

GEM & MINERAL JOURNAL

JUNE 2013

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Official Monthly
Publication of the Gem &
Mineral Society of
Lynchburg, VA, Inc

WWW.LYNCHBURGROCKCLUB.ORG

Presidents Message

Hello To All,

Well I thought the May 15th meeting went about as well as could be expected, with the power outage, no lights and no A/C, but Dr. Lenhart did a great job with the Gold presentation. When life hands you lemons, well you know how that goes.

The D.M.C. trip was a blast, I'm sorry for those that didn't make it. The Quarry had lots of loose material to look through, and we did find what I think are some three or four new Zeolite minerals, that to my knowledge have not been found there before. Greg Lester & Family made the first new discovery of crystals in Quartz veins. Then Thom & Linda Noble found a different looking crystal form in the same vein across the Quarry. I was fortunate enough for them to share their finds with me. We still have to take a closer look to I.D. our finds. All in all it was a great day for collecting and I would like to extend our appreciation to the Quarry for letting us

collect there.

As I write this we are making final preparations for the two days at the Uncle Billy's Day Festival. I hope everyone that wanted to come join in the fun signed up, we always have a great time in Altavista.

Dave Callahan has a great lineup of field trips for the rest of the year, I hope you can come to the meetings and signup, if not get in touch with Dave so he will know how many Rock Hounds to expect.

Please remember the Club is offering a workshop the second Saturday of each month, it has an open format flavor, so you can work on any project your heart desires. We now have plenty of equipment to accommodate everyone, also rocks on site for you to choose from if you can't bring your own. That's all for now, I hope to see everyone at the June 19th meeting.

Keep Looking Down,
John Haskins

From the First VP:

Remembering a previous article about identifying minerals by color, made this information on rhodochrosite quite interesting. The article was taken from the August 10, 2011 DVES newsletter. Please enjoy.

Rhodochrosite (Greek "rhodo" for rose and "khros" for color), whose compound name is manganese carbonate, is found in ore veins and extremely large manganese deposits. It has a grainy texture, somewhat like brown sugar, and ranges in color from

a dark rose color to light pink, gray, or brown. This variation in color, which many wire artists find intriguing, is due to the varying amounts of trace compounds in the rhodochrosite. These include iron, calcium, magnesium, zinc, and cobalt. Its luster ranges from a glass-like appearance to a somewhat pearly luster.

Rhodochrosite is an excellent addition to a jewelry collection because it is so visually stimulating, although it is quite soft, so handle it carefully. Its brilliant red color and iridescence stand out when
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May Meeting Minutes

Meeting- Wednesday May 15, 2013

Attendance- 44 members and 2 guests

Host- Jack Curtin was supposed to host the May meeting but was unable to attend. He was voted to host the June Meeting since he has the supplies.

On Time Drawing- Winners were: Deena Ruiz, Debra Tyler, Dave Callahan, Nathan Lester, Tom Davis, Tony Shields, Derin Lester, Nona Haskins, Mary McIntyre, Sarah Green, and Cindy Shields

Old Business- John Haskins: Monthly workshops will be held the 2nd Saturday of each month at Dave Callahan's. There will be a work shop this Saturday in preparation for Uncle Billy's Day.

V.P.- Jack Curtin: Not present.

Second V.P.- Dave Callahan: upcoming field trips: 5/25: Our DMC Trip to Piney River Quarry; 6/1: Millpoint Quarry; 6/8: workshop at Dave's; 6/8: DMC trip to Brasstown, NC; 6/29: Cotton Patch Gold Mine trip-CANCELLED; 6/26-28- Franklin, NC shows and Chunky Gal Mtn.

field trip; 7/27: Enterprise Mine; First Weekend in August is the Spruce Pine Field Trips and shows.

Treasurers Report- Information not available

New Business: Thom Noble has begun to receive surveys back and encouraged all members to mail theirs in- even if all areas are not completed. This is an effort to find out what club members would like to do as a club.

Program: Dr. Steve Lenhart "All That Glitters", a Gold presentation.

*Minutes submitted by
Linda Noble, Secretary.*



2013 ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - John Haskins
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Members At Large-
Bernardino Rivera &
Tony Shields

COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS:

Field Trips- David Callahan
Hospitality- Monthly Volunteers
News Articles- Natalie Darling
Silent Auction- Warren Darling
Swap for Rocks- Warren Darling
Website- Casper Voogt
Workshops- Dave Callahan
FRA Adult Liaison- OPEN
Membership- Thom Noble

PROGRAMS

Special THANK YOU to Dr. Steve Lenhart, Who rose to the challenges of presenting a video/ powerpoint program without electricity. We were treated to an insight on the subject of gold, and still were able to view slides on a laptop computer.

No word on the June program- please join us for the meeting on Wednesday June 19th at 7:00 PM

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at:
groups.yahoo.com/group/Bench_Tips/
 or [facebook.com/Bench_Tips](https://www.facebook.com/Bench_Tips)

EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers.

Easiest way to cut a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the easiest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a cutoff wheel and then do a rough polish with a knife-edge silicone wheel.

FANCY RIVET HEADS

For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 14 - 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to <http://www.LeeValley.com> and do an item search on "brass escutcheon pin"

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to a leave a little less than one diameter sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.





FIELD TRIP REPORT...

2nd VP Report

Contact Information for Field Trips

David Callahan,

Field Trip Chairman

Home phone: 540-297-1853

Cell Phone- 540-874-5201

E-mail dbc11@aol.com

Boxley Aggregates, Piney River Quarry

Saturday, May 25, 2013

The GMSL's Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip Hosting Event

The weather was nice and clear, there was no rain in the forecast and the temperature was very agreeable. The only thing we didn't have was a good turnout. Was it the weather? Was it the high gas prices? Was it the economy? Was it the location? Was it the date with too much else going on? Or was it something else entirely different? I guess it could be some of all of the above. Whatever the reason was, we ended up with three members from Roanoke, fifteen from Lynchburg and only one couple representing the DMC from the Georgia Mineral Society in Atlanta, GA. Our DMC hosting's in the past typically having 50 to 75 people from half a dozen states attending. The Lynchburg and Roanoke Club turnout for these events has always been much better. There was a lot of preparation work that Boxley did for our event such as providing piles of rock spread out in a safe manner on the quarry floor, scheduling a shot to provide some fresh material and arranging for some employees to stay over for our 2PM departure time.

I think this was a rather poor showing for the DMC that has now 31 clubs representing 9 states, each hosting monthly field trips. There is a lot of preparation work each of these club's field trip leaders and quarry superintendents go thru to set up a field trip for potentially a large group of people. We in the GMSL have hosted 6 trips since January 2000 when we joined the Dixie Mineral Council. It is very disappointing to the clubs that host a field trip and few people bother to show up. With all that said, I

think that it is very important for us to make a special effort to support out fellow DMC clubs by attending their trips. There is a trip somewhere in these 9 states each month. The states are as follows. VA (GMSL is the only club), NC has 7, SC has 4, GA has 8, FL has 3, AL has 2, MS has 1, TN has 4 and KY has 1.

These monthly DMC field trips are published in the newsletter if the announcement is received before the newsletter deadline. Most will be a "go on your own" trip and you can always ask me for additional information if needed. I think that we should strive to attend as many of these monthly trips as possible. If the other clubs know that the Lynchburg and Roanoke Clubs attend their trips, they will be more inclined to attend ours. I know some of the states are a long distance away like FL, MS, AL but that's only 6 out of 31 field trip possibilities. Between VA, NC, SC, GA, KY and TN that's 25 out of the 31 possibilities. Just our neighboring states of NC, KY and TN offer 12 field trip opportunities.

All the mines and quarries nationwide are experiencing the extreme pressure from the Federal Government for tighter regulations and massive fines for noncompliance. Gaining entrance to these facilities today is becoming increasingly more difficult as it is left up to the individual quarry operator if the operation is considered safe enough for visitors to attend. That is why it is so very important to obey

Continued on next page

FIELD TRIP REPORT

continued from page 4...

each and every one of the safety rules that will be covered in the safety briefing. As one quarry operator so aptly said “we are just one incident, infraction or injury from closing this operation to all outsiders”

Now then, those 20 of us that did make the effort to attend our DMC field trip to Piney River had a wonderful time. We found some large massive quantities and very interesting silvery pyrrhotite. Also several possible zeolites varieties were found.

Several pieces of pink thulite were found and as always rutile, ilmenite, blue quartz, pyrite, chalcopyrite, feldspar, kaolinite and other unidentified minerals. All in all I think we had a very productive trip. If the tonnage of rock carried out in car trunks and pick-up beds were any indication of our success, it was successful. Thank you everyone that helped with the early arrival and sign-in help. Thank you to Mike and Kathy Nagel who drove up from Atlanta Georgia, and a special thanks to our host, Donald Barricks, Superintendent of the Boxley Piney River Quarry who made this possibility a reality.

Boxley’s Mill Point Quarry Mill Point, WV. June 1, 2013

**We were the guest of the Kingsport Gem & Mineral Society
Our Field Trip Leader was Royce Wickham,
President of the RVMGS**

Royce reported that all 10 that signed up, showed up. All were from the RVMGS as the GMSL was participating in the annual fund raising Uncle Billy’s Day Festival in Altavista. The Kingsport Club had 5 members attending.

Royce reported that there was a lot of pretty red and also blue grayish sea coral found. They also found some calcite and a lot of shell fossils. There had been some recent blasting so the material was plentiful.

It was a beautiful day and everyone had a great time. Big thanks go out to the KGMS for setting the trip up and inviting us to attend, to all those that made the early morning drive to West Virginia and to the Boxley management for allowing us access to this facility.

*We are currently ordering tee shirts for the GMSL
If you are interested in ordering a club tee shirt, there will be a sign-up sheet at the June meeting.*



UP COMING FIELD TRIPS

June Field Trips

Cotton Patch Gold Mine
New London, NC.
June 29, 2013

Cancelled due to lack of interest.

Their mine has a minimum of 10 people and this day was reserved exclusively for the Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Societies Golden Anniversary field trip

By a show of hands there were about 20 people from Roanoke and Lynchburg that expressed **interest** in the trip so it was set up.

Only 7 people originally signed up. Four were from Lynchburg and 3 were from Roanoke. Two cancelled leaving only 5 not meeting the 10 minimum so we had to cancel the trip.

The Cotton Patch Gold Mine is currently only open to groups of 10 or more that reserve a specific date. The mine is not open to the general public any longer.

July Field Trips

Enterprise Manganese Mine
Appomattox County, Virginia
July 27, 2013

Sign up required---call me, email me or sign-up at the June and July meetings. To date we have 19 signed up, all from the GMSL

Details will be available at the meeting and emailed out soon.

DMC FIELD TRIP CONTACT:
 Kelsie Grizzard, President CCGMS
[770-328-1217](tel:770-328-1217)
Kelsie.grizzard@southwire.com

DMC TRIP

**An Official Field Trip of the Carroll County
 Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (Carrollton, GA)**
 (HOST)

**An Official Field Trip of the
 GMSL and RVMGS**

Patty Construction Quarry

Summerville Lace Agate

Chattooga County, GA

July 28, 2013

9:00 AM EST

MEET: At the site, on US 27 in Chattooga Co. Ga. This is in the NW corner of the state of Georgia.

WHEN: July 28, 2013

TIME: 9:00 AM EST

Directions: From Summerville, Ga. follow US 27 South for 2.20 miles. The site will be on the right between the county owned waste dumpsters and the US Forestry office. Coming north from the Rome area, the site will be on the left side of US 27, and approximately 3.0 miles beyond the intersection of Gore Subigna Rd.

Tools: Eye protection is a must for anyone wishing to break apart material with a rock hammer, or sledge. Chisels would be valuable, as would small ground shovels and rakes. A small cart or hand truck may be useful for hauling larger pieces of take home material. Much of the material is covered with a chalky white chert, and a pale of water is sometimes handy for dipping and identifying the better material.

Other: Bring plenty of fluids. This is a good site for children. Any pets **MUST** be on a leash at all times.

Facilities: In town about 2 miles away

Special: *THIS IS AN ACTIVE QUARRY. NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED ANYWHERE NEAR ANY OF THE MACHINERY ON THE PREMISES. ANY VIOLATION OF THIS RULE MAY JEOPARDIZES FUTURE FIELD TRIPS TO THIS SITE.*



Summer Search

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

August
 beach
 bikini
 boat
 camping
 fan
 fishing



hat
 hot
 ice cream
 July
 June
 lotion
 mosquito

shorts
 sunburn
 sunglasses
 sun tan
 swimming
 tent
 vacation

www.bogglesworld.com

Rock Raiders

We are currently looking for someone to lead our Junior Rockhounds Programs, held during the business portion of our regular club meetings.

Qualifications:

Desire to enrich and cultivate interest in the earth sciences among youth.

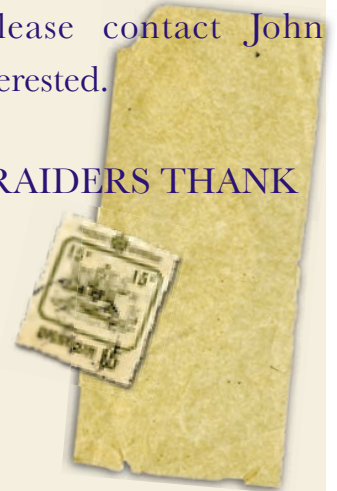
Prior experience not necessary. Several club members have program ideas, material, and support available to assist in this endeavor. Please contact John Haskins if interested.

Our ROCK RAIDERS THANK YOU!

Did You Know...

Egg shells dissolved in vinegar will form botryoidal calcium acetate crystals when evaporation occurs?

You can read about this and more at <http://www.rocksforkids.com/>



Upcoming Events

JUNE 2013

June 28-30- Treasures of the earth Gem, Mineral Fossil, Jewelry & Bead Show- Augusta Expoland, Fishersville, VA (toteshow.com for details)

Sept. 18-22- AFMS/ SFMS Annual Meeting Jacksonville, FL www.jaxgemandmineral.org/

Sept. 28-29- 49th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD.

Nov. 2-3- 44th annual Gemarama 2013: "Shades of Red"- sponsored by the Tuscarora Lapidary Society. The School at Church Farm, Business Rte. 30, 1/2 mile west of Frazer Rte.30 exit off Rte. 202, Exton, PA.

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	18 Meeting 7:00PM	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

ATTENTION ALL CLUB MEMBERS

Workshops will be held regularly on the second Saturday of each month at Dave Callahan's. Start time is 9:00 AM, but come anytime and stay as long as you'd like. There is a store/deli about a mile down the road if you want to break for lunch and return.

The workshops will be open format, and the purpose will be for club members to learn how to use the lapidary equipment to turn rough specimens into finished lapidary pieces for their own personal use. Experienced members will be available to help teach and assist.

We have a great set up with several sets of wheels for cabbing, faceting machines, saws, and much much more. From time to time there may be special class offerings, so be sure to let us know what you are interested in.

Workshops are open to club members only, and due to liability we can not allow guests or non-members at our club workshops. Remember, membership is just \$15.00 per year for the fist family member and \$3.00 for each additional family member.

Congrats Graduates!!!



2013 SFMS WORKSHOPS

Reprinted from www.sfmsworkshops.com

This year the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies continues our long history of offering weeklong classes in Jewelry Making with our 37th annual workshops. Our 2013 workshop program is well underway. Our classes are conducted at beautiful mountain top retreats in North Carolina and in Georgia. They provide a fun filled vacation which includes lodging, food, and instruction for less than the cost of a hotel!

We are offering two workshops at Wildacres Retreat in North Carolina and at William Holland Retreat in Georgia. Over 40 different classes will be offered at our workshops this year. Well qualified instructors are scheduled for each of the classes. Our website (www.sfmsworkshops.com) provides schedules and details for each class as well as information on the instructors. The website also has a pdf registration form that can be filled out and printed to send to the registrar.

The workshops dates for this year are:

William Holland (GA) Wildacres (NC)

June 9-15 August 19-25

October 13-19 September 23-29

Our first workshop at William Holland is very close at hand. We currently have 2 classes (Silver 1+ Special

Fabrication Techniques & Opal Cutting) that are completely full for this session. However, we have openings in all other classes. If you are interested in a class or know someone who is, please call the William Holland registrar (863-241-9559) immediately to reserve a class and a room.

Our classes include the following subjects:

Beg/Adv Chain-Maillé,

Beg/Adv Fused Glass,

Beg/IntSilversmithing,

Beg/Int Wirecraft,

Bead Netting,
Cabochons, Casting, Chasing & Repoussé,
Digital Photography, Enameling,
Exhibiting & Judging,
Faceting,
Jewelry Bench Building,
Kumihimo,
Lampwork,
Metal Special Projects,
Mixed Metals,
Opal Cutting,
Polymer Clay, Raku Beads, Resin Jewelry, Scrimshaw,
Seed Beading,
Silver Cold Connection, and Silver Filigree.

All classes are not offered at each workshop. See the attached schedule or the website for details. Registrations for our other workshops are progressing well at this time. People who are interested in the August, September, and October workshops need to make their reservations now to make sure that you get the class that you want. Call the registrar at the number shown on the schedule with any questions that you may have about the workshop or classes.

In addition to the classes, we have many other activities associated with our workshops. These include interesting evening programs, campfire (Wildacres), our exciting auctions, rocking on the porch, and many other fun activities. A campfire at Wildacres is usually held mid-week (weather permitting), often with a spontaneous sing-a-long or storytelling session, or even student vocals or instrumentals...followed by tasty s'mores! Our much-anticipated auctions are always a hit and offer an opportunity to pick up some nice items at a great price. If this sounds like a great week, it is! We invite you to join us and spread the word about the SFMS workshops. Tailgating is also offered at both locations.

In addition to our website, we now have information about classes and samples of projects on the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Facebook page. Check it out the next time that you are on Facebook.

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SFMS...Continued from page 9

I encourage you to mark the workshop dates on your calendars and plan on joining us for a wonderful jewelry vacation at our enjoyable locations. See you there soon.

Roy
Roy Deere, Education
Committee Chair

**2013 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS
SCHEDULE**

Workshop Staff

Wildacres Director, Lisa Roberts
10328 Briar Bay Loop
Johnesboro, GA 30238
423-494-7096
678-479-4177

Email: wadirector1314@yahoo.com

Wildacres Registrar, B.J.

Gearhart
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Canton, GA 30114-6887
770-479-0963

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William Holland Director,

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William Holland Registrar, Joe

& Addy DePetro
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863-241-9559

Email: Mysticalmelts@verizon.net

Education Chairman, Roy
Deere

7041 Rodes Place
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321-725-9179

Email:
SFMSeducationdir@gmail.com

**The intermediate / advanced
classes listed with an asterisk
(*) require some prior
experience by the student.
Experience in a class provided
by your local club, Workshop
class, or self study may be
enough. Please do not exclude
yourself, if you're interested in
one**

**SESSION ONE - WILLIAM
HOLLAND
SUNDAY, June 9-13, 2013**

Seed Beading Barbara Green
Cabochons Anita Westlake
Chainmaking, Beginning
Case Leeser
Enameling/Cold-Connection
Renee Kelley
Faceting Bill Roberts
Lampwork Ann Royer
Opal Cutting Joe DePietro
Photo Ron Gibbs
Polymer Clay CANCELLED
*Silver 1+ Special Fabrication
Techniques Annette Gibney
Wire 1 Sandra Bergquist

**SESSION TWO - WILDACRES
MONDAY, August 19-25, 2013**

Beg & Adv Chain-Maille Jewelry
Roy Deere
Beginning Fused Glass
Barb & Herrick Jeffers
Beginning Silversmithing
Dana Ruth
Beginning Wirecraft
Rowan Rose

Bench Building Danny Griffin
Chasing & Repoussé
Tom & Kay Benham
*Metalwork Special Projects
Jeff Shear
Polymer Clay Maggie Westall
Raku Beads Jim Cullen
Seed Beading Sharon Solly
Scrimshaw Bill Wetzel

**SESSION THREE -
WILDACRES
MONDAY, Sept. 23-29, 2013**

Advanced Fused Glass Barb &
Herrick Jeffers
Cabochons Steve Adams
Casting Bill Harr
Exhibiting & Judging
Jay Bowman
Intermediate Silversmithing
Dana Ruth
Kumehimo Haydee Hernandez
*Faceting/Open Studio
Steve Hillenbrand
Resin Rochelle Nation
Silver Cold Connection
Charlotte Caughman
*Intermediate Wire Wrapping
Rowan Rose

**SESSION FOUR -
WILLIAM HOLLAND
SUNDAY, October 13-18, 2013**

Bead Netting Ronald Midkiff
Cabochons Ellis Bray
Casting
Joe DePietro/Lou Mager
Fused Glass Rich & Linda Dillon
Lampwork Cindy Reed
Mixed Metals Kim St. Jean
*Silver 1 Rebecca McNairy
Silver Filigree Shannon Stafford
Beginning Wirecraft
Rowan Rose

Heat Stress Prevention

Submitted by Al DeHart, by way of David Callahan

Your Field Trip Coordinator wishes to remind all Club members as to the symptoms of various stages of heat stress, and precautionary measures to be taken during hot weather or excessive temperatures at field trip locations.

Factors leading to heat stress include high temperatures and humidity, direct sun or heat, limited air movement, physical exertion, poor physical condition and some medications such as antihistamines, anti-depressants and high blood pressure medications. Those who have not become acclimated (accustomed) to hot and humid environments are more susceptible to heat stress than those who have.

Please observe yourself and your fellow field trip participants when rockhounding in hot environments and look for the following symptoms of the various stages of heat stress:

Heat Cramps – Due to heavy sweating and loss of salt and other electrolytes, symptoms include painful spasms of the arms, legs and abdomen. Treatment includes drinking water or electrolyte replacement drinks such as Gatorade®, massaging the affected area and rest.

Heat Rash – This is not considered to be more serious than heat exhaustion or heat stress, but can be unpleasant and deserves mention. Also known as prickly heat, this condition develops when the skin's sweat ducts become clogged; trapping perspiration and causing irritation, itching and a rash that can be mild to severe. Heat rash can occur where skin touches skin, such as the inner thighs, armpits and

under the breasts. Aside from taking normal heat stress precautionary measures, avoid using powders, creams or ointments that further block sweat ducts. However, calamine lotion can be applied after cool showers to alleviate symptoms. Watch rashes and blisters for signs of infection and contact your physician if you experience increased pain and swelling, red streaks, drainage of pus, swollen lymph nodes, fever/chills, or if symptoms of heat rash persist for weeks or months.

Heat Exhaustion – Due to dehydration and non-acclimatization to heat, symptoms include heavy sweating, intense thirst, pale and moist skin, headache, a rapid pulse, upset stomach or vomiting, and fatigue or weakness. Victims should be moved to the shade or an air conditioned space and allowed to lie down and rest. Loosen clothing, provide water and cool compresses or water mist, and elevate the legs. Watch closely for possible signs of heat stroke, which follows.

Heat Stroke – Due to excessive exposure to high heat environments, where the body's core temperature rises to critical levels (in excess of 105 deg F). Subsequently, the body's system of temperature regulation fails. Symptoms include high body temperature, lack of sweating (red, dry skin), rapid pulse, chills, hyperventilation or difficulty breathing, disorientation or unusual behavior, weakness, seizures or fits, and ultimately unconsciousness. Victims require immediate response as **this condition can be fatal**; call for emergency help, immerse the individual in cold water (the colder the better), or massage the body with ice.

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Faqs on Meteorites on Public Lands

*from the American Lands Access Association
Reprinted from the May 2013 issue of EFMLS News*

Why is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issuing a policy on meteorites on public lands at this time?

The BLM is formalizing a policy on collecting meteorites found on public lands because confusion and misinformation has been created by recent media attention. In addition, recreation by the public lands because confusion and misinformation has been created by recent media attention. In addition, recreation by the public has steadily increased on public lands. Therefore, the BLM would like to educate the public about meteorite hobby collecting and the scientific values of meteorites.

What is the BLM's policy on meteorites found on public lands?

Meteorites found on public lands may be collected by recreationalists and hobbyists with some limitations. Meteorites can be collected for scientific and educational purposes, and can also be commercially collected.

What are the authorities that govern collecting meteorites from public lands?

The courts have long established that meteorites belong to the owner of the surface estate on which meteorites are found. This premise is based on the common laws of the property as amended by the courts. As such, the BLM is responsible for the management of meteorites under the federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 as amended, including casual and commercial collection. In addition, the Ninth Circuit Court determined that scientific collecting is authorized by the Antiquities Act of 1906.

Can a mining claim be located for meteorites?

No, a mining claim may not be located for meteorites. Meteorites do not meet the definition of a

mineral resource under the general mining and mineral laws. The extraterrestrial origins of meteorites have made them unique and of extreme commercial and scientific value. Therefore, because of their origins they are not subject to the mining and mineral laws.

Can Meteorites be collected free of charge and without a permit?

Yes, meteorites may be casually collected, i.e., for free and without a permit, under FLPMA. However, in accordance with the BLM's regulations at 43 CFR 8365.1-5 (1) collection is limited to certain public lands, (2) only specimens up to ten pounds may be collected per person per year, and (3) only surface collection with the use of non-motorized and non-mechanical equipment is allowed: metal detectors are okay. However, specimens that are casually collected are for personal use only, and may not be bartered or sold for commercial purposes.

How can meteorites be collected from public lands?

Meteorites found on public lands may be casually collected by recreationalists and hobbyists. The limit on the amount that may be casually collected is meteorite specimens up to ten pounds that can be easily hand-carried and transported, per person per year. Collection is from the surface only. Motorized and mechanized equipment is not allowed; however, use of metal detectors is permitted. Meteorites may be collected without a permit or collection fee. Casual collection is for personal use only, and therefore, cannot be bartered or sold for commercial purposes.

Meteorites may be collected for scientific and educational purposes under a permit issued under the authority of the Antiquities Act/ The applicant must be a qualified researcher, and any property collected under this type of permit remains the BLM property. The meteorite collected under permit must be curated in an approved repository that conforms to curatorial standards provided in 36 CFR 79.

Heavens and Earth

Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society, 25th Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Sale September 20-22, 2013 Morocco Temple

AFMS/SFMS 2013 Annual Meeting September 18th-22nd

Sponsored by the Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society, Inc <http://www.jaxgemandmineral.org/>
A 501(c)(3) not for profit organization

All AFMS and SFMS meetings will be hosted at the: Marriott, Jacksonville, 4670 Salisbury Road Jacksonville, FL 32256, 904-296-2222 or 1-800-962-9786 ([Mention AFMS meeting for \\$82 room rate. Offer Expires August 5, 2013.](#)) (This rate is good from Sep 15th to 25th)

AFMS Uniform Rules - Wednesday 7pm **AFMS Annual Meeting** - Thursday 9am **AFMS Scholarship foundation-** After Annual Meeting
You are invited Thursday Night to Hanna Park at the beach. Star Gazing with Northeast Florida

Astronomy Society members and Telescopes (Saturn will be spectacular!) Cook out provided by Host society JGMS.

JGMS Annual Show and Sale Starts - Friday 1pm **SFMS Cracker Barrel Meeting** - Friday 7pm

SFMS Annual Meeting - Saturday 9am

ALAA Meeting - Saturday 2:30pm

Awards Banquet - Saturday 6pm

Editors and Webmasters Breakfast - Sunday 9am

40+ retail dealers, Fantastic exhibits and speakers from around the country. See the NASA Moon Rock, Lectures on near earth bodies, meteorites, demonstrations, workshops, hourly door prizes, silent auctions and more.

Enjoy the Annual Jacksonville Gem Show!!!

Welcome New Members

Kevin
Sopuch from
Centerville,
VA

Deena
Ruiz from
Madison
Heights,

Paul Coviello
from
Appomattox,

From the First VP:

continued from page 1...

wrapped or set in a white metal, such as sterling or Argentium®, or with white gemstones or clear Swarovski® crystals.

Rhodochrosite and Similar Stones

Rhodochrosite is a 3.5 to a 4 on Mohs scale, which makes it ideal for filing and reshaping, and has a specific gravity of 3.4 to 3.6. Because pure specimens of rhodochrosite that have that spectacular rose color are very rare, impure specimens with a lighter hue of pink are commonly used and are often confused with rhodonite. The stones are very similar because rhodonite and rhodochrosite are both manganese minerals, but rhodonite is a much more stable compound. One way to tell these gemstones apart is by their hardness: rhodonite is a 5.5 to a 6.5 on the Mohs scale, so it is much harder than rhodochrosite. Also, Rhodonite is an opaque "gem-rock", deep pink in color, pretty consistent in color, that usually has black manganese inclusions, mostly in streaks. Rhodonite, rarely, if ever, has any white unless it is a specimen where rhodonite crystals have formed in quartz, which is a great shelf piece, but contains many internal fractures that will most often splinter and crumble if the piece is cut on a saw. Most of the rhodochrosite on the market today has white or cream banding (the carbonate material) and resembles lace. Sometimes rhodochrosite can also have a few minuscule black, manganese inclusions, but they are not desirable to "professional" jewelry designers. As a carbonate manganese, rhodochrosite is a rather soft stone and should also be considered a "gem-rock." Rhodochrosite also has a unique cleavage; it peaks in three different directions, and there is distinct crystal twinning in most pure specimens (meaning that lines and grooves where the minerals have switched directions are quite clear). This makes the stone very hard to cut into a uniform

shape, so rhodochrosite is rarely found in faceted jewelry unless cut by an experienced artisan.

Rhodochrosite was first discovered in the ore deposits of silver mines in Romania in 1813. Since then, it has been mined in Argentina, Japan, Peru, Russia, and South Africa. However, the most pure specimens (and the largest) of the mineral are found in the Sweet Home Mine near Alma, CO.

Colorado named rhodochrosite its state mineral in 2002. The Denver Museum of Nature and Science now displays the world's largest single crystal of rhodochrosite, named the "Alma King" as a tribute to the mine it came from. Before it began to be mined for collectors and jewelry-makers, rhodochrosite was often thrown away, because its chemical composition makes it extremely destructive to the blending process in the mining of silver; the presence of rhodochrosite in silver is considered to be a great impurity. Most of the good quality rhodochrosite comes from South America: Rhodochrosite was found hiding in stalactites and stalagmites of ancient caves of Argentina. Stalactites and stalagmites are large rock structures that come up from the floor and hang down from the ceiling of caves, and are made up of calcium carbonate and lime deposits. No one knew the rhodochrosite was there until one of these broke apart, revealing an amazingly red core!

Rhodochrosite in Culture

Like most gems, rhodochrosite is rich in cultural history. The Incas believed that rhodochrosite was the blood of their ancestors in solid form, so this rock is sometimes called "la Rosa Del Inca" or "the Inca Rose." The Incas wore these stones when facing enemies, believing that it would give them strength and peace of mind in times of conflict. Because rhodochrosite is made up of manganese, it is very useful in many areas besides jewelry making. In

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From the First VP:

Continued from page 14

its base form, it can be used to supplement crops that are deficient of nutrients, can be added to ceramics to form a colorful glaze, and it is even used industrially to make concrete stains (think of those tall, rose-colored concrete walls you've seen surrounding residential areas). As a healing stone, it is thought to heal the heart chakra, allowing a person to become more balanced, to forgive themselves and others, to trust, and to give and receive love.

Print Resources:

Eyewitness Handbooks' Rocks and Minerals by Chris Pellant, ISBN 1-56458-033-4

Peterson Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals by Frederick H. Pough, ISBN-0-395-91096-X

Smithsonian Rock and Gem by Ronald Louis Bonewitz, ISBN 0-7566-0962-3

Heat Stress Prevention...*continued from page 11*

Preventing Heat Stress:

- Always have someone nearby when rockhounding in hot environments.
- We need to look out for each other, recognize the various effects of heat stress and take immediate preventative actions.
- Field Trip participants should wear lightweight, loose-fitting, light colored clothing.
- As a general thumb rule, ensure that during rockhounding in hot conditions, have at least two quarts of water readily available per person such that one cup of water can be ingested every 15 minutes on average.
- Take rest breaks as necessary, and preferably in cooler environments with air movement.
- Whenever possible, block out the sun or other heat sources.
- Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks or heavy meals.



Uncle Billy's Day 2013- not pictured: Bill Speck, Siglinde Allbeck, Debra Tyler and Tony Shields. Thank You to everyone who came out to help! Photograph submitted by Linda Noble

Natalie Darling, Editor
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Lynchburg, VA 24502



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



Lynchburg Rock Raiders is the official Future Rockhounds of America association of the The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc.



Reminder...

NEW MEETING LOCATION

Lynchburg Parks and Recreation
Fairview Center
3621 Campbell Ave.
Lynchburg, VA

DIRECTIONS: Fairview Center; 3621 Campbell Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24501 434-847-1751~ From Route 29 expressway or Route 460, take the Campbell Avenue Exit. Follow Campbell Ave. to 3621, which is across the street from a Citgo Gas Station. There is a fence around the building and parking on both streets running along the sides of the property as well as a lot in the back. We will be looking for you!