

GEM & MINERAL JOURNAL

Official Monthly
Publication of the Gem &
Mineral Society of
Lynchburg, VA, Inc
www.lynchburgrockclub.org

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Happy New Year

This will be an abbreviated version of our monthly newsletter during transition of officers. Articles received are published within, and important information about changes and our upcoming election are on page 2 & 3. We hope to see you at the club meeting on Wednesday January 18, 2017 at 7:00PM.



From the First V.P..

Happy New Year one and all. We made it to 2017! Folks often make New Years resolutions in January and one of mine is to do some more traveling.

I fondly remember our trip to the Emerald Isle several years ago. Ireland is an enchanted place with many great geologic features that allure millions of tourists. Especially enticing are the Cliffs of Mohr and the Burren. Perhaps the following article will draw your interest to these locations. Talk about a field trip! Wouldn't it be great running into one another there?

The Burren County Clare, Ireland

The landscape of the Burren has been shaped by geological forces for hundreds of millions of years. The story begins in a tranquil tropical sea near the equator, includes the development of a major river delta, migration and collision of continents, the expansion and contraction of the polar ice caps and last but not least, the rain that sweeps in from the Atlantic.



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 January Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2017

In Attendance: : John Haskins, Nona Haskins, Bernard Rivera, Dave Callahan, Jack Curtin, Frank Midkiff, Eric Routon, Dave Woolley, Natalie Darling, Warren Darling, Steve Gordon, Thom Noble, Linda Noble, Siglinde Allbeck, Loretta Doty.

The group reviewed and discussed the transition of Club Officers, and the goal is for the club to remain united and not divided in this process. There was discussion on steps we can take to improve the club. It was decided we will not join forces with the Roanoke club but remain an independent club.

Proposal for officers was made and will be presented at the January 18, 2017 meeting, and nominations for any office will be accepted from the floor. Voting will be conducted at the February 15, 2017 meeting.

Accepted proposal as of this meeting as follows:

Steve Gordon (former GMSL president) accepted the nomination for Club President

Natalie Darling accepted the nomination for First VP

Dave Callahan would like to continue as second VP

Jack Curtin will accept the nomination as Treasurer, stating that he was willing to serve where needed. Also mentioned was interest by Cindy Mitchell, but she was not in attendance to accept or decline.

Warren Darling has agreed to take over the editor position if there is no interest by someone else within the club to do so. He has been assistant and proof reader to the current editor. Linda Noble is willing to continue as secretary, but would like to open the position to anyone else who may be interested in serving.

Thom Noble will continue as Membership Chairman.

Eric Routon will continue as Member as Large, and a new candidate, Loretta Doty, has agreed to accept the nomination as well.

Meeting location and the need for space to house our club equipment was also discussed. It was decided club meetings will take place at The Fairview Center and Natalie will follow up on possibility of obtaining a locked cabinet, owned by the club for storage.

It was decided board meetings should take place monthly unless otherwise determined, times and location be decided. Group to focus on member involvement and opportunities for teaching, learning and sharing new crafts.

Board meeting dates will be published and will be open to all current club members. One topic for discussion in the near future is whether or not we should implement term limits on officer positions.

**Minutes submitted by
Linda Noble, Secretary**

2016 ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - John Haskins
(434) 525-8430
JMHaskins1@netzero.net

**First Vice President
Jack Curtin**
(434) 384 -6249
jacwcurtin@gmail.com

**Second Vice President
David Callahan**
(540) 297-1853
DBCALL1@aol.com

**Secretary
Linda Noble**
(434) 332-4869
linda-noble@hughes.net

Editor - Natalie Darling
(434) 941-1899
gmsleditor@gmail.com

Treasurer - Frank Midkiff
(434) 660-1565
midkiffsm1@gmail.com

Members At Large-
Bernardino Rivera &
Eric Routon

**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

After much discussion and many, many years of service, several of our current officers have decided to pursue other interest, either as members of the Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Board of Directors, or elsewhere within the structure of the club. Please join us in support of OUR club by stepping up to nominate or be nominated, as well as offering support in the future when/ where you are able.

Current nominations as of the January 11, 2017 Executive meeting:

President: Steve Gordon

First Vice President: Natalie Darling

Second Vice President: Dave Callahan

Treasurer: Jack Curtin; Cindy Mitchell

Secretary: Linda Noble

Membership Chairman: Thom Noble

Editor: _____

Member At Large: Eric Routon

Member At Large : Loretta Doty

We welcome your suggestions additional nominees, and appreciate your willingness to learn and serve.

FIELD TRIP REPORT...

Up Coming Field Trips

**OFFICIAL COMBINED GMSL and RVMGS FIELD TRIP
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2017 (weather
permitting, use your own judgement) 9AM-NOON
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY,
Harrisonburg, Virginia
GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT and MINERAL MUSEUM**

*This will be our final field trip to JMU since Dr.
Kearns will be retiring.
Sign-up is required...*

call me, e-mail me or see me at the meeting

We will all provide our own transportation and park in the JMU parking lot in the front of 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. Dr. Kearns will be retiring later this year and the geology lab and museum are scheduled to be moved back to Miller Hall on campus. These trips will likely not be continued by his replacement so it is important to visit these facilities now.

If you have any minerals that you want 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 and all the proceeds go toward future museum purchases. The museum will be open for our viewing pleasure.

**Driving directions to JMU in Harrisonburg, VA.
from I-81 north bound**

for Field Trips
David Callahan,
Field Trip Chairman
Home phone: 540-297-1853
Cell Phone- 540-874-5201
E-mail dbc11@aol.com

* I-81 to Harrisonburg, VA. (About 2.5 hours driving time from Lynchburg and 1.5 from Roanoke).
(One good way from Lynchburg is Rt. 29N, Rt. 6W, Rt. 151N, Rt. 250W, I-64W, I-81N)

* Exit 245 (Turn left on Port Republic Road)

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

* Proceed northward on South 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 left and follow the hall. The mineralogy lab will be open on your right.

* The Mineral Museum will be open so we will 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. Notice the brass plaque on the Virginia mineral collection cabinet. Bring your camera, the minerals and displays are world class.

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg Inc.(GMSL) and The Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Society, Inc. (RVMGS)

David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman.....E-mail dbc11@aol.com

Home phone [540-297-1853](tel:540-297-1853) Cell phone [540-874-5201](tel:540-874-5201)
(Day of trip only please)



Dixie Mineral Council

The Southeast Federation Of Mineralogical Societies Inc
 The Friendly Federation- Founded in 1976 to serve.
 DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
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An Official Field Trip of the Columbia Gem and Mineral Society (Columbia, SC) (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the GMSL and RVMGS

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Diamond Hill Mine

100 Diamond Hill Road, Antreville, SC
8:00 AM Eastern (9 AM Central) to Dusk
Fee: \$15 per person regardless of age

COLLECTING: You can find smoky quartz, amethyst, skeletal quartz, milky quartz, clear quartz, aquamarine, drusy quartz, mica, & epimorphs.

FEE: \$15 per person regardless of age

BRING: Clothing appropriate to the weather (note: if there have been recent rains, the area will be very muddy, so boots will be very helpful), a potato rake, a bucket, safety glasses, a rock hammer and chisel, gloves, small bags for delicate specimens like mica, and paper for wrapping your finds.

FACILITIES: There are 2 portapotties on site. No food or drink is sold on site, so bring plenty of water, lunch, and snacks. The nearest towns with restaurants are Iva, SC (10 miles away) and Abbeville, SC (16 miles away). If you are interested in camping onsite, you can make arrangements by calling [864-934-3744](tel:864-934-3744).

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

We will be meeting at 8:00 am Eastern time

Diamond Hill Mine
 100 Diamond Mine Road
 Antreville, SC

FROM I-20 IN SC

- 1 Take exit onto SC 19 North.
- 2 Follow SC North to junction with US 25. Take US 25 thru Edgefield
- 3 Past Edgefield, turn left onto SC 283
- 4 Follow SC 283 until it ends on SC 28
- 5 Turn right on to SC 28. Stay on it for 41 miles until you get to Emanuel Baptist Church (on left)
- 6 Turn left onto Hiwy 284.

- 7 Travel 2.3 miles to "old house" on the right.
- 8 Turn right here on to Suber Road.
- 9 Travel 0.7 miles to Diamond Mine Road.
- 10 Turn right on to Diamond Mine Road; you will see the mine entrance on your right.

DIRECTIONS FROM I-85

- 1 Get off I-85 on Us-76(Clemson Blvd) toward Anderson
- 2 Turn right off Us- 76 onto SC 28
- 3 Follow SC 28 around Anderson
- 4 Stay on it until you get to Emanuel Baptist Church (on right)
- 5 Turn right onto Hwy 284.
- 6 Travel 2.3 miles to "old house" on the right.
- 7 Turn right here on to Suber Road.
- 8 Travel 0.7 miles to Diamond Mine Road.
- 9 Turn right on to Diamond Mine Road; you will see the mine entrance on your right.

DIRECTIONS FROM I-20 (GEORGIA)

- 1 Exit off I-20 onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Washington Road.
- 2 Follow Washington Road to Furys Ferry Road(approx. 3.5 miles) Bear right onto Furys Ferry Road.
- 3 This becomes Hwy 28. Follow this road 32 miles to Plum Branch, SC
- 4 Stay on it for another 41 miles until you get to Emanuel Baptist Church (on left)
- 5 Turn left onto Hwy 284.
- 6 Travel 2.3 miles to "old house" on the right.
- 7 Turn right here on to Suber Road.
- 8 Travel 0.7 miles to Diamond Mine Road.
- 9 Turn right on to Diamond Mine Road; you will see the mine entrance on your right.

CONTACT: Angela Valvasori (thebears@earthlink.net)
 Cell Phone: [803-960-6667](tel:803-960-6667)



Dixie Mineral Council

The Southeast Federation Of Mineralogical Societies Inc

The Friendly Federation- Founded in 1976 to serve.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee

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An Official Field Trip of the Alabama Mineral and Lapidary Society (Birmingham, AL) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the GMSL and RVMGS

Saturday, February 18, 2017

Gravel Pit / Coal Mine

Brookwood, AL

Meet at 8:00 AM Central

Collect from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

TRIP: This is an old alluvial deposit containing rocks eroded from the Appalachian Mountains since their formation 400 million years ago. This site is an old gravel quarry that is now producing natural gas field.

COLLECTING: Material at Brookwood is primarily water smoothed pebbles of mixed size from teeny to baking potato size. We will be looking for petrified wood, jasper, agate, crazy blue lace, and oolite. This site has an abundance of water smoothed quartz pebbles shaped like a double sided cabochon. Small amounts of many other types of rock are found including petrified wood, jasper, agate, marine fossils, Indian paint pots and any number of other unknown materials. Lots of great tumbling material but some is suitable for cutting.

BRING: Sack lunch, plenty of drinks, buckets or bags for specimens, hammer, screwdriver (or something similar to pry the rock out of the surface). No digging needed. Wear appropriate dress, hat, good gloves, and sunscreen.

REQUIREMENTS: All tools, equipment, and ponds are strictly off limits. The SFMS code of ethics should be strictly observed. The property owner has been generous to let us collect here for many years and we would not want anything to jeopardize that.

WAIVER FORMS MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE YOU DIG!!!

Please check out with me before you leave so we can keep count of who is there. We do not want anyone to get locked in the gate!!

EVERYONE MUST BE OUT OF THE SITE BY 3:00 DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

McDonald's
22183 Highway 216
McCalla, AL 35171

We will be meeting at McDonald's at exit 100 off of I-20/ I-59 South (heading from Birmingham towards Tuscaloosa). It is inside the Love's Truck Stop and can be seen while at the off ramp on the right side.

You will turn right onto Hwy. 216 and the Love's Truck Stop will be on your immediate left.

Please be there between **8 - 8:30 a.m. Central**. We plan to pull out at 8:30 am so you need to get there to sign the waiver and attendance sheet. (So if you fall in a hole we know who to look for!!)

CONTACT: Lou Ann Newell newell.louann@gmail.com
[205-482-3234](tel:205-482-3234).

RSVP: Please let us know if you are planning on attending. This is a large site but we cannot manage more than about 75 visitors.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL ME

This is a go on your own trip

David Callahan, field trip leader for the GMSL and RVMGS

540-297-1853

From the First V.P.

Continued from page 1

The rocks that make up the Burren were all formed during the Carboniferous period between 340 and 315 million years ago. This geological period is named for all the coal deposits in North America, UK and Europe that were formed at this time.

In the Burren are there are two major rock types; the lighter coloured limestones to the north and east and the darker siltstones, shales and sandstones to the south west. The limestones which make up the typical bare Burren landscape were buried by the slightly younger siltstones and sandstones which make up the Cliffs of Moher.



The different rock types were formed under different conditions; the limestones, which contain fossil corals, crinoids and brachiopods were formed in a warm tropical sea near the equator, very much like the Bahamas today. The limestones were deposited slowly over a very long period of time, around 20 million years and much of the rock is actually made up of little bits of broken fossils.

Continental Collision and Ice Age
Shortly after these rocks were formed the entire continent collided with what is now Europe, this caused the rocks, which were originally horizontal, to become gently folded as we can see at Mullaghmore, in fact all the rocks of the Burren are tilted slightly to the south. The enormous forces that caused the folding are also responsible for the many cracks and fissures that run through the limestone now.

Much later, only about 1.8 million years ago the ice age started. Huge masses of ice over 200m thick came from the north and north east and



scoured the surface ripping up soil and rock and carving valleys and then depositing the rocks and clay as the ice melted.



We can see these rocks scattered across the Burren as glacial erratics today. Along the coast there are many rocky beaches where it is possible to find rocks which are not originally from the Burren, these granites, red sandstones and others were carried by the ice from Connemara and east Clare and have been eroded by the sea from the glacial deposits left by the ice.

The last Ice age ended around 12,000 years ago. Since then the rain has been quietly dissolving the limestone and widening the fissures and also forming many of the caves we see all through the Burren. The rain continues to slowly dissolve the limestone today. The combination of features formed by rain and ice are known as a glaciokarst landscape and the Burren is a globally significant example which was awarded Geopark status in 2011.

Happy Hunting,

Jack Curtin

Text courtesy of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark
Nominated by: Earth Science Ireland, William Sallun Filho

GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY OF LYNCHBURG, VA, INC.

WWW.LYNCHBURGROCKCLUB.ORG



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.

January 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 21, 2017- Newton, Massachusetts Annual Mineral Auction Organized by the: Boston Mineral Club. American Legion Nonantum Post 440 (295 California Street, Newton, MA)

Jan. 21-22- Deland Fl.-46th Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Organized by: Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society Volusia County Fairgrounds (3150 E. New York Avenue)

<i>SUN</i>	<i>MON</i>	<i>TUES</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THURS</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Club Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 DMC TRIP
29	30	31				

