best example. Some clear lead minerals, like cerussite and anglesite, also have adamantine luster.



Famous Mines in the U.S.A.

In this word search are the names of famous mines in the United States of America. The names can run left to right, right to left, top to bottom, bottom to top or diagonally. When you are done, use the internet and find information and pictures of each mine.

H	I	M	A	L	A	Y	A	A	R	O	N	O	M	W
C	O	L	O	R	A	D	O	Q	U	A	R	T	Z	I
B	C	M	W	P	E	A	S	I	J	N	T	S	T	L
O	N	E	E	U	Q	R	E	P	P	O	C	T	U	L
A	C	F	S	S	E	L	G	G	U	R	E	E	E	I
T	B	R	I	S	T	O	L	S	A	N	P	R	D	A
Q	U	I	N	C	Y	A	Y	W	N	M	O	L	V	M
Z	N	U	R	T	C	B	K	E	L	Q	W	I	H	W
K	K	B	C	T	R	U	B	E	W	Q	L	N	O	I
R	E	D	C	L	O	U	D	T	H	A	P	G	P	S
T	R	O	W	N	G	T	F	H	A	N	N	A	N	E
L	H	N	W	O	I	G	C	O	M	S	T	O	C	K
T	I	L	L	Y	E	K	I	M	R	E	K	N	U	B
A	L	I	E	F	O	S	T	E	R	W	E	S	M	O
Y	L	L	E	K	Q	F	E	I	H	C	A	L	A	P

Ruggles; William Wise; Sweet Home; Tilly Foster; Pala Chief; Himalaya; Bennett; Quincy; Kelly; Red Cloud; Colorado Quartz; Sterling; Homestake; Bristol; Copper Queen; Comstock; Etta; Bunker.



Who What Where When Why How

August Birthdays

AUG 2 Christian Holderith
AUG 11 Wanda Moore
AUG 14 Arnie Lambert
AUG 23 Barbara Meredith
AUG 29 Samantha Merrill

Random Rock Facts

Two birthstones are available for August birthdays: Peridot and Sardonyx. *Peridot* is said to host magical powers and healing properties to protect against nightmares and to bring the wearer power, influence, and a wonderful year. As peridot is a gemstone that forms deep inside the Earth and brought to the surface by volcanoes, in Hawaii, peridot symbolizes the tears of Pele, the goddess of fire and volcanoes. Today, most of the peridot supply comes from Arizona; other sources are China, Myanmar, and Pakistan. This gemstone comes in several color variations ranging from yellowish green to brown, but most consumers are attracted to the bright lime greens and olive greens. Peridot, in smaller sizes, often is used in beaded necklaces and bracelets.

Reprinted with permission from the American Gem Society
Source: <http://www.americangemsociety.org/august-birthstones>



Meeting Information

Time: 2:00 PM
Date: Fourth Sunday of each month (except June, July and August)
Place: Fellowship Hall – Tabernacle United Methodist Church
4205 S. Brannon Stand Road
Dothan, AL

Website: www.wiregrassrockhounds.com

Objectives

To stimulate interest in lapidary, earth science and, when necessary, other related fields.

To sponsor an educational program within the membership to increase the knowledge of its members in the properties, identifications and evaluations of rocks, minerals, fossils and other related subjects.

To cooperate and aid in the solution of its members' problems encountered in the Club's objectives.

To cooperate with other mineralogical and geological clubs and societies.

To arrange and conduct field trips to facilitate the collection of minerals.

To provide opportunity for exchange and exhibition of specimens and materials.

To conduct its affairs without profit and to refrain from using its assets for pecuniary benefit of any individual or group.

Classified Ads

Looking for an item to round out your rock collection?

Got a specimen, tool or handicraft for sale or trade?

Submit the pertinent details to me by the 10th of each month and your inclinations will be made known to the membership in the next bulletin.

N. J. Blackwell
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Phone: 334-503-0308
Email: Tfavorite7@aol.com

Annual Dues

Single \$15
Family \$20

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Vice President – Garry Shirah
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334-577-4353

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Show Chair – Jeff DeRoche
334-673-3554

Field Trips Chair – Bruce Fizzell
334-577-4353

Hospitality Chair – Vacant

Club Hostess – Laural Meints
334-723-8019

Club Liaison – Garry Shirah
334-671-4192

Refreshments

AUG 22 – Potluck Social

ROCKHOUNDS HERALD

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Where you might hear...

Rocks are naturally formed, consolidated material composed of grains of one or more minerals. Geologists group rocks into three categories depending on their origin: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic.

A mineral is defined as a naturally occurring, crystalline solid of definite chemical composition and a characteristic crystal structure.

Igneous rocks are formed from solidification of molten material. Sedimentary rocks are formed by the accumulation of fragmental material derived from preexisting rocks of any origin as well as the accumulation of organic material or precipitated material. Metamorphic rocks occur as a result of high pressure, high temperature and the chemical activity of fluids changing the texture and (or) mineralogy of preexisting rocks.

Source: <http://imnh.isu.edu/digitalatlas/geo/basics/geology.htm>

Member of
Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies