



Gem & Mineral Journal



The Official Publication of The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA Inc.

August 2007

Volume 16 Issue 8

Presidents Message:

Hello To All,

July was certainly a busy month, & August is starting out that way. I feel like I have spent more time in North Carolina during the past few weeks than I have in VA. To begin July we had a great trip to Diamond Hill Quartz Mine (see article in this edition), Nona & I spent almost a week in NC, SC, & TN digging & shopping for rocks. The Lynchburg & Roanoke Clubs had a joint field trip to the Cotton Patch Gold Mine in New London, NC on July 21st & we are heading back to NC to Spruce Pines on August 3rd-5th for the annual Rock & Gem Show with several day trips planned to old mine sites.

I'm looking forward to some local trips, which I hope will include a trip to a new Quarry for us in Rockbridge County in August and a field trip to the Kyanite Mines in Buckingham County in September. I would like to remind everyone, when you are collecting from a site please remember to pickup some material that we can add to our Gem & Mineral sluice buckets. We can gather some pretty samples this way & save the club from having to put out some big bucks. A penny saved is a penny earned.

At the July meeting we talked about vinyl signs to advertise our Gem & Mineral Sluice as well as a banner for the Geode Cracking along with the Jewelry, Gem Trees & Rock Candles that we sell at festivals. I hope you will put on your thinking caps and come up with some good graphics and wording for these signs. It will tell customers what we have to offer and promote sales. Please put some effort into this, as we will display these signs for years to come.

Our annual auction is coming up again during the November meeting. I would like to ask you to please look around the house and bring your donations of items to the up coming meetings. These items can be rock related or not. Just anything that you think someone else will buy. We have had a good response in the past years & it made for a great auction, which is a fundraiser for the club as well as a great way to pickup some good buys on nice specimens or something for your home. We can't do it without you. I'll have more details at the meetings.

Continued on page 11

From the First VP:

Did you know that meteorites slamming into the earth could cause vast quantities of basalt and granite to instantly liquefy? Meteorites can be stony or iron or even stony-iron. And now you know.

August's meeting will feature a presentation about meteorites by member Karl Everett. Karl has field trip photos from the Northern Minnesota and Thunder Bay, Ontario area. This will be a very interesting presentation that you really want to see. Let's give Karl a warm welcome.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my presentation about crystallography at the July meeting. I am sure you were amazed, amused and astonished. Making a presentation is fun and I challenge all our members to consider making a presentation at sometime.

Back by popular demand: Hurry! Get your ugly rock in the Ugly Rock Contest. My rocks uglier than yours. Entries are only \$1.00. Votes are free. And the winner will split the pot with the club.

**Cheers
Steve**



2007 ELECTED OFFICERS**John Haskins - PRESIDENT**

(434) 525-8430

JMHaskins1@netzero.net**Steve Boylan****First Vice President**

(434) 534-6108

boylansj@yahoo.com**David Callahan****Second Vice President**

(540) 297-1853

DBCALL1@aol.com**Dee Tinsley- Secretary**

(434) 221-0864

FlyDeeTin@aol.com**Natalie Darling - Editor**

(434) 941-1899

gmsleditor@comcast.net**Frank Midkiff- Treasurer**

(434) 239-8329

midkiff@aol.com**Members At Large-**

JoAnn Mason &

Ralph Torning

COMMITTEE**CHAIR PERSONS:****Field Trips-** David Callahan**Hospitality-** Ann Torning**News Articles-** Natalie Darling**Silent Auction-** Warren Darling**Special Events-** Dee Tinsley**Swap for Rocks-** Frank Midkiff & Warren Darling**Website-** Adelaide Lee**Workshops-** Dave Woolley**FRA Adult Liaison-** Shannon Bondurant

July Meeting Minutes

Meeting: 7:00 PM, Wednesday, July 18th**Attendance:** 32 members and 4 guests**Hospitality:** Several members who signed up the previous month provided refreshments.**On Time Drawing:** winners were Nona Haskins winning a specimen from England and Don McIntyre who took home a sample of Skeletal Quartz from Diamond Hill SC.**Old Business:** John Haskins said the 10" diamond wet saw that the club purchased is up and running at Dave Woolley's and will be ready for use next Wednesday night at the workshop.

Fourteen members of our club ventured to Diamond Hill SC last weekend for a field trip. They endured the heat and humidity in search of skeletal quartz. Some found nice plates of white and clear. Didn't hear much report of amethyst or smoky.

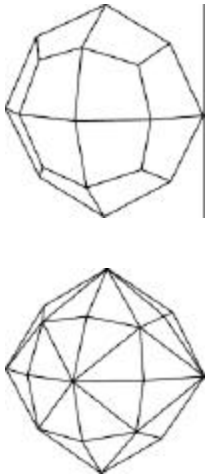
The club has purchased two EZ-up tents. The tents we were using belonged to Siglinde and will be returned to her. We are still looking for ideas for banners to go on each of our tents. Please submit your ideas to John Haskins no later than Sept. 1, 2007 so we can have the banners ready for use during our October

show at the Apple Festival.

First Vice President: Steve Boylan announced that Carl Everett would present a program on meteorites in August. There is no scheduled program yet for September, in October we will have collectors night, November is our annual auction, and in December our Christmas dinner.**Second Vice President:** Dave Callahan gave an extensive review of the Spruce Pine trip and what would be needed to mine there. If you wish to participate in the Spruce Pine trip – please notify Dave as soon as possible. All the information is in your last newsletter.**Treasurer Franklin Midkiff:** reported a balance on hand of \$5,139.43 and stated we have four new members as of last night. Franklin also announced that we have been accepted into the Apple Harvest Festival in Amherst, which will be October 19th, 20th and 21st.**New Business:** Please start bringing items you are willing to donate to the meetings and give them to John and Nona Haskins for our auction.*Continued on page 11*

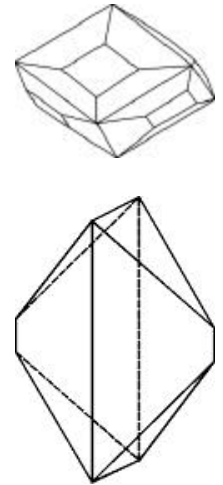
The purpose of the Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, INC. is to promote education in The Earth Sciences including: Mineralogy, Geology, Gemology, Paleontology, and Crystallography

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg VA, Inc.
Meets on the third Wednesday of each month,
From 7:00pm– 9:00pm
In the auditorium of the Parks and Recreation Building
301 Grove St. Lynchburg, VA 24501
Public is invited, Please join us!



July 18th, 2007 Meeting Program

For the July meeting, member Steve Boylan presented an informative program on Crystallography. He started with the geometry and symmetry of crystal structures by showing a stick model. And then he showed the seven crystal systems represented by paper models, X-ray diffraction and how crystallography is helping with exploring the center of the earth. Finally, a question came from the floor to identify a mineral sample from each of the seven crystal groups. Maybe this question can be answered in the next presentation.



Diamond Hill Mine, South Carolina~ A Crystal Collectors Paradise

Submitted by GMSL President John Haskins

If you like Quartz crystals you will love a trip to Diamond Hill Quartz Prospect in Antreville, SC. On the 7th of July, 14 members of the GMSL attacked the three main pits & surrounding areas. The ground was littered with all sizes & colors of Quartz crystals. Most were covered with different colors of Iron stain, from light yellow to orange to black. The color combinations & contrasts made them all beautiful in their own way. One pit had amethyst & smokey quartz, the next pit contained skeletal quartz & the next some clear & white quartz crystals. Large quartz boulders lined the rims of the pit areas & contained some beautiful pockets of crystals as well as some stalactite type of formations covered with crystals. Everyone collected all kinds of specimens for their displays as well as some nice yard rocks. I think my largest yard rock was only about 250 pounds, covered with four different colors of crystals. Since the trip I have seen some crystals, that Tom & Lynn Powers collected that had calcite crystal inclusions in the Quartz crystals & Bernard & Dorothy Rivera have at least one specimen that fluoresces. (More on Diamond Hill, See article on page 9)

I'm interested in seeing what some of the others have collected. I encourage them to bring their specimens to collectors' night so all may enjoy them. To get information on the sight you may log on to Diamond Hill Quartz Mine & the sight will guide you through the signup process & permission procedure to visit the mine. There is a \$15.00 per person per day fee, but it is well worth it to keep such a great collecting place open to rock hounds.

After collecting on Saturday Nona & I went on to Franklin, NC to start a whole week of collecting. We started with the Mason's Ruby & Sapphire Mine off route 28 north, past the Airport at the end of SR1392. This mine was started by Tiffany's & then abandoned. The new owners let you dig your own buckets of material from the old mine dump & then wash your material in the on site flume both open & shaded. We had a great day finding 45 sapphires of different colors & one ruby. The day after we were there the mine owner was bringing in some heavy equipment to excavate the old shaft to gather some new material. I would like to see what they have brought out. This is a fee site, for current info you may call them at 828-369-9742, they are open from April 1st thru October 31st. The Gems found there are native and nothing has been salted in from other locations, not like most of the other mines in the area. We stopped in several rock shops & museums between Franklin, NC, Cherokee, & Gatlinburg, TN & also the Colburn Museum in Asheville, NC. The last place we dug for Gems was at the Hiddenite Mine in Hiddenite, NC. This mine is not for the faint of heart. The digging in pegmatite's is long hard and laborious work. But if you are lucky enough to find a nice Hiddenite Crystal it is all worth it. I am sorry to report, we did not have much luck.

We are looking forward to the Spruce Pines field trip August 3-5th, I hope we will have some nice newly found specimens to show. Like I always say" keep looking down".

Field Trip Report



Club members try their hand at the sluice.

Official Club Field Trip July 21, 2007

The Lynchburg Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. & The Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Society
GOLD PANNING at the Cotton Patch Gold Mine
www.cottonpatchgoldmine.com
41697 Gurley Road, New London, NC

Our combined field trip with Roanoke to the Cotton Patch Gold Mine in New London, NC on July 21st was a very popular event. We had eight eager participants from Lynchburg and nine from Roanoke. Several were first time panners and it was interesting and thrilling to observe the reactions when that first flake of gold was spotted in the pan.

For many, this is the first infection of "gold fever". With some, they shake it off and go on about a normal life style. For others, it is the beginning of a quest that may last a lifetime. Gold is not easy to find. That is why it is so valuable but it is genuine thrill to find. Short of prospecting on your own in the gold belt that runs thru Virginia, The Cotton Patch in New London, NC is a great place to go. It is a three and a half hour drive from Lynchburg, just a little north east of Charlotte.

The weather was not too hot and the humidity was low. We all found many pretty flakes, pickers and nuggets. There were also many small limonite after pyrite cubes about 1/8" to 3/16" and some of the quartz rock actually contained small gold flakes. It always pays to carefully examine the waste rock that you screen off before you start to pan.

All had a wonderful time and if you missed the trip and would like to try your hand at gold panning, go to www.cottonpatchgoldmine.com on the Internet for additional information.



Cheryl, Zack, and Claude McKinney at the sluice, hoping to find their share of the Cotton Patch Gold.

Zack and Cheryl McKinney



Something tells me Bernard went away with his share of the gold.



Royce and Chris Wickam

Article and photographs Submitted by Dave Callahan, Field Trip Chairman



Up Coming Field Trips

For further information on field trips, contact David Callahan,
540-297-1853
Email dbc11@aol.com

August

We have confirmed a trip to the Staunton Lime Quarry on August 25th, 2007 from 8:00 AM to Noon. Details will be available at this month's meeting and via email broadcast. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Callahan at the telephone or email address above. If you have not been receiving the past field trip broadcasts, I do not have your email address. I get many returns to my broadcasts each month due to closed accounts, mail boxes full or unknown accounts. It is your responsibility to make sure that I have your current address.

September

We are trying to set up a quarry field trip to Kyanite Mining Corporation on September 15th or the 22nd. The Meckley Quarry open house in Mandata, PA will be Sunday, August 23rd. This will conflict with a field trip on the 22nd. Details in the September Journal.

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc



The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.
SFMS Field Trip Committee

TWO new DMC Field Trips Announced!



The Rome Georgia Mineral Society (Rome, GA) has agreed to renew their membership in the DMC field trip sharing program by agreeing to host a field trip during February of 2008. The SFMS Field Trip Committee would like to thank the Rome Georgia Mineral Society for their continued support of the DMC Field Trip Program and for the renewal of their DMC membership. *DMC*

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC (Franklin, NC) has agreed to renew their membership in the DMC field trip sharing program by agreeing to host a field trip during September of 2008. The SFMS Field Trip Committee would like to thank the Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC for their continued support of the DMC Field Trip Program and for the renewal of their DMC membership. *DMC*

"Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!"

DMC Program / SFMS Field Trip committee's purpose:

To collect field trip information from its member societies; schedule and coordinate field trip dates; disseminate field trip information to all member clubs so that each member society may publish this information as one of their "official" scheduled field trips.

Earth first, we'll collect on the others later.

DMC Trips Scheduled

Year - 2007

- ? August - **Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Club (Chattanooga, TN)**
- ? September - **Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society (Montgomery, AL)**
- ? October - **Lowcountry Gem & Mineral Society (Charleston, SC)**
- ? November - **Western South Carolina G&MS (Greenville, SC)**
- ? December - **OPEN**

Year - 2008

- ? January - **OPEN**
- ? February - **Rome Georgia Mineral Society (Rome, GA)**
- ? March - **OPEN**
- ? April - **Northeast Georgia Mineral Society (Cornelia, GA)**
- ? May - **High Point Mineral Club (High Point, NC)**
- ? June - **Augusta Gem & Mineral Society (Augusta, GA)**
- ? July - **Southern Appalachian Mineral Society (Asheville, NC)**
- ? August - **OPEN**
- ? September - **Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC (Franklin, NC)**
- ? October - **Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Jackson, MS.)**
- ? November - **OPEN**
- ? December - **OPEN**

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

When: 7PM August 8, 2007

Where: Natalie Darlings House

Present: Dave Callahan, Bill Tinsley, Ralph Torning, Franklin Midkiff, Don McIntyre, Steve Boylan, Nona and John Haskins, Dave Woolley, Natalie Darling and Dee Tinsley.



- ?? John notified us that a letter had been received from Region IV stating that Bill Gilbert would not be able to continue his duties as Vice President since he is leaving for Spain for a 2-year job related stay. We will miss Bill very much and thank him for his services.
- ?? The Apple Harvest Festival was discussed and we will need to make between 300 and 350 bags for the sluice, Anyone who has material suitable for the Sluice and is willing to donate it, please bring it to the meeting in August. We will be setting up our Sluice and Geode Cracker outside (we have two spaces) AND WE WILL NEED THE HELP OF MANY MEMBERS TO SET UP, TAKE DOWN AND POLICE THE AREA. PLEASE VOLUNTEER! Remember we only have two moneymaking projects per year. This is the last one for 2007
- ?? There will be a workshop held on Sept 15th at Dave Callahan's house and if you don't have directions, see Dave or any officer of the club. 9AM until we have completed the needed materials for the sluice.
- ?? **WE NEED YOUR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE BANNER!** Don't get left out! Enter at the meeting "in writing" your ideas for the Sluice Banner and the Geode cracker and Gem Stone/trees/candles Banner.
- ?? *JMU Mineral Museum to open* October 13, 2007. See page 7 for details. We will also try to schedule a trip to onyx hill on that day, since it is close by.
- ?? We will plan a field trip to Willis Mountain in Buckingham County, VA, on Sept. 22nd. If you have not been to Willis Mountain, treat yourself to this trip!
- ?? We need BIOS from new members. Please see Ralph Torning for details.
- ?? Franklin Midkiff asked for assistance with the Name Badges and club roster, as that and treasurer is too much for one person. Ralph Torning volunteered to take over the badges, and upkeep of the new members on Excel. Thank you Ralph.
- ?? At our August meeting we will offer members to purchase T-Shirts with the club name and logo. The shirts will be ordered in time to wear at the Apple Harvest Festival.
- ?? We received a nice donation of \$100.00 from Mary DeViney. The Club thanks you for your continued support.
- ?? We opened the box from Fabio (The Italian who did a rock swap with our club). We were not disappointed. The stones he sent are beautiful. Amazing black quartz, hematite that sparkles, and much more.

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Put on your thinking caps...

Crossword puzzle created by club member Debra John.

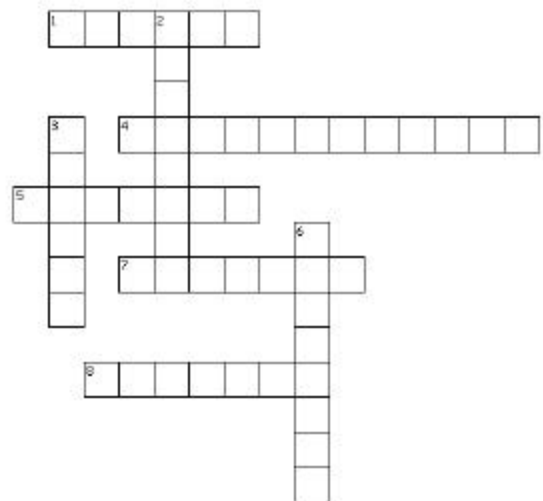
Hints:

Across

- 1. yellow crystalline solid
- 4. calcium silicate
- 5. of phosphate mineral
- 7. quick silver
- 8. brittle metal highest hall effect

Down

- 2. isometric mineral w/cubic habit
- 3. calcium sulfate
- 6. electrical conductor hexagonal crystal



Answers can be found at the bottom of page 11.

You are invited!!

Please join us in celebrating the grand opening of the new
James Madison University Mineral Museum

The university has relocated and renovated its mineral display facility. With the help of the JMU administration, lapidary and mineral societies in the region, and generous gifts from individual supporters, we will be officially opening the doors of our museum to the public on:

Saturday, October 13, 2007 11:30 am until

There will be food, beverages and a few words of welcome from members of the James Madison University administration. Of course there will be plenty of time to view the specimens on display. The collection hosts displays from Virginia, Elmwood, a Franklin – Sterling Hill fluorescent collection, and systematic displays. We hope that you will be able to join us.



Please RSVP by October 8th to: **Lance E. Kearns, Curator, Dept. of Geology & Environmental Science; MSC 6903; James Madison University; Harrisonburg, VA. 22807**

Office: 540-568-6421

Secretary: 540-568-6130

Email: KEARNSLE@JMU.EDU

Welcome New Members

Elissa, Steve, Kevin,
& Alexis Bowen of
Forest, VA

Sandra & Cassidy
McCordle of
Troutville, VA

Dave & Estelle
Hardin of
Lynchburg, VA

Debra & Alex
John of
Lynchburg, VA

Angela, Bradley,
Caleb & Tessa
Yarbrough of Blue
Ridge, VA

Elizabeth
Delaney of
Lynchburg, VA

Karen & Steve
Langseth of
Lynchburg, VA

Herbert Lanier
Of Hurt, VA

Sunshine News



We recently learned that Shannon Bondurant has been suffering with kidney stones. We hope this passes soon so we will see her smiling face at our club functions.

We have also learned of the passing of Shenandoah Valley Gem & Mineral Society President Jon Laporte. Please keep the club members and Jon's family in your thoughts and prayers.

Thanks for the great times,
may all your rocks ahead be *gems*



Jon Laporte - Al Gill April, 2000
Rose River, Madison county Virginia

JON W. LAPORTE of FISHERSVILLE, VA
(February 12, 1948 - July 10, 2007)
<http://www.varockhound.com/clubs/svgms/jl.shtml>



Rock Raiders

FUTURE RICKHOUNDS OF AMERICA YOUTH POSTER CONTEST 2007

Reprinted in part from July/August issue of Lodestar, The Official Publication of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

Mission Statement

Future Rockhounds of America is a nationwide nonprofit program within the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies that develops and delivers quality youth activities in the earth sciences and lapidary arts in a fun, family environment. Our underlying goals are to foster science literacy and arts education through structured activities that are engaging and challenging and by which kids- and the adults who mentor them- learn while having fun.

Attention members:

We are collecting submissions of ideas for our banners, which will be used to advertise our sluice, geode cracker, and lapidary crafts during our future fundraisers. Please bring drawings or written ideas to the meeting for consideration. These banners will be used for many years, so lets put our heads together and come up with the perfect representation of our club.

The Summit Lapidary Club from the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies is sponsoring a poster contest, which they're opening up to any and all kids who belong to the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) program, regardless of which regional federation they're in. In addition, they welcome entries from any schoolteachers who would like to do this as a class project. I encourage our own Rock Raiders to participate by designing posters and send in the entries to the address below. Lets get some national recognition for our youth!

The theme for the contest is "Gemstones of the World"

To enter: prepare a poster illustrating one or more gemstones or minerals that interest you, from anywhere in the world.

Eligibility: 1st-12th grade. Each grade will have a winner. Ribbons awarded for 1st through 4th place, with the 1st place winner also receiving a prize.

Contest Rules:

- ?? All entries must be presented on paper 12 inches by 18 inches.
- ?? Include name, address, age and school grade of participant on back of entry.
- ?? Artwork can be in pen, ink, crayons, magic marker, paint or any other artists' medium.
- ?? No three-dimensional posters accepted.
- ?? The title may be on the front or on the back.
- ?? List names of the gems and / or minerals and why you chose them.
- ?? All entries become the property of the Summit Lapidary Club.

Scale of Points:

- ?? Originality & Art Work = 30 points Design = 25 points Title = 25 points
- Listing of gems and / or minerals and reason chosen = 20 points

Deadlines & Contacts:

Entries must be postmarked by October 1, 2007

Send to: **David Rich**
 1166 Broadview Rd
 Tallmadge, Ohio 44278

Winners will be displayed and prizes and ribbons awarded at the Fall Gemboree on October 27th, 2008 at 10:00 AM.

If you have any questions please call the chairman, David Rich, at 330-630-9625, or email DRICH@lapidaryclubofohio.org

Diamond Hill Mine Mineral Occurrences

Reprinted in part (with permission) from articles, field trip reports, and websites

by Mike Streeter, <http://mcrocks.com/PPT/DiamondHill/sld021.htm>

Diamond Hill has an amazing variety of different quartz crystals including amethyst, smoky, skeletal, milky, clear, and phantom. The mine has also become known for the rare phosphate mineral cacoxenite, first discovered at the mine by chance in late 2002. The quartz crystals are generally found in clay filled pockets in a series of large quartz veins that trend in a northeast to southwest direction. The quartz veins were emplaced into a granitoid pluton (Antreville Pluton) as a result of series of late Paleozoic Era tectonic events. Oxidation of iron bearing minerals formed clay that was transported by infiltrating meteoric water into the quartz-lined pockets. Much of the quartz and saprolite is heavily stained with red, brown, yellow and black iron and manganese oxides.



The number of different quartz crystal varieties that exists at Diamond Hill is nothing short of remarkable when you consider that the actual collecting areas occupy a total of less than 3 acres and that each quartz type requires its own unique set of conditions to form. The three most sought after varieties of quartz at the mine are skeletal, smoky and amethyst.

Skeletal quartz (also known as elestial quartz) exhibits a layered or ribbed pattern. Its appearance gave rise to the term "skeletal" as the crystals resemble what someone with a good imagination would expect the skeleton of a quartz crystal to look like (not that they exist). The patterns exhibited by skeletal quartz represent internal and external dissolution-growth features resulting from unstable conditions during crystallization. At the time that the crystals were forming, the conditions were such that the crystals would alternate between growing and dissolving. This "two-step forward and one-step backward" process resulted in the unusual step-like appearance. Very large plates and clusters of skeletal quartz can be recovered from quartz veins in the eastern end of the upper pit at Diamond Hill. Like much of the other quartz varieties at Diamond Hill, many of the skeletal quartz crystals exhibit an overgrowth of clear quartz indicating a later phase of crystallization. This later crystallization forms "phantoms" where you can see the tips of skeletal quartz crystals beneath a clear crystal overgrowth that exactly mimics the underlying crystal



Smoky quartz is generally transparent to translucent quartz that is gray to black in color. The characteristic color of smoky quartz occurs when rock crystal quartz is exposed to natural radiation from radioactive elements or adjacent radioactive rocks over long periods of time. The process by which this occurs is not completely understood but it has been theorized that the color is the result of altered oxidation states of the silica molecules caused by radiation. The granitoid pluton would be the most likely natural source of the radiation. Smoky quartz seems to be most concentrated in the lower or western pit at Diamond Hill. Much of the smoky quartz appears to have grown in phases represented by larger blocky crystals growing on top of smaller crystals.

Amethyst is translucent to transparent purple quartz. The purple color is thought to be the result of two factors: 1) small amounts of iron impurities at specific sites in the crystal structure and, 2) exposure to natural radiation in a manner similar to smoky quartz.



Again, the process by which this occurs is not fully understood but it is known that exposing amethyst to sunlight for a long period of time will cause the purple color to fade. Therefore, it can be concluded that it isn't the presence of iron alone that causes the purple color or else the mineral would not fade simply due to sun exposure. Amethyst at Diamond Hill generally occurs as larger secondary crystals on top of translucent to transparent smaller quartz crystal druzes in quartz vein pockets in the central portion of the mine. Local rockhounds use the term "jumping bigger" to refer to this phenomenon and as a key to finding amethyst while digging. My experience has shown that amethyst crystals are almost always found pointed downward in a pocket and that a hint of purple color can sometimes be found in smoky quartz crystals.

If you are looking to find a collecting location that offers a rare opportunity to collect a variety of quartz types in one place, then the Diamond Hill Quartz Mine is your ticket. You can obtain more information and pictures of the Diamond Hill Quartz Mine by going to the website: <http://mcrocks.com/PPT/DiamondHill/sld021.htm>. The site contains a fabulous slide show and further explanations of the formations of Diamond Hill.

Schedule of Events

SHOWS & TRIPS

August 10th-12th-Treasures of the Earth Show, Virginia Beach Convention Center; 1000 19th St. Hours: Fri. noon -6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5. Contact Barbara of Peggy @ 804-746-7663 or email bhaney8081@aol.com

August 25th- Lynchburg club trip to Staunton Lime Quarry, 8AM to Noon. Details at the club meeting on Aug. 15th and via email broadcast.

August 31st - September 3rd- Henderson, NC Gem & Mineral Show and sale. Whitmire Activity Bldg. Lily Pond Rd. Hendersonville, NC. Contact Margaret Johnson at 4828-692-1249

September 15th-16th- Falls of the Ohio Fossil Festival; Falls of the Ohio State Park 201 West Riverside Dr. Clarksville, IN 47129 • (812) 280-9970 info@fallsoftheohio.org or see page

ATTENTION CLUB MEMBERS

September 15th-9:00 am - until...Workshop at Dave Callahan's home. We will be preparing buckets of material for use in our sluice during the up coming Apple Harvest Festival fundraiser. Please join us even if you cannot stay the whole time- the more hands we have the less each of us will have to do!

If you need directions, call or email Dave Callahan. 540-297-1853 Email dbcall1@aol.com

August 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15 Meeting 7 PM	16	17	18	
19	20	21 7-9 PM Woolleys Workshop	22	23	24	25 Field Trip Staunton	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

Upcoming Programs

August 15th, 2007 Meeting

Presentation on Evidence of Ancient Asteroid Impact Discovered in the Precambrian Geology of Northern Minnesota and Canada.

By member Karl D. Everett, PE
Senior Environmental Health & Safety Manager
O-N Minerals Chemstone Operation

September 19th, 2007 Meeting

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, grab your seats, now presenting a video about mineralogy, geology, gemology and/or paleontology.

November 21st, 2007 will be our annual auction.

Please gather your sellable items now and bring them to a meeting or call any officer to arrange for pick up. Items can be hobby related or not. Remember, one mans junk is another's treasure.

Presidents Message:

Continued from page 1

Again I would like to say something about the club purchasing a large diameter diamond saw that we could use to cut large geodes and cut slabs from large specimens we have found or acquired. Do you think this is a piece of equipment the club needs? If anyone would like to do some research on the location & price for such an item we would be very grateful. We need detailed information before we can proceed with this project.

That's all for now, hope to see you at the August 15th club meeting.

"Keep Looking Down"
John Haskins

July Meeting Minutes...

Continued from pg. 2

The Roanoke Board of Directors met Tuesday night and asked Dave Callahan if we would be doing the fluorescent display again in November and he volunteered our services. This show is their annual fund raising event and is Thanksgiving weekend.

Dave also announced that some members of the Waynesboro Club have expressed interest in joining the Roanoke and Lynchburg clubs in our field trips. We will welcome them as they recently lost their President and field trip person.

Program: After refreshments Steve Boylan gave a very interesting and informative talk on Crystallography.

Respectfully submitted by
Dee Tinsley, Secretary

Refreshments for the August 15th 2007 Meeting

DRINKS 2 LITER

Cola - Shannon Bondurant X 2

Decaf - John Haskins

Diet - Anne Torning X 2

VEGIES: Tom & Lynn Powers

Fruit:

Meats: Anne Torning

Cheese: Steve Boylan

Desserts: Natalie Darling

Cookies

Cake - Ellissa Bowen, Nell McIntyre -Apple Bread

Chips: John Haskins

Bread: Anne Torning (with butter)

*If you do not
know what to
bring, extra
drinks would
be helpful.*

Thanks!

If you did not sign up but wish to contribute, please use this list as a guide and feel free to bring what you wish.
Thank You for your continued support!

Executive Board Meeting Minutes...cont. from pg. 6

We were sorry to learn that Shannon Bondurant, our member and Rock Raider Leader has been suffering with kidney stones, we hope she will be well soon.

The Apple Harvest Festival will be held at Amherst High School on October 20th and 21st. Doors open Sat. Oct 20th at 7:00 AM for set up; and 10:00 am for the public. On Sunday the 21st set up time is 11:00 AM and doors open to the public at 12:00 noon!
All vendors must clear the area both days no later than 6:30 PM. Please mark your calendars now and come out to show your support.

No further business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Dee Tinsley, Secretary



Websites to visit: Lynchburg Gem and Mineral Society: www.lynchburgrockclub.org

The SFMS Newsletter, the Eastern Federation Newsletter, and the AFMS Newsletters are available for all members to read on line at the Federation Websites:

www.amfed.org/sfms, www.amfed.org and www.amfed.org/efms

Crossword puzzle answers:

1. sulfur 4. wollastonite
5. apatite 7. mercury
8. bismuth 2. fluorite
- 3.gypsum 6. graphite



Thanks to George Crowell for sharing this link with me. I thought I would pass it on so others could enjoy it also. To get to the website type the following in your browser window: NaicaCrystalCave1.pps If you have trouble viewing, email me and I will send you the link.

The photo above is from the Naica Mine in southern Chihuahua, Mexico. You can view this and many more breath taking photographs from the mine, which boasts the largest selenite crystals in the world. When you go to the website a power point will download and you will be amazed at the show!



Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA Inc Membership Application

(All information for official club use only)

Date _____

Print Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Additional Members Names:

Spouse/ Sig. _____

Other _____

Children/ _____

Ages _____

**Dues: First Person: \$15.00 per year,
Each additional family member \$3.25**

**Mail To:
P.O. Box 2348
Lynchburg, VA 24501**

The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA Inc.

Natalie Darling, Editor
211 Chesterfield Rd.
Lynchburg, VA 24502 www.lynchburgrockclub.org

The purpose of the Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, INC. is to promote education in The Earth Sciences including: Mineralogy, Geology, Gemology, Paleontology, and Crystallography



Lynchburg Rock Raiders is the official FRA association of The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA INC

