

"Stones and Bones" Official Publication of  
The Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society, Inc. (IBVGM&FS)  
Editor, P.O. Box 2054 Auburndale, FL 33823

# STONES and Bones



MEMBERSHIP MAILING ADDRESS:

Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2054  
Auburndale, FL 33823

Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society, Inc. meets at 7:00 P.M., the second Thursday of each month at the Auburndale Women's Club, 243 E. Lake Ave., Auburndale. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2009. *Visitors are always welcome.*

Check out our website at [www.bonevalley.net](http://www.bonevalley.net)

MAIL SUBMISSIONS FOR NEWSLETTER TO THE EDITOR  
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# STONES and Bones

Official Publication of  
Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society, Inc.

## Officers For 2009

|                    |  |              |
|--------------------|--|--------------|
| President          | Cindy Reed   | 863-644-6665 |
|                    | <a href="mailto:lunaria@tampabay.rr.com">lunaria@tampabay.rr.com</a> |              |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> VP | VACANT   |              |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP | VACANT (also membership chairman)                                    |              |
| Secretary          | Laurie Williams  |              |
| Treasurer          | Roger McQuown  |              |

### Board Members

|                |           |              |
|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| Past President | Jan Liles | 863-519-9449 |
| 1-Year Term    | Kim Price |              |
| 2-Year Term    | Jim Reed  | 863-644-6665 |
| 3-Year Term    | Bob Gayle |              |

### Committee Chairs

|                         |  |              |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| Program Chairman        | VACANT   |              |
| Corresponding Secretary | VACANT   |              |
| Annual Show             | Jim Reed   | 863-644-6665 |
| Education               | VACANT   |              |
| Field Trips             | Kim Price  |              |
| Historian               | Jan Liles  | 863-519-9449 |
| Shop Manager            | Jim Reed   | 863-644-6665 |
|                         | <a href="mailto:rocks57@tampabay.rr.com">rocks57@tampabay.rr.com</a> |              |
| Parliamentarian         | Mary K. Sullivan   |              |
| Snacks                  | Jan Liles  |              |
| Editor / Webmaster      | Cindy Reed   | 863-644.6665 |
|                         | <a href="mailto:lunaria@tampabay.rr.com">lunaria@tampabay.rr.com</a> |              |

## Statement of Principles

1. To stimulate interest in the collection, study, identification, and classification of gem, mineral & fossil specimens.
2. To disseminate knowledge of lapidary work and classification of gems, minerals & fossils, and their applications in the arts and sciences.
3. To encourage and facilitate instruction in the various elements of mineralogy and lapidary work and identification and classification of fossils.
4. To arrange and conduct field trips for collection of specimens.
5. To participate by displaying and taking part in all local, state, and Federation shows to the greatest possible extent.
6. To encourage adherence to the American Federation of Mineralogical Society's Code of Ethics.

## LOCATION FOR 2009 MEETINGS Auburndale Women's Club, 243 E. Lake Ave.

Directions: From Hwy 92, turn north on Main Street (SR 559 at the Sunoco Station) go to the next light and turn right on Bridgers. Turn left just past the library (about 1/2 mile down the road). Take the first left and you'll be on E Lake Ave. The Women's Club is on the right, across from the library (I think it's the 2<sup>nd</sup> building).

From Polk City or North Lakeland, take SR 559 through Auburndale. Turn left on E. Lake across from the park. Or, you can continue on to Bridgers and turn left there.

## Message from the President

We're back from Europe and ready for the September meeting. Juanita has agreed to give a demo on how to wire-wrap shark's teeth. If you have teeth of your own, please bring them. You can also bring your own tools and wire. If you don't have them, Juanita is prepared for you.

Since we didn't have a meeting in August, there are no minutes or treasurer's report this month.

I hope everyone's had a great summer.  
Cindy Reed, President

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lorraine Auger  
Susan Burns  
Fred Hendershot  
Jan Liles  
Ron Williams

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Gene & Juanita Bergfield  
Barbara Frederick  
Rose Marie Gervase  
Laurie Williams

### September Birthstones

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Modern Birthstone      | - Sapphire                      |
| Traditional Birthstone | - Sapphire                      |
| Mystical Birthstone    | - Agate                         |
| Ayurvedic Birthstone   | - Moonstone                     |
| Other                  | Chrysolite, Zircon,<br>Sardonyx |

### Member News

**Jan Liles is home after having hip replacement surgery on July 29<sup>th</sup>. I just spoke with her and she's doing great. In fact, she's home sooner than expected. Way to go Jan! We hope to see you at the September meeting. She asks that you hold off on emails for a week or so as she hasn't caught up yet.**

**Our own Bob Gayle is working on a book. We've all enjoyed Bob's articles in our newsletter and he's decided to take it to the next level. This will be a self-published book for the hobbyist. Jim Reed is helping as technical editor. We'll keep you informed on his progress and let you know when it's published and where you can get your copy. I can't wait!**

**We used up a lot of our tumbled stones in the sandbox at the last rock show. If anyone has some they would like to donate, please contact Jim Reed. In fact, if you have any fossils, shells, tumbled or anything that would work in the sand box, please let us know.**

**From Jim Reed: I'd like to thank Bob for opening the shop while we were in Europe. The vacation was fantastic and I didn't mind being with glass-type people. In fact, it was fun going to people's home studios and watch them make their distinct creations. It didn't hurt that we were there during Festival week – German Beer and Sausage, ymmm.**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **September Shows and Swap Meets**

18-20--JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA: 21st annual show; Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society; Morocco Temple, 3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd.; Fri. 1-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; rock, gem and mineral displays; contact Tom Frame, 3133 Chapelwood Ln., Jacksonville, FL 32216, (904) 400-3818; e-mail: jgms\_show@hotmail.com; Web site: [www.jaxgemandmineral.org](http://www.jaxgemandmineral.org)

## **Upcoming Shows and Swap Meets**

10/10-11--ORLANDO, FLORIDA: 18th annual fossil and mineral show; Florida Fossil Hunters; Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$4, children \$1; fossils, rocks, gems, minerals, silent auctions, supplies, books, educational material, children's dig pit, Scout activities; contact Valerie First, 223 Ringwood Dr., Winter Springs, FL 32708, (407) 699-9274; e-mail: vjfirst@aol.com; Web site: [Floridafossilhunters.com](http://Floridafossilhunters.com)

10/24-25--TAMPA, FLORIDA: 50th annual show and sale; Tampa Bay Mineral and Science Club; Florida State Fairgrounds, 4800 U.S. Hwy. 301 N; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students (K-12) \$4, children under 5 free with adult; contact Tony Carrino, 3124 Partridge Point Trail, Valrico, FL 33596, (813) 482-7774; e-mail: [tcarrino@verizon.net](mailto:tcarrino@verizon.net); Web site: [www.tampabayrockclub.com](http://www.tampabayrockclub.com)

10/31-11/1--STUART, FLORIDA: 31st annual show; St. Lucie County Rock & Gem Club; Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy. (A1A); Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children free, discount coupon on Web site; jewelry, gemstones, beads, minerals, rough, demonstrations, drawing; contact Norm Holbert, 455 SW Balfour Ave., Port St. Lucie, FL 34953, (772) 873-0787; e-mail: [normholbert@bellsouth.net](mailto:normholbert@bellsouth.net); Web site: [www.slrockandgem.org](http://www.slrockandgem.org)

11/7-8--MELBOURNE, FLORIDA: Show, "Parade of Gems"; Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society; Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, seniors \$2, children free; children's corner, fluorescent minerals, lapidary demonstrations, club displays; contact John C. Almasi, (321) 956-9742; e-mail: [almasij@fit.edu](mailto:almasij@fit.edu)

11/13-15--ORLANDO, FLORIDA: Fall show; Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society; Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr.; Fri. 1-8, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, student \$2, children under 12 free with paying adult; custom jewelry, mineral specimens, beads, fossils, sluice mining, mineral identification, faceting demonstrations, silent auctions, hourly door prizes, grand prize; contact James Johnstone, (407) 625-6336; e-mail: [jj030@msn.com](mailto:jj030@msn.com); Web site: [www.thumblicker.com](http://www.thumblicker.com)

11/21-22--WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA: 43rd annual show; Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches; Americraft Expo Center, South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$7, children under 12 free; gem mining, fossil dig, exhibits, demonstrations, door prizes, Chinese auction; contact Barbara Ringhiser, (561) 588-5458; e-mail: [bar5678@aol.com](mailto:bar5678@aol.com); or Ellen Jean, (931) 372-8236; e-mail: [ellenjean24@aol.com](mailto:ellenjean24@aol.com); Web site: [www.gemandmineral.cc](http://www.gemandmineral.cc)

## Collecting

**Nantahala Talc and Limestone Quarry**  
**Hewitt, North Carolina**  
**Saturday, October 10, 2009**  
**9:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

**WHERE:** Nantahala Talc and Limestone Quarry, Hewitt, North Carolina (in the beautiful Nantahala gorge).

**WHAT:** Banded pink, gray and yellow marble, calcite, dolomite, pyrite, travertine and talc.

**WHEN:** October 10, 2009

**COLLECTING HOURS:** Participants **must** arrive at 9:00 A.M. to check-in, sign a release form, and receive a brief safety briefing. The dig will last until 5:00 P.M. There is no fee for this dig.

If **children** come, they **MUST** be in CLOSE proximity to their parent(s) at all times. All young people under 18 must be with an adult/parent at all times. This is a working quarry with high unstable walls so **everyone must stay away from the walls.**

**SAFETY EQUIPMENT:** Hard hats and safety glasses are required. It is also recommended that you wear sturdy shoes, gloves, and appropriate outer clothing. Collecting is possible rain or shine.

**SPECIAL CONDITION:** In order to attend this field trip, you must be a member of a club that is a member of one of the following American Federation of Mineralogical Society's regional societies:

[CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#)

[EFMLS - Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies](#)

[MWF - Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies](#)

[NFMS - Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#)

[RMFMS - Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#)

[SCFMS - South Central Federation of Mineral Societies](#)

[SFMS - Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#)

**WHAT TO BRING:** Buckets and containers, rock and crack hammers, picks, sledge hammers, and flat and pointed chisels. We will drive into the large quarry and park on a mid-level bench. Bring a lunch and water and be prepared to do your "duty" in the woods as there are no nearby facilities. It will be possible to drive about ¼ mile to the quarry office for "relief", if necessary.

**WHERE TO STAY:** Towns within 30 miles from the meeting spot with motels, campgrounds and other facilities: Andrews; Bryson City; Cherokee; Robbinsville; and Murphy.

**DIRECTIONS:** We will meet at **9:00 AM** at a Roadside Park/Rest Area on US-74 at Hewitt, North Carolina and proceed as a group to the nearby quarry.

**From the West:** From the intersection of US-19 business and US-74E at Andrews, NC, drive approximately 12 miles east on US-74E to the roadside park/rest area on the left-hand (north) side of highway (just past the bridge over the Nantahala River).

**From the East:** From the intersection of US-19business and US-74W at Bryson City, NC, drive approximately 17.5 miles west on US-74W to the roadside park on the right-hand (north) side of the highway (just before the bridge over the Nantahala River).

### **FOR ONLINE INFORMATION AND PICTURES OF THE QUARRY:**

<http://www.mcrocks.com/page11.html>

<http://www.mcrocks.com/FTR-A/FieldTripReportMikeStreeterOctober%2025,%202003.html>

<http://www.mcrocks.com/FTR-A/FieldTripReportEverettHarrington-October2003.html>

<http://www.mcrocks.com/fttr/StreeterNantahalaNovember05.html>

<http://www.mcrocks.com/fttr06-2/Streeter11-4-06.html>

<http://www.mcrocks.com/fttr07-2/StreeterNantahala11-10-07.html>

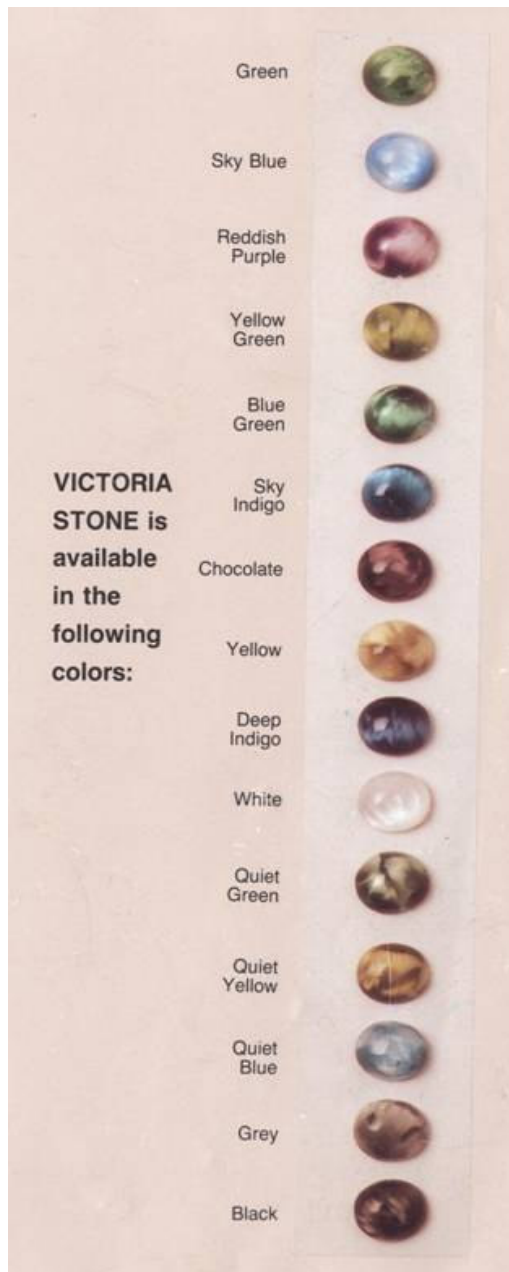
**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Mike Streeter – Email: [mcstreeter@charter.net](mailto:mcstreeter@charter.net) Phone: (828)667-8290

# Victoria Stone

By  
Bob Gayle

Let me begin by saying, this article is a rehash of articles I found online and there is no new information available. I will attempt to impart what I found out without plagiarizing the work of others. Should I stray from this goal, credit goes to Quarry Quip, the newsletter of the Wichita Gem and Mineral Society Inc. and two other articles I found whose links I will include at the end of my article.

Victoria Stone (aka. limori Stone) is one of the most beautiful stones you may run across. As much as I hate to apply the term "rare" to a stone, this one is very rare. It is rare because it is man made. Dr. S. limori, a Japanese doctor, created this stone in his laboratory in the late 1960s or early 1970s. The sad thing about this stone is that Dr. limori was so secretive about his formula, that he took it with him to his grave. If I am not mistaken, in all fairness to the good doctor, he died suddenly in an automobile accident.



The primary ingredient of Dr. limori's creation is known but proportions and the secret ingredient is what the mystery remains. Upon his death, Dr. limori's son continued to operate the laboratory but alas, he could not duplicate his father's recipe.

Dr. limori's primary ingredients were quartz, feldspar, magnesite, calcite, fluor spar, etc. These minerals were crushed to basically a powder then heated to a molten state. He then added his secret ingredient that made the stone crystallize with the wonderful fan shaped patterns in the stone. This mixture was poured in to a boule (tear shape mold) and allowed to cool for 30 to 45 days under 2000 psi. The resulting product was not an imitation stone or synthetic stone but reconstructed natural stone that is mineralogically similar to Nephrite Jade. The Mohs hardness is 6 with a specific gravity of 3.02 and refractive index of 1.62.

As you can see in the photo on the left, Victoria Stone comes in 15 different colors. These include: green, sky blue, reddish purple, yellow green, deep indigo, white, quiet green, quiet yellow, quiet blue, gray, and black. In addition to these colors, Dr. limori created transparent Victoria Stone to be used as facet grade material. The colors produced for this product were: sapphire blue, emerald green, amethyst purple, ruby red, topaz,

aquamarine, garnet, and peridot green. I have never seen the facet rough Victoria Stone but I have seen some of the opaque stone at gem and mineral shows and have managed to acquire a few small pieces for myself. It is possible to find Victoria Stone on Ebay from time to time and even possible to get a pretty good deal on some stones but more often than not it is a very pricey material.

The articles I have tell you how to slice Victoria Stone from the original molds but since the availability of those larger pieces is rare, I am going to skip that part. Usually what you will find are smaller pieces that have already been sliced. According to what I have read (I haven't actually worked with any of the stone) you must be very gentle when cutting and polishing because the fan shape crystals will tend to splinter. Therefore, the coarsest grit that should be used on Victoria Stone is 220 and that as sparingly as possible. Move to the 280 or 325 very early in working the stone and it is very important to let the wheels do the work without a lot of pressure on the stone. It is said that a quick easy polish can be obtained on a dry leather buff using tin oxide but again, let the buff do the work and do not apply too much pressure. Be very aware of how hot the stone is getting.

If you intend to work with this stone, the time to buy it is now! When this stone is obtained people tend not to let it go. The longer you wait to get any of it, the more it is going to cost you and the harder it will be to find. I don't know how much of the stone is out there but I do know this...Victoria Stone is truly a rare stone in so many ways. Besides paying premium price for rough, the cabochons are twice to three times the cost.

I encourage you to visit the links below as they are my source and may provide more information that I omitted. Victoria Stone is a wonderful addition to collections and jewelry boxes.


Rock On!

<http://www.snobappealjewelry.com/blog/?p=159>

<http://www.deveroriginals.com/id34.htm>

<http://wgmsks.org/Newsletters/July%202008%20Quarry%20Quips.pdf>

# September 2009

| SUN                        | MON            | TUE   | WED | THU                  | FRI | SAT |
|----------------------------|----------------|---|-----|----------------------|-----|-----|
|                            |                | 1   | 2   | 3                    | 4   | 5   |
| 6<br>Shop Open<br>10:30-4  | 7<br>Labor Day | 8   | 9   | 10<br>Meeting<br>7pm | 11  | 12  |
| 13<br>Shop Open<br>10:30-4 | 14             | 15  | 16  | 17                   | 18  | 19  |
| 20<br>Shop ???<br>TBA      | 21             | 22<br>Autumn<br>Begins<br> | 23  | 24                   | 25  | 26  |
| 27<br>Shop ???<br>TBA      | 28             | 29  | 30  |                      |     |     |

