

GEM & MINERAL JOURNAL

Volume 19 Issue 1
January 2010

Happy New Year!

Presidents Message:

Hello To All,

Have you made your New Year's resolution yet? I have, and have already broken it. Just keep trying; you'll be a better person for it.

I am very pleased with the December elections. I want to welcome aboard our new Vice-President, Jack Curtin, our new Secretary, Brenda Glass, and our new adult liaison for the Rock Raiders Club, Gina Hatcher. I think it's great to see all these people step up and be willing to give their time and talents to the GMSL. We are fortunate to have new people with new ideas and insights to contribute to the cause. Also a big thank you goes to Dave Callahan our Second Vice-President, Frank Midkiff treasurer, Natalie Darling news letter editor, Alan Rice webmaster, Joann Mason & Tom Powers members at large, Ralph Torning, that keeps our membership status current along with all other information.

These members keep making their contributions to the Club year after year and the GMSL is a lot better for it. You all do a great job and I look forward to

seeing what we can accomplish together in 2010. I would like to thank Ann Torning, and Ralph, for their work as Hospitality Chairman for the past several years. As you know they are stepping down from Hospitality at each meeting and we are looking for someone or several some ones to step up and take on their duties on meeting nights. Will you volunteer? If so see me at the January 20th meeting.

Last month I went through all the newsletters for the past 8 years and made a list of the programs and presenters we have had at our monthly club meetings. I was surprised at the number of programs that were put on by our own club members. We have a lot of talent in our midst but we don't want to wear out the same people each year. If you have an idea for an interesting meeting program please let Jack Curtin or one of the other officers know about your idea, everyone enjoys a good program, but they are hard to come by.

Continued on page 11

From the First VP:

Greetings from the Lynchburg Rock Club's new program chairman. Sure hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year celebration. Also wish you warmth, health, and happiness during this, one of our coldest winters.

Ever wish we did something different in the way of programs? Well now something can be done about that. The advent of the New Year brings all sorts of program possibilities for 2010. I want to know what you all would like to see in the way of programs for

this year. At the January 20th meeting, each member will receive a list of program suggestions and will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite(s). This will give me the valuable direction needed to provide the programs that you want. Please be sure to pick up your list of program suggestions when you sign in before the meeting. Every one will have 25 votes to allot to their favorite program choices.

Blessings,

Jack Curtin

2010 ELECTED OFFICERS**John Haskins - PRESIDENT**

(434) 525-8430

JMHaskins1@netzero.net**First Vice President****Jack Curtin**

(434) 384 -6249

jacwcurtin@gmail.com**David Callahan****Second Vice President**

(540) 297-1853

DBCALL1@aol.com**Secretary****Brenda Glass**

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glass57@netzero.net**Natalie Darling – Editor**

(434) 941-1899

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

(434) 239-8329

midkiff@aol.com**Members At Large-**JoAnn Mason &
Tom Powers**COMMITTEE
CHAIR PERSONS:****Field Trips-** David Callahan**Hospitality-****News Articles-** Natalie Darling**Silent Auction-** Warren Darling**Swap for Rocks-** Warren Darling**Website-****Workshops-** Dave Woolley**FRA Adult Liaison-** Gina Hatcher**Membership-** Ralph Torning

December Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday, Dec. 16th, 2009**Attendance:** 36**On Time Drawing:** John Haskins opened the meeting with a welcome and the on time drawing. Winners were Lucille Watson and Frank Midkiff. Both won Pyrite cubes from Spain.**Hospitality:** This was our annual covered dish holiday celebration, and the food was plentiful and delicious.**First Vice President:** not in attendance**Second Vice President:** Dave Callahan announced the Field Trip to The James Madison University Geology Lab and Museum on January 23rd 2010.**Treasures Report:** Not available**New Business:** We had a prize drawing for the Volunteers at the Salem Gem & Mineral Show. Winners were Tom Powers, Tom Davis, Tommy Conner, Steve Gordon, Nona Haskins and John Haskins.

It was announced that Gina Hatcher would take over the leadership of the Rock Raiders Club at the January 20th Meeting. Officers elected to serve for 2010 by acclamation. Only one person per office available.

President ----- John Haskins
 1st VP ----- Jack Curtin
 2nd VP ----- Dave Callahan
 Secretary ----- Brenda Glass
 Treasurer ----- Frank Midkiff
 News Letter Editor ---- Natalie Darling
 Members at large -- -- JoAnn Mason and Tom Powers
 Webmaster ---- Vacant at Present.

Club Christmas Dinner was shared by the 36 Club members in attendance, a good time was had by all.

13 people participated in the Dirty Santa Gift exchange. I think everyone was pleased with the gifts they received. Some gifts were over the top.

**Minutes submitted by
John Haskins, President**

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!*

Programs

February

We will welcome back long time club member and local rock shop owner Dave Young, as the presenter for our February 17th, 2010 club meeting.

January

For the January 20, 2010 meeting we have planned a DVD on Gem Mining in Franklin, NC.

Many of our members have collected in this area over the years- come see what kind of potential this mineral rich area has to offer. (Or come to see what you missed during your collecting there.) Mineral specimens and additional mine and museum information will be available for viewing. *For a preview goggle "mineral mining in Franklin NC."*

March

Gary Danzer will present a program on fluorescent minerals for our March 17th, 2010 meeting. Be sure to bring along your fluorescent mineral Specimens for show and tell!



SOLAR TURNTABLE UPDATE 12-31-09

I have finally received the adjusted invoice from 330 units quoted to 322 to match our final sales. Since the first invoice was received in mid November, there has been a significant price increase in the prepaid door to door shipping charges from China and the funds transfer fee for Pay Pal has increased.

This total will amount to a unit cost increase from the \$3.65 per unit you paid to \$4.30 or a net increase of \$0.65 per unit. I have ordered the 322 units and will advance the additional cost increase.

The units should be delivered to me in late January. I will bring them to the February meeting and distribute them to those present. I will accept the additional cost of \$0.65 per unit ordered in cash or check made out to David Callahan since I have advanced this additional cost. If you choose not to accept the additional cost, I will deduct the units you receive to offset the increase and refund any difference in cash to you. I would appreciate some advance notice if you choose to receive fewer units to offset the cost so that I can figure out any money due you. Your cooperation is appreciated in this matter.

If you will not be at the February meeting, I can hold them until the March meeting, deliver them to you at a field trip, deliver them to you at a mutually agreed location, or ship them to you for the actual insured Parcel Post shipping charges. The choice will be yours.

Thank you for your cooperation and if you have questions or want Additional information on the units you ordered, please contact me

David Callahan
dbc11@aol.com
 540-297-1853



Field Trip Report



*Field Trip Report submitted by
Dave Callahan,
Field trip chairman.*

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

There were no club field trips in the month of December due in part to unstable quarry conditions caused by weather conditions.



Up Coming Field Trips

Submitted by Dave Callahan

***Remember- Sign Up is required for all field trips. You can call, email, or see me at a club meeting.
Do not just show up at the site with out signing up.***

**COMBINED LYNCHBURG / ROANOKE CLUB FIELD TRIP
SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2010 weather permitting (9AM until NOON)
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY, Harrisonburg, Virginia**

GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT and MINERAL MUSEUM

Sign-up required...call me, e-mail me or see me at the meeting

We may have to limit the attendance due to the size of the facilities.

We will all provide our own transportation and park in the JMU parking lot in the front of the new facility, Memorial Hall (The old High School). Plan to arrive between 8:45 to 9AM. See the directions below and walk directly to the Geology Lab. If you need transportation or any other information, please call or e-mail me for assistance. This is Dr. Kearns only available date. If the weather is bad, use your own best judgment before driving.

JMU has a fully equipped geology lab with state of the art equipment. Dr. Kearns is well known in his profession and has generously allowed us to visit his lab, museum and dedicate this Saturday morning to our clubs.

If you have any minerals that you need to identify, bring them along. We should have time to run five or six specimens thru the x-ray diffraction equipment. There will be microscopes available and other equipment for testing and viewing. Dr. Kearns also has a large fluorescent mineral collection for our viewing pleasure. Dr. Kearns may have some surplus mineral books, specimens, miniatures and micros for sale to benefit the museum, be sure to bring cash or your checkbook. This material will be first class.

Continued on page 5

JMU Field Trip directions, continued from page 4...**NORTH BOUND ON I-81 DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO JMU HARRISONBURG, VA.**

I-81 to Harrisonburg, VA. (About 2.5 hours driving time from Lynchburg and 1.5 from Roanoke).

Exit 245 (Turn left on Port Republic Road)

Proceed to S. Main Street (Rt. 11) and turn right at the light.

Proceed northward on S. Main Street to the third traffic light and turn left on to Cantrell Ave.

Proceed over the bridge to the traffic light on South High Street (RT. 42). Memorial Hall (the old Harrisonburg High School) is directly in front of you. Go straight into the parking lot on your left. Try to arrive between 8:45 and 9:00 AM.

To enter the Geology Department, walk around the building to the left (Grace Street Side). When you enter the building, go down the flight of stairs on your left. Enter the double doors and you are in the Geology Department. Walk around to your right, and the mineralogy lab will be open.

The new Mineral Museum will be open so be sure to spend some time here. As you enter the building, turn right and walk to the end of the hall. The Museum is on your right.

February Field Trips

ROANOKE VALLEY MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY INC. FIELD TRIP

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, WASHINGTON, DC.

THE LYNCHBURG GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY HAS BEEN INVITED TO FILL ANY AVAILABLE SEATS.
FEBRUARY 20, 2010

Cost \$10.00 per person for the two way Bus ride only.

Sign-up is required---you will receive a confirmation number to confirm your seat...if you do not receive the number, you have no seat. Call me, email me or see me at the meeting.

There will be a final sign-up sheet at the Roanoke Club's February 11th meeting. After this cutoff date, the trip will be opened for the Lynchburg Club. The cutoff date for the Lynchburg Club will be at their February 17th meeting. You MUST be a club member with paid up dues to attend. You MUST sign up at the meeting, call me or e-mail me to reserve your seat and confirmation number. The contact information is listed below and you must prepay for this trip. Checks will be accepted at the bus if you can't make the meeting. Make the checks payable to the "Roanoke Valley Mineral and Gem Society Inc." or RVMGS. I will accept cash only at the meeting, not on the Bus. Please have the correct change. I will contact you prior to departure to confirm your attendance and confirmation number as we always have a waiting list. See the Restrictions listed below for additional information.

MEETING PLACE: Wal-Mart Super center parking lot at the intersection of US 460 and Rt. 220 Alternate in Bonsack, VA. At this traffic light there are signs directing you to the I-81 interchange in Cloverdale. Driving from Lynchburg, do not turn right on R 220A but proceed straight thru this traffic light on US 460 W. The entrance to Wal-Mart is on the right immediately after you cross this intersection so stay in the right lane. Turn right up the hill and turn right again into the Wal-Mart parking lot. If you are traveling from Roanoke, there is a turn off just before the traffic light at this intersection. Turn left and proceed up the hill to Wal-Mart on the right.

Continued on next page

February Field Trip continued from page 5...

The Abbott Trailways Bus should be there by **5:30AM**, parked in the lower part of the lot near the Wal-Mart lawn and garden area. Look for our group and we will leave our cars in the Wal-Mart lot. Park only in the lower end of this lot.

DEPARTING: The Bus will depart from Wal-Mart promptly at **6:00 AM and stragglers will be left.** Be sure to have eaten breakfast before getting on the bus. We expect to arrive at the museum at 10:00 AM. The bus has only a small restroom so be prepared for the four-hour trip. The bus has no water during cold weather so bring your own hand sanitizer.

EQUIPMENT: Cameras are acceptable but tripods are not allowed.

TOURS: There will be no guided tours. You will be on your own. You may venture to other buildings and areas around Washington but it will be your responsibility to be back at the Natural History Museum to board the bus between 4:30 and 5:00PM or you will be left behind.

HOURS: 10:00AM to 5:00 PM. Admission is free. Expect to go thru security screening so don't take things that might be confiscated as weapons.

MEALS: There is a cafe in the building open from 10 to 5. Lunches, snacks and souvenirs can be purchased here. Bag lunches are not allowed in the museum.

RESTRICTIONS: The bus is limited to **54 seats**. This trip is on a first come, first served basis. Over 54 members will be placed on a waiting list. The fee will be refundable only if you notify me 24 hours in advance that you can't attend so that someone else can have your seat.

DEPARTING: The bus will depart from the main entrance at 5:00 PM sharp. It will be your responsibility to make the connection. We should arrive back at Wal-Mart between 10:30 and 11:30 PM. We will be a stop for the evening meal the way home at the Golden Corral Buffet and Grill in Manassas. You are responsible for this cost, and anything you spend at the museum.

INFORMATION: Call or email David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman, at 540-297-1853 (home), 540-874-5201 (cell) or dbc11@aol.com to sign up, cancel your reservation or if you need additional information. If I'm not there to answer the phone, let it ring until the answer machine picks up and leave a message and your phone number. I will return your call.

VULCAN MATERIALS CORP. / DALE QUARRY

11520 Iron Bridge Road, Chesterfield, VA 23831
Official Combined field trip with the Lynchburg, Roanoke and Host Richmond Club
FEBRUARY 20, 2010
7: 30AM until Noon

(RE-SCHEDULED FIELD TRIP)

SPECIAL NOTE: Sign-up is required. Call me, e-mail me or sign up at the meeting. Limited to 10 per club. The cut off date for sign-up is February 15, 2010 at 6:00PM.

DO NOT ARRIVE LATE AT THE QUARRY. IF YOU MISS THE 7:45 SAFETY BRIEFING AND SIGN-IN, YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE QUARRY. IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW ALL THE SAFETY RULES, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE QUARRY.

TRIP: This will be our fourth trip to the productive Dale Quarry south of Richmond near Chesterfield. Due to the early arrival time we must get an early start. You should wear long pants and a comfortable shirt. Good heavy boots are required with steel toes. Hard hats and safety glasses are required and gloves are suggested.

EQUIPMENT: Crack hammer, pick hammer, sledges if you have one, chisels, newspaper to wrap delicate specimens, buckets, bags or knapsack to carry your finds. We should be able to drive into the pit close to the collecting area but a hand truck or wagon might be useful. Also be sure to bring plenty of water and snacks to eat. Watch the weather and dress accordingly for the weather in Richmond.

RESTRICTIONS: There will be a limit of **10 club members from Lynchburg and 10 club members from Roanoke** allowed on this trip. **(The age limit is 14 and older, have all the safety gear and be supervised by a parent).** *So that no one is disappointed at the last minute, you must call or email me by 6:00PM February 15th and I'll add you to the list. DO NOT SHOW UP AT THE QUARRY UNLESS YOU HAVE CONFIRMED YOUR SPOT WITH DAVID CALLAHAN.* Remember that our combined total for both clubs is 20. As this trip usually fills up rapidly it's first come, first served. There will be a list for alternates if we have space available, so be sure I have your phone number. Let me know at once if your plans change after you have signed up so that others can fill your spot.

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**The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
January 6, 2010**



Present: John Haskins, President
 Jack Curtin, 1st Vice-President
 David Callahan 2nd Vice-President
 Frank Midkiff – Treasurer
 JoAnn Mason – Member At Large
 Tom Powers – Member At Large
 Ralph Torning – Membership Committee
 Dave Woolley – Workshops Committee
 Nona Haskins, Jean Midkiff, Fred Mason, Don and Nell McIntyre

Business:

Southeast District Conference to be held on January 16. With such short notices there will be no one attending from the club.

The property list was discussed and additional information provided. The membership still needs to notify John of any club property that they have; this would include any keys. Once the list is up-to-date, tags will be ordered to identify the items. David Callahan will check on the prices of various tags.

Donations are needed for a club swap. Please bring to Jan. Meeting.

Web Master is needed. We will evaluate what software is needed once someone has volunteered for the position.

Hospitality Coordinator is also needed. This can be a group effort.

Natalie Darling needs all newsletter articles by the first of each month. She will be gone most of April so she will need the **April articles by March 21st**.

Each member needs to complete the Membership form and submit with their annual dues. This will ensure that all information is given to Ralph and Frank can account for the checks.

John provided Jack with a list of potential programs for the year. January meeting program will be a DVD on "Gem Mining in Franklin, NC". David Young will present at the February meeting. The proposed presenter for March is Gary Danzer. Members who have fluorescent rocks will be asked to bring them in at the March meeting to show.

David Callahan on field trips: 1/23- James Madison University in Harrisonburg. There are two trips scheduled for February 20: Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC. & Vulcan Materials Corporation/ Dale Quarry in Chesterfield, VA. Please contact David Callahan if you are interested. If the trip is full, he will put you on a waiting list in case an opening comes available.

The club will probably sponsor the Fall Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip in October and we are planning to go to Mt. Athos. This will be discussed in more detail at a later time.

David Callahan would like for members to keep an eye out for children's hard hats.

Minutes submitted by: Brenda Glass, Secretary

Up Coming Events

January 2010

Shows and Trips

January 15-17- St. Petersburg, FL 34th annual show and sale, Pinellas Geological Society, Contact: Hugh Sheffield 727-894-2440

Jan 16th-17th- Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society Show DeLand, FL. Contact: Florence Nordquist- 386-226-4032 email: fndesign@aol.com

Jan 23rd- Lynchburg and Roanoke club field trip to JMU (details page 4)

Jan 30th-31st- Panama City Gem & Mineral Society annual show. Bay County Fairgrounds. Contact Ruth Alldredge, 850-784-0740. email: aquezpie@comcast.net

Feb. 20th- The 20th Annual Mineral, Jewelry & fossil show 10am-4pm; 14900 Pennsylvania Ave. Upper Marlboro, MD 301-297-4575 for details.

March 5th-7th- the 47th annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and 61st annual EFMLS Convention hosted by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical & community college, Newark, DE. For more details visit the EFMLS website: www.amfed.org/efmls and see page 4 of the January 2010 newsletter.

March 19th-20th- Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club 40th annual show. Metro Convention Center, Hickory, NC

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Meeting 7:00PM	21	22	23 JMU Field Trip
24	25	26	27 Woolley's Work- shop 7-9	28	29	30
31						

Places to Visit...

University of Richmond

**Traces of Time: Fossils from the Collection
July 25, 2009 to June 20, 2010
Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature
University of Richmond Museums**

http://museums.richmond.edu/lrgexhibitions/traces_in_time.html

Hours:

Tuesday – Friday 11am-5pm
Sat. & Sun. 1pm-5pm
Closed Monday

Closed for break:
Dec. 16, 2009-Jan 4, 2010
March 6-15, 2010
April 2-5, 2010



Bulldog fish fossil

Rock Raiders

Our Rock Raiders will resume monthly meetings during our regular club business meeting with our new adult liaison Gina Hatcher. She will start out the year discussing different mineral specimens and have samples available for hands on learning. Please join us for our first meeting of 2010.



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.



**Happy
New Year!**

Be Safe- Be Well

Safety Committee- Don Monroe, Chairman

Reprinted from December 2009 issue of Lodestar

The older we get the more likely we are to criticize the younger generations saying that they do not read. Instead we say that these younger folks spend all of their time on computers, video games and electronic toys, or even worse, watching television.

I am not convinced that this attitude is entirely correct. Maybe younger people do not read as much as we did growing up, but they do read a lot and rely on other forms of communication. As a matter of fact, I really think that almost all of us do not read as much as we think we do. I see a lot of situations where younger students outperform the adults in the class, usually because they concentrate on what is being taught and read what is assigned.

I base much of my decision on what I see working with adult students in our lapidary classes. At the very first meeting of our classes we pass out a lot of background information covering the work we will be doing. This handout material gives a lot of detail about what the class will cover and how we will do some of the projects. I am not so naïve that I believe that most of us can do complicated jewelry pieces following written instruction but I do believe that the combination of the written word and verbal class instruction will enable us to get the job done.

Another area where we fall short is when we are trying to use a new or unfamiliar piece of equipment. Do we read the instructions? Not likely that we will even when we are directed to do so. Now this observation applies to all types of equipment including woodworking, stone cutting, metal casting, wire wrapping and most any craft or task you can name. Many of us get in too big of a hurry and do not take time to follow any instructions or logical procedures.

My final "pet peeve" deals with note taking. It really is discouraging for students to not take notes and then ask questions about what we previously covered in class. Sometimes when this happens I am not an understanding person. As a matter of fact, I am not even be "nice" To take good notes and then review them later is such a great way to learn.

As a closing comment please remember that safety and your personal well-being is influenced by what you learn and what you remember.



**American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Code of Ethics**

<http://amfed.org/ethics.htm>

A large measure of the enjoyment of our hobby consists of collecting in the field. For that reason, the members are proud to endorse the following:

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations on rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting materials in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material- matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes, which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands, which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

Presidents Message *continued from page 1*


Any help would be appreciated. If anyone has ideas or material to contribute to the Rock Raiders Club meetings, I know Gina Hatcher would be glad to consider them.

On a more personal note, Dave Woolley is trying to teach several of us how to use a Graves Faceting machine to make faceted stones for jewelry. This is not so easy a task, I have already found out how the melted wax is on the end of a metal dop stick. The Club has bought several new pieces of lapidary equipment, most are at Dave Callahan's house, and I would like to see more club members take advantage of learning the proper use of all of these. I'm sure you will find a machine or process you will be hooked on. Remember the more you know how to do, the more you can contribute to the club and make more beautiful items to add to your own collection. Get involved, you may like it.

I hope to see you all at the January 20th Club Meeting.

Keep Looking Down,
John Haskins

Welcome New Members



Scott
Germain



Susan
Howard

Dale Quarry- Continued from Page 6...

COLLECTING: This is a Granite quarry, not Limestone as we are accustomed. The minerals collected on the last trips include Beryl, Aquamarine, Calcite, Spessartine Garnet, Pyrite, Biotite Mica, Muscovite Mica, orange Microcline Feldspar, gray Microcline Feldspar, Albite Feldspar, Hyalite Opal, Molybdenite, Sericite variety of Muscovite Mica and Autunite (radioactive). Some of these are common and some are rare. It just depends where they are mining in the quarry at the time we are there.

DRIVING TIME AND SUGGESTED ROUTE: We will all drive to the quarry on our own and not as a group. Here is a suggested route using the Sheetz Station at the intersection of US 460 and RT. 811 in New London as a waypoint for time and distance reference. I would suggest that you be gassed up and ready to depart no later than **5:00 AM** from this point. The drive to the quarry from the New London Sheetz is about 120 miles and I would allow 2 1/2 hours at a minimum. Those driving from Roanoke must add that driving time to this estimate. You **MUST** be at the quarry **no later than 7:30AM** for the sign in and safety instructions.

I would suggest that you drive US 460 east thru Farmville and take the Rt. 307 short cut to US 360 east. Follow 360 to the outskirts of Richmond and take Rt. 288 to the right or south for about 7 miles to the Rt. 10 (Iron Bridge Rd) intersection. There go to the right (south) on Rt. 10 for 3.1 miles. Look for the Vulcan Materials Corp. / Dale Quarry sign on the right. Drive into the Dale Quarry drive (not the Shoosmith Bros. Const.) for about 1/4 mile and park at the office to the left.

Any members coming from NC. come up I-95 to the Chester Exit-West 61 (Rt. 10 Iron Bridge Road) Follow Rt. 10 west for about 4 1/2 miles and look for the quarry sign on the left.

CONTACT: David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman, Home 540-297-1853, Cell 540-874-5201, email dbc11@aol.com

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



January websites to visit:

?? http://museums.richmond.edu/lrgexhibitions/traces_in_time.html (Lora Robins Gallery of Design from nature.)

?? <http://www.rocksandminerals.org/Back%20Issues/2009/November-December%202009/Chino-Mine-full.html> (A history of mineral collecting at the Chino Mine in New Mexico)

?? <http://csm.jmu.edu/minerals/Index.html> (Images from the collection of minerals on display at JMU, destination of our January 23rd field trip.)

If you know of an interesting hobby related website, please email the link to gmsleditor@comcast.net so we may share it with our membership.

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/efmls

Hobby Related Newsletters are available free of charge by emailing the editors below. Both are great sources of information and worth checking out.

(Available only via email)

rudybland@worldnet.att.net (*Mineral Mouse*, editor Rudy Bland)

rockhound_zack@yahoo.com (*Zack's Rocks and Minerals*, editor Zachary McKinney)

