



# August Newsletter

8/2021

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**Meeting at Miller Center**  
301 Grove Street  
Lynchburg, VA 24501  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month  
7:00 pm until 9:00 pm. It  
will be in the Aviary through  
the rest of the year

Wintery weather meetings  
schedule is if the Lynchburg  
schools are down for  
weather then the meeting is  
cancelled

Workshop is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday  
of the month. Just not this  
month as we have the show.

## President's Meanderings:

By James Tomlin

Hello All, I am pleased to announce that we have locked in the date for our annual show next year. We will be hosting the Annual Show and Sell at the 715 Moose lodge on July 23, 2022. Our show this year was a great success with multiple clubs vending and a few hundred people attending. I am so proud of our volunteers for the show, without them it would have never been feasible. I can't wait to see what we can accomplish next year. Go ahead and mark your calendars because this show will be even bigger than the last with a whole year to plan.

I would like to say good luck to Dave Woolley and his wife Noel on their move to Florida. Dave your contributions to the club have been so valuable to the growth and enrichment of our society that words could never measure. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know you and spending time with you. As my teacher in faceting and in part geology I am grateful for the lessons and skills you have passed down. I am truly honored to have been able to get to know you and now see you

We have word back from Mike with Willis Mountain and we will be having a field trip there this year. It will be on September 25th from 9am to 1pm. You must be a club member in good standing to attend and there are no exceptions due to liability. We will be sending out another email shortly with more details on the trip along with safety measures and required safety attire. This trip is a great adventure for beginners and avid collectors alike with a variety of materials to be found. Signups will be either in person at the August meeting or through email [lynchburgrockclub@yahoo.com](mailto:lynchburgrockclub@yahoo.com).

Currently we are having a bit of an issue with our meetings being hosted by the Parks and Rec dept. of Lynchburg. As you know we usually meet in room 102 of the park's building. For a couple of months now we have been in the Aviary building due to an influx of programs in the main building. Come the first of the year the Aviary will be going under construction for foundation issues. We are currently looking for solutions on meeting places within the Rec department so please be aware this is going on and we will keep you informed.

Your Fellow Rockhound,  
James Tomlin

**2020 Officers**

**PRESIDENT**

**James Tomlin**  
(434)258-2886  
tomlin.jamesm@yahoo.com

**First Vice President**  
**Steve Boylan**

**Second Vice President**

**Secretary – Holly Tomlin**  
Firseysz1981@yahoo.com

**Treasurer – Joan Moore**  
jmoore64@msn.com

**Membership – Debbie Wade**  
debbie5227@yahoo.com

**Editor – Steve Gordon**  
(434) 942-1836  
stevegordon@comcast.net

**Members At Large -**  
**Eric Routon**

**Youth Out Reach**



**Pictures from the Show  
on July 10th**

Dave & Susan Brogan



John & Nona Haskins



Roger & Linda  
Linkenhoker



Thomas Hale





Left – Dave Woolley & Dave Callahan

Below – August Dietz



Left  
John Heinz



Right  
Victor Krynicki



Left  
Ryan Reminisce  
from Blue Ridge  
Rock Shop



Right  
Craig Rice





Left  
Jason Smith

Right  
Bill Stephens



Hot Diggy Dog Food Truck

## **\*Program for the rest of the year\***

By Steve Boylan

### **AUGUST MEETING PRESENTATION**

"The Biology of Sharks and Rays"

Dr. John F. Morrissey, Ph.D. Sweet Briar College

This PowerPoint lecture will include current information about the biology of sharks and their cartilaginous allies, the skates and rays. Particular emphasis will be placed on their i) diversity, ii) anatomy and sensory systems, iii) reproduction, iv) feeding behavior, v) attacks on humans and vi) conservation issues. The primary objective of this lecture will be to demonstrate that most "common knowledge" about sharks is wrong.

Professor Morrissey, a lifetime member of the [American Elasmobranch Society](#), studies the natural history of sharks, skates and rays, including the description of new species and the investigation of their reproduction, feeding ecology, age and growth, visual adaptations, and more. Specifically, he and his students study a new species of gulper shark from the Cayman Trench (between Jamaica and Cuba), the cownose rays in Chesapeake Bay, and chain catsharks in his lab. He is also the lead author of the bestselling textbook "[Introduction to the Biology of Marine Life](#)" published through Jones & Bartlett Learning.



Dr. John F. Morrissey, Ph.D.  
Professor of Biology  
Sweet Briar College



This picture shows a chain cat shark

See <https://sbc.edu/stem/john-morrissey/>

### **SEPTEMBER MEETING**

Virginia Geology from the Sky - Keep looking down. Imagine looking down from the sky to see the geology of the earth. Well now you can with a flying camera drone. For the September meeting we have invited Zach McKinney to present his expertise for taking sky pictures and geology. You may remember a younger Zach when he was a member of our rock club. Come by to catch up and hear the latest. See <https://zackmckinney.com/>

### **OCTOBER MEETING**

Research of the Historic Rutherford Mine Pegmatite No. 2 - You don't want to miss this meeting. Scott Duresky will present a report on the minerals found in the pegmatites at the Rutherford Mine, Learn details about mineral identification and the unique minerals found at the Rutherford mine. A professional level study. See <https://www.mindat.org/loc-4201.html>

### **NOVEMBER MEETING**

Happy Thanksgiving. We will have the annual club fundraising auction

### **DECEMBER MEETING**

Merry Christmas. Potluck dinner with a dirty Santa gift exchange.

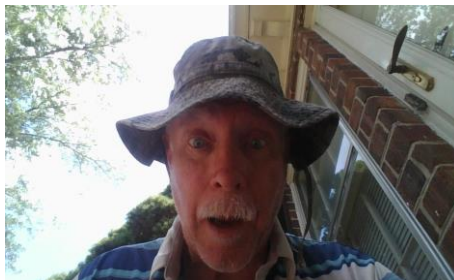
## **First Vice President**

Virginia is the best commonwealth to find rocks and minerals. At some time everybody comes here to collect.

Heads up. Watch for meteorite showers coming to the summer night sky. Up to 60 meteorites per hour. The Perseids meteorite shower peaks in mid-August. These meteorites are space dust from the comet Swift-Tuttle.

If you go to the beach or the shore, the August meeting presentation will feature Dr. John Morrissey from Sweet Briar College speaking about sharks and rays. Living sharks are just fossil sharks waiting to happen. Let's give Dr. John Morrissey a big welcome.

Cheers, Steve Boylan



## Field Trips (Yes I said Field Trips)

September 25<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm at Willis Mountain (more information coming soon)

Pictures from Linda Noble:



### Note from the Editor

Hi All,

I hope all of you are enjoying the summer. It has been hot but cooler weather is coming. I am looking forward to getting out on another rock trip. I know we have a show coming up, Apple Festival, but I am looking forward to get dirty. See you all at the meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

I would love some pictures from any of you and about anything to put in the newsletter. I am giving out of my own pictures so please send me some of yours. Or give me something else to put in the place. That would give me some other inspiration and maybe bring joy to others also.

That is all for now,  
Steve

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### Note from the Membership Chair-person

Debbie Wade

Hi GMSL,

I am hoping one of you would be willing to take over being Membership Chairperson from me. Primary duties include the following:

- Getting mail from PO Box at Odd Fellows Rd
- Inputting new members on Excel spreadsheet and keeping it maintained
- Mailing new members badges, welcome letters and such
- Checking Facebook to approve qualifying membership requests and Instant Message others with a "please join us" script
- Forwarding any membership payments to the Treasurer
- Keeping Steve and Dave apprised of new members for workshops and newsletter
- Attend Board Meetings

I would gladly sit down with you at my home and show you what I do and pass on all of the equipment and supplies I have here for the club. Of course, I still want to be an active member, just not Membership Chairperson.

Thank you,

Debbie Wade [debbie5227@yahoo.com](mailto:debbie5227@yahoo.com)

**P.S.: We have 130 members currently in the club**

## **Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg Meeting Minutes**

July 21, 2021 @ 7:00

**Attendance:** 27 members, 1 guest

Meeting called to order by James Tomlin

**On Time Drawing Winners:** I missed these due to taking new memberships during the meeting

Kyrina Johnson won \$7.50 in the 50/50 drawing

### **Old Business:**

Great turnout at the show!! We had vendors from Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina. We sold 27 tables and had a couple hundred shoppers attend throughout the day!! Thank you to all who volunteered to help out!! We couldn't have made it happen without you!! Volunteers for the show were: James Tomlin, Holly Tomlin, Debbie Wade, Thom Noble, Linda Noble, Eric Routon and Gabby Routon.

At the show we earned:

\$70 in new memberships

\$670 from table sales

\$315 for the specimen raffle

\$39 in the 50/50 drawing

\$168 from the picker's wheel

After what it cost us to have the show our total club profit for the day was \$1,177.00

We are already working on the show for next year. Looking at July 23, 2022!

### **New Business:**

We need volunteers to help us with the Apple Harvest Festival in October. We have to have a head count before we can send in the application to be a vendor. Please sign up as soon as possible.

Sept 25th will be the Kyanite Mining Trip. More info to come.

This will be Dave Whooleys last meeting at GMSL before he departs for Florida. He will be greatly missed and we wish him all the luck on his future endeavors.

**Presentation:** We watched a video on Opal

**Silent Auction:** brought in \$28

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## [Other Links that you may want to check out:](#)

### **International Gem Society**

<https://www.gemsociety.org/reference-library/>

### **Mineral Cleaning for Amateurs**

John's website is full of information that all mineral collectors will find useful and interesting.

<http://www.johnbetts-fineminerals.com/>

### **Morefield Mine Tour:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5aQp57HMso>

### **Impromptu lecture on crystallography:**

The crystallography talk can be found in the You Tube videos at [https://youtu.be/sTtxMrh9\\_QI](https://youtu.be/sTtxMrh9_QI), or copy and paste in your browser: [Crystallography by Dave Woolley](#).

### **A Guide to Ethical and Conflict-Free Jewelry**

<https://ethicaljewellery.org/introduction>.

### **Insurance Institute of Jewelry Appraisal**

[https://instituteofappraisal.com/Investigation\\_of\\_Artificial\\_Color\\_Infusion\\_of\\_Gemstones.pdf](https://instituteofappraisal.com/Investigation_of_Artificial_Color_Infusion_of_Gemstones.pdf)

[https://instituteofappraisal.com/Exposing\\_the\\_GIA\\_Juggernaut.pdf](https://instituteofappraisal.com/Exposing_the_GIA_Juggernaut.pdf)

### **Rock collecting guide for geology beginners**

<https://www.basementguides.com/rock-collecting-and-geology-basics/>

### **Facebook Link for the club**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/432839874271992/?ref=share>

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**If you need to renew your club membership you can let me or Debbie Wade know and we can email you the form. You can make checks out to GMSL.**

**Our Mailing address is:**

**The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, INC.**

**PO Box 11975**

**Lynchburg, VA 24506-1975**

**[lynchburgrockclub@yahoo.com](mailto:lynchburgrockclub@yahoo.com)**